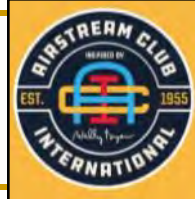




# British Columbia Airstream Club

B.C. UNIT #121 CHARTERED JUNE 26, 1965 AS W.B.C.C.I.

[www.airstreambc.com](http://www.airstreambc.com)



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## UNIT OFFICERS 2020-2021

- President** John Millard, 604.536.6372  
[millard12581@gmail.com](mailto:millard12581@gmail.com)
- 1st VP** Currently Vacant
- 2nd VPs** Beverley Robson & Eileen Meston  
604.793.6412  
[emeston@telus.net](mailto:emeston@telus.net)  
[brobson@telus.net](mailto:brobson@telus.net)
- 3rd VP** Charlie & Sharon Wieder  
250.231.8240  
[char.shar.wieder@me.com](mailto:char.shar.wieder@me.com)
- Recording & Corresponding Secretary**  
Chris Millard, 604.536.6372  
[millard12581@gmail.com](mailto:millard12581@gmail.com)
- Treasurer** Carolyn Stewart, 604.217.1688  
[unit121wbcci.tr@gmail.com](mailto:unit121wbcci.tr@gmail.com)
- Past President**  
Ralph Vanderheide, 250.371.1951  
[ralphlalani@nethop.net](mailto:ralphlalani@nethop.net)
- Directors** John Fikkert, 250.542.0831  
[jfikkert01@gmail.com](mailto:jfikkert01@gmail.com)  
Gerry Greth, 360.299.8489  
[gigreth@gmail.com](mailto:gigreth@gmail.com)  
Bob Halliwell, 778-808-7257  
[halliwell4840@telus.net](mailto:halliwell4840@telus.net)  
Arlene Matches, 604.535.4237  
[matches7403@gmail.com](mailto:matches7403@gmail.com)
- Youth Ambassador**  
Currently Vacant

# "the news"



## JUNE 2021

### John's Journal

Editor: Arlene Matches

Home Phone: 604.535.4237

Cell Phone: 604.202.7229

Email: [matches7403@gmail.com](mailto:matches7403@gmail.com)



Hello fellow Airstreamers!

Late spring is now upon us and as the weather improves and restrictions are lifted we should all be well into planning our summer activities. This includes participating in some Airstream events, albeit this year (like 2020) has resulted in rather limited planning. The schedule included in this newsletter is the most up to date information with respect to any club events. Should you have any questions about these events please feel free to contact the rally/event organizer as identified. If you have already booked your camp site but have not already done so, please inform the rally/event organizer as to your attendance.

I have some sad news to report for those of you who have not been informed as of yet. Ralph Vanderheide, long time club member and past President, unfortunately passed away in May. We had all hoped for a positive recovery following some recent heart surgery, but unfortunately it was not to be. Our sincere condolences go out to Lalani and the whole Vanderheide family. Ralph was a great guy who brought lots of humour and life into the club. He was one of the four Airstream musketeers who, in the past, regularly kept us well fed and laughing during many rallies. Ralph will certainly be missed by all who knew him.

On the International front I wanted to acknowledge Tom Akam for continuing to wear many hats within the club. In particular Tom is involved in planning future caravans for Region 10, of which our unit is a member. In addition, Tom also recently agreed to sit in on, and vote on behalf of our club at the virtual International rally meetings that will be held this summer in Lebanon, Tennessee. A sincere thank you to Tom for his continuing commitment to the club, as well as his guidance to the Executive.

In closing Chris and I wanted to wish you all a great summer in wherever your travels may take you. We will be spending much of the summer in the Interior doing some fishing, biking, kayaking etc. with our faithful dog Oreo by our side. Everyone please stay safe and we hope to see you soon on the road!

Respectfully Submitted...

## John





# Road, Sea, and Rail Caravan

**January 25-March 23, 2022**

As announced at our last Installation Gathering, and thanks to the efforts of Michel Bourassa along with the support of the Club's International Office, this new Mexican caravan is on. This little note is to get you thinking and planning. You might ask "is it time for us to go on a caravan to Mexico?" or "would we waste the chance to be part of this adventure?" The "work" of this caravan is contracted through Caravanas de Mexico. This is a Mexican tour company that takes great pride in showcasing the best the country has to offer.

