



The Caravanner



September 2020

Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club

President: Jonathan Jacobs

1st VP: Wayne Berkebile

2nd VP: Ingrid Berkebile

Recording Sec.:

Corresponding Sec.: Alex Jacobs

Treasurer (temporary): Alex Jacobs

Membership: Bob George

Newsletter, Web & Directory: Alex Jacobs

Trustees: Joan Broomall
Karen Lea
Carol Baker

Past President: Luke Brennecke

Addresses, Phone Numbers and E-mails not listed are located in the MAAC Members 2020 Directory.

Inside

- President's Message
- Members' News
- A Day's visit
- Calendar 2020

...AND More

<https://airstreamclub.org/mid-atlantic>

This Newsletter is published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club.

Wally Byam Airstream Club, Inc., (WBAC), a recreational club of AIRSTREAM owners. All rights reserved, but editors of other WBAC publications may reprint material if credit is given.

Send suggestions, articles & changes to the **Newsletter Editor, Alex Jacobs** at 053info@airstreamclub.net



ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR PUBLISHING MUST BE SENT TO THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR BY THE 10TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE MONTH OF PUBLICATION.



MAAC President's Message



Hello MAAC's!

Am looking forward to our first virtual Business Meeting and, given where we are in the calendar, I am focusing on **17 October**. During MAAC's Business Meeting, we will have a slate of Officers and some amendments to consider; the amendments will keep us in line with ACI. Please watch for meeting details via separate E-mail. For hosting the Business Meeting, I am focusing on **Cisco's Webex** product as its features, flexibility, pricing, and focus on security should meet our goals.

For those whom have a moment or two of free time, please take a look at our web page as it was recently transitioned to a new format and I started to update its content.

The new website content leverages our long history and builds a current narrative. Goal of the narrative update is to help attract people whom search for information online. Naturally, feedback is welcome.

In circling back on MAAC using Cisco Webex, I am going to pay for our initial use of its service with recommendation to move this expense over to MAAC for ongoing use (to include monthly and ad-hoc meet-ups). Reason for not using the free Webex service is that it limits meeting length times (hint: so do competitors); so, rather than cut-off good conversations, we may have healthy discussions. For a longer term view of MAAC's Webex use, if our experience is favorable, Region 2 might consider going joint with us for a little while to evaluate whether it can turn into a tool for all of the underlying Clubs / Units; if it does transition up to Region 2, then we no longer need to pay for separate access.

As part of efficiency efforts, ACI pulled the membership welcome package and new member badge processes up to the 'corporate' level and the Club / Unit levels no longer need to provide these items; this also lowers the costs to the Club / Unit. While welcoming the change in new member handling, I suspect it in part has a role in ACI's \$10 dues increase.

While on the topic of dues, by now everybody should have seen or heard about ACI increasing dues from \$65 to \$75 a year. Sure, a noticeable percentage jump. But in looking at the bigger picture, the last dues increase was 10 years ago, so my perspective is that we were overdue. I already fielded one question about MAAC lowering dues given ACI's increase (an easy leap to make). One item to remember is that MAAC's dues are rather independent from ACI, so we need to do what we feel is in the best interest of MAAC and not simply react to ACI's posture. Related, I want to explore our current cash burn-down posture and look into whether there are ways that we can put MAAC's dues to use (example: charitable donations, door prizes, online services, etc...) as a healthy balance sheet and worthwhile activities tend to attract new members.





... President's Message cont.



Ok, so another topic segues (and am sure that our Newsletter Editor is about to kill me by this point): MAAC's boundary. Among the things that frustrated me over the past year (in addition to needing more membership benefits) was that we were labeled as a Maryland club.

Thanks to inputs from Pete Baker and Ralph Forrester, I verified that the States which show on our flag are in fact still our territory (which also includes Region 3 and 4). A quick conversation with Rich Short led to a change in Region 2's website detail to no longer affiliate a Club with a State. Will hold-off on approaching Region 3 and 4 for changes to their websites for a bit to see if our web page updates give us leverage. Even with Past President status looming in my near-term future, I am going to keep picking at this one.

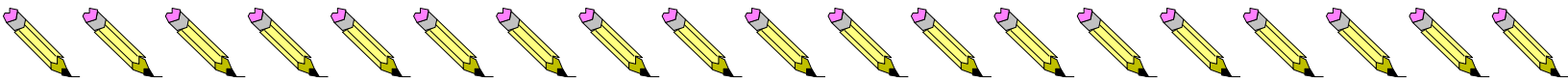
Last topic shift: I recently spoke with Rich Short and he was happy to relay that the member benefits push that we started almost a year ago had built a good bit of momentum and started to take flight. Some things are known like the Harvest Hosts benefits for ACI members and am very happy to hear that there are more changes yet to come. Sometimes being an agitator is fun!!!

That is all for this month as I can see the laser from the Editor's rifle scope pointing my way as she wanted a *short* article . . .



Looking forward to seeing y'all down the road . . .

Jonathan Jacobs
WBAC 2784





Welcome NEW Members

Our club's newest members: **Christina & Joseph Torcaso** from Mount Airy, MD with their 2007 25 ft. Safari SE. We hope to meet you soon.



September Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 4 Karen Lea
- 5 Sue Wible
- 6 Phil Pons
- 11 Betty Clark
- 21 Michael Kelly
- 22 Brian Atchley
- 26 Marc Stachowski

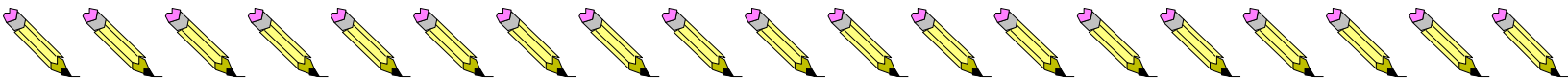


23 Dee & Robert Blom

2021 Membership Renewals

- Membership dues are \$75.00 a year. Go to: airstreamclub.org/renew
- Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club dues are \$10.00 a year
- The deadline for the Annual Printed Membership Directory is December 31, 2020
- The Annual Printed Membership Directory will be published in February
- For current membership list: email Amanda at membership@airstreamclub.org

OR call 937-596-5211

- Any questions? Email: info@airstreamclub.org
- 



Region 2 News

From Rich Short, R2 President (WBAC 1512): Attached is a link to Region 2 [News](#) for Mid-August 2020. As always, any questions or concerns...please reach out to me.

Member's News - from Texas to Texas

From Pete Baker (WBAC 4641): All is well here in Texas, we are staying put for the time being, doing our grocery shopping online, not going into stores etc. Hope you and your family are well and safe.

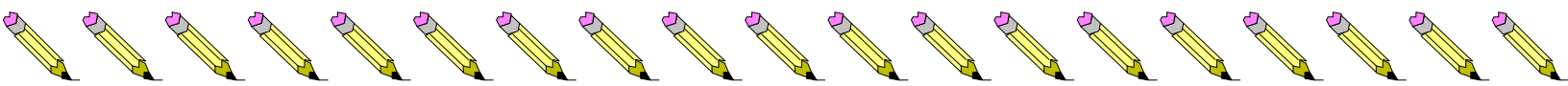
From Bart & Melanie Balint (WBAC 2491): We haven't been to any local club activities for a few years because of family issues, but we look forward to attending something next spring, if this virus situation allows. This year we haven't gone anywhere yet. Being at home 99% of the last 6 months, we have been able to develop our garden and get a few projects done around the house and the barn. One of my hobbies is playing music, and we most recently participated in a 'pandemic' creativity project. Our contribution was the music portion of this song. A friend, Katie, wrote the lyrics. I wrote the music and sing lead, and Melanie sings backup. '**Pandemic Blues**' <https://youtu.be/jCBGLdKOc9k> Please take a listen, and if you 'like' it, please press 'LIKE'! That would be most appreciated.

From Flora Barrett (WBAC 19438): We have decided to do some upgrades on the house since we can't go anywhere. We painted a room. We had wood flooring put in four rooms to replace wall-to-wall carpet. I would rather be travelling. We got jalapeno peppers and other crops like squash, beans, little eggplant, tomatoes although as usual the bugs are winning the human versus bugs battle. I am a very laissez faire gardener. Shorty hasn't cut grass in three months. The yard looks interesting.

From Barbara & Luke Brennecke (WBAC 5310): We are getting acquainted with San Antonio. AND we are building a lovely home in the Texas Hill County. We are excited; however, it won't be complete until December. Our California friends invited us to share a rental house in Sun River, Oregon. So, we hopped in the Airstream and headed North. The trip took 6 days, as it is 2,000 miles from San Antonio. After our visit with friends, we may head up to Glacier National Park. We hope everyone is well.

*Editor's Note: Have you noticed only club members whose last name starts with "B" had sent news to share with the rest of you? How about next time **YOU** share with me to publish?*





A Day's Visit



Once again, the 3 Jacobs – Alex (your newsletter editor), Sebastian and Penelope, ventured on visiting yet another Airstreamers for a day. This time, on August 11, the children and I drove from Severna Park to Chesapeake Beach, both in MD to visit Flora Barrett & Shorty Brenner.

Of course, we observed social distance and for the most part stayed outside. The yard was interesting, as Flora put it in her note however, the grass was mowed already. A bit overgrown garden reminded me of a fairy garden. I loved it!



Flora took us to the beach where the kids could paddleboard and swim. It was a beautiful small neighborhood beach with barely any people which suited us all just fine. Nice breeze, warm water, ... jellyfish...



Back in their backyard. There is a pond with several huge Koi fish that are about 10 years old. Kids got to observe, feed them, and in the end even pet them. Penelope started slowly with putting her feet in the water, then stand, then sit. These fish are curious creatures and soon enough were swimming all around her. What a fun!



I hoped to go back for another afternoon but instead we spent a week hiking/biking/kayaking/horseback riding in WV. In few days, school for the children is going to start virtually after Labor Day and I will start a new job.



Alex Jacobs
WBAC 2784





Rally Schedule 2020

Activity Dates:	October 17
Type or Theme of Event:	Installation Rally
Virtual Meeting	Cisco Webex (more info to follow)
Person to Contact:	Jonathan Jacobs
Activity Dates:	December
Type or Theme of Event:	Holidays Party <i>TBD</i>
Person to Contact:	Volunteer needed
Activity Dates:	July 17 – 24, 2021
Activity Location:	Lebanon, TN
Type or Theme of Event:	<u>64th International Rally</u>





NEW MAAC MEMBERS:



OUR UNIT WILL COVER ALL YOUR FIRST MAAC RALLY FEES!

DON'T WAIT, COME JOIN US IN THE AIRSTREAM FUN

WBAC Caravanner Newsletter Editor
 #2784
 1119 Old County Road
 Severna Park, MD 21146

