

Golden Anniversary

1963-2013



T.T.C.M



July 2013

Volume 2013 - V

Since 1963

Around the Campfire

As you know the assistant camp ground director at Bellevue is Darrel Kauffman. Along with his many duties he also collects camping fees, so to make his job a little easier, anyone camping up at Bellevue needs to stop at the property tender sign and check in and pay for camping. This makes this job easier and he gets to meet and greet everyone. We have also started using tags. This same procedure is being used at Hesperia.

Also let's watch our speed in the campground. The posted speed is 5MPH that includes golf carts.

Lastly, parents school your children to watch out for people pulling into the campground, they don't always see you. With these few items we can have a fun filled camping experience.

Roger



Up Coming Events

July 6th - Swiss Steak Dinner - Bellevue

July 11th - 14th - Kids Weekend / DD

Canoe Outing - Hesperia

August 17th - Planning Committee

Meeting - 10am

August 30th - Sept. 2nd - All American

Rally - Bellevue

October - Halloween Rally - Bellevue

(Date - TBD)

Duneland Winnie Taters

We will be moving our taters to FRIDAY NIGHT of the Halloween Rally at Bellevue.



Friday Night

Kids Craft - 6pm - ???

Taters - 7pm - ???

Saturday Activities - TBD

We have had kids express interest that THEY want to raise money for THEIR playground. They will be holding a silent auction Saturday with proceeds going to the playground fund. We need new or gently used items donated to make this a success!

Lost and Found

ATTENTION

ATTENTION

Found ring at Hesperia Campground. Please call Lefty at 231-854-9913. When you call please be ready to describe the ring!



News from the North

The new TTCM sign is up at Hesperia and looks great! We have already had members say that it is much easier to see and you can see it from further away.

I would like to thank Murl Jobs, Ron McCastle and Ray Hilderbrandt Jr. for all the help with getting the sign ready and installed.

Lefty McGahan
Hesperia Campground Director



Happenings at Hesperia

Saturday July 13th Community dinner for all @ 5:30 in the clubhouse "Pot Luck" bring a dish to pass.

In honor of the DD and kids weekend we will be having an ice cream social later Saturday night. Ice cream and toppings will be provided.

Come enjoy the fellowship and fun!



Free Wood

Bellevue Campground has the ability to get some free wood. We just need some members to say they will cut it and bring it back to the campground. Call Inez Cummings, (269) 763-3157, if interested.

MANY, MANY THANKS

A HUGE thank you to Dan Gatchell and Pat and Gay Story! On Sunday, June 16 (Father's Day), while on my way home from Bellevue my Jeep broke down - I thought I had blown the engine. Well, I just happened to be in Stevensville (stopping for lunch), very close to the Gatchell home and within 2 minutes of the Story's house. I called Dan, and he came to my aid - as any true-blue member of TTCM would! He checked to see if the Story's had room in their driveway, and then came to pick up my trailer and put it in storage at Story's - tucked in next to their motorhome. The Story's looked after it until Thursday, the 20th, when I was able to pick it up with the repaired Jeep for Blossomland's June rally. I am so blessed to belong to a wonderful group of people!

Judy Collins



Announcement from the Assistant

We need your help to implement a new check in procedure at the Bellevue Campground. If you would please stop at the property tender sign as you come in to receive your orange tag, which will provide your paid in date and out date, it will help the property tenders do their job and make the process of registration so much easier.

Thank you,
Darrell Kauffman



Hesperia's MAL's Minute to Win It

Hesperia MALs Minute to Win It was a huge success this weekend. Everyone had lots of fun!



Scoop from the South

The Bellevue planning committee met on June 15 at 10am. It was decided to move forward on many plans that had been discussed at a previous meeting to get the park looking great for all the campers. We would always welcome anyone who could volunteer to help do painting, cleaning, etc.

Thank you,
Kork & Darrell

Olivet Firemen's Fest

For those members who went last year, I just want to remind you that this event will be held again, July 26th and 27th. For those members who did not attend it is a HUGE party about 10 minutes from our Bellevue campground. They have food, friends, and fireworks! This fest helps support the firemen of this small local community! So if you are around come use your campground and support a great cause!

