

HAPPY PIG

Summer 2013

Volume 16, Issue 4

www.happypigcollectors.com

THE HAPPY PIG
COLLECTORS CLUB
Box 244
Macomb, Illinois 61455

Convention Registration Deadline: July 1st

A club dedicated to people who collect pigs, so that they may gain enjoyment from their hobby; and to meet and mingle with others cursed with the same affliction. Just for the nonsense of it all and to give respect to
"When I see a pig I think of you"

If you haven't already registered, there's still time, but you'd better hurry! Mail the enclosed yellow form with your fees.

Location: Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Dates: July 26-27, 2013

Hosts: Mickey Mangin & Karen Bouril

Cost: \$100/two days or \$50/one day

Hotel Info: The Best Western, 101 Maritime Drive, Manitowoc WI

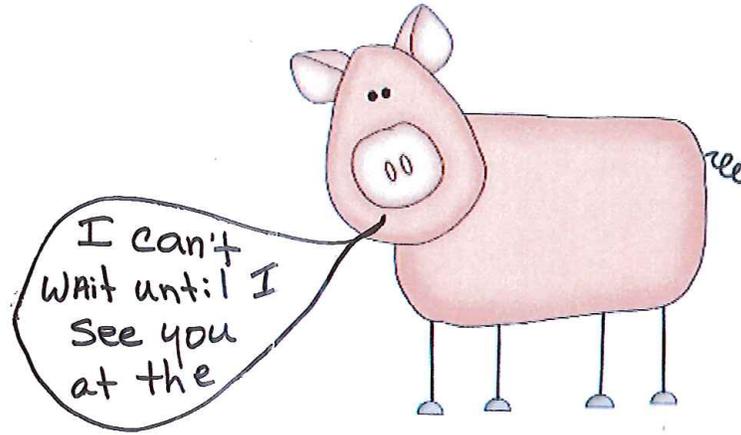
Send Fees To:

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Box 244
Macomb IL 61455



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EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF

The Happy Pig Collectors Club



BEING HELD IN MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN

FRIDAY, JULY 26TH AND SATURDAY, JULY 27TH

“WHEN YOU SEE A PIG, THINK OF ME.”

KAREN AND I HOPE YOU AGREED WITH THIS LITTLE PIG'S BRIGHT IDEA AND MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION BEING HELD IN MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN ON JULY 26TH AND 27TH.

THIS VERSION OF EVENTS HAS BEEN UPDATED AND MODIFIED, SO PLEASE READ THROUGH IT, AND IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS, WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL.

PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2013

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS BY CALLING THE BEST WESTERN: 920-682-7000. THE HOTEL IS LOCATED AT 101 MARITIME DRIVE; MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN 54220. A BLOCK OF ROOMS ARE BEING HELD UNDER THE NAME "HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION" AT A REDUCED RATE OF \$96 PER NIGHT (1-4 PEOPLE PER ROOM). A FULL BREAKFAST IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE ROOM (SERVING FRIDAY FROM 6:00-9:00 A.M.; SERVING SATURDAY 7:00-10:00 A.M. AND SERVING SUNDAY 7:00-10:00 A.M.).

IN ADDITION TO HAVING AN INDOOR POOL, THE HOTEL IS LOCATED ON THE SHORE OF LAKE MICHIGAN – WALK OUT THE HOTEL DOOR RIGHT ONTO THE BEACH AND INTO THE WATER. ALTHOUGH THE HOTEL DOES NOT HAVE A FITNESS FACILITY, GUESTS ARE INVITED TO USE, FOR FREE, THE FACILITIES AT THE YMCA, WHICH INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, AN INDOOR POOL, TENNIS AND RACQUETBALL COURTS, FULL CARDIO AND WEIGHT EQUIPMENT, AND SPINNING BIKES. THE 'Y' IS LOCATED RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO THE HOTEL -- IT OPENS 5:00 A.M. FRIDAY; 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY AND 7:00 A.M. SUNDAY.

FORGOT TO MENTION IN PRIOR NEWSLETTERS ABOUT BEST WESTERN'S PET POLICY. ALTHOUGH OUR SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES ARE NOT PET-FRIENDLY, IF YOU'RE THINKING OF BRINGING FIDO OR KITTY, PETS ARE ALLOWED BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF PET-FRIENDLY ROOMS. UP TO TWO DOGS PER ROOM, WITH AN 80-POUND WEIGHT LIMIT, ARE ALLOWED. ADDITIONAL PET TYPES (CATS, BIRDS, ETC.) MAY BE ACCEPTED AT THE HOTEL'S DISCRETION. THE PET RATE IS \$20.00 PER DAY WITH A \$100 PER WEEK MAXIMUM.

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2013

AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, KAREN, MICKEY AND THE PIG HOPE THAT YOU WILL ARRIVE ON THURSDAY, JULY 25TH SO THAT YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON FRIDAY'S EARLY MORNING (8:00 A.M. DEPARTURE) BUS TRIP. YOUR HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION WELCOME BAG (WITH YOUR NAME ON IT) WILL BE AT THE HOTEL'S FRONT DESK WHEN YOU CHECK IN, OR IT WILL ALREADY BE IN YOUR ROOM. BE SURE TO LOOK FOR IT – IT WILL CONTAIN WANT-TO-KNOW INFORMATION REGARDING OUR ACTIVITIES.

