



The Caravanette

Wally Byam Caravan Club, Inc.

822 Niles Street, Bakersfield, Calif.

JANUARY, 1960

MESSAGE FROM

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB HEADQUARTERS

Another good year has ended. As we look back on the progress and accomplishments of the Wally Byam Caravan Club we are proud, happy and grateful. In 1959, thirteen new clubs were added to our roster, making a total of 23 Wally Byam Caravan Clubs located throughout the United States. We think this is pretty wonderful, particularly in view of the fact that the first Wally Byam Caravan Club was only organized 4½ years ago—in July, 1955 by a group of Airstreamers on the Eastern Canadian Caravan. I wonder if anyone realized that in so short a time our club would grow from less than a hundred to several thousand members. It makes one wonder what the next 4½ years will bring. The tasks and scope of the WBCC are varied and our aim is to carry on constructive, up-building activity.

In 1959, Caravan Headquarters moved to their new office at 822 Niles Street, Bakersfield. It was the second time we had to move to larger quarters. Another indication of the growth of the club.

In 1959, the date of the election of National officers was changed to coincide with the International Rally which is held every year from July 1 to 6.

In 1959, emphasis was placed on uniformity and uniform membership applications and receipts, to be used by all clubs, were put into operation.

A National Legislative Committee was appointed with Judge Louis Drapeau, retired, of Oakview, California as Chairman. There will be representation from each unit on this committee.

With our club growing so rapidly many clubs within states will be formed. These clubs will be called Chapters and will be eligible for a Charter when their

membership reaches 25 trailer members. Application for Charter will be made to the State Unit. In 1959, three Chapters were formed, California No. 1, Hudson-Mohawk and Texas Plains.

Peggy Pebbles was added to Headquarters staff as Field Representative. Peggy will visit clubs and help in every way possible. She will also assist in organizing clubs.

There were more club rallies and get-togethers in 1959 than ever before but 1960 will see even more activity. Already we have 27 rallies scheduled. We hope that next year all clubs will have their programs completed in time to be incorporated in the annual directory.

At this time, Caravan Headquarters would like to thank each and every member for making 1959 a successful year, and with affection and admiration for all, we wish you a Happy New Year. **1959 DIRECTORY**

The 1959 Wally Byam Caravan and Club Directory should be ready for distribution in February.

This directory is really a big job. We try to keep an up-to-date directory file and we can't emphasize too strongly the importance of keeping Headquarters office informed of any changes, additions, deletions, etc.

Only Wally Byam Caravanners and current club members are listed in the directory. An unlisted number does not necessarily mean that the number is available.

If your listing is not correct, please notify us. Also, if you have not received your directory by the middle of March, please notify us.

THE APPLE BLOSSOM RALLY

By National President,
Charless Kiefer

The year of 1960 will probably

go down in WBCC history as the year of the **FOUR BIG RALLIES** if groundwork already started jells properly. Many Caravanners have expressed a desire to attend the beautiful and exciting **APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL** held every year in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. There are three really **BIG** festivals held in the U. S. and they are: The Festival of Roses in California, The Mardi Gras in New Orleans and The Apple Blossom Festival in Virginia. These three are acknowledged to be the oldest and the biggest celebrations of their kind in the country.

The Chamber of Commerce of Front Royal, Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley Corp. have invited the Wally Byam Caravan Club to hold a rally at Front Royal during the Apple Blossom Festival, dates which are April 28, 29, and 30. We have accepted their kind invitation for several reasons: (1) The Apple Blossom Festival is a top grade attraction; (2) They have promised to make our stay one that we will never forget; (3) Many Caravanners will be on their way home from Florida and can include this rally in their itinerary; (4) It can be easily attended by the many hundreds of members of our club who live in the Northeastern, Central and Southeastern parts of our country. The last reason was one of the strongest arguments that we heard presented because it is unfortunately true that a large number of our members in the Eastern parts of the U. S. cannot attend any of the other big rallies that we all enjoy so much, namely: The Palm Springs Rally, The Florida Rally and the Big International Rally in July.

