



"The Mich-i-gram"



3rd Quarter [July, August, September] 2025

2024-25 Board Members

President

Fred Bryant

MACPresident052@gmail.com

1st Vice President

Sarah Smith

MAC1stVPresident052@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Pegeen Smith

MAC2ndVPresident052@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tom Cobb

MACTreasurer052@gmail.com

Secretary

Sharon Bryant

MACSecretary052@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Vacant

2025 Committee Chairs

Membership

Kat Hibbard

MACMembership052@gmail.com

Newsletter

Pegeen Smith

MACNewsletter052@gmail.com

Webmaster

Sally Lobaza

MACWebmaster052@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Karen Fisher

MACParliamentarian052@gmail.com

President's Corner

A Note from the President

Hello MAC Members.

Summer is here! Let's go to a Rally!

There are three MAC rallies to attend this summer. 'Veterans Serving Veterans' in Cadillac, 'Shipwrecks of Lake Huron' in Alpena, and 'Whispering Surf Fall Rally' in Pentwater. We will have our Annual Fall Executive Board meeting at the Whispering Surf rally. Details in this newsletter including links to register. I hope to see you at a rally soon.

If you are interested in an executive board position, please contact any Executive Board member. I am available to answer any questions you may have. MAC has a 2nd Vice President Position open. The 2nd Vice President assist the 1st Vice President, and the President as needed. This a great position to observe and learn the business side of the Club operations. I hope you will consider this position.

As I look forward to next year's rallies, I would like to hear suggestions from membership for the 2026 summer season. Let's fill the 2026 camping season from May to October. I would like to hear your suggestions for rally locations and please consider hosting a Rally. You can make it as elaborate or as simple as you want. Without Rally Hosts we can't have rallies. Please step up and be a host in 2026.

Being a 'Rally Host' allows you to have the rally exactly like you want it. You could have nothing planned, let everyone enjoy the area and campground as they wish, or plan games, shared meals, potluck, or have a catered meal for everyone. My favorite rallies are with a morning coffee gathering and an evening campfire gathering. We all gather for morning coffee and snack then explore different places and come back to share our days adventure and learn about new places to check out. There is a rally guideline sheet available to reference and help with the planning. Ask any Executive Board member for one. Any Executive Board member will be glad to assist anyway we can in planning your rally.

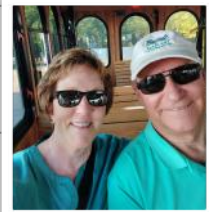
Safe travels.

Fred Bryant, BRN# 30962

MAC President

MACPresident052@gmail.com

Traveling together since 1958



Stay Connected:



[MAC Website](#)

[Region 4 Website](#)

[Airstream Club International](#)

[WBAC Caravans](#)

New Members

The Michigan Airstream Club wishes to welcome:

- ◆ Joy & Mark Allen
- ◆ Lynn Carter
- ◆ Deborah & John Chipman [Affiliate]
- ◆ Whitney David
- ◆ Michelle & Mark Kaloustian [Affiliate]
- ◆ Kevin & Nancy Mueller
- ◆ Kimberly & Karen Pontius
- ◆ Sherri & Leo Reap
- ◆ Matt & Kim Skeels
- ◆ Dale & Dawn Woods



New Members: Check out the Airstream International [Welcome Video](#)!!

1st Vice-President's Report

By Sarah Smith, BRN 26310

Greetings MAC Membership.

I hope your 2025 camping season is off to a sunny, hail-free start and you've been enjoying many outdoor adventures!. My husband John and I have had a blast spending time with lots of MAC friends this summer and look forward to meeting even more of you in Cadillac and beyond.



In our last newsletter, we learned the unfortunate news of the passing of our beloved past President, Jackie Klare, as shared in the memorial article by her husband Lee, our then 1st Vice Chair. Lee is taking time with family and made the bittersweet decision to step down from his Board role with our club. Lee and Jackie were proud and dutiful members of our organization and, above all, they were ambassadors of friendship and camaraderie. Together, they stepped up to host many rallies over their active years in the club. Their absence is already felt in our Board meetings. We wish Lee the best and plan to see him down the road, assuming his grandkids give him a camping break! Thank you, Lee, for your leadership with our club.

