



TARHEEL TRAVELER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB
THE 21ST CLUB IN WBCCI FORMED IN 1960



PRESIDENTS CORNER

PHIL DRAKE

Fellow club members-

Is it just me or is the air cleaner, the sky bluer, the sun brighter? There is less haze, less traffic, fewer airplanes and it's much quieter. While the human race is suffering with the pandemic, the earth seems to be healing. Once we defeat the virus and get healthier, maybe we can find a way to help "Mother Nature" get healthier too.

We finished our second "virtual rally" on May 8th and it was really a group effort and thoroughly enjoyable. We had 35 sessions (video logins) with roughly 65 people attending. We introduced new members, were updated on "Shining in Shelby & 2021 rally planning, had submitted questions answered by knowledgeable club resources, had some great music provided by Bobby Taylor and got to say howdy to each other. We were planning on an hour but ran over, which is fine when having fun. We also had snacks and beverages, which were shared virtually and in the spirits, I mean spirit, of the event.

These Zoom video conferences allow us to once again see each other, share information and socialize a bit. After all, that's why we have a club in the first place; to camp and have some fun with our friends who just so happen to have a common interest in Airstreams. We started these video sessions to keep us connected through this pandemic isolation period and to share information on topics and questions from you, our fellow club members. What became apparent to all of us attending our two calls, is the value to the club in having video sessions even when we start camping again. Our plan now is to schedule the video "virtual rallies" to coincide with rallies that are being cancelled. Once we get back on schedule, we will plan to

have video conferences in the winter months and at other times as warranted.

Things are opening up all over the country and hopefully we will be camping in June (fingers crossed). Pipestem Resort plans to open the campground on May 15 with basic services only. No restaurants will be open initially, but we hope that by June that will have changed. Bruce Thompson is staying in touch with Pipestem and our other scheduled rally campgrounds almost on a daily basis. He will keep all of us informed.

If you haven't made your reservations for our big 60th anniversary celebration at Ocean Lakes (Nov. 5 – 8) please call and get that done. We will repeat our popular events of flea market, open house/wine/beverage of choice crawl, low country boil, gourmet breakfast, entertaining group photo and election of officers for 2021.

Stay in touch and stay safe.

~Phil

2020 RALLIES

BRUCE THOMPSON, 1ST VP

Hello Home-bound Streamers! Yes, we're all eager & ready to go camping, but we still need to use discretion and caution!

We had a fantastic rally at James Island in March, then had to cancel April's Tanglewood Rally, May's Shining in Shelby, and the August Smidge of the Blue Ridge Caravan. Those last 2 cancellations were going to be Firsts for our club.

Currently, we're still on tap for Pipestem State Park, WV. They asked that we move our reservations to coincide with WV Governor Jim Justice's phased reopening plan. So our rally there starts on Friday June 5th, and lasts until... whenever. Some registrants are leaving Tuesday, some on Wednesday the 10th. We have ?? rigs currently who have RSVP'd (there may be others that forgot to RSVP). At this rally, we plan to utilize social distancing, masking, hand washing, hand gesturing, smoke signals, and whatever means it takes to tell our fellow campers how much we have missed them. Pipestem informed us that there will be only limited take-out restaurants available, so stock up in case you have to cook (Oh my!) Because of the reduced group activity agenda, there will be no Rally Host. Now, IF you have any apprehension at all about venturing out to camp, we highly recommend that you STAY HOME and wait for other camping opportunities. There will be no shame for staying home in this pandemic. No one in this current atmosphere is going to feel totally comfortable venturing out into crowds, so we will be emphasizing masks and distancing. There are a few sites left - Here's the link: <https://carolinas.airstreamclub.net/2020-rallies-events-2/june-2020-rally-pipestem-wv/>

(Oh, and if you need to cancel at the last minute, no problem – Pipestem, under these conditions, has waived any cancellation fees.)

Next up in July is our Rally in Limestone, TN at the Davy Crockett Birthplace SP – a combined rally with the East Tennessee AC! Currently, this campground is phased to utilize only 50% of their sites, but by July 16th – 19th they will be at 70% and will not impact our gathering. Again, we will be staying safe and cautious, but enjoying the outdoors and the distant company of our fellow campers. Here's the link: <https://carolinas.airstreamclub.net/2020-rallies-events-2/july-2020-rally-limestone-tn/>

I imagine all our members are eagerly awaiting the time that we can get back out camping – Comfortably. So, until then – Stay Safe & Healthy. Watch your email closely and stay tuned to [our webpage](#) for updates.