Now, for the first time, hundreds of our club members will be within 600 miles of a **BIG TIME** Rally with all the fun, renewed friendships, entertainment, laughs

and new friends that it implies **PLUS** being able to attend and take part in the famous Apple Blossom Festival. On my recent tour of our Units, as National President, I stayed overnight in Front Royal, Virginia, and was buttonholed by the President of the local Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor of the city and several local businessmen, who impressed upon me how much they would welcome a Big WBCC Rally in their city. In order to induce us to come they agreed to do everything for us that I insisted was necessary to conduct a rally successfully and then they started telling me of how much further they intended to go to make our stay memorable. Yes, this one seems to be shaping up into another **BIG ONE** that you can't afford to miss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wally's New Book, "Trailer Travel Here and Abroad" will soon be ready for distribution. We are sorry so many of you have been disappointed because the delay but just bear with us a little longer and we are sure your patience will be rewarded.

The sailing date of the Wally Byam Caravan to Europe has been changed to March 31. Makes Europe closer by two weeks. We will rendezvous at Penn Valley Trailer Park, 4335 Trailwood drive, Trevoise, Pennsylvania. If you can't go all the way to Europe with us, come along part way—meet us at Penn Valley and join in on the pre-sailing fun.

Deadline for news for CARAVANNER and CARAVANETTE is the first of each month. Please let us know what your club and members are doing. Let us know of any new gadgets or ideas that will be helpful to your fellow Airstreamers. Tell us of rallies coming up and give us a report when they are over. As far as possible give us advance dates so that our members can make their plans

accordingly.

National Legislation Committee — Retired Judge Louis C. Drapreau of Oakview, California has accepted the chairmanship of the National Legislative Committee of the WBCC, Inc. Judge Drapreau has sent a letter to all WBCC Unit Presidents telling them his ideas about organizing local legislative committees and suggesting each unit have a legislative committee of five members, including the chairman.

This group will work toward protecting our rapidly growing trailer population from adverse legislation, and to secure changes in present laws now unfavorable to trailers.

SICK SICK SICK

We are sorry to report that we have quite a list of **Sick and injured** this month. Our best wishes for a quick recovery goes to:

"Mom" Kiefer, mother of Prez Charles and Ethel. Mom underwent surgery a couple of weeks ago. We are glad to report that she is doing fine.

Howard Thomas. Treasurer of Mau, sawed open his ring finger the first part of December. Wife, Frances is doing his typing these days.

Sadie Small, club member, fell and broke her hip while vacationing in Arizona. The Smalls are from Silverton, Oregon.

Dr. L. B. West, Prez NW Unit, broke a bone in his hand. Sez he will have to drive South (to pick up a brand new Land Yacht) with one hand.

Georgie Leo Makela, NE Unit, had a heart attack at Statesboro, Georgia en route to the Florida Rally. They will be in Statesboro (301 Trailer Park on Route 301) for about six weeks.

Bertie Linquist — everyone has been upset and saddened by her long illness. But Bertie isn't one to enjoy poor health and she is bouncing back just like we knew

she would.

Mrs. Vanderwater, mother of Edwina Bottomley (Mrs. Hollis), who won the prize at the Airstream Round-up in Florida last winter and the International Rally at Wisconsin Dells last summer, for being the oldest caravanner present, is seriously ill. Mrs. Vanderwater is 94.

Fred Zimmers, Washington, D.C., MAU member, in the hospital for an emergency gallstone operation. No justice — Fred was just recovering from injuries sustained in a serious auto accident. However, wife Irene, tells us he is making a wonderful recovery. Irene is also making a wonderful recovery from injuries caused by the same accident.

Howard Settle, California Unit, suffered a heart attack while visiting in Los Angeles. Jac and Ruth Davis are helping Erma by towing their trailer up north for them.

Everett Spencer, Oregon Unit member and Airstream Dealer, had another bout in the hospital.

Lucille Hood, Oregon Unit member, having rough time with her back and may have to have more surgery.

HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

From Gene Alleman, President of Southeast Unit: The "Cub" transistor megaphone, with only one battery weighs only three pounds and costs \$47.95 complete with battery and wrist strap. Available at marine and sports stores. Or, shipped postpaid from Audio Equipment Co., Inc., Port Washington 12, N.Y.