All American Rally Trailer Decorations

Just wanted to put in another reminder to get those idea's flowing. Here once again is the theme for this year's rally!

**How did your chapter get its name or
What Your Chapter Name means!**

I hope that this gets you thinking about how your chapter came to be so many years ago!

Thoughts from the Treasurer

The question was raised to find out if we have to keep our ballots after elections:

I previously questioned our accountant (Cox Accounting) and he explained that it is not required to keep our ballots after an election. I did some additional research and this is what I concluded:

According to *Robert Rules for Dummies* it states:

After the votes are counted, the chairman of the tellers reads aloud to the membership the complete report of the vote counts but doesn't declare the result. That job belongs to the presiding officer, who reads the report again to the members, concluding with a formal declaration of the result. For example, she may say, ". . . and Mr. Turkey is declared elected as the Birdbrain of the Year." The entire tellers' report should be included in the minutes of the meeting.

To avoid running up a storage bill or having the secretary quit because her spouse doesn't want so much junk in the house, **best practice is to destroy the ballots**. When determining how long to hold the ballots before destroying them, your main consideration is the possibility of needing a recount. After the period during which a recount can be conducted has passed, you don't need to keep the ballots. A decision on how long to keep them can be made at the meeting when the vote takes place or a short retention period for ballots can be adopted as a standing rule.

Hope this simplifies the ballot issue.

Brenda Hilderbrandt

Your TTCM Treasurer



TTCM 50 Year Trivia

July Question

In what year did TTCM start mailing election ballots to its members?

June Answer

When this club started the meetings held during the All American Rally were called "Bull Sessions."

May Answer

Our start-up money came from 4 RV supply companies. Warner Trailer Sales in Pontiac, Crawford Trailers in Taylor, Monsoon & Sons Trailer in Dearborn, & Kolby Trailer Sales in Warren. Each gave \$100.

All American Rally Update

Just about 2 months from now we will be celebrating 50 years of TTCM. Things are going by so quickly and we still have so much to do! The first thing I would like to ask of you is **PLEASE** get your registration in early. We have many hand created items and we want to make sure everyone that is coming gets one!

Next are the things we are asking chapters/individuals to bring with them:

Chapters

~6 adult tank prizes – new, valued at \$7-\$10.

~2 homemade items (non-cream style) for adult cake roulette and 1 homemade item or store bought for children's cake roulette.

Individuals

~1 can of non-cream style vegetable for dinner Friday night per person.

~Brown bag auction items – can be anything family friendly.

We want to make sure that you know Friday night's hospitality is an **ACTUAL** meal. Our team of chefs will be starting the base and you (the members) will be bringing in your cans of vegetables to add to our Hobo Stew. You will also have bread & butter along with a drink. So just pack your trailer Friday and bring your appetite to the campground!

Just a friendly reminder that if you are on the grounds 2 weeks before the rally you may get asked to move so that chapters can be parked together. Judy Collins is hard at work mapping out the campground and making sure everyone is with their chapter.

Also, due to preparing for this Rally the Rec Hall will be not be available for large group gatherings starting August 15th until the Rally. We are not kicking you out of your Rec Hall, but there are many things that need to be done during that time period and we need as much space as we can get.

I think I need to clarify what I meant with meal help. We will need about 6-8 people per meal to help serve and clean up. We will have sign-up sheets at registration and would like for you to choose when you feel you can help out.

Lastly, if you are doing a game that you need ribbons or awards for please contact me ASAP.

Now that I have rambled on for a while I just want to say thank you to those that have sent in your registration and to those that have helped me make this rally what I have had in my head for 10 years! THANK YOUR VERY MUCH!!

Melissa Murrie – Rally Chairperson

Please remember that if you have an article for the newsletter the deadline is the 20th of the month prior to publication.

An Open Letter to TTCM Members The Issue of Free Camping

Should We Take It Away or Shouldn't We? – That is the Big Question

At the beginning of the 50th Anniversary celebration at the Bellevue Campground in September, is the Annual Membership Meeting on Monday Labor Day. For the members who are new, this is the only time in the camping year for T.T.C.M. that the membership can vote on issues brought before them. This is a great thing for the membership and you should try to attend. It is the only time that you can voice your opinion and vote.

