

# TARHEEL TRAVELER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB  
THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CLUB IN WBCCI FORMED IN 1960

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

BRUCE THOMPSON #5027

Hello Streamers!! Happy Spring! It's finally here.

As I begin this article, we're packing up for Shining in Shelby, leaving tomorrow. So, I'll finish writing this article as an update AFTER we get back. Right now, we're super-excited about our Club's first urban rally. Roger Holland has planned this in minute detail – making sure all the bases are covered and everyone has a wonderful time in Uptown Shelby. I promise this – if you don't have a good time, it's your own fault – have you seen that agenda! Watching the sunset on the rooftop bar, listening to live music & concerts on the square, free coffee & pastries every morning – Wow! For an urban rally and dry-camping, you don't have to pack much. We have a standard "packing list" for loading up the camper & truck, but we were surprised to discover that the only items from that list for this Shelby trip were flags and chairs. (Ok, we put a bottle of wine in the camper for emergency rations, in case we couldn't find any there.) The whole idea is to patronize the local merchants for all you need... Right!?

### Shelby Update

Members, this was the ultimate urban rally!

Shelby rolled out the ubiquitous red carpet. The Mayor with town officials came to welcome us at Hanna Park, where we indulged in a delicious Bridges' BBQ feast for all. Then, there were the wonderful door prizes, courtesy of the local businesses! Oh, and the pastries! – prepared by a local desert chef schooled in France at Le Cordon Bleu Cooking School. Then, on Friday

morning we had a blue-light police escort by Shelby's Finest into Uptown Shelby with flags waving, lights flashing, people cheering and snapping pictures, cars stopping to watch, and drones capturing the moment – 28 silver shining rigs in procession. What a sight! Free coffee & pastries in the mornings, and a Goodie/Welcome Bag that weighed 5 Lbs. ;-)

The Shelby residents were so welcoming. I even had people stopping their vehicles and shouting through the window "Welcome to Shelby! Great to have you." And, as we wore our badges, people would come up and welcome us at the various businesses. Thank you Shelby for a marvelous event.

I was reminded that this event was not only a First for the Carolinas Airstream Club, it was also the First in North Carolina and of course the First for Shelby.

Ok – our editor says I need to cut this short. (I get personalized attention, you know.)

Members – if you have the opportunity to do this next year, jump on it.

### Upcoming

I'll try to be quick – here are some important updates for upcoming rallies:

**Palmetto Cove** – May 20th – 23rd – just a few more days. It's a very large campground, capable of hosting several hundred rigs. So they're not too worried about our club filling it up. All you have to do is show up

and pay at the office. No reservation necessary. But, our Hosts Bruce & Claire Bodenstein would like to know how many to expect for any gatherings. So please RSVP if you haven't done so (<https://airstreamclub.org/2021-palmetto-cove-park-rally>).

### Reminders

- **CAC Happy Hour** at 4:00 PM on the Last Saturday of every Month. For May, that's the 29th. You'll get email reminders.

- **JUNE:** I think our section-D at Bear Den is all reserved, but – there may still be some sites at the campground. Ray and Carol Combs are our Hosts and are very familiar with the area and all it has to offer. Also, **CALLING ALL HAMS** – This is Field Day for Amateur Radio. We'll be operating multiple radio stations as **WB4CAC**, the club's own FCC-granted station call. We'll have more details on that soon. And, even if you're not a ham – you can help us make some contacts!

- **WBCCI International Rally in Lebanon TN** – It's not too late. We're gathering at Sevierville TN then caravan into Lebanon the next morning. (<https://airstreamclub.org/0212021-caravan-lebanon-tn>)

In closing, have you noticed the membership growth lately? It's all You – it's how you interact with each other, how you welcome fellow Airstreamers, how you invite guests to our gatherings, how you jump in to participate, how you respect your fellow campers, and how you solicit others to join the club. You guys are attracting a lot of attention. You're making Wally Proud. Thanks!

