



## August 2020 Newsletter

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We have all probably heard the phrase, “The dog days of summer” or the “The dog days of August” around this time of year. The **Old Farmer's Almanac** lists the traditional timing of the Dog Days as the 40 days beginning July 3rd and ending August 11th.

This idiom refers to what is often the hottest and most sultry time of summer, where lethargy and indolence tend to reign due to the heat. When our Airstreams can reflect the sun's rays and melt a

fiberglass trailer one spot over. Well, that might be an exaggeration.

Maybe you believe that “The dog days of August” refers to the time of the year when dogs and people just want to lie around outside under their Zip-Dee awning with their tongues hanging out because of the heat - which makes perfect sense - it turns out that it doesn’t mean this at all. The phrase is actually derived from astrology and refers to an astronomical event where the star Sirius — which is known by some as the “Dog Star”- rises to its most prolific point.



Two years ago in August, Gaile and I started our first WBCCI (ACI) Caravan, The Southwest Adventure Caravan. What were we thinking? Going to the Southwest in August during the Dog Days no less. In general, 66 days on and off of the Mother Highway, Route 66.





Yes it was hot a lot but most of the camps had full hookups so the AC ran and we were cool.



But, one campsite at Mesa Verde threw us a real curve ball. The temperature dropped 20 degrees and hail rained down and covered the road and our Airstreams.



I have over 1,000 photos from the trip and each one is worth 1,000 words. The bottom line is a hearty endorsement for ACI Caravans. Yes, some have waiting lists that seem daunting in length. But get on a list if you can.

Just like the WBCCI evolved to ACI, the caravans are evolving too. Some are short enough to accommodate the working Airstreamer. The caravan experience will enhance your Airstreaming adventure.







If nothing else, you will have tales to share like we have pictures to share.

If you do the Bourbon Trail, you can bring back libations to share. More people seem to be interested in rare bourbon than another picture of rocks. To each his own.

See you down the road.

Mike

Debbie and Todd Stroud had the pleasure of hosting the Piedmont Airstream club's unofficial rally July 23rd - 26th at Creekwood Farm Campground in Waynesville NC.

Bill & Shelly Townsend, Stedman Brown, Tami Lowe and Diane & Bill Byrum joined us for a relaxing weekend in the beautiful and cool NC mountains.

All of the weekend's activities were held outdoors where we could enjoy each other's company but still socially distance.

On Thursday evening we had a welcome potluck dinner in the outdoor pavilion we were able to reserve for the whole weekend.

On Friday we explored the sites on our own, including Bryson City, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Reservation, the Motorcycle Museum, the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway and Fontana Lake. Later that evening for movie night we watched an episode of 'The World According to Jeff Goldblum' featuring the history of RV's.

On Saturday we shared a potluck lunch and spent a lovely afternoon relaxing by Johnathon Creek.

And on Sunday morning we shared a potluck breakfast that included quiche, watermelon, breakfast casserole, muffins and biscuits with a variety of jam, jelly and marmalade.

We had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend; it was wonderful to be out and enjoying nature with friends.

Debbie Stroud





## **Renewal dues for 2021 is now open beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>:**

- **International** Membership dues are \$75.00 a year.
- **Piedmont Airstream Club dues are \$15.00 a year.**
- The three-part renewal form has been discontinued.
- HQ will be notifying members it is time to renew by postcard, email, and social media.
- Local Clubs are encouraged to direct their members to [airstreamclub.org/renew](http://airstreamclub.org/renew) to renew their membership starting August 1.
- HQ will notify Local Clubs of issues contacting members for renewals.
- The deadline for the Annual Printed Membership Directory is December 31, 2020.
- The Annual Printed Membership Directory will be published in February.

**Stedman Brown**  
**Unit Treasurer**

**<https://www.colonialairstream.com/blog/airstream-seamless-composite-flooring/>**

### Airstream Seamless Composite Flooring

Airstream's 2021 travel trailer line is now built with Transcore Composite Flooring, a proprietary composite formed from waterproof, inert recycled glass and polypropylene. Developed by Ridge Corporation, Transcore is a state-of-the art composite engineered for firmness under foot, strength, and screw retention. Ridge's manufacturing process is second to none and produces a premium product making it a perfect fit for the Airstream travel trailer line.

*\*Not available on Airstream Basecamp Model*

#### Why Composite?

The manufacturing process utilizes heat bonding instead of adhesives, which results in all the layers fusing together as one complete piece. The new Composite material has more waterproof qualities compared to a wood floor typically found in most RVs today. This means it's less susceptible to leaks, inhibits mold, mildew, insect infestation, and water damage in the unlikely event of a leak.

