



President's Monthly News

To be shared with WBCCI Members

Tom Collier, International President

I want to thank the Region Presidents for working together at the Mid-Winter IBT Meeting in Rayne, Louisiana. With courtesy and respect, you addressed some difficult issues. You willingly worked, along with some of the Region Vice-Presidents, during coffee/lunch breaks to reach compromise solutions that could be supported by each of you. This meeting would have been difficult to hold via teleconferencing or video conferencing because of the many sidebar meetings. You were able to work together to condense the motions from 29 to the 23 on which you voted. The March issue of the *Blue Beret* will have a summary of the Mid-Winter IBT meeting.

We have been "streaming" IBT seminars and meetings for the past few years. During the recent Mid-Winter Meeting, there were 154 unique visitors with 351 visits.

WBCCI has joined the technology age with the *Blue Beret* now online. Many of our units send their unit newsletters via email. The International officers request that those units who use email not also send a copy of their newsletter to headquarters via U. S. mail. This will save the unit and headquarters postage as these newsletters are re-mailed to the International officers.

We continue to receive requests from members who want to know what we are doing to help solve the budget deficit. First of all, I assigned the International Vice-Presidents to attend Special Event and Region Rallies that were all in the same geographical area as the area to which the officer was assigned. Also, the International Treasurer and Secretary were assigned to attend only those rallies close to where they lived, and they attended fewer rallies than in past years.

Next, Norma and I lived in Jackson Center for over two months where we worked with Cindy Reed and the WBCCI headquarters staff to help run the club and to find ways that expenses could be cut. Cindy is working to explore all avenues that lead to lower costs. She has lowered the cost of health care insurance for the staff and the amount spent for utilities. I continue to be in daily contact with Cindy Reed, consulting with her on matters involving the running of the WBCCI.

Airstream has announced they are creating 99 new jobs over the next three months. Airstream's newest project is a Class B motor home built on a Chevrolet Chassis that will be sold at a lower cost than the current Interstate models. This new model should be available for sale in the spring.

JULY 4th PICNIC

A traditional July 4th picnic buffet lunch will be served at Cam-Plex. The cost of the lunch will be \$5.00 per person, based on 800-1000 tickets being sold. The buffet will be served in Equality Hall. Additional details will be in the March newsletter.

COMING DEADLINES

As soon as you schedule your Region Lunch for Gillette, please contact Wayne Shaffer so that he can place your lunch on the Rally Schedule.

LOST AND FOUND

At the Mid-Winter IBT Meeting someone accidentally took Russ Melocik's (#8877) Blue Beret and left theirs. Russ's hat has an elastic insert to enlarge the hat. Please check your blue beret to be sure that the one in your possession does not have the elastic insert. The person who accidentally took Russ's hat may get his/her blue beret from me.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- The total number of members in WBCCI, as of February 1, 2010, is 6235.
- The number registered for Gillette as of Feb 1, is 635.
- Committee Chairmen needed for Gillette are:
 - Knitting
 - Block Party Chairman
 - Web Sites for Units
 - July 4th Picnic Tickets

If you know of someone who is qualified to fill any of these positions, please contact me.

- In addition to a chairman for the Block Parties on June 27th, we need 15 individuals/couples to serve as block hosts. If you would like to serve in this capacity, please contact me.
- We are looking for about 15 people to serve as mentors to First Timers during the International Rally in Gillette. Please contact me if you are interested.
- The email address "president@wbcci.org" is currently not working. To contact me, please use :
collier145@juno.com.

"People do not stop doing things because they get older. They get older because they stop doing things."