



GULF STREAMERS E-NEWS  
GREETINGS FROM GULF STREAMERS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

*Is Spring ever going to arrive in Indiana?* Mother Nature teases us with a couple of sunny days and then gives us snow or rain the next four. I know that April showers bring May flowers, but at this point I am wondering if they may have all washed away or frozen to death. Although I am sure there is a reason for the weather, it does seem like 2008 has a slow start on some nice sunny days here in Indiana! I was lucky to take a vacation to The Bahamas in March with my daughters Erica and Jessica and took advantage of a lot of rest and relaxation. It really is a paradise there with the blue water and sandy beaches. My husband Norm offered to tend all the animals (5 dogs & 4 cats, 1 dog and 1 cat with medical conditions). He is a trooper and we appreciated his giving us peace of mind on our girls' holiday!

Also, I wanted to thank all of you who voted for my dog Molly in the Humane Center Website Contest. If you have ever met me, you know everyone in my family is an animal lover. My daughter Erica and I walk in a "**Mutt Strut**" every year to earn donations for the Indianapolis Humane Center. Erica lives in Indy and would adopt all the animals there if she could! If you are interested in sponsoring us on our walk this year, it is Sunday April 27, 2008, and we walk with our pets around the Indianapolis 500. It is quite a sight to see all the different breeds and their owners! Go to <http://www.firstgiving.com/ericacooper> to donate online or if you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to Erica Cooper, 346 Griffin Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46227-2440. *We both appreciate your support.*

You should have received your Spring Issue of the Main Stream Magazine with the wonderful eagle picture on the cover, which was submitted by Virginia Raikes, a winner in our photo contest. If you did not get your copy of the Main Stream, please contact 800-289-8787 ext. 3067 to verify your address and have another copy sent to you. The magazine was mailed bulk postage and will not be forwarded to a different address. It is important that you update your address with us whenever it changes to assure we have the most recent on file for you.

**Las Vegas Rally**, which was scheduled for April 2008, has been cancelled due to low sign up. We hope to offer this rally in a future year.

**Back Home in Indiana International Rally**, June 23-28, 2008 - The deadline is coming up **April 25, 2008**. We have **113 RVs** and **226 members** signed up as of April 14, 2008. We still have full hook-up sites available if you have not signed up and are still interested. **We have 37 members signed up for the Amish Acres option and 55 for the RV/MH Museum option. If we don't receive enough to fill the buses, we may have to cancel the options, so if you are interested sign up early!** We still need **volunteers**. If you are interested in helping, the form is in the mailer you are receiving and on our website. Thank you to all who have turned in a form with your volunteer position; we appreciate your support and help!

**Forms** for the Back Home in Indiana Rally are also being enclosed in your mailer to assure that you received them and have filled them out prior to attending the rally. Getting your **plant tour forms** in before you arrive will help us arrange for charter bus transportation with an exact count of who will actually be using the buses, in turn saving us costs on renting buses that are not needed. For those of you who want to take advantage of the **three (3) free minor service repairs** (no service will be performed on units that do not have this form in before they arrive at the rally), it helps Fabi to schedule like repairs together and to have the parts ordered in plenty of time. I hope you take into consideration what a struggle it is for our service techs, whose building was destroyed in the tornado and who have been working out of other buildings with limited areas of space and limited tools. Make sure you are especially appreciative of their hard work at the BHII Rally; they are a very dedicated group of people. For those of you with an **arts & craft item**, the form allows us to secure just enough tables to display the items and to request the prize money and ribbons needed in advance. You can sign up at the rally, but it helps us to plan better if we have an idea of what is being displayed by our members. I hope you like some of the new categories that are offered this year. If you have

suggestions on others for next year, let me know. We want to make sure your talents are well represented and I would be a poor person to ask what should be listed. The one outfit I made in home ec class barely held together for the fashion show, so I admire any man or woman with talents to make these items. I proudly wear or display the items given to me by our members

**Specific Product Round Table Seminar** forms must be submitted as we need to make sure we have enough interest to provide a seminar room and to ask Gulf Stream representatives to take time out of their work day to come to the seminars. Make sure you get these in as no forms will be accepted at the rally and only those members who have turned in forms will be on the roster to attend. A **round table** will be conducted by our managers, in addition to these specific product round tables. It is open to anyone wanting to ask specific questions and will be hosted by Claude Donati and Dean Crane. Members attending will include engineers, production managers, service & parts managers, designers for both motorized and towable products, quality personnel and other top management.

