



GREETINGS FROM BEAUTIFUL KANSAS . . .

After a colorful fall season here on the Central Plains, we're now fortunate to be experiencing a beautiful winter. Clear skies and dry weather have made us feel truly blessed this winter season as compared to so many around the country who are fighting frigid temperatures and record snowfalls. Now is a great time to visit us in the middle of the country, view the production line firsthand, and experience the magic of New Horizons RV.

MEANWHILE . . .

Owners Phil and Karen Brokenicky warmed up the New Horizons Show Model on January 5th for a trip to the Florida RV Supershow in Tampa next week (January 12-16).

February 8-12, 2011 will see them traveling to Gibsonton, FL for the I.I.S.F. Super Trade Show & Extravaganza (http://www.gibtownshowmensclub.com/events/trade_show/tradeshow.asp).

The I.I.S.F. Super Trade Show is host to the largest array of products from around the world related to the amusement business. Some of the exhibits you can expect to see include rides, food supplies and equipment, concession trailers, electrical supplies, insurance companies, novelty items, plush toys, jewelry and much more.

If you're planning on being in Florida in early February and want to learn more about building your dream with a New Horizons RV, we'd love to set up a personal appointment with you. While this particular show is not as readily accessible to the general public, we would like you to know that we are available, by appointment, to meet with you while in Florida. Call us at 1-800-235-3140 today to begin making your dream come true.



EARLY 2011 SPECIALS

Don't miss a great opportunity & savings early in January/February as owner & CEO Phil Brokenicky will be offering a special incentive to the first six (6) customers who place orders in 2011.

Receive FREE full body paint and FREE rustic Cherry cabinetry on any unit! That's a nearly \$8,000 value – absolutely FREE!



Connectivity on the Road--Improving Internet Access (Part 1)

by Jack Mayer
(www.jackdanmayer.com)

Maintaining Internet access on the road is a topic that all RVers have to face. Access to the Internet is almost a "must have" capability in today's world, and there is no reason to give up that access when using your RV. Of course, if you are a full-timer or extended RV traveler this is even more critical to you.

There are many ways to access the Internet from your RV. An article this length cannot cover all of them, or even cover one access method in depth. For additional information, you can look on our website in the [Communication](#) section.

There are three methods of Internet access available to you on the road: WiFi, satellite, and cellular (aircard, tethered phone, or smartphone). I'll cover some of the aspects of cellular in this article, and some of the aspects of WiFi access in a later article. I will not be covering satellite access. Although satellite has, in the past, been one of the best ways to access the Internet, with the widespread availability of WiFi networks and cellular data the use of satellite is no longer as prevalent. However, if you frequent remote rural areas a lot, then satellite may be the only method of Internet access available to you. WiFi and cellular access is not everywhere either.

There are several aspects of cellular data access to consider: the provider, the physical modem, routers, and 4G. The provider is the choice that is most difficult for some people. The simplest way to choose is to first determine **where** you will travel and examine a potential provider's coverage in that area. You also must consider where you stay the most. If you will be mostly at a fixed residence, and only travel part of the year, then your requirements are different than a full-time RVer who is constantly travelling. Everything is a tradeoff - and you get to make the choices. That said, Verizon is generally considered to have the best coverage area across the

country. Sprint also has a good cellular data coverage area. AT&T - not so good. Unless you have a reason to choose otherwise - like your home base does not have coverage - Verizon should likely be your first choice for cellular data. You do not need a voice plan with Verizon to use a Verizon data plan.

3G is the term for the widely deployed technology used by all companies at the present time. 4G is the new technology that is just being deployed - Verizon calls 4G LTE. At the present time all providers have limited 4G coverage. 3G data plans from all providers run about \$60 when using a cellular modem. All the major providers now limit you to 5gb of data a month for that price (on the 3G networks). That is usually enough data for normal web browsing and email, plus downloading/ uploading some pictures. But it may not be enough data for some people, and overages can be expensive. All the providers allow you to track your use online, or through their PC software.

