



TRAVEL TRAILER CLUB OF THE MIDWEST

Apr 2025

Since 1963

Volume 2025-01

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Saturday ... May 10th

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: Hesperia Clubhouse

All club members are welcome to attend this meeting.

Please contact your Chapter President if you need something addressed at the meeting.

Reminder: Prior meeting minutes are no longer read aloud at the meeting. Review prior meeting information before coming to the meeting. Past meeting minutes are available for download at ttcm.org/news (October newsletter) if you need a copy for review.

President News

Hello Campers,

In approximately 1 month we should be opening the campgrounds and starting our 2025 camping season. On a sad note, we have lost a few members since last season. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of Roger Vogel, Ruth Heimann, Carol McNeil and Helen Wheeler.

At the time of writing this article the new waterline project at Hesperia's campground had not started yet. We have been in contact with the plumber as this project needs to start as soon as possible.

At the start of the winter season Bellevue campground had a break-in. The side-by-side, wood splitter and an auger were stolen. Not good. The police were contacted and they did an investigation. Also, our insurance company was contacted and a claim was filed.

One more note, the Board of Directors meeting will be May 10th, starting at 11:00 AM at Hesperia Campground.

I do look forward to this camping season and hope to have the opportunity to sit around the campfire with you all!

Take care and hope to see you soon!

Bill Fox

Vice-President News

It's almost time to go camping! Hope everyone is doing well and are getting excited for the season to begin.

I found a few of these facts that I thought I would share with you.

The History of Travel Trailers

Modern-day travel trailers trace their origins to gypsy travel wagons and the Conestoga Wagons built to carry settlers across the United States.

1910 - The first non-tent travel campers are built at the Los Angeles Trailer Works and Auto Kamp Trailers.

1916 - The first tent trailer arrives, built by the Campbell Folding Camping Trailer company.

1920 - Airstream trailers first hit the road. The name "Airstream" isn't used until 1936.

1936 - Airstream luxury trailer introduced. The "Clipper" features dry ice air conditioning, water tanks, electric lighting and kitchenette.

1960s - Fifth-wheel trailers appear on the roads, offering greater towing stability. Due to the unique hitching method, the overall length of the tow vehicle and trailer is shortened without giving up inside space.

1964 - The first pop-up trailers make their debut.

The History of Motorhomes

Created out of Americans' love for camping and automobiles, the motorhome is born.

1910 - The first motorhome, Pierce-Arrow's Touring Landau, debuts at Madison Square Garden. A back seat that folds down into a bed, a chamber pot toilet and a fold-down sink are a sensation, but the whole idea of a "motor home" doesn't catch on.

1930s - Auto coachbuilders continue to tinker with motorized homes, but high sticker prices keep public demand low.

1950s - Following WWII, innovative thinking restarts the motorhome industry on a small scale. Expensive luxury items, motorhomes remain far less popular than travel trailers.

1960s - Following the creation of the country's interstate highway system, traveling to remote wilderness areas becomes easy. Companies like Winnebago begin manufacturing motorhomes on a massive scale, driving down the cost.

Today - From the early 16-foot models, motorhomes have grown into 40-foot behemoths that feature literally every comfort of home.

The S'more

The ubiquitous camping treat.

1927 - The first official recipe for s'mores appears in a Girl Scouts manual, Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts.

The History of Camping Clubs

For camping enthusiasts whose family and friends don't share that enthusiasm, camping clubs provide friendship and travel adventures.

1919 - Tin Can Tourists, the nation's first camping club, is founded in Florida. They got their name for the soldered tin can on their radiator caps. The club still exists today.

1966 - The Good Sam Club is founded. It now has 1.5 million members.

Today - Camping clubs abound in the United States. Some are local, some regional, and some are national. These organizations offer camping discounts, information, consumer hotlines, and jamborees to celebrate the camping lifestyle.

Let's all help getting those campgrounds open for a great summer.

See you soon.

