



Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club

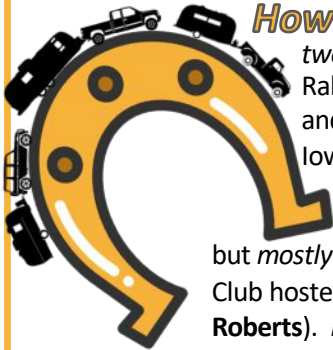
Gopher News



WBCCI - Unit 059

June 2021

President's Message



How lucky our Mo-Kan Club has been to experience two wonderful recent camping rallies with the Spring Rally at Basswood RV Park in Platte County, Missouri and the Region 8 Rally at the Amana Colonies in Iowa. Even though it was April, the weather cooperated for each Rally. Springtime in the Midwest typically means a little rain and wind, but *mostly* good weather – and *that's* what we had. Our Club hosted 16 Airstreams and one cabin (**Henry & Kirsten Roberts**). *Plus*, the Mo-Kan Club welcomed new members

Marvin & Deborah Williams, John Bennett and Lee & Jane Orth. Region 8 hosted 60 Airstreams at the Amana Colonies from our six Regional Clubs. It was good to renew existing relationships and to meet new friends with our shared interests.

Some of us are taking a short, regrouping time-out before the “Just For Fun” Rally at Clinton Lake on June 11th. Others, like **Tim & Paula Timmons** have embraced “Full-Time” Airstreaming.

Full-time fun!

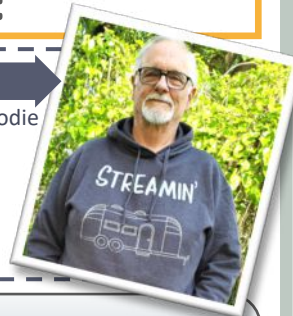
Don't forget to look for the next camping opportunities. As mentioned, the “Just for Fun” Rally is coming up in June and I believe there are still camping spots available. Contact **Lee & Joyce Cantrell** if interested. The *Airstream International Rally* will be held July 17-24 in Lebanon, TN, and our First Vice President, **Charles Colbert** is putting together a weekend of star-gazing from September 9th to September 12th at Rutlander RV Post in Louisburg, KS. Hope to see you at one, *or all*, of these events in the coming months.

- John Eckardt

Met Gala, Here He Comes!

Lee Cantrell received so many compliments for the sweatshirt hoodie he wore at the Spring Rally, that he wanted to help other Mo-Kan Club Members find their own! (He also wanted to credit **Dan Hoyt** from the Iowa Club who wore one of his own at the Region 8 rally-scouting campout.)

Follow this “spreadshirt.com” link to order your own!



June Celebrations!

WOW! No Birthdays or Anniversaries in June???

Well then, this is a fine time to remind everyone that if you *haven't* seen your celebration dates displayed in the Gopher News, contact **Joyce Cantrell** at ljcan@twinvalley.net and make sure you're on the list!



Executive Officers

President:

John Eckardt
jeckar52@gmail.com

1st Vice President:

Charles Colbert
ccolbert9210@sbcglobal.net

2nd Vice President:

Stephanie Porto
sporto@sunflower.com

3rd Vice President:

Rachel Payne
purplehenfarms@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Linda Poage
lpoage@kc.rr.com

Recording Secretary:

Kerstin Roberts
annekrob39@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary:

Glenda Ridgeway
ridgeway1@cox.net

Past President:

Tim Timmons
ttbikes@aol.com

Parliamentarian:

Rachel Hughey
rchl.hghy@gmail.com

Membership Chair:

Joyce Cantrell
ljcan@twinvalley.net

Newsletter Editor:

Kirk Moore
kcunitnews@gmail.com

Going to Lebanon?

If yes, Club President **John Eckardt** asks that you please let him know by either texting him at 816-729-0660 or emailing him at jeckar52@gmail.com. At this point, the attendees list includes: **John & Maria Eckardt, John Bennett, Lee & Joyce Cantrell, Ed & Jill O'Connor, Kay Corder, Julee Shields & Bud McFie and Rachel Payne**. On arrival at Lebanon, John will try to have a contact list of our attendees location for easy communication. Also, Rally officials state that the best way to be positioned close to others is to enter at the same time.

