



Region 4 WBAC



September 2019

region4.airstreamclub.net

Fall Issue

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President's Corner

Hello Members of Region 4,

I am so excited and honored to begin my term of office as your Region President. I am looking forward to visiting with as many of you as possible during the coming two years.

I have a great team of officers and committee chairs to work with. Brad Briggs is our 1st Vice President and Fred Kiehl is 2nd Vice President. Mark Kennedy will continue as Region Secretary and Steve Rhodes as Region Treasurer. In addition, Cindy Conant will continue as Blue Beret Contributing Editor and Jane Briggs will continue as Region 4 Newsletter Editor. Brad Briggs will take over responsibility as Membership Chair for Region 4, but we are looking for a volunteer who would be willing to take on this responsibility for the region. If you are interested or have additional questions, please email or call Brad or me.

New committee chairs are Velina Durbin as Webmaster. I want to recognize Dave Brett, retiring Webmaster for his many years of service to Region 4 and for the great job he has done with our website.

(Continued on the next page)

A new position for Region 4 is Community Service. I personally feel I have been blessed and hope you feel the same. Because of that I hope that you, in turn, are willing to reach out and help others. I know many of you incorporate local charities into your rallies, but Brad, Fred, and I wanted to do something on a Region level as well. Thank you to Dan and Dawn Bihary who have stepped up to lead our efforts and have come up with an exciting opportunity for us to support Santa's Hide-A-Way Hollow, a Christmas retreat for terminally ill children and their families that provides a perfect setting for a visit with Santa Clause, no matter the date. Please continue your support of your local charities but look for ways to add Santa's Hide-A-Way into your plans for the coming year. More details included on Page 5 of this newsletter.

Thank you to all of these volunteers for your willingness to serve Region 4.

I know this time of year brings many changes in our units and clubs as new officers are installed. I want to thank those who have served this past year and welcome those who are taking on new responsibilities or continuing in a current position. Although we are a camping club and enjoy getting together for fun and fellowship, there are always those pesky details that need to be followed up on so we can continue to do that. Our officers are the ones that make that happen. Make sure to recognize them and thank them for their service.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns about Region 4, or just want to chat, feel free to reach out to me via email or by phone.

See you down the road,



Karen Fisher
President – Region 4



WBAC Region 4 Needs You

Would you like to help the Units/Clubs in Region 4 grow?

Region 4 is looking for a Membership Chair.

If you are interested, please contact Karen Fisher or Brad Briggs

From the First Vice President

Final Update on our 12V Compressor Refrigerator Conversion

In the Fall 2018 and Summer 2019 issues of the *Region 4 Newsletter* I wrote to you about converting our Airstream refrigerator to a 12V compressor unit. Here is the final chapter.

While traveling with the replaced unit I kept a thermometer in the freezer. With compressor units the cold goes to the refrigerator first and then to the freezer. This is opposite with a traditional RV absorption refrigerator (the type that works on gas) where the cold goes to the freezer first and the refrigerator second. This is why it is recommended to place a thermometer in the refrigerator to monitor an absorption type refrigerator. If the refrigerator is working properly, then it stands to reason that the freezer is working properly also.



I noticed that the freezer was coldest when I stopped at the end of the day of traveling. I also noticed that in general use the bags of ice cubes we kept in the freezer would melt slightly and refreeze. In other words, the temperature was not being kept very constant and, at times, above the necessary parameters.

I attended the 2019 International Rally in Doswell, VA. During of the first five days, there were four days where the daily high temperature was over 100°. Needless to say, both the air conditioner and the refrigerator were working very hard. The air conditioner would only cycle off and then on briefly in the night. The refrigerator, as far as I was able to tell, constantly.

Then on the fifth day it rested permanently! The compressor stopped working altogether. I wrote the manufacturer of the cooling unit to inform him that I wanted to go back to an absorption refrigerator unit. He said “no problem, and when can you come in. We will accommodate your schedule.”

When I came to the factory, he and his sons installed the absorption refrigerator unit only to find out that their unit is more robust than the Dometic unit. Meaning that theirs is bigger and would not fit in the space because of the rounded roof of the Airstream. Because I did not have time to modify the cabinet to make it fit (it would have been a minor modification) and he was out of options for me, he refunded my purchase price and gave me a name of a local business that sells scratch and dent new Dometic refrigerators. By luck they had the model I needed and had me out in an hour.

I know of one other Region 4 member family that has the 12V compressor conversion and are using it successfully. I really wished it had worked out for us.

Here’s Living and Learning with our Airstream....

