



The Aluminum Chronicles

WBCCI Northern Illinois Unit

January 2015

Editor, Dave Mayo

[e-mail Editor](#)



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President's Message



Around the Campfire with Dave & Dolores

January 3, 2015

It is an honor that the unit members have elected me to be their President for 2015. My wife Dolores and I have been members of the WBCCI since 2005.

It is my goal to help the unit to thrive and to become one of the most dynamic units in the Midwest. Times change, people change, and organizations change. My dad use to say “The only constant in life is change. If you stagnate, you die.” **All that is old isn’t necessarily bad and all that is new isn’t necessarily good. My moto is to keep the best of the old and add the best of the new.**

I have a great leadership team including 1st Vice President Jim Kraner and 2nd Vice President Rick Wendorf. We have an exciting schedule of activities planned for the coming year starting with a dinner theater (musical - Branson on the Road – Christmas Style 2014) in December. During the winter months we have a luncheon scheduled in January, attending the RV show and dinner in February and a pizza party in March. We have a mix of rallies planned for 2015. We will be rallying in Rock Cut and Starve Rock state parks. We will also be rallying in two Army Corps of Engineer parks (Lithia Springs in Shelbyville and Thompson Causeway).

A new event is being held in 2015 – an Illinois State rally including all three WBCCI Illinois units – Northern Illinois, Lincolnland and Southern Illinois. This event will be held towards the center of the state at the Lithia Springs campground in Shelbyville.

We will be having two rallies at the Lee County 4-H Center and Fairgrounds in Amboy. The first will be at the start of the season in April and the second ending our season with our traditional Thanksgiving and Installation rally in October. These will also be our business meetings.

There is no conflict this year with the Region 5 rally and the Road America rally. As a result, we will be having a joint rally with the Wisconsin unit at the Road America Vintage Festival held in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin.

We will continue communicating with members through the Newsletters, News Flashes, Website and Unit Facebook page. We will continue to use the Airforums threads and calendar to reach out to prospective members.

Come out and help us make this the most dynamic, fun unit in the Midwest.

Let’s make this a year to remember!!!

Keep the adventure alive – See more, Do more, Live more.

Dave

Miscellaneous Rivets

New Officers Elected

The membership at the October business meeting held in Amboy elected the following new officers:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Dave Mayo |
| 1st Vice President | Jim Kraner |
| 2nd Vice President | Rick Wendorf |
| Treasurer | Bob Koch |
| Assistant Treasurer | Mary Beth Comer |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Secretary | Jean DeHahn |
| Trustee for 2 years (Dick DeHahn, term ended) | Marge Kraner |
| Trustee for 2 years (Hal Withey, term ended) | Sandy Whitesell |
| Trustee covering Rick Wendorf's 2 nd year | Dolores Mayo |

I have appointed Dwight Dixon to continue as our website webmaster.

Newsletter Editors

I have been the editor of the newsletter for 2014. To make the newsletter sustainable on a long-term basis the newsletter will be published with four editors, starting with the next newsletter, as follows:

General Editor - Unit President, Dave Mayo
 Member News Editor – Membership Chairman, Hal Withey
 Recent Events / Rallies Editor – Sandy Whitesell
 Tech Time Editor – Jim Kraner

The unit president writes the President's Message, as well as the Miscellaneous Rivets. This change makes our newsletter not dependent upon only one person. Sandy, as the Recent Events / Rallies editor will also be updating our Facebook page. I thank Hal, Sandy and Jim for volunteering for these positions.

Sunshine Person

Margaret Bauling has been our "Sunshine Lady" for many years. Carl and Margaret are no longer Airstreaming. What is a "Sunshine Person"? Margaret would send out get well cards, condolence letters, etc. to members in our unit. We are different than most clubs, as we are Airstream family.

With Margaret no longer in the unit, we needed a new person. Carol Dixon has volunteered and will do an excellent job. Carol knows our longer term members, as well as our new members. Thanks Carol for volunteering. We are a unit run by volunteers, without volunteers this unit cannot survive.

Candidates for 2016 Officer Positions

During this year, we will need to elect members to fill three positions for the 2016 club year – 2nd Vice President and two Trustee positions.

During 2015, Dolores Mayo is filling in for Rick Wendorf's second year, which expires in October 2015. Dwight Dixon's term also expires in October 2015.

