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1st Vice President

Beth Zelten

2nd Vice President

open

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Membership

Linda Agre

Caravan Co-Chairs

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Newsletter Editor

Tim Doherty

Newsletter Publisher & Website

Bob Manak

Blue Beret Contributors

All Region 7 Members

Youth Chair

open

Photographer

John Cooper

Historian

Gail Harrower

Vintage Rep

Ed Emerick

President's Message

By Jane Carmichael (Article will also be in the Region Section of the August Blue Beret)

Hello to All from your brand-new Region 7 President. It sure would be nice if I could meet each one of you and could thank you for belonging to this fine Airstream Club. I hardly need to say, but will, that you are the only reason this Airstream Club exists.

The shoes I have stepped into are pretty big. We have been very fortunate to have had really nice Region 7 Presidents to provide leadership. But each 2 years, we have to say good bye to our Region President.

We thank Don Thomson and his wife Lillian for their dedication as the President and First Lady of Region 7. Don and Lillian held two Region 7 rallies. One was in Fargo, ND and another one in Winnipeg. Don will be the Region 7 Past President for 2 years. Thank you Don and Lillian for volunteering to lead Region 7 for the past 6 years. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to the Local Clubs, to the Region, and to the International. Well done.

The North Dakota Peace Garden and the Minnesota Airstream Club have each cleared their calendars for 2020. The Wisc-UP Airstream Club gatherings may only happen on an informal



We are all looking forward to the Region 7 Rally that will be in Marquette, Michigan from August 19–24, 2021.

basis with a few members hoping to go to the Peninsula State Park. I think everyone is anxious to get the tires rolling. Aren't you?

I participated briefly in the Minnesota Airstream Club Zoom meeting and really enjoyed seeing and talking to everyone. It was a happy group and we were all glad to have visual contact with one another. There was a bit of friendly kidding going on, too. Yes, they picked on me...

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Presidents Message, from Page 2

By now, you know that the 2020 Region 7 Rally has been cancelled and rescheduled. The decision was hard but appropriate. To cancel became the only possible way to assure the safety of our members. I could not put 114 persons on 2 buses and expect any type of social distancing to occur.

So, it came down to common sense.

We are all looking forward to the Region 7 Rally that will be in Marquette, Michigan from August 19 - 24, 2021. Updates regarding the 2021 Region 7 Rally will be posted on the R7 website. We will keep the theme of Anatomy of a Murder. Your speakers and presenters are on board, your campsite reservations and rally fees were rolled over, and your activities are being planned.

Cheers & Smiles,
Jane

<https://northdakota.airstreamclub.net> (Prairie Rose)

<https://wisc-up.airstreamclub.net> (Badger Bulletin)

The flavor of our Region is reflected in each of these local club's newsletters and activities. While we are diverse and spread out, we have so much in common, beyond Airstream ownership. The camaraderie makes me smile.

Who is a Region 7 Officer? Maybe You!

You don't have to give a pint of blood to be an officer for Region 7. In fact, that would be silly and certainly contraindicated. And totally unnecessary. Might you actually be someone who simply wants to keep the Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC) viable? Maybe you want to 'give back' for the fun you've been having as an Airstreamer? And maybe you don't fuss about "you have to do it this way?"

If you need structure, and prefer a black and white approach as to how to be a region officer, then you just need to relax and be yourself. Our International Constitution and By Laws (CBL) and Policies will provide the structure you need and will frame the "how to do" part of this volunteer work.

The advice I received when I became your Region 7 2nd Vice President was priceless. Pete Yanke told me: "You can make it as much work as you want." Thinking back to when I became the Wisc-UP club president, Dave Sherman's advice was something like: "Plan events that you would like, then if no one shows up, you will still have a good time."

Knowing what you like to see happen at campouts, rallies, and meetings is a start. Keeping the members of the WBAC working within the mechanics of the Constitution and By Laws is necessary. To do this, your leadership and viewpoint are important.

The three yearly International Board of Trustees (IBT) meetings and the Officer Forums will really help you to evaluate issues, their impact, and to develop a viewpoint. We often consult the Blue Book for specifics.

