



GOOD LIFE NEWS

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 July, 2020

President's Points

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Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 6 months per year (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Due date for articles is the 15th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the WBCCI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out at any time. We do not sell email addresses.

Happy Summer! I hope this note finds you happy and healthy.

Even as things open up, most of us are continuing to stay at home. Some adventurous Airstreamers are starting to venture out.

I chatted with Kathy and John Walker and they were going to meet friends at the Suwannee River Rendezvous for a few days.

Mike and Maryanne Swegles were heading to their summer hideaway at Virginia Highland Haven. Unfortunately because of lousy weather they went back home. They will go back when the weather clears.

Deb and I travelled to the Minnesota Airstream Park and will spend the summer here. We decided to do the trip in 3 days rather than meandering like we have done in the past.

I'm sure there are others of you that have ventured out and are 'Living the Dream'. Please feel free to share your stories. You can send them to Susan Poole for posting in the newsletter.

The uncertainty of camping, reservations and covid have really had an impact on the behavior of a lot of us. I've heard that RV and Camper sales are through the roof so that too makes an impact. More Caravans have been cancelled as well.

The October rally at Daytona Beach/Annual Business Meeting is still on and hopefully won't be cancelled. You can go to: <https://airstreamclub.org/daytona-beachannual-meeting-rally> to register.

NOTE: The Carolina BalloonFest Joint Rally in October was cancelled.

Well, enough rambling. I hope you all have a healthy summer and we meet again in October.

Steve Oppel, President



SAFETY UPDATES

Beginning May 21, as part of our phased re-opening, Florida State Parks began offering limited camping availability for our guests. At parks where camping is offered, there may also be measures in place to reduce density while honoring current reservations.

For details on specific parks, please [visit their webpage\(s\)](#). Our main priority is the safety of our guests and staff. As such, we will continue to review our operations on a daily basis and make additional operational changes as may be deemed necessary for protection of public health. <https://www.floridastateparks.org/>

Feature: Favorite Parks or Recent Trips

For this month's feature article, members submitted photos and stories of their favorite parks or recent trips.

Carrabelle, FL

One of our favorite places to go camping is Carrabelle, FL, which is on the panhandle of Florida's Gulf Coast, east of Apalachicola Bay.

The pictures below are where we planned to go in June for our anniversary. We canceled the trip due to riots, virus, and tropical storm Cristobol. We hope to go there next year or maybe later this summer.

Meriam and Gerald Reed



Crooked River State Park, GA

We spent a recent weekend at this park in south Georgia. We were on site 12. Nice clean park and we were able to kayak one day to Cherry Point, where there are sand bars to hang out on for a little while. The tide seemed to change quickly around the time when it was suppose to start to go from low to high and vice versa. We didn't use the restrooms while there but I'm sure based on the rest of the park they were good. (doing our part to social distance.)



Brenna & Joe Loretta



Favorite Parks or Recent Trips

Memorial Day Weekend Trip

We made ourselves a deal when we got the Airstream in 2019 that we wanted to camp at least once a month. Even with COVID-19 this year we only missed one month. Thankfully we camped in early March just before the stay at home order came into play. Unfortunately, our trip to Bahia Honda State Park in the Florida Keys for early May (that we had reserved 11 months in advance) got cancelled. But we still were able to save Memorial Day weekend.

Below are some pics from our camping trip over Memorial Day weekend and week. We had booked Gamble Rogers Memorial State Rec. Area, Flagler Beach, FL, back in 2019 and thankfully the parks opened up just in time for us to keep our spot. Joe took the one of the storm coming in from the ocean just as we got settled in. And the other one I took in the morning.

Then we moved onto Anastasia State Park, St. Augustine, FL, for the next week. (This one we scored through a cancellation that wandering labs alerted us to.) The Anastasia campground was pretty empty—I would say only half full. We did run into another Airstreamer (not a club member but we did drop the

hint they should join. 😊) We ended up having a nice visit with them one evening while social distancing under their awning! We were able to kayak at both locations as well.

So even though our Bahia SP trip in May was cancelled we were still able to camp and only miss one month. By the grace of God, we were able to score another spot at Bahia for later this year, so hopefully everything keeps moving in a positive direction and we are able to keep that one.

Brenna & Joe Loretta

*Moving in a
positive
direction...*



Gamble Rogers, Flagler Beach, FL



St. Augustine lighthouse from Salt Run, Anastasia Island, FL

When I'm old & gray I want
more memories than wishes.



