

# NORVA News

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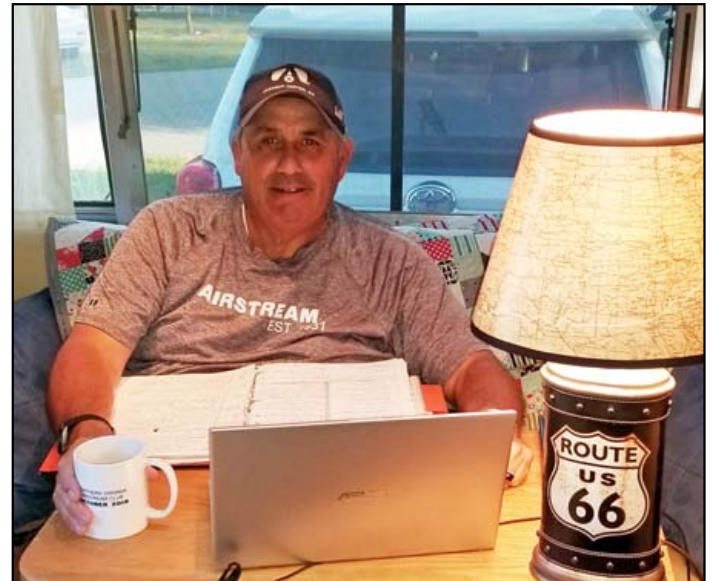
## Get hooked up!

President Tom Carmichael announces his theme for the coming year

In this, my first newsletter column as your new president, I thank Dick and Jane Arnold for a wonderful year and for everything they've done over many years for NORVA. Additionally, we all owe a big thank you to the NORVA officers and directors who have just completed their terms of office. They helped make last year's rallies and club caravan so much fun. Let's look forward to another great year of Airstream adventures!

We will have a "theme" to guide us for the next 12 months: "Get hooked up." Let's hook up our trailers and hook up with our NORVA friends for fun and adventure. We have plenty of events planned, and so do the other Airstream clubs in Virginia, so get hooked up with as many members as you can and make some memories.

Cathy and I are starting our 15th year as members of NORVA. It's been a family tradition. My parents and my dad's little brother, Jack Carmichael, were NORVA members for decades. Many of you know that my mom was tragically killed in an Airstream accident on the road in Nova Scotia in 1999. It was heart breaking to lose her. However, it was amazing to witness how many WBCCI members throughout the country lifted dad's



spirits and help get him back on the road. My mom and dad made so many friends and hooked up with scores of wonderful people while Airstreaming for over 22 years.

When Cathy and I joined NORVA she always gave my dad "right of first refusal" for upcoming rallies. She knew how much he loved accompanying me, and did not want him to travel alone. My dad and I went on countless caravans and rallies, and we got to hook up with Aunt Pat and Uncle Jack as well.

I took my dad on his last Airstream trip in August 2018. We traveled to his home town, New Castle, Ind., to celebrate his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. What an awesome trip and how healing it feels now. It is a blessing remembering our times together on the road in an Airstream.

I just love to hook up the trailer and travel down the road with other Airstreamers. With so much going on in the world around us, life can be very stressful. But when I get to a rally, and am surrounded by friends and shiny aluminum, everything seems better with a focus on having fun.

NORVA's membership stands at 63 households and growing. That's a lot of Airstreamers! Let's *get hooked up* and, together, enjoy the good times down the road.

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There's still time to reserve your spot at these two great upcoming rallies. Do it today!

## 2019 Oyster Festival Rally

Urbanna, Virginia - Dry Camping  
 Thursday, Oct. 31 to Sunday, Nov. 3  
 (Festival days: Nov. 1 & 2)

To participate in this rally, mail completed coupon and your check to:  
 Lew Brodsky, Rally Host, 6829 Ridgeway Drive, Springfield, VA 22150  
 PLEASE NOTE: There is a 23-rig limit for this Rally; first paid, first reserved!

Name(s) attending: \_\_\_\_\_

WBCCI# \_\_\_\_\_ Member of club \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_.

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ RV length: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.

