



President's Report

As I sit down to write my last President's Report I can't help but think of the many adventures Bobbie and I have had in our Blue Birds. Like the time we left home in Texas with a single close destination in mind, and then continued on to one beautiful stop after another, eventually ending up in Savannah, GA. Remembering the many Rallies in the Valley where we arrived early at the Birds' Nest and joined friends for pot luck dinners, card games, and lots of "chassis chat". Then leaving Fort Valley in a convoy in order to assemble, along with several hundred other Blue Bird Motorhomes, in the staging area at the Georgia State Fairgrounds so that the parking committee could manage all of us. Those were the days! Dozens of vendors, catered dinners, incredible entertainment and friends gathered together for a week of fun and fellowship!

Then there were all the other rallies...rallies that invited us to join friends from coast to coast and border to border. We walked through the quaint streets of St. Augustine, FL, explored the majestic Rocky Mountains, traveled the winding roads of the Blue Ridge Parkway and everywhere we went, you made your home ours. Our hearts were touched by many local groups and we were entertained by talented folks in Branson, Sevierville, Nashville and many other wonderful stops along our Blue Bird journeys.

We have laughed together, and at times cried together, as tragedies touched our Family of Friends, but all in all we shared the best life had to offer. I hope you continue to join with your Blue Bird friends at rallies in the future. Whether large or small gatherings, the real fun begins when we get together.

Rallies are the heart of our



club and I want to especially thank those members who have hosted a rally. For those officers and committee members who have given so much to make this club what it is today, I thank you. To Rich Ducci and his newsletter team, you are the best and your effort is greatly appreciated!

In October we will have our 2nd Annual Blue Bird Family Reunion. At the Annual General Membership Meeting new Board Members will be elected. They will carry on a great tradition of leading the Blue Bird Chapter of FMCA, so come and join in the fun.

Bobbie and I look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga in October. Thanks for joining us on the highways and byways of this great country. As always, until we see you "On the Road Again", drive safely and enjoy America the Beautiful.

Dan

Family Reunion!



BLUE BIRD CHAPTER, FMCA

Blue Tracks

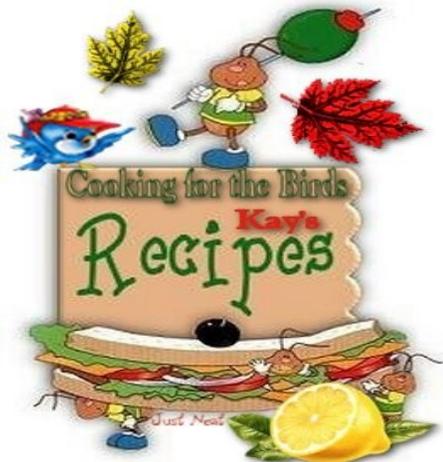
Inside this issue:

- Cooking is For the Birds
- Tech Tips & More!
- Classifieds
- 2nd Annual Family Reunion
- Thanks from your Newsletter Chairman

Special points of interest:

- *Amish Rally Photos and Write-Up*
- *Chattanooga Here We Come*
- *Stoning With Santa in Petoskey*
- *Michigan / Hearthside Grove Rally*
- *Pictures - Pictures - Pictures*

Cooking is for the Birds: by Kay Green Losh



I hope that as you read this, the weather is better for you--cooler and that you can enjoy being outside again! It was a long, hot summer! Which means that the cooking I've done has been the easy, quick, top of the stove stuff--no ovens!

This is something I made the other night that was good; lots of veggies, fresh tasting, and literally about a 15 minute dinner. I've made this with various vegetables, adding thinly sliced carrots, yellow squash, and even some fresh spinach. Use your favorites, use what 's in the vegetable drawer in the fridge....

Veggie Pasta

Cook penne pasta per package directions. As the pot begins to boil, slice fresh zucchini, and cut some fresh tomatoes and cut



several basil leaves. About 3 minutes before the pasta is done, drop the sliced zucchini into the pot. When done, drain the pasta and zucchini, return it to the pot, add the fresh tomatoes and the basil. Add par-

mesan cheese, freshly ground black pepper, mix, and put into a serving bowl. Pass extra cheese when you serve.

A green salad is all you really need with this.

I discovered that this can be a two-meal bonus dish. The next day, I sprinkled a bit of zesty Italian dressing on the (small amount of) leftovers, tossed it, and served it as a side salad. My lunch guests liked it as a salad.

On those still hot days in September, a different way to do tuna might be just the right lunch or simple supper.



(New Way) Tuna Salad

Can of tuna, drained

capers, drained

finely chopped cucumbers

white beans, drained

Dressing: Mix equal parts of lemon juice and olive oil and add chopped parsley

Serve over mixed greens; or for a more filling dinner serve over pasta (I like bow tie pasta).

My mother used to make Salmon Cakes for us sometimes, and I liked hers a lot. However, I think this new-fashioned take on an old favorite is a good recipe to add a little

variety.

Salmon Croquettes

2 cans salmon 1 egg ½ cup



bread or cracker crumbs a few spoonfuls of plain Greek style yogurt chopped parsley onion powder garlic powder Kosher salt pepper to taste

Mix, shape, and cook until brown on both sides by frying or baking. If you choose to bake them (and avoid the extra oil) rub each with a bit of oil and turn them over half-way through so they can brown well.

I hope you're preparing for some fun trips this fall. As you plan for your trips, what are the "must-haves" you load into the coach kitchen? What are your stand-by dishes for the evenings after traveling? Do you make something for the evening get-togethers that you get requests for?

My two year term as cooking writer for the Newsletter will be ending soon. I know there are lots of good cooks out there and some good writers. Please think about volunteering, and/or nominating someone who can put a new slant to the column. Whoever it is, please do consider sending your recipes to Cooking@BluebirdChapter.org to help him/her get started and so that we can all share in your "bests".

Mark Ballard Returns! - Chattanooga Rally!



“It’s been TOO long since I’ve seen all my Bluebird friends!” exclaims Mark Ballard. If you ever attended the Rally in the Valley in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s, you’ll remember being entertained by Macon, Georgia native Mark Ballard. He and his wife Debra held seminars and Mark spoke at various events for years during our gatherings in Perry, Georgia in the fall of each year.

Mark is a true Southern gentleman who also happens to be a television personality, humorist, author, designer and artist. During the Ladies’ Luncheon on Thursday of the Chattanooga event, Mark will combine innovative decorating and entertaining ideas with his renowned sense of humor for an unforget-

table event. This modern day Renaissance man will demonstrate projects and recipes in an interactive, fun-filled program.

Mark will have his cookbooks, collectible porcelain plates, prints and seasonal merchandise for your shopping pleasure. And, he’ll be on-hand after the performance to visit with you, give you a taste of recipes prepared on stage and autograph your purchases.

Your artistic muscles will be stretched! You’ll leave entertained and refreshed! And you’ll be motivated to “go out and create something beautiful” in your life and the lives of your family and friends! Don’t miss this opportunity to catch up with Mark and what’s been going on in his and his family’s lives! See you there!

2011 Rally Schedule:

October 19th - October 23rd 2011 -- RATS Rally, Pine Mountain GA. Contact John Finn 803-783-7137 100+ Already Signed Up!