Region 7 Officers do maintain a flexible approach because, after all, this is volunteer work. There is no pay and the reimbursement for mileage, while helpful, won't be the real reason you do this.

There will be choices presented to you as the Region 7 representative and you will want to consult with your members and with other officers. Your decision to travel and to attend functions should fit you, your family, your job, your happiness, and your calendar.

Region 7 officers have back-up from fellow officers. A ton of back-up. All you have to do is ask. During your 2nd and 1st Vice President years, your first-hand experience to gain knowledge will be hard to beat.

Each of our 12 WBAC Regions do things differently. There are a lot of great ideas to harvest from the other regions.

How do you Volunteer as Region 7 2nd Vice President?

You may call: 906 236-3677 to discuss with Jane Carmichael or 906 290-4938 to discuss with Beth Zelten.

Newbies Corner

By Jane Carmichael

I am not certain what a Newbie is because I still feel pretty new to this group. There is so much to learn, so many places to see, things to do beyond your local club, plus there are lots of volunteer opportunities. We learn more about the Wally Byam Airstream Club every day.

There is so much to learn, so many places to see, things to do beyond your local club, plus there are lots of volunteer opportunities.

Our Region 7 has 3 local clubs, the North Dakota Peace Garden, the Minnesota Airstream Club, and the Wisc-UP Airstream Club. We laughingly say our geographical area is from Manitoba to Milwaukee because it includes Manitoba, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Of course we have members from all over as we do not limit local club membership to any geographical area. My local club is Wisc-UP Airstream Club.

WBCCI members may affiliate with any local club and pay the local club dues. I chose to be an affiliate with the North Dakota Peace Garden, the Minnesota Airstream Club, the Michigan Airstream Club, and the Arizona Airstream Club. I like to receive their newsletters and will join their events when I am in their area.

Our Region 7 local club newsletters include the Silver Times (Minnesota); the Badger Bulletin (Wisc-UP); and the Prairie Rose (North Dakota).

You may access the three Region 7 local clubs' newsletters by going to:

<https://minnesota.airstreamclub.net> (Silver Times)

2021 Region Board Meeting

A sincere thank you to our Region 7 Officers and Committee Chairs for their willingness to help Region 7. You are very gracious and kind to accept my request to serve as a Region Officer or Committee Chair.

Your Region 7 Board meeting will be in Marquette, MI on Friday, August 20, 2021 during the Region 7 Rally. Every WBAC member is welcome and encouraged to attend. This meeting will be at the Rippling River Resort, just south of Marquette in the lovely Upper Peninsula.

You may reserve a campsite by calling 906 273-2259 or by email at reservations@ripplingriverresort.com. Please mention that you are with the Airstream group to receive the Airstream discount!



Membership

By Linda Agre

We Airstream International Club members are fortunate to have such a vibrant, active, and involved community, and we see new owners join every month. What can we, as “seasoned” club members do to make new members feel welcome and join in on the fun? We have a language and traditions that are unique to Airstreamers, and until you meet seasoned members and attend events or rallies, it can all seem very foreign to the new member. Imagine receiving your welcome package, and among the items are two sets of very large, very red numbers! Wow, those are BIG! What do I do with those? What are the rules?



We have a language and traditions that are unique to Airstreamers, and until you meet seasoned members and attend events or rallies, it can all seem very foreign to the new member.

Each of our units has a chairperson who sends out a letter to each new member, but should it end there? No, it shouldn't. There's only so much that can be conveyed in a letter, text, or email. There is nothing like the personal touch of a phone call from the President. New members are listed in your unit newsletter, so as a member, give that new member a call to welcome them and tell them of all the fun you'll have at a rally or caravan. If a rally is in the near future, invite them to travel with you to that rally. Involve them in cooking, clean-up, or other ways to involve them and keep them busy. Make room in your tow

vehicle for them on sightseeing trips.

And for heaven's sake, tell them what the BIG red numbers are for. Better yet, help them put them on. You now have life-long friends. Not bad for one phone call.

