

NORVA News

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A hail from the (NORVA) chief

NORVA's Ed Jones says, "Try it; you'll like it!" Being club president is fun and has its perks.

Much has been written and spoken about U.S. presidents from the birth of our nation to the present. Without delving into partisan politics, I think we, Republican, Democrat, Independent, or other, can agree that our presidents will always generate attention—good or bad but rarely indifferent. Under scrutiny 24/7 by loyalists supporting them, and enemies bent on undermining them, it is a wonder that anyone would covet that pressure-cooker job. Clearly, it is not for the faint of heart.

Fortunately, all presidencies are not equal. Consider the presidency of the NORVA Airstream Club. There is no good, bad or ugly. It's all good. The attention you receive is positive, supportive, and genuine. No one tries to derail you. They appreciate your service. At the occasional business meeting, different points of view are rationally discussed and decisions are made (Congress should take note!). You lead a team of officers and directors who work together to promote fun, fellowship, and adventure—long-standing Airstream goals. When you're not conducting a meeting, you can be found "living the dream" at an Airstream rally (local, regional or International), or my personal favorite, a caravan. Perhaps that caravan includes a cruise like the Florida Fantasy caravan which ended last month. Beth and I had participated in the Florida Fantasy caravan in 2016. This time we took just the cruise which went to the amazing Panama Canal for the first time. We were so pleased Lloyd and Elaine Ulrich and Bob and Carol Luther had signed up, too, along with other Airstreamers. The cruise was wonderful and enjoying it with Airstream friends was a pleasure multiplier.

But, what's with the photo? Oh yes. On our first cruise night, these two ladies singled me out for a photo op as the Ulrichs and Luthers can verify. What could I do but oblige? (And I hasten to add that Beth took the picture.) I don't know if I emitted some sort of "presidential aura," which attracted those two, but you just never know. I heartily encourage you to throw your hat into the NORVA Airstream Club officer ring that will lead to the club presidency. You'll take your rightful place among the fine men and women who have proudly served our club over the years. While you may or may not receive a presidential



Ed Jones "cruises" with a pair of presidential admirers.

photographic perk like I did, the honor of serving the club will be honor enough.

We were sorry we couldn't make Region 3 last month as the *NORVA News* coverage shows it was a grand event as expected. But we are eagerly looking forward to Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom's caravan later this month. We hope to share it with many of you, but if not, may you enjoy other Airstream adventures, now that the weather is finally resembling spring.

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Gold sunrise, silver reflections

It was billed as a week of “sun, sand, surf, and silver,” and it delivered a plentiful dose of all four elements. It was the 2018 Region 3 Airstream Rally held at Ocean Lakes Family Campground in Myrtle Beach, S.C., from April 25 to 29. And it was well-attended—366 club members in 183 rigs formed a sea of silver reflecting golden sunshine, next to a wide, sandy beach and a deep blue ocean.

A dozen club members from NORVA were there, as were members from the other three Virginia Clubs, and every local club (except two) located in Region 3’s five states: Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida. NORVA members present included Doug Anderson, Gerry & Patsy Nagel, Raymond and Andrea Carroll, Tom Carmichael, Cathy & Lew Brodsky, Edgar & Kathy Simmons, and Dick & Jane Arnold.

As with past Region rallies, there was plenty to see and do, listen and learn. Seminars included “Caravan Leadership Training,” conducted by Jay Thompson, the National Caravan Chairman; Airstream maintenance, led by John Leake,

Region 3’s 1st VP; and “Towing is a Balancing Act,” featuring Randy Godfrey, Region 3’s 2nd VP. There was also a session of “Guiding Your Unit to Greatness,” hosted by John Frerking, the current Region 3 president. Frerking emphasized the importance of attracting new members and retaining current members by doing exciting things. He complimented clubs like NORVA for doing an annual unit caravan...something most local

clubs don’t do.

Jay Thompson also talked about new national caravans slated for 2019, as well as the revival of some old favorites. For a list of future caravans, check: <http://wbccicaravan.wbcci.net/future-caravans-2019>.

Thompson also encouraged everyone who has not been on a caravan to sign up for one, because caravanning is one of the best features of club membership.





Top: Airstreams occupied beachside full-service campsites. Weather was sunny and in the 70s each day.



Left: Rally participants donated money and supplies to a local Myrtle Beach charity, a women's shelter for unwed mothers.

Below left: NORVA's 1st VP Edgar Simmons, and mate, Kathy, parade in at the opening ceremony. Photo by Andrea Carroll.

Below right: Region President John Frerking (top) and 1st VP John Leake address the crowd. Leake was elected as the new Region 3 president and will begin his two-year term of office in June.

Gold sunrise, silver reflections
(continued)

“If the caravan you want is listed as ‘full,’ get on the wait list,” Thompson explained, “Chances are very good that wait-listed members will be called because people are reserving spaces so far in advance.”