THURSDAY NIGHT'S 6:30 P.M. DINNER WILL BE AT THE 8TH & YORK RESTAURANT -- WHICH IS A 4-MINUTE WALK (0.19 MILES) FROM THE HOTEL. THE RESTAURANT IS LOCATED INSIDE THE RENOVATED 1920'S HISTORIC HOTEL MANITOWOC. 8TH & YORK IS DESCRIBED AS AN UPSCALE CASUAL DINING EXPERIENCE – THE DINNER MENU RANGES FROM SANDWICHES (STARTING AT \$7) TO FULL COURSE DINNERS. THE PRICE OF THIS MEAL IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION FEE -- EVERYONE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN TAB.

AFTER DINNER, WE WILL HEAD BACK TO THE HOTEL. YOU HAVE THE OPTION OF TURNING IN, OR YOU CAN RELAX IN THE HOTEL'S LOUNGE WHICH IS OPEN UNTIL 11:00 P.M. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE NIGHT OWLS, THE S.S. BADGER CAR FERRY WILL BE ARRIVING FROM LUDINGTON MI AT 11:30 P.M., AND WILL BE DOCKING AT THE CONFLUX OF THE MANITOWOC RIVER AND LAKE MICHIGAN. THE MOON WILL BE ALMOST FULL WHICH WILL MAKE FOR A KODAK MOMENT – THE LIGHT OF THE MOON REFLECTING OFF THE LAKE WHILE THE S.S. BADGER PERFORMS ITS DOCKING MANEUVERS. AND THERE'S SOMETHING EERILY BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU HEAR, UPON DOCKING, THE SOUND OF THE BADGER'S HORN AND THE SOUND OF ITS ANCHOR DROPPING INTO THE WATER.

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2013

WE HAVE A BUSY DAY AHEAD OF US. AFTER BREAKFAST (WHICH IS SERVED STARTING AT 6:00 A.M.), WE'LL BE GETTING ON THE SCHOOL BUS AT 8:00 A.M. FOR A RIDE OVER TO ALGOMA WHERE WE'LL VISIT THE FLYING PIG (RESTROOMS AVAILABLE). SUSAN AND HER CO-WORKERS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR VISIT, AND ARE BUSY GATHERING AN INTERESTING INVENTORY OF HAND-CRAFTED PIGS FOR OUR PERUSAL AND PURCHASE – NOTHING IS IMPORTED OR MASS PRODUCED. KAREN STOPPED IN THERE LAST WEEK, AND SHE SAYS SUE AND HER GROUP ARE DOING A GREAT JOB OF GATHERING WONDERFUL ITEMS.

AFTER ABOUT AN HOUR OF SHOPPING (AND GAWKING), WE'LL GET BACK ON THE BUS AND HEAD OVER TO GREEN BAY FOR A TOUR OF LAMBEAU STADIUM (PIGSKIN, YOU KNOW). AFTER OUR TOUR, WHICH ENDS WITH A SPECIAL SURPRISE, WE'LL HAVE A WISCONSIN-STYLE FOOTBALL STADIUM LUNCH AT CURLY'S PUB. CURLY'S PUB WAS NAMED IN HONOR OF EARL LOUIS "CURLY" LAMBEAU, WHO WAS THE FOUNDER, A PLAYER, AND THE FIRST COACH OF THE GREEN BAY PACKERS PROFESSIONAL AMERICAN FOOTBALL TEAM. AFTER LUNCH, WE'RE HEADED BACK TO MANITOWOC.

WHEN BACK IN MANITOWOC, WE'LL TAKE A SHORT "REFRESH" BREAK AT THE BEST WESTERN. ABOUT 2:45 P.M. WE'LL TAKE A WALK (1 MINUTE; 0.04 MILES) OVER TO THE MARITIME MUSEUM WHERE WE ARE GOING TO TAKE A TOUR OF THE USS COBIA, A WORLD WAR II FLEET SUBMARINE THAT IS MOORED ALONG THE MANITOWOC RIVER. THE USS COBIA IS KNOWN AS A 'PIG BOAT' (SERIOUSLY – NO KIDDING) DUE TO FOUL LIVING CONDITIONS AND AN UNUSUAL HULL SHAPE. THE TOUR SHOULD TAKE ABOUT AN HOUR, AFTER WHICH PEOPLE WILL BE OFFERED THREE CHOICES. THEY CAN STAY AND TAKE A TOUR OF THE MARITIME MUSEUM, THEY CAN WALK BACK TO THE HOTEL, OR THEY CAN TAKE A BUS RIDE TO "WEST OF THE LAKE GARDENS". THE GARDENS ARE STATE-RENOWN AND ARE ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL ! DON, THE HEAD GARDENER, WILL GIVE US A GUIDED TOUR OF THE GROUNDS. HE SAYS THAT WE'LL BE SEEING THE GARDENS AT A GREAT TIME – THE FLOWERS WILL BE MAGNIFICENT !

