



We Wan To Go WANDERER



Editor/Publisher: Roger Cox
148 Hillcrest Ridge
Montezuma, IA 50171-8482
roginia33@aol.com
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The WWTGs Opens The Camping Season In Tama

The Barnhills, Gammons, Munoz, Pages, and Winns served as wagonmasters for the April 28-30 campout at the Outback Campground and Resort just west of Tama, IA.

Those attending the Chapter's weekend outing were:

1. Gary and Donna Adams
2. Lyle and Marrlee Airey
3. Reggie and Carolyn Andersen
4. Dale and DeAnn Barnhill
5. Roger and Kathy Cox
6. Myrna Elliott
7. Greg and Vickie Galeazzi
8. Mike and Carol Gammon
9. Dave and Cathy Good
10. Paul and Shari Harberts
11. Carrol Munoz
12. Richard and Paula Nichols
13. Dick and Sonia Page
14. Dick and Lynda Pawlowski
15. Bill and Karen Pearce

16. Butch and Val Peters
17. Dick and Sue Rasmussen
18. Craig and Sandy Winn

Also present were prospective members Randall and Virginia Jensen of Carroll at their second WIT meeting. Traveling with them was their son Kevin Jensen of Exira and grandson Brennan Volstedt of Carrol.

Typical for Iowa in late April, the weather started out on Friday afternoon very cold (38°F) and dreary (rainy). However, the intrepid We-Wan-To-Go campers met this adversity with their usual can-do spirit gathering at 4:30 p.m. in the park's shelter for 'happy hour' and then afterwards, each member shared their Winnebago sojourns across the nation and beyond utilizing a large map of the U.S. and a laser pointer (high tech, huh?). The evening concluded with a south-of-the-border meal of



Our tour guide explains his tribe's historical migration

tacos and numerous delicious desserts.

Saturday breakfast was pancakes, sausage, and fruit with ice cream (brilliant!) followed by the Chapter's business meeting.

Saturday afternoon, we toured the Meskwaki Indian Cultural Center and Tribal Museum and learned how the original Iowans migrated into the area and how they survived for centuries before Europeans arrived.

Saturday evening we dined in style at the infamous Rube's Steak House in Montour.



We-Wan-To-Gos tour the Meskwaki Indian Museum

May Birthday Wishes Go Out To:

Bill Pearce.....	5 th
Paula Nichols.....	7 th
Stella Huber.....	10 th
Shari Harberts.....	22 nd
Julie Hanel.....	23 rd
Val Peters.....	25 th
Mike Isebrand.....	28 th



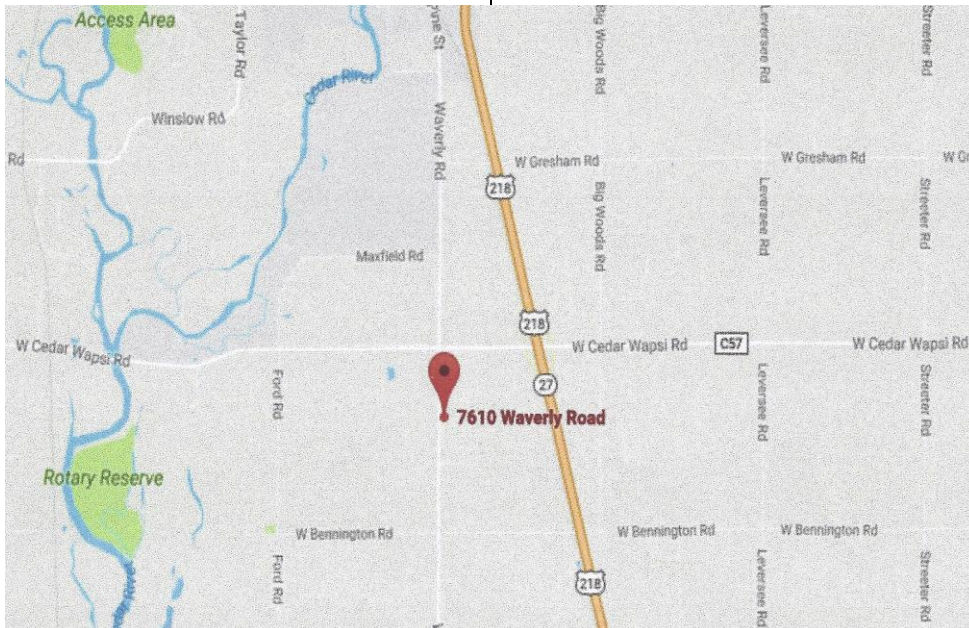
**May Anniversary
Wishes Go Out To:**

Stan & Stella Huber 4th
Bill & Pat Consolver 29th
Reggie & Caroline Andersen .30th