At the same time, it's an Airstream caravan sanctioned under the rules of the WBAC. Caravanas de Mexico provides the professional staff to lead us in the adventure while we will be the Airstream leaders. We will have 27 days on the Baja Peninsula exploring all it has to offer. Then we'll board a HUGE ferry and cross the Gulf of Mexico to Mazatlán.

Following considerable beach time and discovery there, including front row seats at the Mardi Gras parade along with the other Airstreamers who are on the 3 Gems caravan. Then we'll start our leisurely journey north. At Los Mochis we'll park our rigs and board the train to head into the Sierra Madre where we'll take in the splendour of the incredible Copper Canyon while staying at the magnificent hotel that perches on it's rim. Altogether we'll have 31 nights on the Mainland. So ... you want to sign up, right?

This is where it gets dicey. There are only 11 rigs on this caravan (13 with the Wagon Master & Airstream Leaders). Some BC Unit 121 members have expressed interest. Despite that, anyone who wants to join this amazing adventure MUST follow the following steps:

- The caravan will be announced in the May 2021 issue of the Blue Beret which comes out electronically at the beginning of the month;
- As soon as it comes out you must fill in the form and send it in to the WBAC International office (or, as an alternate, you can email [paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com](mailto:paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com) now and I'll send all the necessary info);
- At the same time, you must make a \$1,000 non-refundable deposit to Caravanas de Mexico (all details about how this works will be in the Blue Beret).
- Once the first 11 applications are received we will notify those adventurers and any others received will become part of the standby list.

Don't be disappointed, the last of these caravans (3 Gems January-March 2020) sold out in the first hour after the Blue Beret came out. We look forward to sharing these wonderful parts of Mexico with you.

**Janet Soucy and Paul Wheeler – WBAC #4223**

[paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com](mailto:paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com)



It is with sincere regret that I write that Ralph Vanderheide, Past President of BC Unit and husband of First Lady, Lalani Vanderheide, lost his fight with heart disease May 16th at the age of 68. He fought a good fight for over a year but was delayed due to Covid taking up so many ICU rooms. When he was finally flown down to St. Paul's for his long-awaited surgery his body just wasn't able to handle the stress and infections he had borne.

He will be missed...he was the beloved Musketeer #1 (followed by David Richardson M#2, Bob Halliwell M#3 and Al Gamache M#4).

Sleep well dear Ralph. Your many friends and loving family will miss you greatly.

## THE COMMUNITY CORNER

by Arlene

*Thank you very much to Lalani Vanderheide who kept us up-to-date on Ralph's progress as he was in hospital here in Vancouver via her Facebook account. Her many friends were advised of progress from her with all aspects and current news of his health issues. And, I personally wish to thank Bob Halliwell who phoned me so I could keep in touch for this newsletter.*

Concurrently, to Ralph's fight with heart disease, Al Gamache, Musketeer #4, had heart problems too, had to be operated on, and is sporting stents to keep those arteries open.

**This message received from Wayne & Jeannie Jeffrey...**

Thank you all!  
The flowers from the crew [BC Unit] arrived today and they are beautiful



Could you please give our MOST grateful appreciation to all in the newsletter



for the flowers phone calls visits and text messages. Jeannie and I truly appreciate it all, as does RITA, KAYLIE and EMMA..Thanks again and hope we can gather again soon and give

you all a big hug ☐



## Happy Father's Day



Check us out on *Facebook*.  
Some sites you may enjoy are:



BC Unit Caravana  
WBCCI Region 10  
WBCCI Wally Byam Airstream Club  
Airstream Addicts  
Airstream Hunter  
Airstream Courtesy Parking  
Airstream Canada Adventures  
Airstream Pets

Thanks to everyone for their continuing support of our charity and, in this regard would everybody please continue to collect pop and beer can pull tabs and bring them to the next luncheon or rally you attend.



Various charities are most thankful for your generosity.