Brad Briggs
1st Vice President, Region 4

From the Second Vice President

Allow Me to Introduce Myself.

Hello everyone. My name is Fred Kiehl and my wife's name is Kathy. I thought that I would start by telling you a little bit about us. We were both born, raised and still live in Akron, Ohio. We've been married for 45 years. We are both Veterans, Kathy served 26 years and I served 28 years. Kathy retired in 2016 from Akron Public schools where she worked in student transportation. I have been an excavating contractor for 50 years and am in the process of closing the business and retiring. We have two dogs and six cats (none are Airstreamers.) Kathy has several hobbies that revolve around her creative talents and enjoys flower gardening. I dabble in our family hydroponic greenhouse.



About ten years ago we started travelling more than our usual, 5-day vacation once every seven years. After our time in the Army, our idea of roughing it was the Holiday Inn. "Camping" was not in our vocabulary. So, in July 2016 on a trip to Florida to help our nephew move, Kathy made the comment that the pickup truck rode smoother than our car (recently purchased for travelling) and maybe we should consider getting a trailer. So, within a month we went to an Airstream dealer and looked at a couple fifth wheel trailers. The salesman allowed us to peek inside an Airstream. To learn more about Airstreams, we went on the Airstream factory tour, and there found out about WBCCI. I found a used 2009 25' Classic online, drove four hours to see and purchase it, and then joined the Club. This all happened a year earlier than we needed because my plan was to sell the business and retire in 2017.

Well, retirement was delayed a couple of years. However, I listened to Gary Olinger (Region 4 President at the time) when he told us at our first rally "To get involved – you only get out of the club what you put in". Therefore, I volunteered OUR help at three international rallies, three regional rallies, and co-hosted three-unit rallies along with attending one national rally and two national caravans and have plans to do at least one caravan a year for the foreseeable future. Gary was right – we love it.

I've attended Escanaba, MI and Salem, OR International Rallies as an attendee and volunteer. This year in Doswell, VA I was an attendee, volunteer and region officer elect. As a region officer elect, I was given exposure to the business side of the club. Having attended the Region Officers Training, Region Officer Forums, and the International Board of Trustees Meeting, I'm getting a deeper sense of duty and making new friendships across North America that will last long after my time in office.

Fred Kiehl
2nd Vice President, Region 4

Lost and Found

At the 2019 Region 4 Rally, in Oak Harbor, Ohio, the following items were lost or found:

Found: Pierced earring. If you lost one, contact Jane Briggs.

Lost: If you found a Patagonia black rain jacket, please contact Terry Baughman at 614-499-2107; he is tired of getting wet!

REGION 4 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chairs, Dan and Dawn Bihary

Introducing a Region 4 Community Service Opportunity

At the 2019 International Rally in Doswell, my wife and I accepted the position of Region 4 Community Service Chairmen. Our entire family has been volunteering for various organizations for many years. We have previously concentrated our efforts with the Boy Scouts of America, Lions Club, and with the American Red Cross Disaster Action Team. A few years ago, we elected to step away from these organizations and concentrate on more personal activities.

Although we have really enjoyed more free time, we have often discussed how we miss ‘giving back’ to our community. We miss the great feeling you get from helping others. It is our hope that volunteering for this position with the WBCCI will fill this void.

We invite you to join us in giving back to our community while enjoying the Airstream lifestyle. Your assistance may be financial, physical, or both. We do promise you that any support will be appreciated!

The Beneficiary

Shortly after the International Rally, a proposal was sent to Region 4 President Karen Fisher. Following review, we received the go-ahead to create a partnership with a very special organization named Santa’s Hide-A-Way Hollow.

Santa’s Hide-A-Way Hollow, a non-profit organization founded in 1981, is dedicated to working with seriously and terminally ill children and their families to provide comfort and support throughout the final stages of the child’s illness. Many children ask to see Santa for a last Christmas as they near the end of their struggle. Santa’s Hide-A-Way is committed to meeting that very need any time of the year. Santa gives his healing Spirit to all!

Terminally and seriously ill children face incredible personal challenges throughout the progressive stages of their illness. The mythology and folkways of Santa Claus represents a very special form of support for these children. Santa Claus is about listening and supporting a child’s dreams, wishes and emotional and spiritual needs. A day of excitement being with Santa is a statement about the child’s worthiness. A child is encouraged to ask for what it is he or she wants and participates in the Spirit of Christmas with their family and friends. Santa also provides joyful and fond memories for the families that will support their healing needs after the loss of their loved one.

(Continued on the next page)





The compound naturally has a large workshop for Santa, a tailor shop that specializes in making either red suits or green suits, and a barber shop to keep Santa and his elves looking spiffy.

