



# Region 5 Report

Illinois-Indiana-Kentucky

Bob Moyers, President

October, 2009

Bill Schrader, Editor

## 68 Units attend Region 5 Rally at Brandenburg

The 2009 Region 5 Rally at the Meade County Fairgrounds in Brandenburg, Ky. attracted 68 units, including International President Tom Collier and First Lady, Norma.



**President Bob Moyers opened the 2009 Region Rally by placing a Blue Beret on a mannequin that had been delivered by Wally (Jim Matkovich) Byam on his motorcycle.**

The Hillbilly Haven theme was carried out throughout the rally, climaxing with the Saturday banquet when nearly everyone came appropriately attired. The best dressed winners are pictured at the right.

President Bob Moyers provided the rally with a memorable start when Wally Byam, portrayed by Jim Matkovich from the Northern Illinois Unit, arrived at the opening ceremony on a motorcycle. He delivered a Blue Beret that Moyers placed on a mannequin on a table in front of the podium where it remained for the remainder of the rally.

The Southern Indiana Unit won the competition for the highest percentage of members attending the rally (8 attending, 36.4 percent). Central Indiana was represented by 14 units, Southern Illinois 12, Lincolnland and Kentucky by 10 each and Indiana and Northern Illinois by 5 each.

Entertainment was exceptional, highlighted by humorist Jim



**Winners in the Hillbilly outfit contest at the Saturday night banquet were Peggy Bishop, Kentucky Unit, best female; Jerry Humble, Southern Illinois Unit, best male and best overall; and John and Rita Green, Lincolnland, best couple.**

Roberts on Friday. Juggernaut Jug Band performed on Saturday, Bluegrass 101 on Thursday and Tom and Kathy Arnold on Wednesday.

Tom and Norma Collier invited all to the International Rally in Gillette, Wyoming in June. He said 400 had registered to date, (Continued on page 4)



**The Southern Indiana Unit celebrated its 40th Anniversary this year, recognized at the Region 5 by anniversary cake for all.**



### Message from President Moyers

Fall is a busy time for the units of Region 5. New leadership is taking over and plans are being made for next year. I would encourage all incoming presidents to make use of the unit planning guide. It is a great tool for scheduling your events for next year.

All outgoing presidents should be working on the Unit Merit Award so we can keep up the good work in Region 5 and have (Continued on page 2)

## Nominating Committee Report Berry Bell 2nd V-P candidate

Barry Bell, president of the Central Indiana Unit, has been selected as the nominee for the position of Region 5 Second Vice-President,



**BELL** Bell was selected by the nominating committee composed of Past President Dick Heyde (Indiana Unit), Ida Mae Hershberger (Central Indiana Unit) and Larry Abrams (Southern Indiana Unit).

Other officers selected by the nominating committee are President, Louise Humble, and First Vice President, Bob Gregory.

No later than Jan. 31 Region President Bob Moyers will mail to each Unit president the official election ballot that shall contain the name for each position listed on the Nominating Committee report with space for write-ins.

The Unit ballots must be returned to the Region secretary by April 25 and the results announced prior to May 5.

The new first and second vice presidents will be installed at the Region 5 luncheon during the International Rally in Gillette, Wyoming.

Barry and wife Karen joined WBCCI in 1979 and the Airstream was used primarily (Continued on page 2)

# Barry Bell nominated for Region 5 2nd V-P

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for family outings.

After Barry's retirement they purchased another Airstream for "retirement" traveling. After joining WBCCI again their first desire was to go on caravans. In 2008, they served as assistant leaders on a National Caravan They also attended several National and International rallies.

More recently they have been involved in Central Indiana Unit activities. Barry is wrapping up a year as Unit president. Karen has served as Recording Secretary.

Barry retired as an Engineering Consultant for pharmaceutical company, Eli Lilly and Company, in Indianapolis. He worked for Eli Lilly for 33 years and four years with General Motors before that. At Lilly he provided project leadership for packaging projects around the world. He has BS and MS degrees in Engineering from Purdue University.

Barry has been involved with many community activities. He was the coach for many youth baseball, basketball and football teams. He was Youth Sports Director for Baxter YMCA. In addition he coached all star teams in national competition. He was also involved with the Boy Scouts, serving as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster and District Chairman. Barry had earned the rank of Eagle Scout as a boy.

Barry and Karen are the parents of three grown sons, Brad and Brent, who are identical twins, and Jeff., who is two years younger. They have three granddaughters, three grandsons and another one is "on the way", due in February 2010.

When we are not in their Airstream, they spend the summer on Morse Reservoir in Noblesville, Indiana and the winter on Snead Island in Palmetto, Florida. They have been married 44 years.