Gamble Rogers, Flagler Beach, FL

Favorite Parks or Recent Trips (cont.)

Sanibel Island, FL

Sandy and I went to Sanibel Island on June 8th for two weeks. As it got closer to our departure date we kept watching the weather forecast which indicated that we would have rain everyday during our stay. That actually didn't happen, the rain was pretty much confined to the mainland and we only had some scattered showers and beautiful sunsets and sunrises. I didn't actually see any of the sunrises but heard they were special.

Our big event for the stay was on the first day our A/C did not work. It took us 8 days, without air conditioning to get it taken care of. We ended up with a new Dometic 15,000 BTU unit. Bigger and better than the original. Somehow we did survive the 8 days of 90 degree heat. Fortunately the evenings were a bit cooler. It helped that we had a new Blackstone Griddle which kept us out of the kitchen. We love the Blackstone.

We didn't have any trouble with social distancing on the beaches and in the shops and grocery stores. The majority of people we were in contact with maintained

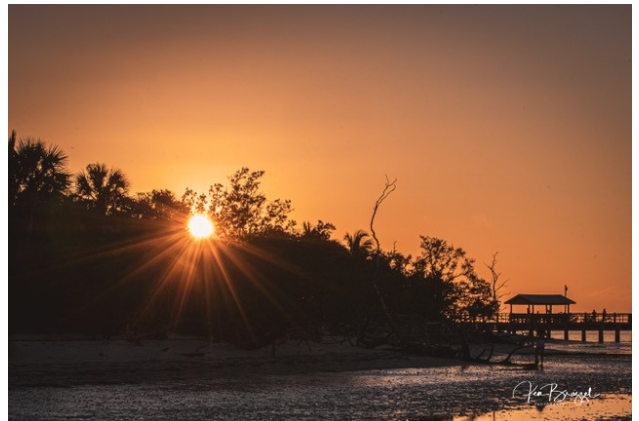
a safe distance and most of the businesses we went to required a mask to enter.

We made several trips to the Ding Darling NWR where we saw numerous birds and manatees. The wildlife viewing on the island is great. Take binoculars and a camera.

We stayed at Periwinkle Park, sanibelcamping.com, the only campground on Sanibel. This was our fourth trip to Sanibel since we have been in Florida. We have reservations to go back in early August. Periwinkle Park has 80 full hook up sites. Many of the sites have concrete pads as well. 50/30/20 electric service. Some of the sites have good shade but most only have partial shade during the day. A/C is a must in the summer. The park is clean and well managed, gated entry and exit and feels very safe and it is about a half mile walk or bike ride to the beach. I give it high ratings and look forward to our return in August.

Ken and Sandy Brazzel

*Periwinkle Park in
Sanibel Island,
northeast Florida*



Gleaming Rigs in Glorious Places



Deb and Steve Oppel's rig at Memorial Park and Campground, Dakota City, IA (one of our favorite campgrounds of all). Photo edited with PRISMA



Joe and Brenna Loretta's rig at Anastasia State Park, St. Augustine, FL

Tech Tips:



Last summer, we developed a small leak in the front bedroom of our Airstream. When it rained hard, a little dribble of water would run down the sidewall from under one of the interior aluminum plates. As part of my spring maintenance, I examined the roof but couldn't find any old, damaged, or missing caulked areas where water could be coming in. I suspected either the caulk around the Fantastic Fan or the caulk around one of the plumbing vents could be failing, but I really couldn't see any evidence of that either.

In April, we had an appointment at the Airstream Service Center in Jackson Center, OH. Unfortunately, that was canceled along with all our other travel plans for the spring and summer of 2020. I decided to try to fix the leak myself.

I had been wanting to replace my gray and black tank vents with the Lippert 360 vents that Airstream is now using, because occasionally when the wind is

blowing from the right direction, we get a wif of sewer gas into the trailer. Also, the black tank vent is almost directly above the location of the leak. When I removed the old Ventline vent for the black tank, I was sure I found the leak. The body of the vent was cracked. Airstream had used screws that were too short and had to set them very tight to get them to hold. The crack was not covered by caulk, and all the screws holding down this vent were rusty.

The photo below is of my finished job.

I have a thread out on [airforums.com](https://www.airforums.com) in the Exterior Restoration>Roof forum, where you can read all about what I did and discovered in the process. My forums name is SilverCabin.

