

January/February 2011
Volume 2011, Issue 1



HAPPY NEW YEAR

From the President-

In my last letter I told you of my visit with my kids. We sure had a great time. We spent 4 days and 3 nights at Disney, saw all of the parades and everything there was to be seen. We had a really good time with each other. After I got them onto the airplane, and got the coach out of storage and onto a site. This is where my problem started, as I was unloading the car I tripped on the corner of the cement patio and fell. I broke the ring finger on my right hand and messed up my right shoulder. I have had surgery on my hand and I hope to have the cast removed this week.

I spent the rest of Dec and most of Jan at Johnny's RV Resort in Floey, AL. This is where I had the surgery on my hand and had to wait to be released by the Dr. before I could leave. Bill and Kathy Rollenhagen and Tom and Sharon Westerhouse were there so I had some help if I needed it. One thing neat about this area is that it has a strong interest in Blue Grass Music. Weekly concerts are held in the park, tickets are \$5.00 or \$6.00. There is a whole lot of good music and a very enjoyable evening.

When I got the release from the surgeon to travel, I left for Uncertain, Texas. This is where I had committed to help put an addition on a friend's house. I will be here until mid March.

I know that you all are aware that 2011 is an election year. If any member wishes to run for any TTCM office they must submit a letter of their intent to Tim Crisfield, MAL President. This information must be received by Tom by U.S. Mail and postmarked prior to May 1st, 2011 to be valid. If you have a question I will attempt to help you. However there is no cell service where I am. Leave a message on my cell phone and I have to drive up out of the river bottom and I will get back to you.

Because this is our election year I feel that I will tell you that I plan to run for re-election for the office of President of TTCM. When I agreed to return to the office of President it was my goal to make TTCM to become compliant to all State and Federal laws to protect ourselves and the investment that so many of you have worked so hard for.

Our Secretary and Treasurer spent all day in Lansing at Non-Profit organization compliance seminar. They attended so we could become more aware of things we needed to do, or implement. Because of their hard work and determination we have made good strides in many areas (We were not required to pay any taxes last year) we still have issues in the area of record retention that we must deal with as soon as possible. We are required to be prepared for an audit at any time by the State of Michigan or the IRS. Al so because we are a Non-profit Organization we are required to maintain all financial and meeting minutes until the Organization is dissolved by the state.

Reminder!

Your Campground will open on April 15th 2011. You are welcome to show up to help het things cleaned up and open.

Each campground will be holding its Campground Planning Committee meeting on opening Saturday. Anyone can attend but only each chapter's representative can vote. Everyone's input is welcome.

The spring Board of Directors meeting will be held at our Hesperia campground on the first Saturday in May. Please be sure that your Chapter is represented.

Until next month, THINK SPRING
Dick Hamlin, President TTCM

From the Secretary's Desk-

A new year of TTCM has started with 63 members not renewing for 2011. Dues were due by December 31, 2010. I always allow a couple of weeks due to holiday mail delays. This will be the last newsletter that those who have not paid will receive. So, if you haven't received your current membership card and 2011 year sticker then you are delinquent. You will need to send me \$35.00 to re-new your dues for 2011. I hope that I will hear from you soon.

I will be sending the newsletter editor a list soon of the members to take off her mailing list for the newsletter. Don't have your name removed from the list, send in your re-instatement dues now.

The Chapters have been great about sending me their officer's list and incorporation papers. I still need a copy of incorporation papers from Duneland Winnies and River Raisin. I'm hoping that you will send them to me soon. I'd like to have them before the officers meeting in May.

I would like to welcome back to TTCM membership:

John & Drema Barber #4601 MAL, Bruce & Penny Bennett #4142 DT and Jack & Barbara Secondi #4541 MAL. It's good to have you back in the family of camping friends.

I was asked to publish the property tenders duties and the secretary's duties in the newsletter. They are in the issue. Read them over and give it some thought. I'm looking forward to a good year of camping at our beautiful campgrounds. I hope to see you there or hear from you soon.

Sharon Westerhouse

Treasurers Report-

I would like to start my report with an apology to all who sent dues in on time. Sharon has had a problem receiving her mail in Alabama, which after she does her report then turns them over to me. So some of our members checks are delayed in clearing your accounts.