With Lee's departure from our Board, the executive team held a vote at our April 8th meeting to fill his role. As the previous 2nd Vice President, I am pleased to announce that I've now stepped into Lee's vacated 1st Vice President position. My prior role as 2nd VP next saw Pegeen Smith, our brilliant Newsletter Editor, voted into my vacancy. Congrats, Peg!

Roles continue to shift with the club and board. Sally Lobazo is acting as our Webmaster and following this newsletter release we'll have a new Newsletter Editor, too. Thank you, Pegeen, for refreshing the look of our newsletter during your tenure and the great content. Read on to learn who will be filling her big shoes..

All of these changes reinforce the importance of having an engaged and active board. I echo Fred's sentiments and encourage any interested member to consider how they may be able to serve or support the club. Whether it's contributing something to our newsletter, co-hosting or hosting a rally, or even with a board position - we'd love to work with you! More details on upcoming annual officer elections also follow in later pages.

Please reach out - and I hope to see you at a rally!



Membership & Club News

MAC Elections Coming in September by Karen Fisher, MAC Parliamentarian, BRN 155

Yes, it's that time again. We want to thank our current leaders for their service over the past two years.

Fred Bryant – President

Sarah Smith – 1st Vice President

Pegeen Smith – 2nd Vice President

Sharon Bryant – Secretary

Tom Cobb – Treasurer

Elections this year will be handled slightly differently than they have in the past. A ballot will be sent via email to all regular members of the club in early September. You will have 2 weeks to submit the ballot. The results of voting will be announced within 2 days of the closing of voting. Newly elected officers will be installed at the October rally in Pentwater.

We currently have a candidate for each of the elected positions except for 2nd Vice President. For more information on the duties involved in this position, please contact Fred Bryant at macpresident052@gmail.com.

Questions regarding the voting process can be directed to me at macparliamentarian052@gmail.com.

Remember that it is important that we all vote. Even if the slate of officers is just one person for each office, our Bylaws require that at least 10% of the membership vote. We need you!



Membership & Club News

MAC Executive Board Mtgs

Did you know that the Executive Board meets every month on behalf of the club? And did you know that members are welcome to attend the meeting as a non-voting observer? In accordance with the Michigan Airstream Club ByLaws, the Executive Board must give the membership at least 10 days notice prior to a business meeting. So we are sharing the meeting dates for 2025 so you can mark your calendar and join us. The Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month from January - October @ 7 p.m. EST via Zoom. To join, click [here](#) unless otherwise noted.

2025 Meeting Dates

January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

August 12

September 9

October 14

Mark Your
Calendar & Listen In!



If a meeting date changes for any reason, the board will send out a change notice to the membership via email with at least a 10 days notice.

MAC Spotlight

MAC Members Win Basket Raffle at Region 4 Rally



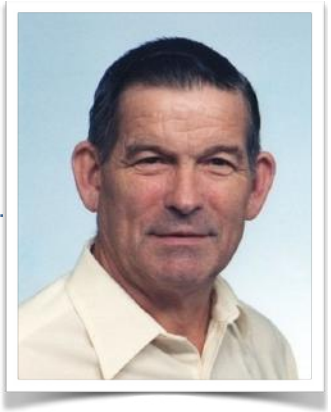
Sandy & Andy Lovlien [Center] & Bill & Beth Brackenridge [Right] won the Basket Raffle. Just over \$2K was raised for Greenbrier County Humane Society

Membership & Club News

John Edward Taylor (November 8, 1930 - March 16, 2025)

A Remembrance by Carol Jean Beard, BRN 8150

John Taylor was a man of many abilities. He was a salt of the earth gentleman. He wasn't pretentious. He was himself...not out to impress anyone and yet left a memorable impression on those who knew him. At age 94, John died in March. It is a privilege for me to be eulogizing John. He and Alice joined WBCCI and the Michigan Unit in 1994.