From our Iowa Club: First Vice President **Mike Rickert** mwr1522@gmail.com; has made arrangements for a catered breakfast at the International Rally in Lebanon. It will be 7:30 AM on July 19th in a building on the rally grounds. It will be a full-service contactless buffet-style meal at \$10.00 each. Mike and his wife Linda have the tickets and would be glad to sell you one, or two, or more. Good way to start off the day with Iowa friends.

Also, there will be a Region 8 Breakfast at 7:30 AM on the morning of July 20th. That breakfast will also be in a building on the rally grounds. You can purchase the tickets at the Region 8 table at the International Rally.

Astronomy Note:

(Provided by Chaz Colbert in preparation of the Fall Rally visit to Powell Observatory)

The Earth, Mars, Mercury, and Venus are the rocky planets and are separated from the gaseous planets by a rocky asteroid belt, specifically between Mars and Jupiter. The gaseous planets are larger ones like Jupiter, Uranus, Saturn, and Neptune.

There used to be nine planets, but Pluto has been downgraded to a dwarf planet found in the Kuiper belt; so, now there are only eight planets.

Upcoming Mo-Kan Club Activities

LUNCHEONS

December 4, 2021 – 11:30am

Holiday Luncheon
June's Northland

614 Pottawatomie Street, Leavenworth, KS
Save the date! More info to come.

RALLIES

June 11 - 13, 2021

Just-Have-Fun Rally

Clinton Lake, KS

Info in the May issue of Gopher News -

<https://airstreamclub.org/missouri-kansas/>

Make your own reservations at recreation.gov.

