

# NORVA News

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## When a challenge arises, stay flexible!

NORVA President Dick Arnold is on (and off) the road with the “Gone to Texas” caravan

As I write this month’s column, Jane and I are still enjoying the “Gone to Texas” caravan, and delighted to be sharing the experience with dear NORVA friends, Cecil and Della Hoosier. Personally, I have just crossed two more items off my “bucket list”—a visit to the Big Bend country, and a raft trip down the Rio Grande River. We rafted for 10 or 12 miles and had a picnic lunch on the Mexican-side river bank..

There is a very wise saying Airstreamers frequently voice while on a caravan: “We must be flexible!” This is because unexpected things often happen over which we have little control. For example, last year, when NORVA members Ed and Beth Jones led the American Revolution National Caravan (Southern Colonies), they were forced to take the group (including Jane and me) on a 500-mile detour, north and back, to get out of the projected path of Hurricane Irma. As a result, a scheduled three-day visit to Charleston, S.C., was scrubbed. But the Joneses and their caravanners remained flexible.

Despite the delay, they got back on track and completed the caravan safely and successfully.

Ed and Beth’s caravan faced a major challenge and overcame it. Now, Jane and I are in Del Rio, Texas, facing a minor one, and it’s our turn to be flexible. We are waiting for our truck to be fixed. We discovered an antifreeze puddle beneath it

Saturday when we came out of a grocery store. After a call to our Coach-Net break-down service, we got towed to the local Dodge dealer, but there is little they can do for us until Monday. So, we said a temporary goodbye to the others on the caravan as they departed Del Rio without us, bound for Concan, near Rio Frio. We hope to rejoin them Tuesday in San Antonio. Luckily, we are in a full-service campground with

The Arnolds visit old Fort Davis (1854-1891), a National Historic Site in Texas. Photo by Jane Arnold.

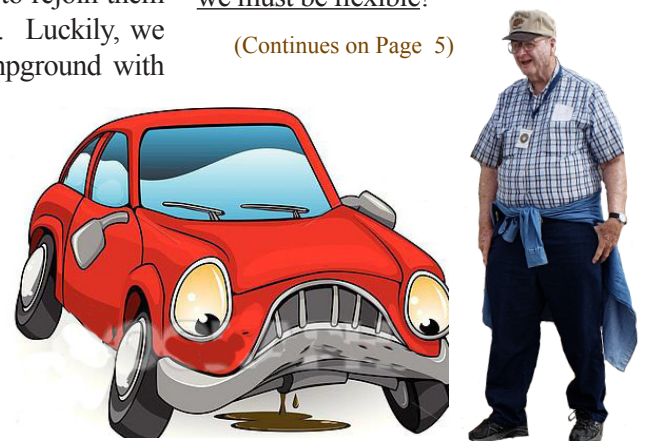


good cell service (the first in a week). Thankfully, this did not happen in Big Bend Country, with no cell service or help for miles. We will get through this trip interruption in good order and get back on track. Not to belabor the point, but it’s in a situation like this that we take a deep breath and remind ourselves we must be flexible!

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# Because it's a very special place

Story and photos by Lew Brodsky

Why do people enjoy camping at Virginia's Highland Haven Airstream Park? Is it for the spectacular sunsets? The unsurpassed mountain views? The street music in Floyd? Or, simply the tranquility and uniqueness of the place? It's probably for all those reasons. Those who attended NORVA's "Mountain Rally" got to sample it all.

Highland Haven, one of eleven campgrounds in the U.S. that allows in only owners of Airstream branded RVs, sits at the very top of one of the Blue Ridge Mountains, off U.S. 221 near Copper Hill, Va. Nearly all of its 42 full-hookup campsites provide stunning vistas of many miles of scenic beauty. You camp along the western edge of one mountain chain and gaze across the Shenandoah Valley to see the distant Appalachians. At night, the twinkle of the stars are nearly matched by the twinkle of the street lights of Christianburg, some 13 miles distant.

The rally group included a mix of people, old-timers and newer club members; mostly from NORVA, but also including friends from the Tidewater and Virginia

Airstream Clubs. Also, there were two couples at the park who were not affiliated with W.B.C.C.I., but they participated in the social gatherings.

