



We Wan To Go WANDERER



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Washington, IA Was Our Final 2016 Campout

The final outing of the 2016 camping campaign was at Marr Park in Washington County near Ainsworth, IA on October 14-16.

The We-Wan-To-Gos had 17 units there out of 29 for 59%. Those attending were:

1. Gary and Donna Adams
2. Dale and DeAnn Barnhill
3. Bill and Pat Consolver
4. Randy and Karen Corning
5. Roger and Kathy Cox
6. Greg and Vickie Galeazzi
7. Mike and Carol Gammon
8. Dave and Cathy Good
9. Stan and Stella Huber
10. Chet and Pat Mower
11. Dick and Sonia Page
12. Dick and Linda Pawlowski
13. Bill and Karen Pearce
14. Butch and Val Peters

15. Bill and Jeanette Sheeder

16. Wanda Wendt

17. Craig and Sandy Winn

Also camping with us were potential new members Reggie and Carolyn Andersen of Forest City along with their granddaughter 'Gabbie'. Reggie, a buyer for Winnebago Industries, was primarily responsible for setting up our Friday morning tour.

On Thursday evening, early arrivals enjoyed a potluck meal at a very nice lodge right in Marr Park with a wood burning stove.

Then on Friday morning we headed to ACH Foam Technologies in Washington, IA for a tour of their manufacturing facility. There we were met by Dale Mullikin, ACH's regional sales Manager with coffee and



donuts. He explained that ACH provides Winnebago with rigid foam insulation materials for motorhome sidewalls, ceilings, and floors. We saw the entire process from raw materials, to the forming of giant foam blocks, to the final cutting and sanding of the finished insulation sheets before ship out to Forest City.

At the business meeting that evening, new members Stan and Stella Huber received their Membership Book and three-flag set as they were welcomed to the Chapter.

On Saturday morning the We-Wan-To-Go campers feasted on 'McVickie' breakfast sandwiches, fruit cups, juice, and 'clamdiggers'. Then we all caravanned to the Wehr Honey Farm near Keota where 'Bee Guy' Ron Wehr and his lovely wife Carol taught us about the health of honey bees and the process of extracting honey from bee hives for marketing.

On Saturday afternoon, we drove back to Keota to visit the Wooden Wheel Vineyards where owners Mike and Connie Vincent taught us about their family farm started in the 1850's and, of course, wine tasting.

That evening, we all traveled into Washington to dine at the Frontier Family Restaurant before returning to the campground.



Meet our newest members, Stan and Stella Huber

On Sunday morning, the hosts provided cinnamon and caramel pecan rolls. Then after breakfast, the 2017 officers were installed by former Iowa Winnie Hawks president Craig Galeazzi. Your 2017-2018 leadership is:

- President** - Bill Sheeder (incumbent)
- Vice President** - Dale Barnhill
- Past President** - Sonia Page
- Secretary** - Kathy Cox (incumbent)
- Treasurer** - Cathy Good
- Sheriff** - Pat Consolver (appointed)
- Deputy** - Karen Corning (appointed)
- Newsletter** - Roger Cox (appointed)
- Webmaster** - Craig Winn (appointed)



Your 2017 Officers

November Birthday Wishes Go Out To:

- Lynda Pawlowski3rd
- Gary Adams.....5th
- Cathy Good.....7th
- Paul Harberts9th
- Vickie Galeazzi15th
- Judi Walker.....17th
- Marrlee Airey18th



November Anniversary Wishes Go Out To:

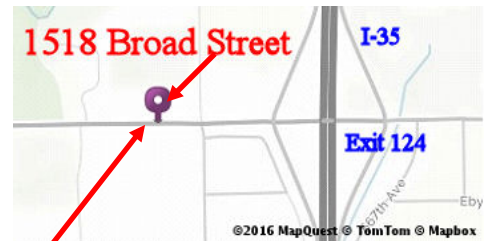
- Lyle & Marrlee Airey.....25th
- Richard & Paula Nichols.....26th



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November Luncheon Is South Of The Border

The November 19, 2016 noon luncheon is at 11:00 a.m. at the Los Altos Mexican Restaurant in Story City, IA. It's located at 1518 Broad Street, just west of the I-35 interchange. See the map on the right and their menu at: www.losaltosmenu.com/menu Hosts are Mike and Cathy Isebrand.