See You Down the Road ~ Bruce T

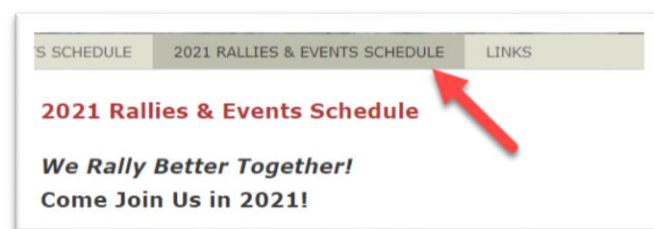
2021 RALLIES

BRUCE BODENSTEIN, 2ND VP

Hello from the 2nd VP desk. The club has had some pleasant get-togethers via Zoom these last several weeks and it has been fun seeing many of you. In the last one, I was able to announce our current line-up for 2021 for those of you who like to book early. It is early yet so lots more to come. Ed has kindly added a new tab at the top of the Club Website (<https://carolinas.airstreamclub.net/>) so that is where you go to keep on top of this.

Also, do not forget your RSVP's as that is how the Rally Hosts manage the attendance. Speaking of Rally Hosts, if you've never done it, make 2021 your year! It's fun, it's easy and it's part of the club experience... all of us working together ☺

<https://carolinas.airstreamclub.net/>



Adventure is where you find it, any place, every place, except at home in the rocking chair. ~ Wally Byam

~ Bruce B

INTERESTED IN A NEW CAC GARDEN FLAG?

If you are interested in this flag, [please click Here to submit your survey](#). If there's enough interest within our Club, we will then offer these flags to purchase online at the cost of \$25.00 + Shipping.

VIRGINIA HIGHLAND HAVEN AIRSTREAM PARK



Spotted at Virginia Highland Haven recently. All in attendance definitely practicing social distancing.



ELAINE MYERS
quirkyquilter@pemt.net

This newsletter comes to you between Mother's and Father's Days. I remember the lovely southern church tradition of wearing a red rose if your Mom/Dad was living, a white rose if not. However you can, honor all those Moms and Dads in your lives.

Susan J. will be having partial knee replacement surgery on June 1. Hang in there, Susan. We expect to see you dancing at the fall rallies!

From Susanne S. : *"I had cataract surgery in November which was just fine — could see better than forever but woke up Friday morning with blurred vision in that eye. The lens that replaced*

the cloudy one has slipped down — who knew that could happen???? Doesn't happen often but can happen. So they will go back in & hitch it back up to something! These are technical medical terms!!!!!! 😊 Surgery is June 2."

Note: Don't we all know that Susanne has always been a little cockeyed?!?

~ If you're not going to snort, why even laugh?~

MEMBERSHIP

DALE DOWLER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

We have 116 rigs in our club!!

Our newest members (details in Evernote):

- Cheryl Janoski from Mills River, NC and her 1963 16' Bambi
- Dave & Sue Schoenecker from Denver, NC and their 2019 27' Globetrotter

Welcome all!

CAC CARAVAN SMIDGE OF THE BLUE RIDGE CANCELLED ☹️ RAY & CAROL COMBS

Greetings all of the *Smidge of the Blue Ridge* Caravanners:

As you may have expected the decision has been made to cancel the WBAC Smidge of the Blue Ridge Caravan. This decision was not made lightly. For several reasons we felt it was necessary to cancel the caravan based on the COVID-19 virus and the age of those of us who would be going. The specific reasons follow:

1. At the Nantahala raft trip we would all be crammed into one bus and then start the trip in a small raft with six people plus a Guide.

2. At the Navitat zip line we would all be crammed into two small vans to take us to the top of the mountain to begin the zip line.
3. In order to ride the VA Creeper trail on bicycles we would be hauled to the top of the mountain in vans to be crammed closely together again.
4. The group meals we had planned at Shatley Springs and at the Dan'l Boone Inn would be in a small dining room with us all sitting elbow to elbow.
5. One of the Campgrounds we will be using very likely will not reopen.
6. Waiting too much longer than now could put some of our deposits, which have already been made, in jeopardy.
7. At this time the Pisgah National Forest is closed. It may very well remain closed into August.
8. And finally, but of not much consolation, most of the 2020 WBAC National Caravans have been canceled well into October. The remaining two will probably be cancelled shortly.

While under normal circumstances these items would not be a concern, but in today's current environment we have chosen not to put our caravaners at risk.

Some points you need to consider:

1. If you have made reservations to arrive early at Grumpy Bear Campground, our first stop, you should call the Grumpy Bear Campground and let them know you are still coming or you are not coming, email grumpybearcampground@gmail.com or call 828-788-2295. Speak to Karen or Jerry.
2. If you would like to ride the zip line as an individual call them at 828-626-3700.
3. If you would like to ride the Virginia Creeper Trail individually email Steve Mann at smanva@yahoo.com
4. At this time the August Boone KOA Club rally has not been cancelled. If you wish to attend that rally you should make your own reservations via the usual route for a rally, instructions found at the CAC website.

Cherylanne will be refunding kitty fees as soon as we get the deposits back from the vendors who are holding deposits. Any deposits not returned to us will be reimbursed by the National Caravan fund and WBAC.