**May Is The Iowa Winnie
Hawks' Spring Meeting**

May's event will be the Iowa Winnie Hawks' Spring Meeting on May 19-21 at Antique Acres in Cedar Falls, IA. The address is 7610 Waverly Road and the theme for the event is "Remember When." Please see the map below



Map of Antique Acres in Cedar Falls, IA

The We-Wan-To Gos are responsible for parking, registration, and greeting each arriving camper.

For early arrivals, there are two planned tours on Friday. At 10:00 a.m. there will be a tour of Winnebago's Waverly facility where they assemble wire looms for the Company's motorhomes. And at 1:00 p.m. there will be a tour of the John Deere engine factory in Waterloo.

On Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., there will be a tour of the local Amish country.

Print out the Iowa Winnie Hawks Spring Meeting Registration form at: http://www.iowawinniehawks.com/files/RegistrationForm_SpringMeeting_2017.pdf and mail it in.

**Forest River Drops
Lawsuit Against WGO**

It started a little over a year ago when Forest River filed a lawsuit against Winnebago Industries, citing "trademark and trade dress infringement and unfair

**This article appeared on
April 7 in Small Trailer
Enthusiast**

competition" in regards to Winnebago's introduction of the 'Winnie Drop'. Forest River contended the Winnie Drop was "confusingly similar" to their 'R-pod', citing consumers who couldn't differentiate between the two trailers.

According to Winnebago's legal representative "Overhauser Law Offices, LLC, filed a partial motion to dismiss with the court, arguing that Forest River had neither sufficiently identified the features that constituted the claimed trade dress nor provided any factual support for its assertion that such features were non-functional." Furthermore, "The court agreed with Winnebago, concluding that the plaintiff had relied on "conclusory and meaningless" assertions in its pleadings. Consequently, it granted Winnebago's motion and dismissed without prejudice Forest River's claims concerning trade dress infringement."

As a result, Forest River withdrew its suit against Winnebago. According to an article in RVPro today, "Overall, more specific



Forrest River's 'R-Pod'



Winnebago's 'Winnie Drop'

details needed to be provided for the lawsuit to constitute trade dress infringement. For this reason, Winnebago asked to dismiss Forest River's claims, which the presiding judge then agreed with.

What does this mean? Simply, expect more R-pod type trailers to hit the market by other manufacturers. The R-pod is the top selling trailer under 20' and expect even more producers to now aim for a piece of that pie without fear of Forest River's legal team. We're already seeing new units hit the market since the Winnie Drop came out, including offerings from KZ, Keystone, Jayco, and Starcraft.

2017 RV Shipments Up Significantly

The Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) March survey of manufacturers found RV wholesale shipments finishing the first quarter of the year on a very strong note, the group announced recently.



Monthly shipments reached 47,579 units, an increase of 20.7% over the February monthly total and of 16.8% over the March 2016 tally of 40,740 units.

"This represents the highest monthly total ever for shipments on comparable record," said Bill Baker, senior director of communications.

Year-to-date RV wholesale shipments have reached 120,866 units, up 11.7% over the 108,195 units shipped in the same three-month period last year.

All towable RVs, led by

conventional travel trailers, reached a total of 41,766 units for the month, up 16.8% over the 35,763 units shipped in March 2016. Motorhome shipments are also up 16.8% for the month at 5,813 units, compared to 4,977 units last March.

The complete report is below.

Winnebago Adds 'Minnie' Owner Bloggers

Erin and Shea Laughlin have become the newest lifestyle bloggers for Winnebago Industries, Inc.

The couple from Minneapolis spends 10 months of the year in their 19-foot Winnebago Minnie travel trailer. They join more than 20 other contributors at WinnebagoLife.com, a website that features inspirational posts, photos, videos, and travel tips from Winnebago owners.