ABOUT 5:30 P.M. WE'LL HEAD BACK TO THE BEST WESTERN SO THAT EVERYONE CAN TAKE A SHORT BREAK. AT 6:15 P.M. WE'RE BACK ON THE BUS TO GO TO DINNER AT "THE CLUB" – A RESTAURANT ON A GOLF COURSE OVERLOOKING LAKE MICHIGAN. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A TRADITIONAL WISCONSIN FRIDAY-NIGHT FISH FRY WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS. NOTE: COFFEE, TEA AND DESSERT WILL BE SERVED BACK AT THE HOTEL AT 8:15 P.M.

AFTER DINNER WE ARE GOING TO HEAD BACK TO THE BEST WESTERN, TAKE A SHORT BREAK, AND THEN AT 8:00 P.M. MEET IN THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTOR'S CLUB CONVENTION ROOM. AS MENTIONED, WE WILL HAVE COFFEE AND DESSERT, AND THEN WE WILL PLAY PIG-ON. WE WILL ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW OUR PLANS AND AGENDA FOR SATURDAY'S ACTIVITIES.

PIG-ON RULES: THESE RULES ARE PRETTY SIMPLE: WE WANT EVERYONE TO PARTICPATE (THERE WILL BE PRIZES FOR ALL), AND EVERY PARTICIPANT MUST WEAR A 'PIG' ARTICLE OF CLOTHING – COULD BE A SHIRT, A HAT, SOCKS – WHATEVER -- DOESN'T MATTER. I DON'T THINK IT GETS EASIER THAN THAT.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

EVERYTHING INVOLVING TODAY'S (FRIDAY'S) ACTIVITIES WILL BE PAID FOR – EXCEPT – ANY PURCHASES MADE AT THE FLYING PIG. YOU MUST PAY FOR THOSE ITEMS YOURSELF.

EXCEPT FOR THE FIRM DEPARTURE TIME OF 8:00 A.M., TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE – WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO STAY ON SCHEDULE.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2013

AFTER BREAKFAST (WHICH IS SERVED STARTING AT 7:00 A.M.), WE WILL BE MEETING FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M. IN THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION ROOM. FROM 8:00 TO 10:00 A.M. WE WILL HAVE MY FAVORITE ACTIVITY, BUY AND SELL TIME. FROM 10:00 TO 11:00, WE WILL HAVE SHOW AND TELL TIME, AND FROM 11:00 – 11:30 A.M. WILL BE 'LEARN A NEW CRAFT' TIME. AT 12:00 NOON WE WILL GET ON THE BUS AND HEAD OVER TO KAREN'S HOUSE (ABOUT A SIX-MILE DRIVE). UPON ARRIVAL, WE WILL TAKE THE GROUP PHOTO.

PLEASE NOTE: BASED ON COMMENTS MADE AT LAST YEAR'S CONVENTION, IF YOU WANT TO BRING A "GOODY" FOR THE GOODY BAGS, THERE WILL BE A GOODY-BAG TABLE SET UP AT KAREN'S HOUSE. PLACE THE GOODY(S) ON THE GOODY-BAG TABLE AND PEOPLE CAN HELP THEMSELVES. KAREN AND I WILL PROVIDE THE BAGS. (FOR LACK OF AN ACTUAL COUNT, WE ARE CURRENTLY BASING QUANTITIES ON AN ATTENDANCE OF 60 PEOPLE.)

THE BAGS WILL INITIALLY BE USED AS SEATING (PLACE) CARDS ON THE LUNCH TABLES. WHEN YOU FIND THE BAG WITH YOUR NAME ON IT, YOU WILL HAVE FOUND WHERE YOU WILL BE SITTING FOR LUNCH. THIS ARRANGEMENT ALLOWS PEOPLE TO SIT NEXT TO AND TALK TO PEOPLE WHO THEY MIGHT NOT KNOW OR WHO THEY MIGHT NOT HAVE SEEN FOR A VERY LONG TIME. OF COURSE, IF YOU REALLY DON'T LIKE WHERE YOU WILL BE SITTING....

A PIG-THEMED BUFFET WILL BE SERVED AT 12:30 P.M. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LUNCH WE WILL TAKE A LOOK-SEE AT KAREN'S AND MICKEY'S PIG COLLECTIONS. THERE WON'T BE THOUSANDS ON DISPLAY, BUT HOPEFULLY THE ONES WE WILL HAVE WILL BE OF INTEREST.

AT ABOUT 2:00 P.M. WE WILL GET ON THE BUS AND HEAD OVER TO BEERNTSEN'S – THE CHOCOLATE PIG SHOP. BEERNTSEN'S HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS SINCE 1932 AND IS HOUSED IN ITS ORIGINAL HISTORIC LOCATION – THINK TIN CEILINGS AND WOODEN BOOTHS. IN ADDITION TO THE CHOCOLATE PIGS, THEY MAKE A VARIETY OF CHOCOLATES AND SERVE THE VERY BEST ICE CREAM AND SUNDAES. OUR LUNCHEON BUFFET DESSERTS ARE GOING TO BE DELIBERATELY LIGHT SO THAT WE'RE NOT SO FULL WE CAN'T PARTAKE OF BEERNTSEN'S DELECTABLES. (NOTE: ALL PURCHASES MADE AT BEERNTSEN'S ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL.)