Rally fee is \$75 per rig. It doesn't matter how many nights you camp. Make your check payable to "Lew Brodsky." [norvanews@cox.net](mailto:norvanews@cox.net).

Arrival date (circle one): Oct. 31    Nov. 1

Note: If you are camped with us, you do not pay a Festival parking fee.

## Silver in the Street

Virginia's First "Urban" Rally - 3 Nights of Dry Camping in Downtown Farmville, VA

Thursday afternoon, Oct. 10 through Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019 (concludes Sunday morning).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Member of which club? \_\_\_\_\_

WBCCI # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Rally fee (per rig) \$25.00, plus \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt(s) @ \$15.00 = Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Length of your rig, not including tow vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.

Select T-shirt per person by circling size(s): #1: XS S M L XL XXL; #2: XS S M L XL XXL

FIRST PAID/FIRST RESERVED! **Make your check payable to "NORVA."** Mail check & coupon to:  
 Tom Carmichael, Rally Host, 2203 Turtle Hill Circle, Midlothian, VA 23112. Phone: 804-245-1710.  
 Tom's email: [tome@sportsimageinc.com](mailto:tome@sportsimageinc.com).



# NORVA mourns the passing of Fred Carmichael

**F**rederick R. Carmichael Sr., a long-time NORVA member, died peacefully on Saturday morning Sept. 14, 2019, at the age of 96. Fred was the father of NORVA's current president, Tom Carmichael. Father and son were an inseparable pair.

Fred was born on Aug. 13, 1923, in New Castle, Indiana. He grew up there and was drafted by the Army during WWII. He served in Company F, 87th Infantry (Acorn) Division, a part of General George Patton's Third Army. Advancing in rank to communications sergeant

Fred survived the Battle of the Bulge in Europe with frozen feet. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two Bronze Battle Stars, and the WWII Victory Medal. He was honorably discharged from the Army with 50 percent disability in 1945, and married Christine Cloud on July 15, 1945. Christine died in 1999.

Fred was a Federal Government Meat Inspector for 37 years, retiring in 1979. He and Christine traveled all over the United States and Canada in their Airstream trailer. Fred served as president of NORVA from 1984-



1985. Fred's late brother Jack Carmichael, was also NORVA president, from 2003-2004.

An gregarious man with a zest for life, Fred made friends everywhere he went, starting each day with a positive outlook and willingness to help others. He loved spending time with family and friends, dancing, and he was an avid golfer. With 12 fellow veterans, Fred published the book *Company F*, a compilation of personal war accounts that highlighted their dedication to, and fondness for, their company commander.

Fred's faith was strong. He was an active member of St. Ann's Catholic Church in Arlington, Va., and loved spending time at the Arlington Chapter of the Knights of Columbus.

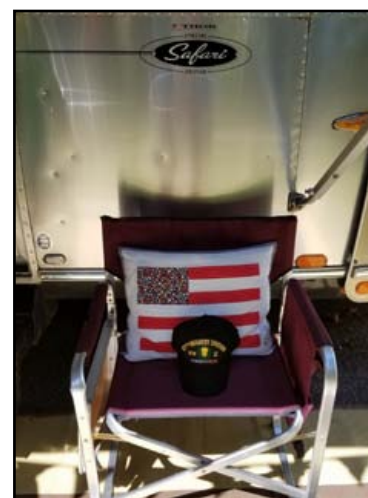
As this issue of NORVA News was being written, the date for Fred's funeral had not yet been set. The date depends upon the burial schedule at Arlington National Cemetery and will be announced soon by the family. Plans include a mass at St. Ann's Catholic Church, followed by a graveside service at Arlington National Cemetery and a celebration of his life for family and friends at the Knights of Columbus in Arlington.

## Virginia's Airstreamers converge for "Commonwealth" in Newport News

**T**his year's annual Commonwealth Rally was hosted by the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia Unit. Held in the woods at Newport News City Park's large campground, Sept. 20-22, the rally attracted 28 rigs from all four Airstream clubs in Virginia and merited a visit from John Leake, the Region 3 president. Shenandoah's Joe Baum and Ken Tarrant organized the entire event, which featured great breakfasts, potluck and buffet dinners, nature and history walks, and live entertainment, including a campfire "Gong Show" talent contest emceed by Greg Heuer. Donations totaling nearly \$600 were collected at the Gong Show for The Wounded Warrior Project.