**THANK YOU...THANK YOU....THANK YOU**

## **MEMBER, WEBSITE, and ROSTER**

### **NEW MEMBER TO WELCOME TO B.C. UNIT:**

**WHITFIELD, Hugh & JONES, Ialeen**      **WBAC #5966**  
21275 0 Avenue  
Langley, BC, V2Z 1S6  
Email:      hugh@heliwelders.com  
              ialeenj@hotmail.com  
Phone:      778-878-6783  
Trailer:      2015 30' Flying Cloud

**CAMPBELL, Michael & Jennifer**      **WBAC #9131**  
2568 Vista Bay Road,  
Victoria, BC, V8P 3E8  
Email:      mecjec@gmail.com (Michael)  
              vistabay@outlook.com (Jennifer)  
Phone:      778-676-9131  
Trailer:      2009 27' International

### **ROSTER/ADDRESS CHANGES:**



**Plan now to get your reservation in for the 2021 International Get-Together in Tennessee. Dates are July 17-24. Details and sign-up form in the latest Blue Beret**



# British Columbia Unit #121

## 2021-2022 Activity Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>HOST(S)</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
<b><u>2021</u></b>			
June	<b>Region 10 Gathering</b> Lynden Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA	Region 10 Executive	<b>POSTPONED UNTIL 2022.</b>
June	<b>Fishing Tour</b> Loon Bay Resort, Sheridan Lake, BC	Bob & Gayle Halliwell halliwell4840@telus.net	<b>Postponed to 2022 Dates to be advised</b>
June 24-27	<b>Hedley Hoedown</b> Riverhaven RV Park, Hedley, BC	Beverley Robson brobson@telus.net	Itinerary TBA
July/August	<b>Regional Tour of BC, Alta, Sask, Idaho Montana, Oregon &amp; Washington</b>	Michel & Ellen Bourassa rmbourassa@gmail.com	Expected to be 2 weeks in duration. Dates and itinerary TBA
July 17-24	<b>International Rally</b> Lebanon, TN	WBAC Committee	Details in the Blue Beret
August 27-29	<b>AGM &amp; Installation Get-Together</b> Claybanks RV Park, Merritt, BC	John & Chris Millard millard12581@gmail.com	Please contact Carol at Claybanks to register ASAP as spaces are going quickly 250-378-6441
September 17-22	<b>Golf Tour</b> Please note Chris and I have tried to hold spots for this Rally only to be told that sites are limited and will no longer be held. Interested people may or may not get a site unless they book early.	John & Chris Millard millard12581@gmail.com	Princeton RV Park bookings may still be available for Sept.17,18 Contact 250-295-6123 directly to book those nights. Twin Lakes RV bookings may still be available for Sept.19,20 21. Contact directly at rvpark@twinlakesgolfresort.com or phone 250-497-531

## **2022**

Jan 25--Mar 23	<b>Road, Sea &amp; Rail Caravan</b> Mexican Caravan	Janet Soucy & Paul Wheeler	Details TBA
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**More photos from  
Sharon Wieder**





Why not carry your old expired Blue Beret magazines with you when you travel? There are future members all over North American and Europe who would love to enjoy the Wally Byam Airstream Club lifestyle. Many owners (new and old) don't know of the club and a dust-collecting Blue Beret may be just the incentive to join us.

*Tom Akam maintains on his computer an up-to-date alphabetical roster, a list of updates (corrections, additions and deletions) and separate rosters for (1) the Interior/Okanagan, (2) the Islands and (3) the United States. Upon request to [lighthouse13381@shaw.ca](mailto:lighthouse13381@shaw.ca) (or 604-538-4149), he will email members copies either as a Word document or as a PDF — your choice.*

## ***THE OTHER SIDE***

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patty Whack.

"Miss Whack, I'd like to get a \$30,000 loan to take a holiday."

Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager.

Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral.

The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office.

She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$30,000, and he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what in the world is this?"

(You're gonna love this.)

The bank manager looks back at her and says, "It's a knickknack, Patty Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."

(You sang it, didn't you? Yeah, I know you did. Never take life too seriously.)



My name is Stuart Robson and I am BC Unit's 2nd Vice-President, Beverley Robson's brother. We live on the farm in Chilliwack, BC and have 3 full-service RV pads that we have placed in a yard adjacent to our main farmyard. All 3 pads have city water, septic hookups and power hookups (2x30 amp and 1x50 amp). The yard is nicely kept and it has 360 degree panoramic mountain views. We are interested in renting them out to BCAC members. Well-behaved pets welcome. Call for rates and availability.