October 25th - October 30th, 2011 “ 2nd

Annual Blue Bird Chapter Family Reunion,” East Ridge, TN Hosted by Leroy and Glenda Wilson and the Blue Bird Chapter

November 1st—November 4th Vintage Birds Rally Nashville, TN Janet

Owen 910 322-5427

Parliament Rally, The "What a Great Idea" Rally, Nov. 1-5 Bella Terra RV Resort, Gulf Shores Al. Call Steve Cooper: 850-932-5005

Your Chapter Officers, Directors and Committee Members

President: Dan Jensen

Senior Vice President: Alan Ritchie

Treasurer: Greg Peterson

Secretary: Karen James

Northeastern Division VP: Jay Zeiglar

South Central Division VP: Roy Zanca

West Central Division VP: Jim Olds

Eastern Central Division VP: Paul Spear

Southeastern Division VP: Jimmie Cox

Western Division VP: Dan Sunderland

National FMCA Director: Bill Kirchner

Alt. National FMCA Director: Jon Scott

Past President: Tom Bay

Welcome Hostess: Neat Scott

Sunshine & Mists: Brenda Rodgers

Newsletter Committee

Rich Ducci: Chairman

Neat Scott

Ralph Fullenwider

Karen James

Kay Losh

Alan Ritchie

Slim Somerville

Martha Vaughn

Shane Fedeli

The following email addresses have been set up for your convenience. Your Chapter Officers, Directors and Committee Members want to hear from you.

President@BlueBirdChapter.org

Secretary@BlueBirdChapter.org

Treasurer@BlueBirdChapter.org

SeniorVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

NortheastVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

SouthCentralVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

WestCentralVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

EastCentralVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

SoutheastVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

WesternVP@BlueBirdChapter.org

NationalDir@BlueBirdChapter.org

AltNatDir@BlueBirdChapter.org

Newsletter@BlueBirdChapter.org

TechTips@BlueBirdChapter.org

Cooking@BlueBirdChapter.org

Sunshine@BlueBirdChapter.org

[Welcome@BlueBirdChapter.org](mailto>Welcome@BlueBirdChapter.org)

Classifieds@BlueBirdChapter.org

Technical Tips and Tricks: by Ralph Fullenwider



Hello to everyone from HOT Oklahoma! Servicing those air conditioners early, sure came in handy this year.

This is the first of three tips I am sending your way this month.

Let's talk about "Riv-Nuts," and how they make life so much easier. As we all know, removing a screw then re installing many times will wear a hole, in the steel body of a Coach, to progressively larger and larger holes and thus larger and larger sheet metal screws must be used to fasten like components together. These screws are commonly known to hold the diamond plate on the roof in place over the rubber gaskets for a seal and we have all seen, at one time or other, the sheet metal screws that held the awnings to the Coach, the ones that keep coming lose, thus larger and larger screws must be used.

The "Riv-Nut" give machine screws a perfect mate to tighten things and not work lose because one can now use a lock washer or even perhaps a single drop of "blue" Loctite on the threads in some areas. If or when, the threads become worn or loose, one simply drills the old Riv-Nut out and replaces it with a new one, without making a larger hole in the Coach. These also seal tighter so no water or rain can leak to the interior and wreaking havoc with those panels. In the photos you can see where an old Riv-nut has been removed and

a new one installed with an expensive tool I found on the web. There are many styles and such of this tool that sets



the Riv-nut in place but unless you're doing fasteners for a living, most of those others do not, in my mind, warrant the cost for the tools. The one that is shown in the photo, is \$34.00 for a kit, works great for my needs and is small enough to store in a large empty pill bottle for safe keeping. The photos are from the front panels of my FC around the radiator grill area. Aid as soon as the weather cools, I will be taking down



the main awning, getting rid of those sheet metal screws and installing Riv-nuts in their stead, thus not only sealing the top edge of the awning rail but sealing, fully, the screw entry holes completely that are along the roof line.

The second tip is more for the older Birds. Ever find yourself in battle with the old nemesis, sewer hose? You know the one, it is usually placed into a black plastic trash bag only to find that storage or finding and out of the way place is next to impossible? My answer to this was a 6 inch diameter, 6 foot cut



down section of leach field drain pipe with a cap on one end. This was mounted with the holes facing down, under the back of my Coach and then a spring retainer across the open mouth of the sewer hose drain holder to keep the sewer hose in place for storage. Now there is no more fight to get the wily snaking hose into the plastic bag, which any extra water will remain for some time and usually is there to contend

Technical Tips and Tricks: Continued, by Ralph Fullenwider

(Continued from page 4)



with the very next time you need the hose. I painted this new holder black and it is all but hidden under the Coach.



The third and final tip for this month and perhaps one of the most important, since it is a concern to all Owner's of all model years. The LP systems on these wonderful machines are well designed and usually not in our thoughts, that is until it comes times to fill them up, and we thought diesel fuel was high! Wow. <smile> All of these systems have a high pressure regulator that is the first thing the LP passes through then to a lower pressure regulator or secondary regulator to take the high pressure to a lower useable pressure of 11 inches of mercury on the U tube test tool. Recently I found that I did have a leak because the ethel mercaptan (rotten egg smell additive) would tell me that I need to do some further checking, that and the higher than normal LP use or lack

of use but still showing the level dropping. There is a rubber hose (see the photo) that is connected from the first high pressure regulator to the hard piping that goes through out the Coach to deliver LP to separate systems, like the heaters, refrigerator, LP stove and ovens and in some Coaches the Primus heating system.

This single rubber hose, over time, will crack due to age and allow LP to escape, and it will be imperceptible most times and a hard one to find. I actually found mine with an electronic "sniffer" tool that is in my mixed bag of tricks from the days of my making house calls and working on these fantastic machines.

The later Birds, '88 up, the LP ASME tanks are hidden behind panels in the bays but still accessible and this hose does need to be checked if you start smelling that rotten egg smell. A new hose, with a protection outer sheath cost me \$17.00 to have made at a local oil field hose shop.

Well, it has been 2 years now, of working with Rich Ducci, Neat Scott, Karen James, Kay Losh and everyone on the News Letter Staff. I want to thank each of you, for the opportunity and privilege of having fun of being a part of a special Family. It has been a humbling experience and a rewarding one to have corresponded with each of you. And while most of you I have not met in person, Charolette and I certainly hope that one day we will. Kay Losh, of course, is part of our circle of Family and we will be seeing her and Joe at Blue River this Fall in trout fishing Camp. To Dan and Bobbi, you kids have done well in your



tenure and thank you both. To Rich Ducci, whew, what can one say about working with you, it has been interstellar to say the least. And for all of us to have received international acclaim with our News Letter, well, it just don't get any better than this!

Thank to one and all, the signature "Safe Travels" that I have is truly from our heart to your homes. I have enjoyed the camaraderie, laughs and antics and with that said, I bid one and all a goodbye for now and will see you out on the "Road Again" and be sure to wave at Ruff Diamond (our Coach) as we pass on the high ways and byways across this magnificent Country.