As 2010 ends financially and not having our final figurer's from the accountant at this time I have some things to report and would like all members to think about and please let your chapter presidents know how you feel and what you think we should do in the future.

Our camping income for 2010 was at \$33,927.00, with Bellevue at \$16,129.00, down 13.7% from 2009 and Hesperia at \$17,798.00, down 22.2% from 2009. Our guest camping (the ones that did not fall into our temporary membership rule) was at \$1,800.00. This is would be the figure the IRS, says we should have \$500.00 per camp ground. Bellevue was at \$585.00, down 64.9% and Hesperia was at \$1,215.00 up 67.8%.

Our total income for 2010 was \$45,874.00.

Our utilities, property taxes, insurance and newsletter are running 67% of our expenses.

Utilities cost a total of \$14,760.00 with electric our biggest expense, Bellevue is at \$4,470.02 down 44.8% and Hesperia was at \$7,775.41 up 6.9%.

Our total expenses were \$36,919.29 after having a freeze on spending for 2010.

I am showing the club showed a profit for 2010 of \$10,379.71.

The total of our bank accounts is showing \$84,440.53 at December 31, 2010 with our total assets at \$1,238,240.53.



News from the North-

LET IT SNOW—LET IT SNOW!!!!!!

Are you snowed in and don't know what to do? Thinking about maybe doing your spring cleaning a little early this year?? Well on these snow days it might be a good idea to start thinking about our yearly yard sale in Hesperia. We need all our stuff this year. So just don't sit there waiting for the snow to leave get busy and fill those box's for the sale in June.

Thank you the YARD SALE GIRLS.



News from the South-

With me in Alabama and Herman in Texas, It's hard to think of spring in Bellevue. But, we must start thinking about the campground soon. We have a good year ahead with the Family Campers coming the third weekend of May. This will bring in good revenue for the campground.

Then we follow with the Pig Roast hosted by Double Dozen over Memorial weekend. Looks like May will be a good month. After the Pig Roast we start getting ready for the Garage Sale the 3rd weekend of June.

So, you all need to be thinking of spring cleaning and bring your donations to the campground. Several of our members are sending theirs by UPS as they can't make it to the campground. That's ok too. We need dishes, pots & pans, appliances, furniture, toys, odds & ends, anything we can sell. Dime, Quarters they all add up!! Our profits will go for new roofs on the two picnic shelters. We also need Paper Bags for \$\$\$ day.

We'd like to have a weekend to work on the playground and will probably discuss that at the planning committee meeting the 3rd weekend of April at the campground. Chapter presidents please make sure your representative attends the meeting.

It looks like the spring holds a lot in store for everyone. Hope you folks will come out to the campground for some fun and fellowship. Think about spending a week as property tenders as it can be enjoyable. Looking forward to seeing you folks at the campground, we'll have it ready for you to enjoy.

Tom Westerhouse and Herman Hazard
Bellevue Co-Directors

OFFICAL NOTICE-

As MAL president and in accordance to the by-laws of TTCM, I am to place this notice in the newsletter.

Article X, Paragraph E,

Subparagraph 1. "A notice shall be placed in the newsletter requesting the names of those members desirous having their names placed in nomination."

Subparagraph 2. "... Each nominee must have his or her resume postmarked by May 1st and mailed to the MAL president...."

2011 is election year. Resumes are to be postmarked no later than May 1, 2011.

Please mail your resumes to:

Thomas Crisfield
MAL President
187 N 22nd Street
Battle Creek, MI 49015

GOLDEN AGER'S

December 18th, the Golden Ager's got together for their annual Christmas party at the home of Dave & Deb Seewald. It was an evening of great food and conversation. Special guests were Phil (Lefty) & Dee McGahan and Jim & Barb Annis.

Thank you,
Cyndi Behler #4639

MAL Representative-

Personal note:

The year 2010 had many rough issues as well as blessings. Cancer, unfortunately, seemed to be a main focus. My mother broke her hip in December of 2009 and then early 2010 was diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer. We nearly lost her during treatment. The cancer is in remission and her cancer marker is 1. Anything under 3 is considered good. In October she turned 86. She is still weak but is improving. My sister and I as well as other members of the family are providing her 24/7 care in her home. This is a great blessing. Appreciate your prayers and please continue to do so.