There's a full-scale wooden look-out tower for the elves to watch for the first signs of snow and a garage for Santa's sleigh, which along with Santa, was at the North Pole. The grounds also have a heliport for Santa to land his helicopter.

Of course, there's a working train, which sometimes has Batman at the helm, and there's also an ice cream shop.

A fishing pond is stocked with full-sized fish to catch for that photo opportunity, and a nearby pavilion provides shelter for a Christmas in July picnic for Santa's special guests.

A nurse's station, complete with beds, is available for sick children to rest for a while or receive a needed shot of medicine.

The 93-acre property has nearly everything Santa could want in a perfect hideaway, including a school for Teddy bears as well as a cabin for Bernard, when the chief elf visits.

It even has an authentic Native American teepee constructed by an indigenous group from Colorado, donated and shipped to the Hollow. When children visit, one particular elf, reads stories to the children gathered around her in the teepee.

The crowning building is currently being completed. It is a 100-seat chapel. Families of children that have died request a place where they could return and worship

Families have asked for a chapel to hold services for children who have died. There are 600 Christmas trees planted on the property by families who have lost a child. That is, except for one tree. It was planted by a girl whose father died from complications after giving her life-saving bone marrow.

The Region 4 2019-2020 Community Service Project

When we made initial contact with Santa (Bill) he replied almost immediately with enthusiastic interest. We made plans to visit. Dawn and I traveled the 1 ½ hours to the private hollow in Middlefield, Ohio. What we discovered was a couple that has fully committed their entire lives to helping ill children and their families.

We sat with Santa & his wife sharing cookies and throwing questions at each other for about an hour. In truth, we were casually vetting each other. In an effort to keep the Hollow magical, it is not open to the public. Prior to entry, Santa must determine if you are an appropriate visitor! This is also why images of the facility are scarce. The is intentional so as to keep the visit full of surprises for the child and family. Dawn & I passed, so we were invited aboard a golf cart for a tour.

We first went by the 9 reindeer, the train station, a multitude of small shops that all have special purposes, and many very special things. This family truly has built a small city all for kids. It is amazing.

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Wally's Christmas Tree Farm

Picture a scene reminiscent of a small-town corner lot where families select the perfect tree to tie to the top of the car, take home, and decorate in preparation for Christmas. The lot is contained by an old wood and wire snow fence. Strands of exposed lights are hung above. Various evergreen trees stand ready for selection. And of course, an old, silver Airstream trailer is in the corner where 'Wally' is awaiting a sale!

Now we can interpret the scene to better fit the Hide-away hollow:

The lot will be about 60' square. Between two and three dozen trees would be permanently planted, decorated, and lit with underground electrical service to each. Various garland, fun signage, saws, and other appointments fill the lot. An ADA compliant path and small ramp lead into an Airstream that contains a warmly decorated interior. The modified layout is stocked full of craft items that children can assemble into Christmas ornaments. These can be taken home or placed on one of the trees outside. The rear of the Airstream will be employed as a volunteer workspace where various tasks can be completed and communication radios are charged and stored.

This is the vision that Santa and I share. Following the tour, Santa presented a few possible locations for Wally's. He held back the best for last. He has suggested a nice spot directly adjacent to the helipad and diagonal from the chapel.

How does this become a reality? Tasks include initiating a campaign to raise funds, acquiring and modify a trailer, and planning and executing an early springtime work rally. This is a lot of work, but I really believe we have many great people in our region that would be excited to help.



Proposed site for Wally's Christmas Tree Farm in blue dashed line.

A question that comes to mind is of course money. A detailed budget has not been developed yet. A "guestimate" is around \$10,000 - \$11,000 in cash or in-kind donations. The good news for us is that Santa has agreed to a 1:1 match up to about \$6,000. Seems he has a lot of elves that pitch in with supplies and services.

The largest item to acquire will be the trailer. Unfortunately, many Airstreams can be found that have been gutted by big dreamers without the proper resources to complete their project. As we are looking for an Airstream that does not have working 12-volt, propane or water/waste systems, the search will be easier and less expensive. Additionally, the trailer will be permanently placed, so good running gear isn't critical.

The boondocking work rally would tentatively planned for early April 2020, several weeks before the region rally. Prior work such as rough grading, electrical service, and concrete work would be completed prior to the rally. Upon our departure, Wally's Christmas Tree Farm will be ready for business. The grounds of the Hollow could realistically hold many, many Airstreams on grass. I would really be happy if we could get 15-20 units attending. We certainly could not have too many. I look forward to a rally filled with hard work, good food, and great fellowship.