Everyone was pleased with how things went. A contributing factor was the weather, perfect throughout the weekend and essential because all rally events were held outdoors, except for the Saturday night dinner at the park's golf clubhouse.

*(Continues on Page 4)*



*At campsite at the Commonwealth Rally, Tom Carmichael set up a "fallen warrior" tribute honoring his late dad using Fred's WWII veteran's hat, his chair, and an American flag pillow.*

*("Commonwealth Rally" cont. from Page 3)*

NORVA members attending this rally included Tom Carmichael, Lew Brodsky, Dick & Jane Arnold, Gary & Sue Shepard, Jim & Janeene Rider, Ed & Kathy Simmons, Doug & Susan Anderson, and Bill & Sylvia Worrall.

On Sunday morning John Leake talked about the importance of volunteering to serve as club leaders, and complimented those who had stepped up for 2019-2020. Then Leake recognized all new incoming club officers and directors, and presented them with their WBAC badges.

The 2020 Commonwealth Rally will be hosted next September by the Tidewater Airstream Club. They have not yet chosen a venue for the event.

**Photos from Commonwealth (clockwise from top left):**

***Performers Lana Puckett and Kim Person provide entertainment at Saturday's buffet dinner at the Park Golf Club.***

***Park Ranger Robert Brooks leads Airstreamers on a tour of Civil War earthworks.***

***At the Visitor Center, the rally goes study a painting of the 1861 Civil War battle that occurred in the vicinity as a part of the Peninsula Campaign.***

***John Leake, president of WBAC Region 3, encourages rally attendees to enjoy taking on leadership positions in their clubs.***



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Wally Byam Airstream Club  
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[NORVAnews@cox.net](mailto:NORVAnews@cox.net)

Please note: NORVA's web address is:  
<https://NorthernVirginia.Airstreamclub.net>.



# Meet NORVA's new leadership

Business meeting scheduled in Alexandria, Dec. 7, 2019, for a supplemental vote

Last month, NORVA members were asked to cast votes for a slate of officers to lead the club for the coming fiscal year. Of the 57 member households eligible to vote, 24 cast votes. That represented 42 percent of the membership.

The slate voted upon and approved in September:

- Tom Carmichael..... President
- Gerry Nagel..... 1st Vice President
- (No candidate - vacant)..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Patsy Nagel ..... Secretary
- Kevin Quinn..... Treasurer
- Jackson McBroom ..... Membership Director
- Lew Brodsky..... Newsletter Editor
- Beth Jones ..... Legislative Director
- Jim Timberlake V..... Storekeeper
- Ed Jones ..... Parliamentarian
- Dick Arnold..... Immediate Past President

Everyone who voted cast a “yes” vote, unanimously approving the slate. But afterwards, because the key position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President remained vacant, incoming President Tom Carmichael asked Jackson McBroom if he would consider moving up to fill that vacancy. Jackson readily agreed. Tom also asked Gary Shepard to consider backfilling the vacated Membership Director position and Gary agreed.

With approval of the Executive Board, and in accordance with NORVA’s Constitution, Tom then appointed Gary as Membership Director.

Jackson McBroom will serve as “Acting” 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President until, to comply with Article IV, Section 3 of the club’s Constitution, a vote confirming him is taken at the next business meeting at the home of Ed & Beth Jones during the Holiday Rally Brunch on Dec. 7, 2019.

Reflecting these changes, the new officers, the acting 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president, and the new directors of the NORVA Airstream Club are shown in the column to the right on this page. The term of office is twelve months and began Oct. 1, 2019.