Safe travels,

Ralph and Charolette Fullenwider
"84FC35 "Ruff Diamond"
Duncan, Oklahoma

2nd Annual Family Reunion Rally! Dan Jensen



one of your all time favorite TV personalities, Mark Ballard. Mark will bring his unique southern humor along with his awesome gift with crafts to a special Ladies Luncheon, sponsored by Parliament Coach Corporation. Then that evening come dressed in your best 50's get up

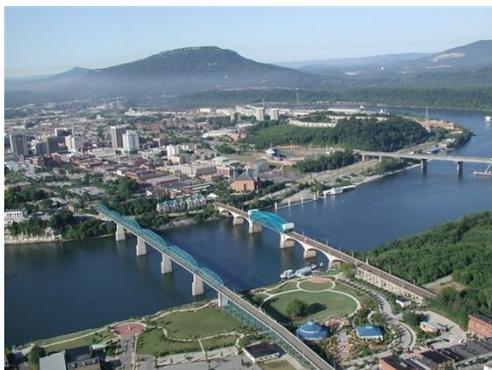
berland Plateau, Chattanooga offers some of the finest tourist destinations in the country. There are so many things to do that you may want to stay a few extra days in order to take it all in.

While visiting this magical area be sure to take time to discover the awesomeness of Ruby Falls or the thrill of the Incline Railway or just peruse the shops along the waterfront. Whether it is visiting the Tennessee Aquarium or taking in the unbelievable views from atop Lookout Mountain or taking a day trip along the Tail of the Dragon where the Fall colors will be at their finest you will find that Chattanooga has it all. So sign up today and join your Family of

2nd Annual Blue Bird Chapter Family Reunion

Chattanooga, TN sits right in the cross hairs of I-75, I-24 and I-59. It is bordered by the Great Smoky Mountains, the Tennessee River and the beautiful North Georgia Mountains. Its beginnings are steeped in the traditions of the old south and cemented in place by the Civil War. Come join us for our 2nd Annual Blue Bird Family Reunion to be held at the Camp Jordan RV Park in East Ridge (Chattanooga), TN October 25th - October 30th, 2011.

This years Blue Bird Chapter Family Reunion will be kicked off with a 3 hour Fall Color Cruise on the Southern Bell River Boat, lunch included. As we glide down the Tennessee River let this turn of the century steam wheeler take you down memory lane with thoughts of times gone by as a splash of Fall colors decorate the shoreline. And ladies, this year the Blue Bird Chapter welcomes back

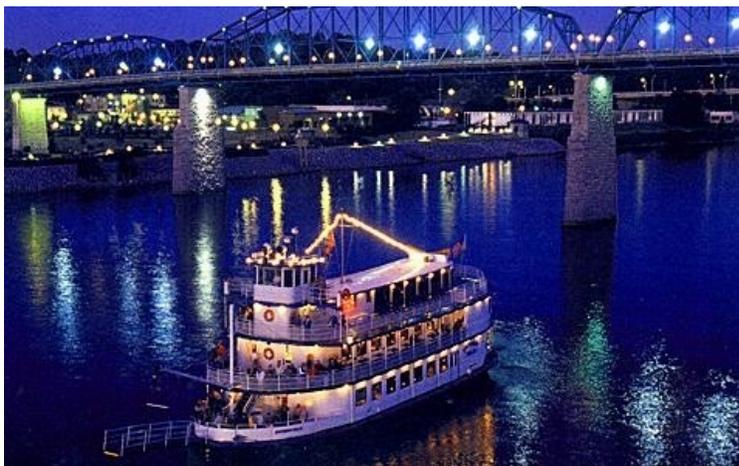


and get ready to dance the night away at

our own Blue Bird Sock Hop. Next board our private tour bus and view the Civil War Battlefield where the Battle of Chattanooga was fought. The rolling hills shrouded in the mist and

a glimpse of an occasional canon takes you back to a period which was to be one of our Nation's most defining periods. Our last night will be topped off with a special catered dinner and entertainment by Country Gospel singer and song writer Chuck Hancock. And if your looking to purchase a new coach, show coaches will be open for all to inspect each day of the Rally.

Chattanooga is also known as the Scenic City and no one has to wonder why. Nestled between the Appalachian Mountains, the Great Smoky Mountains and the Cum-



Friends at our 2nd Annual Blue Bird Chapter Family Reunion. Total cost for this outstanding Rally

with 5 nights included is only \$335.00 for a coach with 2 people, \$205.00 for a coach with one person and \$130.00 for an extra person. The **Registration Form** is located on **Page 18** of this newsletter.

Family Reunion Rally Schedule:

Blue Bird Chapter Family Reunion

Tuesday October 25th

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM ---Registration
 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM ---Social Hour,
 Hors D'oeuvres provided by Blue Bird
 Chapter
 Dinner on your own

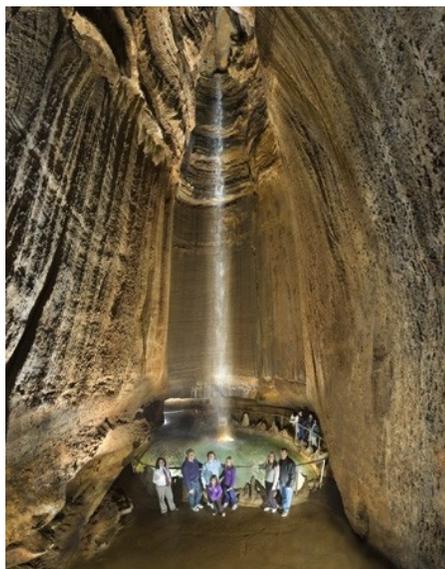


Wednesday October 26th 2011

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM ---Catered break-
 fast
 10:00 AM --- Meet Buses at the Tent for
 the "Fall Color Cruise on the Southern
 Bell Riverboat...Lunch included"
 Cruise is from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
 Dinner on your own --- Be sure to View
 Show Coaches

Thursday October 27th 2011

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM ---Catered Break-
 fast
 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM --- Board of Di-
 rectors Meeting
 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM --- General



Membership Business Meeting (election)
 12:00 Noon ---Ladies Luncheon with Spe-
 cial Guest "MARK BALLARD" spon-
 sored by Parliament Coach Corporation
(SEE PAGE 3 !!!!!!!)

Men---Lunch is on your own
 6:00 PM --- Catered Dinner
 7:00 PM --- 50's DJ --- Come Dressed for
 the Sock Hop

Friday October 28th 2011

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM ---Sweet Rolls/
 Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit, Juice, Coffee
FREE DAY: Suggestions --- Tennessee
 Aquarium ---Ruby Falls --- Incline Rail-
 way

Hunter Museum ---
 Shop at Tennessee's largest Mall
 --- Cruise the Tail of the Dragon
 --- Fall colors in the Great
 Smoky Mountains --- View Show
 Coaches

Saturday October 29th 2011

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM ---
 Homemade Muffins & Fruit,
 Juice & Coffee
 Morning Free --- Lunch on your
 own
 1:00 PM ---Board Buses for tour
 of Chattanooga
 Civil War sights
 6:00 PM --- Catered
 Dinner
 7:00 PM --- Enter-
 tainment---Country
 Gospel Singer
 Chuck Hancock

Sunday October
 30th 2011

8:00 AM to 9:00
 AM ---Homemade
 Muffins, Coffee,
 Juice ---Say our
 Goodbyes

For those wishing to
 come in early or
 stay late contact
 your Rally Hosts.

