



SOI News

Fall 2004

Scamp Owners International

Volume VI Number 4



Gene and Joan Gallmann's 2002 5th Wheel Deluxe and a 2001 Chevy S-10 during a visit to the SOI Editor on their return trip from New York where they purchased the Scamp. Photograph by K R. Cranson

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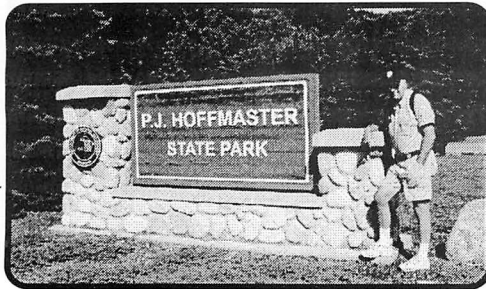
An Unusual Egg

Theodore Roosevelt NP

Modification Sheet #18

From the Editor's Desk

The summer camping season started out with a "BANG." A bunch of SOI Members gathered at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore for three days to explore this fascinating section of Lake Michigan's shoreline. It was a great time. Many attending were looking forward to the National ScampCamp in Iowa and some were planning to go to the Blue Ridge gathering in October.



Rod Cranson Editor

Visiting one of Michigan's great state parks along the Lake Michigan Shoreline. (see page 4)

It's that time of year again - **SOI Membership Renewal!** The 2005 form is enclosed with an envelope. Please return it before December 1. As most of you know, SOI is run by volunteers and anything that members can do to assist is greatly appreciated. One easy way you can help is to get your 2005 Membership in before the Winter issue of the *SOI News* is ready to mail. This saves much time and work of sending out back issues. Why not do it today? Thanks!

Alice Vernezze has completed the first edition of the *SOI Cookbook* and it is ready to mail. It contains many great recipes submitted by SOI Members from across the country. It occurred to me that it would make a great holiday gift - maybe for that person who is hard to buy for or has everything. You will find an order form enclosed with all the details of how to place your order with Alice. **Sharon Cranson** has also suggested that members might like to order SOI Wear for Christmas gifts (see the inclosed flier).

Dan Meyer, the SOI Webmaster, reported that our web site gets about 220 visits a day. The top three pages are the main page, sclassified and photos. And, he has also noticed another interesting development, the official Scamp's web site (www.scamptrailers.com) now has a link to the SOI site (www.ScampCamper.com)! It has been

a fantastic help in letting people know about our Scamp group, often producing several new membership applications a week. A **Big SOI THANKS** to Dan for all his work in maintaining the site.

The Summer issue included a small advertisement with a request for SOI Members to comment. To date, I have received 3 responses - one negative, one positive and one neutral with the caution that ads should be limited to products that Scamp owners might find useful. After careful examination of all this data, my conclusion is 'no one cares one way or the other.' AH - another great research project goes down in flames!

I would like to extend a big SOI THANKS to **Ivan and Helen Moore**, St. Johns, MI for the enclosed Modification Sheet. It is a great idea that many SOI Members are excited about. I continue to be impressed by the creative and ingenious modifications that SOI Members have made to their Scamps. Is it possible that you have made an interesting (unique?) change in your trailer? If so, how about sharing it with other members?

Once again it's my sad duty to report that an SOI Member has passed away - **Cliff Parker** from Jackson, MI. **Joanne**, his wife, notified me that he died on May 31. They had just purchased a new 5th Wheel and Dodge Dakota and had lots of plans for travel, but his health intervened.

Best regards . . . *Rod*

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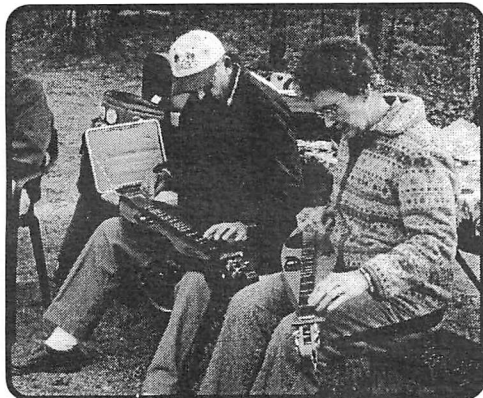
e-mail: rcranson@sbcglobal.net

Sleeping Bear Dunes ScampCamp

June 2-5, 2004

The weather was rainy and cold when we arrived at the Platte River campground on May 31 to set-up our Scamp for the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore ScampCamp. The next day (June 1) was a little better, but the weather forecast didn't include a favorable outlook for the balance of the week. And that evening, as those who had arrived early gathered for a campfire, it rained some more and the temperature dropped like a rock. The entire event could easily have gone down in the record books as a "washout!"

The next morning, however, dawned bright and clear. It was still cool, but the sun lifted everyone's spirits. Throughout the day more Scamps arrived and by 5 pm 32 SOI Members were camped in 18 Scamps and a Love Bug. There was lots of greetings and renewing of old friendships as everyone prepared for the "get acquainted" hot dog potluck around the campfire. As usual, the food overflowed the available space and several smaller tables were set-up to accommodate all the "goodies." After everyone had "stuffed" themselves, Dick and Barb Bell got out their dulcimers and other instruments for some great musical entertainment (one of two concerts they did during the gathering).



Dick and Barb Bell entertain around the campfire with a great selection of musical treats on their dulcimers.



Sleeping Bear Dunes ScampCamp participants gather on a bright sunny morning for the traditional group portrait at the Platte River Campground Amphitheater. Photographs by K R. Cranson

The next day was dedicated to exploring Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (see *SOI News*, Spring 2004). A suggested itinerary that featured some of the highlights of the park was provided for anyone who had not visited the area before. We started off with a stop at the Visitors Center in Empire to view the exhibits and a slide presentation. Continuing on north; a tour of the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive provided a great overview of the dunes, Lake Michigan and the various ecosystems represented in the lakeshore. A bit farther along was the famous Dune Climb, a place that those with lots of energy could challenge one of the high sand dunes - and some did!

As noon approached we drove around Glen Lake into Glen Arbor for lunch and a chance to visit this small town that features many crafts. The afternoon found us visiting Port Oneida, a farming community dating back to the late 1800s. Returning back through Glen Arbor for ice cream, we made our way to the historic village of Glen Haven and then onto the Maritime Museum at Sleeping Bear Point. This old life saving station was active along Lake Michigan's Manitou Passage during the period when wood burning steamers plied the Great Lakes and on into the



Kent Wood surprises the Sleeping Bear Dunes ScampCamp with a 1970s 13-foot Love Bug that he is restoring.



Doris Lawson (R) presents a special recipe "Plain Pie" to Dale McGinnis at the last evening's potluck.

twentieth century. Interesting examples of the boats and gear used to rescue ships in distress along with fascinating displays of what life was like at a life saving station were featured. As we looked across the lake to South Manitou Island's gleaming white lighthouse, it was almost like living in those early days.

Dinner that evening was planned for the Empire Country Inn. Everyone gathered for a great time of fellowship and conversation, even though 32 was almost more than the Inn could handle. Following the meal, the traditional raffle was held with each drawing accom-

panied by a brief comment on what each person found most interesting while traveling in the park during the day. Upon returning to the campground, many gathered to chat around a campfire.