AFTER OUR TRIP TO BEERNTSEN'S WE WILL HEAD BACK TO KAREN'S HOUSE. FROM THE TIME WE RETURN UNTIL DINNER AT 6:00 P.M., THERE WILL BE A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE. YOU HAVE YOUR CHOICE OF ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: RELAXING ON A CHAIR IN THE SHADE OR SUN OR HOUSE, GOING FOR GOLF CART OR PADDLE BOAT RIDES, PLAYING CROQUET, BADMINTON, HORSESHOES, BOCCE BALL, VOLLEYBALL OR PIG TOSS -- AND -- YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A PIG FLY. OH, YEAH, WE'LL ALSO HAVE A 'PIGÑATA'.

FOR DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. WE WILL BE HAVING A PIG ROAST (WHOLE PIG) OR ROASTED PIG (NOT A WHOLE PIG) -- APPARENTLY IT DEPENDS ON THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE EATING. (PIG DISCUSSIONS ARE ON-GOING WITH THE CHEF.) WE WILL ALSO BE SERVING ROASTED/BROASTED CHICKEN, ALONG WITH ALL SORTS OF SIDE DISHES. AFTER DINNER WE WILL HAVE THE BUS TAKE US TO THE HOTEL FOR OUR EVENING'S ACTIVITIES. WE WILL MEET IN THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION ROOM AT 8:00 P.M.

WHEN WE GET SETTLED, WE WILL START THE EVENING WITH OUR BUSINESS MEETING. MINUTES AND THE TREASURER'S REPORT WILL BE HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING WE WILL ATTEND TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES.

SILENT AUCTION – IT WAS MENTIONED AT LAST YEAR'S CONVENTION THAT SOME PEOPLE WANTED TO PROVIDE AN ITEM FOR A SILENT AUCTION. IN OUR HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION ROOM THERE WILL BE A TABLE SET UP WITH SPACES FOR 12 ITEMS. IF YOU WISH TO PROVIDE AN ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION, PLEASE LET ME (MICKEY) KNOW (410-237-5501-WORK) OR SEND AN EMAIL TO ME AT MICHELE.MANGIN@PNC.COM. THE FIRST 12 PEOPLE RESPONDING WILL HAVE A SPACE AT THE TABLE. KAREN AND I WILL BE PROVIDING CLIPBOARDS, PAPER AND PENS – YOU WILL PROVIDE THE ITEM AND DESCRIPTION. THE PIGS CAN BE PLACED ON THE SILENT AUCTION TABLE FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY MORNING. THE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SATURDAY NIGHT.

BEST PIG CONTEST – FOLLOWING TRADITION, WE WILL HAVE A BEST PIG CONTEST. THIS YEAR'S BEST PIG THEME WILL BE "PIG-ON-THE-GO". YOUR ENTRY MAY BE A PIG DRIVING A CAR, RIDING IN A BOAT, PULLING A RICKSHAW, PEDALING A BIKE, FLYING A PLANE, SURFING THE WAVES, SKATEBOARDING, COMMANDING A ROCKET SHIP – WELL, YOU GET THE IDEA. PLEASE PLACE YOUR ENTRY, FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY MORNING, ON THE 'BEST PIG CONTEST TABLE' LOCATED IN THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION ROOM, AND HOPE YOU ARE THE LUCKY WINNER OF "THE PLAQUE". THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED SATURDAY NIGHT.

(ANOTHER) PIG CONTEST – IN ADDITION TO THE "BEST PIG CONTEST", WE'VE ADDED A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PIG CONTEST THAT WILL GIVE US A VISUAL IDEA OF JUST HOW VARIED COLLECTED PIGS CAN BE. ENTER A COLLECTIBLE PIG IN ONE THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: (1) THIS LITTLE PIG HAS THE CURLIEST TAIL, (2) THIS LITTLE PIG HAS THE BIGGEST EARS, (3) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE FATTEST, (4) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE SMALLEST, (5) THIS LITTLE PIG HAS THE LONGEST SNOUT, (6) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE UGLIEST, (7) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE BIGGEST, (8) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE HAPPIEST, (9) THIS LITTLE PIG HAS THE SMALLEST EARS, AND (10) THIS LITTLE PIG IS THE SKINNIEST.

RULES: YOU CAN ENTER ONLY ONE PIG IN THE CONTEST; YOU CAN'T ENTER A PIG IN EACH CATEGORY. IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT EACH ATTENDEE ENTER A PIG BECAUSE WE HAVE 'ALMOST' PRIZES, AND WE WANT EVERYONE TO GO HOME WITH A PRIZE. SO PICK YOUR BEST PIG FOR YOUR CHOSEN CATEGORY AND HOPE FOR A (BIG) WIN. GOOD LUCK.

THE PIGS CAN BE PLACED ON THE 'PIG CONTEST TABLE' FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY MORNING. THE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SATURDAY NIGHT.

RAFFLE -- BECAUSE OF TIME CONSTRAINTS, WE'RE DOING SOMETHING A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT THAN THE USUAL RAFFLE (HOPE NO ONE IS DISAPPOINTED). WE WILL HAVE A RAFFLE TABLE SET UP UPON WHICH WILL BE PLACED 60 PIGS. IF YOU HAVE A PIG YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE TO THE RAFFLE, PLEASE DO SO BY PLACING IT ON THE RAFFLE TABLE FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY MORNING.

