



## September 2020 Newsletter <https://airstreamclub.org/piedmont-north-carolina>

Region 3, Unit 161

Inside this issue:  
2020 President's Corner  
2021 Rally Schedule  
2021 dues renewal

### 2020 Piedmont Airstream Club Officers

**Mike Bizon**, President  
704-450-1227  
[mikebizon@me.com](mailto:mikebizon@me.com)

**John Lloyd**, V. President  
910-279-3863  
<mailto:johnklloyd@charter.net>

**Gregory Ray**, Corresponding  
Sec./ News Letter Editor  
336-764-0838,  
[gtrnc27107@yahoo.com](mailto:gtrnc27107@yahoo.com)

**Margaret Banke-Hamernick**  
Recording Secretary  
703-568-7134  
<mailto:mbanke@hammar.com>

**Stedman Brown**, Treasurer  
252-314-7961  
[stedmanbrown6693@gmail.com](mailto:stedmanbrown6693@gmail.com)

**Dick Martin**, Past President  
919-349-1122  
<mailto:dickbmartin@gmail.com>

### September 2020 President's Report

I'm not really sure how it was done. Someone got into our mail list and generated an email that seemed to come from me to Gregory Ray asking for gift cards for vets with COVID. A quick look at the email address showed it was not from me.

Gregory did the smart thing and asked me for verification. All in all, this had a pretty good shot at getting some gift cards and who knows what else from anyone that responded.

This made me start thinking of the security of our Airstreams. How many of you use a hitch lock or something similar when you are in storage? How about when at a campsite? Yes, the Big Red Numbers help to get your trailer recovered, but we can do more.

I have gone through several iterations of security. But getting to a workable solution is not easy.

At first, I used a Reese Hitch lock. When I lost the key, it only took a couple of blows with a hammer to get it off. Not good.

Then I went to the Internet for advice. I mean, everything on the Internet is true. Is it not?

After collating the advice from cyberspace, this was my solution.

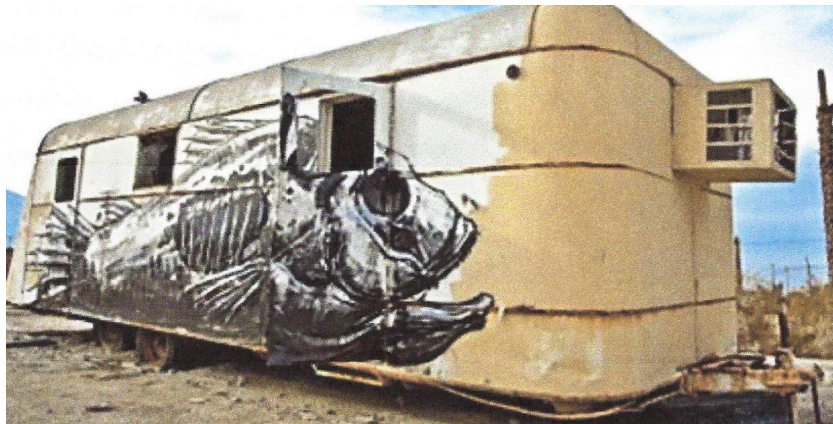
1: I leave the door unlocked. Looking at the cost of replacing or repair of an AS door, it seemed to be a way to avoid problems if I was only burglarized.

2: I remove two wheels, opposite tires, and axles. Otherwise, man and a truck can just chain up and pull off your trailer if the wheels are on it.

3: I remove all the electronics. If there is anything of value it is the television.

That worked. While I deployed the above steps, my AS was not stolen or broken in to. But what a problem! I needed a better solution. It was taking much too long to put the wheels back on, hook up the TV, etc.

We live in NASCAR country and the solution was right in my backyard. A wrap. Wraps are the graphics that cover the racecar body. They make it look like an off-the-sales-floor model but with adverting stickers. I now have my AS hidden under a wrap that makes my AS look like this.



Pretty good huh?

Let me encourage you to sign up for the Installation Rally. A ton of work has gone into it and it looks like FUN!

Pay your dues, please. Stedman will hunt you down.