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What Happens Now?

One of the best things about this project is that it has a specific goal, a beginning date, and an ending date. This project is not a long-term commitment.

We are currently looking to establish a team of Airstreamers to help lead this project. The roles needed include a project treasurer, a project marketing head, and a rally organizer. We welcome you to contact us to discuss joining the team.

We are currently setting up methods to communicate with Airstreamers interested in Wally's Christmas Tree Farm. Email, Facebook, and a website will probably be used. Feel free to email us to be included in communications.

Links of interest include: <http://www.santashideawayhollow.com/> and Facebook Group "Santa's Airstream."

Our contact information is Dan & Dawn Bihary, WBCCI 24260, (400) 453-9782. Please leave a voicemail, and I normally can call right back. Email is best at dan@bihary.com.



Region 4 Save your Pull Tabs!



Next time you see Wally Kimmel, give him your pop can pull tabs. In case you think he might elude you, give them to someone who can chase him down.

Wally has been tasked, by guess who, to turn them in at the 2020 International Rally in Loveland for the supported charity.

INTERNATIONAL:

Takeaways from your Veeps.

My biggest takeaway from these meetings at International is that the budget was approved to purchase a new member database. The existing database that keeps the information on all members does NOT have the capability to retain the information once a member is inactive and the BRN (Big Red Number) is issued to a new member. There is a proposal for this new database to use a member number separate from the BRN to track members and their history. It is sad to realize all the history that has been lost and satisfying to know that this is being worked on to be corrected for the future.

Fred Kiehl
2nd VP, Region 4

To piggyback on Fred's comments, the current database is woefully inadequate for the folks at HQ in Jackson Center. It does not have the capacity to process the data, nor make relevant searches and reports needed in today's operation of the Club. The topic of separate member ID numbers is expected to be addressed at the Winter IBT (International Board of Trustees) meeting in January 2020. Additionally, several proposed changes to the Bylaws and the Blue Book appendices were presented and approved by the IBT. These changes range from cleaning up outdated information and practices to more effective ways of obtaining the information in the appendices on the new website.

The new website was previewed at the Rally and went live a few weeks ago. If you have not looked at it yet, I think you will be wowed by the look and ease of use. <https://airstreamclub.org/>

Rumor control: For many years WBCCI has had eight doing business as (DBA) names like Wally Byam Airstream Club and Airstream Club International. The latest DBA created in 2015. Due to the tremendous effort from the marketing committee of 15 people with more than 185 years of combined membership in the club, you are starting to see these DBAs used more. Click [here](#) to see a video of this marketing process. The name of our club--Wally Byam Caravan Club International--remains unchanged as a 501C7. Why use DBAs? Because they can be used in strategic ways to convey our marketing message to various audiences. Very few people could tell you what a caravan club is, let alone who Wally Byam was. First, we need to get folks into the Club and then educate them about these things.

Another marketing tool unveiled at Doswell is the unofficial logo used for marketing. This version is clipped from the new website and is displayed on the right.

If you look at the logo closely you see in the inner circle *Inspired by Wally Byam* as an homage to the creator of Airstream, Inc. and the Airstream way of life. Wally's name is shown in his signature, representing his stamp of approval since 1955.



In the center are the letters "A", "C", and "I" representing the DBA Airstream Club International. The A, in blue, is in the shape of the end view of an Airstream. The C, in gold, is the birds eye view of an Airstream with the tongue at the opening of the C. The I, in red, is the axle of the trailer. From my viewpoint, this logo is very clever and beautiful. The same colors and fonts are used in new marketing materials, including a recruitment tri-fold.

Brad Briggs
1st VP, Region 4

Marketing video URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AjDC8nfy3g>

Going to Loveland for the 2020 International Rally?

A caravan to Loveland has been planned for Region 4. The caravan is 10 nights and 5 locations.

Leaders: Pat and Will Franger, WBCCI #17800, Cell: 559-641-8604, email: williamfranger@aol.com Address: Will Franger 45810 Griffin Ct. Oakhurst, CA 93644. Kitty Fee for 2. \$1000 (TBD) Kitty fee with 1 \$800, guests: \$200 each, Kitty fee subject to change. Registration deposit: \$250. Cancellation fee is \$50 before 2/1/18 plus non-refundable deposits. Leaders discretion after.