*Bruce T*

## 2021 RALLIES

*BRUCE BODENSTEIN #8168, 1ST VP*

Hello "Streamers"

This month is racing by and we are looking forward to seeing a bunch of you at Palmetto Cove in less than a week by the time you read this. There is still plenty of room for more so come on over.

I am sure some of you have noticed the heavy influx of new club members since the first of the year. I did a careful count and came up with 20 new or returning memberships since January 1, 2021. Thank you, Dale Dowler, our Membership Chair, for listing these each month in our newsletter. I happened to get to meet one of our newest member couples (just prior to them joining) at a recent get together. Curiously, it seemed like they could not wait to join our group and that is a good thing. Whatever it is, we are doing something right!

We have all heard how RVing in general and Airstream sales in particular, are going through the roof. Certainly, this is one reason for the uptick in new joins.

Thinking about it, makes me wonder what we should be doing to make our newest members feel totally welcome. The first thing that comes to mind for me, is that I need to get a couple of our 2021 Rally Schedule cards into their hands as quickly as possible. This will also give me a chance to officially welcome them to the club. As of now, this is my highest priority. Hmmm, let me amend that slightly. This is Claire and my highest priority! Hey Claire...

Marcia Thompson is faithful in getting the new contact info put in Evernote. I, like some others, was unable to use Evernote on my phone with their recent upgrades, until Marcia walked me through the process.

(see article below) If you can use Evernote, it might be interesting for you to note if a new member resides near you. If so, why not give them a quick call or email and invite them to a future rally or see if they are comfortable getting together over a meal or whatever.

We are the biggest club in Region 3 and that is first, a big responsibility and second, something we can be proud of.

Stay safe and see you "Down the Road".

*Bruce B, 1<sup>st</sup> VP*

Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving. - Albert Einstein

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## 2022 RALLIES

*RICKY WILCOX #5016 2ND VP*

Hello everyone I hope you all have enjoyed the nicer weather that we've had so far this year. Hopefully your schedules has allowed you to do some traveling. We have been to York SC for Silver in the City, and to Wilmington, NC for a wedding. The latest was Shelby, NC for *Shining in Shelby*. This was the first urban rally for the state of NC and for our club and it was a big success! The weather was perfect and we got to spend time with fellow Airstream owners and club members. We found the hospitality was awesome. They were so welcoming. Everyone from the Mayor, City Manager, Police, all the local Restaurants, and Shops. Roger Holland did an awesome job planning and hosting the rally as well. A big thank you to everyone involved in planning and the attendees. Next up for us is Palmetto Cove, hopefully we'll see you there.

OK grab your phone and call Ocean Lakes 877-510-1413 (call to get the club rate, not online) to book your 2022 season closer rally in November. The dates

are **11/10/2022 through 11/13/2022**. There will be more to come so stay tuned. Safe travels and God bless you all. Hope to see you down the road very soon.

*Ricky, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP*

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*ELAINE MYERS #16767*  
[quirkyquilter@pemtel.net](mailto:quirkyquilter@pemtel.net)

No member news to report this month. I think the mah-ve-lous spring weather, coupled with vaccinations and easing of pandemic restrictions, has everyone in euphoric moods! And those of us that went to Shining in Shelby are still on Cloud 9 from being treated like royalty all weekend. Be well, stay safe, and see you down the road.