**Ladies' Driving Class** forms need to be turned in and fee paid prior to arriving at the rally. We will have to cancel this seminar if we don't get enough sign ups as this is an additional cost we have to pay, along with labor costs and hotel reservations for the two instructors. If the class is cancelled, you will receive your fee back at the rally.

**Chapter Booth and Member/Flea Market Booth Request** forms need be returned to the International Office before the rally; no sign ups will be available once you are at the rally. We utilize the tables and chairs that have been rented for the vendor booths, so the booths are on an as available basis. We cannot get more than the vendors request, as this is set up prior to the rally.

You will receive your **assigned parking site** number in your tentative mailer that will be going out in the middle of May. You should display this card in your RV windshield as you arrive at the fairgrounds. Our parking crew (The KyOhWeVa Chapter Members) will assist you in finding your site if you arrive during their scheduled hours of volunteering. Assigning parking sites in advance also helps Fabi schedule service repairs and cuts down on time spent looking for members and their sites.

**Gulf Stream Day** games will be a little different this year – no scheduled Bocce Ball, Ladder Golf, Golf Best Ball, Horseshoes or Bingo, but instead we will have a “**Carnival Day**” where you will be able to participate in games of chance and fun to obtain tickets to enter in drawings for cash prizes. The Bocce Ball, Ladder Golf games and courses will be set up for anyone who wants to get a team together and play for fun. The golf course will also be available for those serious golfers who want to play. Remember to bring your own clubs and golf balls. The swimming pool will also be open and have a life guard on staff for those of you wanting to cool off. Remember to bring a bathing suit if you want to take a dip in the pool. We will have the country club building open where you may relax in air conditioning and play board games. Chef Stanley will again be providing us with his great steak, egg roll and shrimp lunch. In addition, we will have a popcorn stand and a snow cone stand for you to take advantage of before and after lunch. There will also be a strolling caricature artist and magician to entertain you. The Gulf Stream complex also has tennis courts, horseshoe pits, basketball courts, softball fields, and shuffleboard courts that are available for your use while visiting Gulf Stream. You may request equipment for these games from the life guards on duty any time you want to take advantage of the facilities when the gates are open.

The **Wizard of Oz Contest** should be a lot of fun! Please come prepared to show off your talents in putting together a Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Witch or Cowardly Lion costume to wear to the contest and be eligible to win a cash prize. You might see the Mayor (Lester P.) and his favorite Munchkin (Jean), along with the Cowardly Lion (Bonnie), the Tin Man, Scarecrow, and Glinda (Jenn) the good witch, helping Dorothy (Leslie) find her red slippers or way home. Also making appearances from the Gulf Streamer staff and support help will be the Wicked Witch of the West, a Munchkin Guard and a young Munchkin girl and boy. I have also put together a **Yellow Brick Road Brick Contest** for the all members, especially the kids, who want to play to locate 40 bricks throughout the displays, buildings and units for prizes and to make sure everyone knows the story of the creation of *The Wizard of Oz*. Even though I have seen it a dozen times, I had to look up a lot of answers to the questions. My son Michael put the bricks together and wrote all the answers on them, and he and Kaila (Renee's daughter) are hiding them throughout the display, buildings and units, so keep your eyes open!