Region 4 Caravan through America's Heartland (Caravan R-2020-4A):

June 3-6 MAC Rally @ Coldwater, Branch County Fairgrounds full hookups

June 7 Caravan kick-off at Coldwater, Branch County Fairgrounds. We will meet & greet during the day, have a kick-off dinner (place to be announced), pass out of materials and have Drivers' Meeting

June 8 – Breakfast: To Be Determined (TBD) Hitch-up and start the caravan. About 185 miles to the Hollywood Casino, Joliet IL (Full hookups). We are starting the caravan on Hwy US 12. When we prepped the caravan there was a detour, Follow US-12 detour to I-94. Once on I-94 follow to I-80 (Indiana Toll Way for \$2.80) through Chicago and all the way to Joliet turnoff to the Hollywood Casino. Dinner at the restaurant in the Casino (Tap-99) Included with the caravan. Alcohol will be at your own expense. A drivers' meeting during/after dinner.

June 9 – Breakfast (TBD). Hitch-up and off to the Amana Colonies. About 220 miles. There is another event with about 320 trailers at the Amana Colonies RV Park (Full hookups), but there will be plenty of space for us. Happy Hour and Drivers Meeting. If we have volunteers, we may do a dinner, more on that later.

June 10 – Breakfast (TBD). Explore the Amana Colonies, material available. Dinner will be at the Ronneburg Restaurant and Drivers' Meeting.

June 11 – Breakfast (TBD). Hitch-up and off to Eugene Mahoney State Park. About 265 miles. A beautiful lake on the East side of Lincoln NE. Water and Electricity ONLY! So empty at Amana. We will be here 3 nights. Happy Hour, Drivers' Meeting, and Dinner (TBD).

June 12 – Breakfast (TBD). Tour the Strategic Air Command Air & Space Museum, and if you are brave the GoApe Zip Line. We will be having dinner, the final banquet, at the lodge and a Drivers' Meeting during/after dinner.

June 13 – 14 - Breakfast (TBD). On your own. Relax, do laundry, go to church, if so inclined. Those that have early parking at the rally will be leaving on Saturday. A supplement for those leaving will be provided. Dinners (TBD) each night.

June 15 – Breakfast (TBD). Hitch-up and off to Lake McConaughy Full hookups, outside of Ogallala NE about 317 miles. Happy Hour, Dinner (TBD) & Drivers' Meeting.

June 16 – Breakfast (TBD). Visit the Ogallala area, Boot Hill and many other sites. Prepare the trailer for the rally. Happy Hour, Dinner (TBD) & Drivers Meeting.

June 17 - Breakfast (TBD). Drive to the Rally. At this time, I am anticipating having an arrival date of 6/17 after 2 PM. The drive to Loveland is about 220 miles. I would like to "convoy" in with our Region 4 flag flying as we enter the parking area.

Breakfast and Dinner (TBD): I am hoping for volunteers to become "Hosts" for each stop. Someone to prepare the coffee for the mornings (we provide coffee and air-Pots). Others to prepare the breakfast and dinners (we provide all the fixings and recipes). If you are knowledgeable of any of our stops, your expertise will be appreciated.

Happy Hours: Again, I am looking for people to step up and prepare a location and table/seating area for Happy Hours. I would expect the participants of the caravan to bring something to share.

SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

Folklorama 2019 - Region 7 National Event Rally

By: Jane Briggs



National Rally Celebrating Folklorama—A 50th Anniversary

Around the World served as the theme for the Canadian heritage celebration of the dozens of cultures who make Winnipeg, Manitoba, their home. This National Rally event ran from August 7-14, 2019, and was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Visitors to the festival sampled cuisine, viewed cultural displays, and experienced elaborate dance and music performances from over 40 different countries. Region 7 hosted this event at the Town and Country RV Park outside of Winnipeg. Brad and I were lucky enough to be able to attend this outstanding rally event.

The rally itself was packed full of events in addition to the two VIP nights of Folklorama. On Wednesday, after parking in a “wagon wheel” layout at the campground, dignitaries from some of the area museums and visitor centers greeted us. Thursday had our group boarding coach bus transportation to tour our first of three pavilions for evening meals and performances, along with our Folklorama Ambassador, Cyndi, who provided background information and helped guide us through the experience. Our three pavilions were 1) Africa, 2) Serbian “Beograd”, and 3) Celtic Ireland. The pavilions were housed in any large buildings such as local churches, fellowship halls, curling team practice arenas, and/or convention center ballrooms!



(Continued on the next page)



Friday included morning free time and afternoon seminars. We took advantage of the beautiful weather and headed out to Winnipeg's Assiniboine Park and the Leo Mol Sculpture Garden area. On Saturday, our group had a reserved tour of the Human Rights Museum, a must-see when in the Winnipeg area. Sunday included a tour of the Manitoba Museum, which among its artifacts was a replica of the famous ship, the Nunsuch, built in England to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1970. In the evening, our group enjoyed Buddy Holly's Happy Days at the Celebration Dinner Theatre.



