



Issue 10

<http://region7.wbccci.net/>



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## Airstreamers in the Rio Grande Valley luncheon

Feb. 11 at Ann's Restaurant in San Juan, Texas. Region 7 had the most members attending, 20 out of 102.



Back row: Mary Schwenke (WI), Dick & Kathy Hedquist (MN), Bruce Harrower (ND), Dean Kyle (WI), Ron & Rose Larson, Bruce & Carolyn Coonrod (ND), and Carol & Ed Witzkie (WI) Front row: Stan Schwenke (WI), Gail Harrower (ND), Pearl Adams-Kyle (WI), Jack & Arlene Bailey (ND), and Mike & Joan Lahr (WI) Bill & Cathy Nelson (WI) also attended but are not in the photo.



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Region 7 attendees at the IBT rally. Left to right--John & Rachel Rothschild (WI), John & Bobbi Tetzlaff (MN), Bruce & Gail Harrower (ND), Bill & Marti Upton (WI), and Mike & Joan Lahr (WI). Dean Kyle and Pearl Adams-Kyle (WI) also attended but are not in the picture.  
IBT photos by Bill Upton



## International Board of Trustees Report

By Joan Lahr, President Region 7

Doug Wylie, Region 9 Past President, and wife Sheryl, along with fellow Region 9 colleagues, hosted the 2011 Mid-Winter International Board of Trustees Rally in Robstown, Texas, January 24-28. There were 118 rigs on site, with an additional 12 members staying at a local hotel. Region 7 members were well represented by: John and Bobbi Tetzlaff (Minnesota Unit); Bruce and Gail Harrower (North Dakota Unit); and Dean and Pearl Kyle, John and Rachel Rothschild, Bill and Marti Upton, and Mike and Joan Lahr (Wisconsin Unit).

The IBT rally was the first camping event held at this beautiful, new facility, the Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds. Mr. Wylie and company provided an excellent venue, delicious meals, and first-rate entertainment. Tours offered during free time included the USS Lexington Aircraft Carrier Museum and the Sea Aquarium in Corpus Christi, as well as the King Ranch and Mustang and Padre Islands located nearby. All were interesting and worthwhile seeing. Thanks to Doug and Sheryl and all Region 9 members for their work and participation for this rally!

Most discussion during the seminar focused on membership and the club's financial condition. Numerous suggestions were made to lower overall operational costs more fitting with our current membership numbers. Also, many ideas were recommended for recruitment and retention of members. All Units were encouraged to develop and support a membership mentoring program.

Marketing Chair Fred Richardson together with the headquarters staff has developed a glossy mailer or postcard to be used for advertising our club and for membership recruitment.

Kerry Mattila, of the Ontario Canada Unit, read an interim report of the Blue Book Revision Committee. The full report is on page three of this newsletter. The five-member committee's goal is to have a new constitution published in the Blue Beret for member review, studied and then voted on by Units at the Delegates Meeting at the International Rally in DuQuoin in June.

Ten motions were presented during the IBT meeting for consideration:

1. The immediate past Region President may be appointed to serve on the Region Executive Committee, providing he/she is not serving in another elected WBCCI office. (Motion passed)
2. Limit officers and WBCCI employees to \$20,000 for international rally contracts and expenses prior to January 1 of the year of the rally. Expenses exceeding this amount need to be approved by the Executive Committee. In addition, all fees should be based on a realistic number of units expected to attend the rally. (Motion passed)
3. The Georgia Unit requested approval of a new Unit flag. (Motion passed)
4. The Genealogy Club requested dissolution due to inactive membership and will donate their treasury balance to the Common Cents Fund. (Motion passed)
5. After much discussion, the DenCo Unit's proposed amendment to "strike from the Constitution, Section 4, Article IX the words 'Board of Trustees' and insert under Article XII, Delegates Meeting the words, 'The Delegates shall have full authority to construe and interpret the Club's Constitution and

annually review and/or repeal any Club Bylaw and/or Policy" was withdrawn due to a procedural mix-up. (Note: After the IBT meeting, discussions took place between DenCo Unit President Patti Reed and International President Norm Beu, with the result that the DenCo Unit President will move the proposal forward consistent with Constitution requirements.)

6. The El Camino Real California Unit requested approval of a new Unit flag. (Motion approved)
7. Change the selection process of Nominating Committee members as follows: "The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members, the chairman of which shall be elected by the Board of Trustees at their first meeting. The other two members shall be nominated by a majority of the Region Presidents (or their ranking Vice President), or from the floor, and elected by the Delegates at the annual Delegate's Meeting." (Motion failed)
8. Various means to donate to the Gifts and Legacy (GAL) Program were presented. (Motion passed)
9. The Texas Hill Country Unit requested approval of a new Unit flag. (Motion passed)
10. Establish a motor home study committee and direct it to move forward with a decision regarding the motor home issue and provide a recommendation to the board. The committee will be appointed by the President and a report will be given at the June IBT meeting. (Motion passed)



Joan Lahr & Gail Harrower are reading the article in the local newspaper written about Gail and Bruce's Airstream adventures.