The **Ladies' Luncheon** is scheduled with Heidi Floyd as our guest speaker. All proceeds will be donated to Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer. We will have a silent auction and a raffle for everyone to participate in. We are contacting local businesses to ask for donations for the silent auction. If you have something new or handmade that you would like to donate, please let me know so we can include it in our listed items and then please mail it to us or bring it to the rally. All donations are appreciated and will be used to further the research of breast cancer. At a recent Survivors' Luncheon that I attended with Renee Laws (who is a breast cancer survivor), the speaker told us that progress has been made in identifying the bad cells and hopefully our daughters or grand-daughters may see the research come into action where they only treat the "cancerous" cells! Red Hatters are encouraged to dress in their colors and represent their dedication to their Red Hatter Society. Donna Smith, who has a daughter who is a breast cancer survivor, would like to ask you to visit the website <http://www.thebreastcancersite.com/>, which will donate one free mammogram a day to an underprivileged woman if they have enough visitors to the site. Just click on "donating a mammogram" for free; it is the pink window in the middle. Pass the info on to your friends and ask them to vote also!

The **Men's Pizza Lunch and Crazy Card Game** will be held at that same time as the Ladies' Luncheon and will include a Wal-Mart Gift Card for the winner who obtains the highest points. This is a great game to meet all the other gentlemen attending the rally.

**Pull Tabs** will be collected, weighed and taken to the local salvage yard. The funds received will be donated to the **KOA Campgrounds for Kids with Cancer** program by Suzanne Palczynski. If you cannot attend the rally but collect these tabs and would like to donate them, please mail to the Gulf Streamers Club, 503 S. Oakland Ave., Nappanee, IN 46550 and we will add them to the count. It is amazing how they add up once you start putting all the ones together that the chapters and other members bring in. It is a contest between the chapters, so if no chapter name is designated we put them in a "generic" box and divide the total weight between all the chapters that are participating at the rally. We are also collecting worn **American flags** that my husband takes to the American Legion in Syracuse and used **eye glasses** that he takes to the Lions Club for us. Send those to the same address as listed or bring them with you if you are attending the BHII Rally and add to the box. New this year is old **cell phones for our**

**troops.** Bring your old phones to the rally or mail to us for a group donation. If you are not attending and prefer to send direct, please mail to Cell Phone Recycling Center, 2555 Bishop Cir W, Dexter, MI, 48130-9828. Visit [www.cellphoneforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphoneforsoldiers.com) for more info.

**Summer Pre-Rally in Duluth Minnesota**, July 7-11, 2008 currently has **seventeen** RVs signed up. We need 20-25 RVs to proceed with offering this pre-rally. Deadline for sign up is also April 25, 2008, so send your application in or call 800-289-8787 ext. 3067 to sign up with your credit card. This pre-rally is open to owners of other brands (SOBs), so if you know of a friend or relative that might like to sign up, please forward the information or have him contact the main office. Applications are also available for all our pre-rallies and rallies at [www.gulfstreamrv.com](http://www.gulfstreamrv.com), under the Event Calendar.

**New York Rally** October 6-13, 2008 currently has **fifteen** RVs signed up. Deadline for sign up is **June 6, 2008**. I have been given information that the campground (Liberty Harbor) is being torn down in 2009 and condos are going up, so this will be the last time we will have access to a campground this close to New York and the cost for one too far away would only cause higher costs in transportation and other costs associated with traveling from the campground into New York for the shows and tours. We may change the maximum sign up to **54 people (1 bus)** in order to get the best seating at the shows. I need to submit the request this month for show tickets and there are no refunds on tickets once you purchase.

**Deadline for submissions** to the **Recipe Contest** and **Chapter Contest "Exceptional Service Award" is May 31<sup>st</sup>**.

For our American Idol fans it was a real surprise to see Michael Johns voted off! For another surprise, watch the show on May 21 & 22 to see our own members, Jan & Charles Alphonso attending! Maybe they will give us a wave or say hello.

*"While we have the gift of life, it seems to me the only tragedy is to allow part of us to die—whether it be our spirit, our creativity, or our glorious uniqueness."  
(Gildna Radner (1946-1989) Comedian)*

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