Early Monday morning, we car-pooled to the Naval Museum of Manitoba, located in downtown Winnipeg, where we were free to explore the museum. Naval officers were on hand to answer any of our questions. On Monday evening, we boarded the bus for our second evening of Folklorama, once again guided by Cyndi, our Folklorama Ambassador. Our three pavilions this evening were 1) Mexico, 2) Russia, and 3) Métis—pronounced ma-tees and denotes a person of mixed indigenous and Euro-American ancestry, in particular one of a group of such people who in the 19th century constituted the so-called Métis nation in the areas around the Red and Saskatchewan rivers.



(Continued on the next page)

Tuesday began with a tour of the Royal Canadian Mint and allowed for shopping at The Folks, a mixed-use area near downtown with shopping, restaurants, boat tours, trolley tours, and various performances throughout the day. We ended the rally with a beautiful performance of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella at the Rainbow Stage, a partially enclosed theatre venue in Kildonan Park on the north side of Winnipeg.



Throughout this well-planned and executed rally, there were excellent seminars, social hours called GAMs (get acquainted meetings), catered meals and daily coffee service. Even a Royal Canadian Mountie Policeman stopped by to answer our questions about keeping the peace in Canada.

And, as with all Airstream rallies and caravans, the best part is always learning—new people, new destinations, and new experiences! Kudos to the leadership of Region 7 for planning such an excellent rally!



And, to the members of Region 4, make time in your schedule to attend Folklorama!



SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE ARE GOING

SE Michigan Airstream Club: Pumpkin Fest Rally Hosts: Richard and Cheryl Sands

Reprinted by permission from the *SEMAC Newstream*, August Edition

Our final camp for the 2019 season is going to be held at Clearwater Campground in Ortonville on October 4-6. If you are not able to spend the whole weekend with us, we hope you will join us for the day on the Saturday.

As Clearwater's website says: "Enjoy a bit of the UP without the 6-hour drive"!

The campground is situated in North Oakland so would not be too far a drive for a day trip. Also, it is very easily accessible from the I 75. Just take exit 91 North, turn right and the camp is about 8 miles away on your left, in between a Mobil gas station and the Randy Wise car dealership.

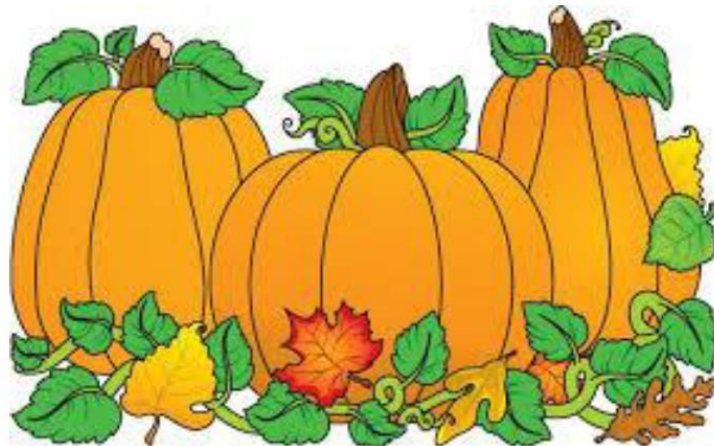
There is plenty to do in the area should you want to do a bit of exploring:

- Porter's Orchard in Goodrich
- Crossroads Village just the other side of Flint
- The Flint Institute of Arts and Sloan museum
- Applewood Estate (worth a visit)

For the more energetic, there is hiking and boating at Holly State Park. The campground itself is in a lovely setting with a nice trail around the lake. Clarkston is a very pretty town nearby and boasts some good restaurants.

The highlight of the day (Sat 5th) will be when our 2 master chefs a.k.a. Chip and Richard, demonstrate their Dutch oven cooking skills. You are cordially invited to join us for ye olde pot roast cowboy style. The chuck wagon gong will clang at about 4:30 5:00pm. All you have to bring is your own knife and fork or fingers. Please let me know by Oct 1st if you plan on coming.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE 5TH OCTOBER



HEALTHY AIRSTREAM COOKING RECIPES



Who loves to eat more than people who camp, right? I know we do! Continuing in this issue of the *Region 4 Newsletter*, I have shared an easy recipe for *healthy* eating while camping. As a Diabetic Type II, I am always on the lookout for great food that also helps me meet my food goals. If you, too, have a great "healthy" camp cooking recipe to share, email it my way, and we will get it into an upcoming issue of the newsletter! Jane (jebrieggs80@yahoo.com)

Tips, Tricks and a Recipe!

