



# NEWSLETTER

## President's Corner



Winter is slowly slipping away and spring will soon be here. I can't begin to tell you what an exciting time this has been for me. The long trip to Robstown TX went great. Jimmy Lassiter, my interim 1st vice-president, and his wife Nancy as well as long-time friends and mentors Harold and Martha Kerns made the trip with us.

Thankfully there were no incidents along the way. Jimmy is a second generation airstreamer with many years of experience in the club and his counsel was and is invaluable to me. Thank you Jimmy for stepping in and helping in a time of need.

The Georgia unit had their new flag approved. There were two very important things that came out of the IBT meeting. The first was the announcement that there is a new constitution

being written. The reason for the new constitution is the current one is very wordy, and hard to use and understand. The new one will be more user friendly and up to date with the way we do business today.

If all goes as planned it will be presented to the units for review and vote very soon. Some of the highlights are: a smaller International Executive Committee, fewer regions, smaller IBT, shorter terms for region officers, direct membership vote for International and constitutional amendments, greater flexibility for dates of the International rally, a streamlined method of making amendments, and use of electronic means for doing business.

The desire is that the units will have this in time to review and vote so that their delegate can take that voice to the delegates meeting at the International Rally in DuQuoin. You will be telling your delegate if you want the changes that are contained in the new constitution.

There is a tremendous amount of material to review and it has not been taken lightly by the makers of the new document and I hope it will be taken just as seriously by our membership.

Rick Bell

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## EXCITING NEWS FOR REGION THREE LEADERSHIP

The Florida State Rally was a success as always thanks to all the dedicated volunteers that make it happen.

Region 3 conducted its annual business meeting at this rally. There were several things that made me very anxious about this meeting. The first was



we did not have a quorum seated at the meeting scheduled time although there were more than enough delegates that had signed in with credentials.

We eventually rounded up enough delegates to hold the meeting at 9:00 a.m. We did not have candidates to fill the offices (**cont. p. 2**)



**FROM OUR FIRST LADY, CAROL**

The Region 3 luncheon at the International rally will be held July 1, at noon in the First Heat Room. The luncheon will be a buffet that includes 4 entrees, salad and vegetables, dessert, and beverage. The cost for a ticket will be \$20.00 which includes tax and tip. Tickets will be sold during registration at the rally. Please look for the Region 3 table and purchase your ticket.

I am asking each unit to provide a centerpiece for the tables we will use for our luncheon. The tables are rectangular in shape and will seat six people. Your arrangement can be anything you want it to be. The only thing I ask is that it not be too tall as to interfere with conversation.

The rally colors are yellow and brown but your arrangement can be any color you choose. You might want it to reflect your unit, your locale, or the red and white theme of Canada



Day. I would like to hear from someone from each unit to make sure we will have enough centerpieces. We need twenty.

Please contact me at [3485csbell@embarqmail.com](mailto:3485csbell@embarqmail.com) or my cell phone at 757-377-3725 as soon as possible so I can get a count.

The Region 3 rally in 2012 will be held in April at Myrtle Beach SC. We are holding a contest to pick a theme for the rally. Many of our rallies have had a "beach" theme but we want this one to be different. Send your contest entry to me at the above e-mail address or phone number by this June 1. The winner will receive a FREE Region 3 luncheon at the International rally.

**EXCITING NEWS, CONTINUED**

of first and second vice president. Thanks, and I mean this with all my heart, to the dedicated and diligent work of three past Region 3 presidents, Julian Clements, Don Shafer and Harold Kerns at 9:15 a.m. we had both a quorum and a full slate of officers.

Jay Thompson and Dick Martiny agreed to come onboard as first and second vice presidents respectively.

**THANK YOU**

I cannot begin to tell you what a relief it is to have these two families join the Executive Board of your Region. I now know that our region will continue to

survive and grow in a way that will represent the needs and desires of our membership and it is a personal help to me to conduct business within the region.

Thanks Thanks Thanks to the Thompsons and Martinys for coming forward to support the biggest and best region in WBCCI.

Sincerely, Rick

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR REGION 3 WEBSITE?**

We invite you to not only check out our region's website, but make it work for you too. Do your unit's members know they can post classifieds for free? Would your unit like to share announcements with the wider readership of the region's website?

Please send any requests to webmaster Jim Cocke, [r3webguy@gmail.com](mailto:r3webguy@gmail.com)



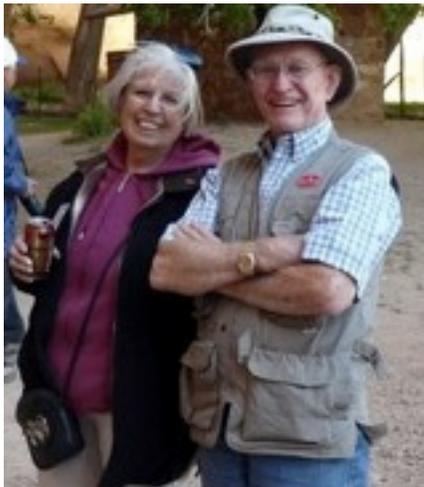
## MEET OUR REGION'S NEW 1st VICE PRESIDENT

### Jay & Elna Thompson Region 3 1st VP

You have just elected me 1<sup>st</sup> VP of Region 3 and I, Jay Thompson, am pleased to have the opportunity to serve you for the next 3 ½ years. Though my experience with WBCCI is a mere 11 years old, my trailer life began in the 1940's.