Again, this decision was not made lightly. We are extremely disappointed that we will not be taking the caravan this year. As for next year, no decision has been made. If next year is a go then those of you who were on this year's caravan will be first in line.

Thanks for your cooperation and understanding,

Ray & Carol Combs, Bruce & Marcia Thompson

TECH STUFF

Larry Brodsky

Water Filtration

With time on my hands this year, I decided to tackle and invest in serious water filtration. First, some basics. Why filter your water? Yes, to get stuff out of it, namely particulate matter, chemicals, cysts, bacteria, and even viruses. Those were listed in order of decreasing size and that becomes a major factor in the decision. More in a bit. Next, what should you filter with and what are the consequences? You can filter all of the water coming into the trailer, just your drinking water, or both. Note that filtering the water coming into the trailer does not filter out anything that may accumulate in the fresh water tank, although periodic sanitation with bleach can be sufficient to assure a clean tank. The consequences include pressure reduction and flow rate reduction from the filters in the water stream. The pressure reduction is generally not an issue, but the flow reduction can be a problem. Another factor in the decision.

The first decision is to filter sediment, the biggest particles. This stuff can clog the faucet screens, accumulate in low spots like the water heater, and makes cloudy ice. A simple 10" canister filter on the city water hose with a 5 or 10 micron filter, usually paper or fabric, clears that up. One filter should last an entire camping season. If the decision is to filter out

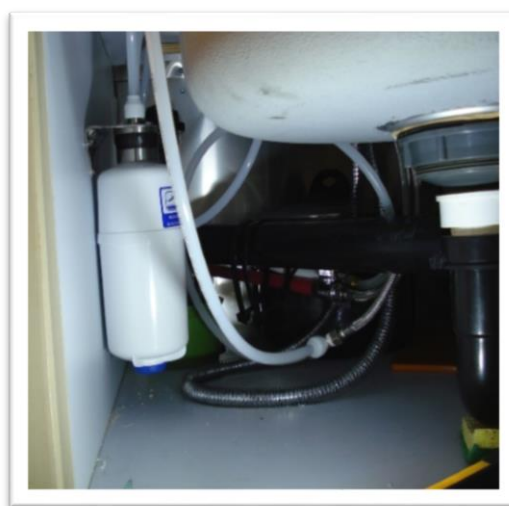
chlorine, other chemicals, and cysts on all of the incoming water then a standard dual canister filter does the job with the second filter at 1 micron with granular or charcoal block. Charcoal has long been used to remove chemicals in water and if fine enough will remove cysts. But, 1 micron filters will reduce flow rates to about 4 gpm. This is adequate for a shower, but will be a notable reduction from no filter. This filter will also last one season. Note that if you camp intermittently like we do, you probably want a secondary filter that is bacteriostatic, meaning that it will prevent bacteria from growing on the filter medium when it is not in use. KAC is the most common filter addition for that, a combo of metal alloys to kill stagnant bacteria.

If you decide you want a finer filter for drinking water only, you can use the single canister outside and install an in-line filter under the sink. Note that with a separate filter at the sink, water from the water pump/water tank would also be filtered. Some Airstreams come with the standard Shurflo RV filter for this purpose and it does the job for giving you good drinking water. Just be advised that you would still have chlorine, bacteria and cysts in the shower and lavatory. For really good drinking water you need a finer filter like Seagull IV or Nature Pure by General Ecology. At 0.4 microns those filters will remove bacteria and provide bottled water quality water.

To remove viruses requires more money and sophistication, UV light or Reverse Osmosis. Both of these are available, at considerable cost, in under-counter units suitable for drinking water applications and both require power sources.

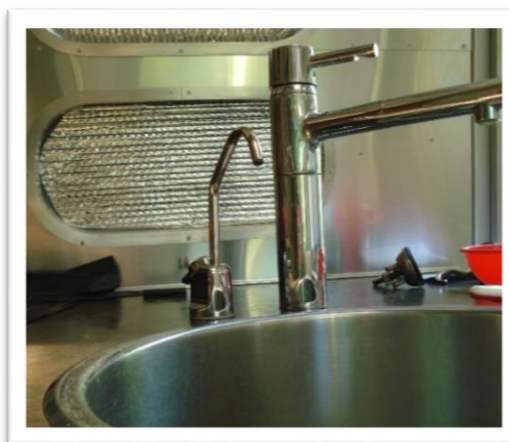
What I settled on, to try on my next camping trip is a two canister external filter in the city water hose, a 5 micron sediment filter and a 0.5 micron charcoal block filter. In addition, I have installed a separate spigot

through the kitchen counter with an undercounter Nature Pure filter, for drinking water. I used a Seagull on my boat for almost 20 years (new filter every year) and was very happy with the drinking water quality, especially since a boat fresh water tank is more of a problem to sanitize. I have included a couple of pics of the Nature pure installation, the filter under the sink and the additional faucet on top. The installation took less than an hour, including the time to drill a hole in the countertop for the new faucet. As always, questions to me: LSBrodsky@earthlink.net