There is a very good alternative to purchasing 3G data service directly from one of the major providers. Millenicom (www.Millenicom.com) is a reseller of broadband data connectivity. Depending on the plan you buy, you will be placed with Verizon or Sprint. Their reselling agreements do not permit them to tell you who provides the network, but it is widely acknowledged that their *Advanced Plan* is Verizon, and their *Unlimited Plan* and *BYOD Plan* are Sprint. This company does not require a long term contract, and the advanced plan gives you 20GB of data per month. I really like the Advanced Plan for most RVers that travel widely, and generally recommend that. Millenicom has a good reputation, and I would not hesitate to use them. But please do your own research and determine if their offerings meet your needs.

Once you pick the provider and plan you need to pick the physical device. The device used to access the cellular data network is called a *cellular modem* - generally referred to as an aircard. The aircard connects either directly to your computer, or to a *cellular router*. Most aircards are now USB cards - they plug into a USB port on your laptop or router. You should only buy a USB aircard.

A cellular router is **different** than the router that you use in your home - it allows the aircard (cellular modem) to be used as the connection to the Internet, instead of a DSL or cable connection that is typical in the home environment. So the router you use at home, or find in Best Buy, is not going to work with an aircard. The cellular router works just like the router at home, though. It takes data from the Internet and "routes" it to/from your computer, your printer, your attached storage devices (etc.) over a wire (Ethernet) or wirelessly via WiFi. Using a cellular router is the only way for multiple computers or other devices to simultaneously use the aircard - so if you have two laptops you are going to want a cellular router. There are several cellular routers available on the market. My personal recommendation is the Cradlepoint MBR 1000. I would buy it from the 3G Store (<http://3gstore.com/>) because they will provide superb phone support for configuration issues. If you are technically knowledgeable you might consider the WiFiRanger (<http://www.wifiranger.com>). Be advised this is a new offering and may require some additional "fiddling" - but it has some attractive features we will cover in the next article.

Choosing which USB aircard to purchase requires several decisions. First, you need to select between a 3G-only or 3G/4G card. Next, you need to ensure that the card has the capability to attach an antenna. At the present time the best available Verizon 3G card is generally considered to be the Novatel U760. And the best Verizon 3G/4G aircard is the *Pantech LTE UML290 USB modem*, which supports 3G and 4G networks and has antenna ports for both. If buying today, you should probably consider a 4G device, since the future is 4G. The 4G networks will be rolled out rapidly over the next couple of years - but they are already available in many major cities. The

problem with 4G at the moment is that like many emerging technologies it is not everywhere, and not all devices are compatible. In fact, it is not yet available through resellers like Millenicom - you may only purchase 4G service directly from the providers. So, what do you do? If you decide to wait on the 4G networks, at least buy a cellular router that will support them. I'd recommend a Cradlepoint MBR1000 as a good choice and combine it with the U760 and the Millenicom Advanced plan. Later, you can drop the Millenicom service (no contract), upgrade the aircard directly from Verizon to a 4G aircard and use the same router. If you want to go 4G now, get the Pantech directly from Verizon (contract required, choose the data plan that meets your needs), and the Cradlepoint 1000 or the new WiFiRanger (<http://www.wifiranger.com>). But be aware that you will be on the "bleeding edge" of technology using any of these routers with the 4G devices. You may have issues that require multiple firmware updates until the vendors get the kinks out of the 4G software.

We only brushed the surface of cellular data with this article. If you have questions, feel free to read further on our website, or email me. The next article will discuss WiFi on the road, how to improve your WiFi signal, and how to combine WiFi with cellular data.



TOP TEN REASONS TO RETIRE TO AN RV

1. **New Experiences Abound.** Whether you're exploring the Battlefield at Custer's Last Stand, kayaking among whales in Glacier Bay or relaxing in campgrounds along the Missouri River, new discoveries are around every corner for a full-time RVer.
2. **Visit Friends and Relatives.** The mobility of an RV helps as you keep up with friends and relatives who are scattered across the country. And, with an RV, you've got an instant room for your visit . . . one that won't disturb the host's routine.
3. **Simplify Your Life.** Reducing your possessions will mean less stress and less clutter in your life. Rent a storage unit to store special mementos or pass them on to your children/grandchildren.
4. **Save Money.** Along with simplifying your life comes saving money as you will have less clothes to manage. And despite unpredictable fuel prices, camping on Corps of Engineers sites is budget-friendly. The Corps operates more than 2,500 recreation areas at 463 projects, mostly lakes.
5. **Give Back to Society—Volunteer!** Opportunities abound throughout the country for those who wish to volunteer. Try these links for more information:
 - a. Habitat for Humanity Care-A-Vanner (<http://www.habitat.org/rv/>)
 - b. National Park Service VIP Program (<http://www.nps.gov/volunteer>)
 - c. American Red Cross Disaster Service (<http://www.redcross/services/volunteer>)
 - d. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (<http://www.fws.org/volunteer>)
6. **Make New Friends.** Without any responsibilities or travel limitations, friendships are easier to make and keep as you find yourself participating in activities together.
7. **Travel Despite Physical Limitations.** As a result of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and increased awareness, campgrounds have built more ramps, paved more