See you down the road.

Mike

## **Piedmont Club 2021 Rally Schedule**

January Mid Winter IBT January 18-22 Sarasota FL

February Winter Luncheon (Host Needed)

March Lumberton NC Host Bill and Shelly Townsend ( Details to follow)

April Region 3 Rally April 20-25 North Florida Fairgrounds, Tallahassee FL

May (Host Needed)

June (Host Needed)

July International Meeting July 16-24 Wilson County Expo Center, Lebanon, TN

August (Host Needed) (Old Time Fiddlers Convention will be in Galax VA Region 3 will not sponsor a rally)

September Sneads Ferry NC Hosts Alan and Jane Hvizdak, Dick and Becky Martin (Details to follow)

October Alumalina October 28-31 Tom Johnsons Camping World, Marion NC

November Installation Rally ( Host Needed)

=====

### **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**

Piedmont Airstream Club Members,

You may or may not be aware of the changes underway with the Airstream Club websites. I'm sure if you've visited the National Airstream Club website - "Airstream Club International" you've seen the new design. About 3 weeks ago this design was rolled out - moved to the unit websites. Therefore we - Piedmont Unit have a "new" website.

This is where I come in. I'm working with the International Club web team and Region 3 Webmaster to get our site fully functional and up to date. When you visit the front page and subpages it is necessary to scroll down (sometimes) to see all of the information listed on that particular page. For instance, on the front page you will find a brief statement about the club but if you scroll down you will also find photos, a map view of upcoming events, and Becky Martin's (membership chair) contact information.

It's different than the old. I'm just getting up to speed on the new system and how to get information added. And, unit webmasters don't have complete control so I'm having to rely on the Airstream IT folks to correct errors and guide me along. I say this to ask your patience as we make this transition. If you have suggestion or find errors please let me know.

Incase you haven't visited or just want to copy this to your favorites here is a link to the Piedmont Airstream Club webpage:

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

Thanks,  
Bill Byrum  
Piedmont Unit Webmaster  
[bbcubed53@gmail.com](mailto:bbcubed53@gmail.com)

=====

## LET'S GO CAMPING

As things are slowly getting back to some sort of normal, we need to take advantage of the beautiful fall weather in North Carolina and the remaining rallies scheduled for this year.

ALUMALINA October 22-25 at Tom Johnson's Rally Park, 1885 US Hwy 70W, Marion NC. The rally is hosted by John Leake (past region 3 President) and is always great. If you plan to attend please notify John Leake at [john@leakesantiques.com](mailto:john@leakesantiques.com) so he can plan for food and activities . There is plenty of parking and you can register at the campground upon arrival.

The Piedmont Club will have several in attendance and would like to have you join us. Our President, Mike Bizon and Bill Townsend plan on getting there early to save enough sites so the Club can park as a group. If you would like to park with the Club drop a note to [johnkloyd41@gmail.com](mailto:johnkloyd41@gmail.com) or give me a call 910 279 3863. Our Club flag will be up to help you find the group.

VETERANS DAY AND INSTALLATION RALLY Please make plans to attend our Clubs last rally of the year November 5-8. We will celebrate Veterans Day and install the officers for next year. It will be fun filled time you don't want to miss. You should have received the rally information from our hosts Bogdan & Robin Gieniewski and Andy & Karen Karakos.

John Lloyd

=====

This has been a difficult year for most people and I am sure all of us are missing our rallies and caravans. With the corona virus pandemic canceling most of our 2020 Airstream activities, let's made sure 2021 is a great year for the Piedmont Airstream Club. The best way to make this happen is for your participation in our local rallies and activates.

If you have not yet attended a Piedmont Airstream Club Rally, I encourage you to consider attending one in the future. Club activities are a great way to make new friends that have a love for the Airstream lifestyle of Fun, Fellowship and Adventure.

Our club is made up of volunteers who want to give back to the club that has given them so much enjoyment. I encourage all members to consider volunteer opportunities when they arise. While officer positions usually have two or more years of responsibilities, there is a "one and done" weekend opportunity where you can give back to our club. Consider hosting or co-hosting a rally, a great way to give back to our club while enjoying time with Airstream friends.

