



TRAVEL TRAILER CLUB THE MIDWEST

"For A Fuller Life - The Travel Trailer Way"

December 2005

Volume 2005 Number 12

From The Pres

On behalf of the TTCM Board, we would like to extend our wishes to everyone for a safe, joyous, peaceful and family-filled Holiday Season. See you in 2006!

Don Westphal

TTCM Online

TTCM is on the web! Be sure to check us out at:
<http://www.ttcm.org>

Previous issues of newsletters, campground pictures, directions and more can now be found online!

Dearly Departed



Happy Wanderers lost a friend and fellow camper, Katherine Pulsifer, wife of Robert Pulsifer (#1092). Mrs. Pulsifer passed away on September 25, 2005 and was given a Christian burial on September 29, 2005. Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of Katherine Pulsifer.

2006 Dues Due!

If you haven't paid your 2006 TTCM dues, get them in today! Dues must be received before January 1, 2006 if you don't want to pay the reinstatement fee. Mail your payment to:

Jack Connell
422 Inverness St
Howell, MI 48843

Seeking Treasurer!

Kerry DeVore has graciously stepped up to the plate to TEMPORARILY fill in for the position of TTCM Treasurer until a more qualified candidate can take over. If this is YOU, please contact Don Westphal at the address located in the TTCM Board Section of this newsletter.

TTCM Articles

Although email is preferable, you can also mail newsletter articles. They will be edited for grammar and punctuation, unless it's a legal document (such as the Minutes, etc.). Further, no profanity will be published as this is a family publication. Having said that, we welcome your comments, feedback, suggestions and articles!

Please send articles by the 15th of the month prior to publication to:

Lisa Modelski
626 Glenwyth Rd
Brighton, MI 48116
lmodelski@sbcglobal.net

Thank you,
Lisa & Gayla Alm, Editors

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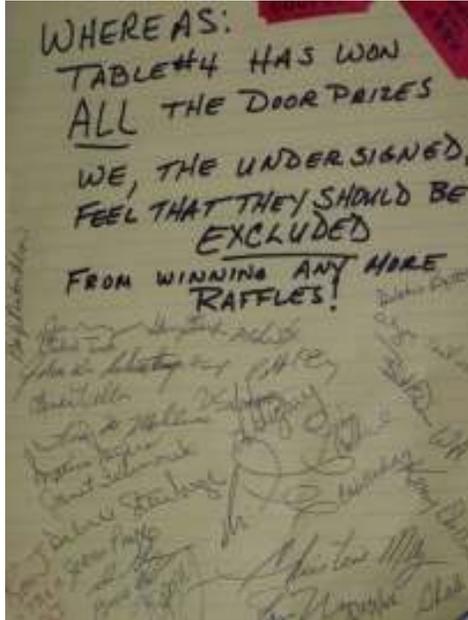


Chapter News

Double Dozen

Double Dozen had its Wagon Master's Ball November 12th at the Wayne Civic Center. Linda Vella and company did a superb job organizing the event and fun was had by all 46 that attended! Several raffles, including 50/50, booze and non-booze, were won by a select few, namely the O'Dell table. Although many protested and an actual petition was signed by nearly every single person at the other tables (see the picture at right), laughs and snickers were abundant! It's hard to be truly annoyed with those that are only winning their own 'stuff' back!

Christine and Russ May have graciously offered to host DD's Christmas party in December. Members are asked to



bring a dish to pass, a salad bar item (such as eggs, bacon bits, mushrooms, chick peas, etc), and a gift for each person attending. If you are looking for something new and fun to try at one of YOUR outings,

you really should try putting together a salad bar! It's such a novel idea and great for those picky, fussy eaters!

January will find us at the Pearlmans' home for our annual Pizza party where DD members will volunteer for any outings that have no hosts yet.

Of course, the New Year also brings us new officers. Some positions have even been filled by NEW members!*

President: Linda Vella
Vice Pres: Myles Dexter*
Treasurer: Cheryl Vogel*
Asst Treas: Christine May
Record Sec: Gayla Alm
Corresp Sec: Jim Carriveau*

Double Dozen wishes safe, healthy and happy holidays to you and your loved ones!

Lisa Modelski

MALs (Members at Large)

Well, camping for this year is over for the northern people. For those that headed South or West, I hope you have a great winter. We had our first snow on November 16th, though just a ground cover. We did have some good weather in November.

For those that came and enjoyed the All American Rally



this year, it was great. For those that missed it, you missed a lot of fun. Ask Cathy

Schultz about not talking while playing cards. I think it was one of the best rallies. THANKS, DOUBLE DOZEN.

Our next outing will be the Chili Outing Feb. 11, 2006 at

the Bellevue Conservation Club. Please send your reservations to me (Inez). We need to know how much food to buy for the chili. So, hope to see lots of friends for a good visit that day.

I hope and pray everyone in TTCM has a wonderful Holiday Season. Take care of each other.