Our first experience with WBCCI was a Buddy Rally in Mason, Michigan. As it turns out, the couple from the Unit that had invited us to the buddy rally couldn't attend. When we arrived at the rally alone with our Lance camper on the back of an old Chevy dually truck [to attend a buddy rally one does not have to own an Airstream], John was the first person we met. He was the "Welcome to the Rally" greeter. He asked us if we were looking for someone. We proceeded to tell him that we were invited to this Airstream Buddy Rally but that our buddies were not able to attend. We then told John that I was Velma Clark's daughter. He said, "Velma's daughter!" From that moment on, we were in. We have been members of WBCCI since 2006. John made us feel so welcome!

It was at that Buddy Rally that we decided we were going to buy a used Airstream and join the fun! As a side comment, our buddies weren't my folks as would seem logical, but were mutual friends of my folks and us...Art and Mary Jane Thayer. At that point my mom, Velma Clark, had died and my step-dad, Ralph Clark, wasn't attending many WBCCI functions being by himself and all.

I shall always miss John. John possessed strong Christian faith. He often said grace at our rallies before meals. His prayers were so deep and heart-felt. John loved Biblical history. It inspired him to travel to Jerusalem. He even learned Hebrew. He built, to scale, a replica of Solomon's Temple. The hours and intensity of building something like that is unimaginable. It is now permanently on display at the Masonic Temple in Battle Creek, Michigan. It's unbelievable that anyone could build a replica so exact and so beautiful.

John was a proud veteran having served our country as a Marine. Education was very important to John. He went back and finished his high school education graduating in his early 40's.
[Continued on the next page.....]



Membership & Club News

John Edward Taylor (November 8, 1930 - March 16, 2025)

A Remembrance by Carol Jean Beard, BRN 8150

Continued.....

At our rallies, Alice was always busy volunteering with this and that. John was always there sitting quietly close by. He enjoyed their trailer and worked on improving things to make it more comfortable and homey. With his hands folded in front of him, he would walk around the campground and meditate. John was comfortable within himself. He knew who he was. I believe his nature walks brought him closer to his Maker. In that regard, he brought a relaxed, no hurry presence of peace which I found so appealing. In my opinion, in our hurried society, slowing down and smelling the roses, needs to be our goal.

John helped park our trailers when we arrived at the rallies. He offered to help whenever and wherever he was needed. He was also very non-controlling of Alice who loved to play Joker or cribbage when all the rally activities were done for the night. He would go back to the trailer and go to bed while Alice, others and I joined together to play Joker, etc. As an added comment, Alice, bless her heart, would then be up very early getting the coffee started for our complimentary breakfast. The memories are so vivid and special.

John's mind started to go a few years ago. When we visited them he would often say my name, "Carol Jean Beard" in his deep voice and would always extend love with a big hug. As I stated before I shall always miss John. His reading the Bible, playing the piano [which he taught himself how to play], singing hymns, sharing wonderful meals, going on rally tours together. He was a self-made man who earned and deserved respect. For me...to know John was to love John.

NOTE of CAUTION by Fred Bryant, President

I have had several inquiries from members about an email received from the MAC President that I did not send. The hackers are getting tougher to spot so be careful! There are several things you can do to spot the phishing emails. Anytime there is a request for money or gift certificates – Delete it! Move your cursor over the sender's email address. If you do not recognize it report it as spam then – Delete it. And finally, do not respond to any email you suspect. That will let the hackers know they have a valid email address and put more focus on your email address. I will never ask anyone to send money or gift certificates. So do not respond to those emails. Delete them!



Membership & Club News

Birthdays & Anniversaries

July

09: Andrew Lovlien

14: Daylon Robbins

15: Michael Frost

30: Jim Stimpson

31: Karen Routson

Laurie McLean & Earl Landesman: July 2, 1975

August

1: Angus Stinson

10: Shannah Behling

23: Mary Ann Stimpson

September

10: Pegeen Smith

15: Donna Larson

19: Mary Ann Horner

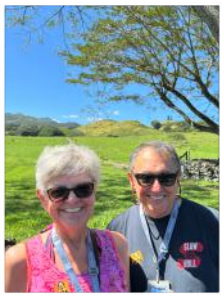


Please Note: If you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary listed in the newsletter, it's because we don't know it! In the old days that information was collected each year on your renewal slip. The ACI database doesn't collect that information, but we'd still like to include these celebrations in the newsletter. Please e-mail [Pegeen Smith, Newsletter Editor](#) and she will make certain to include your information in the upcoming issues.



