



# FTCAC Pirate FYI's

## June, 2020

### Region 3 Officer Installation Ceremony

Please see the email Alicia sent on May 20, 2020 concerning the Installation Rally scheduled in late June at Palmetto Cove, SC.

### FTCAC Fall Rally

(Subject to change, depending on circumstances.) FTCAC members at Travelers Rest have volunteered to host the Fall Rally on November 5-8, 2020 (3 nights). If you wish to go in early or stay a day later, you can do so for the same rally fee of \$35 per night. A deposit of \$35 is required when making reservations. Call Travelers Rest Resort and Golf 352-588-2013 and specify Florida Treasure Coast Airstream Club, with Wagon Master **Sandy Poast**. Amenities include golf course, catch & release fishing, tennis, pool and bocce ball. For the very latest on the rally plans, see next paragraph:

We, here at Travelers Rest RV Resort and Golf, will be checking with the office very soon to set up in more detail what we will be able to plan for our November Rally. I hope everyone is planning to attend as long as this Virus doesn't put a stop or hold on our plans. Our buildings just opened up for the first time May 28th. We'll have to see what happens between now and November with everybody out and about now. YOU ALL BE CAREFUL AND STAY WELL.

HUGS from Travelers Rest: **Sandy and Gene Poast, Barbara Colson, Sue Wendt, Dick and Kit Wheatley, Bob and Antonette Jennings, Dick & Jeanne Martin, Sandy & JJ Johnjulio, Jo Wagon, Don & Ann Shafer & Jan Werner.**

### Spring 2021 Rally

If you are willing to help with the FTCAC Spring Rally for next year, please let us know! We need rally hosts and a rally site. (For planning purposes, next year's Region 3 Rally will be April 21-25, 2021, in Tallahassee.) Please step up and volunteer for the club; the same folks can't keep doing it!

### New Members

**Barry Brannon**, from Ormond Beach, joined WBCCI and FTCAC in early March. **Jean and Jake Piper**, from Vero Beach, joined in late May. We look forward to seeing all of them at some time, some place... "down the road."

### Tidbits

On May 9th, **Ben and Diana Walton** sent: The pandemic found us at home in WPB, where we remain. The Airstream has become Ben's office, where he continues to work full time - the VA sent just about all of those who work in the outpatient departments home to keep in touch with their patients and each other by phone and video chat sessions during this difficult time. Diana's tutoring practice stopped abruptly so she has had a lot of time on her hands. The time seems to fly by. We have time to do things that somehow took a backseat in our lives pre-pandemic. We take long walks

with our white shepherd Keya, cook together, work in the yard, do jigsaw puzzles, and spend lots of time reaching out to friends and family, near and far, on various internet platforms, like Zoom. Occasionally Ben entertains the neighborhood with some bagpipe music at sunset, and we have begun volunteering with a non-profit that is delivering prepared meals and bulk foods to folks in need. We look forward to the next FTCAC gathering. In the meantime, stay safe friends.

“I wish they would re-open the campgrounds. I miss happy hour, snacks, and cookouts!”



From **Carole and Craig Pelton's** trailer/ghost writer:

Greetings from “Bella,”

Hope this finds all well!!! that means sooo much more these days!!!

Craig and I have been fortunate to be working. Craig from home with contract work from his former job. They kicked him out of the office early as he is over 65 and at that higher risk group for COVID 19. He doesn't have to dress and the coffee pot is closer. He still rides 14 miles with the "boys" in the morning. Our "girls" Sadie 10 YO Yellow Lab and Lucy 9 YO Chocolate Lab LOVE his company all day long.