Inez Cummings, MAL Rep.

Chapter News

Blossomland Travelers

(From 10/05)

We had our August Rally at Nub Lake. We had 5 units and guests Scott and Jeanette Conklin and boys. We were very grateful Jeanette was there because after several of them went tubing down the river Friday night, Deb Gatchell got stuck in the muck



and fell backward and broke her leg in 2 places. Jeanette is a nurse and took wonderful care of Deb until the

ambulance arrived.

On Saturday morning, Joe Anderson stopped in and had breakfast with us. In the afternoon, some of our old members came down and joined us for potluck. It was great to see Rich and Juanita Branch, Shirley Burns and Marcy Carpenter. We had a wonderful time catching up with everyone.

After potluck that night, we had a White Elephant Sale and got some lovely gifts. Pat Story also brought a huge box of bottle openers. Some of us paid a small fortune for one as



our auctioneer, Bob Ingraham,

was pretty quick at selling them to you if you weren't careful.

We had a great time at the All-American. Deb Gatchell was a real trooper in her very big cast. Getting in and out of the trailer was not very easy, but she sure didn't miss much!

We also had a very pregnant Nicole Mills and by the time you read this she should, unless she is very late, have her new baby boy. Her husband, Dan, will be home from Iraq for 2 weeks to see the new baby at the beginning of October.

Jeanne Hardt and Gay Story really enjoyed Sunday night and a pretty blue drink. Joe Anderson, Jeanne and Gary Hardt and I went to Turkeyville to the flea market for a couple hours. Amy Strzyzkowski, Melissa Gatchell, and Sara Story came up and visited. We had some lovely wind chimes made out of the previously mentioned

bottle openers—we had a lot—and beer cans. I thought we would make it through the weekend without getting soaked but Tom Strzyzkowski and Dan Gatchell had to

bring out the water guns. I

took Chloe Mills as a hostage for a little bit so they would leave me alone. It was great fun and since I don't have running water in my little camper, it was really quite refreshing. Barb Strzyzkowski did some Christmas shopping at the 10 cent auction. Gary Hardt along with Pat and Gay Story made the best road kill stew!

For several of us this will be our last campout of the season. A few will be at the Halloween Rally. Since this was the last one this year for several of us, we elected our officers:

Tom Strzyzkowski—President
Dan Mills—Vice President
Dan Gatchell—Treasurer
JoAnn Ingraham—Secretary

We look forward to Baby Mills and seeing Dan Mills for the first time since January (for some of us). We also keep him in our prayers as he returns to Iraq. We keep Gary Hardt in our prayers while he goes through a round of cancer treatments and Deb Gatchell for a speedy recovery. A big thanks goes to Joe Anderson and Toni Mesecar and family for their \$500 contribution to Bellevue Campground in memory of Pat Anderson.

JoAnn Ingraham

Chapter News

Blossomland Travelers (continued)

(Current News)

Due to a technical problem our report was not printed in the last newsletter. So here we go:



First and foremost, what a wonderful tribute to Pat Anderson when Joe and Toni donated \$500 to Bellevue Campground in her memory at the All-American. Pat enjoyed camping and spending time with her family and friends, especially MacKenzie and Emily.

We had a wonderful time at the All-American as usual. Thought we would survive the weekend without a water fight but oh no. Tom Strzyzkowski had to get out his water pistol. I did find out that if I hold his granddaughter Chloe he will not shoot water at me. Loved the county fair. I stood in line for the corn dogs, which were delicious and worth the wait, but then went to get my pickle and they ran out. Also enjoyed watching the tug of war or mud fight from on top of the hill. Some of the little ones really liked the mud. The progressive campfire had some very unusual treats. A couple of people at our campsite had pretty blue drinks, I won't name names, Jeanne Hardt and Gay Story, and seemed to REALLY

enjoy them. I think there was singing and lots of laughing.

When I first wrote the newsletter, Deb Gatchell was on crutches from an unfortunate tubing accident at Nub Lake in Niles in August. Many of you saw her in her wheelchair at the All American. Well here it is now the end of November, Deb is STILL on crutches but had surgery the 3rd week of November and had a plate and 6 screws put in her leg. She should be off and running soon. I bet she will be much more careful next year when she steps in the muck after tubing down the river.



Nicole Mills was getting close to having her 2nd baby at the All-American. Young Bradley Mills was born September 23, weighing in at 9lbs 3ozs. His dad Dan got to come home the first 2 weeks in October from Iraq to see his new son and spend time with Nicole and their daughter Chloe. Proud grandparents are Tom & Barb Strzyzkowski and great grandpa, Bob Ingraham.

Gary Hardt had just started the process for stem cell treatment prior to the All-American. He has just finished his treatment and had to be in the hospital over Thanksgiving but is getting ready to come home real soon and is talking

about all the camping he is planning on doing next year.