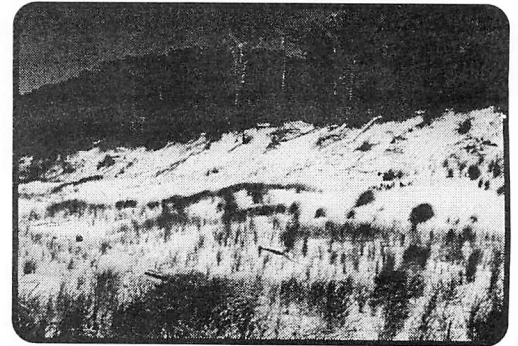
Like the first and second days, day three dawned bright, clear and cool. It was planned for free time and Scampers could choose anything they wanted to do. Many visited other Scamps to check out modifications, changes and additions that had been made. Lots of good ideas were shared and discussed. Others hiked some of the trails in the park - although Sleeping Bear is not generally known as a hiking park, it has many miles of trails. And, of course, there was planning for the final evening potluck scheduled by the campfire. Several other campers joined the fire circle for Dick and Barb's music - one of their best performances of the many they have given at ScampCamps! This last event lasted well into the evening as people said their "good byes" and promised to meet friends again at another campground when Scamps will gather.

In retrospect, the Sleeping Bear Dunes ScampCamp was a great success - and not a "washout" after all!

krc

Great Parks Hoffmaster State Park

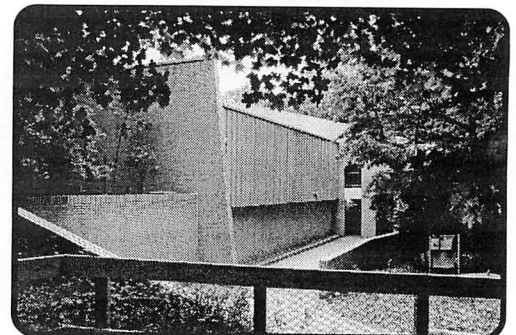
With over 1,000 acres of some of the most spectacular sand dunes in the world, Hoffmaster State Park lies along the Lake Michigan shoreline just south of Muskegon, Michigan. Nearly 3 miles of the finest sandy beaches anywhere beckons visitors from across the Midwest and far beyond. All this pristine beauty is compliments of the massive glaciers, that passed south in what is now the Lake Michigan basin, and prevailing westerly weather patterns that affect the Great Lakes region.



High, massive sand dunes form behind wide beaches along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Photographs by K R. Cranson

As these thick ice sheets moved south from Canada, they carried huge amounts of rock debris - much of it was sand sized particles. When the ice melted, all this material was left behind in a thick mantle, some places all mixed up and in other locations sorted according to size. Then, over a period of many thousands of years, as the ice left the region, the Great Lakes filled-in the



The Gillette Visitor Center is nestled among the sand dunes and is open year round.

5 basins (Michigan, Superior, Huron, Erie & Ontario) and now represent the largest accumulation of fresh water in the world.

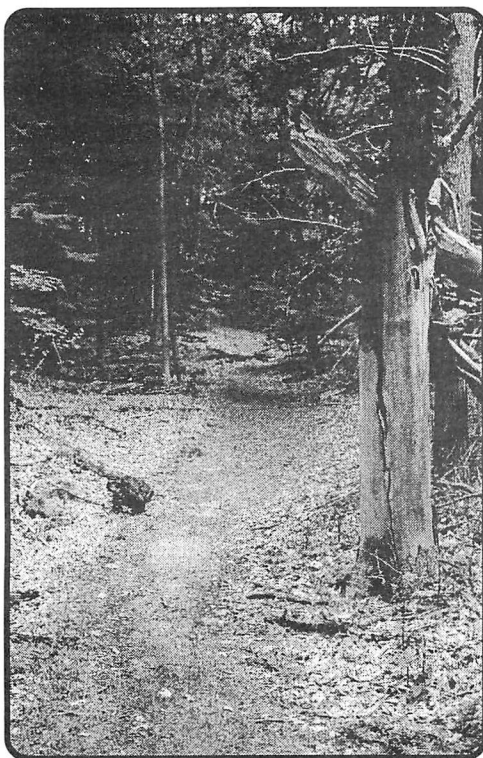
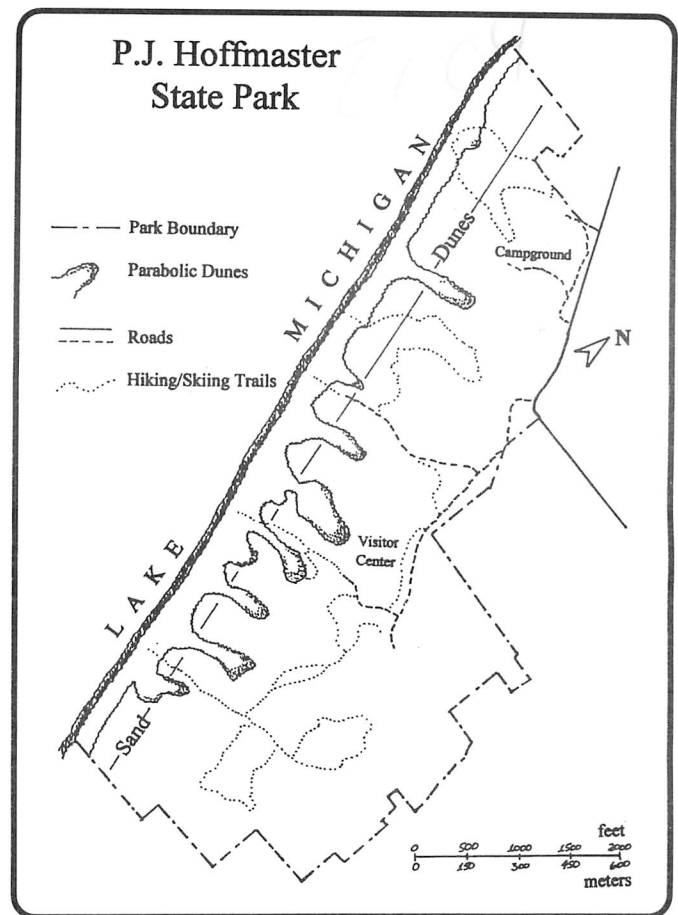
The predominate wind direction across the Midwest is west to east. In Michigan, this means the wind has a great portion of Lake Michigan to cross before encountering the western shoreline of the state. Thus, this western coast experiences strong winds much of the time which permits movement of sand sized materials. So, the "gift of the glacier" is carried onto the shore and continually pushed up into massive piles of sand known as sand dunes. At Hoffmaster State Park some of these dunes reach heights as much as 250 feet above the elevation of Lake Michigan.

While these and other dunes along Lake Michigan have been built over hundreds or thousands of years, the struggle continues even now. On the slope opposite the lake most dunes have been completely covered with trees and other plants. Those parts looking out over Lake Michigan (the western facing slopes), however, still fight the battle with the wind - sometimes losing the fight when "blowouts" destroy the

vegetation and activate the dune again. All this exciting activity can be observed throughout the park as it is happening.

To emphasize this fascinating aspect of Hoffmaster, there are more than 10 miles of trails that allow hikers to experience all sections of the park. Added to this impressive natural area is the E. Genevieve Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center. The 77-seat theater features multi-image presentations on a number of topics, including dune formation and ecology. In addition, the exhibit hall allows visitors to experience dioramas, graphics and animated displays on the origin of the Great Lakes' sand dunes.

If you would like to spend a few days in your Scamp at this outstanding state park, a 293 site campground with modern restroom/shower facilities is available. Both the campground and day use area are interconnected with the trails system to allow easy access to the Lake Michigan beach as well as other portions of the park. While the bulk of visitation occurs during the summer season, Hoffmaster is open all year and winter activities (cross country skiing, photography, camping, etc.) have gained popularity in recent years. Campground reservations can be made through Reserve America at 1-800-44-PARKS.



A portion of the Homestead Trail, one of the many trails through the the sand dunes.