July 17 - 24, 2021

Airstream Club Int'l Rally

Lebanon, TN

Register now at - <https://airstreamclub.org/lebanon>

September 9 - 12, 2021

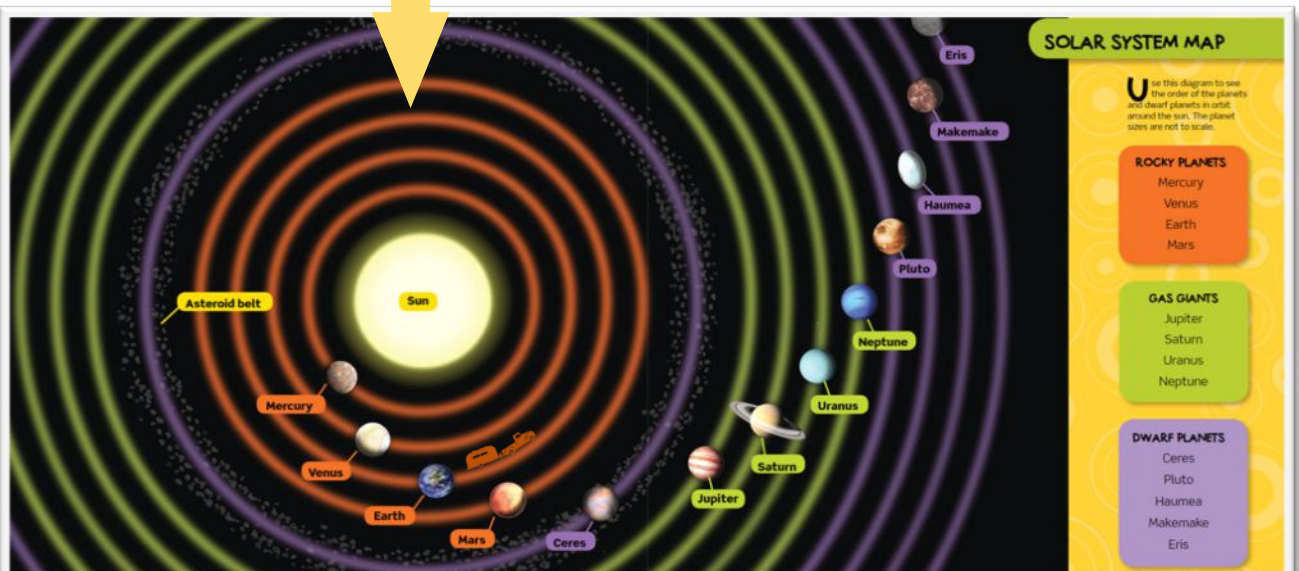
Fall Installation Rally

Louisburg, KS

More information later

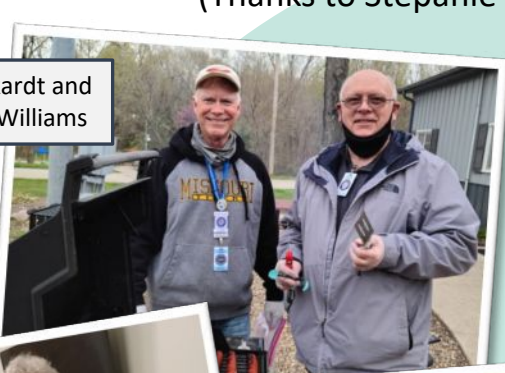
Remember! There's lots of good info, photos and archived newsletters at our Club's website:

<https://airstreamclub.org/missouri-kansas>



More photos from the Mo-Kan Club Spring Rally! (Thanks to Stephanie Porto for sending them!)

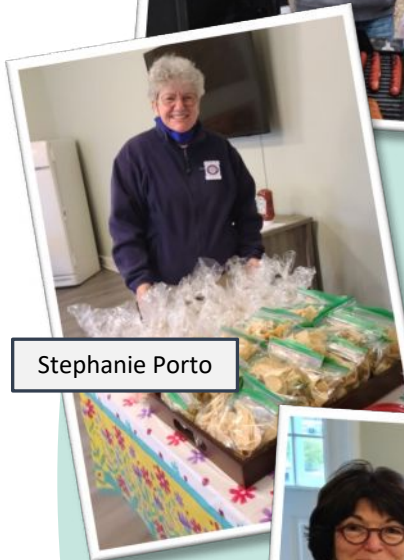
John Eckardt and
Marvin Williams



Marvin & Deborah
Williams



Stephanie Porto



Mike Bedinger



Linda Bryant
(Party Planner extraordinaire)
and Deborah Williams



Sue Anderson, Maria Stimach, Lynn Anderson, Larry & Linda Poage, and Glenda Ridgeway



Jane & Lee Orth (foreground)
and Lee & Joyce Cantrell



(From R. to L.) John Bennet,
Julee Shields & Bud McFee,
and Martin & Rachel Hughey

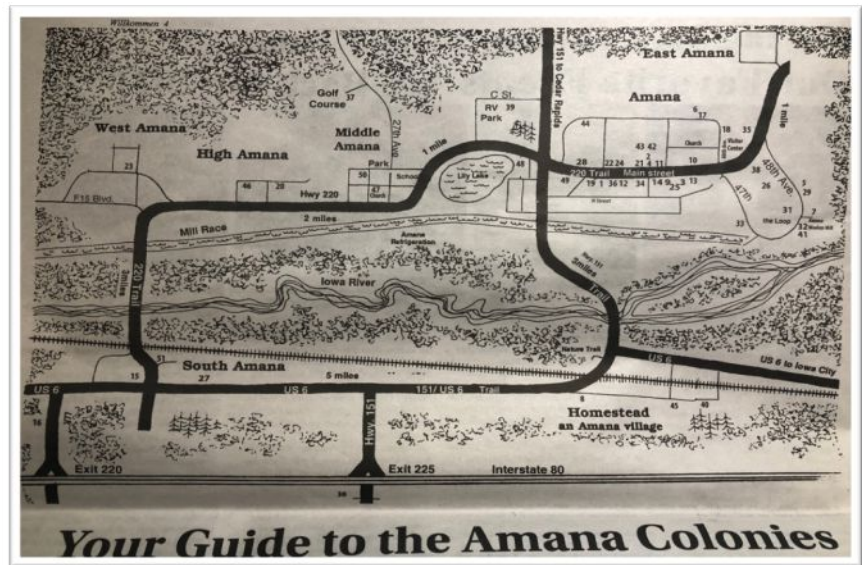


If you want to share photos from a Mo-Kan Club event, or even your own
Airstream travels, send them to KCUnitNews@gmail.com!

