



GREETINGS FROM GULF STREAMERS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

It has been a while since my last E-News, so thought it was time to update everyone on the happenings at the Gulf Streamers office. First of all, I am sure most of you have heard that Les Potteiger fell and broke his hip. He received a hip replacement and while in recovery, he was diagnosed with blocked arteries in his heart. He has gone through a successful bypass surgery and as of Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, he was doing great and expects to be moved to a physical therapy facility for seven or eight days. This has made Jean and the rest of his family very happy. I expect him to be good or better than new after his therapy has been completed – he is too ornery to let something like this hold him back! I told Jean with a new hip and all the other parts of his body that he has worked on lately, that she and I won't be able to keep up with him. He even has a new "Biomet" hip. I wonder if he picked his out when we toured "Biomet" at our Back Home in Indiana Rally, just in case he needed it. I know he and Jean appreciate all the support and prayers, along with the cards that they have received. If this is the first you know of Lester's mishap and ultimate heart bypass surgery, you may call his cell (540-220-7649) or Jean's cell (540-834-8211). To send a card the address is Potteiger, 13103 Trapp Dr., Spotsylvania, VA, 22553.

Many of you know my daughter Jessica Cooper who assists me at rallies. We currently arrived home from the Summer Pre-Rally in Newport Oregon. Newport is a wonderful place to visit, while the rest of the US was experiencing 110 heat index, the weather was windy and some days cool. The view of the Pacific Ocean with all the fishing boats was breathtaking. The Port of Newport Campground has a very busy clientele, with areas of interest such as the Rogue Brewery and Oregon Coast Aquarium practically in their back yards, made for easy access to entertainment. Our meeting room was "cozy" to say the least, but most of our attendees handled it with ease and everyone seemed to get their fill of seafood as you could buy it almost everywhere. I never did make it around McDonalds to see if they had drive through or carry out as I was told, but would not be surprised if they did. This was Jess' last rally for a while. She has moved to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, where she is attending college at IPFW, studying for a nursing degree. I will miss her and I am sure some of you who have spent time with her at the rallies will miss her. Julie Fleurantin has taken her place at our Streamers building to help with all the jobs that Jess did for us, and to help Leslie and Jenn with rally mailers and other Streamers business. If you are in the area, stop at the Streamers building to meet her. Leslie and Jenn are doing great! Jenn is getting ready for her oldest daughter, Alexa to start school and ride the school bus. This is always a big moment for a mother when her oldest gets on the bus for the first time. Leslie is doing a great job with the Main

Stream, and is pursuing additional training on the proofreading and grammar section. She is very dedicated to the magazine, since she has no children yet, you could say it is her "baby". Send your comments and suggestions regarding the Main Stream to her, I know she will love hearing them!

Back Home in Indiana recently held June 18-24, 2007, had a great turnout, 203 RVs at final count. I think everyone went away a few pounds heavier. There will be many Chapter recaps and pictures in the Fall issue of the Main Stream and on the website. Check these out if you attended to find your pictures, or if you did not, to see what fun you missed. We are reviewing the rally recap surveys that were received. Many of the suggestions will be implemented for the 2008 rally. We are looking for suggestions on entertainment and games. If you have an entertainer that you would recommend or a game that you or your chapter have played, send information to me, and we will look at using it for a future rally.

The Elkhart County Fairgrounds advised me that someone (possibly in site 230, 231 or that general area), may have taken a 4 plug adapter by mistake. They have charged Gulf Streamers International for the adapter but said if we could have the adapter returned to them, they would refund the charge. This adapter will only work at their facilities. For the person who stated that FMCA had a great parking program set up, I would like to have more detail to see about inputting for the 2008 rally. Please e-mail or send by regular mail a person at FMCA I could contact for the way it was organized. Many have reported they would pay more for the 50AMP hook-ups, so we will look at implementing a higher fee for anyone who requests 50AMP. I am also concerned about the e-mails and notes I received from some first timers who said they felt there were a lot of clichés in the club and that the seat saving was very hurtful and embarrassing to them. Some of them have recommended a dinner seating for a couple of dinners so that everyone mingles, instead of seat saving. I guess one group was actually "saving" 40 seats at one dinner. It is not the intention of the International Office to make anyone feel unwanted. I think most of experienced enough of this treatment in high school and even in college. Since the chapters are currently parking together, maybe one of the ways they could mingle more would be at dinners. Just some "food" for thought for those of you "saving" those seats. If we implement the higher cost for the 50AMP, the parking of the chapters may have to be looked at. I am open to any suggestions on parking/site improvements.

Family Rally in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee was cancelled due to low sign up.