RULES: WE WILL HAVE A PIG JAR FILLED WITH 60 LITTLE PIGS – EACH LITTLE PIG WILL HAVE A NUMBER ON ITS BELLY. AFTER ALL ATTENDEES HAVE DRAWN THEIR NUMBERS, THE RAFFLE WILL COMMENCE. THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS THIRTY-ONE (31) THROUGH FORTY (40) WILL HAVE FIRST SHOT – GOING CHRONICALLY -- AT PICKING A PIG TO TAKE HOME. THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS ELEVEN (11) THROUGH TWENTY (20) WILL PICK SECOND (AGAIN GOING CHRONICALLY). THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS FIFTY-ONE (51) THROUGH SIXTY (60) WILL PICK THIRD. THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS ONE (1) THROUGH TEN (10) WILL PICK FOURTH. THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS FORTY-ONE (41) THROUGH FIFTY (50) WILL PICK FIFTH; THOSE PEOPLE WITH NUMBERS TWENTY-ONE (21) THROUGH THIRTY (30) WILL PICK LAST. THE RAFFLE WILL TAKE PLACE SATURDAY NIGHT.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME – IF YOU HAVE A PIG THAT'S LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME, THERE WILL BE A FREE-TO-A-GOOD-HOME TABLE SET UP IN THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION ROOM. PIGS CAN BE PLACED ON -- AND TAKEN OFF -- THIS TABLE ANYTIME STARTING FRIDAY NIGHT.

GOOD-BY – KAREN AND I WILL BE DISTRIBUTING HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB CONVENTION GOOD-BY BAGS AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR ACTIVITIES SATURDAY NIGHT. DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT YOURS !

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

EVERYTHING INVOLVING TODAY'S (SATURDAY'S) ACTIVITIES WILL BE PAID FOR – EXCEPT – ANY PURCHASES MADE AT BEERNTSEN'S. YOU MUST PAY FOR THOSE ITEMS YOURSELF.

ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE – WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO STAY ON SCHEDULE.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- THE FEE FOR THE 2013 CONVENTION IS \$100 PER PERSON FOR A TWO-DAY RESERVATION AND \$50 PER PERSON IF YOU ARE ATTENDING JUST ONE DAY. PLEASE SEND (HOPEFULLY BY JULY 1ST) YOUR REGISTRATION FEES AND THE QUESTIONNAIRE, LOCATED AT END OF THIS ARTICLE, TO:

THE HAPPY PIG COLLECTORS CLUB
Box 244
MACOMB, ILLINOIS 61455

- REVIEW OF WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR CONVENTION FEES:
 - (1) ANY PURCHASES MADE AT BEERNTSEN'S
 - (2) ANY PURCHASES MADE AT THE FLYING PIG
 - (3) THURSDAY NIGHT'S DINNER
 - (4) ANY PURCHASES OF CONVENTION LOGO ITEMS
- IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE LET MICKEY KNOW.
- RESTROOM FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL LOCATIONS, BUT NOT ON THE BUS.
- SINCE WE WILL BE TAKING A BUS (OR WALKING) TO ALL ACTIVITIES, CARS MAY BE LEFT PARKED IN THE HOTEL PARKING LOT.
- TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE – WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO KEEP TO A SCHEDULE.
- WHEELCHAIRS ARE AVAILABLE THE DURATION OF THE CONVENTION. THE ONLY FACILITY/ACTIVITY NOT WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE IS THE SUBMARINE
- TRANSPORTATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES SHOULD SOMEONE NEED TO RETURN TO THE HOTEL.
- WEATHER AND OTHER VAIABLES NOT IN OUR CONTROL MAY DICTATE CHANGES IN OUR ITINERARY.
- AN EMAIL HAD BEEN SENT OUT DISCUSSING AIRPORT INFORMATION. HERE IT IS REPRINTED FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DID NOT SEE IT.

AUSTIN STRAUBEL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – GREEN BAY (GRB)

AIRLINES SERVING GRB: AMERICAN, DELTA AND UNITED

DISTANCE TO BEST WESTERN HOTEL - MANITOWOC, WI: 42 MILES -- APPROX. 50 MINUTES DRIVING TIME

MILWAUKEE COUNTY'S GENERAL MITCHELL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MKE)

AIRLINES SERVING MKE: AIR CANADA, AIRTRAN, AMERICAN, DELTA, FRONTIER, SOUTHWEST, UNITED, USAIRWAYS

DISTANCE TO BEST WESTERN HOTEL - MANITOWOC, WI: 90 MILES -- APPROX. 1.5 HOURS

FLYING INTO GREEN BAY WILL PROBABLY BE A LITTLE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN FLYING INTO MILWAUKEE, AND YOU MAY NOT GET A NONSTOP FLIGHT. HOWEVER, IT'S MY PREFERRED CHOICE WHEN I FLY TO WISCONSIN BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO MANITOWOC. IT'S A VERY EASY AIRPORT TO GET IN AND OUT OF, AND IT'S VERY TRAVELER-FRIENDLY,

BECAUSE NO ONE IS GOING TO NEED A CAR IN MANITOWOC WHILE ATTENDING THE CONVENTION, I'M THINKING IT MIGHT BE NICE IF SOME SORT OF CAR POOLING COULD BE ARRANGED TO/FROM THE AIRPORT(S). IF PEOPLE WANT TO ADVISE ME OF THEIR TRAVEL PLANS/ARRANGEMENTS, I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO SEE WHAT CAN BE ARRANGED.

