

July 2009
Volume 2009, Issue 5



From the President-

Well, summer is here and the heat feels good. Before I go to this letter I would like to apologize to the members of the Golden Agers. We held a meeting with them and we are all in agreement, and as far as I know all is OK. However I learned one thing, I will never ask for an opinion again, I will ask a question that can be answered with a sentence or two.

The GARAGE SALE at our BELLEVUE Campground is now history for this year. When the sale was over I made a donation of \$5.30 so that we can say that the sale grossed \$1,300. After we paid all of the bills we deposited \$1,202 into the campground account. On behalf each member of TTCM we all need to thank Sharon Westerhouse and Phyllis Perry and all of their many helpers for all they did for us. They would like to thank all of the members who brought stuff to sell, without them we would not have been able to have a sale. We had a committee for everything including food and ice cream runs. We all worked as a team and had a good time doing it. I feel very strongly that when a group of members raise money like this, they should have a say of where they would like to see the money go. They decided to spend the money we raised on enlarging the kitchen in the rec. hall. That desire was presented to the Executive Board Meeting at the Pig Roast and it was approved unanimously. The sale is over and the work has begun. You need to stop by and see what is going on.

I saved a bunch of good stuff that did not sell and I plan to bring it to Hesperia for their sale. When you have a sale like this and you advertise right you can get the buyers in but you have to have the stuff to sell. That is where you come in the sale needs you to bring stuff to sell. I have stopped and picked up things set out for trash and taken it to our sale and sold it, you could do the same.

I need your help in another area. I feel that our campgrounds are not communicating with you the members very well. You all need to know what is going on, and if there is an area where you could be of help. I would like each campground to write a brief column of what is happening there each month and what their needs are. What a member could be doing to help out or to get ready for a rally. If there was a need maybe someone would know of someone who could help out. I was thinking about HESPERIA HAPPENINGS or BLASTS, FROM BELLEVUE. Please send me your thoughts.

If everything goes as planned I expect to visit the MAL rally in July. I need to get the garage sale stuff there so I can do two things at once.

Just in case you are looking for something to do while at Bellevue, did you know that there is an alligator rescue sanctuary about 30 min drive away? They have the gators trained to come when they are called and you will be given an opportunity to hold one if you dare. Try it, the kids will like it.

Until next month
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From the Secretary-

Please see attached minutes from May's Board of Director's Meeting.



TTCM Welcome Corner-

We have a three member and three reinstatements.

John & Pamela Jasniewski #4679 from Michigan City, In. Have joined the Dune Land Winnies.

Rob & Michelle Cronk #4680 from Newaygo are MAL

Todd & Lisa Randolph #4681 from Grand Haven are Mal

Reinstating this year are-

Tim & Beth Rowse from Hastings, Tim received a new number because of divorce. His number is #4678.

Michael & Bonnie Silsbee #4539 from Nashville. They are both MAL's

Phillip & Mariann McGahan Jr. from Hesperia MAL

This makes us 305 members with 2 Associate members. Welcome to our camping family.

Sharon

From the Treasurer-

On May 28, 2009, Sharon Westerhouse and myself (Kathleen Rollenhagen) attended a Nonprofit Seminar in Okemos.

The speakers at the seminar were:

Ann Baker - Dept. of Energy, Labor & Economic Government

Tracy Goss - Dept. of Energy, Labor & Economic Government

Joe Kylman - Dept. of Attorney General

Nancy Hill - Dept. of Treasury

Donna Ference - Internal Revenue Service

Corporations do not exist simply by mutual agreement of members or directors but come into being ONLY by a specific act of a State or Federal Government and are kept in existence only by compliance with the regular requirements of that government.

TTCM is a registered Corporation in the State of Michigan and must comply with all State, Federal (IRS) rules as told to us by the agencies listed above.

Failure to comply will not only bring the above agencies down upon TTCM but also members of the Executive committee as they also will be held responsible for non-compliance.

The State of Michigan requires each chapter to file and pay a fee to have the information on file with the state under Travel Trailer Club of the Midwest. The person who fills this paper work and pays the fee is your resident agent and will receive the following years paperwork. This must be paid by Oct. 1st or you will have additional money to pay. We found we have several chapters that have not filed. Sharon has the paper work so please contact her. Please keep your information current on the states records. The state will assign your chapter an identification number.

Nonprofit corporations are not automatically tax exempt just because they have filed articles of incorporation. We are not tax exempt. We have to file 990 and 990-T with the federal

government just like you file income tax returns every year.

The IRS requires we keep all records of money coming in and original receipts for money going out. We need supporting documents (sales slips, paid bills, invoices, receipts) as they support our figures on our tax returns. This includes bank statements also everything must be paid by check. NO cash hand to hand. All fees need to be paid on a monthly basis with no carry over's from month to month for accounting per Donna Ference-IRS. IRS will expect to see these if we are audited.

Anyone that we pay out over \$600.00 in money or value - we must issue a 1099 and they will be required to claim it as income on there tax returns. So, we will need the address, and social security number or tax ID number for anyone who receives money or value of \$600.00 or more from TTCM, this is to be supplied to the Treasury. This includes gift certificates and gift cards we are required to give out 1099. These are not TTCM rules they are your governments rule. If we do not follow these we can loose our nonprofit status.

We have to have more accountability if people don't want to do this, then maybe the organization should consider that these people can not be responsible for events or any paperwork involved in keeping this information available.

Chapters have asked about using TTCM number in the past for a Texas Hold 'em. Please be aware ONLY qualified nonprofit organizations are eligible to receive a Millionaire Party license to conduct a Texas Hold 'em. You have to use your chapter number issued to your chapter by the State of your incorporation.

