

June 28, 2009

A HOT "hello" to all our camping friends!!!

Let's start out with a little info about the Spring Samboree held at the Boone County Fairgrounds recently. Several were able to make it for another EVENTFUL campout!!! Those attending were Crists, Rexroads, Givens, Lewises, Cohees, Goletz (friends of Crists) and Dickmans (with the Roving Sams). It was a crazy outing (seems that the theme so far this year!!). To start off Allen Crist had a heart attack while on the job in Indy (update – he had a triple bypass, was released and has been home recuperating very well. They both appreciate all the concern and prayers from many at the Samboree). We also extended thoughts and prayers to Dick and Marsha Helm as his mother passed away at that time. Long time member Elb Hiner was remembered at the Memorial Service. On a lighter note, we were the luckiest Chapter there as we had our own chefs – Eric and Teresa Cohee and their gourmet dutch oven cooking for all breakfasts and dinners!! YUM! The weekend was filled with ongoing "trading" of money?? An emergency developed during one of the programs and our own Eric Cohee came to the rescue!! Circus City Sams own "Clarabell" and "Bozo" did their time running the "people mover" (it will never be the same!!). Why was Gary feeling the need to give Eric a "kiss"??? Patio, patio – who has the patio??? (Ya just had to be there!). It was another campout of comraderie taking care of the Crists and of lots of laughs.

Now to the June campout!!! It was a WONDERFUL weekend at our "favorite camping spot – Camp Givens!! The great hosts were Guy and Jan Givens with Lance and Shelley Agness. We had a WONDERFUL attendance between members and guests. At some point in time over the weekend the following members were here: Of course our hosts, Guy and Jan Givens with Lance and Shelley Agness with their children Gwen and Ethan, Bob and Nancy Eoff, George and Sherry Gehring, Gary and Carolyn Rexroad, Ron and Melodie Thompson, Ron and Carol Koenes, Ken and Sharon Dickman, Eric and Teresa Cohee, Steve and Iris Lewis, Paul and Tonya Berg and children Samantha and Nick, Carolyn and Allen Crist, Bobbie Cole and Larry and Ruth Yoder. Camping with us were guests Bill and Nancy Plummer and Carol Koenes' sisters Betty and Mary Ann. Among the guests floating through were Erin Cohee, Cheryl Lewis, Leigh Anne Rexroad, Bobbie Cole's son Jay, Teresa's dad Jim, friends Carroll and Betty Bankston, and from Back Roads Dog Rescue Tom and Brownie Barber with "rescues" Logan and Eddie plus 11 regular "canine campers"!!! The "campgrounds" was done nicely in patriotic décor; looked great! The HOT weekend encouraged some of the men to go for a dip in the pond. Water battles began between Gary and Ethan; several enjoyed fishing. Treat for the weekend was the use of a soft serve ice cream machine through the generosity of the Urbana Fire Department – THANKS!!! And, of course, to the hosts for providing the ice cream which was a HUGH hit all weekend. As dinner approached, pizzas from East of Chicago Pizza arrived (several personally made by Erin Cohee)!! YUM! Dessert, besides ice cream, included Shelley's delicious pumpkin roll. (Here we go again – another LOW calorie weekend!!) After dinner, Carolyn offered to give Shelley some assistance on the breakfast casseroles. That went very well; clean up was another story!!! It was a "Lucy and Ethel" episode wrestling with the garbage disposal and the clogged sinks!! Hilarious antics ensued trying to solve this delimma!! (Why were we both so wet??? Hmm!!) It actually cooled off enough late in the evening to gather around a campfire. What a great end to a wonderful day!

Saturday morning found many of us relaxing around the campfire. Some of the men took off for a hardware store auction in South Whitley (that could be dangerous!!). Shelley's

casseroles arrived – sausage and egg; also, French toast with fruit. Good job, Shelley! During the HOT day you could find several swimming, using the paddle boat, fishing, making jewelry and, of course, eating ice cream. Soon it was time for the pitch in and the “cooks” did a great job; there was a variety of everything from which to choose. The “travelling patio” surfaced but Cohee’s table was taken “hostage” when it did and a pie was to be the ransom!! What’s next?? Can they find it???