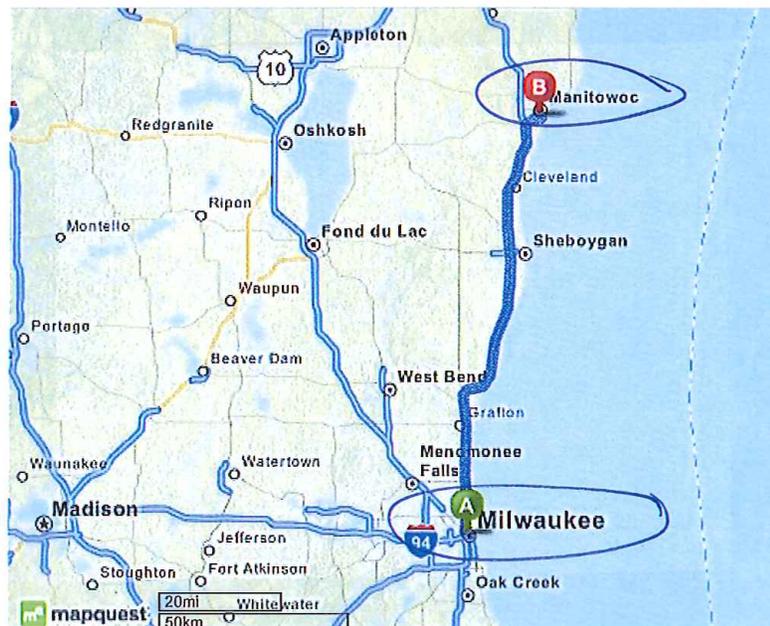
DIRECTIONS FROM MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN TO MANITOWOC WISCONSIN

BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE COMING FROM SO MANY DIFFERENT AREAS, I'M HOPING THAT EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO GET TO MILWAUKEE, AND THEN COME ON TO MANITOWOC – A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 81 MILES.

THE ADDRESS OF THE BEST WESTERN IS 101 MARITIME DRIVE. TELEPHONE NUMBER: 920.682.7000.

- (1) COMING OUT OF MILWAUKEE, GET ON **I-43 NORTH**, TOWARD GREEN BAY WI (75.5 MILES)
- (2) TAKE THE **US-151** EXIT, **EXIT 149** TOWARD WI-42-BR / MANITOWOC / FOND DU LAC (0.2 MILES)
- (3) KEEP **RIGHT** AT THE FORK TO GO ON **US-151 NORTH** (3.1 MILES)
- (4) TURN **LEFT** ONTO **SOUTH 8TH STREET / US-10 WEST** (0.3 MILES)
- (5) TURN **RIGHT** ONTO **MARITIME DRIVE** (0.1 MILES)
- (6) 101 MARITIME DRIVE (THE BEST WESTERN) IS ON THE RIGHT – TELEPHONE: 920.682.7000





Message From The Head Hog's Pig Pen

JANET BOOTH

Hi and a great big oink to all you piggy lovin' people out there!

The big day is almost here. By the time you read this newsletter, you'll have just the right amount of time to pack your bags, plan your route, gather your pigs, and scoot up to Manitowoc, Wisconsin for our annual Happy Pig Collector's convention. If you're like the rest of us you're squealing oinks of joy just at the thought of it. Think of all the old friends you'll get to see, new friends to meet, and pigs a plenty to enjoy.

I can barely contain myself from the urge and anticipation. I'm so excited!!!

Here are my top ten reasons to go to the H.P.C.C. Convention:

- Number 10) Get to see the sights in and around Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
- Number 9) The chance to find and acquire new pigs.
- Number 8) Pig out on lots of good food.
- Number 7) Buying pigs in the Silent Auction.
- Number 6) Win the grand prize at the Best Pig Contest.
- Number 5) Oink in agreement at our club business meeting.
- Number 4) Show us (brag about) your favorite, most interesting pig at the Show and Tell.
- Number 3) See pigs you have never seen before.
- Number 2) Meet and mingle with others cursed with the same affliction just for the nonsense of it all.

And, drum roll please:

The Number 1) Reason: Pigs, pigs, pigs, pigs, pigs, pigs, pigs.....and more pigs!

See you all soon! I'm so excited!!!

Your Head Hog,
Janet



To market, to market, to buy a fat pig,

Home again, home again, jiggety-jig.

Although my collection doesn't contain many, I am always fascinated by the German Pink Pigs.

These turn-of-the-century porcelain mass-produced pieces are unusual and I love the detail in them.

Originally, believed to be bearers of good luck, according to German superstition, the pig theme was a natural for the American novelty market. Teddy bears, also the rage, were molded in similar detail, some figures incorporating both animals in their design. Most bear a generic maker-mark yet the production has not been narrowed down to one particular factory. Some of the figures were molded individually for a single, original design, while others were churned out by the thousands for mix and match purpose. Though most of the glazing is noticeably production-line, fingerprints are detected in the blushing on ear tips and snouts, giving them a personal anonymous signature.