There is a rally planning guide on our website created by John and Nancy Becker. This is not a set of rules to follow; it is a "guide" to assist a rally host with the activities associated with hosting a rally. Take a look at the guide via this link.  
<https://piedmontnc.airstreamclub.net/rally-information/piedmont-unit-rally-planning-guide/>

To get the full value of joy you must have someone to divide it with. - Mark Twain

Travel Safe,

Stedman Brown, Piedmont Treasurer

## INFORMATION ABOUT CHANGES TO NATIONAL CARAVANS

The club expects to run caravans in 2021 and beyond, as they are a fantastic value and a lot of fun! We want participants to understand how they will be different during these current, unusual, circumstances.

Caravan leaders are preparing to provide 17 National caravans for 2021. When caravans were canceled in 2020, most deposits were either recovered or transferred to 2021, but not all. The Club made sure all participants received a full refund because the pandemic was unknown when participants signed up. The club does not have the resources to continue to cover the financial risk in the future with a known pandemic still ongoing. In addition, caravan leaders will carefully review and evaluate information regarding the health and safety of participants before operating the caravan.

We will require that each caravan participant to sign an acknowledgement of the following:

Each member participates on caravans at your own risk, and that includes, but is not limited to health, financial, and activity/content risks. We will operate caravans in a manner that adheres to the local rules in the jurisdictions we operate, and you should expect to do so as well, or you should not participate. You face at least three areas of risk on the caravan:

- **Health:** No one knows when an effective vaccine to the current pandemic will be widely available, therefore, you assume a health risk. Similarly, some caravans operate in high temperatures and/or high altitudes, and these entail health risks that participants assume.

During the current COVID19 pandemic, each participant must provide the appropriate protective equipment e.g., a mask, to be worn at all times specified either by local authorities or by the caravan leader.

- **Financial:** If a caravan is fully or partially canceled, the club cannot guarantee a full refund - you assume risk for deposits or other money that may not be able to be recovered.
  
- **Activity/Content:** A caravan may not be able to do all the activities that were planned when you signed up or were done in past years. This is because local rules may change so they are not allowed, or vendors may decline to offer the same activities as planned or done in prior years.

Finally, participants should be aware that caravans may not always have full hook-ups, internet or cell phone connectivity, and may campsites may be in isolated locations.

## **CARAVAN LEADER TRAINING**

Caravan leader training is being presented via online videos and Zoom meetings. Three training sessions have been completed with good feedback from all those taking the course.

The procedure is that the videos are viewed online and then in a Zoom meeting is discussion and Q and A about the videos. The course has nine videos with three videos viewed for each Zoom meeting. The Zoom sessions last about one to two hours. The Zoom sessions are scheduled for alternate days, so the course is completed in six days.

The next training session is scheduled for October. Contact Jay Thompson at [elnaandjay@mac.com](mailto:elnaandjay@mac.com) or 850-21-4719 to sign up for the training.

Gregory Ray, KK4MHY  
Piedmont NC Unit, WBCCI  
Unit Corresponding Secretary  
179 West Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27107

---

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

<b>2020 Rally Sites:</b>
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 <b>CANCELLED</b>
May:New Bern, NC, Alan and Jane Hvizdak hosts, May 14 -17 Make Reservations before March 1 2020, New Bern KOA, 800-562-3341 <b>CANCELLED</b>
June 20-27:WBCCI International Meeting, The Ranch Events Complex, Loveland, CO <b>CANCELLED</b>
July 23-26: Todd and Debbie Stroud Hosts <b>CANCELLED</b>
August 2-10:Galax Old Time Fiddlerø Convention, Cool Breeze Campground Galax, VA <b>CANCELLED</b>
September: (hosts needed)
October 22-25:Alumalina, Tom Johnsonø Camping World, Marion, NC
November 5-8: NC Veteranø Day Rally Robin Gieniewski, Andy and Karen Karakos, Co Hosts Fayetteville RV Resort and Cottages WADE, NC