(Reprinted from <https://www.airstream.com/blog/tipsandtricksforcookinginanairstream/>)

Taken from an interview with Ramona Creel, full-time Airstreamer, 12-20-17

Question: What are your best tips for cooking in your Airstream?

When you live in a home with a dishwasher, it's no problem to accumulate mounds of dirty pots and pans while preparing a delicious meal. But with the nature of cleaning in an Airstream, putting your trailer back in order after meal construction can take all evening. If Airstream living has taught me anything, it's that ease and simplicity always win when it comes to cooking! (And many other things, come to think of it.) Although my Airstream is equipped to operate just like a "normal," brick-and-mortar kitchen, there are two types of recipes that fit best with my style of RV living and keep clean-up to a minimum.

1. One Dish Wonders—I often take advantage of meals that require just a single pot or pan, either in the stove or in the oven. For the stove, I frequently find myself throwing a yummy conglomeration of fresh veggies in with some spices to whip up a flavorful stir fry. For the oven, I'll choose meat and veggies that can be seasoned similarly and roast them together in one dish. You can also find me making a mean frittata (more on that below.)
2. Leave 'Em and Go— Armed with my slow cooker, is there anything I can't make? (Serious inquiry.) Recipes of this sort usually only require ingredient shopping— and potentially a little chopping. If you're a neglectful chef that returns to the kitchen only to find things burnt and bubbling over, I would recommend hopping on the slow-cooker train. From chicken soup to spicy fajitas to hearty chili, the options are endless. Pick up some yummy ingredients, throw 'em in the slow cooker and relax for a while— dinner will be ready soon, and there's only one pot to clean! (A great resource for recipes is [The Chef and the Slow Cooker](#) by chef Hugh Acheson, [featured](#) on [Airstream's Endless Caravan](#))

Question: Was it hard adjusting to cooking on the road?

Really, no. I've never been one for extravagant, intensive cooking. You won't find me with a pig smoking on a rotisserie or a homemade baklava baking in the oven. Regardless of your cooking style, there are an endless number of dishes you can prepare in an Airstream.

Another quick tip: I have noticed that my Airstream oven tends to get hotter than the full-sized oven I used before transitioning to the RV lifestyle. I usually bake my dishes in the oven for less time than instructed or expected.

(Continued on the next page)

Question: What are your favorite kitchen items/utensils that you couldn't manage without?

Since hitting the road full time, I've learned that I previously owned a lot of kitchen items that I can actually manage without. I now operate with a knife (rather than separate slicers for cheese, boiled eggs, apples, etc.), a grater (instead of a zester and a garlic press) and a frying pan (instead of an electric grill, a sandwich press, a quesadilla maker, etc.) Admittedly, I do still love my potato masher, olive/cherry pitter and hand-juicer. I have found replacements that can accomplish the specific jobs as efficiently as they do. I also appreciate my microwave in a way that I never did in an apartment or house. It's utterly essential in hot weather when you are aiming to create as little heat as possible in your small space.

Question: Any favorite recipes?

My go-to for having company over is a good, old-fashioned Mediterranean frittata. It's inexpensive, easy to prepare and can be adjusted for all food-sensitivity issues. (For example, my vegan friends appreciate my swapping tofu for the eggs, almond or rice for the milk, and soy-based cheese instead of cow or goat-based.)



Mediterranean Frittata

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ½ cup red onion, chopped
- 1 can large black or kalamata olives, pitted and sliced
- 1 ½ cups tightly packed baby spinach leaves
- 1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 sweet red pepper, diced
- 9 large eggs
- ½ cup milk
- 1 (4 ounce) package crumbled feta cheese
- 1 ½ teaspoons dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon dried basil
- ½ teaspoon dried marjoram
- ½ teaspoon dried minced onion
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- ¼ cup freshly grated parmesan cheese

Preparation:

- Preheat the oven on broil.
- Heat the oil in a 10" oven-safe skillet over medium-high heat.
- Add the garlic and onion, stirring constantly until slightly browned.
- Add the vegetables, stirring constantly until softened.
- Lightly beat the eggs, milk, and seasoning together in a separate bowl.
- Pour the egg mixture over the vegetables in the skillet.
- Cover and cook over medium-low heat 10-12 minutes, or until almost set.
- Remove from heat, and sprinkle with parmesan cheese.
- Place the pan in the oven and broil 5-1/2" from heat with oven door partially open 2-3 minutes.
- Cut into wedges and serve.