I work for Cleveland Clinic/Martin Health Medical System. We curtailed elective surgeries early in March. My job title switched from Physical Therapy Assistant work to be part of the COVID 19 response in our Medical system. Taking temps at the front door of facilities, mainly hospital entrances, was my introduction/training for a "Walmart Greeter". Cleveland Clinic is using this as a benchmark for safety's flow into their facilities. All patients that are admitted are tested. We still have positive patients in 2 of our hospitals. The COVID 19 virus is still very much in our communities. Please stay safe and follow the distancing guidelines, mask wear and of course WASH Your Hands!! With restrictions slowly lifting, I am back to REHAB, treating patients. Census is still very low, people are afraid of the hospital, which are actually very safe and sanitized places right now.

Our yard sure has gotten more attention, preparing for spring and here it is summer! The birds are singing, the frogs are croaking and all in all, Our family is Well, thank God and Life is GOOD. I miss my Triplet time (Kian, Tristen and Rylan), too long of a pause.....

Ciao, "Bella"

From **Norma and Morris Foreman** we received several bits of news:

Just want to say how time flies. Our grandson, Vaughn, who used to go with us to international rallies when he was young and would help his Gramp on the security team checking peoples badges before being admitted to the functions, has turned 18 and graduated from high school this month and is already registered at a university for fall.

I had an accident on my 3 wheel recumbent trike on Feb 23 when the trike tipped over and threw me onto the pavement. I landed on my right side with the bike on top of me. Someone saw it and called the ambulance and I was whisked away to the hospital where it showed fractured bones and hemorrhage on right hip. Underwent hip surgery and hip parts replacement and after 3 days was sent to rehab center for a couple weeks for physical therapy. Has been a long recovery but am so happy to be able to walk short distances without assistance. Morris doing well and and a big help for Norma. He has been a wonderful care giver to me. So much for now. Norma

**Sue Wendt** wrote: I really don't have anything to report. I'm still in FL, I'm not going to Maine until I feel safer about traveling and I don't know when that will be! Here in TR we are visiting in small groups 6ft apart, it is all very strange.

**Robert and Lea Stanton** recently received a call from their friends **Tina and Michael Lambert** of St. Thomas, Ontario. You might recognize the name from Michael's art work on the cover of and in *Airstream Life*. Also, they visited and dined with us one evening at the Smedleys' Hobo Rally. Their report is that Canada is in tight lockdown. Place your phone order and pick up curbside at the hardware store. Mike has been anxious to visit his mom who was widowed in early December. Nothing is open for restroom use in the hour and a half drive. No one allowed in Mom's house so home again for the Lamberts, a long trip with no facilities available. Being clever Airstreamers, they decided to park in Mom's driveway for 4 days. Comfort and a chance for a good visit. Seems like a no brainer, but they are still having snow flurries!

Life at the Stantons' remains quiet. Rob has accomplished many upgrades, new struts on the Tahoe today. Lea has long been a postcard sender. Having saved many from travels (better than her pictures), it is time to send them out. Of course the twins are getting all the ones with boats and trains! We have been lucky enough to have the kids visit 3 times. It is hard to strong arm them away from us, but since they come here so infrequently there is usually something to distract them. We look forward to a more physical future but right now we know we have to pay the price to keep us all safe.

**Blair and Sallie LittleJohn** are anxiously awaiting word from the Blue Ridge Parkway about the opening date for DPCG. In the meantime they hope to leave home soon and head to Bowling Green, KY for a visit with Sallie's cousin. There are several very nice Corps of Engineers campgrounds in eastern KY that they have visited in the past and would be happy to pass the time of day there where the temp is lower than at home.

