



April 2021 Newsletter <https://airstreamclub.org/piedmont-north-carolina>

Region 3, Unit 161

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April 2021 President's Report

. I hope everyone has some fun travel plans this summer. Now that Covid is slowly fading in the rear view mirror the club has activities planned every month except June. It would be great if someone would step up and host June for your club. Be sure to include your club rallies in your camping plans.

Dick and Becky Martin led a caravan to the Region 3 Rally in Tallahassee. Terry and Niki Cormier; Bill and Shelley Townsend along with Dee and I met the Martins at the Santee KOA Saturday afternoon. Stedman Brown and Tami Lowe joined us in Charleston on Sunday. After enjoying a two day stay in Charleston that included lots of seafood and a horse drawn carriage tour of the town it was on to Jacksonville FL for one night at Pecan Park RV Resort. Tuesday evening part of the group made the trek to a family owned and run hole in the wall seafood restaurant, JL Trent's in South Jacksonville. Well worth the trip. We all enjoyed the local atmosphere and great food.

Wednesday afternoon we all met in the Bull Pen and were parked as a group. Piedmont members Steven and Leslie Ann Lovett, and Jim Schaal met us later at the rally. The Region 3 Rally in Tallahassee Florida was a great success. 121 Airstreams and 4 day passes for a total of 244 people! The rally staff was well organized and planned a great rally. They really know how to entertain and feed a large gathering of Airstreamers. Many thanks to Bill Wild, Region 3 President, and his rally volunteers

Bill Townsend gave a presentation all about the various kinds of rivets and how to repair the glue that holds your Airstream together. He shared the tricks of the trade on replacing loose and missing rivets. If you need help with rivet problems, he's the person to call.

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John Leake, affiliate member of our club, gave a seminar on Airstream 101/201. He covered the basics of Airstreaming. A lot of great tips on maintaining and using your unit was shared. His presentations are always very informative and entertaining.

Dick Martin led the group in a discussion on RV solar. There's a lot of interest in becoming more self-contained. The new efficient batteries and solar panels make it possible for extended dry camping and still enjoy all the amenities of your Airstream. Dick and Becky's business,

RV Solar & Safety provides an assortment of products and services for RV'ers.

Bill Byrum, our Vice President and Webmaster, was unable to attend the rally but joined the Webmaster Forum via Zoom. Moving everything from the old site to the new format is very challenging for most of the local clubs. There were great group discussions by everyone.

Seminars by members of other clubs that included Flower Arranging; Beekeeping; Skymed medical assistance and emergency evacuation; and Awning care and maintenance by Zip Dee.

On the trip home Leslie and Steve Lovett; Stedman Brown and Tami Lowe; Shelley and Bill Townsend; and Dee and I stopped at the New Green Acres Campground in Walterboro SC for one more evening together. We grilled and shared what was left in the fridge for the perfect end to a great rally.

We need help to keep the Members Corner going. Please send us some of your experiences, favorite places, travel tips and interesting stories. There have been a lot of good comments on the articles that have been written by our members. If you know a member with a great story encourage them to share it with the club.

Due to other commitments, Dick Martin will not be able to lead the Club caravan to the International Rally in Lebanon TN. Several members will be coming from the west after leaving a caravan. We need to plan on meeting near the rally to join up. If there is sufficient room we may be able to pick a time and meet in the Bull Pen. I will find out what we need to do. Please let me know if you are going to International and we will keep you informed.

If you haven't signed up for the May rally it's not too late. Just call the campground to make reservations and let John and Nancy Becker know your coming.

Reservations: May 13-16 Mayo Park 1013 Neal's Store Road Roxboro NC 336 597 7806

Notify Host:john_becker@me.com

John Lloyd
President
Johnklloyd41@gmail.com



Bill Townsend



John Leake



Dick Martin

Hi,

So seems kind of strange that as the VP of the Piedmont Airstream Club this would be my first contribution to the newsletter.