Membership & Club News

New Newsletter Editor Coming this Fall



MAC is very lucky to have a new Newsletter Editor taking over the reigns beginning with the Fall Edition. Laurie McLean has graciously accepted the position and brings with her skills she used in her work life creating newsletters for BCBSM. Please give her a warm welcome and consider submitting something to publish in the MAC Newsletter. Share your camping/Airstream experiences, your adventures, your recipes, your tips & tricks, opinions, passions, etc. etc. Just type something and send it to the MAC Newsletter Editor @ macnewsletter052@gmail.com. It doesn't have to be perfect prose, grammatically correct or laid out. Laurie will take will take care of all of that. Let's give Laurie a warm welcome.

Laurie & husband, Earl

MAC Gather Together

MAC April Luncheon

A record-breaking number of Airstreamers came to Snug Harbor in Grand Haven, Saturday, April 19th.



Garden Flags For Sale At MAC Rallies

Back by popular demand! Michigan Airstream Club garden flags are available for sale at the MAC rallies (Cadillac, Alpena & Pentwater) for \$25/each (cash or PayPal).

MAC Gather Together

MAC Shell Work Bee

A small team of dedicated MAC members convened at the Veterans Serving Veterans Park to take inventory of everything that has been stored in the MAC storage shell called Michelle. The MAC shell is for sale. Back in the day, the storage shell was brought to rallies to support much larger rallies than we have now. The shell contained hoses and electrical equipment, a donut machine, coffee pots, tools, kitchens supplies and a popcorn maker, flags and bullhorns. It was a fascinating trip down memory lane for Carol Jean Beard who's parents were heavily involved in the Michigan Unit's leadership. During our work bee, the contents of the shell were logged onto a spreadsheet to present to the executive board and items will be sold, donated or given to historians for safe keeping.

The items for sale will be sold at a rummage sale during the Airstreams Return to Cadillac Rally in July with some of the proceeds going to Veterans Serving Veterans, Inc.



We Rally Together

Airstreamers Serving Veterans: "Airstreams Return to Cadillac II" Rally by Pegen Smith

LAST CHANCE to sign up for the Cadillac Rally! Deadline is July 4th. Don't miss out!

When: Thursday, July 17- Sunday, July 20, 2025

Where: Veterans Serving Veterans Park, 3740 S 41 Road, Cadillac, MI 49601. **This is a boondocking rally.**

Campsite Fee: \$25.00/night minimum but extra donations are welcome. Camp fees are collected by Veterans Serving Veterans and is tax-deductible. Click [HERE](#) to do this first.

Rally Fee: \$20.00 per person. Once you pay for your campsite, click [HERE](#) to register for the rally.

Hosts: Dale Schneider & Kat Hibbard, Karen Fisher & Wally Kimmel, and Tom & Peg Smith

Highlights:

- Rally goers give back with multiple service projects for the Veterans Serving Veterans Park such as setting posts to mark off their parking lot, extending their split-rail fence, planting flowers near the flags and memorial brick garden, repainting picnic tables and much more.
- We are planning a rummage sale at the Saturday Farmer's market in the pavilion. We are selling some of the items from the MAC Shell and will have the shell on display.
- Enjoy the 57th Annual Cadillac Festival of the Arts with a juried art fair, entertainment and food booths at the Cadillac Commons.
- Lots of biking, hiking, walking, swimming, golfing in the area!

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



We Rally Together

Shipwrecks of Lake Huron Rally - August 7 - 10, 2025 - Now is your chance!

