



MOTOR CITIES  
WINNIES  
MICHIGAN

## GRAND NATIONAL RALLY 2017

### JULY NEWSLETTER 2017 Vol. 43/Issue 7

The 2017 Grand National Rally (GNR) began on Monday, July 17 and ran through Saturday, July 22 in Forest City, Iowa. The theme for this year was "Welcome to Fabulous Winnebago." Sixteen members from MCW attended the rally. Not pictured are Bob and Melinda Dunn, Bert Ruth, and Marie Van Hart.



Left: Bill Battle & Buster

Right: Ron Atkinson & Judy Ruth



Left: Steve Van Hart & Bev Garcia

Right: Pam & Phil Scramlin



Left: Skip Yates, Gail Battle, Nancy Yates, Janet Atkinson

Right: Phil Scramlin & Bob Garcia





## Chapter of Excellence Award

During GNR, MCW received our Chapter of Excellence Award for 2017, and we have earned this award every year since 2011. Congratulations to MCW! To earn this award, WIT has 20 different criteria that must be met. For example, the club must participate in a Show and Tell, send a list of officers to our WIT Area Reps, at least one member must attend GNR, etc.



## Motor Cities Winnies

WIT Club is proud to honor you for your efforts  
and many years of dedication.  
Presented July 17, 2017

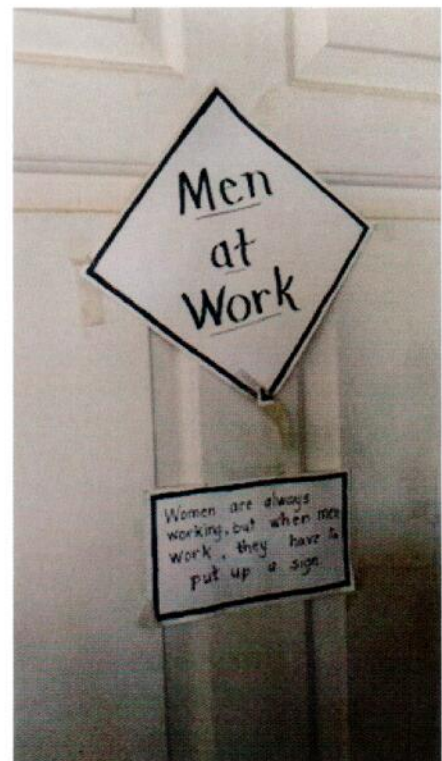
  
Consumer Engagement Manager

  
Area Representatives

### Pre-rally Events

Some of the activities that were arranged through WIT for pre-rally were an Amish Country Tour near Oelwein, Iowa and a "SPAMTown" USA Tour.

Some of the stops on the Amish trip included a produce auction, farm tour, bakery, and a home cooked Amish meal. Yum that sure was good! The sign at the right was at an Amish woodworking shop, and several of the women on the tour thought that the sign was worth a picture. MCW women, do you agree?





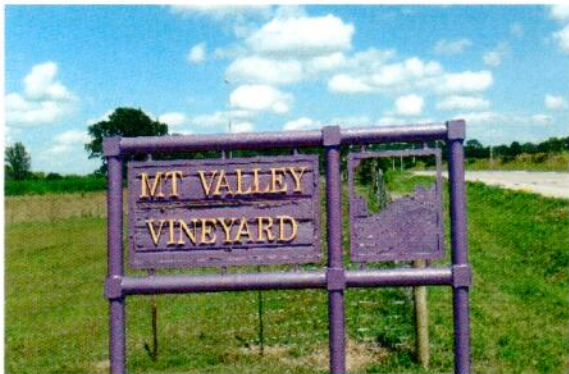


The Spam Museum is located in Austin, Minnesota, which is about 60 miles north of Forest City. There are around 20 different varieties of Spam. Who would have guessed that there were so many? Some of the different kinds of Spam include classic, garlic, black pepper, and Jalapeño.

### **Puckerbrush Days**

Forest City's annual Puckerbrush Days celebration ran from Thursday, July 13 through Sunday, July 16. Some of the events for Puckerbrush included a parade, fireworks, a 1900 Memory Lane, vineyard tour, the Brick Street Theatre play "The Little Shop of Horrors," the Flight Breakfast, and the Heritage Festival at Heritage Park. There was fun had by all!

On Saturday, July 15, there was a home tour called the 1900 Memory Lane, which was a self-guided tour of 5 Victorian homes, an 1874 Trinity church, which had gospel quartet performances, and a 1900 Mansion Museum complete with three floors of area memorabilia.



Wine tasting was available at the Mt. Valley Vineyard on Saturday, July 15 through Monday, July 17.



There were fireworks at Pammel Park on Saturday, July 15, which lasted for about a half hour, and there were a lot of oos and ahs.





During Puckerbrush, the Forest City Police Department cooked an all you can eat omelet breakfast at the Municipal Airport. Besides serving omelets, there were muffins and orange juice. The proceeds from the Flight Breakfast were donated to the local police. There were so many people who went for breakfast that they ran out of muffins and eggs but someone went to the store and saved the day by buying more eggs.



On Sunday, July 16, Heritage Park, which is adjacent to the Winnebago grounds held their annual Heritage Festival. The park has a black smith shop, a railroad museum, a gas station, a jail, and an antique transportation museum just to name a few of the buildings on site. There were various demonstrations including grain threshing, and log sawing.





## Opening Ceremony

Consumer Engagement Manager, Denise Hagen with the WIT singers in the background provided the welcome to WIT members on Tuesday, July 18. The MIL-WIT color guard provided the flag raising ceremony.



