

NORVA News

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March 2019

Tampa dealership opens awesome new showroom

In Florida, NORVA's Dick & Jane Arnold visit Airstream of Tampa and are amazed by what they see!

This month we begin our camping season with NORVA's March Break-out Rally. Jane and I are returning early from Florida to be there, so we urge the weather forecasters to treat us kindly! Several times in the past it snowed as we returned from our winter retreat.

Members from all four Virginia Airstream clubs will be at the rally in Williamsburg, March 29-31, which will feature professional tips about trailer maintenance. D.J. Mastin, a trained and experienced Airstream mechanic, will be on hand to answer questions and, if time permits, make minor repairs to rigs (at his reasonable hourly labor rate). It takes time and effort to organize a rally and I thank long-time NORVA members Tom Carmichael and Lew Brodsky for setting up this one. We hope their example motivates more of our newer members to get involved in hosting future club events.

When we are in Florida for the winter months, Jane and I make it a habit to see the Tampa RV Show, held each January at the Florida State Fairgrounds. We especially enjoy the Airstreams on display and visit the many vendor exhibits.

On the way to this year's show, we stopped off at the new Airstream of Tampa dealership for its grand opening. And we were blown away! For five days they served wine and cheese, played piano music in the background, and shot off fireworks at night. As we entered the showroom, we were amazed to see a 25-foot Airstream trailer shell hanging from the ceiling, separated from its chassis (below, at floor level), so the quality of construction could be examined. Nearby



Above: NORVA President Dick Arnold stands alongside an Airstream trailer shell suspended above its chassis.

Below: The new, ultramodern showroom building at Airstream of Tampa.

is a long glass display case showing miniature models of Airstreams made from 1936 to today. Hanging in the windows are panels explaining the history of Airstream and Wally Byam. There is even a statue of Wally!

But the best part of our visit was a movie. Inside, Airstream of Tampa has installed a 360-degree video theater. Viewers sit on swivel stools and are taken on a panoramic, cinematic tour of the Airstream factory, led by Airstream Regional Sales Director, Tim Maxwell. Jane and I have visited Jackson Center many times and taken the walking tour on the factory floor, but this "virtual" tour was the best ever! We later

("Tampa," continues on Page 2)



Inside this issue of NORVA News:

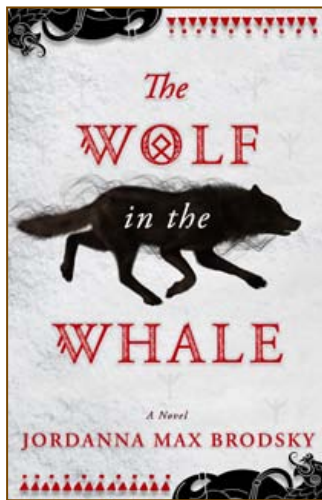
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On screen in Tampa—Airstream's Tim Maxwell hosts a video tour of the Airstream factory. The new 360-degree surround film is shown in a small theater in a corner of the showroom (inset photo).



("Tampa," from Page 1)

saw Tim at the Tampa RV Show and told him he deserved an Oscar for his performance. We also encountered Justin Humphreys, Airstream's Chief Operating Officer, and complimented both the movie and Tim. We don't know if other dealerships will be installing this magical movie experience, but we hope so. Meanwhile, if your travels take you to Tampa, be sure to stop in to see and enjoy this state-of-the-art dealership.



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 Editor: Lew Brodsky
 Please send articles and photos to:
 NORVAnews@cox.net
 Visit NORVA's website: <https://northva.wbcc.net>



Jordanna M Brodsky, daughter of NORVA's Lew & Cathy Brodsky, has released her fourth novel. "The Wolf in the Whale" is an epic tale of survival and love set in the Canadian Arctic 1,000 years ago. The plot imagines the first encounters between the indigenous Inuit people and the Norse Vikings. Above, the author speaks at a "reading and signing" event Feb. 9, 2019, at Barnes and Noble in Tysons Corner, Va. Several NORVA Airstreamers were in the crowd, including Jordanna's proud parents, Ed & Beth Jones, and Gerry & Patsy Nagel. The 539-page book is available at libraries, on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and in many bookstores. It is also available for Kindle and as an audiobook ([Audible.com](https://www.audible.com)).