This year the By-Law Committee has a group of By-Laws that they are bring before you to vote on. One major issue is the free camping that some people are getting.

The free camping was given to various people for various reasons. 1.) To past presidents as a “thank you” for a better lack of words, for the job they did as TTCM president. 2.) A Life Membership (LM) may have been given to a member & spouse for something they may have done over a period of years for the club or because they were a “charter” member of TTCM helping to develop TTCM or 3.) They were given the title of Honorary member. 4.) Finally, each member of the executive board members receive free parking while they are in office for the term(s) they are serving.

There are 15 members who are the membership with an “astric” next to there name who are able to receive free camping while they are camping in their unit.

Of the 15 members, **4** past pres spouses live out of state an no longer are camping. **1** member lives in MI, but is not able to camp right now. **We** have **2** past pres. & a past campground director who have past on and wifes sold their units. We have **1** charter member who is 89 yrs young, however has always paid his camping around with **1** past pres. We have one couple who are honory members and use their free camping.

Now I have only **4** past presidents left. One I think is paying to his, one who takes the free camping, however donates at the end of the month.

The last two. One take his free camping, donates at the end of the month and works his hinny off at the campground with donated time and people still complain he gets free camping. Mayby he should pay his parking, charge for all the help and work he does and see who comes out ahead. I'm sure he will be charging TTCM for all the time he donates.

Now the last person is myself. My first 4 yrs I donated my time to HW as their officer. The next 3 yrs. as pres. for TTCM (otherwise you the members) the 3 years as sr. advisor, all while working, raising a child with the help from my husband and then being a wife. Some of that is no different than what some of **YOU** have done. There were many other things I did for TTCM but won't take the time to mention.

We joined in 1988, officer for first 10 yrs. Then we just camped like normal campers because we both worked. We probably use the free camping 4 times per year for 14 yrs. Only the past 3 yrs have I camped 3 days every week, donated 4 days a week and more at the end of the month when I could. This year I haven't camped yet due to health issues.

From where I sit there are only 2 of us you are complaining about. Why in heavens name are you complaining. It isn't costing you that much. If it is, explain to me where. You want to take it from retired people on the list. I probably have only a few more years to camp. I hope I'm wrong. If you take away what has already been given to us, I probably won't be able to camp. Maybe that's what you want. I really don't know.

I hope you will think about what you going to do. Back when Don Westphal was president, it was voted that I was stopping with him. If you have any questions, you may call me a 231-865-3236. I apologize for the long letter.

Thank you,

Liz VerPlank

****Editor's Note: Retyped to fit available space – content not changed ****

50 Year Banner Squares

We are still waiting on many of the chapters to send us back your banner square. Please, please, please get this done and back to me so that every chapter can be included in this project.

Please check with your president to see if your chapter has turned one in. If they haven't see what you can do to help get it done!

Thank you,
Sherry Murrie

All American Rally Large Raffle

Hopefully by now you have received your tickets in the mail. We still have about 70% of our members that have not sent back money/stubs or the unsold tickets. Please help us have a great raffle by getting yours back to us ASAP. Remember you can buy them yourself or sell them to friends and/or family. Thank you all, in advance, for helping us give you a great Rally.

Harriet Conklin

On Going Earmarked Special Funds

Current as of 6-17-2013

Bellevue

Pig Roast = \$303.84

Wood Shed = \$369.00

Stove Hood = \$309.00

Playground = \$2591.58

Table & Chairs = \$181.00

Beautification = \$488.00

Hesperia

Picnic Tables = \$1013.41

Clubhouse storage & supplies = \$163.57

Milley Suchey Memorial Brick? = \$40.00

Kitchen sink & faucet = \$351.71

Water Project = \$434.77

September 2013 Sewing Bee = \$54.40

Beautification = \$105.00

Combined

Teens = \$463.50 (can only be used with teen advisor's permission)

RV Museum Brick = \$323.50

Highlights from 1963

I thought it would be neat to share some things that were happening in 1963 when this wonderful club of ours was started.