Region 8 Rally in Amana, Iowa - April, 2021

This year's Region 8 Rally from April 28th to May 2nd was held in the Amana Colonies, Iowa. The Colonies are about 20 miles northwest of Iowa City. The establishment of the Colonies is an interesting story. In the early 1700's two men in Germany began a prayerful relationship which advocated humility and piety expressed in simple worship whereby God through the Holy Spirit was believed to communicate to the faithful through an inspired individual. Their beliefs spread to Switzerland with the forming of small fellowships soon known as the Community of True Inspiration. Due to rising taxes and the lack of tolerance in Germany for the group's beliefs regarding free speech, in 1842 four members traveled to America and bought 7,000 acres of land near Buffalo, NY. Many of the group made the trip to the new land. The leaders of the group, which was known as the "Inspirationists", established a communal system whereby the group would own the shops, mills and farmland in common and the individual needs were provided for by the community.

They soon outgrew their land and decided to look west for additional land. In 1855, the community came to Iowa and built seven separate villages within six years. The villages all embraced the communal style of living with farming being the primary means of support. In addition, woolen mills were established, as well as craft shops, flour mills, lumber and brick yards. All meals were prepared at neighborhood kitchen houses with 50 communal kitchens feeding up to 1,500 residents. By 1861, the community came to own about 26,000 acres.



The "Great Change", where the communal style of living stopped, occurred in 1932 but the previous style of communal living is still very evident throughout the area. Today, the Amana Society farms the land, maintains the largest private forest reserve in the state and operates a variety of businesses including the Amana Woolen Mill, the Amana General Stores, the Amana Furniture and Clock Shop and the Amana Meat Shop and Smokehouse. In Middle Amana, the 8:30 Sunday Church Service is still in German. The English service follows at 10 AM.



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The Region 8 Rally was held at the Amana RV Park, located on the west side of Amana on land owned by the Society. There were about 60 Airstreams at the Rally with about 11 airstreams from the Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club. A shout out to **Mike Bedinger & Linda Bryant, Terry & Louise Mercer, Tracy & Glenda Ridgeway, Lee & Jane Orth, Lynn & Sue Anderson, Bud McFie & Julee Shields, Dave & Stephanie Porto, Ed & Jill O'Connor, Terry & Donna Davis, Dennis & Janet Nelson and John & Maria Eckardt** as those from our Club attending.



One of the reasons that the Amana Colonies was chosen as the location for the Region 8 Rally was the Spring Maifest Celebration on Saturday and Sunday held in Amana. Maifest is a German tradition of celebrating spring. The celebration included a parade, the Maipole Dancers and various live music acts. My particular favorite act was Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchman singing their Polka hit, "You Can Have Her I Don't Want Her, She's Too Fast for Me"! Polka was definitely the music of the festival.



Greg Vadner from the St. Louis Club was voted as our next Region 8 President. Thanks to **Mike Sisk** for his previous years of service.