I am establishing a nominating committee to be chaired by Past President, Bob Whitesell. I am also appointing Jim Kraner and Rick Wendorf to this committee. It would be nice to be able to vote on the candidates at our April business meeting in Amboy, rather than on the same day as the installation in October. Although being voted in April, elected candidates would still assume their offices in October. As stated earlier, we are an unpaid, volunteer organization. If you have an interest in volunteering for a position, please let Bob, Jim or Rick know.

Member News

As with every organization, there is a cycle of life where new members join and existing members move on. We currently have 53 memberships (memberships can be comprised of more than one person; for example my wife and I are one membership).

With every new club year, we have members who leave the unit for many different reasons (health, relocation, time constraints, dissatisfaction with the unit, etc.). Members in 2014 not continuing membership include:

Carl & Margaret Bauling
Gerrit & Margaret Bles
Ron & Joan Goyke
James & Sharon Hanrahan
Michael Krause & John Gitter
Bob & Nancy Morrison
Forrest & Jan Nelson

Recent new members include:

Lyndon & Marcia Conrad
Christopher & Jennifer Gaydos
Greg & Susan Horodeck
David & Ellen Manola
Richard & Jennifer Selle
Bud and Mary Ann Wyman
Wayne & Donna Becker

We are excited that you have joined us. This Airstream unit is comprised of a great group of people.

We are sadden to report that Paul Wazel, a past member of the WBCCI, passed away on January 2, 2015. Paul was President of Northern Illinois Unit in 1987. He and his wife, Alice, were also past Presidents of the Midwest Unit. Paul enjoyed the club activities and the Airstream.

Our condolences to his wife, Alice, and the family. Memorial visitation will be held on January 9, 2015 at 10 a.m. until time of service at 11:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church Of Crystal Lake, 461 Pierson St. Crystal Lake, Il. 60014.

Paul Wayne Yazel, of Crystal Lake, died Friday, January 2, 2015, in Elgin.

He was born on November 13, 1930 in Gibson City, IL, to Archibald and Mildred (nee Faber) Yazel. Paul is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Alice (nee Heimsoth) Yazel; children, Karen (Bill) Burns, and Paul George (Deborah) Yazel; grandchildren, Brian and Rebecca Burns, Gregory and Kelly Yazel; brother, John E. Yazel; many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial visitation will be held Friday, January 9, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:00 a.m. at First Congregational Church of Crystal Lake, 461 Pierson Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

Burial will be held at Mt. Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst.

For information, please contact [Davenport Family Funeral Home](#) or call 815-459-3411. For online condolences, please visit www.davenportfamily.com.

Suggestion Box

By clicking on this [SUGGESTION BOX LINK](#) , you can e-mail your suggestion to your leadership team. Please type in “**Suggestion Box**” in the e-mail title. We will respond to your suggestion within 30 days. Suggestions being implemented will be listed in this section of the newsletter.

INTERNET UNIT INFORMATION

You can keep current on unit activities by using our internet resources. By clicking on our WBCCI NIU logo below, you will be taken to our unit website. By clicking on the Facebook logo below, you will be taken to our unit Facebook page.



Highlights - Recent Events / Rallies

Christmas Event

December 6, 2014



Our Christmas event was a dinner theater held at White Pines Inn in Mount Morris Illinois. Twenty-six members attended. The food was good and the three piece country and western group gave a lively performance. Unlike 2012, when there was a thick fog, there were no weather driving problems this year.



Member Spotlight – Dave & Dolores Mayo

This month we are spotlighting our newly elected **President and First Lady**



In a few words tell us about yourself:

I thought that it would be good for members to know more about whom they elected President and First Lady. Thus we are in the member spotlight this month.

I was born, raised and grew up in the great state of New Hampshire, where our state motto is “Live Free or Die”. Dolores was born and raised in northern New Jersey. Dolores is a Registered Nurse working in home health. I am a CPA with a current license in Illinois and operate a consulting practice, helping small business owners make more money.

We have four grown children and five grandchildren, with another on the way. Prior to RV’ing, we were into sailing. The first night we slept on our 25’ sailboat in 1985, we had a 5 ½ year old, 4 year old, 19 month, and 3 week old. We slept more nights in our boat that summer than any summer since. We also have owned a 30’ sailboat that we sailed on the Maine coast in the early 90’s. Due to a job situation, we relocated to Illinois in 1993. We sailed our boat on Lake Michigan for one year and decided to leave sailing and take up camping.

We started with a Jayco pop-up. We decided to move up and in 2005 purchased a 2005 Airstream Classic 30. Dolores and I joined the WBCCI Northern Illinois Unit in 2005 and met many wonderful people. In 2006 we went on the WBCCI national caravan "Oars, Shores, Lights," covering the Michigan Upper Peninsula. It was a great experience. In 2007, we participated in the region 5 "River Road" caravan from the headwaters of the Mississippi to Davenport. This was another great caravan.