The weekend began with a Happy Hour on Thursday evening, Oct. 4, followed by the wondrous sunset (shown above). Friday was unusually warm for October and included free time for exploration of the area, including the nearby City of Roanoke. A group dinner was held on Friday evening at Oddf3llows (sic) Restaurant in Floyd, Va. The small town, which is the seat of Floyd County, is well known for its Friday

night street music (Bluegrass) jam sessions and live onstage performances in the Floyd Country Store. On Saturday, many went back to Floyd for a huge Arts and Crafts Festival, held at the local high school. Hundreds of craft booths filled two gymnasiums and overflowed onto the parking lots and lawns. Back at Highland Haven, the group had a pot luck dinner Saturday evening at the

*(continues on next page)*



Photos:

*Top: A Highland Haven sunset.*

*Above: Host Cathy Brodsky speaks to rally attendees at a trailer-side Happy Hour.*

*Left: NORVA members Andrea & Raymond Carroll with their two pooches at their Highland Haven campsite. Note the awesoe mountain view behind them.*



(“Mountain Rally “ continued from Page 2) campground’s screened-in patio. On Sunday, it was time to wind down the rally, but not before coffee and pastries were enjoyed at the campsite of rally hosts, Cathy and Lew Brodsky.

Attending the Mountain Rally from NORVA were Edgar & Kathy Simmons, Peter & Elizabeth West, Raymond & Andrea Carroll, Larry & Sun Riley, and Patsy & Gerry Nagel, who were rally co-hosts. New members of the Virginia Airstream Club, Steve & Brenda Isler, were also on hand, as were Steve & Kay Lambert, Highland Haven shareholders who were campground hosts that week. From the Tidewater Club, Frank & Jayne Munoz rounded out the rally group.

Because Highland Haven is such a very special place, NORVA plans to hold another rally there in 2019.



*Photo at top: Dining out in Floyd, Va., (l. to r.) Cathy Brodsky, Edgar & Kathy Simmons, Patsy Nagel, Gerry Nagel, Elizabeth & Peter West.*

*Above (l. to r.): Frank & Jayne Munoz, Larry & Sun Riley, and Arlys Southard, a Riley friend.*

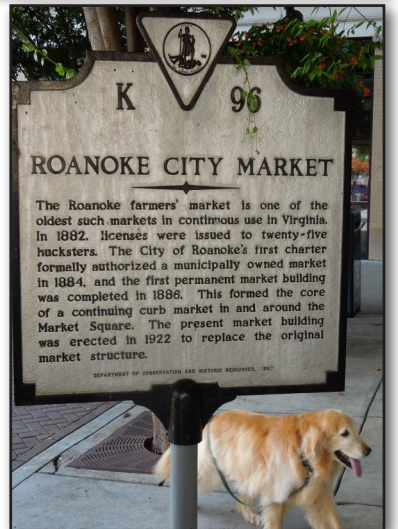
*Clockwise from right: Airstream celebrity dog, “Paisley,” searches for biscuits at the Roanoke City Market.*

*NORVA’s pot luck dinner inside a screened-in patio at Highland Haven.*

*A Bluegrass jam session in Floyd, Va.*

*Only Airstreams are allowed to fill the sites at Highland Haven Airstream Park in the Blue Ridge Mountains.*

*Inset: Rally hosts Lew & Cathy Brodsky.*





Get ready for a party, Dec. 8:

## Attend a festive holiday lunch at the Jones home

December is a time for festive gatherings and merry-making as we celebrate the holidays. Please circle December 8<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and plan to attend a holiday get-together at the home of Ed and Beth Jones at 3704 Washington Woods Drive, Alexandria, VA 22309. There will be plenty of food and drink and carolers galore in their holiday finery in every nook and cranny just waiting to greet NORVA friends from far and wide. Plan to arrive about 1:00 p.m. and spend an enjoyable afternoon with kindred Airstream spirits. (Though the carolers will be dressed in holiday finery, you may come comfortable and casual or as you wish.) Cost is \$10 per person. Please send a completed coupon, below, to Ed, or e-mail the information to him by Nov. 15, 2018.

I (We) will attend NORVA's Holiday Lunch at the home of Ed and Beth Jones.  
My rally fee check, payable to Ed Jones is enclosed.

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

WBCCI Member# \_\_\_\_\_

#of people coming: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

By Nov. 15, fill out and mail this coupon with your check to:  
Ed Jones, 3704 Washington Wood Dr.  
Alexandria, VA 22309.

You can also e-mail the information requested above to:  
[thunderhorse16@yahoo.com](mailto:thunderhorse16@yahoo.com).