The meeting followed with Chaplain Sherry saying a prayer and President Ron leading the pledge. Since there were so many new faces all in attendance were introduced. We welcome new members – Al and Addie Goletz from Cadiz, Ohio (friends of Allen and Carolyn Crist) as well as Bill and Nancy Plummer of Wabash. It is great having you both as part of our group. As there was no meeting in May due to campout being flooded, April minutes and treasurer’s report were read and approved. Correspondence was shared. Winners of the Bird Seed Bottle Puzzle were announced and prizes awarded to Ron Thompson and Sharon Dickman. “Back Up” awards were given to Steve Lewis and Paul Berg after showing their great skills during the evacuation. Eric and Teresa Cohee were given the award for the Best Samboree Cooks. All awards were well deserved. We voted to donate \$50 to Dogs for the Deaf and \$100 to Back Roads Dog Rescue and to reimburse Lewises for the fee for GoDaddy.com for our website. It was decided that we would do our annual road cleanup during the October campout at Camp Givens.

For those of you planning to attend the Fall Samboree Sept. 24-27 at the 4H Fairground in Shelbyville, IN, it was suggested to continue camping at Little Farm on the River at Rising Sun, IN for a few more days. It is a wonderful campground and you can camp right on the river. It is a little too far to go for a regular camping weekend but not far from the Samboree. IF this is of interest to you, please let Carolyn Rexroad know ASAP so she can secure sites RIGHT ON THE RIVER! They will not last long. Tonya Berg thought it would be a great idea to get a book club going – agree on a book to read each month then have a discussion the following month. If this interests you, contact Tonya and share with her any book ideas you might have.

Brownie Barber gave a presentation about their rescue organization. They currently have over 20 dogs in their care. They receive most from the Miami County pound before they are put down. They spay/neuter them, do vaccinations, chip them and provide any additional medical treatment needed. They advertise for a home for them and charge only for the cost incurred. Several are placed out of state and some are even working or service dogs now. To see their dogs you can go to Petfinder.com. They are definitely a worthwhile organization to support and appreciate all the help we have given them.

“Mixed” news – Iris will need someone to cover for her next month and Carolyn Crist graciously agreed. She will be absent as she and Steve will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin looking for an apartment for him as he has been hired for a job there. Congratulations, Steve, on your job but we will miss you terribly. Keep up the good work on the website!! Hopefully, after a year he will be able to transfer to a position closer here and they won’t have to move.

The 50/50 drawing was done and Lance Agness won \$21 which he generously donated to Back Roads Dog Rescue. Thanks, Lance.

Following the meeting we did the fundraiser activity originally planned for the May campout.

Payback time!!! For \$2 you could have someone “arrested” and placed “in jail” (after being processed complete with “mug shot”) for 15 minutes. The “offender” could be “bailed out” for \$1 (IF they could find someone willing to do so!). This got to be absolutely HILARIOUS!!! Adults and children both were arrested for any number of things from “producing aliens”, “speeding”, “not doing a craft”, “soliciting” to “joining the club”!!!! We even had a “police vehicle (?) complete with lights and sirens for some!! Steve and Carolyn took turns arresting the felons while Iris collected the fees and did the processing. At the end we found that Iris had taken off so she was “arrested” (complete with “patdown” by Sheriff Steve) for embezzlement and distruction of government property (broke her sheriff’s badge!!). What a riot!!! The funds will be donated to Back Roads Dog Rescue. With an onset donation from Crists, this all added up to \$68!!! Wow!! Thanks, everyone!

Sunday morning found us being treated to a “cast iron” cooked breakfast!! We sat around and got our last visiting in while some “ate more ice cream”, went snorkeling and taught Tess to swim in the pond. Great stories were shared; especially the one about “someone” call 911 to report his vehicle was stolen from a parking lot ONLY to realize later that he had driven a different vehicle than what he was looking for!!! That was a great ending story to a special weekend. Several had headed out by noon. Until the next time.....

NEXT CAMPOUT!!!

When: July 17, 18, 19

**Hosts: Ken and Sharon Dickman* dickmansk@wmconnect.com
Allen and Carolyn Crist**

Place: Tall Sycamores, Logansport, IN

**Plans: Friday dinner out at a restaurant; Saturday morning breakfast provided;
Pitch in dinner Saturday night**

Contact Dickmans ASAP to let them know you are coming so they can make arrangements with the campground!!!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

**3 Carolyn Rexroad
5 George Gehring
9 Ron Koenes
11 Sharon Dickman
13 Bobbie Cole
22 Jan Givens**

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

**7 Guy and Jan Givens
8 Allen and Carolyn Crist
12 Daniel and Terry Wilson
21 George and Sherry Gehring**

See you at the July campout! Ask an RV friend to join us!!

Carolyn Rexroad, Corresponding Secretary