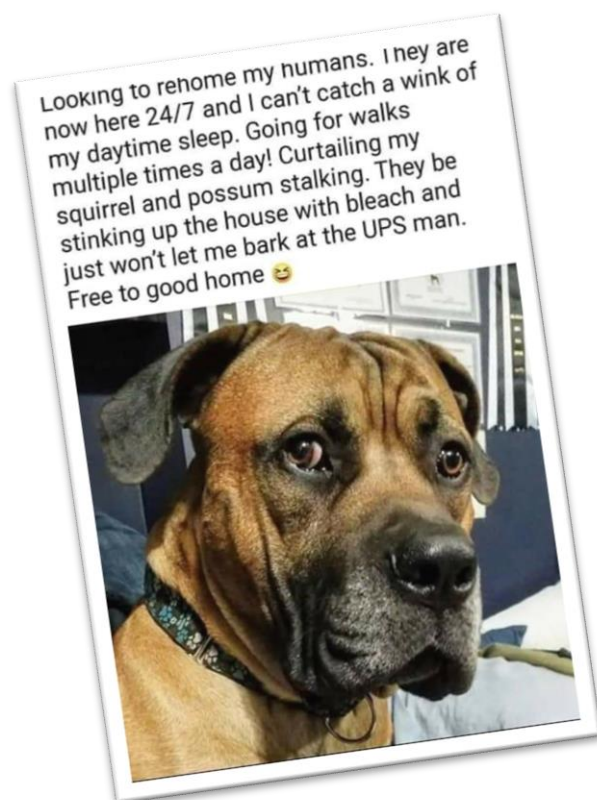
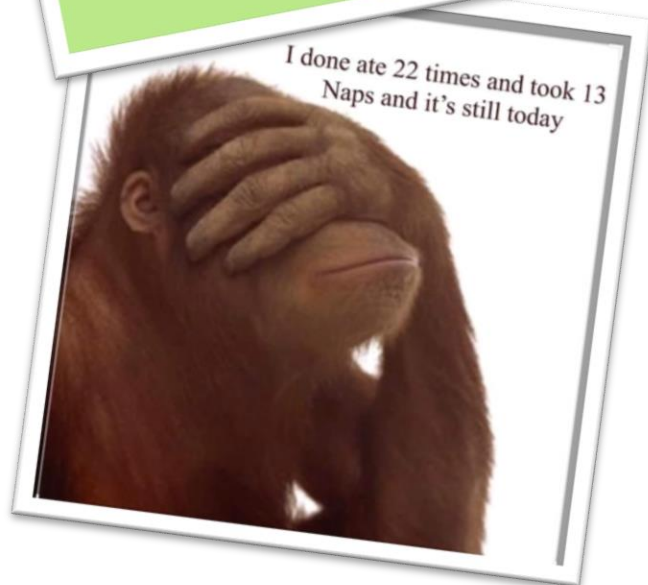
↑ Filter under the sink

↓ Additional faucet on top

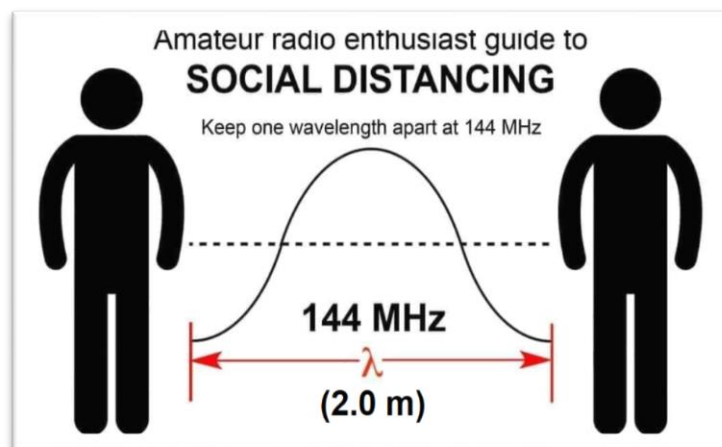


QUARANTINE FUN

Submitted by John & Anne Ashworth



HAM FUN



**HAM RADIO OPERATORS WILL
“GET” THIS AND LAUGH 😊**

VINTAGE WORKS (*CONTINUED FROM APRIL*)

Part II: The saga of his '62, and '73 Airstream trailers and more about the '48!

Jim Johnson #16650 of Mooresville, NC

Why I got involved in restoring Airstreams:

When I retired, my wife and I wanted to begin traveling. But, we thought hotels and motels were often nasty places to stay. We tried tent camping once but the ground was really hard and there are a lot of bugs! A motorized RV didn't appeal to us because you really couldn't go anywhere once you got to the camping site without towing a car. We really wanted to live in our home away from home.

