

NORVA News

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Here's one for the ages (and the aging!)

NORVA President Ed Jones comments on being stylishly vintage

Aging has its ups and downs. Health issues seem to dominate the downs because they pop up so unexpectedly and catch us off guard. Joints start acting up, hearts flutter, and eyesight and hearing take a U turn. Remembering dates, events,



Ed Jones

even someone's name can be challenging. Fortunately, growing older has its bright side, especially in the land of retirement where many of us live. You are in control of your time – maybe for the first time – starting with when you begin your day. Some of my friends, accustomed for years to rising

at 4:30 or 5:00 a.m. to go to work, can't break that habit. Really? Others gleefully smash their alarm clocks and get up when they so desire. How sweet it is! Then there are the ever-popular senior discounts – most welcome since over our lifetime we have seen prices skyrocket across the board. Remember when you could buy a movie ticket for 25 cents and that included a newsreel of current events? While the cost of living will never return to the "good old days", colors and fashions have already. Beth tells me that avocado green and

psychedelic prints of the '70s have made a comeback along with platform shoes. I guess if you live long enough, what goes around, comes around...at least in the fashion world. (Thankfully, I haven't heard any rumblings about the return of the Nehru jacket.) Then again, some things never go out of style. Consider the iconic Airstream – more popular than ever and instantly recognizable, modern or vintage, with only minor tweaks over the decades. It still turns heads if only to reach for one's sunglasses. Let us resolve to grow old with our Airstreams—gracefully, boldly, adventurously, and gregariously. You choose how; I'll just say "BFF."

As this issue of NORVA News reaches you, the exceptional club caravan led by Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom is concluding. For those of us on this adventure, it exceeded expectations because of the lavish attention to detail the McBrooms incorporate into their caravans, rallies, and every NORVA event they host. Thanks, Jackson and Mary Ann!

Beth and I regret that we, along with other NORVA members, won't be attending the International Rally in Salem, Ore., later this month. It always is such a fun-filled, memorable experience. But I wanted to encourage you to sign up for the 2019 International Rally to be held in Doswell, Va., as soon as registration becomes available on-line on the last day of the 2018 International Rally. It is expected that the 2019 International will fill up fast.

We hope you have reserved July 19-22, 2018, on your calendars for the Valley Rally hosted by Edgar and Kathy Simmons. These two veteran Airstreamers never fail to show us a great time. Sign up using the coupon on the last page of this newsletter. Then, round out the summer with serious toe-tapping at the Old Fiddlers Rally in Galax, Va. in August, followed by the Virginia Commonwealth Rally in September at Virginia Beach where the famous Oceana Naval Air Station Air Show just happens to be scheduled for the same weekend.

'Til next time, let the good times roll.

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A quiet and tranquil Valley Rally? Not.



And that's exactly why you should attend this weekend event in July!

NORVA 1st Vice President Edgar Simmons has planned an event-filled weekend at the club's "Valley Rally," which will begin on Thursday, July 19 and wind up on Sunday morning, July 22, 2018. "We will have lots for everyone to do starting with dinner out on Thursday, but if you cannot arrive on the 19th, consider joining us for Friday and Saturday," says Edgar.

Campsites will be at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds, located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley at 4808 South Valley Pike, just south of Harrisonburg, Va. GPS coordinates: 38.38567N; -78.92239W. It has 30-amp electric and water hookups, and a dump station. Cost of camping will be \$35 per night. "You don't need reservations," Edgar explains. "Just show up on Thursday or Friday and there will be a site for you." And for those who may want to start the rally with a clean Airstream, Edgar advises

there is a truck and trailer wash less than a mile down Route 11 from the fairgrounds. "If you wish, you can first get cleaned, then get camped," he says.

In addition to the camping costs, Edgar will collect a small rally fee from those attending, probably around \$10 per person. Participants will pay when they arrive.

So what's in store for NORVA Airstreamers?

On Thursday afternoon at 5:30, there will be a buffet din-

Friday will include a morning tour of Dynamic Aviation, a 600-person company in Bridgewater, Va., which provides specially modified aircraft, flight crews, and maintenance services at 18 locations on three continents. See:

www.dynamicaviation.com/.

After "lunch on your own," enjoy a 2 p.m. tour of W.W. Motor Cars and Parts in Broadway, Va. This is a full-service restoration shop, turning vintage cars into collectable beauties. See:

www.wwmotorcars.com/.