### *Region 7 Second Vice President Position*

## Wanted ...

Candidates for the position of Region 7 Second Vice President are urgently needed. Applicants will be interviewed by a three person nominating committee. If you are interested, please contact Joan Lahr or Linda Agre to ask any questions about the position and responsibilities.

Please send your resume to:  
Joan Lahr, Region 7 President  
W204 N8366 Lannon Road  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

### Interim Report, Blue Book Revision Committee

Robstown, Texas, January 28, 2011

Presented by Kerry Mattila, Ontario Canada Unit

The Blue Book Revision Committee was initiated by President Norm Beu at the July 5, 2010 meeting in Gillette as a Special Committee of the Executive Committee. Why a Revision Committee? RONR describes the Revision process as one that includes sufficient changes that the resulting document really is a new document, not an amended document. Our Constitution, Bylaws and Policy—the Blue Book—is an amalgam of original text, multiple amendments and additions. It is complex, frequently contradictory or ambiguous and cumbersome. It needs an overhaul.

Dona Garner, our Club Parliamentarian, was asked to chair the Committee and I was asked to be a member. Joe Perryman from Washington was next, followed by Bob Novak, Metro NY and finally Tom Smithson from the NorCal Unit. We started as a diverse group of members from different geographic areas, with differing backgrounds in the Club. What we shared is a passion for this Club and a desire to see it move forward at a time when most of the news we get about the state of our Club is not encouraging.

At the outset, we had a ready supply of material to work with. Over the past number of years, there have been studies, member surveys, failed motions to amend the Constitution and Bylaws, reports from the 2020 Committee and many ideas for change that never reached the motion stage. We interviewed Standing Committee Chairs, Region Presidents, and Executive Committee members. Much of what we needed to do our job already existed or had been previously discussed.

A Constitution is the foundation on which an organization is built. Ours was designed in an era when WBCCI was growing into a club with tens of thousands of members. That is not the Club that we have today and our Constitution has grown dated. It is important to understand that the Constitution and its Bylaws are a very integrated package, where any change, even a small one, can have unintended consequences in one, two or five other areas. That has made amending our Constitution and Bylaws a difficult task. A Revision provides an opportunity for a fresh, comprehensive approach. The goal is to have a new Constitution ready for review by the members of WBCCI in the coming weeks, studied and then voted on by Units for the Delegates meeting at the International Rally in DuQuoin this June. I commend our President and the Executive Committee for having the courage to give us this opportunity and the commitment to see it through to completion.

Ladies and gentlemen, after many hundreds of hours of work, we are finished in drafting a new Constitution for WBCCI. We are still working some minor details but we are 99% there. We believe that this proposed Constitution is a workable approach to running the business of WBCCI in a leaner, more efficient and more participative manner. It is appropriate for the Club that we are today and hopefully will be well into the future. While a new Constitution can help us to operate more efficiently, it doesn't change the real heart of WBCCI—Fun, Fellowship and Adventure. Instead, it changes how we do our business.

So what is different? Virtually every Article and Section has been changed in some manner—from editorial changes to

complete rewrites. The following are some of the highlights:

- We have gone back to our Club roots and replaced the Code of Ethics with a Standard of Conduct that is positive, that further enshrines the Fun, Fellowship and Adventure of WBCCI.
- The proposal is based on a leaner WBCCI structure, with a smaller Executive Committee and a smaller regional structure resulting in a smaller IBT.
- We are shortening the term of office for region officers and lengthening the term for the International Treasurer and Recording Secretary for purposes of continuity.
- We are proposing to use direct member voting for election of officers and for future amendments to our Constitution while retaining a deliberative forum for discussing key issues.
- We are giving greater flexibility in setting dates for the International Rally and, since with direct member voting there will be no Delegates, we will have fewer meetings at the rally, allowing more opportunity for Fun, Fellowship and Adventure.
- We are proposing that MALs be given more rights within the Club, such as the right to vote and hold office in Intra-Clubs and at the International level.
- There is a simplified and streamlined process for any future amendments to the Constitution and Standard of Conduct that will be the same for all, no matter where the proposed amendment originates.
- One thing that is new is that WBCCI will be able to use electronic means to do any and all of its business, as may be appropriate. Our current Constitution doesn't allow that.