President: John F. Kennedy

Vice President: Lyndon B. Johnson

Population: 189,241,798

Life expectancy: 69.9 years

Dow-Jones: High - 767; Low - 646

Federal Spending: \$111.32 billion

Federal Debt: \$310.3 billion

Unemployment: 5.5%

Cost of a new home: \$12,650.00

Cost of a first class stamp: \$0.05

Cost of a gallon of regular gas: \$0.30

Cost of a dozen eggs: \$0.55

Cost of a gallon of milk: \$0.49

Cost of a new car: \$3,233.00

Cost of a loaf of bread: \$0.22

Average Income per year: \$5,807.00

Events in 1963

JFK was assassinated.

Alcatraz is closed

"Lassie" was on television.

The start of "Beatlemania"

The USS Thresher sinks in the Atlantic Ocean

"The Birds" and "The Great Escape" were released.

Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his "I have a dream" speech

Johnny Depp & Michael Jordan are born

Hope you enjoyed this blast from the past!!

Bellevue Campground Planning Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2013

Darrell Kauffman, assistant campground director called meeting to order at 10:00am. Present were: DT-Bill Oates, HC-Eugene Conklin, MAL-Inez Cummings, also present were Harriet Conklin, Dawn Kauffman, Melissa Murrie and Sherry Murrie.

The earmarked funds for the chairs for the upper shelter has \$181.00, checking online it was found that we could purchase 8 chairs at this time (each chair costs \$21.18). The vote was unanimous. Bill Oates volunteered to get the chairs.

Discussion regarding the stations: repair or replace the "H" shaped frames—at this time the ones that can be repaired will be done and painted as time permits. The water pipe stantions will be replaced by 3" schedule 40 pipe. The cost is approx. \$6.00 for each ten-foot piece, Darrell will get 5 pieces at this time. This was then put to a vote and passed.

The hot water heater has been lifted as far as it can; this was on the old items to be done list. Sometime last year the sigh at Junction and 16 ½-mile roads came up missing, this will have to be replaced before the All American Rally.

There is a tree that needs to be felled; Darrell will get an estimate form a local tree company, First Choice.

Outhouses: there was earmarked \$600.00 at the May 2012 meeting. Materials will be purchases to repair any of the outhouses that need attention. The hill removal from behind the woman's across from the rec hall will be addressed next spring, as they did not want to tear it up and have a mess for the All American Rally. This was voted on and approved.

Vents over the stove, there is a \$600.00 fund for this and it will be completed prior to August 15. Voted and approved.

Steps need to be painted to the lower shelter and to the upper outhouses. Paint is on site and anyone wishing to do this project has only to contact Darrell. Free camping can be arranged in trade for this.

The subject of permanent sites was tabled due to the All American Rally being held here and not wishing to tear things up.

A motion was made by HC to purchase a load of slab wood (\$45.00) for firewood, seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to purchase 2 yards of gravel to have on hand to use where needed, this was also unanimously approved.

It was stated that there are many people with different attitudes and that we all need to put ours aside to work together. This way we can get everything done to make the campground GREAT!

Inez Cumming motioned at 11:20 to adjourn the meeting and this was seconded and approved by all.

Taken by Sherry Murrie

**ADDITIONS AND / OR CORRECTIONS TO THE BY-LAWS
FIRST DRAFT**

Article IV Membership:

C. PAST PRESIDENTS—Delete the words and camping fees waived.

Past Presidents in gratitude for their service shall have their TTCM annual membership dues waived.

D. Life Member: Change in language: and delete free use of all club campgrounds.

A Life Member shall be a retiring officer of the executive Committee, other than the President and his / her surviving spouse, who has served 12 or more consecutive years on the Executive Committee. As a tribute from the club will have their annual membership dues waived.

Move F and G under Recreational Vehicle Ownership:

Delete H: Temporary Membership

F. Recreational Vehicle Ownership: In the event that a member or couple, no longer own an RV due to finances, age, or illness, may continue their membership without provision of a recreational vehicle ownership in Article IV sub-paragraph A.

G. Surviving Spouse: A spouse of a surviving member may continue their membership without regards to the provision of recreational vehicle ownership in article IV sub-paragraph A.