Where:

Long Lake Park

<https://www.alpenacounty.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Long-Lake-Park-1>

Just off U.S.-23 north of Alpena and on County Park Road, this modern campsite park is located on the shores of Long Lake approximately 10 miles north of Alpena. We have arrangements to **hold 15 sites** that are close together. Sites are \$36.67 for back-in, to \$41.67 for a lake front site across the road. Register early to assure a site. **NOTE: As long as you can get a camping spot even if it isn't one of the held sites, you are welcome to register for the rally.**

Long Lake Park

10002 Hinks Park Road

Alpena, MI 49707

Contact:

Patrick Martin & Marissa Matuzak

Phone: [989-590-8109](tel:989-590-8109) or [989-595-2401](tel:989-595-2401)

Rally Fee: \$15 per rig. **Register NOW** by clicking **[HERE!](#)**

What's planned:

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center

<https://www.michigan.org/property/great-lakes-maritime-heritage-center>

Experience the rich history of the Great Lakes by exploring the exhibits at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. Feel the power of a Lake Huron storm while you walk the deck of a life-size schooner. Admission is free of charge.

Alpena Shipwreck Tours

<https://www.visitalpena.com/places/alpena-shipwreck-tours/>

Explore the shipwrecks of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary on the 65-foot glass-bottomed Lady Michigan! Two large viewing wells on the main deck give passengers a front row view of historical shipwrecks on the bottom of Lake Huron. Or paddle your own kayak, or snorkel from shore, a calm day on Lake Huron can provide amazing views from above. This is a two-hour tour of shipwrecks on the bottom Lake Huron. This has been reserved for Saturday, 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Tickets are \$34.00 per person. Dinner following the boat tour afterwards. **NOTE: The response to this opportunity has been fantastic. In order to secure seats, a block of tickets will be secured for those who have already registered. If you want to go on the boat, you must register NOW and get your tickets before the boat tour is sold out**

Visit the Alpena Wildlife Preserve on the Thunder Basin River (open to canoes & kayaks).

When:

Check-in at Long Lake will begin Thursday 8/7/2025 after making reservations with the Long Lake Park personnel listed above. Check out Sunday 8/10/2025.

Questions:

Contact John Williams [\[970\] 260-3450](tel:970-260-3450) or email: j_williams_pc@yahoo.com.

Fred Bryant [\[616\] 240-3724](tel:616-240-3724) or email: fbryant319@gmail.com



We Rally Together

Pentwater Rally - Thursday, October 2 - Sunday, October 5th



Whispering Surf is excited to have so many familiar names coming this October. If you haven't booked your campsite, you may still have a chance to join us! As the whole campground is blocked to the public online, you'll simply need to email or call Whispering Surf to secure your site, if you haven't already.

Check out all their info here: [Home - Whispering Surf Campground](#) There is also a Grapes and Grains rally in Grand Rapids shortly after this event, so we may have some folks from other regions join us! **DON'T delay** and book your campsite. As always, consider coming a couple days earlier or sticking around until Monday to maximize your time on Michigan's west coast. Click [here](#) for more information

about the rally.

Once you have secured a site, then register **[HERE](#)**.

For 2025, I'm working with a new caterer for Friday night - and of course Airstream tours.

Your Host: Sarah Smith (mac2ndvpresident052@gmail.com)

Happy Camping!



MAC Members Help Each Other

Never Underestimate the Power of Membership by Pegeen Smith, Newsletter Editor



Tom & I became members of the Michigan Airstream Club shortly after we purchased our first Airstream, a 2020 25 ft. Globetrotter. While this wasn't our first RV, we knew we had a lot to learn and saw the value of being an Airstream member. Fred Bryant was the first person who reached out to welcome us and over the years, we have gotten to know and appreciate how much Fred and Sharon do for MAC. So when Tom found a used 3/4-sized tuba in Tucson, Arizona and we needed a way to get it to Michigan, other than shipping, I called Fred. He and Sharon were in Tucson, Arizona for the winter and were getting ready to make their trip back to Michigan. Fred went from "I don't know if it will fit" to looking up tuba dimensions and determining it would fit in their truck. He picked up the tuba from the music store and managed to bring that instrument home. It lived on the floor between their beds while traveling and though I am sure it was inconvenient, they brought it to the April Luncheon safely. Their kindness and generosity is so appreciated and speaks volumes about the friendships and fellowship you gain when you join the Michigan Airstream Club. I am sure many of you have similar stories to share but I wanted to give a special shout out to Fred & Sharon Bryant. Thank you!