*E!*

**Travelling - it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller. ~ Ibn Battuta**



## MEMBERSHIP

DALE DOWLER #1972, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Our newest members (details in Evernote):

- **Catherine & Justin Green** from Camp LeJeune, NC, and their 2021 20' Caravel
- **David & Ann Broad** from Morrisville, NC, and their 2018 26' RB Twin Flying Cloud
- **Kathleen & Jim Plyler** from Wake Forest, NC, and their 2019 23' Flying Cloud
- **Scott & Melinda Whitmire** from Easley, SC, and their 1970 27' Overlander
- **Malcolm & Gale Collins** from Asheville, NC, and their 2017 27' International Serenity
- **David & Susan Odell** from Southport, NC, and their 2008 28' Safari
- **Gail Wilson & Safdar Awan** from Columbia, SC, and their 1963 19' Globe Trotter
- **Rusty Wendt** from Summerfield, NC, and a 2018 25' FC Twin Front Bed
- **Jacqueline & Frank Shearer** from Fletcher, NC, and their 2020 30' Classic
- **Caleb & Laura Oliver** from Wake Forest, NC, and their three Airstreams, 1968 26' Overlander, 1976 26' Overlander, and 1976 31' Sovereign!
- **Keith & Janet Williams** from Southport, NC, and their 2020 30' International

Welcome back to these past members!

- **Jim Stephens and Barbara Williams** from Raleigh, NC, and their 2014 22' Interstate Lounge
- **Rick & Lynn Rorie** from Mint Hill, NC, and their 2019 25' International Signature
- **Maureen & Warren Smathers** from Shelby, NC!

Welcome *all*!

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## REGION 3 "TALLY RALLY" RECAP

SUBMITTED BY ELAINE MYERS #16767

PHOTOS BY WAYNE CLARK #22384



Elaine representin' our club at Region 3!

The Rally last month was a blast! There were 120 rigs from all over Region 3 at the North Florida Fairgrounds. Delicious dinners and breakfasts were provided, as well as entertainment from local bands. There were seminars, door prizes, a raffle for some VERY nice items, with proceeds donated to the Tunnel To Towers Foundation, and mostly good weather. What I didn't expect was to represent our Club at the Region 3 Board Meeting! As Director, I had the dubious distinction of being the highest ranking (and only) Club Board Member, which gave me an opportunity to see what Region 3 actually does. Besides hosting the Region 3 Annual Rally, they also host the Galax Rally during the [Old Fiddlers' Convention](#) in August. And they will sponsor a luncheon at International this year, so if you are



interested in lending a hand, let them know, AND Region 3 is hosting the IBT Mid-Winter Meeting/Rally in January 2022 in Savannah, GA.

The 2022 Region 3 Rally is already in the works for April 21 - 24, 2022 in Hiawassee, GA *Save the date!* That's a lot closer to home, so please make plans to attend. We are the largest unit in Region 3, yet we only had 3 rigs at the Region 3 Rally. C'mon club - we can do better than that!



L-R John & Betty Ann Sutton #2279, Scott & Elaine Myers #16767, Wayne Clark and Bob Hoffman #22384



## EVERNOTE NOW TOLERABLE??

After several months of frustration, a few members have reinstalled Evernote and the CAC membership directory and found it tolerable. Try it! Download Evernote for free at: <https://evernote.com/download>. You do NOT need to upgrade or pay for anything in Evernote (no matter how hard they try to convince you!) You can also download Evernote via the Apple store and Google play for up to two mobile devices for each email address (highly recommended). Evernote uses an email address, rather than a username, to uniquely identify you as an account holder. When you first register for Evernote, you are asked for an email address, the notebook was shared with the address you gave WBCCI when you joined. This email address is what you use to log in to your Evernote account and can be changed in your account settings.

- In Evernote, click the ☰ in the lower left and click **Shared with Me**.
- If needed, click the horizontal ellipse ... in the upper right, click **Sort By**, choose **Title** to display members in alphabetical order by last name.

Many thanks to Lee Dunn # 27312 for being on the team to investigate a replacement for Evernote!

## SHINING IN SHELBY 2021

Roger Holland # 5796



To all of you that were here; you made an indelible mark on the people of our community in an incredibly positive way. The phone calls, emails, text messages, etc. that I have received from the people in our community have been overwhelming. Every one of you have been the best ambassadors that the Airstream “family” could ever hope for. I am honored and proud to be a part of such an extraordinary group of people.