JoAn's Humor

I am a retired photo journalist who now paints watercolors. I got my first Scamp in 1989. I was 60 years old before I had: 1) pulled a trailer of any kind or 2) been in a campground. My first major trip with my 13-foot Scamp was in 1990--I couldn't back it up straight nor could I hook it up or unhook it myself. But, I was determined to visit my daughter in Maine (I lived in Wisconsin at that time) so I drove 1500 miles without backing up or unhooking it until I reached my destination. I was filling up with gas for the long trip back home at a gas station in Maine. The attendant, who was a dour old "Mainer," looked at me and at my Scamp and asked if I had really pulled that all the way from Wisconsin. I quipped, "Yeah, it is my outhouse." He is probably still repeating the story.

I have been spending winters at Fun N Sun at San Benito, Texas in my 2001 16-foot Scamp for a couple years with my rat terrier, Peanut. That's fine, but I do get tired of the jokes from the folks with their mobile box cars - like "Hey, lady, I'll bet you have to go outside to change your mind, har, har." It was worse when I traveled with the 13-foot Scamp. One wag told me if I died while I was in the Scamp they would just attach handles and bury me in the trailer. I am sure we've all had our share of kidding. My pat answer is "But, mine is paid for and I have a vehicle to drive when I get someplace . . ." That usually changes the subject.

As an old "newshen" with a perverted sense of humor, I hope you will enjoy reading some of my goofy experiences. And if any of you readers have a gem you would like to share, please send it to my attention at SOI.

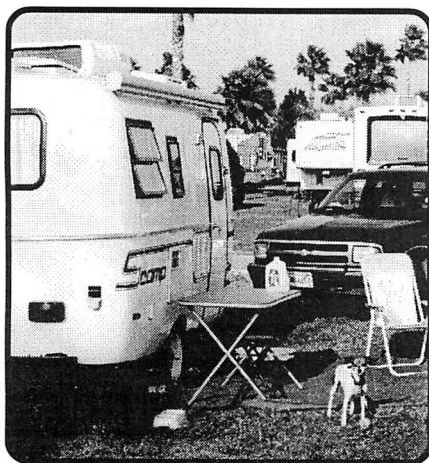
Cheers!

JoAn Melchild, Ortonville, MN.

N e w Scamp - We took our 16-foot Scamp out for the first time (in June). We love it!!! We had driven to Backus to take delivery on May 1, but

had prior commitments during the month of May and weren't able to take it camping. (Actually, we did "camp" in it in our driveway the first night we had it, but didn't figure that counted.) We read both issues of *SOI News* this past weekend while sitting by the campfire. You do a great job! We look forward to receiving future issues. We do most of our camping at Minnesota's many state parks. Not sure if you've ever camped up this way, but if not, we'd highly recommend them. We started out in a tent, bought a new Palomino pop-up in 2001, saw the Scamps at the MN State Fair and fell in love with them, ordered one, and sold our pop-up this spring. We can't wait for the Scamp Camp in Clear Lake in September. We drove to Clear Lake a few years ago to tour the Surf Ballroom and stopped again a couple of weeks ago on our way to Missouri to visit family, but have never camped there. We look forward to meeting you and other Scampers. **Deb Foster & Jill Holmes**, Hastings, MN

A Ferry Trip - The Ferry was interesting and fun to do one time. Not cheap, even at today's very high gas prices, but I must have saved about 350 miles of driving. I have been on short ferry crossings before like out near Seattle some years ago. The so called State Room that I stayed in was very small, but it was nice to have a bathroom stool near by for the evening. The Ferry left promptly at 9:00am in the morning, moving so smoothly one could not tell when it started or stopped at the docks. Interesting 50+ years of history for the ferry boat called the S.S. Badger. The only one remaining of seven that were hauling railroad cars, trucks



JoAn's 16-foot Scamp camped at the Fun-N-Sun RV park in Texas with Peanut, her rat Terrier.

and autos back in the peak days of the mid 1950s. Everyone working on the boat were just super nice, courteous, helpful and friendly. I will try to get something put together sometime from the brochure I have from the boat. All in all the whole Sleeping Bear Dunes experience was a lot of fun, thanks in big part to your efforts. **Chuck Rike**, Pine City, MN.

An International Connection - Ray Horner and Deb Stephenson's (Elkhart, IN) SOI Membership Application listed an interesting collection of unusual fiberglass trailers. They have a 1984 13' U-Haul CT, a 1985 16' U-Haul VT, and a 1988 Cadet (13'?). A little research on the web found additional information. On a web site that had a picture of their Cadet, Ray notes they are very similar to a Boler or Trillium inside, with the main difference being that the "kitchen" has the stove/fridge on the left and the sink/cupboard on the right. This is a reversal from the standard Boler or Trillium arrangement. He also noted that the Cadet came from Canada and was imported there from Poland for a few years in the mid-eighties. On another site it stated that they are still being imported into England by Freedom Caravans under the "Microlite Prima" brand name. "When our friends Pep & Missy Hartz of Mishawaka, IN pulled up with the Cadet, Deb fell in love with it. We traded the 1973 Love Bug for the 1988 Cadet." Apparently, parts are still available (from Microlite Prima) and they were willing to supply replacement parts. It really doesn't look like there have been too many changes in the past 15 years! So, it appears that small fiberglass travel trailers have an international connection. One has to wonder if Boler or some of the other early versions of small Canadian trailers share this history?

Restoration - Mary and I just started renewing of our 1977 13' Scamp. It is totally original, and we are restoring it with a few of our own ideas. We are excited about making new friends with the SOI, and we will attend to the needed preparation to be considered as new members. Our tow ve-

hicle is a 1999 Rav-4 toyota, and we are ex-diesel motor-homers, so the change to the little egg is very much a change of travel-styles, but considering the fact that we lived for a year in our 27' sailboat, this should not prove much different! We enjoy tight spaces!, AND each other! Please accept our thanks for the very well put-together web-site, and for the lovely folks involved with these wonderful travel-pods. We will be talking, and seeing you all later this summer, when our vacation time arrives. Till then, Regards, **Anthony and Mary Zarola**, Crossville Tennessee.

Oregon ScampCamp - We just got home this afternoon from the July 16-18 gathering at Bullard, Oregon. There were 71 trailers and over 130 people attending.

It was really good. Our neighbors were from Minnesota, they have a 16-foot Scamp - really nice people. To much food! Me- O- My the food was really there. Two big pot lucks. I think there was enough food to feed the whole town. They even had a Sunday morning breakfast for any one that wanted it. They had everything for breakfast. It seemed like every Scamp on the west coast was there and lots from back east. One Boler from the Northwest territories up in Canada.

Lots of California folks. Four of the SOI Members that were at the 2001 Oregon ScampCamp were there. The weather was perfect - cool and sunny. No wind. Could not be any more perfect. I presented a fire poker and hotdog roaster to Nancy Wolfe for being such a good host. She loved it. **Leon & Janice Greisen**, Medford, OR.

Another New Scamp - My husband Dave and I are first time Scamp owners. After 8 years of tent camping we finally achieved our dream of owning our egg-on-wheels. We purchased a 16-foot Scamp



Leon Greisen demonstrates his famous roaster-poker for Nancy Wolf, a gift to her for hosting the Oregon ScampCamp. Photograph by Janice Greisen

and picked it up on June 28th 2004. So far we have been only able to Scamp in relative driveways but plan on Scamping out later this month (July 2004). One of the best things I have done so far is join SOI. The newsletters are a great resource and a joy to read. Keep up the good work. We hope to make it to a Scamp Camp in 2004 but if not - definitely in 2005. Thank you for developing and maintaining the newsletter and SOI! We are proud to be new members (and look forward to meeting other members in the future.) **Kate & Dave Watling**, Pleasant Prairie, WI - Newbie SOI members and Proud Scamp Owners

Likes the Ad - Just read my SOI News this morning (Summer 2004 edition). Yes, I'm a little behind in my reading. Anyway, you asked for feedback on doing some limited advertising in the SOI News. I like it! Especially if it is focused on products that would be of interest to Scamp owners. **Beth Schneider**, Riverside, CA.

