

## Money for Former TAI Members

**Deadline: December 10, 2001**

You are finally entitled to a refund if you made payments on a TAI promissory note!

You must file a claim in order to get your money. A copy of the claim form is attached to this newsletter

Settlement has been reached with several finance companies in favor of former members of the bankrupt Thousand Adventures. It's time now to claim your money! The latest negotiated settlement agreement (Great Western) requires that you file a *notarized* claim with Mr. Napier prior to the December 10, 2001 deadline.

We at NAM tried to anticipate some questions in order to help you claim your money.

- How do I know if Great Western eventually got my note payments?  
Simple! You don't. As far as any of us know Great Western eventually got ALL of the TAI note payments... Therefore, they owe you a refund.
- I already "Registered" with Mr. Napier for the class action. Do I have to file a "Claim" now?  
YES! The "Registration" provided information Mr. Napier needed to conduct the negotiations. The "Notarized Claim Form" and supporting documentation provides information the other party now requires in order to issue the checks in payment.

- What kind of documentation must I send to Mr. Napier with my claim form?
  1. Completed and notarized claim form
  2. Copy of your promissory note and membership contract
  3. Copy of as many checks or check registers, credit card statements, or other evidence that you made payments on your promissory note that you signed with TAI.
  4. A worksheet is included on the back of this claim form where you can list the documents you are providing in support of your claim

More information is available on our web site at: <http://www.natlassoc.com>

### **WARNING !! Travel America Scheme**

Representatives of "Travel America", a membership camping organization, are contacting former members of bankrupt Thousand Adventures demanding money that they do not appear to be entitled to.

Various Attorneys General have intervened on behalf of people who have reported these aggressive and unwarranted demands, and have required that they cease.

The demands have included threats of lawsuits and other actions designed to frighten people into sending some form of money. They commonly include demands that the targeted victim provide credit card numbers, bank account numbers, etc., with a corresponding offer that if the victim complies immediately - the nonexistent "debt" can be eliminated at a significantly lower amount than the amount alleged to be due.

They have repeatedly refused to make their demands and corresponding threats in writing.

The Travel America company appears to be invulnerable to Civil lawsuit because all of their US assets appear to be already committed to lawsuits, judgements and bankruptcies. We are in the process of trying to find out if the company, its owners, and/or the people making the phone calls, are vulnerable to any kind of criminal prosecution.

It is recommended that anyone receiving such a phone call immediately make a detailed record of the call and as much detail about the contents of the call as possible. The next step is to file a "written complaint" with your Attorney General. It might also be helpful to report it in writing to the Federal Trade Commission. If you need help finding a way to contact either of them let us know and we will help you.

Dan Hopper, Chairman  
NAM

### **Vopnford Sentenced to Federal Prison**

David and Barbara Vopnford plead guilty to Federal charges in an Omaha, NE court, that they knowingly filed false income tax reports in 1995. The guilty plea allowed them to avoid a trial in which other shady acts by these people might have come to light.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars sent to Blair, NE, by TAI members was apparently set aside for personal use and not reported as income.

David was sentenced to a year and a day in Federal Prison plus an additional year of supervised release. [Probation?]

Barbara was sentenced to 33 months of probation. [No jail time.]

Both David and Barbara will be required to work with the IRS in order to pay their delinquent taxes.

— Please —  
Reproduce and Distribute  
Copies of this Newsletter

## NAM SPONSORSHIP

Where in the world does NAM get the funds to support its work? From donations of course. We depend on donations from you who believe in what we are doing in order to support the web site, the newsletter, the mileage back and forth to court hearings, office supplies and more.

NAM staff and directors are not paid. NAM does not ask for DUES. We are certain that folks are tired of hearing about DUES! People should have access to our information for free.

We need a more stable system for paying the bills. So far we have raised funds by giving away a booklet called "Words to Live By" and a cookbook for Rvers.

We are also trying to find sponsors to commit for a month each year. For just \$300 a business or a group can sponsor the activities for a month and get recognition for it on the web site and in the Newsletters.

We are open to other ideas.

Any suggestions you have will be most welcome. What do other organizations do? Please let Laura Pate know about your ideas. You can e-mail her at [Lpate11221@aol.com](mailto:Lpate11221@aol.com), or by mail at 4307 Whitley Drive, Bloomington, IN 47401. Laura has been keeping the financial records of the association for the past year. You are important to us!

## Campground Members' Survey of the Industry by NAM

What do you think of the membership camping industry? Want to share your opinion?

NAM will collect data and report on what more than 1,000 campground members think of the industry and how you are treated as consumers. We want you to take part in this study and have your voice count.

Help us draft the study. Submit ideas for inclusion in it. NAM was established to give you a voice and this is one important way that can happen.

There are two parts to the study. Part one will collect data to provide the demographics of the people who take part in the study.