MAL Representative from the North...

I am way overdue from sitting at the computer and making this note. Last rally James Annis graciously stepped forward and was confirmed to be the MAL representative at Hesperia. This is great. My heart desires to serve; however, I would have been totally ineffective for the northern campers. In the past I camped several weeks at a time in Bellevue- in 2010 Denise and I camped only a couple of times. I hope to be able to camp more in 2011.

From the North...

During the Rally I received a note that all MAL's were invited to attend a MAL rally at Hesperia on June 3rd and 4th; and on August 12th and 13th, 2011, in Hesperia. If you can, please attend. With the economic demise continuing many may not be able to enjoy the fellowship of camping-attend if you can.

The Rally...

My thanks and appreciation to all who made the rally enjoyable. Regrettably, time goes by too fast. I do thank the executive board, folks who worked on rally set-up, and all of little things, behind the scenes people who made the rally a success. Issues were resolved and restoration completed. As with any organization things will come up, but I am confident that our resolve will strive to make TTCM better and better as time goes on. I have to say, being a Christian and a musician, the Sunday service made the day.

Looking forward to the 2011 camping season.

Tom Crisfield, MAL Representative from the South (Bellevue).

Reminder...

Resume's are due May 1 for those who wish to run for office. Mail them to:
Thomas Crisfield
187 N. 22nd Street
Battle Creek, MI 49015

Thank you
Tom Crisfield

PROPERTY TENDER DUTIES

When members check in, please check the current Membership List that is in the Property Tenders Notebook to make sure current dues have been paid.

Please log in on the TTCM Campground Weekly Camping sheet. There is an EXAMPLE in the notebook as to how to fill this out. The only column that is new this year is the last one and that is for personal check numbers. If they give you cash, leave blank or write cash.

Fill out window hangers when camping fee is paid. The date out is the day they are to leave.

There is also a Temporary Membership Log in the book. Please fill this out also, if a group of 6 or more comes in. The first night is \$15.00 (\$5.00 Temporary Membership fee and \$10.00 for camping). The rest of the nights they are on the campground is \$10.00. Any non-members who are in a group of less than 6 must pay \$15.00 per night for camping. If an outside group comes in and does not take out Temporary Membership and there are 6 units or more they will NOT be able to come back to our campground. Our license is for membership only. The Temporary Membership cards are also in the Property Tenders Notebook. Please issue a card when they pay. Fill out their name, date, the date it expires is 15 days from purchase and sign your name. This card can be shown at either campground.

ALL FREE CAMPING certificates should be authorized by the Secretary. New members are receiving them in their packets. If a certificate is not authorized by the Secretary, please have the campground director authorize it before they can be used before accepting them.

Any dues or new members please place in addressed envelopes that are in pouch so they can be mailed to the Secretary (Sharon Westerhouse) or just give to her at the end of your week. NO DUES should appear on property tender sheets.

Everybody is to pay \$2.00 for the use of the honey wagon. All outside dumps are to pay \$10.00

Ice money is to be collected and put in envelope marked as such.

Issue receipts for any money that is exchanged.

Bathrooms need to be cleaned or refreshed once a week.

Check clubhouse and picnic shelters for trash removal. The clubhouse needs to be refreshed once a week.

When director or directors are away from the campground, property tender is in charge. Anything major happens please call the people on the contact sheet, starting with the director, president then vice-president.

Property Tenders should discuss with the director and past Property tenders at the beginning of the week what needs to be done or has been started around the campground. Property Tenders shall be expected to keep grass mowed as much as possible and as time permits, to see that the trails are kept clear. Any minor maintenance or repair that may be needed is also the responsibility of the property tenders as time and weather permits.

The Property Tender shall be responsible for the safety and welfare of campers and guests. They shall take whatever steps necessary to assure such. In case of a major or serious problem take immediate action necessary then notify the Director. In the event of an incident happening, please be sure to fill out an incident report so this can be on file in the campground office at the end of your week of property tending.

