



BUSY BEE WINNIES NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Carol Hustad

The October Busy Bee campout found us in a very wet Calamus Iowa at the Porth RV Campground. We enjoyed a Thursday evening potluck with 9 coaches and 14 members in attendance. Early Friday morning we were off to Custom Pak and learn first hand on how various plastics were manufactured at this amazing facility located in DeWitt. The business was started in Clinton by Peter Sherman who manufactured a plastic milk jug and decided that other items could be made as well. Eventually the company was purchased by Jim Burnes and Jim Dergen. These two men have



expanded the business into 6 plants and have many talented individuals on staff that design many of the molds, parts, robot arms, software, and codes necessary for this operation to be the success it is. They employ around 1050 people at present time and run three shifts a day. We were all impressed by the efficiency and cleanness of the facility as well as the quality of the products they turned out.

Next we headed into DeWitt to the chamber office and visited the Hausbarn Museum. This is a restored hausbarn that was transported from the village of Niebull in Schleswig-Holstein Germany in 2007. A local townsman, Karl Maass, was informed that the building was to be torn down and he went before the DeWitt city council to see about

re-building it in DeWitt. The wheels were set in motion and donations started coming in. The roof structure, windows, and doors, as well as household items and other artifacts were shipped to DeWitt for \$11,541.45. Work was completed with a grand opening held in October 2009. It is a beautiful brick building with a thatched roof that was built to house both the family farm animals and the human family under one roof. It is a great addition to the city park and sharing part of the town's heritage.



After a lunch break in downtown DeWitt we headed to the Central Community Historical Museum. We strolled through 4 buildings of Clinton County artifacts that were tastefully arranged and beautifully displayed. The settings included living room, dining room, kitchen, bedroom, military,



genealogy, school room, and toys. Also on display was articles relating to the 3 Clinton County astronauts. The only county in the US to be

able to say that! Many old telephone, typewriters, and cameras were also displayed and noted the design changes through the years. Art work featuring both John and Isabell Bloom was displayed and histories of both were available to

read. A large area was devoted to genealogy in the Clinton County Area. Another building housed farm machinery and tools from a by-gone era. Comments were made by many of us that we still used some of the items featured in the museum.

After a very full day we headed out to the Wapsi Oaks Country Club for dinner. Friday night fish fry was a big hit as well as ribs. The food was delicious, but I noticed lots of doggie bags!!!

Saturday the committee furnished a delicious breakfast before our business meeting. Then in the afternoon we headed to Kevin Kelly's Windbreakologist Tree Farm for a tour of his tree farm business. We witnessed firsthand the best trees for an Iowa windbreak and saw many varieties that they sell. Also, acquired many tips on care for trees and proper spacing.

Then it was on to Clarence's Victory Lane for an early dinner at the local bar and grill. The college teams were playing football and so as we dined we had the opportunity to watch both Iowa and Iowa State play.

The cool rainy weather kept us from enjoying evenings outside and we mostly stayed in our RVs after the evening meal. Sunday morning we enjoyed a light breakfast before heading back home and discovering how much more rain fell in our absence.

The next Busy Bee Meeting will be a luncheon at Bill's Pizza & Smokehouse 201 1st St. S. W., Independence, IA 50644 Please call Sheri & Paul Harberts to let them know if you are coming. 319-824-3550 or 319-404-1382 or e-mail psharb818@gmail.com.

Did You Know?

1 in 5 RV insurance claims is damage caused by a rodent infestation. As we approach RV storage season, we want to help prepare your RV for the winter!

What is Mouse Free?

One of the few rodent repellents made specifically for RVs, Mouse Free is a lubricating, non-toxic, non-drip coating that is applied to the entire undercarriage

of your RV. Rodents and other critters cannot walk or climb on the coating. The coating is unique in that it stops rodents from the outside. Most products try to make them leave from the inside, but by then it is too late!

This information was sent in an e-mail from U.S. Adventures. They can do this for you for a fee of \$10 a foot. Bob ordered the material on line. He is going to do it himself.

Don't know if everyone received the e-mail from WIT club of the passing of the Western Area representative Jan Pedersen that passed away very suddenly October 10, 2018. Our sympathies go out to his wife, Sulaine and family.

President

Myrna Elliott
1113 Kellogg Ave
Ames, IA 50010
[**mwilliott29@hotmail.com**](mailto:mwilliott29@hotmail.com)

Vice-President

Ken Pitt
1811 Knight Ave
Waverly, IA 50677
[**kdpitt1@gmail.com**](mailto:kdpitt1@gmail.com)

Secretary

Sue Wiley
4370 Camp Rd.
Palo, IA 52324-3371
[**wileyfam@netins.net**](mailto:wileyfam@netins.net)

Treasurer

Mary Jane Schieltz
17601 Vista Dr.
Dubuque, IA 52001
[**mjschieltz@gmail.com**](mailto:mjschieltz@gmail.com)