The Laughlins are the first towable owners to blog for Winnebago and represent the popular category. "We chose a trailer primarily because we wanted to separate our living

Unit	March 2016	March 2017	% Change	Total 2016	Total 2017	% Change
Travel Trailers	26,845	31,422	+17.0%	70,344	78,985	+12.3%
Fifth Wheels	7,670	8,884	+15.8%	20,455	22,557	+10.3%
Folding Campers	922	1,236	+34.1%	2,588	2,379	-8.1%
Truck Campers	326	224	-31.3%	767	598	-22.0%
TOTAL TOWABLES	35,763	41,766	+16.8%	94,154	104,519	+11.0%
Class A Motorhomes	2,045	2,033	-0.6%	6,171	5,906	-4.3%
Class B Motorhomes	328	427	+30.2%	905	1,235	+36.5%
Class C Motorhomes	2,604	3,353	+28.8%	6,965	9,206	+32.2%
TOTAL MOTORHOMES	4,977	5,813	+16.8%	14,041	16,347	+16.4%
TOTAL RV SHIPMENTS	40,740	47,579	+16.8%	108,195	120,866	+11.7%

space from what drives us from place to place.” says Erin of their Minnie purchase in 2016. “We love having everything basically set up and ready to go, and all we have to do is get level and put the jacks down. We also believe the affordability and flexibility is a huge draw.”

People 35 to 54 years of age are the fastest-growing age segment of RV owners, according to the RVIA’s full annual report.

“We’ve seen consumer demand for trailers climbing” said Scott Degnan, vice president of Winnebago towables. “Our Minnie line continues to grow in popularity because of fresh interior styling, an increasing list of features, quality craftsmanship, and novel exterior colors.”

2017 - 2018 Chapter Leadership

President

Bill Sheeder
Guthrie Center (641) 757-0152
bjgc@netins.net

Vice President

Dale Barnhill
Knoxville (515) 210-8761
barnhill01@msn.com

Immediate Past President

Sonia Page
Ankeny (515) 360-1031
dspage41@gmail.com

Secretary

Kathy Cox
Montezuma (641) 623-3000
kcoxcrnh@aol.com

Treasurer

Cathy Good
Polk City (515) 290-4952
cagood3@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Roger Cox
Montezuma (641) 623-3000
roginia33@aol.com

Webmaster

Craig Winn
Des Moines (515) 669-1360
cwinn821@gmail.com
www.iowawinniehawks.com/wwtg.html

Upcoming We-Wan-To Go Events

Updated: 04/01/17

May 19-21 Iowa Winnie Hawk Spring Meeting

Location: Antique Acres, Cedar Falls, IA
Assignments: Parking, registration, and greeters
Theme: *"Remember When"*

June 16-18 Campout

Location: Little Wall Lake State Park,
Jewell, IA
Wagonmasters: Airey, Elliott, Farni, Harberts, Pearce

July 7-9 Iowa Winnie Hawk State Rally

Location: Franklin County Fairgrounds, Hampton, IA
Assignments: Breakfast, meals, and beverages
Theme: *" Fabulous Winnebago "*

July 17-23 Grand National Rally (GNR)

Location: WIT Rally Grounds, Forest City, IA
Assignments: Row party tables and table covers
Theme: *"Welcome to Fabulous Winnebago"*

August 25-27 Campout

Location: Diamond Lake Park, Montezuma, IA
Wagonmasters: Cox, Good, Nichols, Rasmussen. Sheeder

September 21-24 Iowa Winnie Hawk Fall Meeting

Location: Southern Iowa Fairgrounds, Oskaloosa, IA
Assignments: Setup. Cleanup, and decorations
Theme: *"Autumn Fun"*

October 13-15 Campout

Location: Green County Fairground/Milwaukee
Depot, Jefferson IA
Wagonmasters: Adams, Corning, Mower, Pawlowski,
Peters, Wendt

November 18 Noon Luncheon Hibachi Grille and

Supreme Buffet, West Des Moines
Host: Consolver

* December 2 Noon Luncheon

Location: Pickle's Pub, Kamrar, IA
Hosts: Harberts