Randy Godfrey



The Lippert 360 tank vent after installation.

Looking Ahead to 2021....

2021 OFFICERS

Our nominating committee to set the slate for our 2021 Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons has been established consisting of Mike Swegles, Bob Masters and Chris Allen. We will be looking for club members willing to serve.

If you would care to volunteer, please contact one of us. We will be determining which positions will be open and then recruiting to fill them.

It takes a village to have a vibrant Airstream Club and there is no better way to support and participate than to get involved. Joint work creates community and fellowship, the rewards are great!

Contacts

Mike Swegles plumercrest@gmail.com

Bob Masters blmasters@icloud.com

Chris Allen Ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net

*Joint work creates
community and
fellowship. The
rewards are great!*

2021 RALLIES

Have you been to a rally and wished there were more things that you liked to do? Or maybe you haven't signed up for a rally because we aren't offering what/where you want. Here is your chance to help!

I am looking for members who would like to host a rally. Perhaps there is an RV park you have been to that would make a great rally spot.

You will not have to host a rally by yourself. We have lots of folks in the club who will help. I just need assistance locating some new rally spots and I need people willing to make contact with the RV park. No rallies are held in June, July and August. As of this writing we currently have rallies planned for October, November, December, and we can hold more than one in a month.

If you had planned to host rally this past year but it was cancelled, we would love to reschedule with you as a host. Please let us know if you are willing. Thank you!

If you can help to host a Rally in 2021 please contact Mike and Maryanne Swegles at maryanneswegles7@gmail.com



Fort Christmas Rally, 2019

Here is what we need to host a successful rally:

- 20 RV spot availability
- Points of interest in the area where a group activity can be planned i.e.: historical tours, kayaking, hiking
- Meeting room/kitchen is a plus for meals and games

News from Region 3

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.

Steve Oppel.

Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule 2020-21

Date	Rally Location and Campground Reservations	Hosts and Rally Registration
Oct. 8-12, 2020	Annual Business Meeting Daytona International RV Park & Campground Daytona Beach, FL Reservations: http://internationalrvdaytona.com/ Contact the campground at (386) 239-0249 by September 8th to make your reservations.	Larry and Linda Scovotto floridalarry@me.com Register for the Rally so you receive updates from the host: https://airstreamclub.org/daytona-beachannual-meeting-rally
Oct. 16-18, 2020 CANCELLED	Wally Byam Carolina Balloon Fest Joint Rally Statesville, NC Reservations: Contact Host	Al & Missy Waschka awaschka@bellsouth.net
Nov. 5-8, 2020	Mary's Fish Camp Rally Weeki Wachee, FL Reservations: 352-597-3474	Deb & Steve Oppel oppels@gmail.com Jeff & Mary Krabel jk62gt@gmail.com
Dec. 3-6, 2020	Cracker Christmas Rally Ft. Christmas Historical Park, Christmas, FL Reservations: Contact Host	Steve & Laura Kane SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com
Jan. 2021	TBA	
Feb. 2021	TBA	
Mar. 25-29 2021 NEW!! Reserve your spot early since State Parks fill up!	North Florida Strawberries and More Rally Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park Keystone Heights, FL Activities: Strawberry Festival in Starke, hike, bike, paddle Reservations: https://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/	Susan and David Poole Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com Host site: Lake View section, site 40
Apr. 2021	TBA	



Important: Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground AND register for the rally (so Hosts know who is coming and can send you updates). More details are available in this newsletter or from Hosts.

Reserve early for state parks. After you make reservations, register at the link provided or if none provided, contact Hosts to let them know you are attending (give your name, WBAC # and Unit, email, phone, campsite number, arrival and departure date).

Daytona Beach Rally, Oct. 8-12

Time to Rally - After not having a Club rally for over six months, it's now time to get together!

Make Campground Reservation

Our October 2020 rally will be at the International RV Park, Daytona Beach, FL [<http://internationalrvdaytona.com/>].

Dates are 10/8-10/12. Full hookup is \$30 per night. Contact the campground at (386) 239-0249 **by September 8th** to make your reservations.

Register with Club for the Rally.

Go to <https://airstreamclub.org/daytona-beachannual-meeting-rally> to register for the rally so your host knows who is coming.

Tentative agenda (more details later)

Arrival day (10/8) will include dinner catered by Louie's Pizza House.

Menu to include ziti, lasagna, salad and garlic knots.