pathways and created handicapped accessible bathrooms and showers. In addition, some RV manufacturers offer wider doorways, wheelchair lifts and barrier-free floor plans to accommodate customers with disabilities. Check out www.handicappedtravelclub.com for lots of great information. And, don't let anything stop you from realizing your dream!

8. **Travel Solo.** Surprisingly more women travel alone than men. Despite the potential safety and loneliness issues, singles are enjoying the RV lifestyle in greater numbers than ever before. For connection, try www.lonersonwheels.com a great group headquartered in New Mexico.
9. **Enjoy Freedom.** RVing is freedom. In a world where our lives are so structured, living in an RV full-time allows one the time to explore, read in a quiet corner, work as a temporary, or just relax. Now that's freedom!
10. **Live Like a Celebrity.** You're in good company in an RV. After all, celebrities such as NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon and movie star Jeff Daniels travel the roads in one. So, why shouldn't you?

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Baked Cod Casserole

2 T extra-virgin olive oil (divided)	½ tsp black pepper
2 medium onions (very thinly sliced)	1 ½ cup finely chopped whole-wheat country bread (about two slices)
1 cup dry white wine	½ tsp paprika
1 ¼ pound cod (cut into four pieces)	½ tsp garlic powder
2 tsp chopped fresh thyme	1 cup finely shredded Gruyere cheese
½ tsp kosher salt	

- 1) Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
- 2) Heat 1 T oil in a large ovenproof skillet over medium high heat. Add onions and cook, stirring often, until just starting to soften, 5 to 7 minutes. Add wine, increase heat to high and cook, stirring often, until the wine is slightly reduced, 2 to 4 minutes.
- 3) Place cod on the onions and sprinkle with thyme, salt and pepper. Cover the pan tightly with foil; transfer to the oven and bake for 12 minutes.
- 4) Toss the bread with the remaining 1 T oil, paprika and garlic powder in a small bowl. Spread the bread mixture over the fish and top with cheese. Bake, uncovered, until the fish is opaque in the center, about 10 minutes more.

GREETINGS FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Some of you may have been wondering, "Who is the new editor?" So I thought I'd take a few words to introduce myself. My name is Marty Wellington and I have been married to the same great guy, Ron, for 28 years. We have three daughters ages 22, 18 and 7 who succeed in keeping us very busy.

I started at New Horizons RV on November 1 and have felt right at home almost immediately. Most recently I came from owning my own gift store for 8 years in Manhattan, KS. Before that I spent many years in the Kansas City area working in a variety of administrative support positions so I am well acquainted with what it takes "to get the job done."

So far, here at New Horizons, I have enjoyed meeting many of you over the phone lines. It has been a pleasure to hear your stories and assist you in your search for the best RV to meet your needs.

I look forward to continuing to improve the newsletter to assure the content remains lively, informative, and significant to those interested in RVs and in New Horizons.

Please know that if you ever have concerns about content or wish to see something different in the newsletter, I will be more than happy to listen to your suggestions.

And, just to whet your appetite, I will be beginning another new column in future issues that will feature the different production areas at New Horizons so you can get a first hand look at the great craftsmen behind the scenes who make New Horizons RVs truly special.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US - Facebook (give us the “thumbs up” as you hit the “Like” button); join the New Horizons Owners Group Forum (NHOG) at <http://www.irv2.com/forums/f269>; or stop by next time you're in Central Kansas.

As always, we hope to see you down the road.

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