MAC Sells

Michigan Airstream Club Shell for Sale

The Michigan Airstream Club owns an Airstream shell which functioned at rallies for the storage of rally supplies. The shell has not been used for several years now and the MAC executive board voted to sell it.

Trailer information: 1968 Land Yacht, 28' shell. Battery and tires less than 5 years old. In towable condition. An official appraisal has been conducted on the Airstream shell currently located in Cadillac at the Veterans Serving Veterans Park. Any inquiries, please contact Tom Cobb @ mactreasurer052@gmail.com



MAC Shares

Our Airstream Safari By John & Anne Williams, BRN #1997

Our Airstream is a 1997, 25-foot rear bed queen, Safari that we purchased lightly used in 1998. The original owners traded it back to the dealer for a 30-footer, which I've learned is a fairly common occurrence in the Airstream world.

I became part of the Airstream family, in 1983, through my marriage to Anne. Anne's Grandparents had a 32-foot Land Yacht which her parents inherited when she was a child. Anne grew up traveling and camping with that Airstream. When she and her brother outgrew camping trips with the family her parents downsized from the 32-foot Land Yacht to a 23-foot Safari which they had when we were married. Through the generosity of my in-laws, we used the Airstream a few times at our local campgrounds and even lived in it temporarily while building our first house. It was during this time that I became aware of how special Airstream trailers are. When we started talking about getting a camper, we both wanted an Airstream.

During this same time period I was active in the local sportsmen's club and while attending a club function one of my fellow competitors overheard me talking about shopping for an Airstream camper. He said his parents had an Argosy he was selling for them. The price was right and in 1987 we were the proud owners of a 1979 24-foot Argosy made by Airstream. We loved camping in that Argosy, but as much as we liked the Argosy, we didn't really care for the floor plan so the hunt for our Airstream continued but at a much more subdued pace.

Jump forward 11 years and while traveling through Ohio on I-75 north of Dayton we noticed a RV dealer with many Airstreams on his lot so we stopped, just to look around. After checking out most of the Airstreams and exchanging contact information with the salesperson I explained we didn't see what we were looking for on the lot. About three months later I received a call from the salesperson telling me they had a couple of trailers with the floor plan we wanted. In October of 1998, and a quick trip back to Dayton, we traded our Argosy in and became the caretakers of our 25-foot Airstream Safari.

Looking back as we roll into our 26th summer with our Safari, we have taken the Airstream to almost every National Park west of the Mississippi and several on the east side. It has made the Lake Superior circle tour and been on so many camping trips around the Great Lakes we've lost track. We were living in Michigan when we purchased the Safari and spent a dozen years boondocking for two weeks in the wilds of Wyoming, in October. Then a week in central South Dakota on the way home. After transferring to Colorado, for work in 2001, we started doing the opposite. Hauling the trailer back to Michigan in September for a couple months then back to Colorado. Most of our camping in Colorado was boondocking in the mountains on the National Forest or BLM lands. Now as we get older, most of our camping is in developed campgrounds for the convenience of hookups. After our retirement we moved back to Michigan in 2019.



MAC Shares

Our Airstream Safari By John & Anne Williams, BRN #1997



Fortunately, I'm able to do most of my own maintenance and repair work on the Safari and over the years I have fixed all the little things that have gone wrong as well as added a few upgrades. This changed when for the first time since we bought the trailer, I had to schedule a repair I didn't feel comfortable doing myself. The grey water tank had developed a serious leak and without knowing exactly what the problem was, this was a much bigger job than I wanted to tackle. I opted to take it to Jackson Center because I thought they would have more experience with a vintage trailer than most of the dealers. In mid-March I towed the trailer to the Airstream repair facility at Jackson Center. As it turned out the dump valves were just worn out and needed replacing. I'm very happy with my decision to go to Jackson Center and the service they provided. While at the service center the repair staff kept coming over to take photos of our Safari and when I asked what was going on they said our Safari is part of a very limited production run and was quite rare. Many of the service people said this was the first one they had seen and were surprised at its good condition. In addition to the repair

work we learned that our Safari was special to more than just us.