New Members - We have had a 5th Wheel Scamp for 5 years and still enjoy it. We were just up to Backus, MN to have a window replaced. They did a very nice job and did not overcharge us. Rich Bean (Scamp's part's manager) gave us a copy of the *SOI (News)* which we did not know existed. Read it on the route home, enjoyed the articles and would like to continue to receive publications. We are thinking of making reservations at Clear Lake in September. Have never attended a group gathering, so are thinking of trying it. We are self employed so have to wait until closer to date to see if we would be able to attend. We were on a month long vacation this spring to the national parks in California. No problems pulling the camper thru the mountains and received attention wherever we went.

Robert & Janice Kruse, Princeton, MN.

SOI Profile

Jerry and Mary Jayne Halkey
Loudon, TN

When you ask Jerry or Mary Jayne what year their 5th Wheel Scamp is, the answer comes back "1989-95." How can this be? Well, as it turns out, the bottom half is 1989 and the top is 1995.



This happened because their Scamp was in a big storm in 1995 - the upper portion was damaged and replaced with a new top.

Jerry grew up in Detroit and graduated from Fordson High School in 1956. He entered the Army in September of that year and served in the 101st Airborne Division. Following service, Jerry joined the Ford Motor Company in their Railroad section (Detroit) and worked there from 1965 until retirement in 1996.

Mary Jayne is also a Detroit native where she attended and graduated from Henry Ford High School in 1962. She was employed with Michigan Bell (now Ameritech/SBC) as an auditor, engineer and project manager for 30 years. She retired in 1992.

Both Jerry and Mary Jayne have a variety of interests. He makes his own wine. Painting, floral arrangements, crafting, and gardening fill Mary Jayne's spare time. Jerry works hard trying to keep "out-of-trouble" and she also is involved in that effort!

They have a daughter, son and four grandchildren. Kim, and her husband Paul live in Milford, MI - they have two girls. Dan and his wife Marian live in Livonia, MI and have a boy and girl. They enjoy traveling with their "special Scamp" and have attended most of the ScampCamps held at Highlands Hammock State Park in Sebring, Florida.

Tech Corner

Reading Your Tires

There are a bunch of numbers and letters imprinted on the sidewalls of your Scamp's (and tow vehicle too) tires. Supposedly they reveal information about the tires. But, what do they mean? This article will help you understand the nature of your tires.

Size and Performance Characteristics - The string of numbers/letters on the outer edge of a tire's sidewall may look something like this from the tires on my 1998 5th Wheel:

ST205/75R14 (89H) CARLISLE RADIAL TRAIL

Type/Width (ST205 in the example) - ST is for special trailer service, P indicates a passenger car tire, LT indicates light truck and T is for temporary. The numbers next to the letter(s) is the section width of the tire in millimeters (205 millimeters in our example).

Aspect Ratio (75) - The height of the sidewall compared to the width of the tire. In our example the 75 results from dividing the tire's height (150 mm) by its width (205 mm) to give a value of 0.75. The smaller this number, the shorter the sidewall while large numbers indicate taller sidewalls. Short sidewalls deliver crisp handling while tall sidewalls give a smoother ride.

Construction (R) - R indicates a radial construction. In bias tires, D indicates diagonal and B is for belted bias.

Tire/Wheel Size (14) - This number represents the diameter of the wheel in inches, 14 inches in our example. This number on a tire and the size of the wheel they are mounted on must match. If these are not the same, serious and dangerous consequences can result!

Load and Speed Ratings (89H) - The number indicates the maximum weight the tire can safely carry when properly inflated. The load scale ranges from a low of 60

(for 551 lbs.) to a high of 114 (2,601 lbs.). 89 in the example includes the 1,760 lb rating for my tires. The speed scale uses series of letters for various speed ratings, however there does not appear to be any obvious system to these letters. For example, the H has a rating of 130 mph. This is optional information and was not present on my Scamp's tires, but a load rating was provide elsewhere (see below).

The string may also include the letters M and S telling that the tire's tread is designed all season use.

Consumer Information - Moving down near the rim-tire contact is another set of letters and numbers, but much smaller than those on the sidewall. This information is the Uniform Tire Quality Grading (UTQG) based on a system developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Here is what I found on my Scamp:

Load Range C

Max Load 800 kg (1760 lbs.) at 350 Kba (50 lbs psi) cold

Tread: 4 plies - 2 polyester cords + 2 steel cords

Sidewall: 2 plies polyester cords

Safety Warning: mount only on 14 in rims and only qualified persons should mount tires

Inflation and Load Limit - The maximum load capacity of the tire when inflated to its maximum pressure (for passenger tires). Truck tire lists the maximum load capacity at the indicated inflation pressure. I should inflate my Carlisle tires to a maximum pressure of 50 psi and they are rated to carry a maximum load of 1760 lbs.

Plies - This number lists the number of plies in the tread and sidewalls of the tire, the materials and the DOT tire ID number. The Scamp's Carlisle Radial Trail tires have 2 polyester cords and 2 steel cords in the tread, and 2 polyester cords in the sidewalls. There was no ID number.

Treadwear - The number compares



Leon's Logic - Sharing great ideas and information is the 'Scamp-thing' to do!
Thanks to Leon Greisen, Medford, OR

the tire against a government-mandated standard that is rated 100.

Traction - This letter is a measure of how well the tire 'grips' the road. It ranges from C to AA as traction improves.

Temperature - This letter indicates the tire's ability to disperse heat build up. Again, it is represented by a range showing the tire's resistance to the buildup of heat as the grade goes from C to A.

Treadwear, Traction and Temperature information were not listed on my Scamp's tires.

There, now you know almost every secret your tires have been hiding all these years. krc

Modifications & Changes

Rain Gutters - One of the common complaints related with use of the awnings on Scamps (and other small fiberglass trailers) is the space beneath that allows rain to flow down the side of the trailer. There have been a number of solutions used and suggested to solve this problem. Common techniques include sealing the opening completely or installing something to divert the water so it does not flow beneath the awning. **Jim Townsend** and **Dennis and Teddy Law** have offered the two techniques shown here.

Water, Electrical, Solar and Propane - I haven't been happy with the fresh water fill on my Scamp since it arrived at my doorstep. About two years ago I purchased a locking fresh water fill. Since it is about 6"x 6" and flat I wasn't

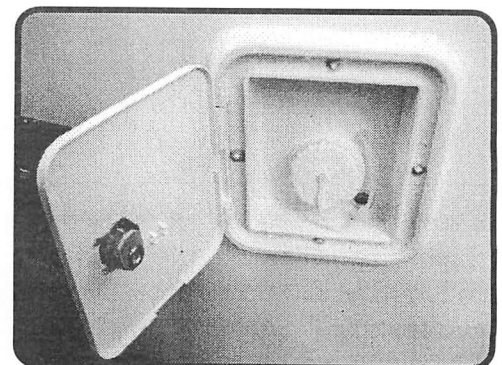


There may be as much as 1/8 inch of plumbers putty and caulk to fill the gap between the round trailer side and the straight door frame.

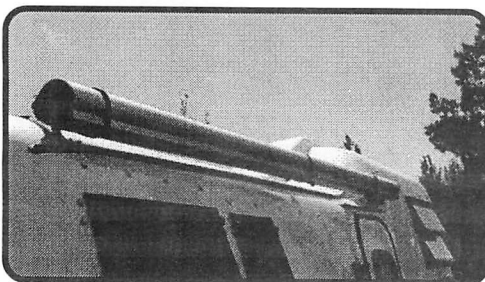
Photographs by J. Avila

sure where I wanted to put it. I finally decided to do something about it. However, I could not find a place that was flat to put the new locking fill while keeping the water supply line in the dinette bench. Finally, I took the original fill off, cut the opening larger and added plumbers putty to the under side of the new locking fill. I re-routed the overflow to the new door vent. A small portion of the dinette seat had to be cut away because the locking fill has a recessed area where the fill hole and cap are located behind the door.