Diane and I have had a fairly busy time since the installation rally (so busy we didn't even get to the rally). We were leaving for Land Yacht Harbor(LYH), Melbourne Fl end of October. However some family issues delayed our travel. I headed to FL with the Airstream to LYH, leaving Diane here to support the family. I headed back to NC at the end of the week. Our new plan was to leave the end of December for LYH....Covid came to visit me for New Years so we had to delay again till my quarantine was completed, then Diane had to quarantine 10 more days. Finally we left Jan 28 for LYH. We spent February and March at LYH with Alan and Jane Hvizdak.

We also got to hang out with John and Thelda Guy for a short time at LYH. What a blessing to be with them as they were making their final stay. John and Thelda have made such a lasting impression on LYH and are such a positive influence for the Airstream family. The first year Diane and I were going to LYH was also the first time I met John. It was at the Raleigh Oaks rally and John couldn't stop talking about how good LYH was. He is a great ambassador for LYH and for the Airstream community.

We are headed to Springtime in the Rockies Caravan in May so it seems like all we've done since getting back is get all of the doc/dentist visits done and prepare for the next adventure. I don't think we'll actually make a Piedmont Rally till September, but we are certainly looking forward to seeing everybody again (or for the first time). One of the jobs of the VP is to recruit rally host for the coming year. I kind of feel like I'm already behind on this task. So if you're willing to host a rally in 2022 please let me know at streamin53@gmail.com.

As you should be aware, the club sent out a membership survey in March. The survey intent was to try and gather information on our communications and also to try and pinpoint reasons that someone didn't renew their membership. There was a total of 37 responses. Overall the biggest vote getter was the newsletter. We all rely upon that for information. One other time of interest from the survey was that 26 respondents skipped the question on would you be willing to serve in leadership or host a rally. I applaud the 11 respondents for stepping up and I encourage all of the members to get involved. The "pay ain't too good" but the friendships are invaluable. If you want more info or to see the results I'll be glad to send you a link to the final tally.

Now for the other job as your webmaster, it's also been a busy time. Shortly after taking over as webmaster, Airstream Club International(ACI) - headquarters, decided we should move from WordPress to a new website platform. Which for me seemed OK at the time, I was just learning WordPress and struggling with that so "why not" struggle with something else. If you have visited the Piedmont Airstream Club website you know it looks pretty close to the ACI website. There is a reason for that, ACI want's some continuity from the ACI to the local clubs and regions. The support for the new webpage platform is great and we're all learning together. Many things can't be changed at the local club level. The new format requires you to scroll down to see pictures and other things and it is not obvious that you must scroll down. As I learn and get more proficient hopefully the webpage will be easier to navigate and find the information.

Bill Byrum
VP Piedmont Airstream Club - 161
aka - Webmaster

Membership Report for April 2021

Piedmont Club added another renewal this month – Rick & Anne Schmidt (#27413)!

We are hoping to add new Piedmont Club members after last month's mailing of an information letter & ACI brochure to *52 new Airstream owners* in North Carolina. We'll keep you posted!

Hope to see you at the Mayo Lake Rally in May!

Amy Mount

Membership Chairman



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

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

2021 Rally Sites:

January 18-22 Mid Winter IBT Sarasota FL
February Winter Luncheon (not scheduled at this time)
March 18-21 KOA Lumberton NC Host Bill and Shelly Townsend (Details to follow)
April 20-25 Region 3 Rally North Florida Fairgrounds, Tallahassee FL Club Caravan to Rally!
May 13-16 Mayo Park, 1013 Neal's Store Road, Roxboro, NC Host John and Nancy Becker, john_becker@me.com Reservations 336-597-7806
June (Host Needed)
July 16-24 International Meeting Wilson County Expo Center, Lebanon, TN
August Host Todd and Debbie Stroud (details to follow)
September 9-12 Seahaven Marina RV Park 148 Old Ferry Road Sneads Ferry NC Host Alan and Jane Hvizdak (Details to follow)
October 21-24: Alumalina, Tom Johnson's Camping World, Marion, NC
November 4-7 Installation Rally Hosts Robin and Bogdan Gieniewski: Karen and Andy Karakos (Details to follow)