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Pocket Shoe Organizer

From *AStreaminLife* Published on Jan 12, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFSnjWRYFpc>

Attach a pocket shoe organizer to the lower part of your screen door. A handy place for shoes if you take off your shoes when you enter the Airstream! This can also be used for other items as well.



Winter Battery Storage

Submitted by Brad Briggs, NOVA Unit

I always remove lead-acid batteries from equipment, including our Airstream, that is not used during the winter. I thoroughly wipe off the batteries using a rag to remove dirt. Dirt on a battery can cause a discharge path. Always make sure that the batteries are fully charged to increase their tolerance to long term freezing conditions.

I find a place where they are protected from extended periods of freezing temperatures. Although my attached garage is not heated, I find that if I keep the batteries away from the overhead doors, this space works well in my climate. If you place your batteries on a concrete floor, place a 2 by 6 or similar sized piece of wood under each battery to provide a thermal barrier from the floor.



By doing this each year I have been able to prolong battery life used in my toys and equipment. My record so far is 12 years for a boat battery. The Scot in me is happy about that.

CALLING Region 4 Members For Tips & Tricks



As a Region 4 member, no doubt you have worked your way around many issues, challenges, and storage problems while traveling in your Airstream. This section of the newsletter is dedicated to sharing among members tips and tricks for making our Airstreams work better for us! Please send any and all tips and tricks (no matter how trivial you think they are) to Jane Briggs (jebriggs80@yahoo.com), for use in future newsletter editions.



FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This newsletter is for YOU, the Region 4 Member!

Feel free to submit information of interest to our members!

Newsletter issues typically include the following:

Spotlight: Where We Have Been (Unit Rally or Caravan already taken)

Spotlight: Where We are Heading (upcoming Unit Rally or Caravan)

Healthy Airstream Cooking Recipes

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Officer Articles

Announcements

Jane Briggs, Region 4 Newsletter Editor
(jebriggs80@yahoo.com)



Join us for the 44th Annual Region 4 Rally
May 13-17, 2020
Lenawee County Fair & Event Center—Adrian, MI



Entertainment

Earth Angels

Buckle in, cruise back in time, and experience the magic of the '50s and '60s recreated by the Earth Angels. Experience a high energy, fast moving show bringing to life the great music and legendary performers of the '50s and '60s.

A performing arts group formed in 1986, the group is made up of young adults from Southeastern Michigan who range in age from 8 – 18 years old.



Motown Eagles

Crafting every musical detail with a new precision and amazing voices (there is no pre-recorded trickery), Motown Eagles celebrate an era of this powerhouse rock band with hits spanning four decades.



Activities

Catered Meals
 Door Prizes
 Entertainment
 Hobby/Craft Show
 Flea Market
 Seminars
 Tours

Attractions/Tours

Local Wineries
 Local Craft Beer Breweries
 Croswell Opera House
 Historic Brick Walker Tavern
 Hudson Museum
 Lenawee County Historical Museum
 Michigan International Speedway

Join us for the 44th Annual Region 4 Rally

May 13-17, 2020

Lenawee County Fair & Event Center—Adrian, MI

Peace, Love, & Airstream



Rally Fee includes:

- 4 Nights Camping
- Water/Electric Hookups, Dump Station
- 3 Catered Meals
- Morning Hospitality (coffee, juice, roll)
- Evening Hospitality (snack & beverage)
- 2 Nights Entertainment
- 60s Fashion Show
- And much more...



44th Region 4 Rally
Registration Coupon
"Peace, Love, & Airstream"
May 13-17, 2020



Last Name(s): _____ First Name(s): _____ WBCCI #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Unit/Club: _____

E-mail: _____ Type RV: TT MH Length: _____ Handicap Parking? Y N

Rally Fee	
2 Persons	\$345
1 Person	\$275
Extra Adult/Child	\$ 70

in Party _____
 Rally Fee\$ _____
 \$70 x\$ _____
 Total\$ _____

\$50 discount if postmarked on or before January 31, 2020
 Discount\$ _____
 Total Enclosed\$ _____

Make checks payable to: WBCCI Region 4 Mail To: Steve Rhodes, 1121 Bogey Drive, Ontario, OH 44903-6526

Cancellation Policy: Refund requests sent to the Region Treasurer in writing (email or snail mail) and postmarked by March 30 will receive a refund less a \$50 administrative fee. Refund requests postmarked on or after April 1 will receive a 50% refund. No refunds after May 1.