## NORVA Officers

One-year terms began Oct. 1, 2019

President

**Tom Carmichael**

804-245-1710

[tomc@sportsimageinc.com](mailto:tomc@sportsimageinc.com)



1st Vice President

**Gerry Nagel**

703-963-4143

[gnagel@verizon.net](mailto:gnagel@verizon.net)



2nd Vice President (Acting)

**Jackson McBroom**

Club Caravan Leader

757-746-6535

[jtmcbm@aol.com](mailto:jtmcbm@aol.com)



Secretary

**Patsy Nagel**

703-963-4142

[pmnagel@verizon.net](mailto:pmnagel@verizon.net)



Treasurer

**Kevin Quinn**

540-825-7785

[kquinnur67@gmail.com](mailto:kquinnur67@gmail.com)



Membership Director

**Gary Shepard**

304-261-7359

[shepard.gr@gmail.com](mailto:shepard.gr@gmail.com)



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Legislative Director

**Beth Jones**

703-780-6597

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Storekeeper

**Jim Timberlake V**

540-270-2339

[timberlakeV@aol.com](mailto:timberlakeV@aol.com)



Parliamentarian

**Ed Jones**

703-780-6597

[thunderhorse16@yahoo.com](mailto:thunderhorse16@yahoo.com)



Past President

**Dick Arnold**

540-729-2095

[janea40@gmail.com](mailto:janea40@gmail.com)





## Driving Miss Dixie

Photos & story by Laural Veloz

*Editor's note: In 1962, author John Steinbeck bought a pick-up truck with a bed-mounted camper and, with his dog Charley, set out to see and write about America. Travels With Charley was a best-selling classic book. Recently, NORVA's Laural Veloz left her job, sold her house, packed up her Basecamp trailer and, with her dog Dixie, began a similar road adventure. This is the first installment of Driving Miss Dixie.*

Many of my NORVA friends know that Miss Dixie and I put our D.C. home on the market Aug. 1, 2019, and hit the road in the Basecamp, full-time, Aug. 3. We received a contract for the house on Aug. 7 and, from the road, closed on Aug. 28. Wow, what a whirlwind August was.

In 30 days of traveling, we visited many friends along the way. Starting in Pennsylvania we visited a fellow Airstreamer and enjoyed a week exploring the Amish Country, hiked, biked, and birdwatched at Hawk Mountain. Then we made our way to Connecticut, staying at a lovely Harvest Host spot. If you haven't checked out Harvest Host, do it. It's so worth the membership to stay at quiet family owned farms, breweries, and wineries.

We then went all the way up to Kennebunkport, Maine, where Miss Dixie and I stopped by the Bush Compound. Guess what? They were home. But sadly the Secret Service didn't let us in. Then we headed off to Haverhill, Mass., and Cape Cod.

From there we traveled west to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. to

visit Canadian Airstream friends. These friends happen to also own a Basecamp just like ours; what fun it is to hang with fellow owners. And what is better than one Basecamp you ask? Two, of course! Miss Dixie got to see Niagara Falls for the first time, so many firsts for both of us on this amazing journey.

As I write this, Miss Dixie and I are at Tawas Point State Park in Michigan. We plan to stop at about seven or eight different state parks in Michigan over the next three weeks. Did you know that 2019 is the Centennial of Michigan State Parks? Michigan, as many of you may know, is a haven for lighthouse lovers like me and Miss Dixie. There once stood over 200 lighthouses on the shores of Lake Huron, Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. WOW! So many lighthouses; so little time.

Watch for my next update about all the exciting things we did in Michigan.



**Top of page:** The lighthouse and pier at Grand Haven, Mich.

**Center:** Laural's dog, Dixie, gets ready for a New England dinner.

**Above:** Laural and her faithful traveling companion view Niagara Falls from the Ontario side of the Niagara river.

# January's dinner theater rally will be packed with...



## Coming soon

### NORVA to host a dinner theater rally in Fredericksburg

Get out your bobby sox and hair combs because the smash hit musical, "Grease," is coming to the Riverside Center Dinner Theater in Fredericksburg, and NORVA will be there.

In recent years, the club has routinely booked seats each January to attend a matinee at this popular venue. It has been a great way to get together for food and entertainment during the winter. The meals have been excellent and the performances rival Broadway in the quality of the staging, acting and singing. NORVA's Bill & Sylvia Worrall have reserved seats for the afternoon dinner and performance on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020. The cost is a discounted group rate of \$60 per person. Airstreamers participating will assemble at the theater (which is conveniently located just off I-95 Exit 133) at 1:00 p.m. on that day.

