

The Ticker

Newsletter of the Central Indiana Unit WBCCI—*From the Heart of Indiana*—

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Patsy Marston, Editor

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YOUTH/BUDDY RALLY AT FREE SPIRIT CAMPGROUND BEDFORD, INDIANA

JUNE 9—12 , 2011

Once again it's time for CIU's annual Youth/Buddy Rally. This year it is to be at the Free Spirit Campground near Bedford. President Karen Bell has planned lots of fun things to keep our grandkids occupied for the weekend. Starting off with a campfire with hot dogs to roast and s'mores to make on Thursday evening. Friday evening there will be a pitch-in supper with grilled burgers furnished at the picnic shelter. Saturday we will visit Blue Springs Caverns and take a guided boat ride through the cave. For a small fee, you will be able to try mining at the Mystery River Gemstone Mine .Sunday morning will feature a pancake breakfast.. Karen tells more about the rally plans in her president's message which is on the next page. Be sure and read it, and be sure to let her know if you want to go on the Bluesprings Cavern trip. This rally will be a great send-off for the International to be held in DuQuoin, Illinois .

DIRECTIONS TO FREE SPIRIT CAMPGROUND

From I65 take Seymour exit Hwy.50 West. Continue west to State Road 446, turn right at blinker, Free Spirit is one mile North on your left

From HWY. 37 take Bedford exit Hwy. 50 East. Continue east to State Road 446, turn left at blinker, Free Spirit is one mile North on your left.

When you pull into the campground, tell them you are with the Central Ind. Airstream group. They also take Passport America membership cards. We have 10 sites reserved. Please plan to pay the campground directly for your camping. The rally fee will be determined at the end of the rally after all costs have been determined. The cost of the boat ride and mining will be figured separately and added individually to your rally fee, if you participated.

Message from your President – Karen

Our camping/rally season has gotten off to a good start. We had 14 rigs from CIU attend our joint rally with the Southern Indiana Unit at the Odon City Park in Odon, IN. The Southern Indiana Unit had 8 rigs in attendance. On Thursday evening we had a pitch-in with Sloppy Joe sandwiches furnished. In spite of the rainy weather, a lot of fun was had socializing around the campfire and in the enclosed building that was provided. Some of us enjoyed playing games and watching a slide show of pictures of previous rallies. The only unfortunate problem was the rain forced some people to move their trailers to higher ground and thus they didn't have good electricity. There wasn't much they could do about that, since nobody can control "Mother Nature" and what she does to us. If we were all able to park on the grass as we had planned, everyone would have had 30-amp service. Luckily we didn't have a tornado, even though we did endure a serious storm while we were there. Those who couldn't make it missed a wonderful tour of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane's Strategic Missions Center on Friday. After this tour, it made me realize how important technology is to the defense of our country. It is truly amazing and we are truly blessed to be living in the USA! I want to thank Southern Indiana members, John Hayes, a retired Navy officer and President, Bill Schrader for arranging this tour for us. Another highlight of the rally was a dinner served to us by the Wilmer Knepp Amish family in their home on Saturday evening. We really want to thank Carrie Hayes for arranging this for us.

At the present time I am finalizing plans for our Youth/Buddy Rally at the Free Spirit Campground in Bedford, IN. On Thursday evening we will all gather around the campfire and cook hot dogs and s-mores, where I will hand out the rally schedule. On Saturday at 9 a.m. right after breakfast, we will gather for game competition planned by Barry Bell. We will break for lunch at noon, and promptly at 1:00 p.m. we will gather at the picnic shelter for crafts with Jackie Thackery. Friday evening we will have grilled hamburgers and a pitch-in dinner at the picnic shelter. After dinner we will have an executive board meeting, after which we will have another campfire and more s'mores. Saturday morning is free time. Basketball and volleyball is available. Rocky Ridge Miniature golf is at the campground for \$2, since you are a camper. There is also a swimming pool and an alpaca viewing area for those who are interested. You may feed the alpacas baby carrots or purchase treats to feed them. You will need to pack a sack lunch and meet at 11:00 a.m. to caravan to Bluespring Caverns. We will have our sack lunch at the picnic shelter at the top of the hill before we go down to get our tickets for the mystery river voyage. After your visit to Bluespring Caverns, you will be able to try your hand at prospecting for gemstones at their Mystery River Gemstone Mine. The group rate for the boat ride is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children under 18. If you want to mine for gemstones the cost is \$3.75 per person, plus tax. Our treasurer, Ron Gordy, will pay Bluespring Cavern with one check and then he will add it to your rally fee. I will need to know by Friday, June 10th, if you want to mine, so I can make reservations for the correct number of people who are going to do that. On our way back to the campground, we will stop for pizza. On Sunday morning we will all have a pancake and sausage breakfast together before we leave. If anyone wishes they can attend a local church service in Bedford, IN. At the present time we have registered 10 rigs for this rally and there will be 17 grandchildren attending. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again soon!