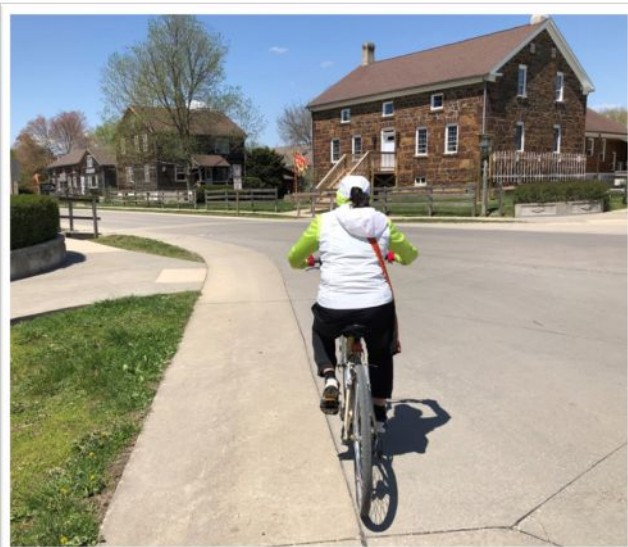
Note to Mo-Kan Club Members: Region 8 is currently looking for the next Vice-President.



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Terry & Louise Mercer were kind enough to keep the campfire burning at their campsite throughout the event. **Brian Peterson**, from the St. Louis Club, gave a demonstration of Dutch Oven cooking. Our own **Ed O'Connor** placed second in the arm's length root beer holding contest. And early in the morning, about the time that the dogs and their owners were out exploring local happenings, our own **Glenda Ridgeway** could be seen on her new electric scooter. (No photo available of Glenda – she was moving too fast!)



Maria and I spent one day both biking the trails in the vicinity, driving to each of the 7 colonies and then spending a few hours in nearby Iowa City.

A good and enjoyable weekend for all!

- John Eckardt



Campfire reflection on Airstream camper, backlit by the April 27th "Pink Moon."

- Stephanie Porto

Meet the New Members!



Dennis & Janet Nelson

“Dennis and I are both retired. Dennis was a financial advisor for 54 years and I owned a travel agency for 25 years, specializing in designing and leading groups. We have been fortunate to have enjoyed international travel and as we talked about retirement we decided that we would like to see more of our own country. For many years I have shouted “Airstream!!” whenever I saw one passing by. In the fall of 2019 we spotted an AS in Jackson, WY that had a for sale sign. As we continued down the highway to Kansas, I called the owner and she forwarded photos to us. We chose not to turn around but in the spring of 2020 we wondered if it was still for sale. It was, and we bought it. It was a 2012 19' Bambi in excellent condition and we learned a lot about towing and camping. After spending several days in Idaho, visiting family, we knew we would enjoy the AS life.

Then In January 2021 we packed up Bambi and headed for Florida for 3 months. One cloudy day we took a day trip to the AS dealer in Tampa after discussing that a little larger unit would be nice. Although they had a lot of AS on their property, all were sold....but there were 2 used ones that had just arrived. The 27' 2020 International Serenity was just what we had hoped for find, and we traded that very weekend.

We certainly enjoyed the Region 8 Rally in Iowa and look forward to meeting everyone and to enjoying more AS events.”



Celebrating our
50th Anniversary
in 2015



Terry & Donna Davis

“Just a little about us - for the record we are not that exciting. Donna retired as a elementary teacher and we started our camping experience after that. I am a retired Army officer and familiar with “camping out” but certainly enjoy the Airstream version of camping. We started out with a 1978 Land Yacht vintage Airstream and enjoyed refurbishing it a bit and camping out in Iowa, our first retirement home. We progressed into a 2006 Safari, 28 foot slide out and explored the Northwest region of the US as well as stomping around the state of Colorado. There we were able to camp with our two sons and families in the Buena Vista area and the Air Force Academy campground. The grand kids love camping, too. Then in March of 20018 we purchased our current Airstream, a 27 foot Serenity International.

On June 1, 2018 we crossed from the Montana border into Canada and spent the next three months exploring the Yukon and Alaska. We would hitch up tomorrow and go back. The last frontier is spectacular. Everyone should experience it. Last year we were all set to discover Nova Scotia and the Northeast part of the US but you all know what happened. That is still on the agenda but probably won't be this year. We are set to go with the Lee Cantrell caravan to the Lake Superior region later this Summer. We know that that will be fun. Look forward to seeing y'all again.”



Meet the New Members!