From Sterling Edwards, Past President of MAU: **PAINT AIRSTREAM WHEELS TO MATCH CAR.** . . . This system was invented by Bill Wimbush.

Heres how you do it and so have we: Get a 99-cent small lacquer bomb at Sears or elsewhere to match. Remove hub caps, shine and wax 'em. Mask out the tire with masking tape, newspaper

and whatever and get a snug fit around rim. Then go to work on wheel with steel wool, very fine sandpaper, gasoline, rags and brushes and have it spotless. Spray on a thin film. Go around and treat other wheel likewise. Continue thin coats with no weeps, and let it all stand until tomorrow, when you can wax and clean it up and be proud! So very easy.

From Elvera Leuch, Secretary of Wisconsin Unit: **DISPLAY UNIT HISTORY BOOKS:** Our Historian is all enthused about preparing a history book for our Wisconsin Unit. She has asked all the members to submit pictures of their family taken right next to their trailer. She is also collecting other pictures and stories of members and their activities. We thought it would be nice to display the history books of the different units at the Rally in July. It might encourage each unit to work harder on their book. It would be fun to see the various books.

STATE FLAG DISPLAY. . . . When we started our Wisconsin Unit, we did some hunting around to obtain some small state flags. At our first meeting, I brought them along. We were surprised that most of the members did not recognize it. If all the state flags were displayed in one room it would make a conversation piece as well as helping us to learn their identity. I am a collector and sure would like to get a flag from each state.

WHAT THE CLUBS ARE DOING

CALIFORNIA UNIT — The old unit with the new name (formerly Western Unit) will hold their first 1960 rally Feb. 12-14 at Death Valley. This will be an "open" meeting and members are welcome to invite their trailering friends to join them for a fun-packer week end. Secretary, Mary Ann Leuenberger reminds every-

one to bring wood for an open fire, charcoal for a surprise (bet-cha it's steak), warm clothes, hiking shoes, cameras, binoculars, food for several days. Make your reservation NOW with Mrs. Mary Ann Leuenberger, P.O. Box 25414, Los Angeles 25, California. Telephone GRanite 9-6073, after 6 p.m.

The December Rally at Pomona was the best yet — and the biggest. There were over 100 trailers and three times that many people. Everybody turned out for the Christmas Party and the Installation of Officers dinner, both held at the Country Club.

We were all sorry to see Hap Hornibrook become an Ex. He has been a top-notch president, hardworking and sacrificing.

Fred Wood, former Vice President was elected President for 1960 and Otto Kinney, former National President, was elected Vice President. Mary Ann Leuenberger and Ray White, Secretary and Treasurer respectively, were persuaded to serve for another year.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER NO. 1 — In the November CARAVANETTE, we introduced you to the Northern California Chapter. This chapter will henceforth be known as California Chapter No. 1. National Secretary, Helen B. Schwamborn, took a run up to San Jose to attend the first official rally of this new club and came away with the prediction that it would be one of our most up-and-coming units. They now have 48 trailer members and they are just starting! Big plans are being made for the Memorial Day week end at Santa Cruz. This will be a joint meeting with the California Unit — believe the plan is for this new "baby" to play host to the parent club. It will coincide with the Santa Cruz Boat and Trailer Show and they hope to have a big attendance.

COLORADO UNIT — Thanks to this unit we are all set for the big rally in July. This will be the 3rd International Rally of WBCC and it will undoubtedly be one of the biggest rallies we will ever have. The rally will be held at Colorado Springs right at the foot of Pikes Peak. President Frank Colton and local rally chairman Wally Mankin arranged for a luncheon with all the city officials, National President Charles Kiefer, National Secretary Helen Byam Schwamborn and Colorado Unit officers.

HUDSON - MOHAWK CHAPTER — Prez Floyd E. Worden announces the late winter meeting of his club will be held February 14 at O'Malley's in Latham. A bulletin giving details will be sent to members.

Al Mitchell accepted the job of secretary to complete Reggie Bachinsky's term.

Twenty eight family members gathered at the Cambridge Hotel in Cambridge, New York for the Club Christmas Party. Excellent holiday fare and presents for all was the order of the day.