Aquarium ---
www.tnaqua.org/

Ruby Falls --- www.rubyfalls.com/

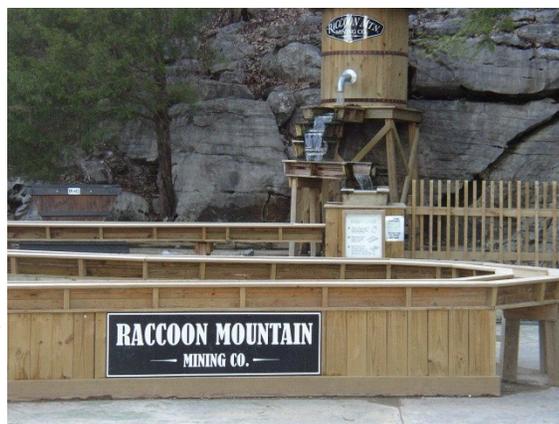
Chattanooga Choo Choo ---
www.choochoo.com/

Incline Railway ---
www.lookoutmountain.com/

Southern Bell Riverboat ---
www.chattanoogariverboat.com/

Rock City Gardens ---
www.seerockcity.com/

Raccoon Mountain Caverns ---
www.raccoonmountain.com



Bird Tracks Thanks You!!!!!!!

By Rich Ducci, Chairman—Editor

In September of 2009 I agreed to take over as the Bird Tracks Newsletter Chairman and the lofty goal of turning our publication into a monthly newsletter. Our first issue “rolled off the presses” to coincide with the Family of Friends Rally in Pigeon Forge Tennessee in the first part of October 2009. Now, here we are, about to embark

Reoccurring monthly columns don’t just happen. They are the result of the ongoing, unflinching conscientiousness and work effort of those writing the columns, doing the designs, telling the stories and providing information about and for our Chapter. Entertaining stories don’t just appear. Chapter and Rally information doesn’t exist unless someone puts it all down. All of these things must be combined into a publication worthy of Blue Bird owners and I believe we accomplished that goal and did it in a timely manner as a monthly publication.

Kay Losh has really stepped up with her commitment to a wonderful selection of delicious recipes put forth each and every month. The column has taken us up a notch both in the quality it added to the newsletter and the one on my belt! I must add that I am not so happy about the 5 pounds gained by trying many of them out! Seriously, Kay, Thank you from all of us.

Ralph Fullenwider with his monthly column has taken Tech Advice to a higher level. Ralph, Your writing has both brought us a wealth of knowledge regarding our coaches and entertained us with your sense of humor. I knew when I asked you to come on board that you would be a tremendous asset to Bird Tracks. A big Thank you to you too.

Neat Scott has provided custom artwork and designs for the covers and column heads in every issue since our start. Neat designs have enhanced Bird Tracks visual appeal and brought the publication to the high level that was necessary to win the coveted FMCA Newsletter Award. Neat, Thank you for that and for the great stories you have contributed!

Shane Fedeli came on board with a desire to help all Bird owners looking to sell or trade their Bird for a newer model. His care-

ful compilation of classified ads with links for email and phone contact along with the photos of each coach has helped many Bird owners. Thanks Shane.

Martha Vaughn has entertained us with her wit and ability for storytelling. Her contributions have made Bird Tracks much more diverse and fun! Articles that keep us laughing and looking forward to another story by Martha have been a welcome addition. Thank you, Martha.

Karen James has been an ongoing contributor of stories and articles as well. She has provided rally write-ups and contributed behind the scenes as well. Karen has made your newsletter better than it would



upon a Family Reunion in Tennessee in October of 2011. Wow, looking back it is hard to believe the two years has gone by so quickly. Due to the hard work of a wonderful Newsletter Team, Bird Tracks has indeed been published every month throughout the two year term, this being our 24th issue. I am proud to say that this team has more than lived up to expectations, producing an Award Winning publication and I would be remiss to allow this opportunity to pass without offering sincere thanks to the team that made it possible.



have been. Karen, we thank you!

Slim Somerville has taught us with his detailed “how-to-care-for” articles and

Bird Tracks Thanks You!!!!!!!

By Rich Ducci, Chairman—Editor



over the years and we are sure glad you did. Your Sunshine & Mists column for the Newsletter keeps us informed on the welfare of fellow Blue Bird Family members. Thank you.

While thanking those that contributed so much to Bird Tracks over the last two years, I would be negligent not to thank our “Commander-in-Chief”, **Dan Jensen**. Thanks Dan for taking time each and every month to put down your thoughts for your monthly “Presidents Report” column. Your efforts here, in addition to your many other responsibilities, have kept the membership better informed and “in the loop” during the difficult change over from a factory sponsored Chapter to the great stand alone Chapter you worked so hard to create.

Thanks are also due **Bruce Morris**, who posted every issue of the Newsletter on the Wanderlodge Owners website so our emails could be sent with a link

in a Blue Bird, travel story or photograph. Your contributions are appreciated! The newsletter team along with help from the membership produces a first class newsletter and it is fitting that FMCA choose Bird Tracks to win First Place in the “Large Chapter”, non-factory sponsored division which has



brought first hand reporting of the Wanderlodge Factory closing and sale. Thanks, Slim for the knowledge gained from your informative articles as well as your work behind the scenes to help make this all happen.

Alan Ritchie, speaking of “behind the scenes”, has offered help in many aspects of producing an entertaining and informative newsletter. Thanks Alan!

In addition to serving on the Newsletter Committee, Karen James and Alan Ritchie did double duty as officers of the Chapter and Neat Scott served on the Welcoming Committee.

Brenda Rodgers! What can I say that is fitting of your continued support of Blue Bird folks? You have, even after retirement from Blue Bird, remained committed to the owners you met and became friends with

directly to Bird Tracks. **Randy Dupree** and his webmaster **John Finn** who upload the current issue and maintain an archive of many past issues on the Wanderlodge Owners Group website deserve a big thank you as well. The issues shown on these pages, with their generous help, can still be viewed on the WOG website. **Shane Fedeli**, as the Vintage Birds Webmaster has uploaded our current issues to the Vintage Birds website and deserves thanks too! **These gentlemen, in addition to helping get the Bird Tracks news out, have contributed to bringing all Blue Bird owners closer together which, since the demise of the factory, is more important than ever before. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated. Thank you.**

Thanks also go to the members who have sent

the toughest competition and thereby proclaiming it the best newsletter in the FMCA. It has been a pleasure working with you and it is now time to pass the baton to the next person. I wish you all the best and will continue to support the Chapter and Bird Tracks in the future.

Best Regards,
Rich Ducci



Stoning With Santa in Petoskey: By Martha Rowe Vaughn

“We’re going to Petoskey, Michigan for a rally,” I informed my daughter Sallie.

“Bring me a Petoskey stone, please.”

“What is a Petoskey stone?” I questioned.

“I’m not sure. My friend from Michigan said you could find them in any tourist shop.”

“All right. I’ll bring you one. I just wish I knew what they are.”