Stuart Robson  
604.798.7665  
stuart@carolk.ca



### Pineapple Juice Cake - Don't Lose This

#### Ingredients

1 (15.25-ounce) box yellow or butter cake mix\* (I prefer Betty Crocker or Pillsbury - See my note below)

3/4 cup vegetable oil

3/4 cup pineapple juice

4 large eggs

#### For the glaze:

2 cups powdered sugar

3/4 cup pineapple juice

4 tablespoons unsalted butter

#### Instructions

Preheat the oven to 325°F and grease and flour a 10 to 12-cup Bundt pan.

Use an electric mixer to combine the cake mix, vegetable oil, pineapple juice, and eggs in a large bowl. Beat about 2 minutes. Pour the batter into the prepared pan.

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean and the cake is just starting to pull away from the sides. Allow the cake to start to cool in the pan while you make the glaze.

In a small sauce pan, combine the powdered sugar, pineapple juice, and butter. Cook over medium-low heat until the butter has melted, stirring frequently.

Use a skewer or toothpick to poke holes in the cake. Pour the warm glaze over the cake while it is still in the cake pan. It's going to seem like a lot of glaze, but just keep pouring. Allow to cool for 15 to 20 more minutes, or until the cake is cool and most of the glaze has been absorbed, then invert the cake onto a serving platter.

*Stolen from Carol Ortiz's Facebook page. Thanks, Carol.*



# John Millard is selling his 1966 26-foot Overlander



**Asking only  
\$47,000**

Purchased in Idaho in 2017. Hundreds of hours of work have been put into this Airstream, here are just some of the upgrades;

- Resealed roof and replaced vent covers etc. with new replicas where needed.
- Most of the interior floor area (1 foot or more from wall in) has been coated with fiberglass resin to protect it. New Allure floor covering and underlay.
- Rear tank has new supports, insulation and tank cover. Frame etc. at rear has been treated and painted. New rear drop down aluminum door beneath bumper is period correct.
- Exterior lights have been replaced as needed with replicas or originals. Running lights are all new.
- Exterior windows have new seals. All windows have new rain gutters as well. All side windows are original curved glass. Front and rear are new (clear lexan for the front given its strength, smoked plexi for the rear) Screens have been replaced where needed.
- Converter replaced with a Parallax converter.
- Interior electrics replaced or repaired where needed.
- All new water lines (pex) and replaced water tank, faucets etc. Hot water tank replaced.
- Kitchen appliances, heater etc. have all been reworked and/or replaced.
- Interior woodwork has been painfully refinished including a new custom 3 piece Russian oak front panel above the couch.
- All interior latches etc. have been removed and polished where needed.
- Front wiring harness replaced, electric tongue jack added.
- Front gas regulator reworked along with gas lines. New 20 pound tanks for easy change out.
- Standing wooden TV trays were purchased rather than putting in a table.
- Wheels have been replaced with aluminum Airstream wheels, center caps and rear bumper painted in corvette red. Bearings and brakes have been serviced and replaced where needed.
- Tires are in good shape, a few years old but not cracked and have been covered since new.

This trailer is about a foot narrower than a new one and is easier to see around when towing. Dry weight is only 4200 lbs. with a 400 lb. tongue weight.

This is a true vintage time capsule and includes a triple burner cooktop, a wooden bathroom bifold door, a unique solid bath/shower door, dual screw roof vents with fans, adjustable twin beds as well as other interesting features. The interior woodwork of this trailer is simply beautiful and clearly represents a time when craftsmanship was paramount. This is an investment that you can enjoy! Located at my home in South Surrey.

**John's phone  
number and email  
address on front page  
under Unit Officers**



**Great  
Investment**



**Don't  
hesitate...you may lose  
out**







## WHITEHORSE CIRCLE ROUTE

### Part Two of Travels with Charlie & Sharon Wieder

#### September 10 — Day Eleven

Headed out to Fort St James, leaving hwy 16 just past Vanderhoof to drive north on hwy 27 through scenery that was rolling flat hills covered in trees. Sprinkled generously throughout were small lakes, ponds and creeks. Arrived at Paarens Beach

provincial park right on the shores of Stuart Lake, which is 10km wide and 80km long. The lake is home to the endangered Nechako white sturgeon. The sites are right along the gravelly beaches that extend for miles. The water was very calm so we were treated first to a gorgeous sunset and then the stars reflected on the surface.

With no moon in the night sky, we were treated to incredible stargazing! The Big Dipper hung over the lake at an angle that made it look like it was pouring into the lake. Magical!



