



# Vintage Bird Words

January—February, 2010

[WWW.VINTAGEBIRDS.COM](http://WWW.VINTAGEBIRDS.COM)

At our Gadsden Rally there were several members who were attending their first Vintage Bird Rally. Martha Pszyk and Pan Fesi had just purchased their coach three weeks earlier. The rally was a great opportunity for new members to meet other owners and have a myriad of questions answered. In light of this opportunity, we asked Katie Martin and Joe Begeman from Missouri, who were first timers, to write about the rally from their view point. Below are their thoughts.

## OUR FIRST RALLY

Do you remember what it was like the first day of High School? Did we wear the right clothes, did our hair look just right, did we say the right things, and are we going to like this school?

Well, we came to Gadsden, Alabama to our first Vintage Birds Rally with the same apprehension and concerns. And we were pleasantly surprised with the whole experience. We accomplished a lot of firsts at this rally due to the careful planning of our gracious hosts, Mark and Kathy Ragsdale. They along with all the other members made us feel welcomed and part of the fold.

We had our first time eating coleslaw and corn bread together and greens at the Top “O” the River restaurant. Wow I could get used to that food.

We attended our first Vintage Birds business meeting and had the pleasure to vote for the first time as members. We now know more of the inner working of the organization. While there were a couple of serious moments at the meeting, election of officers and the increase in dues, the meeting was mostly fun with a lot of laughing.

Mark and Kathy did an outstanding job putting together the rally. They gave us our first glimpse of the Talladega Race Track and the Hall of Fame. Our tour guide was none other than the manager of the track.

Another first came when we toured an entrepreneurs company, Unique Motors that builds Cobra replica race cars and quality show cars. I believe he answered all our questions and was so kind to let all of us bombard his work place. Friday evening we went to First Friday in Gadsden where the city closes off six blocks of Main Street, then turns the street over to specialty cars, musicians, sidewalk performers and street vendors. What’s not to love about an evening car show complete with antique tractors and a car made out of a casket.

Joe and I had a chance to drive around the area and enjoyed seeing Noccalula falls. We were lucky enough to watch a photographer take pictures of a beautiful bride on her wedding day using the Falls and a nearby chapel as a backdrop.

We thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the Ol’ Birds in one location and being able to talk with all of you about the thrill and fun of owning and caring for the Blue Birds. I’m sure sometime in the near future we will make it to another rally.

## **RALLIES**

### **Vintage Birds Chapter**

NORTH FLORIDA & SOUTH GEORGIA, APR 18 – MAY 1, 2010. Area history from 1850 to 1920. Events too numerous to list here. Early interest requested to bobgiffin@msn.com

OREGON HIGHWAYS, AUG 1- 6, 2010. “The Spruce Goose”, space museum, Chateau Benoit Winery tour & lunch. Tillamook cheese factory tour, Naval Air Museum, Casino, & Outlet Mall. Whale watching, Newport Aquarium, sea lion caves, shopping, Rogue River Jet boat trip & dinner. Early interest requested to Lynne Chauncey 503-645-2812

HERSHEY, PA, OCT 7-10, 2010. Auto show, capital tour, etc. Shane Fedeli 717-645-4912

NEW ORLEANS WEEKEND, OCT 28-31, 2010. More fun than the law allows. Info later.

### **Blue Bird Chapter**

AMISH COUNTRY, MULLERSBURG, OH, JUN 13 – 16, 2010. Scenic Hills RV. Only 20 spaces available. Early interest requested to Paul Spear 740-629-7336

### **Louisiana/Mississippi Blue Birders**

No rallies scheduled at this time. Contact Roy Zanca – rzanca2@bellsouth.net

### **Lone Star Birds**

LOUISIANA, FEB 2010, Marti Gras rally. Details later

### **Pacific Northwest Bluebirds**

TOKELAND, WA, LATE MAY, 2010, dates later, beach sites on the Pacific, potluck dinner, hosted breakfast, location entertains, Bob Griesel- 360-866-0406

### **Southwest Blue Birds**

QUARTZITE, AZ, JAN 16-24, 2010, Flea market, RV everything, four wheeling, barbecue, dry camping. Contact Phil Corpus – southwest-bluebirds.org

### **Wanderlodge Owners Group Forum**

MAXTON, NC, APR 8-12, 2010. Land Speed Races, Call John Finn 803-783-7137

MYRTLE BEACH, SC, APR 13-18, 2010, Birds at the Beach, Ocean Lakes Camp Ground. Call 877-510-1413