After WWII ended my father sold our farm in Iowa and built a 30' trailer of masonite, plywood and canvas. We moved to Florida where we became members of the Tin Can Tourists and traveled when we were not at home in Dade City.

After finishing high school, I went to the University of Florida and graduated with a degree in Building Construction. My graduate work began at Virginia Tech but the UF called me to return and teach - which I did until I received my Masters in Engineering in 1961.



Elna and I had met at the UF and we graduated together the same weekend we married over 52 years ago. We have three children and eight super grandchildren. Our family camped first in tents then in a pop-up camper and still happily recalls

our many adventures together with each other and family friends like the Martinys.

My career with Proctor and Gamble required travel and eventually international assignments in Europe and Asia. Upon retirement after 9/11, we made the decision to travel and explore our own country.

My life-long dream was to own an Airstream, so we finally found a good used 34'er. We joined the Big Bend Florida Unit and began our Airstream life both with our home unit and caravanning. I have served my unit as VP, President, board member and web master. Additionally, I have worked on the yearbook and revisions of the constitution.

During International meetings we took officer training and caravan leader's training. Because we enjoyed the caravans so much, we signed on with Winston and Carol Montague to co-lead the Southwest Adventure Caravan through 2013.

Many of you have offered your help in making this transition work for all of us. Believe me, we are depending on you and will work to keep Region 3 as outstanding as it is today.

Jay and Elna Thompson  
WBCCI # 7293



## MEET OUR REGION'S NEW 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

### DICK & JUDY MARTINY, REGION 3 2ND VP

Yes, we look forward to working for the Units of Region #3 for the next 5 1/2 years. We have enjoyed the benefits of WBCCI membership since 1998 after being introduced to the organization by Region 3 Past Presidents Chesley Gilmore, Harold Kerns and Don Shafer.



We are regular members of the Georgia Unit, affiliate members of the Big Bend Florida Unit and lifetime members of WBCCI. Our leadership record in WBCCI is short. We served one term as a Director for the Georgia Unit before participating in 16 national caravans and a NORVA unit caravan, attended six International Rallies and were WBCCI vendor reps at three Florida State Rallies.

We acted as Caravan Assistants on the Baja and Landmarks West Caravans. Our 1997 Ford 250 and 1996 Airstream trailer have carried us over 150,000 miles. Our travels have taken us to every state and province in North America. We have always had courtesy parking at our farm in

Andersonville, GA. We offered to serve the Region after admiring the herculean efforts of Rick and Carol Bell.

We were employed by Procter & Gamble and Weyerhaeuser in six locations for 36 years before retiring in 1998. We participated in the startup of several pulp mills supporting the rapid expansion of Pampers and Rely.

Jay and Elna Thompson have been great friends and workmates since 1966. Our two sons with their wives and six grandchildren are located in five different states. We will celebrate our 53rd wedding anniversary this year. Our behaviors and dialect still look and sound like our mid-west heritage, even after living in Georgia for over 30 years.

We have enjoyed serving our communities as leaders in Lions International, Kiwanis, Habitat for Humanity, The Association of Macon County Churches food and clothing bank, Georgia Cattlemen's Association, and our church families in each work location. Though both of us are over 70 years of age, we both enjoy good health and warm fellowships.

Thank you for allowing us to serve your needs in Region 3. We know we need your candid comments and suggestions.

Dick and Judy Martiny  
WBCCI #22693



**REGION 3 RALLIES**



**Atlantic view at Ocean Lakes**

As you know there will be no Region 3 Rally this spring. However, there will be one held at Ocean Lakes in Myrtle Beach SC on April 24 - 28, 2012. Please expect to be asked to help make this happen.

I have already secured the campground and now I am working on arranging entertainment and food. Carol is challenging the membership to decide the theme of the rally. It should be a good time for all.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the International Rally. For most of us in the Region this is just a hop, skip, and a jump compared to the locations in the recent past. Please plan to attend and bring your bulletin boards.

We do so much to help the communities where the rallies are held. Don't forget your pull tabs, money for Common Cents for Kids, clothing, food and checks.

We do leave a positive impact on the places we visit and have changed many lives for the better.

You understand the region is here to help and support your unit's efforts. The website is available for greater circulation of your upcoming events.

Are there other ways we can help your unit? Let us help you make your unit and region stronger.

Rick

**Calendar**

**Jun 28 - Jul 4 2011**

54th International Rally

**Aug 9 - 13 2011**

Galax Fiddlers' Convention Rally

**Sep 16 - 18 2011**

Commonwealth of Va Rally

**Oct 12 - 16 2011**

Carolinas State Rally

**Apr 24 - 28 2012**

Region 3 Rally

**Contributors**

**RICK & CAROL BELL**



Region 3  
President and  
1st Lady,  
Moyock NC  
WBCCI 3485

**JAY & ELNA THOMPSON**



Region 3 1st VP  
Tallahassee FL  
WBCCI 7293

**DICK & JUDY MARTINY**



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