In a few days I had the answer. We were in Traverse City, Michigan and decided to visit Sleeping Bear Dunes Park. I purchased a book on Petoskey stones in the gift shop. I read about their being formed from a hexagonally shaped coral that lived 100 million years before the dinosaurs. That was back when Michigan was located close to the equator and covered by a shallow sea. Many million years later, glaciers scraped across Michigan and uncovered the now petrified coral and deposited it mainly in the Traverse Bay area where Petoskey is located. The book said they could be found on the beaches, in road cuts, and at gravel pits. Polished ones could be purchased in shops in the area. They are mostly a light grey although some are nearly black. Oil permeated the coral beds and stained the darker ones.

So this is one request that would be easy to fulfill. I just needed a tourist shop. Some how we never managed to stop at one in the Traverse City area. On we went to Petoskey and the beautiful Hearthside Grove Luxury Motor Home Resort. Our guide took us all the way across the park to the next to the last site in a newly

built area. Going past our site was a road that turned a curve and disappeared. The first evening I decided to see where the road went. I walked up it and passed the dumpster and recycle bins and the machine parking area. The road turned to dirt and went on around a curve. I never could resist a dirt road—comes from all the trail riding on horseback I’ve done over many years. So on I went.

Here I am alone on a dirt road and nobody knows where I am. I did have my cell phone—a rarity for me. The road opened up to a wide area with tall piles of dirt, topsoil, rocks, and gravel. I heard a motor running and from around a huge pile of dirt came a half naked man on a green ATV pulling a small trailer with two dogs running beside him. The man’s white hair and beard blew in the breeze. Before I could react he was right beside me and the dogs were jumping all over me.

“Are these your dogs? They followed me and I thought maybe they belonged in the RV park.”

“No they’re not mine. Down!” I ordered the smaller black dog when it jumped on me.

I felt no fear unlike the encounter with the stranger in the California Redwood Forest. The man was sun-browned. His wide flat face was a mass of wrinkles surrounding his sparkling blue eyes. He had an elfin air about him. He wore tan shorts and tennis shoes. His white beard reached the middle of his chest. He swiped his wispy white hair off his forehead.

“They got tags on them, but I don’t have my glasses and can’t see anything.” The concern for the exuberant dogs echoed in his voice. “I live on the road that borders here. I’ve not seen them before.”

It was then I remembered the cell phone in my pocket. “You hold one still and I’ll read the numbers and call.” I pulled out my phone and showed it to him.

He got off the ATV and held onto the retriever’s collar while I read off the numbers and keyed them into the phone.

“Hello?” A man answered.

“Do you have a small black dog and a golden retriever? They are near Hearthside Resort, running loose.”

“Where?”

“Just a minute. I’ll let a local talk to you.” I handed the phone to the man. In a few words he had relayed the information and agreed to

meet the owner at the edge of the road.

He handed me back the phone and took off with the dogs running beside him. I walked further down the road wondering what kind of place I had found. Passing a fleet of digging machines, I realized it was a gravel pit and stone quarry. Gravel pit! Didn’t I just read about finding Petoskey stones in gravel pits? I stirred a pile of pebbles and there was one!

About that time the man came back. “Look,” I said, “I found a Petoskey stone!”

“Oh, that’s just a little bitty thing. Come on over here and I’ll find you some real good ones.”

I followed him over to a tall pile of stones as big as melons and down to fist size. “Hey, My name’s John.” He whipped out his driver’s license. “I’m known as the Petoskey Santa.” There was his picture with him wearing a Santa hat, grinning. “I’m a stone mason. You’ve stumbled on the best place to find Petoskey stones I know of. Come on I’ll show you.”

He picked up a few stones. “Here’s one and look! This is a horn coral. You don’t find them very often!”

I joined in the hunt with this enthusiastic Santa. Before long we had a bunch of stones. I took them to a puddle and washed them.

John climbed all over the pile and would throw down prospects for me. “This

(Continued on page 11)

Here I am alone on a dirt road and nobody knows where I am. I did have my cell phone—a rarity for me. The road opened up to a wide area with tall piles of dirt, topsoil, rocks, and gravel.



Stoning With Santa in Petoskey: Continued By Martha Rowe Vaughn

(Continued from page 10)

one looks like a shark's tooth."

We discussed the formation of the stones while we searched. He seemed surprised that I know as much as I do about geology.

"I wish I had brought the car. I've got more stones than I can possibly carry. Wow! Look at this one." I picked up a large, tan stone covered with tubes of limestone.

"Oh! That's a beauty! I've never found one like that. It is not a Petoskey stone, but a wonderful fossil. I've got my pressure washer at home. I'll clean it up for you. Why don't you put the stones in the trailer and I'll take you back to the park."

"OK." We loaded the stones in the trailer.



John got on the ATV and stood up on the pedals. "You slip in behind me."

I did and immediately wondered what was I going to hang onto. I liked the Santa, but not enough to grab him around his bare middle! Then I saw the handles on the fenders and grabbed on just as John took off. We whipped down the dirt road.

"What's your husband going to think when you come home with Santa and a bunch of rocks?" He sounded a little worried.

"Don't worry about that!" I laughed. "One thing he has come to expect from me is the unexpected."

John pulled into the parking space at the motor coach. Charlie had spotted us

coming down the road and he came out to greet us. I introduced him to John.

"I've got Petoskey stones!!" I handed one to Charlie. I explained that the road went to a gravel quarry and was full of the stones and how I met John and about the dogs while I unloaded my haul.

"I'll go pressure wash this one," John pointed to the fossil. "I'll bring it back to you, probably to-night."

"No rush." I said. "Thanks for your help." I waved as John motored up the road.

An hour later Charlie and I heard the ATV coming down the road. Santa was back. This time dressed in a snappy red shirt adding to his elfin looks. Behind him was a lovely woman with blonde hair. I went out the door to greet them while they dismounted.

"Hi, I'm Maude," the woman extended her hand to me. Charlie came out the door and I introduced him.

We talked about the rocks. John showed me the fossil he had washed. It was really remarkable. With the dirt gone from it, each calcified tube stood out.

"It will make a great doorstep." Maude commented.

"Don't you want it? I'd be glad for you to have it." I offered.

"Oh no, you keep it. You found it so it's yours." John said.

We invited them to sit and talk. I served wine and tea. It was a delightful time until the mosquitoes got too bad. We gave them a quart of the sourwood honey we bring with us as gifts for friends. Then they were gone: Santa and his lovely wife disappeared around the bend of the road.

But that is not the end of the story. I wanted to know what kind of fossil I had found. The next day I took it to a shop advertising Petoskey stones for sale. The clerk took one look at it and in an excited voice he said,



"I'm going to get the owner. She will want to see this!"

A tall woman entered the room behind the clerk. Her eyes lit up when she saw the fossil. "Oh, my goodness," she said as she caressed the fossil. "In 23 years of collecting stones, I have never found anything like this! It's incredible and very rare. I think its museum quality! How many years have you been rock hunting?"

"Forty-five minutes." My knees felt weak.

"So rare that it's possible that you have just paid for your trip up here."

I doubted that with the Gigarex at seven to eight miles to the gallon and diesel at \$4.00 per gallon.

"Where did you find it?" The clerk asked.

"I'm sorry. I promised the guy who showed me the place that I would not tell."

"This is what you should do. Take the fossil to Traverse City to the gem shop. The guy there will know what it is. If he offers you two to three hundred dollars for it, don't take it. Get another opinion. It might be priceless."

"All right. I will." I was still skeptical. Doorstop or treasure?