John Leake ran a seminar describing his local South Carolina club’s success in doing an Urban Air Rally during the past year. He provided good tips on how to organize and conduct one, and discussed lessons learned. NORVA and Virginia Unit (109) in the room took many notes during this presentation because a joint Urban Air Rally somewhere in Virginia during 2019 is in the



early “talking” stages.

Some interesting statistics were shared about Region 3. For example, its 18 clubs have a total of 11,087 members, reflecting a two percent growth rate in the past



year. Two Florida units disbanded, but 13 of the 18 remaining clubs grew in membership.

At the business meeting held on the final rally day, Region 3 officers for the 2018-2019 term (two-year term) were elected. As expected, John Leake of South Carolina Club #22 will be the new president, Randy Godfrey of Florida Club #27 will move up to 1st vice president, and Bill Wild of Georgia Club #32 was elected as 2nd vice president. These officers will be sworn in during the International Rally in Salem, Ore., in June. The Region's board of directors approved a motion to support efforts to amend the W.B.C.C.I. Constitution. The amendment would give the International president the option of conducting an International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting during the International Rally. Presently, the Constitution stipulates this meeting be held prior to the rally. This change must be approved by a vote of the delegates at the next International Rally in Salem. If approved it would allow more club members to participate in IBTs.



Top: Rally attendees fill the meeting hall at the Ocean Lakes Campground where all events were held.

Right: Lining up to enjoy a catered turkey dinner.

Below right: Saturday evening entertainment included a three-piece Celtic band and five "cloggers" (performing an updated version of tap dancing).

Below left: NORVA's members who made the trip to Myrtle Beach. Left to right (standing): Patsy Nagel, Cathy Brodsky, Gerry Nagel. Seated: Jane Arnold, Dick Arnold, Tom Carmichael, & Doug Anderson. Not in this photo: Raymond and Andrea Carroll; Edgar and Kathy Simmons.

Bottom: Just a few of the Airstream trailers at Ocean Lakes Campground. Silver here, silver there, silver everywhere!



Come what May

Birthdays:

- 16 Mary Ann McBroom
- 29 David Baker
- 31 Scott Arnold

Anniversaries:

- 3 Billy & Barbara Cox
- 10 Bill & Sylvia Worrall
- 11 David & Cathey Baker
- 17 Dale & Rita Tidwell
- 18 Doug & Susan Anderson
- 18 Sean & Edy Rameika
- 30 Edgar & Kathy Simmons



2018 NORVA Directory corrections

Since its distribution last February, three errors in the 2018 NORVA Club Directory have been spotted by members. If you have not already done so, please make the following corrections to your copy:

- On Page 4 – Treasurer Paul Pearce’s club membership number is incorrectly stated as “1515.” Please correct it to “3672.” Also, Secretary Elaine Ulrich’s e-mail address is missing a “1.” The correct e-mail address is egulrich1@yahoo.com.
- On Page 17, the same e-mail address fix should be made in the member listing for Lloyd and Elaine Ulrich. It should be egulrich1@yahoo.com.
- On Page 14, the cell phone number listed for Lew & Cathy Brodsky is incorrect. The correct cell phone number is (703) 338-4620.

If you spot any more errors in the Directory, or if the information pertaining to your listing has changed since its publication, please inform the editor: lbrodsky@cox.net.

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July "Valley Rally"

Plan on attending the Valley Rally starting on Thursday July 19, hosted by Edgar and Kathy Simmons. Participants will set up camp at the Rockingham Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg. On Friday, there will be a guided tour of Dynamic Aviation and a behind the scenes tour of The Creamery. Friday evening, there will be a fire truck parade and music and food at the Lawn Party grounds. Saturday morning breakfast at the Simmons household will start the day. Then there will be an antique car show, exhibition steam engines, an antique tractor and car parade, food and music to fill out the day. It's going to be great fun! Look for the coupon in the June *NORVA News* and be ready to mail it in immediately!



Virginia Commonwealth Rally at Virginia Beach set for Sept. 21-23, 2018

NORVA has announced that the Virginia Commonwealth Rally, a joint rally for all Virginia Airstream clubs, will be held Sept. 21-23 at the Holiday Trav-L-Park located at 1075 General Booth Boulevard, Virginia Beach, Va. 23451. NORVA has reserved 26 campsites in a quiet and cozy section of the park called Eden (so don't eat any apples you might find there). The campsites are full hookups. Cost for two nights with the 15% discount and tax is either \$96.90 or \$106.43, depending on whether you have a cable connection. The weekend kicks off with a potluck supper on Friday night to

get acquainted or reacquainted and enjoy tantalizing edibles for which Airstreamers are famous. On Saturday morning from 9-11. John Leake, Region 3 president for 2018-2019 and a good friend of NORVA, has graciously consented to conduct the installation ceremony for the officers and directors of all four Virginia Airstream Clubs. The installation will take place in the upstairs room of the Tally Ho building. After the installation, you are on your own to take advantage of the myriad of attractions and activities in the area – the biggest being the 2018 Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana Air Show! Purported