Brenda Hilderbrandt

TTCM Vice President

Secretary News

Happy Spring Fellow Campers,

Finally it's spring but as of this note the snow is still flying at my house! I sure can't wait to go camping. There is not much to report at this time. The water lines in Hesperia have not been started as of March 21. I sure hope that the ground is thawed out enough to start this project. So this will mean that Don Gasaway will probably need some help with a little bit of clean-up after these water lines are in. Please see what he needs help with and lend a hand. I just want to add right here that I for one want to thank everyone who helps out around our campgrounds last year. I do know that Bellevue will need some wood cutting done for the Memorial weekend camping. So get in touch with Zack Martin for this activity.

Campgrounds Open on May 3rd so if you can help that would be great at either campground.

Board of Directors Meeting will be May 10 at 11am. Everyone is invited to come. Let's all get involved and make these campgrounds and club even better. Your Executive Committee wants to hear from all members.

Memorial weekend at Bellevue - there will be music all weekend with cookouts and campfires.

Memorial weekend at Hesperia - check out Clione's article. There will be a planning committee meeting on Saturday May 24.

The Sewing Bee will be June 16th – 20th with a shopping trip on Friday the 13th before we start our sewing week. Everyone who wants to join us please do. Our first priority is fun!

We lost a few members over the winter. Roger Vogel, Ruth Heimann, Carol McNeil and Helen Wheeler. These folks will be missed.

Hope to see you all around the campgrounds,

Sandy Jarrell — TTCM Secretary

Treasurer News

Hey Campers!

I can't believe camping season is almost here. This year is flying by. Hopefully time slows down. I'm super excited about this year and all of the events held by both campgrounds.

I feel very comfortable and confident with the Treasurer's position duties and am looking forward to working with everyone again.

Don't forget about the donation of \$2.00 when you use the honey wagon. This is necessary in keeping up with maintenance and replacing parts as needed.

I can't wait to see everyone soon!

Best regards,

Sherri Martin

In Memory of Helen Wheeler

I want to say a special "Thank You" to everyone who came to Helen's memorial service. Your cards, condolences, and words of encouragement mean so very much coming from this family of camping friends.

George Wheeler

Bellevue News

Hello everyone!

Camping season is right around the corner and will be here before we know it! We have some exciting stuff planned at Bellevue this year. There will be a lot of work to do to open the campground so I hope to see a lot of you opening weekend.

We are OUT of firewood so we will need to split as much as we can right out of the gate.

Memorial weekend we will host Bell-Stock again. Last year was a blast and everyone had a great turnout.

July 25th - 27th will be a Christmas in July weekend.

We have been receiving a ton of help from our membership and it's been a great change of pace. I cannot wait to see everybody around the fire soon!

The Martins

Hesperia News

Hi Fellow Campers,

It won't be long and it will be time to open the campgrounds on May 2, 2025. Hope everyone had a good winter. It did go by quite fast.

We lost three of our members that camped with us this past year. Ruth Heimann, Carol McNeil and Helen Wheeler. Our sympathy goes out to each of their families.

We should have the new water lines to use when the campgrounds open this year.

I am planning on having a campground planning meeting for all the campers on Saturday May 24th of Memorial weekend. Would like everyone to come with ideas for what you would like to do this year for activities. Then we can get committees to work on the different activities so we don't have to think about it at the last minute.

Don has his brothers band booked for the 4th of July weekend. On Saturday July 5th we will have a potluck at 5:00 P.M. and the music to play following the meal. Hope we have better weather than we had last August when they were here.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in May.

Clione and Don

Bell-Stock 2025

We had a spectacular outing last year. This year will be even better.

The lineup has changed a bit as we have a local band playing Saturday FATHER STONE will be taking the stage. We have a DJ on Friday and our favorite house band Mysteria on Sunday.

Basket raffles are back along with hot dogs on Friday night. Hog roast on Saturday and breakfast Sunday and I'll bet the Winnie wagon will get fired up too.

Members are just \$75 for the weekend of 3 nights camping and food and entertainment. Non Members \$150 which is still an incredible deal.

Information on how to pay is on the bottom of the attached flyer. Please help us help you by getting your reservation in ASAP. We are offering some incredibly cool Bell-Stock shirts which can be pre-ordered and we'll have them at Bellevue for you. Information on ordering will be out soon.