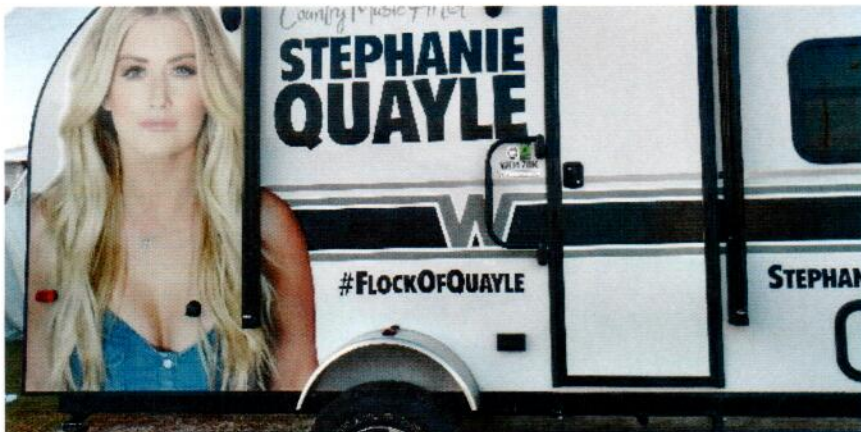
## Lichtsinn RV



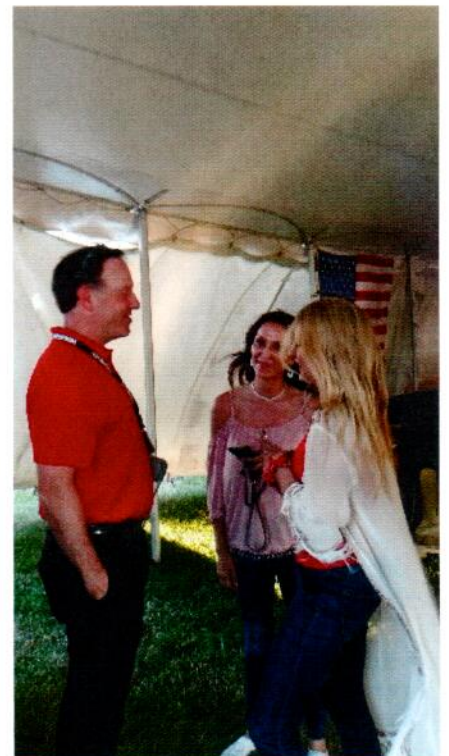
Lichtsinn RV in Forest City held several events at their dealership during GNR. Hope Lichtsinn presented the drawing winner, Marie Van Hart with the \$500.00 parts gift certificate.



## Evening Entertainment



Country Music Singer, Stephanie Quayle provided entertainment on Monday, July 17, and after the show, she spoke with Winnebago President and CEO, Mike Happe.





Elvis impersonator, Brad Boice and the Ultimate Legends were the entertainment on Tuesday, July 18.



The Arch Allies were to perform on Wednesday, July 19 but the show was cancelled due to storms earlier in the day. All the tents on the grounds were closed until the tent company could inspect/fix them the following morning. The sunset over the Winnebago grounds is the calm after the storms.



Row Party was held on Thursday, July 20, and the music was provided by the Malek's Fisherman Band. Earlier in the day the Row Decorating Contest was judged, and Michigan won first place in the 15-39 RVs category. The prize was \$100.00 for the Water Wonderland Winnies (WWW). Congratulations to Judy Ruth and those who assisted her with the 'Chapel of Wedded Bliss.'







The Duttons from Branson, Missouri provided the entertainment on Friday, July 21.



## 2018 Theme

At the conclusion of announcements on Friday, July 14, Director of Marketing, Chad Reece and Denise Hagen unveiled the 2018 GNR theme, 'Red, White & W.'





## **Closing Ceremony**

Denise Hagen gave closing remarks during the closing ceremony plus the WIT Singers provided the music. MIL-WIT conducted the flag lowering ceremony.



## **Forest City Area Attractions**

The Grotto of the Redemption is located in West Bend, Iowa about 40 miles west of Forest City. The Grotto is a monumental structure of ornamental rocks, and it covers an entire city block. Father Paul Dobberstein began construction on the Grotto, which is a shrine to honor the Blessed Mother in 1912 and worked on it until his death in 1954.





## Freedom Rock in Lake Mills, Iowa



Ray "Bubba" Sorensen II has created 63 freedom rocks so far in Iowa in order to boost tourism and to thank the veterans. He plans to have a mural in all 99 Iowa counties by the end of 2023.



**REMINDER:** If you haven't already paid your dues, please send your check for \$15.00 made payable to MCW to Pam Scramlin at 15651 Schultz; Clinton Twp., MI 48038



## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### AUGUST

Jim Theut	25	Mike and Leslie Ostin	8/19/72	45 years
Jerri Rose	29	Bob and Bev Garcia	8/23/69	48 years
		Skip and Nancy Yates	8/23/69	48 years
		Bill and Gail Battle	8/29/64	53 years



# CALENDAR 2017

August 13,14	Markin Glen County Park 5300 N. Westnedge Avenue Kalamazoo, MI Call for your own reservations, and tell them you're with Motor Cities Winnies. 269-383-8778 Wagon Masters Loves & Yates
September 15-17	Fall State Campout Branch County 4-H Fairgrounds 262 Sprague Street Coldwater, MI
October 27-29	Jellystone RV Park 1339 Weiss Street Frankenmuth, MI Call for your own reservations, and tell them you're with Motor Cities Winnies. 989-652-6668
December 2	Christmas Party, lunch at noon Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall 108 E. Main Street Northville, MI

## Motor Cities Winnies Chapter Officers

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**Photographer - Bill Battle**

**Historian - George Krec**

**Webmaster - Bev Garcia**