NORVA Officers

Terms began Oct. 1, 2018

President
Dick Arnold
 540-729-2095
janea40@gmail.com



1st Vice President
Edgar Simmons
 Rally Coordinator
 540-421-1756
edsimmjr@aol.com



2nd Vice President
Gerry Nagel
 Club Caravan Leader
 703-963-4143
gnagel@verizon.net



Secretary
Patsy Nagel
 703-963-4142
pnnagel@verizon.net



Treasurer
Kevin Quinn
 540-825-7785
kquinnur67@gmail.com



Membership Director
Jackson McBroom
 757-345-0060
jtmcbm@aol.com



Newsletter Editor
Lew Brodsky
 703-451-0122
lbrodsky@cox.net
norvanews@cox.net



Legislative Director
Kathy Simmons
 540-421-3048
edsimmjr@aol.com



Storekeeper
Jim Timberlake V
 540-270-2339
timberlakeV@aol.com



Past President
Ed Jones
 703-780-6597
thunderhorse16@yahoo.com



The problem: Quirky Steps

Have you ever had trouble opening your steps? The entry steps are one of the first things you must operate, especially when you want to enter the coach. It's also the last thing to check, or rather double check, before departing. It would be helpful to give you a basic understanding of the lubrication points and show you how to lubricate them properly. You should use Airstream recommended products and also a product I have found over the years that works extremely well. Airstream recommends silicone spray, the brand doesn't matter. The other product is made by Kwik and it is called Kwik Lube.

Here's what to do:

Aluminum steps: In the pictures, the red circle is where I use the Kwik lube, applied liberally along the entire track on the steel outrigger. Once both sides are lubed, work the steps back and forth until they slide smoothly. Then apply the silicone spray (areas applied circled in blue) to all pins and latch using the same process—moving all points to work in the silicone spray. If the steps do not move freely at this point they will need to be addressed further. You shouldn't have to fight them when operating.

Steel steps: I do not have a photo of steel steps, but the Kwik lube product works extremely well. Simply apply to all pins and brackets, moving the

steps in and out until the lube is worked in.

Safety is a concern on any entry step. Operate them with caution. Make sure that aluminum steps are in their stop point before stepping on them. If they only catch on one side they will attempt to slide back when you step on them. On steel steps, make sure they are fully open, including any bottom step.



David "D.J." Mastin is the owner of Broken Rivets RV, Ruther Glen, VA. His "tips" column will appear periodically. If you have an issue you would like him to address, send it for consideration to NORVAnews@cox.net.

A lock on New York's historic Erie Canal



NORVA was established as a unit of the Wally Byam Caravan Club in 1969, so the 2019 NORVA Caravan will celebrate the Club's 50th anniversary.

"This year's caravan will include four campground stops over 16 days, and offer a variety of tours, food, entertainment, and experiences," say NORVA's Gerry and Patsy Nagel, volunteer organizers and caravan leaders. Space permitting, members of any Wally Byam club can participate.

The rendezvous point for start of this adventure is Lancaster, Pa., on Saturday, June 1, at the Old Mill Stream Campground. While in Pennsylvania, planned activities include the "Turkey Hill Experience," where visitors create their own flavors of ice cream and sample the flavors of the day. Next is a visit to Kreider Farms, the largest privately-owned dairy in the nation, where 1,700 cows are milked three times a day. Later in the day the caravanners will learn how to roll a soft pretzel during a visit to Julius Sturgis Pretzels. The next day features a walking, "food tasting tour" of downtown Lancaster. During this five-night stay in the Pennsylvania Dutch area, meals will be enjoyed at two different smorgasbord restaurants.

Before departing Lancaster, the group will attend the play "Jesus" at Lancaster's Sight and Sound Theater.

Thursday, June 6, is a travel day, as the caravan moves to Corning/Watkins Glen, N.Y. There, the group will have a guided tour of the Corning Glass Museum, with an option to participate in a "make your own glass" activity. At this three-night stop, a free day is scheduled. Caravanners may choose

to visit some of the numerous wineries in the Finger Lakes region, see the Glenn H. Curtiss (Aviation) Museum, or enjoy other area attractions.

The drive to the caravan's third campground in Richfield Springs, N.Y., is scheduled for Sunday, June 9. A visit to the "Baseball Hall of Fame" in nearby Cooperstown is planned. A highlight of this three-night stop is a breakfast/brunch at the Waterfront Grille in Herkimer, followed by a cruise on the historic Erie Canal. This will include a barge trip through one of the canal's oldest working locks.

The Hudson River Valley and Metropolitan New York City is the destination of the last leg of the caravan. The group travels to the KOA campground in Plattekill, N.Y., on Wednesday, June 12. Included at this five-night stop is a tour of the Culinary Institute of America. There will also be a bus trip to downtown Manhattan where highlights include a visit to the 911 Museum, the Empire State Building, and more. Also on the agenda is a visit to Hyde Park for tours



*Photos—two stops in Pennsylvania:
Make your own ice cream at "The Turkey Hill Experience."
Sample "Dutch" foods in Lancaster's downtown market building.*

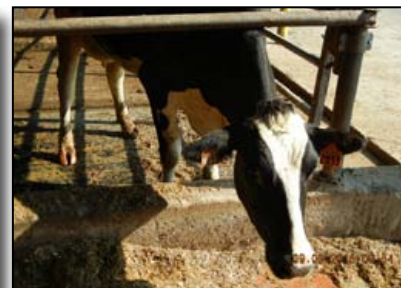


(NORVA Caravan, continued)

of the homes of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt. While in this area, there will be an opportunity to visit the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. The schedule also allows time (for those interested) to take a stroll on the 2.5-mile (round trip) refurbished railway bridge called the “Walkway over the Hudson,” or see other local attractions. The caravan will end with a tour of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and brunch at the West Point Club on Sunday, June 16. All in all, it will be an active 16 days celebrating the 50th anniversary of NORVA. Want to participate? Please use the coupon on Page 8.