At 7 p.m., everyone is invited to bring a chair to Bridgewater's main street to partake in the town's annual "Lawn Party." There will be a fire truck parade and a "Steam Meet" (yes, that means antique steam engines), with food, music, and lots of friendly Valley people!

The fun continues on Saturday. Edgar and Kathy Simmons will host a breakfast for NORVA members at their lovely



The summer Lawn Party in Bridgewater, Va., is a well-attended event.

ner at nearby "Traditions Family Restaurant," Dutch treat.

home in Bridgewater, starting at 8:30 a.m. Edgar says, “Come early, if you wish, and stay late.”

At 3 p.m. there will be a tour of the Mt. Crawford Creamery, a 70-acre dairy farm just east of Bridgewater. See:

www.mtcrawfordcreamery.com.

Then, it’s back to Bridgewater for a second evening of the Lawn Party, with an Antique Car and Tractor Parade at 6 p.m.

“If everybody’s not too tired, maybe we can wind up this Valley Rally on Sunday morning with a buffet breakfast at the Village Inn,” suggests Edgar.

Plan on attending the Valley Rally. Fill out the coupon on the last page of this newsletter and mail it Edgar Simmons at the address provided, or e-mail the requested information to him at

edsimmjr@aol.com.

Please RSVP by July 1.



Photos from Bridgewater: Scenes from “Lawn Parties” held in prior years. At NORVA’s Valley Rally this summer, expect to experience parades, good food, and music on the sidewalks and streets of this friendly Shenandoah Valley town near Harrisonburg.



Get published!

NORVA News is looking for club members who have something to say. Did you have a uniquely good (or bad) camping experience? Can you share information about a repair or modification you made on your Airstream that might be of interest to other club members? Have you been on a great caravan, or might you have planned and done an ideal RV trip on



your own? Do you have any helpful tips to share based on your RV experiences? Have you recently traveled to someplace special? Put fingers to keyboard and write up your experience, assemble some photos to support the story, and send it all to the editor at norvanews@cox.net. Don’t worry if you think you may need some assistance with writing—that’s what the editor is for. This is your chance to get published!

A multi-state NORVA club caravan



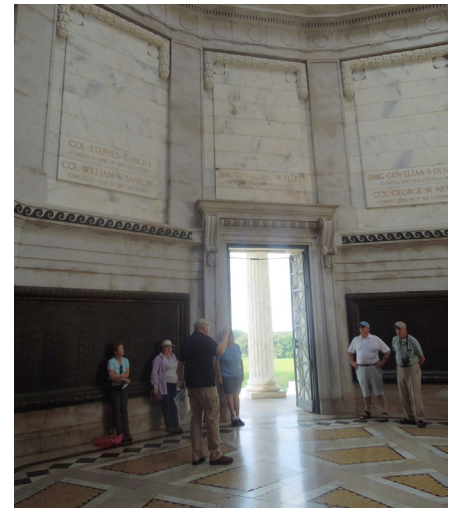
The McBrooms lead a 19-day excursion focusing on Grant, Sherman, and the Civil War in the west.

Five NORVA trailers converged on the small north central Tennessee town of Dover on May 21. Their arrival marked the start of the 2018 NORVA Club Caravan, organized and led by Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom. Jackson decided to focus on an historical theme: “Grant & Sherman and the Civil War in the West.” Joining the McBrooms were Cecil & Della Hoosier, Ed & Beth Jones, Gerry & Patsy Nagel, and Lew & Cathy Brodsky.

What made this year’s adventure different from previous unit caravans were the distances the Airstreamers traveled and the number of days they would be on the road. Getting to the starting point in Tennessee from Northern Virginia involved towing their Airstreams more than 700 miles from Virginia. Then, over the next 19 days, the group would log many more miles visiting sites in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. There were in-depth tours of the “western” battlefields of course, but the journey also afforded the Airstreamers many opportunities to experience southern hospitality, visit antebellum homes, eat catfish, barbecue and other regional delicacies, and learn a great deal about why President Abraham Lincoln became

Note: This is Part I of a two-part article. As this issue of NORVA News reaches you, the 2018 caravan is still underway. This article covers the first nine days. Part II, to be written by Della Hoosier with photos by Cecil, will cover the balance of the caravan and will appear in the July issue.