Linda Agre Bio

Your Region 7 President, Jane Carmichael, has asked me to write a short bio about myself (your Region 7 Membership Chairperson) for the Region 7 newsletter. Now how do I do that when I thought everyone knew me. Like a bottle of fine wine I'm well aged, have 'silver' in my blood and love the Airstream family which I call the Cult, so anyway here goes.



A phone call from the Minnesota Unit President inviting us to join a unit rally at the Clear Lake Minnesota Airstream Park days after the purchase of a 31' Airstream started the snowball effect of falling in love with a club where no stranger existed and the start of visiting places we would never have ever gone to. Now who would have thought helping with a pancake breakfast or having coffee making duty 3 mornings in a row would lead to President of that Minnesota Unit? I loved planning rallies and discovering the many talents of the unit members who stepped up to help. WOW!

What memories they gave us. Leading a caravan of 15 Airstream Units, piece of cake. The life long friends I made would never have happened if a move had been into a retirement home. One of the best decisions ever made in 2001.

My husband, Denny and I started our retirement years by selling our business and our home with 14 acres. We invited our 2 daughters home to pick what they wanted of our household items, had an auction sale and moved into our 31' Airstream in April of 2002 with 12 inches of snow on the ground. Thus began our adventure of full-time RV'ers replacing stuff with memories.

In 2007 I lost my best friend and traveling partner. I thought I would put the wheels on blocks and end my gypsy lifestyle. That idea quickly faded. I learned how to hitch up and tow with a little help from my friends. Now towing and handling a 34' Airstream was more than I wanted to do so along came a 1997 B-van. Room for one with everything I needed. I was now the proud owner of 2 Airstreams and still am. One Airstream for winter and one Airstream for summer.

When I was asked to run for Region 7 2nd Vice President I was flattered but did not know how I as a single could ever serve and plan Region events. So I said 'Yes' under one condition, if Gail Harrower would be 3rd VP. With Gail's 30 plus years of Airstream knowledge and my Airstream family I figured working together we could give members some great events, and we did from the Antique Car Run Rally at Spicer Minnesota to the Tall Ships Rally in Duluth.

Working on the WBCCI International Board of Directors was a great learning experience. Over the years I have watched and been delighted with the direction they have lead the club. As I told Region 7 members I would handle the politics if they handled the fun.

What Memories! Would I do it again? In a Heartbeat!

Airstream Club Intl Courtesy Parking

Our cup runneth over with gratitude and fortune. For the small cost of membership in the Airstream Club International, we have gained friendships, experienced generosity, and opened our eyes to a warm community of fellow Airstream owners.

We are traveling full-time in our Airstream Interstate. We have been planning this portion of our life for a long time. In October of 2018, and 2019, respectively, Connie and I left our careers in the hands of younger and more energetic professionals, and set out in our motorhome. We share the same wanderlust, and our journey is open-ended. Prior to leaving our home in St. Paul, Minnesota, we joined the Club. Our plan was to combine stays with Club members, friends from our curling and gymnastics world, and with family along the way.

We loaded up the Interstate with food and gear that we planned would sustain us for a long while. To our surprise, we barely cracked open the refrigerator for nearly a week. Friends, family, and club members were feeding us generously and copiously along the way.

After nearly a week on the road, the first Club member we contacted for Courtesy Parking was Jane Carmichael in Marquette, Michigan. Jane is the Region 7 President. We had never met, but Marquette was on our route, and Jane's was a perfect stopping point. The weather had been getting quickly and unseasonably cold, and Jane offered us homemade chili when we arrived. "What is the wine pairing for chili, red or white?" I inquired. "Either!" Jane enthusiastically responded. "We're going to get along just fine" I said.

Arriving at Jane's, we quickly got down to the business of drinking wine, and having chili and laughs. Lots of wine. Lots of laughs. We had a great time. We got along swimmingly. We stayed a couple nights at Jane's, did some bike riding around Marquette, and continued to get chased south by the cold. Our first Courtesy Parking stay with a club member was wonderful. A great start to our open-ended journey.