The details: Caravan U-48-434, “PA-NY POT POURRI,” June 1-16, 2019. Leaders: Gerry and Patsy Nagel, WBCCI #3936. Maximum RV rigs w/leaders: 16. Total number of nights: 16. Number of campground stops: 4. Kitty Fee, 2 people/RV-\$1,995.00; 1 person/RV-\$1,472.00, Additional guests \$505.00 each. Deposit \$300.00 by April 1. Balance Due: May 1. Cancellation fee \$50.00 by May 1; after May 1 at leaders’ discretion. For more information, or if you have questions, please call Gerry Nagel at 703-490-4625 (home), or 703-963-4143 (cell).

Email: gnagel@verizon.net.



Top: The Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

The dairy cow (one of 1,700)—the visit to Kreider Farms will be an udderly fascinating experience.

Above and inset: The Corning Glass Museum is world famous.

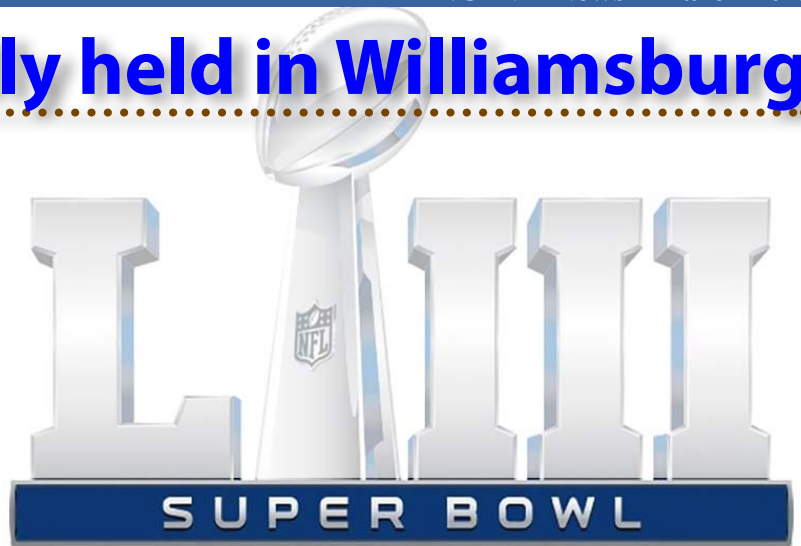
Left: The magnificent chapel at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. The caravan will end with brunch at the West Point Club.

Super Bowl rally held in Williamsburg

The gathering featured everything partygoers could ask for: sumptuous food, plentiful drinks, great company, a jovial atmosphere, and a terrific football game. Jackson & Mary Ann McBroom once again demonstrated their generosity and hosting expertise as they welcomed fellow Airstreamers to their beautiful Williamsburg residence. More than a dozen Airstreamers gathered there on Feb. 3 for NORVA's annual wintertime "rally" to schmooze and watch the Super Bowl on TV. Upstairs and downstairs, large flat-screen sets were tuned in for folks intent on viewing the game. Many others were content to eat, drink, be merry, and engage in "let's catch up" conversations.

For the viewing crowd, most of the four quarters of the game proved to be a close defensive match, with key plays sparking cheers and howls. It should be noted that the howls came mainly from three canines attending the party. The McBrooms now have two Airedale terriers. "Gracie" is their mature gal, and she has been joined recently by "George," a rambunctious young pup. Rounding out the canine trio at the rally was NORVA's familiar, mellow, old golden retriever, "Paisley." Paisley brought her usual traveling companions with her to the party, Lew & Cathy Brodsky.

An abundance of vocal Los Angeles Rams fans attended this rally, and many of them have since chosen to forget the game's outcome, so *NORVA News* will record it here for posterity: THE VICTORS OF SUPER BOWL LIII WERE THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS led, yet again, by 41-year old QB Tom Brady and ace wide receiver Julian Edelman. **The final score: New England 13, Los Angeles 3.**



Rally goers monitored the big game. There were screens on two floors of the McBroom home. Most attendees seemed to be rooting for Los Angeles and were disappointed with the outcome, but everyone had a good time nonetheless. Doug Anderson and Gerry Nagel, are shown at left.