We elected new (well mostly old) officers for Blossomland, Tom Strzyzkowski, President, Dan Mills, Vice-President (that will teach you to be in Iraq when we elect officers); Dan Gatchell, Treasurer and Jo Ann Ingraham, Secretary. We also set up our camping for next year with Memorial Weekend at Bellevue as our 1st outing. Joe Anderson and Toni Mesecar will host June, Gary and Jeanne Hardt, Jo Ann Ingraham will host

Happy Wanderers

Wow!! What a great weekend—full of ghosts & goblins, princesses & pirates, and many, many more. What a great bunch of kids we had at this Rally [in Hesperia]. They certainly followed Nancy Hellman's directions when they were lining up to be judged up at the building. I thought Nancy had all the qualifications of a school teacher the way they paid attention to her. Great job, Nancy! Thanks to the Restless Ones for judging.



One little winner of the costumes was Payton Hardenburgh, who was Raggedy Ann. Another winner was a lovely young lady whose last name

(continued on page 7)

2006 TTCM Chili Outing



February 11, 2006 @ Bellevue Conservation Club

◆ Hosted by Kork & Linda Wielinga and Inez Cummings

◆ Luncheon begins at 1:00pm

◆ Bring your own table service and a dish to pass:

 Last names **A thru M** bring a dessert

 Last names **N thru Z** bring a salad or other side dish

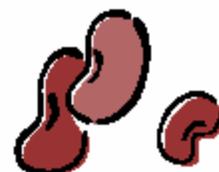
◆ Coffee, tea, hot chocolate will be provided

◆ Chili **with or without beans** will be served

◆ There will be a 50/50 drawing and Raffle

◆ Price is \$3/person **over 12 yrs** and \$1/person **12 yrs and younger**

◆ Please make **checks payable** to: Inez Cummings



Name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip Code _____

Adults

() x \$3

() x \$3

Children

() x \$1

() x \$1

Type of Chili

with beans

without beans

Total \$ _____

Mail payment to: Inez Cummings
223 E Jackson St
Bellevue, MI 49021-1227

Amount Due: _____

(Checks payable to Inez Cummings)



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Chapter News

Happy Wanderers (continued)

was Warners. She looked like a flapper to me. Another big winner was Heather Warners in the crazy golf game. She won a gift certificate to Chuckie Cheese for a large pizza for a family of four.

There was pandemonium in the clubhouse in the afternoon with all the kids participating in the games. All the children were given prizes and a small pumpkin. Thanks to Margaret VanderVelde and Deb Seawald and their committees for a job well done. The MALs and Happy Wanderers had charge of the games and the dinner, and Grand Valley had the two breakfasts and the haunted house. I heard it was pretty spooky and there were a lot of moans and groans, but everyone was accounted for the next morning.

There were 55 units on the grounds this weekend to enjoy the beauty of the leaves. The colors were gorgeous, but it will be a while before Mother Nature lets them fall so they can be blown out into the woods. The weather was perfect, but cool, as you would suspect that October would be.



Grand Valley did a super job on our breakfasts. It's not every morning that you get orange and slime green pancakes (blueberries, too, if you wanted) served with sausages and juice. On Sunday, we had plain, yellow scrambled eggs, sausages, juice and toast or English muffins. Great job.

We crammed everyone into the building for the potluck on Saturday evening. We set up extra tables as it was more fun to eat all together instead of in shifts. The food sure was yummy, thanks to all those good cooks!!

Did you notice all the new white tables and chairs? It looks a lot like a great banquet hall.

After breakfast on Sunday, the men were already going around the campground with the tractor and wagon, picking up all the tables and stacking them behind the building. Thanks to all those able-bodied guys (some not so) that were willing to help.

Many were packing up their units for the last time this season and others were thinking of heading down South or out West, anywhere

that would be warmer and without snow. Good Luck!!

Some of the guys were staying to cut wood for the next season and to maybe blow some of the leaves, but I think they might have to come



back in the end of November.

With another season over, God willing, we'll see you next year.

Happy New Year!

The next newsletter will print in either January or February 2006, depending if there's news to report.



TTCM News

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Brighton, MI 48116



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Hesperia Campground:

6777 M-20
Hesperia, MI 49421
(231) 854-9913
From Hesperia, head 3.5 mi west on M-20
From White Cloud, west 16.5 miles on M-20.
Campground is on the south side.

Bellevue Campground:

7418 W Baseline Hwy
Bellevue, MI 49021
(269) 763-3551
From I-69/I-94, North on I-69. Exit #48. Go west on M-78
approx 2 miles. South on Ionia Rd to W Baseline Rd. East
to 16th. Turn left at stop sign and follow 1/4 mile.

Please visit our Associate Members:

M & M Camping Center Inc
2960 W Jefferson
Trenton, MI 48183
(734) 676-2383

Caswell & Company
260 S Dexter St
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-9040