RATS RALLY, PINE MOUNTAIN, GA, OCT 20-24, 2010, totally relaxed, potlucks, walk about techs. Pine Mountain RV Resort. Call 706-663-4329

# Reliving History 1850—1925 in Florida and South Georgia

When: April 18, 2010 until April 30, 2010

Where: Starts in Titusville Florida at “The Great outdoors” There will be two Campgrounds stops in between. And ends in Thomasville Georgia at “The Sugar Mill Campground”

Due to Campground limitations the Rally is limited to 40 Coaches. (At this point some twenty coaches have already asked to be on the list to go.) We plan to begin registration on Jan. 5, 2010, and registrations will be accepted based on postmark dates *after* Jan. 5, 2010. This rally is the same format as the Lewis & Clark Rally in 2004. There will be no “Free Days” except time left over on the three move days. The moves are less than 200 Miles each.

If you are interested in going and would like a detailed itinerary Email me at bobgiffen@msn.com I will gladly send you an itinerary.

**Those trying to make this rally enjoyable are  
Bob & Chris Giffen, Richard & Sue Ramsey, Bill & Sherry Lardin**

## Who’s Registering?

<hr/>			
Last Name In Coach	First Name	Spouse	Guest
<hr/>			
Address	City	State	Zip Code
<hr/>			
Cell Phone Y/N	E-Mail	Handicap Parking	
<hr/>			
Length	Slides	#Pets	VB#

### Costs:

Coach and 1 Person \$540.00

Coach and 2 Persons \$750.00

Extra person \$210.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

Bob Giffen  
5450 River oaks Dr.  
Titusville, FL 32780

## CHAPTER OFFICERS & ADMINISTRATORS

### **President**

Charles McKeehan  
423-887-3177  
[charlesmc@bellsouth.net](mailto:charlesmc@bellsouth.net)

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## **RALLY LISTING & RESPONSE**

Because Vintage Birds is an international chapter, having members throughout North America, our rallies tend to be far flung. To better help members plan their travels; our newsletter encourages rally hosts to list rallies as early as possible, preferably a year in advance. Two of the rallies listed in this issue, the Florida/ Georgia History Rally and the Oregon Highways Rally are "rolling rallies" and require more intense planning and logistics. Bob Giffin and Lynne Chauncey have requested early notice of anyone interested in their rallies. Contact them as soon as you can. Our Oregon rally precedes the International FMCA Convention in Redmond, Oregon on August 11 to 14. The Blue Bird Chapter Amish Country Rally in Mullersburg, Ohio was a huge success several years ago, but now there are only twenty spaces available. Paul Spear has asked that anyone interested contact him early to get on the rally list.



## APPLICATION FOR VINTAGE BIRD CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

In December of 1984, the Vintage Birds Chapter of FMCA was chartered for owners of older Blue Bird Wanderlodge Coaches. To be eligible for membership, you must first be a member in good standing of FMCA. Then you must own a Blue Bird Wanderlodge or BMC five years old or older. For example, a 2000 coach would be eligible in the fall of 2004 when the 2005 models go on sale. If after joining the Chapter, should you purchase a later model Wanderlodge, you may still remain a member of the Chapter. The purpose of the Chapter is to provide a forum for exchange of ideas concerning the maintenance or modification of Blue Bird Wanderlodge Coaches or BMC. The Chapter will also provide fellowship among owners, conduct interesting and affordable rallies. The Chapter will publish a newsletter for the purpose of providing Chapter, social and technical information on Blue Bird Wanderlodge and BMC.

The initiation fee is \$30.00. This will cover your Chapter name badges and the first year's dues. After the first year the Annual Dues are \$15.00

Please Print and Send check for \$30.00 with this application to:

Bob Dilks  
HC 70 Box 1305  
Kingston, OK 73439

First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Names on badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Make, Model and Year of coach: \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_

I am a paid up member of FMCA and wish to become a member of the  
Vintage Birds Chapter.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**This is for those who attended the Lewis & Clark rally in 2004.**

It seems that several old friends from that rally would enjoy having dinner with you at Paul's Steak on the river in Titusville, FL. On the 17th of April 2010 so if you will be in the area contact Bob Giffen at 321-269-3414 or bobgiffen@msn.com to make your reservation. Bob would like to see you again.

**THANK YOU VINTAGE BIRDS**

**FROM KATHY LAWRENCE**

I was very surprised when I received the plaque in the mail and it hangs in a place of honor directly over my computer. The gift certificate will go toward buying something that also reminds me of a very nice group of folks.