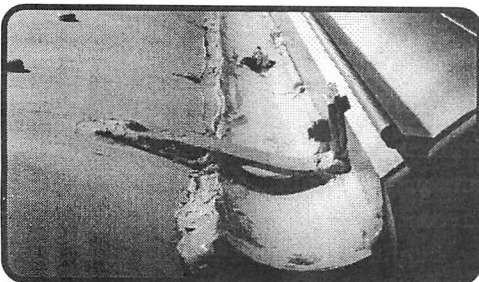
Later I thought an electric port would be easier to put in, so I did. I removed the old round port, cut the opening square & larger and inserted the new locking door. It's great. I can now reach and untangle the cord if needed. I also found that I can put my 30 amp extension cord in that compartment as



Details of the fresh water fill - note the pop rivets used to secure the door frame to the fiberglass of the Scamp.



The Law's rain gutter below their awning.
Photograph by D & T Law



Jim's rain gutter. He cautions to work with any caulking out of the sun during hot weather as it tends to set-up very quickly.
Photograph by J. Townsend

Modification Sheet

(Modification Sheet #18)

Introduction: This Scamp table modification allows the space to be used as a sitting area with a small table, or as a dining area to accommodate four people. The new assembled table will be shorter than the original, but that gives more room to get in and out of the seats.

List of Materials:

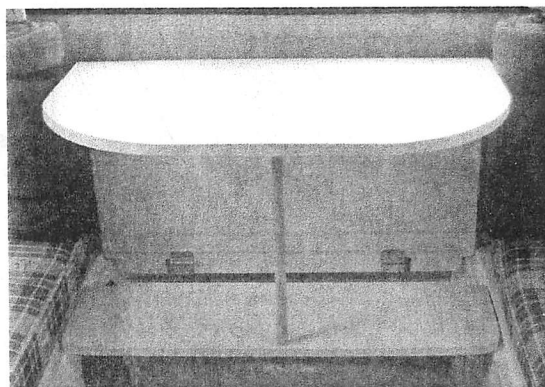
- 1- 3/4" BC or better Plywood, approximately 30" x 42" (Most home centers have half sheets).
- 1- 30" or 36" Piano Hinge (Should come with necessary screws).
- 1 - 3/4" x 48" Dowel
- 8 - #10 x 1 1/4" Oval Head Bolts.

List of Tools:

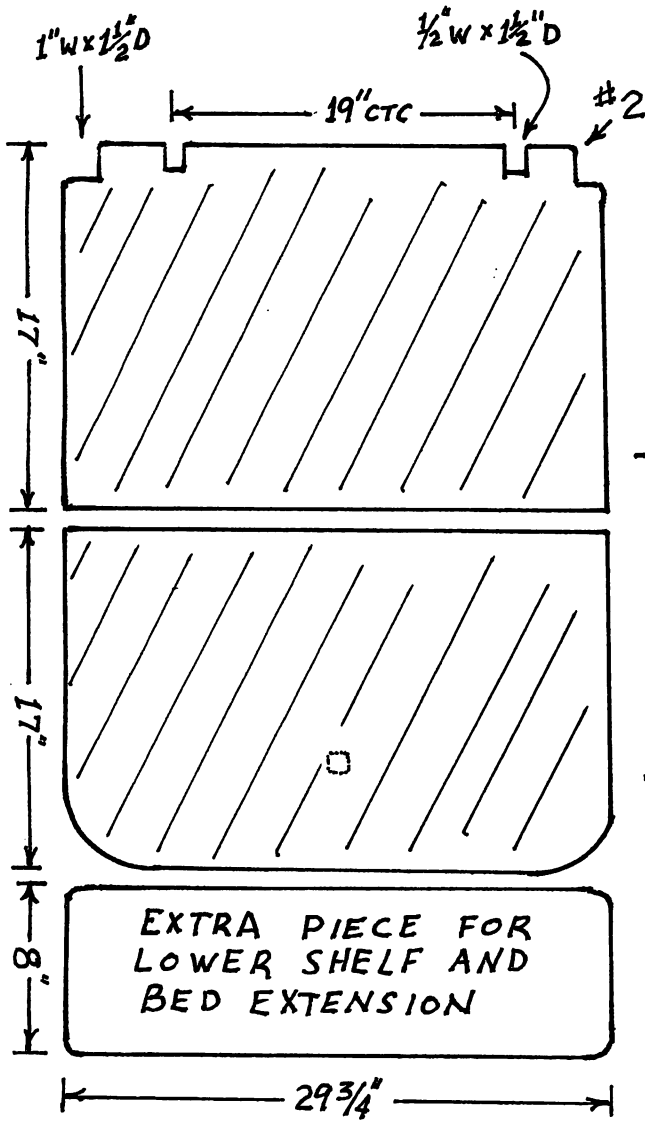
- Saber Saw with fine-tooth Blade, 16-18 TPI
- Power Drill
- 3/16" Drill Bit (for Hinge Bolts)
- 7/8" Spade Drill Bit (#1 recess hole)
- Screwdrivers

Construction Hints:

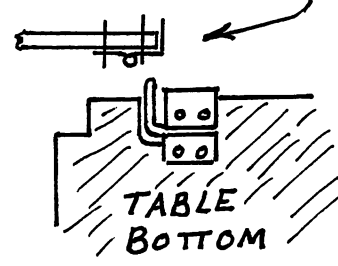
1. Please review the sketch on the reverse side. The stated dimensions worked in a 13-foot Scamp - all units may not be the same, so do some measuring before starting.
2. Dismantle the old table and make notes as to the location and position of salvaged hardware, as the hinge/rod assemble can be frustrating to reinstall.
3. Fabricate new sections from good 3/4" plywood. Do not use OSB or the existing table material. The piano hinge screws will not hold in this material.
4. The corners were rounded on the shortened top, however, this is not necessary.
5. The extra piece works as the bottom shelf and the extension for the bed.
6. Note #s:(refer to the sketch on the reverse side)
 - #1 This recess is a shallow boring to accommodate the dowel legs in the bottom of the table - be careful not to drill through the table top.
 - #2 Round the corner cuts to fit in the stepped edges of the seats.
 - #3 The new table leg must have a lower anchor. Cut off the shank of a 1/4" molly bolt sleeve. Sink it into the floor and provide a suitable pin on the bottom of the dowel support.
6. The angle bracket detail is one way to secure the table in its shortest position, but there may be a better way.
7. Finish: The table panel tops could be laminated with Formica, or just sanded and painted. The undersides just need to be sanded and painted as they are not seen.



Designed by: Ivan Moore, Rt #6 1117 N. Krepps Rd. St. Johns, MI 48879.

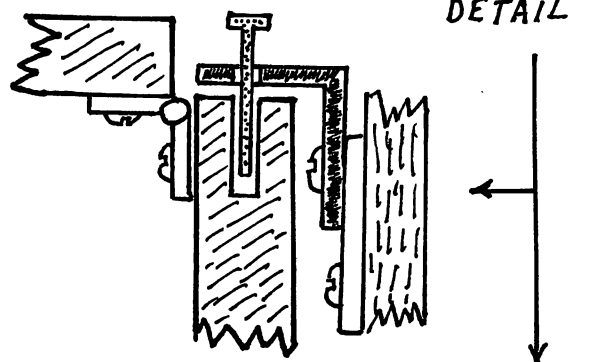


USE EXISTING HINGES, BOLT THRU TOP



PIANO HINGE FULL WIDTH, BUTT PIECES TIGHT TOGETHER ON FLAT SURFACE WHEN INSTALLING

ANGLE BRACKET DETAIL



MAKE NEW TABLE PIECES FROM DENSE 3/4" PLYWOOD. EXISTING TABLE AND OSB BOARD WILL NOT BE SUITABLE AS SCREWS WILL NOT HOLD WELL IN PARTICLE MATERIAL.