Breakfast is scheduled each morning and dinner on Saturday night is hosted by the campground.

Back by popular demand, a seminar will be held on Friday morning hosted by Classic Coach Works (<http://www.classiccoachworks.com>). Classic Coach Works is an RV renovation company dealing in customizing high-end motor coaches and travel trailers.

There will be plenty of opportunity to enjoy the Daytona Beach area including the Daytona Beach Flea Market.

The Club's Annual Business Meeting will be held on Saturday morning. Please plan to attend this meeting.

Hosts
Linda and Larry Scovotto
floridalarry@me.com
(386) 405-0160



- 1. Contact the campground **by September 8th** to make your reservations.
- 2. Register with the club to attend the rally
- 3. Sign up for the new member notification system

NEW!!!

MEMBER NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Want to receive scheduling changes or emergency information on the way to the Rally or when you are onsite? Well now you can!

Our Club now has a member notification system where you can receive important information on your cell phone(s) via text. It is as easy to register as calling or texting a toll-free number. It's that simple!

Call-In Information:

Call: 844-292-2290 and follow the prompts.
PIN: 1008

Text-In Information:

Text: 844-292-2290
Keyword: add **octrally** in the message box and send

Once registered, you will be alerted for changes in the program schedule and emergency situations where action is needed. At the end of the Rally, your phone number will be deleted from the system. Do not re-register. If you do, your cell number will be deleted from the system.

Another advantage of membership . . . making your Florida Airstream Club Rally even more enjoyable.

Welcome to our New Members!



To renew, go online to <https://airstreamclub.org/> and click on Menu & Current Members

To become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, see instructions on last page.

New Members:

Raied and Samer Alani #31185
10945 Emerald Chase Dr.
Orlando FL 32836
dralanirusa@aol.com
(407) 455-1229

Jim and Sunny Almeida # 7536
31602 Tansy Bnd
Wesley Chapel, FL 33545
Pelican813@outlook.com
(401) 529-7826

Julie and Bruce Chesley #7549
2095 Highway A1A Unit 4405
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
julie.a.chesley@gmail.com
703-389-3287
703-258-2770

Steve and Bry Dallenbach #12209
2753 Midlane Terrace
The Villages, FL 32162
dallenbachlarson@gmail.com
Cell# 515-249-0440

Pam and Greg Hunter #7744
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Naples, FL 34110
paml.hunter@gmail.com
egregoryhunter@gmail.com
(239) 293-5869

Ulises and Suzanne Mora #8478
632 Elder Court
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
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suzannerosales@gmail.com
Ulises Cell: (407) 473-0942
bills@eldercloud.net

Bill and Amy Nordhausen #7640
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Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
Amy Cell (941) 302-5499
amyjospears@gmail.com
Bill Cell: (941) 586-3242
nord5252@gmail.com

Anne and John Pfister #7534
1530 McDuff Ave S
Jacksonville, FL 32205
Apfister10@gmail.com
(352) 807-1164

Byron and Lynne Tucker #7554
103 S Canal Dr
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
byrontucker@me.com
(206) 550-1283



Bill and Amy Nordhausen , Lakewood Ranch, FL

We have a 1962 Flying Cloud (22'). Our restoration project has been underway for about 10 years. LOL Since the COVID, we have had time to spend on our project. We tried to keep everything as original as possible. We have owned other Vintage Airstreams (Three others; a 58 Wanderer, 67 Safari, and 73 Globetrotter), but they have been sold and are onto new owners and new adventures. We are currently in the process of a new axle order and installation and then we will be ready for a few brief local camping trips to make sure we are ready for bigger adventures. We look forward to meeting up with the FAC members and creating new memories.



Bruce and Julie Chesley,

Indian Harbour Beach, FL.

We have a new Basecamp-X and we are new to Air-streaming (previous tent campers!). Excited to learn more and meet great folks.

Volunteer Mentors Needed



Mentorship is a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person.

It's all about family . . . the Airstream family . . . the Florida Airstream Club family. What better way to welcome a new member than to have someone from our Club who lives in close proximity to a new member personally welcome them?

When an individual joins the Florida Airstream Club, a welcome letter is sent by Frank Carson, Membership Chair, to the new member with a copy to the Club. An administrative follow up from the Club is then initiated. However, an additional step is needed to make sure new members feel that they are part of the Club family . . . a personal touch from another member.