"Please take some pictures of it and send them to us. We'd like to know its value, too. Here let me carry it out for you. It will be an honor." The clerk picked up the fossil cradled in his

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Amish Country Rally!

By Susan Crocker



WOW!!! Did I say WOW!!!!? I meant double WOW! That is the only way to express what a great rally we experienced in Arthur, IL. Alvie and Elsie Miller, who had never attended a Blue Bird Rally, let alone hosted one, did a phenomenal job



planning and hosting this one! It was like taking a "behind-the-scenes" tour at a popular tourist attraction.

The Miller's chose Camp Lakewood in Effingham, IL as the host campground. What an excellent choice!!! The campground was clean, shady, and had



wonderful facilities and a great staff. I would highly recommend this campground, when you are in the area.

The rally began Tuesday evening with a typical Amish church dinner prepared by the hosts. It is traditionally a simple meal of pickles, egg salad, freshly baked bread, jellies & preserves, and...Amish peanut butter, which is a homemade recipe consisting of peanut butter, marshmallow creme, a bit of

butter, and Karo syrup. It was good an everything including your finger! Our dinner also included some of Alvie's specially made Venison bologna. Elsie provided hand-stitched goodie bags, each with a different quilt square on the front, which contained a variety of Amish jams, jellies, noodles, freshly baked bread, the venison bologna,



AND Amish peanut butter, as well as information on local points of interest. Following dinner, the group socialized and had the opportunity to ask questions about the Amish traditions. Because of Alvie's and Elsie's early Amish backgrounds, this lovely Mennonite couple were able to enlighten the group regarding the lifestyle of the Amish. They spoke very freely about their experience and were able to answer all questions asked.

Wednesday started with Elsie's homemade cinnamon rolls, fruit, and coffee. What a way to start a day!!!! The rest of the day was filled with a horse drawn wagon tour of an Amish orchard and produce market, a tour of an Amish owned and operated cus-

tom canvas company, shopping at an amazing quilt shop, and a guided tour of a



garage door manufacturing company (CHI), with lunch at Yoder's Restaurant in Arthur sandwiched in between.

Thursday was a free day to visit some of the local points of interest. Some of the group took advantage of the opportunity to



visit The Cross at the Crossroads (a 198-foot steel cross beside I-57 and I-70), My Garage Corvette Museum at Mid-America Motorworks, and a beautiful Catholic church in Teutopolis. The evening was an event in itself with a concert by a local musical group called Mackville followed by a potluck dinner. Our hosts provided huge pork/ham steaks and chicken grilled



Amish Country Rally! Continued By Susan Crocker



hunting preserves. The rest of the day was spent riding through the countryside seeing a church bench wagon, a telephone house, watching cheese being made, and shopping in various shops in downtown Arthur. The day ended with a delicious evening meal in an Amish home followed by buggy rides for all.



on site, while we provided side dishes. Again, the fellowship after the meal was a wonderful event.

Friday was another busy day that began with brunch at Goldie's Front Porch, a charming place where an authentic old front porch was reconstructed inside the building, situated along an interior wall with comfort-



Saturday, following a breakfast of donuts from Yoder's restaurant, fruit, toast, and coffee, we sadly said good-bye (weighing about ten pounds more than when the rally began). I believe all of the rally participants would say that the hand-made goodie bags, the authentic Amish meals, the buggy rides, the tours of Amish businesses, as well as the CHI Garage Door tour, and the

homemade breads and other food items, made this rally special. I think we would all agree that the exceptional hosts and the special bonding of the group made this rally one to be remembered for a very long time. It was fun to renew old friendships, as well as, make new ones. Hats off to Alvie and Elsie Miller for a job well done!!!!

able porch furnishings. After a meal of cinnamon rolls, sticky pecan rolls, blueberry-cream cheese stuffed baked French toast, and an egg, ham, cheese, and hashbrown casserole, we packed ourselves back into our cars and headed out to tour an Amish cabinet making company. The owner of Das Holz Haus also raises white-tailed deer to sell to



Petoskey Rally at Hearthsides Grove! By Martha Rowe Vaughn

Jack and Ila Vandenberg hosted a magnificent rally in Petoskey, Michigan at the gorgeous Hearthsides Grove Motorcoach



Resort. The owners of fifteen coaches met



on Wednesday, August 10, to sign in and enjoy a cocktail party at the clubhouse.

Thursday morning, the staff at Hearthsides took us on a tour of the Arts and Crafts style bungalows located on the individual RV sites. We also enjoyed coffee and pastries at a newly constructed outdoor kitchen on another site. Hearthsides Grove is a unique and beautifully landscaped park



with huge lots and water features. It is owned by the Rose family who lives on site.

Thursday afternoon many of us went on a boat cruise on the Pointer in Harbor Springs. Captain Jim provided a colorful history of the harbor and its residents as we cruised through the deepest harbor in the Great Lakes.

Thursday night was a rousing time at Boyne Highlands. We ate dinner and enjoyed the show by the Young Americans, a group of energetic performers who sang, danced, played musical instruments, and served us dinner.

Friday afternoon, several daring Blue Birders donned harnesses and helmets and jumped into space on a 1,330 feet-long double zip line at Boyne Highlands. Gardner Wright and Dan Jensen went upside down on their second ride! After the Friday excite-



ment we had an impromptu pizza party hosted by Jack and Ila.

Saturday we had a full breakfast provided by Hearthsides Grove served in the clubhouse. We cancelled our plans to go to Mackinac Island because of the rain and decided to go to an antique boat show in Hessel, MI. It rained all day, but we still had fun looking at the old wooden boats and the local crafts.

Sunday, with a clear sky promising a gorgeous day, we ferried to Mackinac Island to see the sights and shop. For lunch we ate at the Grand Hotel at their huge buffet. We got back in time to catch a shuttle to



the Odawa Casino for free gambling and another huge buffet. It was a 20-pound rally!

In between the scheduled events we had time to explore the area. There was Charlevoix Castle to tour, the Tunnel of Trees to drive, Petoskey stones to find, a lavender farm to see, sand dunes to climb, and fudge and ice cream to eat.

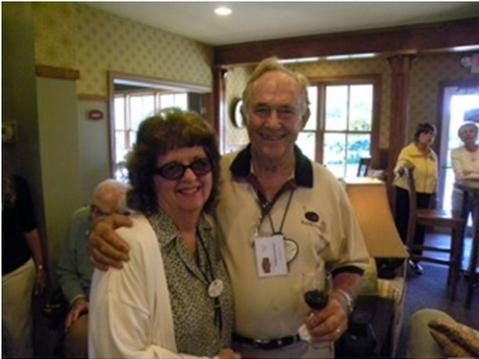
Monday we met at the clubhouse



to eat a Continental breakfast and say our goodbyes. Susan Cocker surprised us with a great video of the rally available to the attendees. We had a terrific time! Thank you Jack and Ila for a wonderful rally in a beautiful area! Thank you to all the participants for coming!



Petoskey Rally at Hearthside Grove! Photos, Dan Jensen



Petoskey Rally at Hearthsides Grove! Photos, Dan Jensen



Petoskey Rally at Hearthside Grove! Photos, Dan Jensen



Stoning With Santa in Petoskey: Continued By Martha Rowe Vaughn

(Continued from page 11)

arms and took it out to the car for me.