"Grease" is an energetic musical written in 1971 but set in a



fictional high school of the 1950s. Appropriately, the music and songs reflect an early rock and roll style. Its successful Broadway run was 1972 to 1980. A film version, starring John Travolta as "Danny," and Olivia

Newton-John as "Sandy," was released in 1978 and immediately became a classic. In January, you can enjoy this musical theater gem in its original, live, on-stage form. Don't miss it!

Hosts for the "Grease" rally are Bill & Sylvia Worrall. A coupon to RSVP your attendance will appear in the November issue of *NORVA News*. However, feel free to contact Bill or Sylvia now to let them know how excited you are about this upcoming event. You can even send Bill ticket money early (\$60 per person, made payable to "NORVA") to reserve your seats for a great, Jan. 12, 2020, dinner and show!

**Bill & Sylvia Worrall, P.O. Box 623, Marshall, VA 20116-0623**  
[wwor@wildblue.net](mailto:wwor@wildblue.net) Phone: 540-364-6146 (H); 540-270-3895 (C)

## Three to go in 2019; plus exciting events planned for 2020

This month *NORVA News* gives club members a “first look” (below) at the events calendar for 2020. As rally coordinator, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Gerry Nagel has put together an exciting mix of activities that promise fun, friendship, adventure, and many opportunities to “get hooked up!” This is an early look at the schedule and some events are not completely locked in, so check future issues of *NORVA News* for updates.

Also, please don’t wait until next year to take part in a NORVA event. There are still three wonderful weekend rallies to enjoy in 2019:

- **Oct. 10-13, 2019.** Have a unique camping experience in Farmville, the first “urban rally” to be held in Virginia. We are calling the event “Silver in the Street.” Nearly two dozen Airstreams from throughout the state will parade into town and dry camp alongside Main Street for two nights. There will be music, food, special T-shirts to wear, and an

open house on Saturday afternoon to show off the rigs. There is still room to participate so please fill out and mail the coupon on Page 2 with your rally fee check.

- **Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2019.** Time once again for a spectacular annual “happening” that fills the streets of Urbanna, Va. Drawing thousands, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Urbanna Oyster Festival offers food, drink, crafts, entertainment, and parades in a picturesque and historic town, situated alongside the Rappahannock River. And Airstreamers can enjoy it all, camped on a grassy field in the heart of town. A few camping spaces are left, so fill out the coupon on Page 2 and mail it with your \$75 rally fee check.
- **Dec. 7, 2019.** A Holiday Brunch awaits Airstreamers at the spacious home of Ed & Beth Jones in Alexandria, Va. (no camping). Look for the coupon to RSVP in the November issue of *NORVA News*.



Jan. 12, 2020 Sun. afternoon	“Grease” The Smash Musical Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Bill & Sylvia Worrall	July ?	Rally TBD Location: TBD Host: TBD
Feb. 2 Sun. evening	Super Bowl Party Amissville, Va. Hosts: Della & Cecil Hoosier	Aug. 3-8 Mon.-Sat.	Old Fiddlers Convention Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
March 31-April 7 One week	Region 3 Rally Ocean Lakes Family Campground Myrtle Beach, S.C. Host: John Leake	Sept. 11-13 Fri.-Sun.	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Location: TBD Hosts: Tidewater Airstream Club
April 24-26 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Misty Mountain Campground Charlottesville, Va. Host: Tom Carmichael	Oct. 22-25 Thurs.-Sun.	“Silver in the Street” Urban Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard
May 7-10 Thurs.-Sun.	Spring Rally Philomont, Va. Hosts: Peter & Elizabeth West	Nov. 13-15 Fri.-Sun.	Exploring the National Museum of the U.S. Army Fort Belvoir Campground, Va. Hosts: Brodsky & Jones
End of May- Early June June 20-27	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan Leader: Jackson McBroom WBAC International Rally Loveland, Colo.	Dec. ?, 2020	Holiday Social Location: TBD Hosts: TBD