Mark your calendars now.
Plan to attend the
**Virginia Commonwealth
Rally**
Sept. 21-23, at the
Holiday Trav-L-Park
1075 General Booth Blvd.
Virginia Beach, Va. 234351.
Reserve your campsite before
July 16 by calling the campground
directly:

1-866-849-8860.

to be the best show ever, the gates open 8:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, flying begins at 10:00 a.m. with star-studded performances by well-known aerobatic pilots in modern (e.g., Hornets, Super Hornets and F-22 Raptors) as well as vintage WWII aircraft and demonstrations by the Black Daggers US Army Parachute Team, Skydive Suffolk Jump Team, and Firewalkers Pyrotechnics culminating with the Blue Angels at 3:00 p.m. Check their website for details at <https://www.oceanaairshow.com>. If the Air Show does not pique your interest, Virginia Beach has multiple historic sites, museums, nature parks, fishing and boating excursions, entertainment venues, and shopping to satisfy everyone's tastes. See <https://www.visitvirginiabeach.com>.

Speaking of tastes, great restaurants abound in Virginia Beach from seafood, to Mexican to BBQ. The campground can give you a list of their favorites with directions to get there.

Please make your own reservation and payment directly with the Holiday Trav-L-Park by July 16, 2018, indicating that you are with the Airstream Commonwealth Rally. After this date, the park will release the unreserved spaces to the general public. Because of the popularity of the NAS Air Show, the park anticipates being full for that weekend.

Getting ready for the 2019 International Rally

A committee led by International W.B.C.C.I. officers visits Virginia

Without any fanfare, a select group, including some of W.B.C.C.I.'s International officers, visited Doswell, Va., at the end of April, along with Lori Plummer, the Club's full-time corporate manager from the club's Jackson Center headquarters.

Led by Barry Bell, International 1st vice president, the group spent a few days at The Meadow Event Park—the facility already booked as the site of the W.B.C.C.I.'s 2019 International Rally, scheduled from July 22 to 26, 2019. Because Bell will be sworn in as the next International president during the 2018 International Rally in Salem, Ore., organizing and running the International Rally in Doswell is his responsibility. Bell and some of his team members drove in with their tow vehicles and trailers and camped in Doswell. Others flew in and stayed at a nearby hotel. The Meadow Event Park is just off I-95, near King's Dominion.

Although it's 15 months away, Bell told *NORVA News* that he wanted to get an early start on rally planning. At Doswell, the group was able to inspect the facilities and discuss committee assignments. Bell anticipates that as many as 800 rigs will come to this rally, which means well over 1,400 people.

Because NORVA was instrumental in supporting a (smaller, 100 rig) Region 3 Rally at The Meadow Event Park in 2016, Bell invited Tom Carmichael and Lew Brodsky to attend the planning meeting in Doswell. They briefed Bell and his team about their 2016 experience. Brodsky and Carmichael had done a comprehensive scouting report about the Park for then-Region 3 president,

Matt Hackney, and they shared it with Bell's group.

Karen Fisher, an Airstreamer from Michigan, also attended the meeting. She serves currently as 1st vice president of Region 4, and Bell appointed her as International Rally Manager for the 2019 International event. Fisher told Brodsky and Carmichael she needs help from the local Virginia clubs in three areas: tour coordination, vendor coordination, and arranging for the purchasing of goods and services. One of NORVA's newest members, Anne Newman, has already stepped up to organize local tours for rally attendees. But Fisher still needs Virginia people to assist with getting large and small vendors to display merchandise and offer services at the rally (e.g., big companies like: FanTastic Vent, Dexter Axles, Zip Dee, Camping World; and smaller local vendors, like art and crafts people, RV accessory companies, local tire dealers, and repair companies). Also, Fisher needs someone local to work with The Meadow Event Park in the months leading up to (and during) the rally to identify nearby suppliers of services and equipment (like golf cart rentals, tents, chairs, PA systems, video projectors, food trucks, and the like.).

Members of all four Virginia clubs are urged to contribute time and energies to support this International club event. The work is already underway, and club members who have any experience in conducting tours, contracting for services, and setting up craft shows, are especially needed. If interested, contact the editor of *NORVA News*, who will put you in touch with Karen Fisher.



Photo at left: Barry Bell (r.), incoming W.B.C.C.I. International president, meets with NORVA's Tom Carmichael and Lew Brodsky (standing) at The Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Va.

The Park is the venue for the International Rally in July 2019.

W.B.C.C.I. has booked virtually all facilities at the park for the rally, including the large Farm Bureau pavilion, pictured above.

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 20-22	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 Revised dates	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	Holiday Dinner Hosts and location TBD



Virginia Commonwealth Rally at Virginia Beach, Sept. 21-23! Make your campground reservations directly with the Holiday Trav-L-Park before July 16. See page 6 for details.