We found a local '73 29 foot International Ambassador with center bath, which we bought not knowing anything about Airstream trailers. One learns quickly, though. We really paid too much for that trailer. We ended up replacing part of the frame, along with new flooring, AC, a hot water heater, a furnace, water pump, toilet, both axels, belly pan, propane tanks, the refrigerator, four new tires and added a gray water tank. We refurnished the shower and bath sink, replaced the gasket on all of the window frames, and replaced the front couch with two recliners. The list goes on and on.... A year and a half later, we were ready to go and the '73 trailer has been trouble-free since. We had some very neat travel experiences with the '73. We even made it to the International Airstream rally in Perry, Ga in 2007. I believe my wife would have given up the house and gone full-time!

While visiting my son in December of 2007 (while camping in the '73 trailer) in Georgetown, KY, my wife came across the '48 sitting on a property near my son's house. We decided to see if we could find the owner. Fortunately, we did and we were able to buy it before someone else did! The trailer was completely original, missing only the metal cabinet, which held the sink. We later purchased a sink cabinet from a restorer in Virginia. The '48's have a pipe frame, which was known to either break in two pieces or pull out completely, due to the way they were constructed. The owner said it had been to the west coast and back, so we decided to tow it (very slowly) to Virginia, which was a little over 300 miles. While it was at my son's house and in transit, I believe we got rid of all the mice!

Once we got it to our home in Virginia, I completely removed the entire interior, including the aluminum walls and ceiling. After bracing the interior walls, I jacked the aluminum body off the old pipe frame and replaced it with a brand new fabricated frame and new axle. I have continued to work on it over the years as we have also traveled with the '73 trailer. Fast forward to a few years later when I bought an all original '62 19 foot, which was about 15 miles from our house. (I had to buy '70 Argosy in the deal as the guy wouldn't separate the two, but I ended up selling Argosy). On that one, I have removed the interior, had the interior walls and ceiling soda blasted, stripped the outside coating and began polishing. Sadly, the polishing didn't turn out real well, as I fell off a 6 ft ladder and broke the heel bone in my foot.

Where am I today on these projects:

- Having moved from VA to NC in 2018, both trailers are in my garage in NC, where restoration on both trailers continues.
- The '62 has a new axle and a new floor. All windows have been polished and installed, the front door has been installed with new gasket. I have installed a new hot water heater and I am currently working on replacing the belly pan. There is a lot more to do, which includes the interior, adding a fresh water tank, a grey water tank, a black water tank, AC, polish, etc. The same items need to be done on the '48.
- My plans for the '73 trailer and the '62 trailer are to sell them and just use the '48 trailer, since I have yet to figure out how to pull more than one trailer at a time.

Based on my current schedule (see below), I have estimated that I will need to live to 100 years old to get all of the above completed. You may be thinking I am a little slow on my restoration projects (one might say this since I bought the '48 trailer in 2007) and you would be right! But, one must take into consideration my "work" schedule.

Being retired, my schedule is as follows: Get down to the garage around 10:00 a.m. to begin working. Then, refreshments begin around 4:00 p.m. (Most ALL Airstreamers know what “refreshment” means). So, as you can see, I only have a few hours each day where I can work. Retirement is a tough life!



'62 is a 19 ft Globe Trotter (has bathroom and kitchen reversed from normal configuration)



'73 is a 29 ft International Ambassador with center bath

A piece of advice to future Airstream restorers: When you start your projects, just remember that one has to think of Airstreams as just lots of aluminum and a whole bunch of rivets. Also, one other thing to keep in mind: when you go to these large and/or small Airstream rallies and walk among the trailers – you can actually smell all the aluminum around you. *Abbb....*

Jim

Click [Here](#) to read Part I of this article, pg. 8

RAMBLIN' FEVER

A Note from John & Susan Leake

*My hat don't hang on the same nail too long...
 My ears can't stand to hear the same old song...
 An' I don't leave the highway long enough to bog down in the mud...
 'Cause I got ramblin' fever in my blood.
 Ramblin' fever, the kind that can't be measured by degrees...
 Ramblin' fever, there ain't no cure for my disease.*

A few lines from a song written by country music legend Merle Haggard back in 1977. Who would have imagined it would have so much relevance today. Here at our house, and very likely at yours, rambling fever is raging much more than the Coronavirus.

Since we are all confined at home, with the Airstreams tweaked and ready to roll but nowhere to go, with the yard work caught up, the “honey-do” list done, and rambling fever setting in, let’s talk about...

THE GOOD NEWS...