(Side note: in my conversations with Jane, I mentioned how I would be 60 percent happier in life if people just learned how to use apostrophes. "Oh, you know grammar? How would you like to be our newsletter editor?" asked Jane. "If it will make the world a better place" I consented. Here I am as your contributing editor).

After a time visiting family and friends in lower Michigan, we continued on to Ohio. We contacted Club members Thomas and Nanette LaVergne in Kenton, Ohio. It was our intention to arrive in daylight hours, but we were delayed at the Bowling Green Curling Club, curling, making new friends, and having beverages. (We tend to close the party down). We arrived after dark and after our hosts had turned in for the night. They left a 30 amp plug for us in the driveway and we quietly pulled in. The LaVerrgnes left for work before we got up, so we never met them face-to-face. We left a thank-you note for the Courtesy Parking and continued south ahead of the cold.

Continuing south, we have stayed at several members' homes along the way: Frank and Debbie Dibona in Asheville. If you've joined Airstream Addicts Facebook group, you'll notice that

Frank has an interesting presence there; he expertly grafts Airstream trailers into famous works of art. Bill and Shelly Watkins in Augusta, despite we never meeting them, were superb hosts, providing a beautiful place on the bikeway. We had a lovely dinner with Ron and Lianna Mezza in Delray Beach, Florida, while on our way to the Keys. Larry and Judy Boudreaux of Thibodeaux, Louisiana taught us all about the bayou. Merci, nos nouveau amis! We listened to the yip and howl of coyotes outside our camper at Niell and Nita Freeman's in Oro Valley, Arizona.

We have spent days with many members, having breakfast, lunch and dinner, touring their towns, and socializing in their homes. We have learned so much. We learned about rallies and caravans. We have learned about our fellow members' lives. We have been warmly received everywhere.

It is now late May and we are in Utah, relaxing and enjoying mountain views, warm days, and cool nights. Reflecting back on our decision to travel and meet club members was clearly the best we could have made. I shouldn't be surprised at the welcome that we have received, for those who open their homes to strangers would likely be friendly. We have been made to feel welcome at every member's home. We were always welcome to stay longer, and were always sad to leave.

The strength of any group or community lies in the participation of its members. It is our hope that we are good ambassadors and guests, and have furthered the sense of community of the Airstream Club International. We look forward to meeting many more of you along the way. Safe travels, all!

Tim Doherty
Connie Kupferschmidt
Member #27507



Tim Doherty, Connie Kupferschmidt and Bella
(Minnesota members).

Finding Silver on the Road

by Beth Zelten, Region 7 1st Vice President

I'm willing to bet I'm not the only one who is desperately missing the interaction with our friends in the Airstream Club! Kenn and I have been using this time to continue working, driving our big rig around the country, delivering the needed goods.

One day last week we had stopped at a rest area on I-44 in MO for our mandatory half-hour break. Just a couple minutes later, a pickup pulling an Airstream with WBCCI big red numbers pulled in a couple spots over!



I'm sure Kenn was shaking his head as I jumped out of the truck saying "Oh, an Airstream! I have to go say HI!"

As the couple (Brian and JoAnn) got out to go run their dogs Genie and Charlie, I stuck out my hand to shake in greeting! I just as quickly pulled it back and apologized!

After the introductions with social distancing, of course, I found out we were both upcoming Region Vice Presidents. How cool was that?! Brian and JoAnn were headed to an Airstream Forum Rally a short ride down the road! So much to talk about but so little time!

After a few minutes we exchanged camping cards and reluctantly said our goodbyes. They were on my mind the rest of the day causing a goofy smile!

I found the feeling was mutual when I got an email just a few hours later thanking me for approaching them! I can't wait to meet them down the road!

I sure miss you all!!
Beth

Region 7 Vintage Airstream Club

Are you a vintage Airstream owner, or are you just fascinated with the history of the vintage Airstream trailer? If you are either an owner or aficionado, the Vintage Airstream Club (VAC) is the group for devotees like you. Each Region of the WBAC has a vintage representative and I am Region 7's rep. As the region rep, I am responsible for coordinating vintage Airstream activities, helping you find vintage resources and helping find answers to your vintage Airstream questions. I also help to coordinate our regional activities with the rest of the Vintage Airstream Club.