Photo above: Battlefield in Vicksburg, Miss. Below, clockwise from right:
 --Cecil & Della Hoosier at a restored Union ironclad gunboat.
 --Inside the Illinois Memorial at Vicksburg.
 --Memorial Day parade in Vicksburg.
 --Jackson McBroom describes the day’s schedule.
 --The group at the Vicksburg Visitor’s Center.
 --Ed Jones, Cecil Hoosier and Patsy Nagel inspect a big gun protecting Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River in Tennessee.



(Club caravan, continues)

so enamored of a relatively unknown general named Ulysses S. Grant. From the outset of the war, Grant (with Sherman, as his most trusted deputy) racked up one victory after another in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Georgia, while higher ranking and better-known Union generals were losing battle after battle in the east. It was Lincoln's wise decision to bring Grant east in early 1864, promote him to general-in-chief, and give him overall command of the Union forces. Grant's additional victories in 1864 and 1865 ended the horrific Civil War and preserved the United States.



Cathy Brodsky visits Cedar Grove mansion in Vicksburg, Miss.

Joyous June

Birthdays:

- 2 Richard Bartelt
- 7 Paul Pearce
- 9 Ralph Knutson
- 13 Dick Arnold
- 21 Carol Zint
- 24 Sally Walters
- 29 Sally Stutler

Anniversaries:

- 6 P. Steve & Jean Stanley
- 7 Paul & Andi Gabler
- 9 Paul & Cynthia Pearce
- 10 Ed & Nancy Matricardi
- 16 Lew & Cathy Brodsky - #50!
- 24 Chuck & Joyce Gregory
- 30 C. Raymond & Andrea Carroll



NORVA Officers

Oct. 2017 through Sept. 2018

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

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

2nd Vice President - Jackson McBroom
Unit Caravan Leader
757-345-0060
jtmcbm@aol.com

Secretary - Elaine Ulrich
703-724-3954
egulrich1@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Paul Pearce
434-295-7389
pauls_cyn@yahoo.com

Membership Director - Tom Carmichael
804-245-1710
tomc@sportsimageinc.com

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

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

Storekeeper - Cecil Hoosier
540-937-3527
hoosierw@sprynet.com

Past President - Lloyd Ulrich
703-724-3954
lloydugator@yahoo.com

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NorvaNews@cox.net.

Note: New with this issue—"hyperlinks." If you are reading NORVA News on an on-line computer, clicking on the highlighted, blue, "www" links, or e-mail addresses, will take you to that web page or to the "compose" portion of your e-mail program.

NORVA EVENTS CALENDAR



**Note: Listed are events during 2018.
Check this schedule monthly. Dates and venues are subject to change.**

Jan. 21, 2018	“Mamma Mia” Rally Riverside Center Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Host: Ulrich	July 19-22 <i>Note: one day earlier starting date.</i>	Valley Rally Harrisonburg & Bridgewater, Va. Host: Simmons
Feb. 4	Super Bowl Rally Amissville, Va. Host: Hoosier	Aug. 6-12	Old Fiddlers Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
March 23-25	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Fredericksburg, Va. KOA Host: Carmichael	Sept. 21-23	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Holiday Trav-L-Park Virginia Beach, Va. Host: NORVA - TBD
April 25-29	Region 3 Rally Myrtle Beach, S.C. Hosts: Region 3 & S.C. Clubs	Oct. 5-6	Mountain Rally at Highland Haven Airstream Park, Copper Hill, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky
May 21-June 9	NORVA Unit Caravan Grant & Sherman and the Civil War in the West Leader: McBroom	Nov. 2-4	2018 Oyster Festival Rally Urbanna, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky
June 8-9 June 23-30	Houstonfest, Galax, Va. Hosts: Virginia Club #109 W.B.C.C.I. International Rally Salem, Ore.	Dec. 15, 2018	Holiday Dinner Hosts and location TBD

Come to NORVA's July "Valley Rally"

Thursday, July 19 to Sunday, July 22, 2018, or choose the days you can be there!

Camping will be at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds, just south of Harrisonburg, VA

See Pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter for rally details.

To participate in this rally, please complete this coupon and mail it by July 1st to:

Edgar Simmons, 9070 Centerville Road, Bridgewater, VA 22812

Or e-mail the information requested below to: edsimmjr@aol.com.

Name(s) _____

Member of which Airstream unit? _____ E-mail _____ Phone _____

WBCCI Membership # _____ Address: _____

Number attending _____. I (we) will arrive at the rally on July (circle one): 19 20 21.

No need to reserve a campsite. Campsite fee of \$35/night, plus a small rally fee, will be collected at the rally.