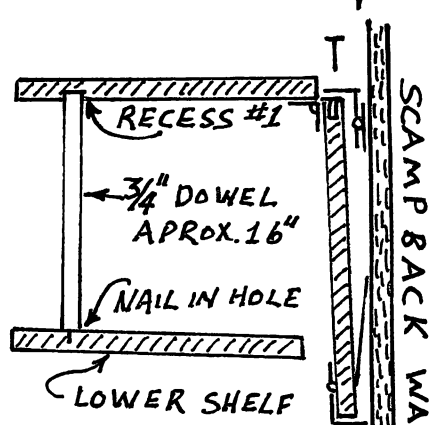
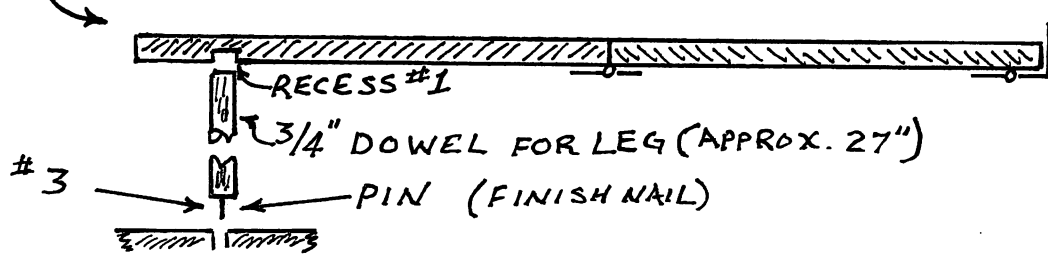
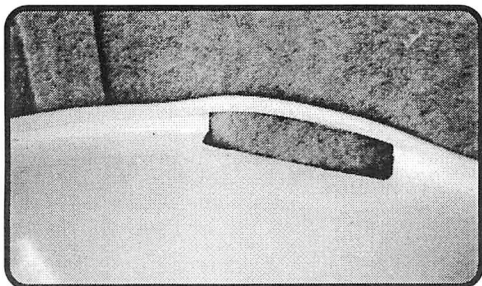


TABLE IN FULL OUT POSITION





Because the water fill locking box is about 2 inches deep, a portion of the seat bench and the wood support beneath had to be cut away.

well as a 30 to 50 amp dog bone adapter, taking them out of my tow vehicle. I purchased a little TV jack as well and added it at the same time.

I Purchased a new solar panel, a 55 watt Shell/Seimens. I modified the frame that I had made for my little 15W solar panel and made it adjustable. The frame tilts forward or backwards. I added holes at varying degrees, the ones I would most likely use from California to Alaska and across the USA. As in the past, I place the panel on the roof through the emergency vent. There are snap locks that attach to eye bolts affixed to the vent frame. These secure the solar panel to my Scamp and no one can reach up and pull it down.

The cord drops down the side of the trailer and plugs it into the water tight outlet mounted in the side of the Scamp. The plug is a twist lock, 3 strand. The panel is 2 strand so I simply didn't use the 3rd connection. One of the prongs is larger than the other 2 which means you could never inadvertently plug it in incorrectly. Just make sure that the plus and minus are wired the same. I purchased the water tight outlet and plug from West Marine.

My new solar controller is a Mark 15 by Specialty Concepts. I added it to the little door that I had previously put on the small angled wall on the street side dinette bench. It is wired to the solar outlet and also directly to the battery. The Mark 15 (digital, which I like) tells me the status of my battery and, with the flip of a switch, will readout how many amps the solar panel is producing. Knowing the amps

being produced by the solar panel is valuable to help you decide if the angle or position of the solar panel needs to be change.

On a recent trip, I ran into a couple of places that wanted me to remove my propane tank before they would fill it. So, upon turning home I proceeded to make a new holder for my propane tank. This idea came from **Robbie Peterson's** propane holder. I bought an 8 foot piece of strapping and cut four 1 foot lengths. The end of each length was bent making a foot and leaving the upright lengths 10 inches high. A couple extra holes were drilled in the tongue cross bars to secured the 4 upright lengths with screws and lock nuts. Next, I bent the remaining 4 foot length of strapping around the propane tank so there was excess on each end. I attached it to the uprights, with bolts and locknuts. Viola' a propane cage.

I added pieces of teflon/plastic over the nuts to keep the bolts from touching the propane tank. They are the little white pieces you see in the pictures. I drop the propane tank into the cage and tighten the screw and wing nut which runs through the excess strapping. The cage is drawn snug against the propane tank. It is as tight as can be. Later, I added 2 eye bolts on each side of the cage and used a piece of tubing with a chain though it across the propane tank from side to side. I believe the chain is doing nothing to secure the tank, it's just there for looks. The cage holds the tank so tight that you can't pull it out while standing on the tongue tugging away. **Joy Avila**, Sonora, CA.

Sink, Counter Top, and More - I added a Corian counter top with a larger sink and applied matching Formica laminate to the table top and some doors. The trim is solid oak.. The air conditioner is from Scamp-Eveland, Inc. but it might have been purchased locally that would have saved money. It is rather easy to install if you know the tricks to do it. I also modified the top area of the

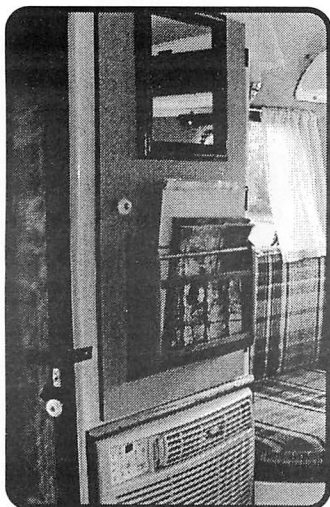


The SOI Bird says "How about sharing some of your modifications or changes with other SOI members?"



View of the Corian counter top and larger sink.

Photographs by S. Breeden



Upper portion of the closet



Modification of the interior of the closet to accommodate a micro-wave and pantry.

closet to install the small microwave and pantry area. The window above the range is for a 16' Scamp and fits the area very well. I installed an automotive AM/FM/CD stereo in the counter area with the speakers in the dinette seat storage. They make great speaker enclosures and sound great. **Sam Breeden**, Saint Charles, IL.

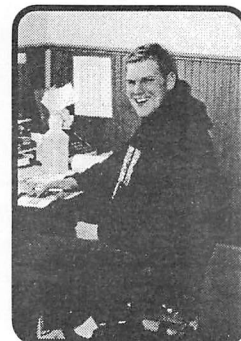
Questions & Answers

Propane Detector - Does anyone have information on LP gas detectors? We have been a little leery of using the propane without one. The Palomino pop-up we had prior to buying our Scamp had an LP detector and the people at the RV store we shop at have stressed the importance of having one. They even thought it was the law that camper manufacturers had to install them in RV's/campers. **Deb Foster & Jill Holmes**, Hastings, MN

Bike Rack - We need to build a bike rack. Last year I welded up a unit that attached to the Scamp's rear bumper. But, due to the somewhat flimsy nature of the back end of the Scamp, I ended up with a wiggly-woggly Scamp trying really hard to beat us down the interstate. I hacksawed the whole thing apart at a rest area and we kept the bikes inside for the rest of the trip. It's the continual in and out of bikes I would like to do without. I did see the picture of **Gordy and Ramona Moss'** bike rack on page 4 of the Summer 2004 *SOI News* that required a modification to their tongue. Hmm, I really would like to not have to cut and re-weld the tongue unless I have too. But maybe that is the only way I will have room? Does anyone have ideas or could point me in the right direction? **Dan & D'Arlyn Bauer**, Mandan, ND.