Part two will be multiple choice and will enable us to examine both the positive and negative things that concern you.

We will send it to those of you who have volunteered to help us so that you can distribute it to many additional campers.

It will also be available on our web site at <http://www.natlassoc.com>

Completing the form for the study is another way you can participate.

Barbara Mazingo is in charge of this survey. You can e-mail her at [barbara@natlassoc.com](mailto:barbara@natlassoc.com), write to her at 4307 Whitley Drive, Bloomington, IN 47401, or call her at 1-800-513-9042 Pin#2002.

*This newsletter is provided for information and educational purposes by the  
National Association for Members (NAM)*

## MAKE A DONATION GET A COOKBOOK

We have published a cookbook called the

### *"RV Kitchen Companion"*

*This may be the last cookbook you will ever need...*

It will be distributed nationally and used to raise funds to help pay some of the expenses of the NAM.

We will send a copy as our way of saying thank you to everyone who donates \$6 or more to the NAM. (One dollar is for postage). Remember that your donations to the NAM are tax deductible.

Send your donation to:

National Association for Members (NAM)  
4740 Silver Oak Street  
Dayton, OH 45424-4650

*All donations are used to help the NAM do its work.*

*We can stop fraud and protect the rights of campground members with your help...*

*We want your ideas and your support. Send us a letter, email, or anything else that you think might help.*

*This can be important to you, your neighbor, and your children.*

*We want your input.*

## — ATTENTION — FORMER TAI MEMBERS

If anyone has demanded money from you recently based on your old TAI membership but you do not want anything to do with them – we think we can help – especially if you had to send money to get them to leave you alone.

ASAP, send copies of the bills, letters, memos for record, cancelled checks, etc., and copies of cancelled checks or other evidence to Mr. Napier at the address on the next page.

We think this kind of activity by them is fraudulent and needs to be stopped. We also think that the money must be returned to members.

IF YOU WANT HELP  
– DO IT NOW –  
WHAT "YOU" DO COUNTS!

### Get in touch with us:

INTERNET SITE: <http://www.natlassoc.com>  
eMail Address: [chmn@natlassoc.com](mailto:chmn@natlassoc.com)  
Voice Nr: (937) 236-2882

### Get the newsletter: (No other cost.)

Send us 5 or 6 Self-addressed, Stamped, size #10 (Business Size) Envelopes.

**THOUSAND ADVENTURE'S, INC. MEMBER CLAIM FORM AGAINST GREAT WESTERN BANK**

Fill out this form to be included in the class settlement. If your claim is allowed, you will be sent your share of the class settlement proceeds within the time specified by the Settlement Agreement (including any modification to it approved by the Plaintiffs and Great Western Bank.) By returning this form, you are not prevented from sharing in other amounts that may be collected on behalf of Thousand Adventures Members from sources other than Great Western Bank and its current or former owners, officers, directors, other agents, employees and attorneys.

FAILURE TO RETURN THIS FORM MAY RESULT IN THE FORFEITURE OF YOUR RIGHTS TO COLLECT AGAINST GREAT WESTERN BANK. THIS FORM MUST BE NOTARIZED TO BE CONSIDERED.

IF YOU DO NOT RETURN A CLAIM FORM SO THAT IT IS RECEIVED BY CLASS COUNSEL BY DECEMBER 10, 2001, YOUR CLAIM WILL BE REJECTED AND YOU WILL HAVE WAIVED ALL RIGHTS TO RECEIVE ANY OF THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS. UNLESS YOU REQUESTED EXCLUSION FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS, YOU ARE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT **WHETHER OR NOT YOU RETURN A CLAIM FORM.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Thousand Adventures Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Important)  
Social Security Number(s) for each Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Cost of Membership: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Amount financed: \$\_\_\_\_\_  
Total amount of contract payments made: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (including down payment)  
Date of assignment of membership contract to Great Western Bank (if any and if known) Not Known  
Form of payment of contract Membership cost (for example, payment by "checks" or "VISA card") \_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe you have a claim for money from Great Western Bank? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Please include all evidence supporting claim that contract payments were received by Great Western Bank (or any documentation whatsoever or statements in support of any payments received by Great Western Bank) in order to verify claims. For example, if you claim you paid TAI by check or credit card, please attach copies of the canceled check, check register entry, or credit card monthly statement as proof. **FAILURE TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ABOVE MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM.**

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

**By signing this Claim Form, I represent that the information that I am giving is true to the best of my knowledge.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Member (or representative) Signature of Co-Member (if applicable)

State of \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 ) Ss.

County of \_\_\_\_\_ )

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001, by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to: Douglas H. Napier, Esq.  
TAI Class Action - Great Western Bank Claim  
Napier, Wolf & Napier  
607 Eighth Street, Suite One  
Fort Madison, IA 52627-2805

***(Must be received by Douglas H. Napier by December 10, 2001 to participate in the Great Western Settlement.)***