“Thank you. I’ll let you know what I find out.”

“Please do!” The clerk waved.

Two days later Charlie and I were headed to Traverse City to the gem store. Different thoughts whirled in my head. Was the fossil really valuable? What would I do if it were? If so, the fossil belonged where many people could view and study it, not just an object on a shelf in my home. I had done some research on line and discovered that it was from the Devonian

period—350 million years ago! Then the reasonable side of me kicked in—nothing acquired so easily could have much value. In spite of the excitement of the store owner and clerk, I doubted the fossil was valuable enough to pay for one tank of gas for the car much less a tank of diesel for the GigaRex. Back and forth went my thoughts. Part of me wanted it to be valuable, the other part doubted it.

We entered the gem store and placed the fossil on the counter and waited for the owner to satisfy another customer and come to us. He picked up the fossil and examined it with a magnifying glass.

“It’s a pipe organ coral like this one.” He showed us a sample that really did not look much like mine. My fossil had about one hundred pencil-sized, segmented tubes side by side. His had less than a dozen in a random fashion. “It’s worth about 120 dollars retail. I’ll buy it for forty dollars or exchange it for eighty dollars of merchandise from my store.”

“I see. Let me think about it.” Something about his demeanor bothered me—too casual, too nonchalant. The shop owner dis-

appeared through a door. I browsed around the store for something that might interest me. There were earrings, rings, necklaces, and bracelets. Charlie took a seat and waited.

“What would you do?” I asked him after not finding anything that struck my fancy.

“There’s no point in exchanging it for a piece of jewelry that you will put in a box and never wear. Think about it. How many people can say they have a 350 million year old object? You will get more satisfaction from telling the story about getting it than owning any piece of jewelry you would swap it for.”

“You’re exactly right. Let’s go.” I picked up the fossil, thanked the shop clerks, and left the store.

The next day the clerk at Bailey’s called me. “One of my clients, a serious collector, will pay three hundred dollars for the fossil, sight unseen.”

I thought about it. The money meant very little to me. I decided to keep it.

Doorstop or treasure? It’s a treasure to me. Thank you, Santa!



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE—NOTE: Rally Committee Reserves the Right to Add Even More Fun at No Extra Charge!

[Blue Bird Chapter, FMCA Rally Registration Form - Use This Form For Any Chapter Rally Registration](#)

Date: _____ Rally Name/Event You are Registering For _____

Last Name: _____ First Names: _____

Address: _____ City/ State/ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell # _____ Email: _____

Make of Coach: _____ Length: _____ Model _____

Blue Bird Club # _____ FMCA # _____ First time: _____ Handicap? _____

Number of People 1 ___ 2 ___ Additional Person (s) _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Check Enclosed _____ (Checks must be made to “The Blue Bird Chapter of FMCA”)

OR: Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ CCV # _____

Visa _____ Master Card _____ Discover _____ American Express _____

Mail to: Treasurer, Blue Bird Chapter of FMCA, 3590 Round Bottom Road, Cincinnati, OH 45244

Classifieds: Submitted by Shane Fedeli

1984 Wanderlodge PT36 Selling my pride and joy. This shorter version has the silver 330 HP 6V-92 engine, Allison automatic transmission and a 3:36 rear end that allows it to really fly down the interstate. It's the fastest motorhome I've ever operated & the second Wanderlodge I've owned -she'll run 75 all day long. It is in overall excellent condition, considering the age, has great tires, two new Carrier A/C units, no major body issues and is mechanically very sound. Asking \$34,000.00 obo. For further information, please contact Erik Sneed at 828-736-1625 or by email at motorrad@frontier.com.



1988 FC-35 Wanderlodge 3208 CAT 300HP turbo diesel with 3316 engine hours and ZF five speed automatic transmission with retarder. Coach has been dealer serviced and is in very good condition; maintenance records are available for past ten years. Stow Master tow dolly (used once) is included. 128K miles on chassis. 8.0 KW Onan diesel generator with new sealed battery has 1482 hours. Lots of updated equipment. Asking \$55,000. For details, please contact Bill Barnhart by phone at 217-826-8907.



1992 Wanderlodge WB40 166,000 mi, Freshly rebuilt 500 HP Detroit Diesel w/only 12,000 miles. For further information, please contact Jim DiCecco at 407-361-0484 or email him at jimdicecco@aol.com. Sale includes a 2001 Jeep Cherokee w/towbar and related equipment. Asking \$89,900.



1992 Wanderlodge WB40 101,000 mi, 500 HP Detroit Diesel, Side aisle, New HD/Satellite equipped televisions, New tires, New AGM batteries w/ updated inverter-charger system, Refrigerator/Freezer in basement, Oil-fired baseboard hot water heat, Full custom-screenhouse, Washer/Dryer, All Bluebird amenities. Asking \$78,000. For further information, please contact Allan Mark at 413-563-3939 or at allanmark@charter.net



1978 Wanderlodge FC31 3208 Turbo Diesel with a stamped 250 horsepower rating. I have the Blue box with the owners manuals and service manuals for everything. The 2 front couches turn into a King bed. This motor home needs some work. Generator and will run smooth with fresh gas. Coach is located in Palmdale, CA. Contact Chris Valdes at rideracelive@hotmail.com for more details or call 408-893-2843. Asking \$7,500.



1979 Wanderlodge FC33 110,000 miles, 3208 Cat Diesel, Allison Auto Transmission, Kohler Generator, Stand-up Shower, 2 AC's, Full Galley, Needs a little TLC; Mechanically- ROCK SOLID. Runs Great, Super Dependable, Very Comfortable. Will Consider Delivering! Call 910-382-9181 or contact Thomas Poston by email at thomasposton@mac.com for more details. Reduced to \$15,000 OBO!!



2003 Wanderlodge LX with slide Original owners. Immaculate condition, non-smoking, no pets, Northern California coach with 34,250 miles on a 500 HP Cummins ISM; Allison 6-speed MD-4060; 2 position Jake; 8 new tires (2 years ago); Corian sinks & counter tops; walnut laminate wood flooring & sculptured carpeting (protected with plastic). Priced to sell at \$199,950. Contact Vic at tuscano.vt@gmail.com or 707-322-8906.



1981 Bluebird Wanderlodge FC33 70,000 miles. Updated throughout in 2000: 250 HP 3208 Cat w/only 16K miles, Custom dash with Stewart-Warner gauges, 2000 watt inverter/charger, Corian counters and dinette, marble flooring, oak & African zebra wood cabinetry, flex steel interior, upgraded refrigerator & cook top. New brakes & batteries in 2009. Asking \$22,000 firm. Located in So. Cal. Contact Mark Sedco at sedcopier@verizon.net or at (951) 526-3014 for more details.



1989 Bluebird Wanderlodge SP36 Great condition-72,000 miles, 300hp Cat, New tires, new Serta queen mattress, new bedding, sleeper sofa, unit sleeps 6 with table down, custom blinds and drapes. Merelite counter top with double sinks, and much more. My husband purchased and became ill - never used. Call Sylvia Moretz at luvoakisland@yahoo.com or 828-312-0520 Asking \$60,000.