This was the first time during our ownership that our Safari needed to be taken to an Airstream repair facility. After all the years and all the miles, it wasn't that we never had anything fail, we just never had anything serious break or fail that I couldn't repair to keep our Safari on the road until now. That's a pretty outstanding record for a 28-year-old Airstream and I hope it's good for another 20 plus years. But that's what makes an Airstream special.



MAC Shares

Apparently, I Camp by Steve & Jennifer Lee



Steve:

Growing up, a vacation usually meant getting in the car and heading North to the cabin or a road-trip to see out-of-state family or friends. The road trips included resorts, museums and theme parks along the way. For us, roughing it was a hotel that didn't have its own restaurant! I don't camp.

Jennifer:

I camp; I have always camped. Springtime found me under the lilac bush "camping" in the backyard. Winter camping was in the comfort of the living room under a tent of blankets draped over chairs. I camped before I knew I was camping. As an infant, I'm told, I was a charter member of Michigan's first chapter of the National Campers and Hikers Association (N.C.H.A.), Tails-A-Wagon. I slept in the front dinette bed of a tiny Airstream, Sis beside me and my brother in a bassinet at our feet. Breakfast was served on the oven door pulled down to make a table for Sis and me.

Steve:

I think I slept in a tent on three occasions. 1) My cousin's house caught fire, and we got to "camp out" while his parents stayed in a camper during reconstruction. 2) Our church youth group camped at Cedar Point one summer. 3) A group of us teenagers took a tent up with motorcycles to ride in northern MI. None of these experiences left me wanting to do more as I don't camp.

Jennifer:

In the late 1960s, early 70s I "camped" in the trailers at Northwoods RV Sales in Mt. Morris, Michigan and later at Chilson's All Seasons Trailers Sales where Dad was salesperson and owner respectively. All Season's Travelers became another N.C.H.A. unit my family helped charter. National rallies, international events, family camping in East Tawas, MI and local campgrounds filled our summers. The 1980s found me camping in a tent at Cedar Point with our church youth group. Hey, that Steve guy might be a camper like me; and, he cooks a great breakfast!

Steve:

Not long after marrying my high school sweetheart I get the call, "Get the checkbook. Dad found us a camper!" I didn't even know we were looking for a camper. I liked being married, so I brought the checkbook and we purchased our first camper. A 1973 Serro Scotty Sportsman. We left it on the river property as I don't camp.



MAC Shares

Apparently, I Camp by Steve & Jennifer Lee, Cont.

Jennifer:

I loved camping in my Scotty! It might have been one that I played in at Dad's dealership. It has the All Season's dealership stickers to prove it! We took it to the family property on the Au Gres River. Eventually we outgrew the Scotty and bought an old Vega. The Vega was popular with several mouse families. Time to look for something else!

Steve:

While searching for our third trailer [Remember, I didn't want the first one.] I learned Airstream quality was well above the others. Our search then focused on Airstream. Looking for a lightly used Airstream we stopped at Woodland in Grand Rapids, MI. After looking at a few new trailers, a 21'9" used Airstream caught our eye. Jennifer took three steps inside turned around, and I knew it was "Get the checkbook" all over again.

Jennifer:

An Airstream!! This little Classic was perfect! Just the right size. She was perfectly aligned with what I had hoped for. "Get the checkbook!"

Steve:

The Airstream was a 1997, 21'9" Excella Classic, tandem axle, wide body with peeling clearcoat and a missing window guard. The interior was as if it had never been used. We took it to the north river property and decided the trailer was too nice to leave there. We heard about Urban Air in Eaton Rapids, MI and signed up. The theme for the "Pimp Your Blimp" contest was Woodstock. We made paper flowers and covered up the peeling clear coat with flower power. People asked where we camped. I

would reply "I don't camp." and they would look at me funny. It became my tag line! We had a blast at the rally and we were hooked!

Jennifer:

I was always hooked on camping but now I have the people of the Airstream community to thank for hooking my husband! Steve and I have attended club, regional, national and international events where acquaintances have become friends that we look forward to seeing down the road over and over again.



MAC Shares

Apparently, I Camp by Steve & Jennifer Lee, Cont.