Portland Maine Lighthouse & Lobsters has 34 RVs signed up and 70 people attending. Rally agenda and

welcome letter should be up on the website soon and mailed to our members attending. We were planning to have Lester & Jean attend since we cancelled their reservation for the Grand Circle Caravan beginning August 24. Les' doctor could not release him for the caravan after his hip surgery and now that he had the heart bypass surgery, we are targeting Branson for their participation.

Branson Christmas Rally to be held November 12-17, 2007, only has 12 signups. This rally will be cancelled if we do not receive more sign-ups. Cut off date is September 14, but we need to plan menu's, buses, etc., and sometimes their deadlines are a lot earlier than the cut-off date. Also, keep in mind you get the best show seats when you can reserve early. There are no refunds on the tickets for the shows, so in order to reserve, I have to have an idea of how many to ask for. If you are at all interested, please send your deposit ASAP, so we don't have to cancel. This will be the last rally that discounts will be offered for chapter officers and members. With the 12 signups we are already showing \$2002.50 as discounts being absorbed by the International Office. We may open this rally up to SOB's, if not enough interest from our Gulf Streamers.

Beginning in 2008, all chapter discounts will be discontinued, along with discounts on Streamwear and rallies. We will still offer Chapter Officers free membership to the International Club as long as they are active officers. We have cashed in over \$12,000 gift certificates since the start of the program.

Tampa Buddy Rally in January 15-20, 2008, is posted on the website and will be included in the fall issue of the Main Stream. If you have a friend, neighbor or family member who owns another brand of RV, this is a rally to invite them to. We will also be sending out invitations to some of our Gulf Streamers who purchased other brands. If you know of someone you would like for us to invite, please e-mail their name and address. We will be glad to mail them an application. Since we are arriving as a group, we are allowed into the RV parking area on the 15<sup>th</sup>, the show starts on the January 16<sup>th</sup>. Some of the streamers have also asked that this rally be a way to have a reunion with their Alaskan Caravan attendees. If you are a member who went on the Alaskan Caravan, please send me the names and addresses to invite. The list is held by Adventure Caravan since it was organized by them.

Las Vegas Rally to be held April 21-25, 2008, at the Lake Meade RV Park will be complete and posted on the website in the next few weeks.

New York, October 6-10, 2008, is almost completed and will be posted on the website in the next few weeks. If you are interested in either of these rallies, please send your name in to hold for notice of when the application will be ready and you will be the first mailed the application to get your deposits in.

Interesting new item, although a little expensive is "Hug Shirt". It uses a Bluetooth technology to send and receive embraces. Wearing a Hug Shirt, the sender hugs

herself. Sensors in the shirt send the data (hug pressure, skin temperature, heart rate, length of hug), to the receiver's phone, which relays it to his shirt, replicating the sensation. The shirt isn't out yet, but should be out at year's end for a few hundred dollars. ([www.cutecircuit.com](http://www.cutecircuit.com)). (Suzanne!)

Interesting websites to visit:

[www.gaspricewatch.com](http://www.gaspricewatch.com) – find the cheapest gas near you.

[www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) – an urban legend debunker to help you check the veracity of those "Chicken-boy found in cave! Or business cards requested by young man named Craig Shergold, Sherwood, etc. and other e-mail forwards.

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) – a citizen-written encyclopedia, with entries you'll never find in Britannica.

[www.dealcatcher.com](http://www.dealcatcher.com) – run by folks with nothing better to do than scour the Internet for sales.

Check out the newly designed Gulf Stream Coach Website and send in your comments. The club is located under any of the product lines. For example, click on Class C and look for the RV Club across the top. Click to enter the Streamers website reflecting updates on rallies, new photos posted, chapter updates, etc.

*"Belief Is All You Need"* A man was lost while driving through the country. As he tried to read a map, he accidentally drove off the road and into a ditch. Though he wasn't injured, his car was stuck deep in the mud. So the man walked to a nearby farm to ask for help.

"Warwick can get you out of that ditch," said the farmer, pointing to an old mule standing in a field. The man looked at the haggard mule and looked at the farmer who just stood there repeating, "Yep, old Warwick can do the job." The man figured he had nothing to lose. The two men and Warwick made their way back to the ditch.

The farmer hitched the mule to the car. With a snap of the reins he shouted, "Pull, Fred! Pull, Jack! Pull, Ted! Pull, Warwick!" And the mule pulled the car from the ditch with very little effort.

The man was amazed. He thanked the farmer, patted the mule and asked, "Why did you call out all of those other names before you called Warwick?"

The farmer grinned and said "Old Warwick is just about blind. As long as he believes he's part of a team, he doesn't mind pulling."

*Adapted from Some Folks Feel the Rain Others Just Get Wet*  
James W. Moore - Dimensions

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