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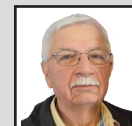


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(“Being Flexible “ continues from Page 1)

While it’s difficult to plan ahead for the unexpected, we can forecast an exciting year for NORVA. You will see on the next page our club’s “2019 Events Schedule.” Edgar Simmons, NORVA’s 1<sup>st</sup> VP, lists many events to make 2019 exceptional. I am delighted that some of our newest members, the Nagels and the Shepards, have stepped up to be hosts and leaders. While we have already locked in many activities and dates, some rally plans need refinement and others need volunteers to make them happen. I hope to see many more NORVA members participating in monthly rallies, as well as the 16-day NORVA Caravan planned for June (more about that in future newsletters). Meanwhile, let’s enjoy the balance of 2018. Jane and I look forward to seeing everyone on Dec. 8 at the Holiday Get-together Lunch at the home of Ed & Beth Jones (see Page 4); and please sign up (before Nov. 30) to see the Jan. 13 matinee performance of “La Cage Aux Folles” (a coupon is on this page)! The Sunday dinner theater rally is NORVA’s first big event in 2019!

A scenic highway lined with “silver.” The Arnolds follow three other Airstream trailers out of Big Bend during the “Gone to Texas” caravan. A total of 24 Airstreams are on this adventure led by Lyle & Peggy Snow, W.B.C.C.I. members from Spring, Texas.

Photo by Jane Arnold.



## Coupon for the January 2019 Dinner Theater Rally

Dinner and a matinee performance of the hit Broadway musical and motion picture

### *La Cage Aux Folles*

Join your Airstream friends for an afternoon of good food and lively entertainment on **Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019. Dinner: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.; show: 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.**

Location: Riverside Center for the Performing Arts, 95 Riverside Parkway, Fredericksburg, VA 22406

The discounted, per-person price for the dinner, show, and tax is \$60. For more information visit [www.riversidedt.com](http://www.riversidedt.com).

**Reserve your seats now by sending an e-mail to the rally host ([larryriley@yahoo.com](mailto:larryriley@yahoo.com)), then complete this coupon and mail it with your check, (made payable to): Larry Riley, 5502 West Ridge View Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.**

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

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ No. attending: \_\_\_ X \$60 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: To meet the theater’s reservations deadline, Larry must receive your check and coupon by Nov. 30, 2018.**

*Club members who would like to attend the Fredericksburg dinner theater production of “La Cage Aux Folles” on Jan. 13, 2019, must send their rally checks to Larry Riley this month so seats can be held. This rally is open to members of all four Virginia Airstream clubs. Above is the coupon. Complete and mail it now to reserve seats.*





**I spy an Airstream...**

*Left: Paul Pearce snapped this photo of an Airstream snack wagon, poorly disguised as an airplane, at Munich's Airport.*



*Right: This vintage beauty was spotted recently by Tom Carmichael on a Virginia highway.*

**Editor's Note:** By popular request, shown below for the first time, is the 2019 Events Calendar. But please remember there are two important events remaining in 2018:

- Nov. 1-4 (Thur.-Sun.) Oyster Festival Rally, Urbanna, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky**
- Dec. 8 (Sat.) Holiday Dinner at the home of Ed & Beth Jones, Alexandria, Va.**

**NORVA EVENTS CALENDAR 2019**

Check this schedule monthly. Events, dates, and venues are subject to change.

Jan. 13, 2019 Sun. afternoon	“La Cage Aux Folles” Rally Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Larry & Sun Riley	July 21-27 Sun.-Sat.	W.B.C.C.I. International Rally Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Va. Hosts: Int’l Pres. Barry Bell & the four Virginia Airstream Clubs
Feb. 3 Sun. evening	Super Bowl Rally Williamsburg, Va. Hosts: The McBrooms	Aug. 4-10 Sun.-Sat.	Old Fiddlers Convention Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
March 29-31 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Location: TBD Host: Tom Carmichael	Sept. 20-22* Fri.-Sat. *Tentative	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Location: TBD Hosts: Shenandoah Valley Club
April 24-28 Wed.-Sun.	Region 3 Rally Marion, N.C. Host: R3 Pres. John Leake	Oct. 4-6 Fri.-Sun. Oct. ?-? Thurs.-Sun.	Mountain Rally at Highland Haven Airstream Park, Copper Hill, Va., or: “Streets Lined with Silver” Farmville, Va. Host: Carmichael
May 16-19 Thurs.-Sun.	Almost Heaven Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard	Oct. 30-Nov. 3 Thurs.-Sun.	Oyster Festival Rally Urbanna, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky
June 1-16 Sat.-16 days	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan “PA-NY Pot Pourri” Leaders: Gerry & Patsy Nagel	Dec. 7, 2019* Sat. *Tentative	Holiday Get-together Location TBD. Hosts: TBD