Members bring a friend and show them that affordable family camping still does exist.

Daryl Westphal

Sewing Bee — Spring 2025

Hello all Sewing and Quilting members!

Our June Sewing Bee will be June 16th – 20th in Hesperia at the clubhouse.

Anyone who has crafts may also come on in and join us for a fun filled week. There will be a \$15 fee for joining us.

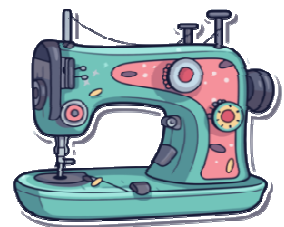
If you would like to learn how to quilt we can help you with that. Bring your Sewing Machine and whatever supplies that you have and join the fun.

Nancy Hellman is in charge of this fun filled week so if you have any questions you may contact her by calling Nancy at (231) 788-1645.

If you are new to TTCM this is the week for our sewers to enjoy time to come sew and enjoy each other's company!

There will be a Shopping Day on June 13th for those who is interested in shopping.

Nancy Hellman



Upcoming Events

May 02-04 Campgrounds Opening Weekend
May 10 Board of Directors Meeting @ 11:00 AM .. Hesperia
May 16-18 Bellevue — Work Weekend
May 23-26 Memorial Weekend — Events at Both Campgrounds
June 16-20 Sewing Bee — Hesperia
June 20-22 Bellevue — Work Weekend & Neighborhood BBQ
July 25-27 Bellevue — Work Weekend
Aug 15-17 Bellevue — Work Weekend

Mark your calendars now for this years events at Bellevue.

2025 Bellevue Events Calendar

May 2-4 Campground Opens
May 9-11 Mothers Day Weekend
May 16-18 Work Weekend
May 23-26 Memorial Weekend
June 13-15 Father's Day Weekend
June 20-22 Work Weekend & Neighborhood BBQ
July 4-6 4th of July
July 25-27 Work Weekend
Aug 15-17 Work Weekend
Aug 29-Sep 1 Labor Day Weekend
Sep 19-21 Work Weekend (Halloween Event Setup)
Oct 4-6 Halloweekend 2025
Oct 17-19 Campground Closes

Editor Note

All chapters and individual members can submit articles for publication in the monthly newsletter.

If you would like to have something published in the newsletter please submit it to tcmnews@usa.com by the 22nd of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Max Jarrell

Bellevue Campground

7418 Baseline Hwy

Bellevue, MI 49021

Phone 269-763-3551

Email: bellevue_campground@yahoo.com

DIRECTIONS:

From I-94: North on I-69 to Exit 48. Go west on M-78 about (1) mile to Babcock Road, turn left (South) onto Babcock Road.

At end of Babcock Road turn right (West).

Campground is about (0.8) miles on your right.

Hesperia Campground

6777 E. M-20

Hesperia, MI 49421

Phone: 231-338-6124

Email: hesperiacampground@gmail.com

DIRECTIONS:

From Hesperia: head 3.5 miles West on M-20.

From White Cloud: West 16.5 miles on M-20.

Campground is on the south side of the road.

Contact Information

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BELL-STOCK

May 23-26

Live Music

\$150 FOR ENTIRE WEEKEND

Games/Food

Camping



TTCM Bellevue Michigan

Kick off your camping season this Memorial Day at BELLSTOCK 2025, hosted at TTCM campground in Bellevue Michigan!

Friday 5/23: DJ with Mike on the Mic and dancing in the evening

Saturday 5/24: Hog roast and live music by Father Stone in the evening

Sunday 5/25: Breakfast, live music by Mysteria and winnie wagon taters in the evening

Games including kids candy bingo, adult bingo, raffle's, and a corn hole tournament

Reserve before spots fill up! With your \$150 payment please include name, phone and the total number in your party (max 4 people per unit, each additional person \$10). To pay by check make payable to Double Dozen.

Double Dozen C/O Zack Martin
28367 Felican St.
Roseville, Michigan 48066

For Paypal or Zelle, Email Cheryl Vogel at Ladyhog55@att.net

For more information/questions go to TTCM.org or call Daryl Westphal 219-608-0819