We received a lot of information and are still going thru it. We learned a lot about nonprofit's and were completely "whipped" by the end of the day. TTCM is doing a lot of things right but people need to realize that our laws change all the time at state an federal levels and you can not keep doing things like you did 10, 20 or 40 years ago. Myself as a member of TTCM would not like to see our state or federal government take it all away from its members because someone felt they did not need to turn in a receipt or keep proper records and have some accountability.

Because of the above, we all must do what we have to, to be in compliance with the government. Times and laws have changed sense 1964 and we must change too. However, this doesn't mean we have to close up shop. We all can still have a good time at a reasonable price just like we have done for the past 45 years.

Due to accounting problems at campgrounds and some members not paying for there camping everyone is expected to register ad pay Property Tenders when entering the campgrounds. It is not the Property Tenders responsibility nor the directors to track down people who have not paid. We will not be using the Chapter Record Sheets until after this problem can be discussed at the membership meeting in September and hopefully resolved.

Kathy Rollenhagen

“The fire is the main comfort of the camp, whether in summer or winter, and is about as ample at one season as at another. It is as well for cheerfulness as for warmth and dryness.” ~Henry David Thoreau



Attention--M.A.L.S-

We are schedule for a rally in Hesperia in July. Let's all get together and have a fun weekend camping and with a breakfast and a potluck supper on the 11 of July. Let's get to know each other.

Edna--4579

Hesperia Campground Director-

The items at the campgrounds do belong to all TTCM members but if you are going to borrow any item please let the campground directors know. After saying this would the person who borrowed the chairs from Hesperia Campground please return them. Thank you!

On Saturday, June 19th there was a campground planning committee meeting held at the Hesperia campground. Happy Wanderers, MAL's, Restless Ones and Golden Agers were represented. The list of request that was brought up at the meeting held in April was read and discussed. In addition to concerns about a leaning tree over a campsite, Property Tenders feeling they are responsible for the money collected and there was confusion over chapter's collection of money but not for the whole chapter and people not paying for camping. (This will be discussed further at the Sept. membership meeting in Bellevue, as there has been a problem there also.) Some of these items are being put in order and will be getting some estimates of cost involved and put in order to be budgeted maybe next year or in the future.



Garage sale time at our Hesperia Campground July 23, 24th and 25th

We will start accepting items at Hesperia in June. We are looking forward to a great sale: so clean out your closets and basements and let's make this a prosperous sale. Come and join us and have some fun in the process of making money for the campground. Bill Rollenhagen and Jerry Settler are in charge of this project. We need volunteers to help with this project. Anyone who is interested in working or helping please contact Bill Rollenhagen at 231-378-4563. If we don't have interest we will not be able to have a sale.

From the Editor-

The newsletter will be sent monthly during the camping season. If you would like an article in the June newsletter please submit them to me by July 25th.

If you are receiving your newsletter by mail and would like to start receiving it by email please send me an email with your name and email address.

You can mail newsletter articles to: Debbie Steenbergh, 28231 Lorenz, Madison Heights, MI 48071.

Or you can email them to: dsteenbergh@aol.com

Blossomland –
ALL AMERICAN 2009

We still have openings for volunteers for the All-American. Please check and see if your chapter would like to do one of the follow:

Sunday breakfast - NEED HOST

NEED HOSTS FOR THE FOLLOWING: Cribbage tournament, rolling pin toss, toilet seat toss, horse shoes, tractor rodeo, bean bag tournament.

We also need people to run the Christmas pet parade, Christmas bike parade and kids Christmas movie.

Please check the website TCM.org for the latest information on the All American. If you would like to host any of the events listed above or an event not listed on the website contact Dan Gatchell at gatchell@ameritech.net or call him at 269-428-2771.

FOR SALE



2002 GMC 4 Door Diesel Duramax
2003 Montana 5th wheel RV (36-37 feet)
3 Slide outs, Fireplace, All options.
Package deal! Both for \$35,000
Call 586 778 8819 or 810-667-7417





**STEAK AND CORN ROAST
BELLEVUE CAMPGROUND
AUGUST 7-8-9**



Rally Fee \$3.00

Bring your own meat that you will cook and a dish to pass.

Name _____

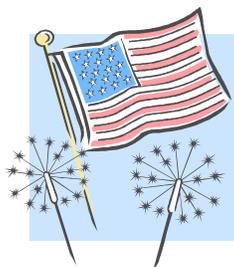
Number of Adults _____

Number of Children _____

Amount Paid _____

*Children under 10 free

Send to: Inez Cummings
223 E Jackson St
Bellevue MI 49021
269-763-3157



**FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND
SLOPPY JOE PICNIC
JULY 3-4-5**



Rally Fee \$2.00

Bring a dish to pass.

Name _____

Number of Adults _____

Number of Children _____

Amount Paid _____

*Children under 10 free

Send to: Sharon Westerhouse
PO BOX 336
Olivet MI 49076
517-285-4111



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Hesperia, MI 49421
(231)854-1404

Bellevue Campground: 7418 W Baseline Hwy., Bellevue, MI 48021 (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 West Baseline Rd. East to 16th. Turn left at stop sign and follow for ¼ mile.

Hesperia Campground: 6777 M-20, Hesperia, MI 49421 (231)854-9913
*From Hesperia, head 3.5 miles west on M-20.
*From White Cloud, West 16.5 miles on M-20, campground on south side.

Please visit out associate members:

M&M Camping Center Inc.
2960 W Jefferson
Trenton, MI 48183

Caswell & Company
260 S Dexter St
Ionia, MI 48846