H. Disabled Member: A disabled member or couple may continue their membership without regards to the provision of recreational ownership in article IV sub-paragraph A.

Article V dues and fees:

B. Delete: Life Members- Nil

D. Add from the All American Rally to December 31st.

D. Dues are payable from the All American Rally to December 31st of each calendar year for which membership shall be automatically suspended for non-payment of dues [NPD] and shall forfeit all rights and privileges of membership.

E. Change January 31st to January 1st.

E: Members whose dues are remitted and received after January 1st shall not be reinstated unless such sum of money received as dues shall be accompanied by an additional sum of money designated as a reinstatement fee, the amount of which shall be established by the Board of Directors. Decals/ numbers are not part of the reinstatement fee.

Article VI: Government

C. Addition of the Teen Adult Advisor to the Board of Directors with a vote. This needs to be discussed.

Article X Duties of officers, Trustees, and others

C. Add to Secretary. Send a monthly report of all new and reinstated members to the treasure and newsletter editor.

D. Delete: shall make a monthly report of all new /reinstated members and issue same.

E .Member-at-large: Add a new paragraph for #3 about Write-Ins, then change numbers for 3-4-5-6

Add: 3. A member for two [2] years in good standing may submit their name and which office they desirous to run for Only as a write-in candidate.

Change numbers from 3-4 and 4-5 and 5-6.

Campground Director/Trustee :

F. Change on a monthly basis to weekly basis.

Shall provide a detailed report of all moneys received and disbursed on a weekly basis.

1. Delete the scheduled planning committee meetings and quorum of 2/3 and add new language.

1. All major improvements to the campgrounds shall have campground planning committee approval and majority approval of the Board of Directors prior to funds being committed disbursed. The Campground Director will call for and set up all planning committee meetings when needed. All members need to be notified thirty {30} days in advance of the scheduled meeting via the newsletter.

Article XIII Conduct of Members :

B. Delete: There will be no alcohol beverages allowed in any of the TTCM buildings.

Article XIV Forming Chapters : Delete: step 4.

4. The chapter must be incorporated in the State of Michigan, or the state in which it was formed and must annually keep on file with the TTCM Secretary a copy of their current filing document.

Move the other numbers up 4 – 5- 6-7

1. All members of the proposed chapter must be TTCM members in good standing.
2. Minimum necessary officers shall consist of: President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The new chapter must have at least five {5} units.
3. By-Laws of the club shall be the governing document however; a chapter may adopt additional by-laws for their chapters operation and guidance.
4. Admission of the new chapter to TTCM is by majority vote of the Executive Committee.
5. If at any time a chapter disbands, the remaining property and assets shall revert to TTCM.
6. The chapter shall have representation on the Board of Directors as herein specified.
7. The chapter shall have representation on the Board of Directors as herein specified.

****Editor's note: NO CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE ON MY PART...THIS WAS HOW IT WAS RECIEVED**



All American Rally 2013

50 years of TCM

Celebrate Good Times

Aug. 30th, 31st, Sept. 1st, and 2nd



Name: _____ Chapter: _____ TCM#: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Trailer Stats- Length: _____ # of Slide-outs: _____

Handicap: Yes - for Air-conditioning Yes - for Physical Limitations

Please note you need to come prepared to use an adapter for a lower amperage hookup as we may need to use rally cords to accommodate everyone with power.

Rally Fee: \$40.00 Family (2 adults & up to 3 children/teenager) = _____
Extra children (3-12) - \$5.00 X _____ = _____
Extra teenagers (13-17) - \$10.00 X _____ = _____
Extra Adult in same unit (18 & up) - \$20.00 X _____ = _____

\$20.00 - Single (Only 1 adult & up to 1 child) = _____
If more than 1 adult or 1 child must pay Family price

Total Amount Due = _____

of Adult: _____ # of Teens (13-17): _____ # of Children (0-12): _____
Age & Gender of each teen Age & Gender of each child

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
AUGUST 1TH, 2013

LATE FEE OF \$15.00 WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!!!!

Monies for parking will be collected at the campground during evening registration.