1986 Wanderlodge PT36 Only 69,208 miles!! New Allison Transmission, 12.5 kw Yanmar/Kohler Diesel Generator, Chassis air, leveling jacks, wired for towing (sale includes tow bar). This Canadian Coach is immaculate and has been housed always in its own garage away from weather. East of Toronto, Ontario. Call Audrey Chatterson at 613-475-2974. Reduced to \$55,000!!



1978 Wanderlodge FC35 Rear Door This coach has been gone throughout starting with a new Imron Paint Job, new upholstery, new carpet, new tires, new generator. Everything works in this coach and it is a solid as a rock. **Reduced to \$20,000**. Has new brakes, new batteries, new tires, new fantastic fans and a/c throughout the coach. 149,000 original mi. and coach has new hoses. Contact Jon Lechich at jijjob@yahoo.com



2001 Wanderlodge LX Millennium Edition Galley and living room slide- outs. Always stored inside with electrical hook-ups. We are the second owners of the coach with 70,022 miles. 500 HP Cummins ISM engine, Jacob 2 stage engine brake, Allison 6 speed transmission. New Michelin tires and batteries 3 years ago. VDO/Dayton navigation system. Interested parties should contact Bill at (828) 312-3005. Asking \$165,000.



Classifieds (Continued)

1984 Wanderlodge FC33 Side Bath CAT 3208 Turbo Diesel 250 HP. 79,910 miles. All original, garage kept, no rust, perfect paint! Washed, waxed and serviced regularly. Tires only 2 years old. Allison Automatic Transmission. 12.5 kVA Kohler/Perkins Diesel Generator. Interior is in excellent condition too. Located in New Castle, DE. Selling because we purchased a newer model. For more information contact Paul Knotts at (302) 838-9317 .

1997 Wanderlodge WB 43' 500 HP Detroit Diesel; Low mileage (20,000) like new inside; garage kept; will sleep four; has private, separate bathroom and full master bedroom; many amenities;. Located in Long Valley, NJ. **Price Reduced to \$110,000 or best offer.** For more information contact Bernard Peach at bwpeach@gmail.com or by phone at 908-852-1755.



1984/85 PT40 Newly rebuilt engine. Road ready. All Bluebird options. New appliances. Selling due to health issues. Contact Marge or Joe Zakowski at mjzakowski@juno.com for additional pictures and information. **Make an offer.** Bus located in Northern Indiana.



1984 PT40 Bluebird Wanderlodge 6V92, 325 HP, Allison MT654-CR 5 Speed Automatic with Retarder, All appliances are in excellent working order. Complete set of manuals including 'Blue Box'. Less than 5K miles on NEW brakes and suspension air-bags all the way around. Coach is very clean, never been smoked in and has been meticulously maintained. \$42,500. For More information Contact Brian Prinkki at 626-536-1719 or by E-mail at brian@remotetechns.net. Coach is located in Monrovia, CA



1994 Wanderlodge WB40 95,000 miles, Detroit Diesel 8V92 w/Bulk Oil Fill, Allison HT-755 Transmission, 15 KW Power Tech Generator. Exterior Platinum/Black with Aqua, Rose and Purple Highlights; Interior is Black and Cream, White Laminate Cabinets w/ Corian Countertops and White Ceramic Tiled Floor with Carpet Inlay in Living Area, White Leather Dinette and Sofa. Walk thru bath with private toilet, Cross island bed, ½ booth dinette w/ free standing chair, **Now Reduced to \$60,000 or Best Offer!** Contact Joe at 715-559-5947 or by email at nrausch.rn@gmail.com



1984 FC35 SB Wanderlodge 124,875 miles, Coach is in very good condition. Asking \$30,000. For questions/additional info, contact Howard Smith at 803-568-4755 or by email at howlyn@pbtcomm.net



1982 FC35SB Bluebird Wanderlodge 3208NA Caterpillar Diesel engine, 5 speed Allison automatic transmission, new starter-2008, new alternator -2008, 4 new batteries installed April 2010, new air cans on front and back brakes - 2008. The interior was redone at the factory in the 1990's and is in excellent condition. Coach is located in Kathleen, Georgia, shown by appointment only. A photo DVD is available with more pictures and info. Asking \$30,000 OBO. Contact Sandy White at lostgold@yahoo.com with additional questions.



1981 Wanderlodge FC 35 Rear Bath 3208 turbo Diesel Caterpillar Engine. 500 Allison 4 speed automatic transmission. 10 kW 4 cyl diesel generator. 65,000 miles on coach, about 50,000 miles on the engine. Sleeps 6, large rear bathroom across the back of the bus with tub & shower. Asking \$27,500. Contact Norm Wobschall at 507-456-3728 or at normco3@yahoo.com for more photos and info.



2000 Wanderlodge LXI 97,000 miles. 500 HP Series 60 Detroit Engine. Allison transmission w/ Jacobs Engine Retarder, Kitchen single slide, 260 gal. fuel / 48 gal. LPG, 150 gal. fresh water, 160 gal. grey & black water, 3 roof air ac's, Aquahot & electric heat. **Reduced to \$179,900.** Contact Richard Ramsey at yeamar49@yahoo.com or by phone at 850-447-1700.



1986 Wanderlodge PT40- Detroit Diesel 8V92, 475HP, Allison Transmission. Coach is in Great Shape- it's been garage keep most of its life! 107,000 miles, 12.5KW Diesel Generator, 2964 Engine Hours, 3 roof Airs, 4 Heaters, **Reduced to \$48,995.** Call Rick Vossen at 850-527-4765.



BLUE BIRD CHAPTER OF FMCA, LLC

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Send your article contributions to:
Newsletter@BlueBirdChapter.org



The Blue Bird Chapter of FMCA, AKA, the Family of Friends was Chartered July 15,1975. The general purpose of the Blue Bird Chapter is to promote the goals and objectives of the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA) and to operate within the guidelines of the FMCA. The specific purpose of this Chapter is to promote fellowship, camaraderie, cooperation and enjoyment of Blue Bird Wanderlodge and BMC coaches by their owners. The Chapter plans rallies and other social events that promote solidarity and friendship through lifestyles shared by these owners. Members help each other by sharing knowledge and promoting the travel and lifestyle these fine machines make possible. If you presently own a Blue Bird Wanderlodge or BMC motor coach, your ownership will be enhanced by filling out the application below. We look forward to you joining this unique and international "Family of Friends". If already a member we appreciate your continued support and welcome your comments, newsletter contributions and

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL / CHANGE FORM

You must be a member of the **FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION**. Your club application fee is \$50 which includes two name badges and dues for the current year. Your dues are \$25 per year. Make check payable to the **BLUE BIRD CHAPTER of FMCA, LLC**.

New Application \$50.00 _____

Renewal \$25.00 _____

Information Update _____

DATE _____ FMCA # _____

LAST NAME _____

STREET/SHIPPING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ CELL # _____

OFFICE NUMBER _____ COACH # _____

PLEASE PRINT FIRST AND LAST NAMES AS YOU WANT THEM TO APPEAR ON YOUR CLUB BADGES:

(New Applications Only)

1ST BADGE _____

2ND BADGE _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:
Blue Bird Chapter of FMCA
3590 Round Bottom Road
Cincinnati, OH 45244

Print, Fill Out and Mail **OR**

[Click Here To Fill Out On Line.](#)