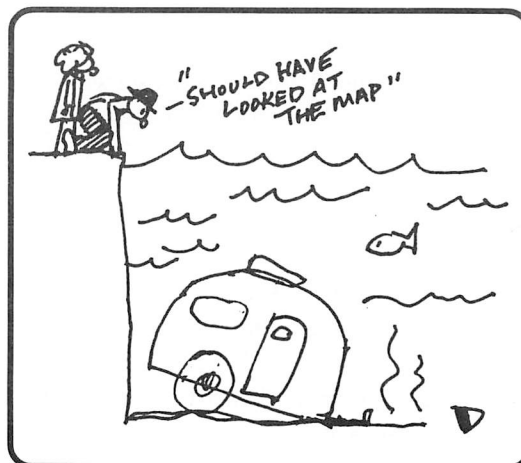
Meet the Makers

Rich Bean is a new face at Scamp, serving as the Parts Manager. He started with Scamp in March, 2004, but this is not his first experience with the company - he appeared in one of Scamp's promotional pieces as a young

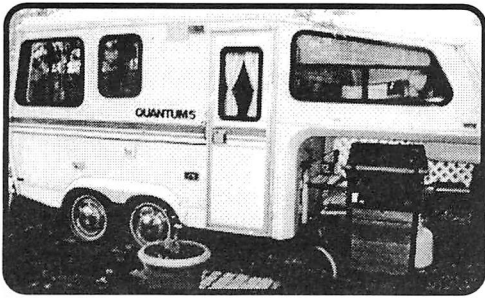


boy. His father was Scamp's Sales Manager between 1987-89 and his mother is Mona (Eveland), the youngest of the Eveland siblings that started Scamp. There were 13 brothers and sisters in that generation including Gerald, Duane and Gladys, founders of the Scamp Company in the early 1970s.

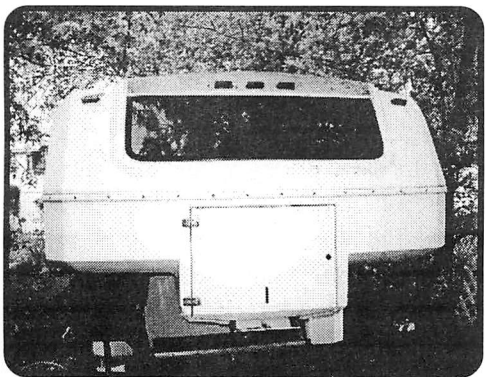
Rich graduated from the University of Minnesota at Duluth in Exercise Science and Sports Medicine. He accepted a position with a school in St. Marys, Minnesota and worked with Wal-Mart in their professional management training program. Rich also has experience in computers and has begun to upgrade the Scamp-Eveland, Inc web site. To date, he has placed Scamp's parts list on the site and plans call for adding photographs of parts and the ability to order parts on line. Approximately 30% of sales now comes from the web site and this will likely continue to grow. Rich and his wife, Bethany, have a 6 month old son, Wyatt.



A special thanks to Gray Adamson



An Unusual Egg - To the best of the editor's knowledge, Scamp is the only company building small fiberglass 5th wheel trailers. This dual axle model, however, is about the same size as a Scamp. It is called a Quantum 5. Does anyone have any information on this unusual fiberglass 5th wheel? Or, if you know of other brands of small fiberglass "eggs," please contact the SOI News editor.



Future ScampCamps

Blue Ridge ScampCamp - October 12-15, 2004 (Tues-Fri) at Fancy Gap, VA. The Blue Ridge Parkway along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains is a great location for a fall gathering of SOI Members. Utt's Campground has been selected again for this ScampCamp near Mile 200 along the parkway - close to the Virginia-North Carolina boarder. There are many attractions in the area both along the Blue Ridge Parkway and the surrounding countryside (see Summer 2002 issue of the *SOI News*). One new attraction is a long bike trail in Galax. The campground has hook-ups and operates on a 'first-come-first-serve' basis - they do not accept reservations. The nightly rate is about \$15.00. **Pete**

and **Joyce Wright** of nearby Galax will again serve as hosts for this event. If you plan to attend please contact them by phone (276-236-5286) or E-mail: repete@valink.com.

ScampCamp 2005 - February 8-11, 2005 (Tues-Fri) at Sebring, Florida is planned for our 7th Annual ScampCamp at Highlands Hammock State Park. More than a hundred SOI Members attended ScampCamp 2004 and many are expected in 2005. If you are planning to attend, reservations should be made as soon as possible. To place a reservation, have your credit card ready and call 800-326-3521. Request a campsite number between 72 - 138. Once you have a reservation, please contact **Alice Vernezze** at ezzeal@att.net or PH: 321-773-2676. Alice has her registration sheet started and would like to collect the following information: 1) Names of all attending; 2) City & state; 3) Site number; 4) Dates attending; 5) SOI number; 6) size of Scamp or trailer and 7) is a name tag needed?

West Coast ScampCamp - Thursday, March 24 through Sunday, March 27, 2005 has been set for the 6th Annual West Coast ScampCamp. It will be held at Terrible's Lakeside Resort in Pahrump, Nevada, midway between Death Valley and Las Vegas. Attractions include a casino with a buffet and restaurant. Outdoor activities include a swimming beach, paddle boats, a pool and Jacuzzi, and fishing. There are paved sites and full hookups. Their dog policy allows two small dogs. You may make individual reservations by calling 888-558-5253. Check out the campground on the Internet at (<http://www.terribleherbst.com/casino/terribleslakesidepahrump/>) For more information, contact **Dennis and Teddy Law** at 702-293-7613 or teddylaw@earthlink.net.

Sand Hills ScampCamp - In western Nebraska June 6 to 10, 2005. There are many things to see and do in the area; the fossil digs in Ash Hollow, Lake McConoughly for fishing and Kingsley Dam with a great informative visitors cen-

ter. And of course, Front Street where we can enjoy the Crystal Palace Saloon for dinner and even the follies with the "ladies of the night" from the 1800's. They also have an impressive collection of petrified wood art. In addition to all this, attendees can just relax in the vastness of the hills themselves where the breeze always blows and the meadow larks never cease their song. The "Big Event" is a tour of the Haythorn working cattle ranch planned for June 8 (a fee required). If this sounds good, reserve the dates and make your reservation at the Meyer Camper Court in Ogalla @ 308-284-2415. Be sure to tell them you are with the Scamp Group. To confirm your attendance (after you have a reservation) or for additional information, contact **Bernie and Evelyn Stremlau** at E-mail: stremlaube@aol.com or PH: 402-334-0855.

Other Gatherings

Fiberglass Campout at Caballo Loco Ranch RV Park, 11.5 miles south of Three Points, AZ. Thursday, Nov 11 through Sunday, Nov 14, 2005. Dry Camping - \$10.00 per night and Full Hookups - \$15.00 per night. Limited full hookup sites - first come, first serve. Bathroom facilities with showers for all guests. This Ranch is located south west of the Sierrita Mountains. Keep in mind that there are many other great places to visit in the area - so bring the whole family. Pot Luck dinner at Club House on Friday night. Star Party on Saturday, weather permitting. Check back on the web site below for other event updates including a "who is coming list." Questions: email Pat and Arleen Heimann at chartmarker@cox.net. For info and images of the campground see: <http://chartmarker.tripod.com/dsrally.htm>

Theodore Roosevelt - from page 16

cattle drives. Theodore Roosevelt National Monument was established in April, 1947 and designated a national park in November, 1978.