In another section of this newsletter is information on our "Top of Indiana" caravan. Please sure to make your reservations for this. I know it will be an experience full of fun and adventure. Carol Beardshear and Ann Newman have been working very hard on this caravan, so be sure not to miss it!

Right after our Youth/Buddy Rally Barry and I will be travelling to DuQuoin for our International Rally. I really appreciate the responses I am getting back from the ballot I sent out on the proposed constitution revision. As your delegate, I will have to vote on these changes. Therefore I really need to know how you feel. If you have not yet sent back your ballot to me, please do so soon. Thank you so much for your help with this.

See you all soon at the next rally or down the road!

Karen Bell
President



News from the Spring Rally

Those members who attended the Odon Rally had a wonderful time in spite of the weather, which threw a lot of stuff at us, including a tornado scare. On Friday, when we toured Crane Naval Depot, though, it was almost perfect. After caravanning to the gate we were met by a bus that took us to the buildings we were touring, and took us to lunch, too. Lunch was at the officer's club overlooking a beautiful lake. The food was very tasty, and after lunch we had a talk by the base commander, Capt. Chuck LaSota. He told us about some of the activities of Crane Division of NSWC and of its vital role in technology for our military. This was a great tour, one of the best. After returning to camp that evening, we even had a campfire. Thanks to **Ray Brunk** for bringing some dry wood, and with all the limbs blown down in the storm on Thursday we had a great fire. Saturday many of us attended the Dinkey's local auction. This was quite an experience. Everything being auctioned from horses, lambs, plants, furniture, wagons, buggies, etc. Lots of different buildings with sales in all of them. Also lots of people, especially Amish families. Saturday night we had dinner in an Amish home.—In their kitchen, about 50 of us. The whole family helped, including some of the grandchildren. They made us all feel at home, and what a terrific meal it was, all made there in the kitchen. Thanks to **Karen and Barry, Bill Schrader**, and to **John and Carrie Hays** for an outstanding rally. There were 14 Airstreams from CIU and 8 from Southern Indiana attending. **John and Barbara Bergen** drove down on Saturday to attend the business meeting, where there was a lively discussion of the changes being voted on at International to change the WBCCI constitution. I hope you've all returned your ballots to Karen, expressing your views on the amendments. She is our representative at the meeting at International and will need to know the unit's views in order to vote.



This is the group of happy campers at the NSWC Crane Division. It was nice of them to put our name up in lights.

CENTRAL INDIANA "TOP OF INDIANA CARAVAN" SEPT. 30 TO OCT. 9, 2011

Please join us for 10 days of Airstreaming fun and fellowship on this "come and go" caravan across northern Indiana. You can join and leave the caravan as your schedule permits. There will be a separate "rally fee" for each 3 day stop, which will be collected on the last day when all costs are known. In exchange for this flexibility you do have to make your own reservations at Chain-O-Lakes and Indiana Dunes State Parks. There will be lots of activities planned for the group and a myriad of alternative things to see and enjoy. Lots of shopping, too, in the Amish country and Michigan City.

Below are dates and locations.

For links to all campsites, reservations, and activities, visit the CIU website at
[Http://centralind.wbcc.net](http://centralind.wbcc.net) for more information.

Chain-O-Lakes State Park Sept.30–Oct. 2

[Http://indianastateparks.reserveamerica.com](http://indianastateparks.reserveamerica.com)

Goshen/Elkhart Oct. 3-5

Elkhart Campground—Full hookups

Indiana Dunes State Park/ Michigan City

Oct. 6- 9

<http://indianastateparks.reserveamerica.com/>

Contact Carolyn Beardshear at 317-910-0986



We pause for pictures at Crane, overlooking the lake.

Ray Brunk, Ron Gordy, John Hays, and Pat Marston

REGION 5 RALLY SEPT. 14-18, 2011

"ON THE ROAD AGAIN"

DANVILLE, INDIANA

If you haven't already sent in your reservation for the Region 5 Rally in Danville better do it soon. There are a limited number of sites. All have electricity and water, some with 15 amp and some with 30 amp. You can register for either, with a reduced price for 15 amp. You get 4 nights parking, 3 nights of entertainment, 3 breakfasts and one dinner, plus seminars, tours, and air conditioned buildings, and don't forget the big flea market, plus you get to meet with some of the best people in KY, IN, and IL.

Get the coupon out of your last Blue Beret, and send it in.

Also for all computer nerds, remember the Region Computer Rally directly before the Region Rally, also at the Danville Fairgrounds. Check the Blue Beret for a coupon.



Carrie Hays and Ida Mae Hershberger take a quick rest break and pose for a picture.