**Tammy and Joe Dinneen** wrote: We are loading up our AS heading out Memorial Day!! First stop Tallahassee, we'll do a drive by at a Frank Lloyd Wright House(Spring House). Then to Florence, AL to do another drive by of Rosenbaum House( a Frank Lloyd Wright building). Our goal this summer is to visit the Great Lakes Region, however some states have not opened their campgrounds yet. Of course the plan is to travel in those open states! FL, GA, AL, TN, MO, IA to WI then we'll need to play it by ear. We kept our campground reservations the end of June visiting Mackinaw Island and, through the 4th of July in Traverse City, MI. After this we'll begin heading South for home by mid-August for a cruise we setup last year. Very excited for this cruise from Amsterdam to Boston, a couple of stops in Norway a couple of stops in Iceland & a couple in Greenland arriving into Boston 16 days later! We're very optimistic our travel plans will work out during this pandemic

**Gerry and Roxanne Peebles** sent:

Writing to you from our beloved Airstream my friends....so blessed & excited to once again be in it!!! Gerry and I had been "hunkered down," working from home for the last 2 months...bummed that we had to cancel our plans to go to the Region 3 Rally as well as some other short weekend trips...when our daughter Liz & son-in-law Matt proposed that we go part-way with them to pick up our granddaughter's things from her dorm in Ohio! "We're going to leave Saturday to go to Ohio, and you could go part-way to Tennessee and wait for us to come back there for the rest of the week! Dad can work from the Airstream!" Of course our answer was...."packing our bags and Airstream now!"



[Photo: Roxanne, g'daughter, & Liz] So plans were quickly made to travel to Imagination Mountain Camp Resort outside of Gatlinburg, TN. We left

Saturday, May 9th, spent the night at River Park RV Par in Valdosta, GA, and then arrived at Imagination Mountain on Sunday, May 10th. Liz and Matt traveled on to Cedarville University in Ohio and joined us on Tuesday. What a beautiful place!!! Our campsite sat right next to a beautiful creek. Gerry worked most all day Monday through Thursday, but on Friday we spent the day driving through Gatlinburg to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We drove through the Cades Cove loop which is one of the top things to do while visiting the park. The Cades Cove Loop is a picturesque drive winding through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for 11 miles. Mountain peaks, lush rolling greens, wildflower meadows, lots of wildlife and many stops along the way of a variety of historic buildings (churches, log homes, barns, a working mill) built by European settlers from 1818 to 1821. It took us about 4 hours to drive this one way loop with the amount of slow-paced traffic, stops, and a picnic lunch! Well worth it and highly recommended!!!

Liz and Matt left to go back to Florida on Saturday, but Gerry and I decided to continue on to Virginia Highland Haven Airstream Park in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia because it was only 3 1/2 hours away! Internet is good at the campground and Gerry can continue to work from our Airstream, so why not...right? If you've never visited Virginia Highland Haven, please put this on your bucket list! It's open from May 1 - October 15th. Beautiful views, cool evenings all through the summer, and lots to do in the surrounding area including the town of Floyd just down the road...bluegrass music, quaint shops & restaurants, antiques, wineries, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway...there's even a distillery to visit! You're also close to Roanoke and Christiansburg in the Valley of Virginia. Virginia Highland Haven is owned by stockholders and is exclusive to Airstream campers. We first visited here a couple of years ago and immediately put our name on the long waiting list to have an opportunity to become a shareholder. We were just offered a share a couple of weeks ago! This summer it is closed to visitors because of Covid.

Although this week it's been non-stop raining and cold, Gerry and I can't say we aren't glad to be back once again in our Airstream. We plan to stay up here at this beautiful place for 2 weeks, starting our return trip back on Saturday, May 30th. But who knows...might just have to stay a little longer!!! Hope to see you all again soon!

**Mike and Alicia Rafter** returned home May 27 after ten weeks in SC. Though not eager to return to a "hotspot" (in more ways than one), they needed to deal with a dead pool pump and a green pool. Mike has replaced the pump and returned the pool to blue.

#### **Editor's Notes:**

Many thanks to all who sent news. A couple of submissions will be used in the July issue. We will need more than just those, however. Please keep 'em coming!

Thanks to **Lew Brodsky**, editor of the NORVA newsletter, for the bear at the picnic table.

Late-breaking news: **Barb and Jon Liversedge** have planned a short road trip for September. Look for a separate email from Alicia with the information and the itinerary.