While the two units are about the same size (totaling nearly 110 square miles), the southern section is most accessible. A 36 mile loop drive explores much of this wild country of fascinating scenery, interesting animals and plants, and badlands. At first glance, you might think you are in the famous badlands of South Dakota as much of the landscape appears to be similar. Like much of the high plains, prominent animals include buffalo, pronghorn, big horn sheep, coyote, prairie dogs and even wild horses. Due to an annual rainfall of only about 15 inches a year, vegetation is sparse.

With little vegetation, much of the geology responsible for the scenery is easily seen. The badlands have a long history going back some 65 million years to a time when the early Rocky Mountains were starting to erode. Hundreds of cubic miles of colorful sediments were carried east by streams and deposited in a big "wedge" that filled in a marine basin that occupied the region. These were buried and now form the rocks that underly Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Later, the region was uplifted and streams, like the Little Missouri River, began cutting valleys into these soft rocks.

During the last couple million years the great North American ice age also played a



Shelter built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s overlooking the Little Missouri River.

role in forming the park's landscape. Massive continental glaciers moved down from Canada and covered much of the Dakotas. Rivers, again like the Little Missouri, originally drained north toward Hudson Bay, were forced to change directions. Thus, the region is now part of the great drainage basin of the Missouri and Mississippi River systems. In some locations, large boulders (erratics) left behind when the ice melted can be seen resting on the surface. As the streams and river recovered following the glacier period, erosion produced the badlands that you see today.

The rocks exposed include sandstone, siltstone, shale and volcanic ash deposits. One interesting rock found in some locations is lignite coal formed from deposits of organic-rich materials buried with the rocks. Sometimes these coal beds are hit by lightning and begin burning, a process that may continue underground for years. This can "bake" the surrounding rocks

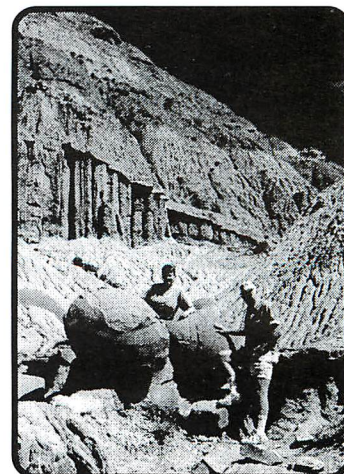
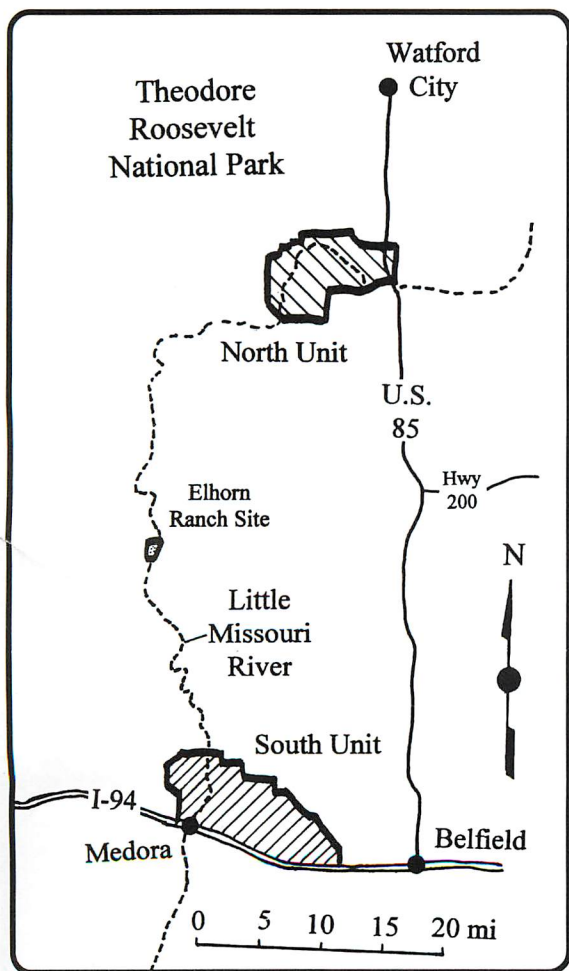


Oxbow bends of the Little Missouri River in the badlands at an overlook along the North Unit Scenic Road.

enough to form strange looking features known as "scoria." These brick red pillars can be seen at numerous locations along the Southern Unit's Scenic Loop Drive. Fossils are also abundant in the rocks, especially petrified trees, which can also be seen along the scenic drive.

There are campgrounds in both units plus the CCC campground operated by the Forest Service serving the north unit. All of these, however, are rustic with only pit toilets and water. Roads in both units feature many overlooks, turnouts and hiking trails. In addition to the 60 miles of short trails (36 in the north units and 24 in the south) the Maah Daah Hey Trail is 120 miles long and connects the two units.

Much of Rosevelt's philosophy regarding the environment and conservation were formed during the years he spent in the bad lands. Many of the national recreational areas in the US, especially the national forests, can be traced directly to his time as President. He once remarked "I never would have been President if it had not been for my experience in North Dakota." So, if you happen to be traveling along I-94 in western North Dakota, be sure to check out this fascinating natural and historical area.



Cannon ball concretions weathering out of the sediment along the North Unit Scenic Road.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Massive vertical petrified tree along the South Unit Loop Road.

Photographs by K R. Cranson

As you cruise through the sparsely populated region of western North Dakota on I-94, a sign announces the Painted Canyon Visitor Center of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. While this exit only goes to this facility, a few miles west are two more for the park. Why would there be a park way out here in this "nothingness?" Take one of these exits and you will find an exciting area to explore from several aspects: its history, scenery, geology, wildlife and much

more. As a bonus, because of its remoteness, there are few visitors and you may have the place pretty much to yourself!

The exits off the interstate both lead to the little town of Medora, the center of everything associated with the park. One of the visitor centers is here along with the entrance to the southern unit -

there are two units at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The north unit is some 60 miles away north on U.S. 85. Both units offer camping, but if you would like hook ups for your Scamp, try the city campground at the west end of town. There is also a nice public swimming pool nearby and it is an easy walk to "downtown" Medora. And, just west of town up on a high bluff, visitors can

partake of a great meal - a pitch fork fondu steak dinner.

As the name implies, the park is named after Theodore Roosevelt, our 26th President (1901-09). His first visit to the area was in the fall of 1883 to hunt buffalo. Before returning east, Roosevelt purchased an interest in a cattle ranch operation. Later, he established a second

ranch, the Elkhorn, on the Little Missouri River some 35 miles north of Medora. One of his ranch homes, the Maltese Cross cabin, has been restored and moved to the visitor center in Medora. Over the following summers, Roosevelt would return to the area to direct ranch activities and participate in

Continued on page 14

Can You Help?

It is time to renew your membership in the Scamp Owners International - the 2005 renewal form is enclosed. As you know, all SOI work is conducted by volunteers. The *SOI News* editor maintains all membership records in addition to publishing the newsletter. You can be a most helpful 'volunteer' to SOI by returning your renewal as soon as possible. This would greatly assist the editor in keeping your (and everyone else's) membership records up to date and the regular issues arriving on schedule. Why not complete your renewal form and send it in today? Thanks!

Rod

SOI Web Site

A special SOI THANKS goes out to Dan Meyer, SOI Web Master for his diligent efforts in keeping it up-to-date. It has been at a new URL - www.ScampCamper.com - for several months now and receives lots of traffic. We certainly appreciate his willingness to help SOI Members keep in touch via the SOI Web Site. If you have not checked in to see what our web site is like, give it a try!

SOI News
226 Iris Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48917



The World's Greatest Small RV