Sorry, Rams fans!

Alexandria family joins the NORVA Airstream Club

Jeff Dunkelberger and wife, Caitlin Garvey, recently purchased a 30-foot, 2019 Flying Cloud trailer to travel in comfort with their sons and three dogs. Their plan is to take as many adventurous family trips as possible before their youngest son heads off to college.

“We knew the moment we first entered an Airstream that nothing else would do for us,” says Jeff. “One of the truly bright spots in our RV adventure thus far has been the warm welcome we received from NORVA and the wider Airstream community. We have already benefited immensely from the rich information shared among Club members, and we look forward to actively participating in many WBAC activities.”

Counting this Alexandria family, NORVA now has 50 member households, appropriately perfect for the Club’s 50th Anniversary year!



*NORVA’s newest members—
Pictured (l. to r.): Jeff Dunkelberger, Liam (age 11), Lucas (age 14) and Caitlin Garvey. Also shown are two of the family’s three Cairn terriers. Jeff holds “Xander” and “Derby” is with Liam. “Easy” is not in the photo.*

Coming to the March Rally?

If you are thinking about coming to the Breakout & Maintenance Rally at the end of March, it’s not too late to sign up. Host Tom Carmichael believes about 25 rigs will be present, representing all four Virginia Airstream Clubs.

Airstream-trained technician D.J. Mastin will be on hand to answer questions about your Airstream’s systems, offer maintenance tips and, time and weather permitting, be available to make minor repairs at a discounted labor rate.

Make your campsite reservation directly with American Heritage RV Park by calling them at 757-566-2133. Tell them you are with the Airstream rally. Then, complete the coupon, below, and mail it with your rally fee check to Tom at the address shown.

Says Tom, “We are looking forward to a great, well-attended rally—the first of the 2019 camping season!” If you have any questions, call Tom at the telephone number listed on the coupon.



BREAKOUT & MAINTENANCE RALLY

Friday, March 29 through Saturday, March 31, 2019. Concludes Sunday morning.

NORVA is hosting this rally at the American Heritage RV Park, Williamsburg, Va.

The RALLY FEE is \$16 per person. Does not include the campground fee.

Make your site reservation directly with the campground.

Name(s) _____ Member of which club? _____

WBCCI# _____ Cell phone: _____ E-mail _____ @ _____

Number of people attending: _____ x rally fee of \$16 each = \$ _____ enclosed.

Mail by March 1, 2019, to: Tom Carmichael, Rally Host, 2203 Turtle Hill Circle, Midlothian, VA 23112

Phone: 804-245-1710. Tom’s e-mail address: tomc@sportsimageinc.com

NORVA AIRSTREAM CLUB #3-110

50th ANNIVERSARY CLUB CARAVAN, #U-48-434, June 1-16, 2019
 "PA-NY POT POURRI"

See the story and photos on Pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter.

To join this caravan, please complete and mail this coupon by April 1, 2019 along with your \$300 deposit check payable to:

Gerald A. Nagel, Caravan Leader, PO Box 346, Occoquan, VA 22125

Please write "Caravan U-48-434" on your check's memo line.

Name(s) _____

Member of which Airstream club/unit? _____ E-mail _____ @ _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____ WBCCI # _____

How many participants? _____ Deposit enclosed: \$ 300.00

Note: You can e-mail the information requested to: gnagel@verizon.net

For more information, call Gerry: 703-490-4625 (H) or 703-963-4143 (C)



Jan. 13, 2019 Sun. afternoon	"La Cage Aux Folles" Rally Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Larry & Sun Riley	July 20-27 Sat.-Sat.	W.B.C.C.I. International Rally Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Va. Hosts: Int'l Pres. Barry Bell & the four Virginia Airstream Clubs
Feb. 3 Sun. evening	Super Bowl Party Williamsburg, Va. Hosts: The McBrooms	Aug. 4-10 Sun.-Sat.	Old Fiddlers Convention Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
March 29-31 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally American Heritage RV Park Williamsburg, Va.. Host: Carmichael	Sept. 13-15 Fri.- Sun.	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Loop C, Newport News City Park, Va. Hosts: Shenandoah Valley Club
April 24-28 Wed.-Sun.	Region 3 Rally Marion, N.C. Host: R3 Pres. John Leake	Oct. 10-13 Thurs.-Sun.	"Silver in the Street" Urban Rally Main Street, Farmville, Va. Host: Carmichael
May 16-19 Thurs.-Sun.	Almost Heaven Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard	Oct. 30-Nov. 3 Thu.-Sun.	Oyster Festival Rally Urbanna, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky
June 1-16 16 days	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan "PA-NY Pot Pourri," U-48-434 Leaders: Gerry & Patsy Nagel	Dec. 7, 2019* Sat. *Tentative	Holiday Get-together Location TBD. Hosts: TBD