One of the responsibilities of the Vintage Airstream Club Rep is to coordinate or help to coordinate vintage rallies in the region. I am currently working with Jane Carmichael, Region 7 President, to have some kind of vintage participation in next year's region rally in Marquette, MI. I would like to hear from you; do you have that special place or event that would be fun to join up other vintage Airstream-minded people? If so, let me know and we'll see what we can work out. All suggestions and offers are welcome! I am hoping that things will be somewhat normal by the time the 2021 rally season starts, so with that said, we have plenty of time to plan.

One last comment about the Vintage Airstream Club: All Airstream product owners are encouraged to participate in the Region's vintage activities. Participation is not restricted to the year of the product; all WBAC members are welcome.

I look forward to seeing you down the road, and until then, have a good ride.

Ed Emerick
Region 7 VAC Rep
edward.emerick@gmail.com
920-475-7891



Ed Emerick, Steelhead & Aluminum

Caravan Fun!



Left to Right: Doreen Fulcher, Joan Ledbetter, Tourrahn Kriz, Donna Westerman, Jane Carmichael

This photo was taken during the Springtime in Kentucky Caravan on Kentucky Derby Day. Yes, these caravan ladies were dressed in flamingo attire plus hats and were full of smiles. Not sure if they won anything at the betting window behind them.

If you have ever thought about going on a WBCCI National Caravan, do not hesitate to sign up. There is a waiting list and it might take some time to get that wonderful “go” email, so be patient. It is worth it.

Some of your questions may be answered by going to www.airstreamclub.org, to Current Members, to Caravans.

Who Made the Mask?



This mask was lovingly made by one of our Region 7 members. We thank all of you who have been sewing and providing masks and PPE for your friends, family, and front-line workers.

Do you know who made this mask? Text your guess to 906 236-3677 with the subject: WHO MADE THE MASK?

Region Clubs' Notes

Minnesota: Chuck Dodd, President, hosted a Zoom meeting on May 28. There were 15 couples + singles or more who entered the meeting, It was a lively bunch! Good Job!

Wisconsin: The Driftless II Caravan that was scheduled for September 25 - October 4, 2020 has been cancelled, per Caravan Leader, Kurt Jorgensen. The #1 reason for the cancellation was concern for Safety.

The Executive Committee of the WBCCI voted in favor of the NEW Wisc-UP logo! Thank you, Pattie Cook for the design.

North Dakota: Bev Wells, Newsletter Editor, has suggested that the newsletter editors in Region 7 share their respective newsletters. Then the editor would send the other club's newsletters to their members. Great idea, eh? Here is her email:

“ Hi Jane, Hey, how about instead of doing another newsletter, each Unit Editor can send their newsletter to the other Unit Editors in the Region and the Unit Editor can email the newsletter to their Unit membership?.....

.....Like the idea and will circulate an email to our Unit Members to see if they would like to contribute an article to the Unit Newsletter. Once completed our Unit will share with the other Unit Editors in the Region to circulate to their Unit members.

Bev Wells”

Please Send Articles and Photos to Your Newsletter Editor by email:

Minnesota Airstream Club: 055info@airstreamclub.net

North Dakota Peace Garden: cbwell.bw@gmail.com

Wisc-UP Airstream Club: safari906@gmail.com

(Note: links to the Region 7 clubs newsletters are listed on the Region 7 website.)

Vintage Airstream for Sale

1974 Airstream Land Yacht 25' good condition. Everything works. Full size frig. 15K. Call or text Sue Cathers at 952-221-8265 for more info and photos. May be seen at Minnesota Airstream Park, Clear Lake, MN

Delegates and Alternates Vote

Thank you to Kay Olsson who represented 98 members of the Minnesota Airstream Club #055 in the 2020 International voting.

Thank you to Ken Kubiscka for voting on behalf of the 26 North Dakota Peace Garden members in the 2020 International. NDPG is club #145.

And a thank you to Bill Scheuerell who represented the 77 Wisc-UP members, club #116, when he voted for the International motions and candidates.

Results will be posted on the airstreamclub.org site.