Steve:

I researched polishing the exterior and decided it was more than I wanted to tackle. Back to Woodland for a complete exterior restoration. This was money well spent and now the exterior looks better than new. Attending the Region 4 rally in Kalamazoo we met John and Jenny Schnettler. They were excited to see our trailer, insisted we join Vintage Airstream Club and show our trailer at an international rally. We signed up. But this is not camping, it's just attending events.

Jennifer:

It's always camping. Another family story reveals I had an eye for a good camping spot even as a child. While planting flowers with my mom and grandmother I stood up, looked around at the towering trees and quiet lanes and announced, "This would be a really good place to camp." My grandmother laughed, "When you camp here, you camp for a really long time!" I finished helping them plant flowers at the family gravesite! Apparently, I will always camp.

Steve:

Our list of Airstream friends keeps growing, and it's always a great time when we get together. I continued to share my "I don't camp" story but in 2023 Airstream friend, Marty, finally called me out. He said, "You really can't say that any more as I've seen you camping a number of times." Marty and his wife Page made me a custom shirt that says "Apparently I camp now".

Apparently, I camp!



MAC Shares

End of Airstreaming by Jim & Kathy Berish

Just letting you know we sold our Airstream, a 25' Globetrotter, back to Woodland. They don't sell them on consignment any more, just buy them back and resell them. After my open heart surgery with complications and extensive hospital stay last year I can no longer handle it. It's unfortunate but it was time.

We started with pop-ups, then moved onto Airstreams in 1998. Over the 28 years and 3 Airstreams we traveled close to 50,000 miles and spent nearly 250 nights camping. We covered the country north to south and east to west including Alaska and went to many of the National Parks.

Some of the major places we traveled include:

Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor, Maine.

6 week trip to Alaska.

Glacier National Park in Montana and Lake Louise, and Jasper Provincial Park in Canada.

the Badlands, Mt Wall Drug, Mount Rushmore.

Yellowstone and Teton National Parks.

Olympic, Mount Rainier, and Mount St. Helens National Parks in Washington.

Redwood National Park, Northern California.

Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Zion and Bryce National Parks, Utah.

Apostle Islands in WI.

Canyonlands and Arches National Parks, Mesa Verde, Petrified Forest.

Key West and Florida.

Hot Air Balloon Fiesta, Albuquerque, NM.

Reno, Las Vegas, Los Angeles.

Many, many more.

Regards,

Jim Berish

Email me @ jimberish2020@gmail.com

The Michigan Airstream Club wishes Jim and Kathy all the best and we will miss seeing your smiling faces.



We Rally Together in 2025 & Beyond (at-a-glance)

Dates	Event - Location	Host/Organizer	Links/Contact
July 17-20	Airstreams Return to Cadillac Boondocking/ Service Project Rally Veterans Serving Veterans Park	MAC Host: Dale & Kat, Karen Fisher, Wally Kimmel, Tom & Peg	Veterans Serving Veterans
August 7 - 10	Shipwrecks of Lake Huron Long Lake Park, Alpena	MAC Host: Fred Bryant/ John Williams	Shipwrecks of Lake Huron
August 23-28	WBCCI International Rally, 2025 York Expo Center, York, Pennsylvania	WBCCI	2025 Rally
September 20-28	62nd Annual Swiss Festival Sugar Creek, OH	Host: Region 4	Swiss Festival
October 3-5	MAC Fall Pentwater Rally & Business Meeting, Pentwater, MI	MAC Host: Sarah & John Smith	Pentwater Fall Rally
<u>2026</u>			
May 15 - 18 SAVE THE DATE	Spring Maintenance Rally Wabasis Lake Campground, Greenville, MI	MAC Host: Sarah & John Smith	Details to Follow
June TBD	Silver on Silver Rally Holiday Park, Traverse City, MI	MAC HOST NEEDED	Details to Follow
July 16 - 19 SAVE THE DATE	Airstreams Return to Cadillac III - 50th Anniversary Celebration, VSV Park, Cadillac	MAC Host: Dale & Kat, Karen Fisher, Wally Kimmel, Tom & Peg	Details to Follow
August 22-27 SAVE THE DATE	WBCCI International Rally, 2026 Minot, ND	WBCCI	2026 Rally