Most of the figures contain a 'travel' theme, probably due to the popularity as souvenir items. They surely competed with etched cranberry-glass mugs and candy containers, to be taken home from a vacation spot. You can note the occasional town, city or state inscribed on the side of a figure, an American addition, yet some figures carry traces of their origin, such as the red-shingled roofs of Germany. Over 150 examples of these porcine porcelains are described and pictured in the book I have written by Cynthia Gaskill, *THIS LITTLE PIGGY*. I have attained my information from this book. I enjoy reading the history of my pig items and have picked up books and literature thru years of antique and thrift store shopping.

Submitted by M'Liss Hay



Hey, that's Mercy Watson! I love those books! I think I'll read them all again . . .

In the Spring 2013 issue of The Happy Pig, the adorable piggie in the center of the top row on page 15 (Famous Pigs . . . Is your favorite here?), just above Pumbaa, at Petunia's right elbow, is Mercy Watson. Mercy Watson isn't just any pig. She is a porcine wonder. At least that's what Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson always say!

Mercy Watson is the shining star of a series of delightful children's books by Kate DiCamillo, marvelously illustrated by Chris Van Dusen. Mercy (a pig) lives with Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson (who are people) in a house at 54 Deckawoo Drive. Mercy is their darling, their dear, their porcine wonder.

There are six books in the series:

Mercy Watson to the Rescue, 2005

Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride, 2006

Mercy Watson Fights Crime, 2006

Mercy Watson: Princess in Disguise, 2007

Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig, 2008

Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes, 2009

The stories are cute and clever. The illustrations are joyous and exuberant in a colorful 1950s sort of way. The text and the illustrations complement each other very well.

At the heart of each story is Mercy Watson and her love of toast with a great deal of butter. Add in Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson who simply adore Mercy; and the nextdoor neighbors, Eugenia and Baby Lincoln, a pair of elderly sisters. Eugenia, not a sympathetic character, does not like Mercy at all, but the sweeter-tempered Baby sees Mercy as a dear. The books add in additional quirky characters along the way. (I think my favorite is Leroy Ninker, "a small man with a big dream." He is a thief, but he really wants to be a big strong cowboy. Yippie-i-oh!)

The final book in the series does a skillful job of bringing together all the assorted characters introduced along the way, all mixed in with a drive-in movie theater (showing When Pigs Fly), popcorn with real butter, and of course toast, with a great deal of butter.

I'll leave you with Eugenia Lincoln's assessment of Mercy:
 "She is a sly pig . . . and things with her are never as they seem."
 I'm going to leave it up to you to decide if this is a fair description of our porcine wonder.

Yes, seeing Mercy's delighted face (with buttered toast and Eugenia Lincoln, in order of importance) in The Happy Pig made me want to read the books all over again, just for the sheer joy of it. And read them all again, I did. Such fun!

And for my next trick, I think I'll re-read all the Toot and Puddle books, skillfully authored and illustrated by Holly Hobbie. Toot and Puddle are pictured (Famous Pigs . . . Is your favorite here?) directly above Freddy diligently seated at his typewriter.

Submitted By Cheryl Rider



Everything You've Always Wanted To Know About HPCC.

(BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK????)

Happy Pig Collectors Club is a not for profit corporation registered in the state of Illinois.

Membership dues are \$25.00 annually for members residing in the USA and \$30.00 annually for members residing outside US borders. Annual dues entitle each member to four "Happy Pig" newsletters and other assorted perks as devised and divvied up by the newsletter editor.

All members are invited to contribute articles, pictures, and information to the "Happy Pig" editor and also encouraged to attend the HPCC annual conventions.

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www.happypigcollectors.com

Club Forum:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/happypigcollectors/

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Frank Yao

Postmistress

Cheryl Rider

2013 Convention

Coordinator

Mickey Mangin,
with help from her
sister Karen



Convention Dates

July 26-27, 2013

Convention Location

Manitowoc, Wisconsin

If you are planning a move, please let us know so you won't miss getting your newsletter!!

HPCC Members: If you should move or change your phone number or email address, please contact me at Lbtown@isoc.net or Laura Townsend, 2803 Fraternity Court, Crestview Hills, KY 41017.

I will make sure the change is made in our roster so you do not miss any issues of the Happy Pig Newsletter.

Thank you,
Laura
Club Vice-President, Archivist, and "Keeper of the Roster"

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to the following club members!

(I will be attempting to get a more inclusive list of member's birthdays. These dates are from the members of our Club Card Exchange.)

July: Linda Colaric (31st)

August: Barbara Pigg (13th)
Jean Sharp (28th)

September: Shirley Hall (19th)



To view this entire newsletter in color, visit the club's website and enter...

USERNAME: **hpcmem**

PASSWORD: **Hogwild2**



In many circumstances, a piglet without the use of its hind legs would be put down. But Chris P. Bacon's unusual condition has made him an international star and an inspiration to those with disabilities. When Chris was born in January, a woman brought him into Dr. Len Lucero's veterinary office in central Florida. The piglet's two back legs were deformed because of a congenital defect that left the joints fused together. Lucero said the woman thought the animal would need to be euthanized.

