



President's Message

Jay Thompson

Our region has 1060 members this year, a gain of 202 from the same time last year. Thanks to everyone who help in getting these new members. I would like to recommend that each new member have a mentor to help them become comfortable in their Airstream and Unit.

At the same time, we gained new members, we had 191 who did not renew their membership this year. Dick Martiny will be sending each unit membership chairman the list of those who did not renew so they may be contacted and encouraged to renew.

So far, there are two Unit Caravans scheduled in our region this year. They are "Following the Georgia Antebellum Trail" March 23-30 (Big Bend) and "Kick Off Adventure" March 29-April 15 (Piedmont). Both will be great ones and fun to do. They are both listed on the Calendar Page on the region website (region3.wbcci.net) Let us know of other caravans in the region.

We have a need for someone to volunteer to become the Region 2nd Vice-President. Please talk about this with your friends and unit members.

Mid-Winter IBT Items

Dick Martiny

It doesn't just happen without somebody doing something. WBCCI is a gathering of persons with some common interests, led by some persons willing to do something to keep it improving, funded by a small annual membership fee from over 5000 members, and offering a variety of fun, fellowship, and adventures led by volunteers from within the membership. The mid-winter meeting of the Board of Directors will be conducted in Rayne, Louisiana January 5-11, 2014.

Every member can attend but most will rely on their representative to take correct actions at the IBT. You may see the entire agenda at this link. Not every member has (or maintains) an email. Please share your copy with someone you know has not.

To make your reading of this document more efficient, let me try to provide an abstract to the 35 pages. Each of the 23 standing committees and special committees has included a report of their current status. These are indexed on page 2. The Board will receive at least 12 motions for changes in our organization. These are listed at the bottom of page 2 and continuing into page 3. You can read them unabridged or select those of most interest from the abridged listing below.

Page 4 **The Blue Beret Editor** appreciates the Units that submitted their newsletters to the International Office (especially those that included pictures.

Page 5 **The Budget Chairperson** reports our membership continues to increase, our financial picture is healthy, and we have new dealership sponsors in Tennessee, Wisconsin, and California.

Page 6-8 **The Caravan Committee Chairman** highlights the training efforts conducted and the National and Unit Caravans currently scheduled.

Page 9-10 **The Electronics Communications Chairperson** focuses on the accomplishments of the past 6 months and the ongoing efforts to permit more of our business to be conducted via the internet.

Page 11 **The History Committee Chairperson** focuses on her efforts to preserve WBCCI history.

Page 12 **The Legislative Chairman** discusses the impact of sequestration on the NPS, the California "Rim Fire", the Iowa law changes for licensing luxury vehicles,

Michigan tax law changes, and IRS changes allowing some RVs to qualify as a second home.

Page 13 **The Lifetime Membership Chairman** highlights the current annual losses of this fund.

Page 14-15 **The Marketing Chairman** explains their banner year of promoting Airstreams and our club.

Page 16 **The National/Special Event Chairperson** lists the 2013 activities and their financial status, list those scheduled for the next six months, and promotes the Rally Host Workshop at Gillette.

Page 17 **The Guide & Merit Award Chairman** lists the eight Regions receiving Excellence Awards.

Page 18 **The Public Relations Chairperson** lists actions of the past 6 months and moves to have this committee combined with Rally promotions committee.

Page 19-20 **The Technical Committee Chairman** indicates 85% success in solving member's technical problems and lists the seminars to be conducted at Gillette.

Page 21 **A motion** for establishing Units outside the present geographic Region boundaries.

Page 22 **A motion** for establishing tax status for Units outside Canada and the US.

Page 23 **A motion** for combining the committees for public relations and rally promotions.

Page 24 **A motion** to change of the new Australian Unit.

Page 25 **A motion** to move the 3 members of Michigan's Upper Peninsula to Region 4.

Page 26 **A motion** to grant a charter to charter "Southeastern Camping Unit" in Region 3.

Page 27-28 **A motion** to approve the Unit flag for "Southeastern Camping Unit".

Page 29 **A motion** to amend the job description of the History Committee Chairperson.

Page 30 **A motion** requesting "Number of people attending" be added to National/Special Events reports.

Page 31 **A motion** to eliminate barriers to moving the International Rally to other dates.

Page 32-34 **A motion** to change the policy section for financing and operation of the International Rally.

Page 35 **A motion** to allow Unit dues for all members to be paid electronically to WBCCI headquarters.

Your Region Officers would like to receive your thoughts on these issues before they attend.