The WBCCI is alive and well! The “official word” from International is when your State reopens, and you have Rallies planned, by all means move ahead. Just be sure to follow local guidelines and take ALL the necessary precautions and use some common sense. By now, that stuff has been drilled into your head. Be careful with the things we love to do as Airstreamers, share hugs, hands, meals, and activities. Simply exercise caution and keep your hands washed. The camp fire circles just need to be a little larger.

MORE GOOD NEWS...

Soon we will have new International officers, and, we are very happy to report, a full slate of Region 3 officers, all set to take office in June. International President Mona Heath is finalizing the details of the voting and installation ceremony for the International officers using Zoom. Our new Region officers will be installed in June as well. More later...

Fall will be a busy time in the Club as activities resume and new local club Presidents take the helm. 2021 is destined to be a fabulous year for our Club. More on that later as well...

THE VOTES ARE IN!!!

Our new Region 3 officers have all been voted in unanimously! Thank you everyone for your support of these fine folks. We will be in the very capable hands:

- President - **Bill Wild # 3615** of the [Top of Georgia Airstream Club](#)
- 1st VP - **Christine Baum #4814** of the [Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club](#)
- 2nd VP - **Jerry Peterson #4381** of the [SC Coastal Airstream Club](#)

Thank you, Bill, Christine, and Jerry for stepping up to guide the best Region in the WBCCI. Installations will occur in June, details TBD.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Be sure to take full advantage of the **Blue Beret** to advertise your Club activities. Make sure your events are posted to your club’s Events website, six weeks prior to publication, so HQ will include them in the Activities section. The old manual method of mailing/emailing them to HQ is no longer allowed. [Click Here](#) for a list of deadline dates. In the absence of Rallies, use electronic means to keep in touch with each other and conduct your Club business. Stay connected.

TIPS, TOILETS, and VEGETABLE OIL...

Slick stuff? We have used food grade silicone for years on anything that moves on our Airstream and around the house. Doors, windows, locks, catches/latches, hinges, drawers, awning pivot points, and more. It is great stuff but our good friend John Ashworth #21189 of the Carolinas Airstream Club turned us on to something even slicker, a product called Houdini. Made for locksmiths, it is incredibly slick and even has a pleasant orange smell to it. You will like it. Look for it online: [Houdini](#)

Speaking of locks and hinges, be sure to keep your main door lock and hinges lubricated regularly to prevent wear. The door hinges are very susceptible to wear and extremely difficult to repair or replace. Same goes for the door lock. Houdini will work wonders.

And don’t forget the perhaps most valuable, yet most neglected, item in your Airstream - the toilet! It has an incredible

amount of moving parts inside, most inaccessible without tearing down the toilet, but a shot of either silicone or Houdini via the pedals will help keep it opening and closing smoothly. (No WD 40 - it can attack the plastic components.) Shoot some onto the slide in the bottom of the bowl occasionally and work it into the seal to keep it clean and sealing properly. Vegetable oil will also do a good job here as well.

And speaking of toilets and vegetable oil, here is one more tip: Lubing the actual dump gate valves is difficult. They are enclosed and have no access without cutting into the belly pan. Spraying the handle/rod extensions does very little good and has no effect on the actual gate valve. Try this if you have stiff valves: First, empty the tanks thoroughly, and CLOSE the valves. Then pour about a half-gallon of vegetable oil in each tank. Drive to a shoulder or small drop off so the trailer or motorhome is tilted on the driver's side. Or find a dump station where the pad is sloping on the drivers' side. This will pool the vegetable oil against the closed valve. Pull each valve open and closed quickly several times so the vegetable oil can lubricate the slides and the seals inside the valve as it comes out. It will work wonders on stiff and leaky valves.

SHOUT OUTS...

There are many folks throughout our Region that have made a tremendous difference in their local Clubs. You know who they are, and you know them by name. So, when you see them, please thank them and give them that well-deserved pat on the back, OR, drop them a note of thanks. Here are a few names that come to mind:

To Joan and Arleigh Wells, #11187 of the South Carolina Coastal Airstream Club for 40 years of membership. Thank you, Joan and Arleigh, for all your support and participation over the last 4 decades.

To Callie Rae Scurry, #17801 of the Palmetto State Airstream Club for 53 years membership. Thank you, Callie Rae, and Dwight (deceased) for all your help and guidance.

Add all these years together and that's 186 years of experience and the reason our Local Clubs are so successful. Nothing beats experience!

To Barry Fuller, #5500 of the Coastal Georgia Airstream Club, for your determination to keep the struggling CGAC alive and well. With help from your sidekick, Ray Lewis, membership is growing and rallies are happening again. Thank you both for sticking with it.

To Greg and Linda Heuer #1927 of the Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club for your tireless work and dedication to bring the SOVAC (formally the Shenandoah Valley Airstream Club) back from the point of extinction. Now it's a thriving Club. Don't stop!

To Jay and Elna Thompson #805 of the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club for leading all Caravanners. A huge responsibility, thank you both for organizing, leading, and chairing the International Caravan Committee.