One example of how you affected the people in town was my visit to LilyBean Coffee Shop this morning. I told him I would stop by and settle up with him for the coffee and pastries for Friday, Saturday & Sunday, which I did. However, when I asked if he had the invoice so I could pay him, he just smiled and said “we’re good”. When I pressed him to let me pay, he would not even consider it. He remarked how kind and nice everyone was and he wanted to do his part for the event. This is the impact you all had on the people in our town.

I can’t thank you all enough for being here and being so kind. You have made it much easier for me to have the city agree to a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Shining in Shelby for 2022! In the meantime, any constructive criticism would be greatly appreciated as I start to lay the groundwork for next year.

Thank you all again,

Roger [roger@h-harchitects.com](mailto:roger@h-harchitects.com)

Read the article in the [Shelby Star](#) newspaper

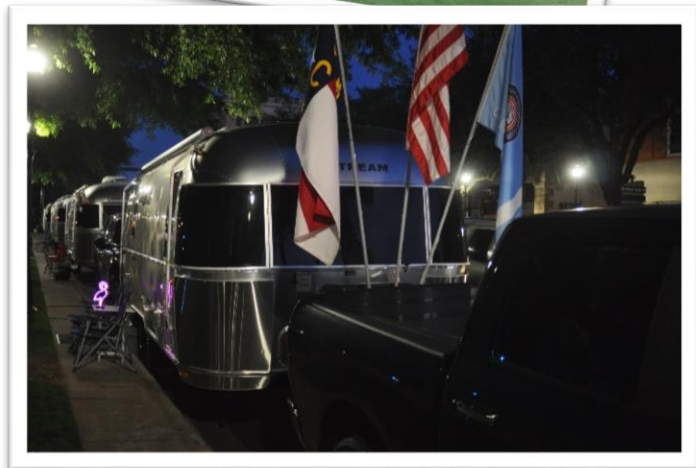


Parading into Uptown Shelby, NC for the 1st Annual Shining in Shelby” uptown rally!



## MORE SHINING IN SHELBY

Photos: Michelle Efird, Phil Drake, Larry Brodsky, Roger Holland



## *SILVER LEAF II* **ON THE WAY TO TALLY**

SUBMITTED BY BARRY BERGLUND #3430.

Here's the latest update. Every lower panel on the street side of the trailer has to be replaced. They also have to replace several ribs and two of the outriggers. There was no frame damage. When the SUV made its incursion into the rear bedroom, the cherry nightstand on the street side literally exploded into about 8 pieces.

Interestingly, all of the trailer's systems are fine, except for the valves from the gray and black tanks. Since we don't have valves we can't hold sewage. Water tank is fine. The great and black tank valves were left somewhere on I-20 near Columbia. But, no problems with hot water, 120V, 12V or water lines. The rear tire, street side was slashed. Once again, we proved that it is possible to drive a tandem axle Airstream on 3 wheels, albeit slowly. The force of the accident actually sheared the studs on the trailer wheel. That necessitated finding a place that would repair a wheel. Would you believe that my emergency supplies included 6 studs and 6 lug nuts? (I also travel with a wheel bearing....this trailer uses a Nev'r Lube bearing which I found are NOT stocked anywhere, and must be special ordered from Dexter....I bought one of these and it's in the emergency supply section of my truck.)