ILLINOIS - INDIANA —

Secretary Evelyn Phillips writes, "We're as anxious as all 'get-out' to build a fine unit." Betcha they will too!

IOWA — Caravanners mourn the loss of the Iowa Club 1st Vice President, Stanley Watts of Murray, who suffered a heart attack at Chariton on Nov. 20. Stanley was more than helpful in organizing the Iowa Unit, he was beloved by all who knew him and many of his plans for the coming year will be followed.

Andy Verwers was elected to fill out the term expiring in May, 1960. Roger Keck was elected 2nd Vice President.

Harold and Helen Holloway and daughter, Pam, have bought a home at 5383 Beaumont, La-Jolla, California. Harold was a wonderful president and will be

missed by his many friends.

MID - ATLANTIC — Will be host for the Apple Blossom Festival Rally. This will be the first time our WBCC will take part in this annual event which is as well-known as the Kentucky Derby and the Mardi Gras. MAU is working with the Chamber of Commerce, city officials and the Festival Committee in planning a wonderful 3-day rally. You will hear more about this as time goes on. Circle your calendar now and plan to attend — April 28-30, 1960 at Front Royal, Virginia.

MIDWEST — Just received a letter from Prez Bill Carlson — quote — "Have just returned from Indiana where I have located an ideal place for our Midwest Rally, May 27-28-29-30; Nobelsville, Indiana, 20 miles north of Indianapolis on Route 37." The Midwest Memorial Day Rally is ALWAYS something to look forward to — jot down the date and plan to be there.

MISSOURI-KANSAS will hold their Spring Rally and election of officers on May 14 and 15 at Garnett, Kansas. The Airstreams will be in a beautiful park, with plenty of shade trees, large lake for swimming, fishing and boating; also a good golf course, and a wonderful Shelter House for all our activities.

Airstream owners in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma are invited to contact the Secretary for information about joining the Unit. Mrs. Robert W. Smith, Secretary, 4025 West 73rd Street, Prairie Village, Kansas.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY —

Next rally for this club will be May 28-30 at Ellenville, New York.

Quite a large group are planning to attend the big International Rally at Colorado Springs next July 1-6.

NORTHEAST — With a new slate of officers: President, A.

Thomas Scott; Vice President, Warren Butterfield; Secretary, Victoria Chase; and Treasurer, Al Chase, there are big plans in the making for this club. Freeman Wight of Bangor, Maine, was appointed Chairman of the Rally Committee for 1960. The rally schedule is being prepared and will be published in the near future. Charles and Anna Salo, Carl and Peggy Pebbles, Vicky and Al Chase, Col. and Mrs. Nichols, have left the wintry New England states to thaw out in sunny Florida.

NORTHWESTERN — These folks in our great Northwest have really been busy. Their Executive Board Meeting was held at the home of Prez West and wife, Gladys on the shores of Lake Washington. Twenty officers and committee chairmen and their wives were in attendance. Gladys served a wonderful dinner in their "glass" room overlooking the lake.

OREGON — This club has mushroomed to the extent that they have to have a hall when they all get together. Their Christmas party took place in the Freeway Sporting Goods Hall in Portland. They had a Christmas tree with all the trimmings and coffee was donated by the Freeway Sporting Goods.

The next meeting will be February 13 and as soon as the Tide books are available the date will be set for the Ocean Park Rally.

Heading south to avoid the cold weather are Neil and Elsie Polard, Orrin and Rae Davis, Pat and Grace Grogan, Helen and Gail Gellatt (who are building a new home in Twenty-Nine Palms), Francis and Florence Kraxberger and Dean and Edith Schackman.

PENNSYLVANIA — A letter from Robert Mager, Prez of the Pennsylvania Unit to all members bringing to their attention the fact that Pennsylvania's first

rules and regulations designed specifically to "protect the health of persons living in and using mobile home parks" have been approved by the Advisory Health Board of the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Bob states: "We are beginning to be closed in by a group who do not understand the use or purpose of travel trairling. It is our earnest hope and desire that each and every Caravanner will contact his local law enforcement officers, health department, and state officials, and advise them of the tremendous difference between an Airstream self-contained, such as we own and operate, and the mobile homes which we all too frequently see parked in haphazard fashion in any part of our state. It is advisable that, as a Unit and as individuals interested in the furtherance of our way of enjoyment, we make sure that all state, local officials and others know the difference between travel trailers and mobile homes, so that we will not be confined by rules, regulations or political trends which have no bearing on our existence or on our way of life!"