To ALL caravan leaders...Ray, Carol, Winston, Carol, Gary, Rose Marie, John and Cissy, Nancy, Margaret, Ed and Beth. Many thanks for taking the lead.

To Joyce Werner #5360 of the Tidewater Virginia Airstream Club for being a spark plug in your Club. Thank you, Bill, for getting her to the rallies.

To Tom Carmichael #2212 and Lew Brodsky #2585 of the Northern Virginia Airstream Club for the "never a dull moment" at your Rallies. What a pair! Keep the good times coming.

To Marcia Thompson #5027 of the Carolinas Airstream Club for all your hard work behind the scenes. Quiet as a mouse, busy as a beaver, never complains, cheerful in all weather, never shirks a task. A real hero.

To C & S, our secret pals in The Southeastern Camping Unit, thanks for sharing your time and talents. You are indeed special.

To Alicia Rafter #4092 of the Florida Treasure Coast Airstream Club for your many years as Region 3 Registrar and for keeping a watchful eye on yours truly. And thank you, Mike, for hauling Alicia to the rallies.

To Roy Beavers #4392 of the Southeastern Camping Unit for stepping up above and beyond your duties as Region webmaster. Fabulous work, Roy! Thank you.

To Henry Knight #4826 of the South Carolina Coastal Airstream Club for being the ambassador for Region 3 as our membership chair. Thanks, Henry, for reaching out to all the new members.

To Larry and Debra Owens #1600 of the Florida Suncoast Airstream Club for taking on the huge responsibility of parking everyone at the International Rallies. Larry can put 10 pounds of stuff in a 5-pound bag, and remain cheerful doing it. And Debra keeps all the numbers in perfect order. Amazing work!! Thank you, Larry and Debra.

To Jim Cocke and Debbie Wood #4822 of the Carolinas Airstream Club for leading the WBCCI as International President

and First Lady, and for continuing to work hard on many Club projects.

TO ALL REGION 3 NEWSLETTER EDITORS...

Christine Stockstill #6573 Big Bend Florida Airstream Club
Marcia Thompson #5027 Carolina Airstream Club
Casey Lewis #3321 Coastal Georgia Airstream Club
Susan Poole #3988 Florida Airstream Club
John Miller #1855 Florida Springs Airstream Club
Alicia Rafter #4092 Florida Treasure Coast Airstream Club
David Janowitz #6965 Florida Suncoast Airstream Club
Lew Brodsky # 2585 Northern Virginia Airstream Club
Melia Jacobs #6901 Palmetto State Airstream Club
Gregory Ray #5218 Piedmont Airstream Club
Greg Heuer #1927 Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club
Jack and Deborah Brooks #9314 South Carolina Coastal Airstream Club
Tony Laurie #2856 South Florida Airstream Club
Kate Coast #5778 Southeastern Camping Unit
Frank Munoz #8487 Tidewater Virginia Airstream Club
Clara Ellis #7343 Top of Georgia Airstream Club
Gary Brink #29944 Virginia Airstream Club

Thank you, newsletter editors, for the many times you make something out of nothing. No news is not always good news, especially when attempting to put together a newsletter with no submissions from members. So, thanks again for continuously pulling the rabbit out of the hat, and keeping us all connected.

THE REGION 3 RALLY NEWS...

The Rally was of course cancelled, so we did not get to see each other this year, but we have next year in Tallahassee, Florida.

If you registered for the Region Rally in Myrtle Beach, by now you should have received the Rally Booklet we had already prepared and printed, along with a rally ribbon. If you have not received yours, please drop us a note with your mailing address and we will send one your way. If you were not registered for the Rally, but would like a booklet, please drop us a note as well, with your mailing address. The Rally Ribbon makes a great bookmark.

We would be very happy to send out a booklet to anyone that wants one. They will give you a glimpse into what we think would have been an exceptional rally. And, just in case you are wondering, no Region funds are spent on postage. A huge THANK YOU to all of you that have responded back with your kind words, they helped more than you know. There has been a tear in my beer since we cancelled.

A FEW EXCERPTS FROM THE RALLY BOOKLET:

Region 3 remains the largest of the 12 Regions in the WBAC, with approximately 2,300 members in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Currently 17 local Clubs make up our Region.

At least 2 past International Presidents are from Region 3. Jim Cocke #4822, of the Carolinas Airstream Club, is the most recent. Region 3, spearheaded by members of our 4 Virginia Commonwealth Clubs, hosted the International Rally last year in Doswell, Virginia. We have hosted mid-winter IBT meetings, are home to 5 downtown rallies, and have members on key planning and leadership committees throughout the WBCCI.

Thanks to the efforts and strong leadership of our past Region officers, we continue to be leaders in the Club. The future is

bright for Region 3, with a full slate of officers set to move us forward.