Although I was not with Harvey when Vintage Birds began, I soon learned to appreciate and love the group as much as he does. Keeping the Birds home page interesting for everyone was both a learning experience and a labor of love. Though I know we are not alone in our pride of the Vintage Birds and what it has grown to be, few can know more satisfaction than we do with its 25 years of existence.

Thank you for all your kindness.

**BUZZYS  
BILLBOARD**

**1987 BLUEBIRD WANDERLODGE  
PT40 8V92**

**It has always been under cover when not on the road. It has been completely detailed & fully serviced every year. This coach was purchased in 1990 with 7,000 miles from Harvey Mitchell, Tampa Florida. We were the 2nd owner.**

**100,00 miles**

**4000 Wt inverter/charger**

**With auto generator start**

**10 bank battery set, All new washer/dryer, refrigerator, icemaker, back up tv**

**Largest roof trunk, 50# freezer**

**20" color TV entertainment center in bay**

**Car haul trailer available**

**DVD, VCR**

**\$68,500**

**Ed Wentzel**

**828-389-4494**

**Cell phone 941-400-4131**

**1986 Bluebird Wanderlodge**

**38 ft pusher, Blue & Cream**

**Detroit Diesel Engine V 92**

**153,826 miles**

**14k Diesel Generator (4 cyl)**

**Air Compressor, storage pod**

**3 AC/s**

**Corian counter tops and table top**

**Parquet floor in kitchen**

**Convertible couch**

**Twin beds, Musical horns and**

**Doorbell, Lots of storage inside/out**

**\$55,000- rated at \$65,000 on**

**insurance policy**

**Jean Steltz**

**914-466-3019**

**845-336-8709**

## BUZZYS BILLBOARD cont.

### Parts needed for a 1984 PT40 with a 6V92

Bay door 45' L X 29" H, Roof AC unit  
Kohler 12.5 KW voltage regulator  
Alternator bracket for a second alternator on a 6V92, Hydraulic fan motor, Fan/PS  
Bendix air throttle cable and cylinder  
12V alternator & bracket for the kohler/Perkins engine  
30,000 btu Webesto or Espar diesel water heater  
Ken Doyle  
Cell (301) 908-5735  
Email Ken.hvac-serve@att.net



**1983 Blue Bird Wanderlodge 35 ft F.C.**  
**3208 Cat Blue/Cream—awnings**  
**Twin beds, generator, Rear bath,**  
**dining booth, 2 A.C.**  
**Located in Jasper, GA**  
**\$25,000**  
**770-735-3580**  
**Dolores Veazey**

### 1993 WANDERLODGE

8V92 rebuilt engine  
Side isle—walnut interior  
All Bluebird options plus  
3 TV's in-motion-satellite— w/d  
Health forces sale  
79,900 or best offer  
404-808-3331 or  
jjdubac@etcmail.com

**1992 BLUE BIRD SP36**  
**Cat 300 HP Turbo 98 k miles**  
**Queen island bed**  
**Loaded w/options and storage**  
**New tires, refrig. & batteries**  
**\$79,900**

**Dave Shockey (352) 787-3003**  
**Cell phone (440) 487-5975**  
**TheShockeys@Earthlink.net**

**REDUCED**

### 1990 BLUEBIRD WANDERLODGE 40 WB 8V92

**Tires & batteries 1 year, lifetime air filter**  
**New refrigerator & icemaker**  
**Ultra leather captain and co-pilot seats**  
**Exterior gray/silver/mauve**  
**\$70,000**  
**(352) 638-2247**

### 1990 BlueBird SP 36 Silver Anniversary Model

84,000 Miles  
Cat 300 HP Turbo  
Queen Island Bed, New Refrigerator, batteries,  
flat screen TV, hot water tank, front tires, auxiliary air compressor, satellite  
Silver & Burgundy exterior . with grey interior  
\$65,000  
Stored indoors, no pets or smoking  
Call Gary Myles (440)-463-3540

**VINTAGE BIRDS**  
**Andrea Dixon**  
**P.O. Box 1000**  
**Paintsville, KY 41240**



**ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION**  
**ANNUAL DUES INCREASED TO \$15**

At the Vintage Birds business meeting held on October 1, 2009 at the River Country Camp Ground in Gadsden, Alabama the members unanimously voted to increase the annual dues to \$15. Effective immediately, dues payable to Vintage Birds will \$15. Those members who provide applications should change the application wording to show the initiation fee is \$30.