In 2009 we purchased our current Airstream – a 2008 Airstream 34 classic. Why did we move up when we had a 30? We are planning on living fulltime in our Airstream in several years and could utilize the larger size. We also joined the Escapees organization that provides support to fulltime RV'ers. We own a RV lot in Woodhaven Lakes in Sublette – ten miles from Amboy. We will use our lot as our northern base.

We attended the International rally in Madison in 2009. In 2010 we "caravanned" to Acadia National Park in Maine with the Kraner's, Whitesell's and White's. We stayed overnight at the Penn Woods Airstream park in Pennsylvania. It was a great trip with good friends. We spent five days four nights in Acadia before moving onto the White Mountains in New Hampshire.

Since we were sailors, our Airstream is our land yacht.

The member spotlight is to help members become better acquainted with each other. To facilitate this process we have created a format to make it easy. I have attached a Microsoft Word document containing a blank form. We would appreciate members completing the form and sending it to us so we can continue to spotlight our members in our newsletter. We will spotlight one member each month, please help us out and provide us with your story.

Tech Time – Airstream Recalls

Tech Time Editor – Jim Kraner

In December 2014 the NHTSA issued two recalls. One for Airstream and one for Towmax trailer tires. Hopefully you received notification from Airstream if your Airstream is covered by one of these recalls. I am including them here for general information.

On Saturday, December 6, 2014 6:05 AM, US DOT NHTSA <donotreplyodi@dot.gov> wrote:

You are receiving this message because you have requested to be notified if there is a safety recall regarding Vehicles from NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation. Please click on the following NHTSA Campaign ID links to view the recall information.

NHTSA Campaign ID Number : [14V690](#)

Manufacturer : Airstream, Inc.

Make / Model Years : AIRSTREAM / 2014-2015

Subject : Improper Tightening of Electrical Connections

The cause for this Airstream recall is wire connections within the walls of the trailer that were not tightened properly. This condition could lead to the loss of electrical ground of the trailer. And we all know that without electrical ground and a person standing on the earth touching this trailer, the individual could get an electrical shock. So again I ask all, please have some metal on your trailer touch the earth.

On Tuesday, December 9, 2014 7:14 AM, US DOT NHTSA <donotreplyodi@dot.gov> wrote:

You are receiving this message because you have requested to be notified if there is a safety recall regarding Tires from NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation. Please click on the following NHTSA Campaign ID links to view the recall information.

NHTSA Campaign ID Number : [14T015](#)

Synopsis : Dynamic Tire Corp. (Dynamic) is recalling certain Towmax STR tires, size ST225/75 R15 manufactured June 15, 2014, to October 14, 2014. The affected tires may have the Incorrect Load Capacity and Inflation Pressure Stampings. Thus, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) 119, "New Pneumatic Tires for Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars." The misinformation on the label could lead a driver to overinflate the tires. Tire overinflation may increase the risk of a tire failure which can increase the risk of a crash. Dynamic will notify owners, and dealers will replace all eligible tires, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin December 10, 2014. Owners may contact Dynamic customer service at 1-905-595-3593.

Club History

The following information is taken from the 50th Anniversary booklet comprised by Dwight and Carol Dixon.

Brief History of WBCCI

The Wally Byam Caravan Club was formed in 1955 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, under its first President, F.E. "Pop" Riley for the purpose of fostering travel by trailer and good will among all nations on a people to people basis. There was one national organization. In 1962, it became International with the organization of Units in Canada and later in Mexico. The name was legally changed to Wally Byam Caravan Club, International, Inc. It was named in honor of Wally Byam, the inventor of the Airstream trailer.

In 1956, the WBCC was reorganized into five regional units. The Midwest unit was chartered November 1956, as part of the Western division and included members from: Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio Indiana and Illinois and later increased to nine surrounding states.

In 1959, the International was reorganized into State Chapters. The Midwest Unit remained a separate entity, without state affiliation. The State Chapters wanted to be represented on the International Board.

As the club grew in numbers, it was desirable to form smaller local clubs for local activities. However, the large number of local units made it more difficult to communicate at the national level. In order to provide a more efficient administration, seven "Regions" were created, the Region Presidents became members of the International Board of Trustees. Currently there are twelve regions.