The task of the Florida Airstream Club's Mentoring Committee is to identify Club members who are willing to mentor a new member(s) who live in their region. New member information would be emailed to the volunteer mentor(s). All that is required is to reach out to the new member, welcome them and see if they need any additional information. This can be done by phone or email. Then just keep in touch.

For purposes of membership demographics, we have divided the Club into six geographic regions (see map) . . . North West, North East, South West, South East, West Central and East Central. The numbers in the figure below indicate how many members we have from each region.

So far we have 5 people who have volunteered but we still need more in some regions.

- North West** --Open
- North East** -- Ron & Chris Allen ron-chrisallen@bellsouth.net and Susan Poole susyqmectup14@gmail.com
- East Central** -- Joyce Hoffer joycemneal@hotmail.com
- West Central** -- Open
- South East** -- Open
- South West** -- Meriam Reed meriam@reeddesignbuild.com

Interested in becoming a Volunteer Mentor? Email my vice chair Larry Scovotto at floridalarry@me.com. Thank you for your continued support of your Club.

Florida Air Stream Club
Mentoring Committee
Deb Oppel, Chair
Larry Scovotto, Vice Chair



Interested in becoming a Volunteer Mentor?
Email Larry Scovotto at floridalarry@me.com

Community Project: Fisher House Foundation

We pray everyone has stayed safe during this isolation time. We are looking forward to getting together with our Airstream Club Members in October. It has been a long journey waiting for campgrounds to open up and folks to feel comfortable enough to get back on the road.

With that said, have you been organizing around the house? Maybe cleaning closets, cupboards, garages, attics, etc. If you have found some gently used items or items you purchased that just don't work for you and need to pass them on? Or, maybe you received a gift that just isn't yours but you feel would be a treasure to other, bring your items to our next Rally and we can have

fun having an auction or garage sale to benefit the Fisher House. What a win, win. You get things out of your house and someone else gets to enjoy something they have been wishing for. All items should be given to your Community Project Chair, Chris Allen so they can be added to our sales efforts.

Just a reminder, we still have plenty of club logo stickers, RV stickers, name tag magnets, iron on club logos and lanyards for sale. All proceeds go to the Fisher House. For 2020 we have already raised \$1,553.64 thanks to our generous club members. All money will be delivered to the Fisher House during the first quarter of 2021. Let's work together

to meet our annual goal of \$2,500 for this important organization.

We look forward to seeing everyone soon. Please contact me at (904) 534-9896 or ron-chrisallen@bellsouth.net if you have any questions about the Fisher House, need to purchase some stickers, etc. or have suggestions for a fund raiser. I would love to hear from you.

Chris Allen,
Community Project Chair



*Florida Airstream
Club members have
raised \$1,542.64
so far this year in
donations to the
Fisher House in
Tampa, FL*

Sunshine Committee Report

The club received a thank you note from Betty Wenger for the care and support we gave her. She prays that God will richly bless the members for all they did for her when Dave passed away.

Larry Scovotto had his left knee replaced. The surgery went well. Good luck Larry.

Frank Carson had nose surgery on April 19. The doctor used an endoscope to remove a neoplasm in the nose. It was benign. The doctor also performed a left maxillary sinus an-

trontomy, a left ethmoidectomy, and a left inferior turbinate submucous resection. He can breathe again!

Betty Kucowski had her knee replaced now that hospitals are again performing surgery in NJ. She is in therapy and doing well.

If you would like someone to be included in the next newsletter, please send it to Joan Carson at fc23343@aol.com



Florida Airstream Club, WBCCI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web

<https://airstreamclub.org/explore/florida-airstream-club>

Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and recently **Airstream Club International**.

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as The Southeastern Unit in 1956 making it one of the oldest units. We schedule rallies all over the state from October through April. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in a relaxed atmosphere.

New applicants and renewing members apply online at <https://airstreamclub.org/> Contact Membership Chair below if questions.

Affiliates: If you are a member of another WBCCI club and want to become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, please mail your name, WBCCI #, address, phone number, email, and \$10 to Treasurer below.

Florida Airstream Club Officers 2020

*President

Steve Oppel #1260
(763) 670-8771
oppels@gmail.com

*1st Vice President

Mike Swegles #19557
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*2nd Vice President

Bob Masters #7669
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*Corresponding Secretary

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*1 Year Trustee

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*2 Year Trustee

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Mentorship Chair

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Sunshine Committee Chair

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*denotes Executive Board