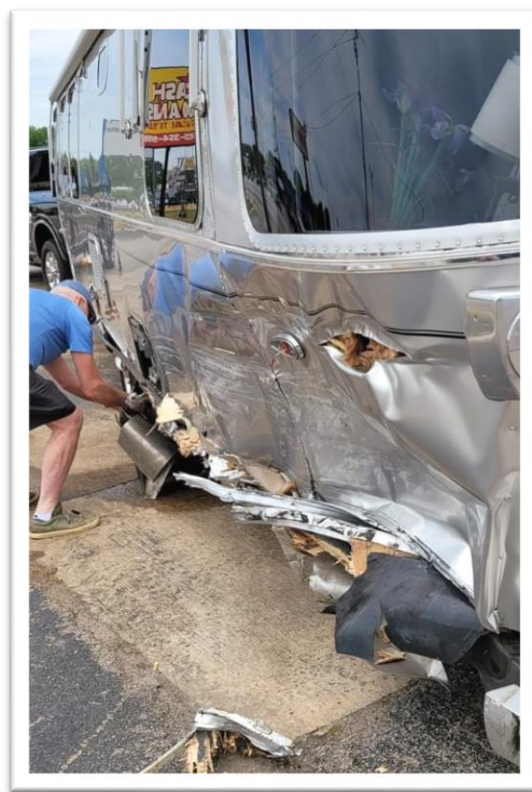
I've had several long conversations with the techs at Out-of-Doors Mart in Colfax, NC who'll be doing the repair work. I'm totally confident it'll look like new when they are finished. Obviously, I considered taking it to Jackson Center, but it's at least 6 months to get anything done. I'm hopeful we'll salvage a bit of the summer. I had several long calls with the insurance

adjuster about the repairs and was not surprised to find him very knowledgeable about Airstream repairs.

We had no damage to hitch or truck (or us or the 3 Basset girls). I have no idea how fast the driver was going when she hit us, but it was enough to do some serious damage.

I have had insurance from USAA for 54 years and the service has always been superb. I furnished photos, narrative and all the details on line. It has taken just two weeks to go from the accident to the settlement. That's pretty phenomenal considering everything associated with this kind of accident.

Hope to see everyone sometime this summer. I'll keep you advised!



*Barry*



## FUNKY BUNKS

Posted on Facebook by Steve Macomber #14380

The official, registered name for our Flying Cloud 30FB Bunk is **"Funky Bunks"** and the kids love it. However, I am the only one who tows her around (often alone) so I started referring to her as "Brunhilde" (German/Nordic for "Battle Wagon"). I don't know exactly how this started...I guess she's a big, beautiful and potentially BRUTAL girl if I don't pay attention. No one else knows about this so please don't tell my wife ;-)



## UPDATE FROM THE ROAD

Submitted by Sarah McCarty #1065



White Sands National Park, New Mexico

Having a blast traveling to California...

Say Hello to our new friend Mitchell the Camel! It's been a few years since we've had a pet and we think we've found the perfect traveling companion. ♥♥

Still trying to figure out when we get him in the trailer, how to get him turned around.

P.S. Mitchell and Sarah have a lot in common. They were both born in California, and in camel years they're about the same age, 11 years young.

Sarah & Mike

## KATHY & DUFFY VISIT FORT WILDERNESS IN FL!

STOLEN FROM CAC MEMBERS FB PAGE



We had a great time camping at Fort Wilderness and visiting four parks. Glad our Bambi's AC worked well. It was HOT!

Tuck & Duff

## YOU'VE SEEN THIS:



## BUT HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THIS??

*Submitted by John Carriker #3679*



Our very own Bert Kalet #6957 towing his Airstream with a bicycle! International Rally 1995 in Amherst, Mass. The guy in the red shirt is CAC member John Carriker #3679

## CAROLINA BALLOON FEST *IS ON!*

Oct 15-17, 2021 Statesville, NC

*Submitted by Al Waschka #1322*

I received confirmation from Bud Welch, the BalloonFest Executive Director, that the RV parking page has been opened. He is holding some spaces for us and has a special page for us to sign up on, but it has not been edited from 2020 yet. I expect a reply in the next

day or so indicating that our page is ready for us to sign up. News to come!

Thanks,

*Al Waschka*

<http://www.carolinaballoonfest.com/>

## FRIEND OF THE CLUB DONATION

A generous friend of our club has donated 4 FRS handheld radios to be used by our members on caravans and for other communications needs.



Thank you anonymous friend! 😊