This proposed Constitution truly is a new document and a new way for WBCCI to conduct its affairs. But as Darrell Watters described us at Gillette last year, we are a traveling social club. What we value and want to maintain are the social aspects of our Club. Nothing that we are proposing will change that.

So, what is next? We are doing our final edit to make sure that we have all the words right and haven't overlooked anything in the final document. An explanation of what is different and the rationale will be developed to be distributed along with the proposed Constitution. This material will be made available to all Units so that members can study the proposal, vote on it and instruct their Delegate. The Delegates meeting at DuQuoin will be a pivotal meeting for the future of this Club. We many never have a better opportunity to make these kinds of decisions. To the Units, we ask that you make sure that your Delegate will be there and that your voice will be heard on this critical issue.

Our Committee has also started work on the Bylaws and Policy, but of course cannot go too far down that road until the Delegates vote and approve a new Constitution. Once that is done, the Bylaws will follow quickly and we can assure you, they will also be slimmer and simpler.

Mr. President, we are very confident that we have a good workable package that will move this Club forward, that will remove some of the irritants that have caused dissention and that will give us a leaner, more efficient organization. There have been many calls for change in WBCCI. Well, it's here and it's time. Members of WBCCI, it's your time to decide.

Thank you.

## Region 7 Rally–Wings, Rails, & End Zones • July 24–29, 2011

All aboard for a great experience in Wisconsin at the Region 7 rally. Featured events are the world's largest fly-in convention, Oshkosh's AirVenture 2011, the Green Bay Packer's Hall of Fame and legendary Lambeau Field, and our nation's National Railroad Museum.

### EAA AirVenture

EAA AirVenture 2011 is the 59th annual edition of "The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration." Highlighted activities include the Centennial of Naval Aviation. AirVenture has already been named as one of the U.S. Navy's top tier events for support throughout the service's year long recognition of 100 years of naval aviation. In addition, the centennial of air mail service is also being recognized in 2011. Many other top-level attractions will be on the program. Thousands of aircraft will be on display on the grounds. Nearly 100 full-size airplanes and model airplanes and their designers are highlighted in the newest exhibit, "Little Wings, Big Dreams," in the AirVenture Museum.

### Green Bay Packers

Welcome to Titledown! The Green Bay Packers are the only community-owned team in the National Football League and Green Bay is the smallest market to host an NFL team. But it's big on football! Relive the most exciting moments in the Packers 90-year history at the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame. Pure Packers adrenaline fills this 25,000 square foot museum where fans can see, touch and feel nearly 80 exhibits.

The Lambeau Field stadium tour allows fans to experience the Packers' history-rich facility first-hand and see several behind the scenes areas. Guided tours trek through the Lambeau Field Atrium, up to the exclusive Club Level for a look at the Legends Club. From there, it's down and through the players' tunnel to learn all about the incredible history of the Green Bay Packers. Feel the indomitable spirit and impassioned energy that makes the Packers and Lambeau Field so endearing. GO PACK GO!

### The National Railroad Museum

Explore the icons of American railroading at the 26,000 square foot National Railroad Museum. From the newest exhibit, Pullman Porters: from Service to Civil Rights, to the world's largest steam locomotive, the Union Pacific Big Boy, experience the industry that built the nation. Sit in the cab of the Big Boy. Examine Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's World War II command train. Ponder the futuristic Aerotrain from the 1950s. As one of the oldest railroad museums in the country, the National Railroad Museum exhibits a large collection of locomotives and railcars spanning more than a century of railroading. The Museum will take you on a journey through the historical and technical development of the railroad industry. Ride a full size train through the Museum grounds. Savor a delicious, authentic Spanferkel (pig roast), which will be served inside this beautiful Museum. ALL ABOARD!

### 2011 Rally Reservation

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

WBCCI # \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Rally fee does not include campground fees. Please call Apple Creek Campground to reserve your campsite (920-532-4386).

Rally fee:

Per person # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$110.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Child age 5-11 # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$85.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Child under 5 # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sport fishing-adult # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$96.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: based on 4 people in boat, this amount will increase slightly if less than 4 people sign up. Fishing license is required.)

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**

Region 7, WBCCI  
Reservation forms due June 1<sup>st</sup>

**Mail to:**

Pete Yanke  
1013 SE 13th Ave.  
St. Cloud, MN 56304

**Questions to:**

Joan Lahr  
262-251-2159 or 262-327-4336  
lahr@wbcci.net

**Please reserve your site by June 1<sup>st</sup> directly with Apple Creek Campground. Mention Airstream group when reserving.**

Rally campers will have free WI-FI, electric (30 amp) and water hookups for \$30.00 per night. 50 amp electric is available for \$32.00 per night. Restrooms and coin operated showers are available. Laundry facility and camp store on site.