Thar's A New Sheriff (And Deputy) In Town

During the Friday business meeting, the Chapter agreed to reactivate the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff positions to enforce the rules of wearing name tags and flying the Chapter flags. Pat Consolver agreed to serve as Sheriff and Karen Corning volunteered to serve as the Deputy Sheriff. Either may fine members 25¢ per infraction.



Winnebago's Grand Design Is Growing

Grand Design Recreational Vehicle announced production of the 25,000th Grand Design towable recreational vehicle. Winnebago Industries just purchased Grand Design last month.

“Our first unit came off the production line in January of 2013, and in less than four years we are celebrating our 25,000th unit produced. We are excited to hit this milestone in such a short time, however, an even bigger milestone is of the 25,000 units that have been produced, more than 21,000 of these have been retail sold. The true benchmark of our success is how the retail consumer embraces the Grand Design products and business philosophies. Retail customers continue to show their support for our products and our company at an amazing pace,” stated Don Clark, president of Grand Design RV.

Grand Design RV towable retail market share has increased by 46.1% a year through August, according to Statistical Surveys, Inc.

“I would like to thank all of our Grand Design team members, our dealers and our retail customers for all you have done for Grand Design. Without you this milestone would not have been possible. We have an amazing

team and couldn't be more proud of what we have achieved together," Clark concluded.

Grand Design RV manufactures the Reflection fifth wheel and travel trailer, Flagship Solitude Extended Stay fifth wheel, Luxury Momentum toy hauler, and Lightweight Imagine travel trailer product lines. For more information, visit granddesignrv.com.



Winnebago Announces Fourth Quarter Returns

On October 13, Winnebago Industries reported financial results for the Company's fourth quarter, less than two weeks after announcing it has signed a purchase agreement to acquire Grand Design, a leading Towables RV manufacturer.



Revenues for the Fiscal 2016 fourth quarter ended August 27, 2016, were \$263.3 million, an increase of 4.9%, compared to \$251 million for the Fiscal 2015 period. Operating income was \$18.9 million for the current quarter, an improvement of 11.7% compared to \$16.9 million in the fourth quarter of last year. Fiscal 2016 fourth quarter net income was \$13.1 million, or \$0.49 per diluted share, an increase of 12.2%

compared to \$11.7 million, or \$0.43 per diluted share, in the same period last year.

Fourth-quarter Fiscal 2016 consolidated revenues improved year over year due primarily to higher shipments of 3.0% in motorized units and 57.5% in towables. Current quarter revenues were impacted negatively by \$5.4 million as the Company exited the sale of aluminum extrusions to customers during the year.

Fourth-quarter gross margin improved year over year, primarily due to lower raw material costs resulting from the Company's strategic sourcing initiative, as well as favorable product mix and lower warranty expense.

President and Chief Executive Officer Michael Happe commented, "Fourth-quarter revenues increased year over year, driven by continued strong growth in our towables business as well as modest improvement in motorized shipments. Importantly, income and gross margin also grew, due in part to our comprehensive strategic sourcing initiatives, a solid increase in labor efficiencies and lower warranty expense. Our towables business continues to be one of the primary performance drivers, as shipments and retail registrations both outperform the market, thanks to several new products and increased dealer outlets. The motorized team drove a higher level of manufacturing output while also working hard to deliver more consistent levels of product quality. I want to thank all the employees at Winnebago for their dedication in Fiscal 2016

and commitment to exceeding our customers' expectations in the future."

Winter Texans To Meet November 16

Sonia Page wants to let those who will be in the Texas Rio Grand Valley in November that there will be a 'gathering' on Wednesday, November 16, at the Blue Onion, 925 Dove Avenue, in McAllen at 4:00 p.m. Please let Sonia know if you can attend at: (515) 360-1031 or dspage41@gmail.com.