**Carol White from the Southern Illinois Unit, Region 5 Community Services chairman, stands in front of the many items donated by Region 5 members at the Region Rally for the Meade County Clothes Closet and Food Pantry. A total of 354 items and \$45 in cash were donated.**

## Message from President Moyers

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and have 100 percent of the Units achieve this for the third year.

Fall is also the time to winterize your Airstream. Someone once told me that the best way to winterize is to take it to Florida. Before you winterize, I hope you use it to enjoy all the beauty that fall gives us.

Another tradition of fall is it's the time when your Region Officers are visiting your units to install your new officers. We all truly enjoy this time when we get to attend your rallies.. Lee and I installed the new officers at the Indiana Unit in Plymouth, IN and the following week the Southern Illinois Unit in Salem, IL. That same week-end Louise and Jerry were at the Kentucky Rally in Dawson Springs, KY, Bob and Lu were with the Central Indiana Unit in Lafayette, IN and Bill Schrader was kind enough to take care of the Southern Indiana Unit in Bedford, IN. Somehow there were more rallies that weekend than current officers. The last weekend in October we were with Northern Illinois in Amboy, IL and at a lunch on that Sunday with the Illinois Lincolnland unit at Atlanta, IL. These are special time for us.

Your region officers will be heading to Rayne, LA for the winter IBT. If you have any concerns about the condition of WBCCI please let us know since we are your representatives and your voice.

**Bob Moyers  
President, Region 5**



**The Illinois Lincolnland Unit did an outstanding job of providing breakfasts at the Region 5 Rally on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. Here Bob Zoeller, left, and Howard Branscomb are served.**

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# Don't let Airstreamers go without getting 'red numbers'

Greetings from your Region R&R representative. We, as a club, are fortunate to be a member of the only recreational vehicle club in the country dedicated solely to owners of an Airstream. Even when it is winterized and sitting in the garage, it still feels good to just own it.

You may already know the story of how my family came about being members of the "Airstream club". One Sunday afternoon, a neighbor down the street was parking his Airstream in his driveway. As I ventured over to talk with him about his weekend he told me I needed to tow "this thing" down the road for a real treat. His tow vehicle was a car if you will. I took him up on the offer and went on the drive of a lifetime.

Within two weeks I was the proud owner of a 1977 31 foot Airstream Travel Trailer. Were we ever proud.

The story has a good ending. In June of 1992 after a weekend of camping, my spouse and I were towing our unit up Music Valley Drive in Nashville Tennessee



**REGION 5**

**2ND V-P**

**BOB GREGORY**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**CHAIRMAN**

and saw a large tent with Airstream trailers parked around it in this large parking area. Seeing so many trailers with those big red numbers on the front and back made us decide to stop and check it out. It was the Grand Old Opry National Rally that was sponsored by the Music City Unit of WBCCI. A lady and her husband, seeing we were "walk ups", asked us to have lunch with them and meet some other Airstreamers. We accepted the invitation to join WBCCI and later became the Presi-

dent of the Music City Chapter and upon retirement transferred membership to the Kentucky unit.

Here is the real hurter in the story. All those years, from 1977 to 1992, and being without any "red numbers", not one Airstream owner ever asked us to join. As I now look back I realize that membership in the club was not a problem during those years. We can never make up for those lost years but we can and will always be asking families to become a member of our great club.

Unit Officers, Board members and each unit member. If you aren't already into this new directions we are going in the WBCCI, organize your Unit Membership Team as soon as possible. The new team concept provides a Recruiting and a Retention Specialist to assist that chairperson. Only you can make it happen. The September 2009 R&R Guide is on our Region 5 web site now. Take a look at it - The concept is sound and most of all it will be productive for our region.

## Region 5 in Brief

**PRAYER WARRIORS LAUNCHED.** Region 5 Chaplain David Leeper announced at Region 5 that he was launching Prayer Warriors, an email prayer chain with information about members of the Region 5 family who are having health problems.



**Usherettes Linda Zoeller and Janet Brunk were appropriately attired for the Rally.**

If you would like to be added to the chain contact Leeper at [dhleeper@bellsouth.net](mailto:dhleeper@bellsouth.net)

**IN MEMORY.** Mary L. Campbell, a member of the Southern Indiana Unit, died Sept. 5 at age 86 after a fall while vacationing in Cheboygan, Mich. She taught in the Bedford schools for 40 years before retiring in 1985. She is survived by her husband, Bob, and three children.

