



NEWS & VIEWS

Region 2

www.wbcci2.org

June 2008



REGION RALLY 2008 'A Canadian Holiday'

Well the 2008 Region Rally in Almonte is now history. From all reports everyone who attended had a super time. We had a number of firsts for a Region Rally – a sausage BBQ put on by the local merchants, a campfire, a surprise breakfast of wonderful oatmeal and ice cream and chocolate covered sunflower seeds– yes ice cream for breakfast and many a nay sayer became a convert.

We had four members providing free satellite internet connections. The comic juggler was amazing, the karaoke group was excellent and many stayed to dance until almost 11 pm and the many times Canadian fiddler champion and his step dancing daughters kept our feet and hands a going. We even had a vehicle Joker Run which was won by **Gene Forsythe** (Penn-Lehigh). Despite the flooding of the river a month before the Ontario Canada Unit Rally and then the Region Rally all was good with only a small area still too soft for rigs. All told we had 100 rigs and everyone went away with a door prize. **Roger Mory** (Keystone PA) won the big prize – a \$397.00 Tru-Control Brake Controller donated by Hensley Manufacturing, and I believe a few took advantage of the special Rally price offered by Hensley.

Thank you to all those who worked so hard to make the Rally the success it was, each unit who attended helped out and especially the **Ontario Canada Unit** and

Kerry Mattila who was our Master of Ceremonies and very involved in helping me plan the Rally. Of note was the combined donation from both the Ontario Canada Unit Rally and the Region Rally of \$937.03 to the Elizabeth Kelly Foundation who provides items for the local library and particularly for the children. Although we had almost every type of weather including rain, small hail, cold, best of all we had some really nice sunny and warm periods. We will soon have pictures of the Rally on our website at www.wbcci2.org so check it out.

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REGION 2 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At the Region Rally our Chairman for the Nominating Committee, **Barry Heckenswiler** reported **Kathy Forsythe** as the nominee for 2nd Vice President for the year 2009. Kathy is from the Penn-Lehigh Unit and many will remember her as she chaired the Region Rally in Bloomsburg in 2007. Elections by the units will be held during the Fall of 2008 so the results will be known by April of 2009 prior to a July 2009 installation.

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CONGRATULATIONS

For the first time, 15 of the 18 Region 2 units earned Merit Awards (MA) and Superior Merit Awards (SA). For some it was their first time and congratulations go to the unit members as well as the 2007-2008 presidents. Those units were: **Al-Mon-O PA (SA), Central PA (SA), Delaware Valley NJ (SA), Delmarva (SA), Keystone PA (SA), Metro NY (MA), Mid-Atlantic (SA), New Jersey (SA), NY Finger Lakes (MA), Niagara-Genesee NY (MA), Ontario Canada (SA), Penn-Lehigh (SA), Pennsylvania (MA), Washington DC (SA) and Watchung NJ (SA)**. Presentations took place at the Region Rally just prior to the Opening Ceremony so each unit could proudly display the new ribbon tied to the top of their flag.

Don McKelvey, President
silverbulletspider@gmail.com

Phil Pons, 1st VP
pep62@cox.net

Roy MacDonald, 2nd VP
roybonniemac@sympatico.ca

MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR THE 2009 REGION RALLY IN LOCKPORT, NY

Bruce Kollmar, President of the **Metropolitan New York Unit** has taken on the task of Chairman of all the New York units who will organize the 2009 Region Rally. The facilities sound great and there is a caterer on site so keep your eyes and ears open for future news about the Rally.

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REGION GOALS

- To have more members next year than this year. This will require each of us to work harder than ever to achieve this.
- To improve better and more timely communication within the Region.
- For all units to submit paperwork for the Unit Merit Award Program.
- To have all units participate in Region rallies.
- To update the Region Red Book and have as much information on disc for future Region officers.
- To have FUN.

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SNIPITS!

Did you know unit presidents, etc can serve two consecutive terms?

**SUGGESTED MODEL OF UNIT CONSTITUTION AND UNIT BYLAWS
ARTICLE IV
OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION**

Sec. 2 The Officers shall be elected at the annual business meeting and shall be installed and shall assume office on _____. An officer, except for Trustees, shall serve in office for a term of one year or until a successor is elected but in no case shall an officer be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office except the Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary or Treasurer provided said officers are duly nominated and elected for each term of office. (1/19/07)

Watch this summer for a PBS TV show ‘History Detectives’ featuring an investigation into the Airstream trailer owned by Doug & Suzy Carr from Grover, CA which they ‘think’ might have been on the Capetown to Cairo Caravan. The hour long show will include interviews with two people who made the trip decades ago.

The Region now has 6 of the FMS radios, batteries & battery chargers and these are available for use at national, regional and special events rallies in our Region. They can be obtained by contacting the Region President.

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HAVE YOU GOTTEN A GPS YET?

Airstreamers are constantly on the road somewhere. Driving an RV these days is a challenging experience. The traffic and trucks on the Interstates can be intimidating. A nice piece of technology that will help make you a safer more confident driver is a GPS Unit. GPS stands for Global Positioning System. I feel that after using one for three years, I would be lost with out it. They can quickly locate the next rally or campsite using an address or intersection. The units seem to have every road both large and small built into the database in the U.S. and Canada.

The units talk you through each turn along the route and will recalculate directions if there is a detour. We especially like this feature in unknown cities where it is easy to get lost. A nice feature is that at any point in your travels you can have it take you to the nearest, Hospital, Post Office, Airport, or any number of restaurants along the way. Once you made your stop you can return to your final destination.

These units are made by Garmin, Magellan, and others. They are selling them everywhere including Wal-Mart and are priced from around \$250 to \$500 depending on features. We have been using the Garmin c330 and have loved the unit. It is on the lower end of the spectrum but has done everything we have asked it to do. In addition to getting us to our destinations it is also very portable. You can use it in your other cars or bring it along in a friends car.

Take one along on your next caravan, rally, or weekend jaunt. You will be glad you did.

Rich Griffin