In return for the above Property Tenders and their Assistant Property Tenders camping fees shall be waived for their period of tenancy.

Property Tenders duties are posted on the bulletin board in the clubhouse.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

According to the By-Law, the secretary shall keep and publish the minutes of all meetings of the club and the Board of Directors and Executive Committee distributing the same to all Chapter Presidents and TCM President no more than thirty (30) days following the meetings; and shall distribute for newsletter publishing for next deadline. The secretary shall have charge of all correspondence and any that is not signed will be considered junk mail and discarded; shall publish notices of all meetings; shall have establish a petty cash fund and shall draw from there for appropriate expenses keeping an accurate account thereof.

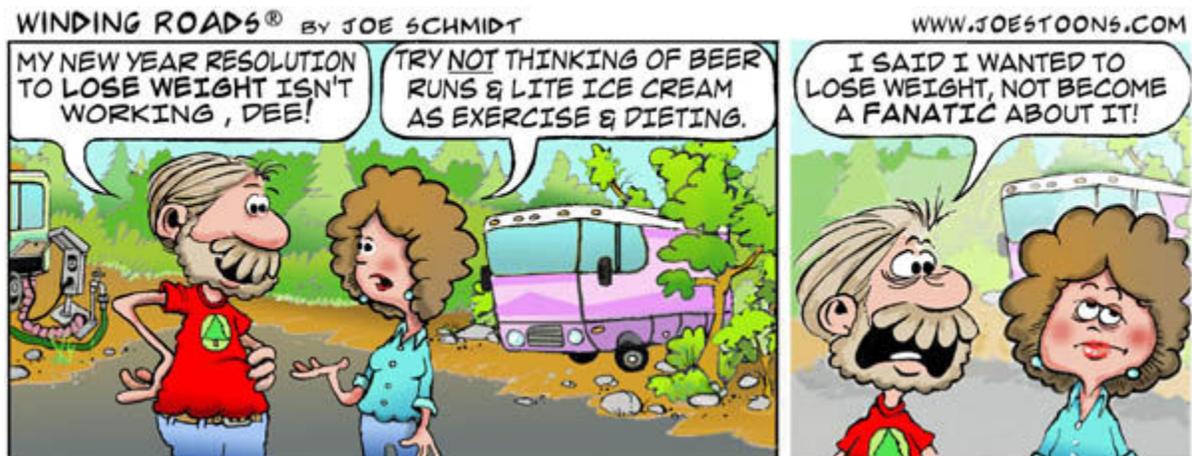
Following the By-Laws the secretary will establish a data base of members, collect all dues of the club and shall issue one (1) set of numbers, a membership card, club insignia with

TTCM logo, year sticker, By-Laws, campground rules, free camping coupon and maximum of two (2) name badges (per couple) to all members; shall turn over to the Treasurer all dues money and a monthly report of all new and reinstated members: shall keep all audio and/or written records of meetings part and present.

An assistant secretary can be appointed by the secretary subject to approval of the Executive committee having the name of this appointee published in the newsletter.

The secretary also keeps TTCM records, past minutes and historical papers in a file cabinet; keeps all past rally and year stickers and offer for sale to the membership; keeps and updates the All American Rally Guideline Notebooks. The secretary orders the current year stickers and All American stickers. The rally stickers are given to the rally chairman who reimburses the TTCM treasurer. The names and addresses of new and reinstated members are given to the treasurer and newsletter editor for the newsletter mailing list. In January, those members who have not renewed their current TTCM dues are removed from the secretary's data base and those names are sent to the treasurer and the newsletter editor for removal from their lists also. A notice is sent to each Associate Member for a reminder of deadline of current dues.

A welcome letter to TTCM and a copy of the Code of Ethics is included in the new member packet. A list of Chapter Presidents with address and phone numbers is kept in the Secretary's notebook along with the current Incorporation papers of every Chapter (according to the by-laws). The secretary shall have other duties as may be designated by the Board of Directors.



From the Editor-

The next newsletter will be the March/April Newsletter which will be sent out the beginning of April. If you would like an article in the next Newsletter please submit them to me by March 26. 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

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400 E Michigan Ave
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