History of the Northern Illinois Unit

1963 - The Illinois State Chapter was divided into four local units. The Northern Illinois Unit was formed under Earl Wilson and given a preliminary charter by the national club. Many of the founding members were formerly Midwest or Illinois Chapter member.

1964 – The charter for Northern Illinois Unit was granted on January 24th. President Arthur Like, became the second president of Northern Illinois. He held two joint rallies with the Midwest Unit, plus five additional rallies at State Parks and the Moose Range campground in Sycamore, IL. The International was held in Princeton, N.J. In the following years, an Illinois Unit merged leaving Northern Illinois, Lincolnland and Southern Illinois Units.

... To be continued in the next newsletter

Upcoming Events / Rallies

Many of our upcoming rallies are being held in state or COE parks. ***Each member attending will book their own reservation for their site.*** It is the member's responsibility to select a suitable site. Illinois uses the [ReserveAmerica](#) system to reserve sites; they can be reserved 180 days in advance. Please RSVP all events with Dave Mayo at 630-587-2690 or mayo.internet@gmail.com

January 24, 2015 Luncheon – [Hoolihan's](#)
Saturday – 12 Noon

1322 Commons Drive
Generva, IL 60134
(630) 345-8000
RSVP – Dave Mayo (headcount needed)

January 27, 2015 Luncheon – Travelers Rest
Tuesday

29129 Johnston Road
Dade City, FL 33523
(800) 565-8114

February 21, 2015 **RV Show – [Donald E. Stephens Convention Center](#)**
Saturday *Buddy Event*

5555 N River Rd
Rosemont, IL 60018
(847) 934-8300

We will meet at 2:30 pm by the ticket entrance and attend the show until 5:30 pm

Diner – Great Escape Restaurant (*at 6:00 pm*)

9540 W Irving Park Rd
Schiller Park, IL 60176
(847) 671-7171

RSVP – Dave Mayo (headcount needed)

March 21, 2015
Saturday

Pizza Party – [Lou Malnati's Pizzeria](#)

1050 E Higgins Rd
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
(847) 439-2000

RSVP – Dave Mayo (headcount needed)

April 24th to April 26th
Friday to Sunday

Amboy – Season Opener

Lee County 4-H Center & Fairgrounds
1196 Franklin Rd.
Amboy, IL 61310

April 24th – Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

April 25th – Business Meeting 10:30 am

May 14th to May 17th
Thursday to Sunday

Illinois State Rally

US Army Corps of Engineers

[Lithia Springs](#)

RR 4 Box 128B

Shelbyville, IL 62565-9378

(217)774-3951

Select sites 82 to 124. Book early as this is a popular park.

June 12th to June 14th
Friday to Sunday

[Rock Cut State Park](#) - *Buddy Rally*

7318 Harlem Road
Loves Park, IL 61111
(815) 885-3311

Select sites in the Plum Grove section – sites 189 to 201. If these sites are taken then select sites 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158.

Mid June

Caravan to the International Rally

Many times members going to the International Rally will caravan together. Members wishing to caravan this year should contact Dave Mayo so we can get a listing of members interested.

June 26th to July 4th

[International Rally](#)

58th International Convention / Rally
Farmington, New Mexico

July 17th to July 19th

[Starved Rock State Park](#) - *Buddy Rally*

Friday to Sunday

P.O. Box 509
Utica, IL 61373
(815) 667-4726

Select sites in section with sites from 1 to 54. I am planning on selecting site 17 as the gathering site.

August 14th to August 16th
Friday to Sunday

Thomson Causeway COA Campground

PO Box 398
Thomson, IL 61285
(815)259-3628

We will rally in sites 79 to 97. (Note sites 87 to 92 are by the Mississippi river.)

Sept 9th to Sept 13th
Wednesday to Sunday

Region 5 Rally
Region 5 Website

Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds
17746-D County Road 34
Goshen, IN 46528
(574) 533-3247

Contact: Monte Barksdale (815) 458-3895

Sept 18th to Sept 20th
Friday to Sunday

Road America Vintage Festival

N7390 State Hwy 67
Plymouth, WI 53073
(920) 892-4576

This is a joint rally with the Wisconsin unit. Tickets are purchased through the Wisconsin unit at a discounted rate.

Contact Don Stenz 920-698-2305

Oct 16th to Oct 18th

Thanksgiving & Installation Rally

Lee County 4-H Center & Fairgrounds
1196 Franklin Rd.
Amboy, IL 61310

Oct 16th – Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

Oct 17th – Business Meeting 10:30 am – Election of 2016 officers
Installation of new officers.
Thanksgiving diner.