Pomona RV Show Is One Of The Best Yet

Strong attendance and robust sales highlighted RVIA's 64th California RV Show, Oct. 7-16 at the Fairplex in Pomona, CA.

Total attendance at the 10-day retail event was 38,946 attendees, a 10% increase over the 35,148 attendees last year.

"We sold more RVs than we did last year," said Dick Torres, general manager for Giant RV, which has locations throughout Southern California. "Over 80% of our customers were first-time buyers, which is exciting. Our partners Winnebago, Thor and Forest River all had a big show."

Note: In a former life, your *Wanderer* editor sold RVs at the 1994 Pomona RV Show for Giant Inland Empire RV

Manufacturers at the show were pleased with the business activity as well. "The customers who are visiting the show this year were buying.

“Consumers converged in Pomona from all over the country,” said RVIA’s Tom Gaither, event director. “We conducted consumer research at the show through an activation center hosted by Go RVing, and we saw folks from the East Coast, Utah, Colorado and from up and down the Pacific Coast.”

The final research conducted will be available in the next few weeks, but RVIA says that the robust activity at the show is a good thing for the show, the industry, and the market overall.

Celebrating its 64th year, this California RV Show featured 26 dealers from throughout the state showcasing 1,325 RVs across more than one million square feet of exhibit space.

Upcoming We-Wan-To Go Events

* Indicates a change

* **November 19** ~~Noon~~ (11:00 a.m.) Luncheon
 Location: Los Altos Mexican Restaurant,
 Story City, IA
 Host: Isebrand

December 3 Noon Luncheon
 Location: Pizza Ranch, Ames, IA
 Host: Gammon

January 21 Noon Luncheon
 Location: The Iowa Stater Restaurant, Ames, IA
 Host: Elliott

February 18 Noon Luncheon (Pie Potluck)
 Location: Berwick Congregational Church
 Berwick, IA
 Hosts: Pearce

March 18 Noon Luncheon
 Location: The Fletcher, Ankeny, IA
 Hosts: Cox

April 28-30 Campout
 Location: Outback Campground and Resort
 Tama, IA
 Wagonmasters: Barnhill, Gammon, Munoz, Page, Winn

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"

2017 - 2018 Chapter Leadership

President

Bill Sheeder
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Vice President

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Immediate Past President

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**Steve Hanel Passes Away
On Thursday**

Steven D. Hanel, 59, passed away October 26, 2016, at his home in Ankeny after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Des Moines, IA on April 18, 1957, to Larry and Barbara "Bobbie" Hanel.

Steven graduated from Roosevelt High School. He was a computer programmer for Pioneer Hi-Bred for many years and retired from the IT department at Mercy Hospital.

Being the bicycle enthusiast he was, Steven married Julie Jerred on RAGBRAI in 1986. He enjoyed the Iowa State Fair, attending the Renaissance Faire, and spoiling his dog, Max.

Steven is survived by his wife, Julie Hanel; daughter, Sarah Hubbard; sons, Atman Hanel of Lafayette, CO and Alexander Hanel; grandsons, Brad and Zach Hubbard; sister, Nancy Moe of Hastings, MN and

his brother, Scott Hanel of Des Moines. In addition to his parents, Steven was preceded in death by his daughter, Anami Hanel.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 4, 2016, at Hamilton's near Highland Memory Gardens, 121 NW 60th Avenue in Des Moines.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family in loving memory of Steven.

Service Details:

VISITATION:

Friday, November 4, 2016
2:00 pm
No visitation is scheduled
See service details

SERVICE:

Friday, November 4, 2016
2:00 pm
Hamilton's near Highland
Memory Gardens
121 NW 60th Avenue
Des Moines

DISPOSITION:

Cremation
Hamilton's
Des Moines

ARRANGEMENTS:

Hamilton's near Highland
Memory Gardens
121 NW 60th Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50313
(515) 289-2442