Compared to a wood floor that is made up of multiple sections, the one-piece composite design means that it is less likely to squeak or make noise over time.

#### Environmentally Safe

The Flooring is designed to be 100% recyclable and passes many safety measures to the environment. The Composite flooring also does not emit any harmful gases, has no carcinogens, and meets fire rating and CA compliance.

#### Features and Benefits

- Single-piece designed to fit the exact floor plan
- Material is waterproof
- Superior screw retention
- Improves Longevity of flooring
- Inhibits softening over time and will not degrade
- Resists material separation
- High insulative properties
- Minimizes movement of furniture fastened to the floor



Why did you buy an Airstream? For Dee and me it was to enjoy the caravan lifestyle that is only possible with Airstream ownership. We planned to travel and see as much of the country as possible after retirement (for the second time).

For over 10 years we lived next door to Joe and Mary Scudder. They owned an Airstream and if you can believe it they were traveling about 6 months of the year. How could anyone be gone for all that time? For 10 years, when they were home, they would relate the wonderful things they were doing. The places they saw and the great people traveling with them on the caravans. We were sold on the Airstream lifestyle. (It only took 9 of the 10 years.)

Dee was convinced. I was skeptical about the two of us spending that much time in 200 plus square feet. So we agreed to travel coast to coast by car. Twice. Hotels and restaurants got pretty old after a few weeks. After the second trip we decided we could do just fine in an RV. We let Joe know we were ready to get an RV. The next day he called and said he found the perfect one for us. A club member was going to sell hers due to health issues.

A few day later we made a trip with Joe to South Carolina to see Ann Sinclair and her 30 foot Airstream. With a slide! It was love at first sight. Joe promised to help us learn the ins and outs of pulling and camping. We made arrangements to purchase her Airstream. Had to buy a new truck. The one we had was not powerful enough to pull a 30 footer through the mountains.

We are now the proud owner of an Airstream, with no camping experience, planning a shake down trip in a couple of weeks with the Joe and Mary. Mother nature changed our plans. At that time we lived on the water in Wilmington and a hurricane had its sights on us. With little preparation we left for an inland park near Myrtle Beach. The forecast had the storm coming ashore just north of Wilmington. That night we got the bad news that Myrtle Beach was now front row center for the storm. What a shake down trip!

Joe and Mary accompanied us on our first rally The Swiss Festival in Sugarcreek OH. What a great time. After that they accompanied us on our first caravan, Lewis and Clark. In the last 9 years we have enjoyed 12 national caravans and one Piedmont club caravan and looking forward to many more. Gone to Texas in 2021 and Sho-Me the Ozarks in 2022.

We are frequently asked what is our favorite caravan. It's not possible to pick a favorite. They are all great. The most adventurous probably would be North to Alaska and Viking Trail. They are both don't miss caravans. Because of the structure of the Airstream caravans, ran by volunteer members without compensation, the value can't be beat. We have traveled the same routes with caravans run by commercial operations and other travel clubs. Our club caravans offer more activities included in the kitty fee at about 40 percent less cost.

To repeat Mike's suggestion. Get on a caravan list. It will be very rewarding. Guaranteed!

(The Scudders now live in Gatlinburg TN, are associate members of the Piedmont Club and have enjoyed 32 caravans. )

John Lloyd

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WEBSITE: <https://airstreamclub.org/piedmont-north-carolina>

### **2020 Rally Sites:**

January:Mid-Winter IBT ,Oasis Las Vegas RV Resort,Las Vegas, NV

February: Winter Luncheon, Stedman Brown and Tami Lowe, hosts  
February 15th at 11AM, D&S Cafeteria, South Hills Mall and Plaza, 1177 Buck Jones Rd. Raleigh, NC 27606

March:(hosts needed)

April 1-5:WBCCI Region 3 Rally, Ocean Lakes Family Campground  
Myrtle Beach, SC **CANCELLED**

May:New Bern, NC, Alan and Jane Hvizdak hosts, May 14 -17  
Make Reservations before March 1 2020, New Bern KOA, 800-562-3341  
**CANCELLED**

June 20-27:WBCCI International Meeting, The Ranch Events Complex, Loveland, CO  
**CANCELLED**

July 23-26: Todd and Debbie Stroud Hosts **CANCELLED**

August 2-10:Galax Old Time Fiddler's Convention, Cool Breeze Campground  
Galax, VA **CANCELLED**

September: (hosts needed)

October 22-25:Alumalina, Tom Johnson's Camping World, Marion, NC

November 5-8: NC Veteran's Day Rally  
Robin Gieniewski, Andy and Karen Karakos, Co Hosts  
Fayetteville RV Resort and Cottages  
WADE, NC