Checks made payable to Happy Campers

Please send upper portion & monies to:

Sherry Murrie
7356 E. Day Road
Bellevue, MI 49021

We are asking that you PLEASE register as early as possible as there are many hand created items being made and we want to have enough for everyone! If you find you are unable to attend we will gladly refund your monies with at least a 72 hour cancellation notice. If you need to cancel please call either Sherry Murrie @ (269) 565-5891, Melissa Murrie @ (269) 788-5560, or Harriet Conklin (269) 763-3515.

DOUBLE DOZEN IS HOSTING A:



www.shutterstock.com - 76365544

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST @ 5 PM FOR ONLY \$6.50

YOUR CARRY OUT DINNER INCLUDES:

~CHOICE OF WHITE OR DARK MEAT~

~½ CORN ON THE COB~

~BAKED BEANS~

~COLE SLAW~

~BISCUIT AND BUTTER~

~ICE CREAM CUP~

Note: This dinner is being held in lieu of a raffle fundraiser. All proceeds from the chicken dinner sale will be designated to the Bellevue playground fund. Enjoy a great dinner with no cooking and support the campground at the same time!

Please send the order form below. **Deadline is August 19th.**

___ white meat dinners (1 breast)

+___ dark meat dinners (1 leg & 1 thigh)

=___ dinners at \$6.50 each = _____ amount enclosed

Checks made out to: Double Dozen

Mail to: Gayla Reuter-Alm
1013 Yarrow
Howell, MI 48843
(810) 623-2787

50 Years of TTCM

All American Rally T-Shirt

Would you like a t-shirt with this little guy on it? Thanks to Robert and Clione Carr you can!

****\$2.00 of each shirt purchased will go towards the All American Rally****

Sizes: S - XL

\$18.00



Sizes: 2XL - 5XL

\$22.00

Please send the bottom portion of this to:

All American Rally T-Shirt

c/o Robert & Clione Carr

2217 E. Tyler Rd

Hart, MI 49420

Please Make Checks payable to Robert or Clione Carr

T-Shirts will be available for pick during registration

Order early to ensure you get your 50 Year T-Shirt

Name: _____ **TTCM #:** _____ **Chapter:** _____

Quantity Ordered: Adult Sizes Only

_____ **-S** _____ **-M** _____ **-L** _____ **-XL** **x \$18.00 =** _____

_____ **- 2XL** _____ **-3XL** _____ **-4XL** _____ **-5XL** **x\$22.00 =** _____

Total Payment: = _____

Melissa Murrie
7356 E. Day Road
Bellevue, MI 49021-9243



TRAVEL TRAILER CLUB OF THE MIDWEST
Since 1963

Don't forget to visit www.ttcm.org

President:

Roger Vogel
13219 Burgundy St.
Warren, MI 48089
Cell: 586-480-4499
Tubbs752@att.net

Vice President:

Daryl Westphal
5886 N. 400 W.
Michigan City, IN 46360-6510
Cell: 219-608-0819
dwestphal222@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Leo Fitzpatrick
2985 Irish Acres Dr.
Jackson, MI 49201
Cell: 517-990-4568
TTCMsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Brenda Hilderbrandt
2841 W. Cleveland Rd.
Rothbury, MI 49452
Cell: 231-742-1351
ttcmtreasurer@gmail.com

Bellevue Director:

Kork Wielinga
3836 Madison St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Cell: 269-358-0115

Hesperia Director:

Phillip (Lefty) McGahan
400 E. Michigan Ave.
Hesperia, MI 49421
Cell: 231-414-4935

Senior Advisor:

Dick Hamlin
2288 Dorothea Rd.
Berkley, MI 48072
Cell: 248-877-6304
Double0606@sbcglobal.net



Editor:

Melissa Murrie
7356 E. Day Rd.
Bellevue, MI 49021-9243
Cell: 269-788-5560
TTCMNewsLetterEditor@gmail.com



Bellevue Campground:

7418 Baseline Hwy
Bellevue, MI 49021
269-763-3551
From 1-69/1-94 - north on 1-69, 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 for ¼ mile. Campground on the left.

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 the south side.