**AIRSTREAM LIFE ONLINE.** Airstream Life, the popular magazine devoted to the Airstream way of life can now be accessed on the Internet. To get the online edition of the magazine go to:

<http://airstreamlife.com/preview/current>

**NEW WBCCI FORUM.** The WBCCI forum located on the WBCCI website has undergone a complete makeover. It's functionality has been greatly increased and it has a more appealing appearance. Check out the forum at <http://wbcci.org/>



**Jerry Humble, left, Southern Illinois Unit, and Bill Johnjullo, right, past Region 4 President from Tidluote, PA, examine a canon on the Civil War battlefield in Corydon, Ind., which was on one of the tours during the Region 5 Rally**

## 2010 Region 5 Rally at DuQuoin

The Southern Illinois Fairgrounds at DuQuoin, Illinois will be the location of the 2010 Region 5 Rally, Sept. 15-19.

DuQuoin is located in southwestern Illinois 70 miles from St. Louis, 25 miles north of Carbondale, home of Southern Illinois University, and 85 miles north of Paducah, KY.

Silver Bullet Shootout is the theme that incoming president Louise Humble has selected for the rally.

The Fairgrounds is the location of one of the largest fairs in the Midwest. It has 30 amp electricity and water for over 1,000 sites. The buildings are air conditioned.

The registration fee for the Rally will be \$195 for two persons. A special weekend rate of \$135 is being made available for those still working who can't arrive until Friday.



## Membership loss rate down in Region 5

Membership chairman Bob Gregory reported at the Region 5 business meeting that the loss rate declined in Region 5 in the past year and two Units showed a membership gain.

The loss rate was cut in half to 34 and the Central Indiana and Indiana units had membership gains.

Caravan Chairman Louise Humble reported that every unit in the Region sponsored a caravan during the past year. A special luncheon was held at the Region Rally to honor caravan leaders.

In one action item by the board it voted to continue sending the Region 5 Report to Members-At-Large in the region for another year.

In other action the dates for the 2010 and 2011 Region rallies were announced to help with scheduling...Sept, 15-19 for 2010 and Sept. 14-18 in 2011.

Thursday, Feb. 18 is the date for the Region 5 dinner at the Florida

**Gordon White, from the Southern Illinois Unit, leads a seminar at the three-day Region 5 Computerfest Rally held at the Meade County, Ky. Fairgrounds prior to the Region 5 Rally in September.**

## 27 trailers attend Computerfest

A total of 27 trailers attended the 2009 Computerfest Rally prior to the Region 5 Rally at the Meade County Fairgrounds in Brandenburg.

Attendance was evenly distributed across the region...7 from Central Indiana, 5 from Southern Illinois, 4 from Lincolnland and Indiana, 3 from Southern Indiana and Kentucky and one from outside the Region,

The Rally began with the traditional pizza party, once again held at the Rally site rather than at a pizza parlor.

Monday and Tuesday were filled with seminars. Gordon White was the initial presenter

with an Introduction to Computers session. Don Grayson followed with the always popular Virus and Spyware session.

The afternoon kicked off with Getting the Most Out of the Web by White followed by an E-bay session by Bill Schrader.

A highlight of the Tuesday session was Grayson's Grandma and Grandpa Geek presentation. If anyone failed to get a copy of Grayson's "Things That Every Geek Should Know" handout contact Schrader at bschrad500@aol.com and he will email you a copy.



**For 14 years Don and Bonnie Jones from the Southern Indiana Unit have handled the opening night reception at the Region 5 Rally with appropriate and always interesting decorations, cookies and Bonnie's popular punch. They began their effort when members of the Western Kentucky Unit before it folded.**

## 69 attend Region 5 Rally

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ahead of last year's pace. Tom Collier also made a "State of WBCCI" presentation. He said the club is down to 6,500 members and that non-renewals are the problem, He said the same number of new members are signing up as 15 years ago, but non-renewals are up significantly. He said the economy is also having a negative impact, the number of corporate sponsors dropping from 14 to 6.

Thursday was tour day at the rally with excellent tours to Corydon, Indiana and the Civil War Battlefield there and the other to Elizabethtown, Ky. and the Coca Cola Museum and the Cars of Yesterday Museum.

Game winners announced were Bobbie Matkovich, Northern Illinois, first in joker; Dick Heyde, Indiana, and John Schwartz, Southern Illinois, second in Joker and Janet Brunk, Central Indiana, first in putting,

The Meade County Clothes Closet and Food Pantry was selected to receive donations at the Region 5 Rally. Community Service Chairman Carol White announced 365 items and \$45 in cash had been donated plus a special donation of \$164 was made to a young man injured in an automobile accident,

Roger Hoffmann served as Master of Ceremonies and Russell Thackery presided over the Opening Ceremony.