But Lucero watched as the baby potbellied pig crawled out of the carrier. "His front legs were down on the ground, his back legs were up in the air, and he was balancing and walking forward," said Lucero. "He was full of life. So I thought, there was no way I could put this thing down, I'd rather give him a fighting chance, at least if not at my home, I would find someplace for him."

Lucero, who lives on a farm in central Florida, brought the little pig home to his wife, two kids and menagerie of animals. The animal's official name became "Chris P. Bacon," but informally, they called him "Piggy." Lucero's kids loved him and snapped photos. The family dog, a black and white Australian Shepherd, became his protector. The doctor wondered how he could help the pig move easier and considered a set of wheels attached to a harness, similar to what some lame dogs use.

His son had a set of K'nex toys — with wheels and other pieces that snap together — and Lucero built a small cart and cobbled together a tiny harness. At first, the pig didn't like the harness, but then the tiny animal got the hang of the contraption. A couple of weeks later, Lucero was at a veterinary conference and met with a representative from handicappedpets.com, a Nashua, N.H.-based company that builds pet wheelchairs, harnesses and carts. That company built a special wheelchair for Chris and created a Facebook page for the pig.

Lucero videotaped one of Chris' first jaunts and put the video on YouTube, and a star was born. That video, dubbed "Pig in a Wheelchair," has gotten 1.2 million hits. His Facebook page has 56,000 "likes." Chris now has his own webpage, Twitter account, Pinterest site — and as of last week, a book deal. Hay House, a publishing house that specializes in self-help and motivational media, has signed Lucero to write three books about the adventures of Chris, the disabled pig. The first book, which is geared to children aged 4 to 10, will be out in the fall.

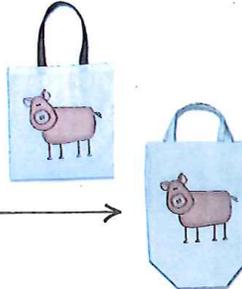
Chris, now 22 pounds and using a dog wheelchair, is seemingly oblivious to his new-found fame. He's been on the "Today" show and met Anderson Cooper. Now nearly 6 months old, the pig knows his name, comes when called and is housetrained. Lucero and his family take him outside several times a day, where he uses his wheels. Inside, Chris has a pen with plush beds where he can scoot around or nap in air-conditioned comfort. During a recent interview, he scarfed down his favorite foods: grapes and Cheerios.

It's possible that people are drawn to the piglet's tiny, cute body, or to his soft "uff, uff, uff" noises as he pulls himself around with his front hooves. But Lucero noticed something else: People were inspired by the little pig who wanted to walk and play. One commenter said her boyfriend had used a motorized wheelchair since 1988, telling Chris: "Keep chugging little man...keep chugging." Lucero and Chris now appear at fundraisers for disabled children, and Lucero is looking to start a foundation that helps people with disabilities. "I've actually gotten a lot of people on our Facebook site, people with disabilities, and people who have got recent disabilities. And they said that this little guy right here has inspired them to give it their all," Lucero said. "And that gives me the tingles in my arms every time I read something like that."

Submitted by Dianne Hamm

If you are interested in purchasing a Mug, Hat, Tote or Mouse Pad with the This Little Pig logo/information (This Little Pig; HPCCC – 2013; Manitowoc, Wisconsin) imprinted on it, here are your choices:

Budget Tote – Made from 100% cotton; has strong handles with reinforced stitching. 15.75”h x 15.25Ew -- \$10.55 →

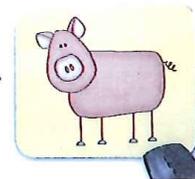


NOTE: ALL BACKGROUNDS ARE WHITE.

Grocery Tote – Made from 12 oz. cotton twill, it has cotton-web handles which have stress-point reinforced stitching. Dimensions: 13”w x 15.5”h x 7:deep -- \$15.85 →



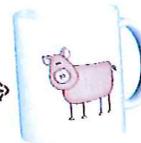
Mouse Pad – Quality, full-color printing; durable cloth cover is dust and stain resistant; non-slip backing. Dimensions: 9.25” x 7.75” -- \$11.60 →



Ringer Mug – Handle and lip of the mug are colored to match. 11 oz. Dishwasher and microwave safe -- \$17.95 →



Classic White Mug – It has a large handle that’s easy to hold. 11 oz. Dishwasher and microwave safe -- \$15.85 →



Travel/Commuter Mug – Stainless Steel spill-proof mug has a removable plastic top. Hand wash only -- \$24.30 →



Trucker Hat – 100% polyester foam front; 100% nylon mesh back (keeps you cool); adjustable from 17” – 24” -- \$15.85



You may pay for your item(s) when you receive them at the Convention. Check or cash will be accepted.

- IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONVENTION, YOU MAY CONTACT MICKEY AS FOLLOWS:

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 5125 WAGON SHED CIRCLE
 OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117
MICHELE.MANGIN@PNC.COM
 410-237-5501 (WORK AND BEST NUMBER – LEAVE MESSAGE IF I DON'T ANSWER)
 410-654-1253 (HOME – I'M NEVER THERE AND MY CATS MESS WITH THE ANSWERING MACHINE)
 410-237-5195 (FAX)