SOUTHEASTERN — The Fall Rally at Ocala was attended by 105 Airstream families; S. E. membership is 178—howze that for a turnout? New officers for this unit are: President, Gene Alleman; 1st Vice President, Donald Fleming; 2nd Vice President, Worth Overaker; Secretary, Adah Steube; and Treasurer, Gary Steube.

Under consideration for the 1960 Fall Rally is the leasing of fairground facilities whereby all Airstreams would be parked wagon-style.

Two experimental caravans — one in Florida and Georgia during April and one in Colorado and Wyoming in June, July and August were authorized at the Ocala Rally.

TEXAS — Prez Hamp Millender writes: "It looks as if the Texas Unit is really an orphan. Since we plan to go on the Mexican Caravan and then to Europe, it will again be necessary to get a new president." These traveling Texans really get around. Former President, Dallas Calmes resigned to go on the Wally Byam Caravan to Africa.

TEXAS PLAINS CHAPTER—

Boasting a membership of 46 trailer members, this club elected new officers: Raymond Burford, Prez; Dr. Fred Kallina, Vice President; Mrs. Coy Lowe, and Mrs. Alton Abbott, Secretaries; and Mrs. George Brassell, Treasurer. They also made plans for a Christmas Caravan to Mexico. Twenty-five members left Lubbock on December 23 and crossed the border at Brownsville for a visit to Monterrey, Mexico.

WISCONSIN—W i s c o n s i n weather prevents us from having rallies from November through April, but this doesn't mean our club is dormant. The nominating committee has been selected by the board to set up a slate of candidates for our election of officers to be held at the May meeting. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee held a meeting in November and probably will hold another one in January in an effort to get an acceptable set of rules and regulations by May.

The entire Airstream staff, the girls at Caravan Headquarters, all units of the WBCC, Inc., and the many friends of Helen Schwamborn, unite in expressing deepest sympathy to her and to her family in the loss of her Mother.

Our prayers and thoughts have been with you Helen, and we pray for His guidance during your saddened hours.

COMING EVENTS

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUBS, INC.

CARAVANS—Europe—March 31, 1960—Sails for Europe.

Western Canada—July 7, 1960—Caravan leaves site of 3rd International Rally at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

RALLIES—CALIFORNIA UNIT—Feb. 12, 13, 14—Death Valley.

California Chapter No. 1—March 18-20—State Fair Grounds, Sacramento, Calif. May 28-30—Santa Cruz, California.

Hudson-Mohawk—February 14—O'Malleys Trailer Park, Valentine Party.

**Iowa State Unit—May 14 and 15—Ledges State Park, Boone, Iowa.
(election of officers)**

Michigan—May 27-30—Rally, Tawas, Michigan.

Midwest—May 28-30—Nobelsville, Indiana (20 miles north of Indianapolis on Route 37).

Missouri-Kansas—May 14-15—Garnett, Kansas (election of officers).

New York-New Jersey—May 28-30—Ellenville, New York.

Northwest—April 21-24—Black Lake near Olympia, Washington.

Northwest—May 20-22—Wildwood Trailer Park, Westport, Wash.

Oregon—February 13—Meeting. Place to be announced.

Pennsylvania—March 26-27—Host to European Caravanners. Penn Valley Trailer Park, Trevoise, Penna.

Southeast—April 6-10—Indian River Trailer Lodge, U. S. No. 1, 8 miles north of Cocoa, Florida.

Texas—April 16 and 17—San Marcos, Texas.

Wisconsin—May 13-15—Nicolet Bay, Peninsula State Park.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL RALLY OF WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUBS—July 1-6—Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival—April 28-30—Front Royal, Virginia
Rendezvous at Penn Valley Trailer Park for European Caravanners—
March 25-28—4335 Trailwood Drive, Trevoise, Pennsylvania.**