There are 17 MVP's in Region 3. They are, of course, our local Club Presidents. Thank you, Presidents, for all you do. You are the ones that see to it that our Clubs continue to grow, remain strong, and move forward. You provide the great leadership needed to stay the course.

Thank you, members, for hitching up and making the trip, for without you, we would not be here today. You are the back bone of our Club and the reason we gather. This week is dedicated to you, have yourself a wonderful time.

Everyone... please make yourself at home this week. Enjoy each other, celebrate friendships, reach out to your neighbor, meet your new best friend, honor our past, embrace our future, and remember that we are all part of the Airstream family and share a common interest. There are no strangers here.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2019-2020

This is your Region 3 team and the folks that keep our Region running smoothly. They are fabulous at what they do. Please thank them when you see them.

PRESIDENT: John Leake #268 Palmetto State Airstream Club 803-984-7225(c)

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Bill Wild # 3615 Top of Georgia Airstream Club

CORRESPONDING AND RECORDING SECRETARY: Margaret Van de Ree #2685 Carolinas Airstream Club

TREASURER: Jerry Hall #2693 Carolinas Airstream Club

REGISTRAR: Alicia Rafter #4092 Florida Treasure Coast Airstream Club

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR TO THE BLUE BERET: Joan Anderson #2056 Top of Georgia Airstream Club

MEMBERSHIP: Henry Knight #4826 South Carolina Coastal Airstream Club

WEBMASTER: Roy Beavers #4392 Southeastern Camping Unit

CARAVANS: John Becker #2048 Piedmont Airstream Club

SAFETY: Bill Townsend #27070 Piedmont Airstream Club

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Julian Clements #224 Top of Georgia Airstream Club

PRESIDENT EMERITUS: John Frerking #227 South Florida Airstream Club

Thank you, team, for being so great and so dedicated, and for your hard work enabling Region 3 to remain at the front of the pack.

Thanks to our great treasurer, Jerry Hall, for keeping the money accounted for, to Joan Anderson for ALWAYS coming up with articles for the Blue Beret every month, to Margaret Van de Ree for taking the ever so important business minutes, to John Becker for chairing the Caravans, to Bill Townsend for sharing his knowledge on traveling safely, to Julian Clements for keeping us ALL in line as Parliamentarian, and of course to John Frerking and Matt Hackney, for handing us a strong and vibrant Region.

Since the International Rally in Loveland this summer has been cancelled, this will be our last time together as a group with us as your Region 3 President and First Lady. We can tell you without hesitation that these last 2 years have been fabulous for us, and we would do it all over again.

We count our 2 years as President and First Lady a success, not because of us, or anything we have done, but because of you, and everything you have done. Region 3 is strong, and a leader in the WBCCI, because of your dedication and enthusiasm. You, our members, make it all possible.

You have supported our Region by hosting and attending rallies, organized and led Caravans, you embraced new and exciting changes in the WBCCI as we modernize and move forward, you stepped up to serve when called on, and voted to approve new names and flag designs for your local Clubs to bring us all in better alignment with the goals of the International Club. The Region 3 "Downtown Rally" series is in full swing. We lead the way in every category. We could not be prouder of all the things you have done. Because of you, we remain the go-to-Region, the trend setters, the leaders in the WBCCI. We are "the Jones".

People ask us everywhere we go... "What can I do to help?" Our answer is always the same... "It is very simple: Keep coming, keep showing up, keep sharing the love; Support your local Club by attending the rallies. Be a leader in your Club. Be the spark plug, the cheerleader, the Pied Piper. Do not be afraid to think outside the box. Try new things, new places, and new ideas. Remember that variety is the spice of life."

Remember, too, the simple secret of life..."Surround yourself with nice people." If you do, everything else will fall into place. So... thank you, nice people, for traveling down the road with us these last 2 years, and for making the road so smooth.

Now...Please "Don't stop, keep right on going...". We have more places to go, more things to see, and more things to do. And to help and guide us, we have wonderful, talented, and dedicated leaders coming on board for Region 3; the future remains bright. Please show your new team the kindness and support you have shown us. You will be pleased. Together, we continue to make Region 3 the best in the WBCCI. They will be installed and take office in June.

Just like our other past Region Presidents and First Ladies that remain active throughout our Club, we will always be available to help where needed, anytime. We will never give up our self-appointed positions as "Head Cheerleaders!", and will always be looking for you somewhere down the road.

Remember to practice random acts of kindness, make someone's day a happy day, and pay it forward when you can. Get involved in your Club, your new and fresh ideas are wanted and needed. Do not be afraid to venture outside the box or try a new route. Veteran members, be a mentor to the new folks and new folks, step up to help our veteran members. Together we will continue to move forward.

Thank you all again for sharing the love.

SEE YOU DOWN THE ROAD!

John and Susan

[2020 CAC Club Officers and Directors](#)