John Bennett

John Bennett currently lives in Overland Park, Kansas and retired in 2013. For 20 years he was a District Court judge in Johnson County, Kansas. John states that he loved the work but decided life is unpredictable. He and his wife got a 40ft motor home and spent 2 years seeing the country. Unfortunately, his wife was diagnosed with ALS in 2017 and passed away in 2019. He bought his Airstream last fall and has enjoyed it very much. He really enjoyed the recent Club Spring Rally in Platte City and looks forward to seeing everyone again. At the rally he shared his frustration over not being able to fix the rear view camera on my Airstream. He was able to find a fix. It seems that newer trucks with all of the LED lighting interferes with the signal. A small resistor fixed it.

John has three children. His son lives nearby and he has three sons. His two daughters live in Los Angeles. His interests include golf, guitar, and taking care of his little dog, Zoe.

John is hoping to get to both the "Just For Fun" Rally in June and the International Rally in Lebanon this July.



Ed & Jill O'Connor

Jill and Ed are new owners of a 2004 16' Bambi II CCD they bought from a longtime friend. Jill is retired from a 37+ year career with State Farm insurance as a liability adjuster for the Fire Company (homeowner, boats, farms...anything but autos basically) and Ed is close to retirement as he and his partner explore selling their computer service business of 24 years, PC Partners Inc.

They are lifelong residents of Overland Park and have 2 sons who live in town. They have several trips planned with their airstream, Liberty, and are happy to be new members!

They will be joining us at the Clinton Lake rally as well as the international rally in Lebanon Tennessee!



Lee & Jane Orth

Jane and Lee Orth of Greenwood, MO moved to the Kansas City area upon retirement from the Branson Public Schools to be close to their grandchildren. Jane was a kindergarten teacher and Lee a school superintendent. Upon their daughter and son-in-law purchasing a 30' 2018 Flying Cloud, Jane and Lee decided to get back into the camping world they left decades ago, and bought a 16' Nest. Cute but *not* bed-friendly. They subsequently purchased a 25' 2020 FBT Flying Cloud, which required a larger tow-vehicle -- a 2019 F250 diesel.

They've so far enjoyed their first trip in 2020 to Phoenix, AZ, then to Yellowstone, and various state parks. They found the state parks in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri to be spacious and accommodating. Their first rally attendance was the this spring at Platte City, and the regional at Amana IA.

When not camping, Jane, a voracious reader plows through novels, while Lee enjoys playing adult ice hockey, as well as archery, in addition to the many woodcutting tasks required when tending to their 5 timbered acres. Picture Lee (past school administrator) as Oliver from the 'Green Acres' TV show in a suit on a tractor! Quite a change in scenery and lifestyle. They've enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow Airstreamers and look forward to future events and rallies.



FOR SALE! 1961 16' Bambi

We are becoming a one-Airstream family. We are selling our beloved, comfortable, convenient and award-winning 1961 Bambi, 16'. Why this decision? We were married the same year this Bambi was made so we can take turns going out in this one or our '69. Since we can't go as often as we'd like, we've chosen to let someone else have the blessings we've had camping in this sweet thing. Otherwise it might just sit around being lonely.

It comes with everything working and all the items to be on the road or camping. A new LED light is being replaced above the door. We bought it in 2003, we are the 3rd owner. It needed a new axle so it was taken apart and besides the new axle, the frame was welded Por-15 anti-rust put on it. It has a 5/8 marine plywood & waterproofed with sheet flooring (warranty in 2010 was for 20 yrs.). It has color matching Formica on counter and the "Wally Byam" table. A new 19-gallon plastic fresh water tank, new demand water system controlled by LED switch with PEX plumbing. An Atwood 10 gallon 2-way hot water heater, a 2 cu. ' 2-way refrigerator A lazy susan is under the sink. The shower is in the wet bath. Winegard Roadster roof antennae and Coby TV with DVD and an 11,000 BTU Dometic roof air conditioner.

There is also a blue striped awning with poles. Please contact us if you have any questions, we are #10212 in The Airstream Club.

**If you are interested,
we can be reached at
rchl.hghy@gmail.com.**

