In This Month's Letter

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So long, WBCCI Forum

The WBCCI Forum website (forum.wbcc.org--initiated about 18 months ago), has been closed, and Charlie Burke (Chairman of the Electronic Communications Standing Committee) has resigned.

I have learned that individuals on various forums have let differences of opinion and honest disagreements lead to personal online attacks, involving alleged harassment, internet stalking, and even an FBI investigation. These are issues that Charlie Burke and others on the Committee were unable to correct, and the situation is not something that WBCCI needs to be associated with. The Executive Committee has adopted a "go slow" approach at this point.

I want to apologize to those members who played by the rules and enjoyed the ability to exchange information and opinions on the WBCCI Forum. If and when the WBCCI Forum is reestablished, we will want to learn from our prior attempt to offer a member benefit in the electronic communications arena.

Interest in reestablishing the Forum will be a topic for discussion at the Mid-Winter IBT Meeting in January. What are your opinions--pro or con--about the WBCCI Forum? Please express your point of view to members of the IBT.

Wool Berets are Back!

The new 100% wool blue berets are in stock at the WBCCI Headquarters. Twelve berets were sold last month, according to Cindy Reed, Corporate Manager. You can order yours by contacting Deb Sailor dsailor@wbcci.org or 937-596-5211.

Other items in our Club Store include an assortment of flag holder accessories. Pole Ease, the former supplier, no longer makes the flag poles. (If you know of a potential new supplier, please let us know!) In June, we bought much of the inventory from Pole Ease. We have:

11 5-pole holders
22 3-pole holders
10 rubber tips
6 springs
10 snap buttons

Pole Ease still has 25 sets of rubber tips ($2 each), 320 snap buttons (.25 each), and 70 pole bottom sections ($5 each).

Dues are due

Have you paid your 2011 dues? Time is running out...To be listed in the 2011 Membership Directory your unit must receive payment by November 1st. If you have not received a dues renewal notice from your unit, please
contact your Treasurer immediately. (Members at Large must send payment to Headquarters.)

Speaking of membership, here is some gee whiz info for you. WBCCI is truly an International Club. We have eight overseas members who are Members At Large (England - 5, Germany - 1, Israel - 1, and Switzerland - 1). We also have four overseas members who belong to units: Two in England (South Florida and New Mexico), one in Japan (Oregon), and one in Switzerland (El Camino Real).

**International Rally**

As of October 15, we have received 252 registrations for the 54th International Convention/Rally at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds in Du Quoin, Illinois. Entertainment so far includes The WBCCI Band with the Festival of Music; The Steel City Stompers, two musicians/comedians from Pittsburgh, PA; Brian Roman for Canada Day (who is great with a crowd and sounds a lot like Frank Sinatra); and the Harmons, a blue grass with a Mom, Dad (who used to play with Alison Krauss), their three sons and a fiddle player from Nashville. A great variety! I know you'll enjoy them all.

**The New Eddie Bauer Airstream**

Eddie Bauer and Airstream Partner to Fuel America’s Spirit of Adventure

SEATTLE, Oct. 4 -- PRNewswire -- Iconic American brands Eddie Bauer and Airstream have teamed up to build a special edition travel trailer, the Eddie Bauer Edition Airstream, and to develop premium co-branded items for 2011. The two companies, with more than 160 years of combined experience building quality products for the adventurous outdoor lifestyle, see significant synergies.

By combining Eddie Bauer’s heritage as The Original Outdoor Outfitter® and Airstream’s focus on functional durability, the brands will target travelers who love to explore the outdoors in style. The special edition travel trailer will include a rear sport hatch to allow for easy access to gear and equipment and to “let the outside in.” It will also include finishing touches such as exterior protective cladding and unique interior surfaces, flooring and Eddie Bauer bedding.

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