#### Day Twelve

Since Covid has closed or reduced access to most historic and indigenous sites, we did a self guided outside tour of the historic site of Fort St James. It is a collection of the oldest intact log buildings in Canada. We were able to peek in the windows to glimpse into the past lives of people that had been part of the fort during the heyday of its fur trading days. We visited the World Famous Chicken Race track and chatted with the chickens, petted the rabbits and had a staring contest with the goats. It was rather nice to wander the site all by ourselves with the warm sun and a long view up the very blue water of Lake Stuart. Once or twice I thought I heard the voices of the long ago paddlers in the big canoes that brought the furs to the Fort. We also visited the indigenous land

near town, including Our Lady of Hope church. Quite a story of native peoples being forced off their land and missionaries building a church, with both the land and church eventually returned to native people 'in perpetuity'. We watched the local transportation system as a float plane landed on the lake, picked up people and their cargo and took off down the lake. A few local native villages can only be accessed by plane or boat. Back at camp for Happy Hour on the beach where we were alone except for a few ducks. Watching the ripples come in to shore was very meditative. The reflection of the light cloud cover created bands of blues and greys on the water. Some of the clouds looked like the exoskeleton of a sturgeon. When the breeze began, the ripples grew into waves moving towards us and it appeared to be raining on the surface. The aspen leaves started their special dance as the wind hit the trees.

#### Day Thirteen

Back on the road again down hwy 27 with lots of pipeline clearing and signs saying 'United Against Enbridge'. Also First Nations neighbourhoods with signs saying 'We are social distancing. Please don't visit'.

Camped at CoOp Recreation Site near Burns Lake. A popular fishing site on a small shallow lake. Autumn is definitely advancing as evidenced by the cottonwood and alders turning golden yellow, along with the smell of decaying leaves. The fireweed is going to seed which definitely means summer is over. Clouds of smoke from the fires in USA moved in after dinner, making the sun look like a small orange ball. The next day we drove to Eagle Creek Opal Beds trail and hiked 260 metres up the mountain to the undeveloped opal beds. Lots of huckleberries along the way to sustain us. Gradually we watched the volcanic rocks full of gas bubbles show some green and turquoise colour until we were at the opal beds. Just bring a rock hammer and start pounding! The opals are covered with hardened sand and have smooth rounded shapes. They don't look like much in the raw and it takes some patience but we did find some worth taking home.



#### Day Fifteen

Burns Lake and Boer Mtn Cafe for breakfast. Delicious baked goods and coffee. Drove through Houston and Smithers. Stopped in Bulkley Canyon at Witset (Morricetown) for lunch and to watch the indigenous fishermen tether themselves and hang out into the canyon to dip their very long handled nets into the raging rapids of the river to catch salmon. I don't know how the fish survive jumping up over the rocks. The closer we were to Hazelton, the more indigenous communities we passed through. This is Wet su wet en territory and signs reading 'Clear Water, Wild Salmon, No Pipeline'. Also many gates across side roads to allow only local residents to enter. We were hoping to visit some historic native villages and totem poles but they are all closed to visitors. We camped at K'San Village campground along the river. There were many full time campers, many working on the pipeline project. On our way out in the morning we visited the K'San village totems and long houses, from the outside only again. Kitwanga and Kitwancool were closed to visitors so I guess I'll just have to see the Emily Carr version from so long ago. Headed north on hwy 37. Lots of loaded logging trucks driving very fast on the narrow road. At least the surface is good so the driving is easy. Some hazy smoke on the Seven Sisters mountain range. Visited Battle Hill parks Canada site and did the self guided tour of the Indian fort with its historical signs explaining how one tribe defended itself against another on this natural mound 300 years ago.





## September 16 — Day Seventeen

Camped at Meziadin provincial park for two nights. We paddled the canoe out on the lake to look at the reflections of mountains and glaciers reflected in the silky grey green of the water. We watched a Golden eagle and some gulls fighting over the bodies of spawning salmon. Those fish sure can manoeuvre quickly when they sense a threat! We also spotted some very large grizzly tracks in the mud along the river bank. I was very glad not to be a salmon today. Another night of spectacular star gazing so we had very little trouble spotting the Milky Way and all our favourite constellations. We were even treated to several shooting stars!

## Day Eighteen

Woke up to a world completely fogged in with heavy wet dew on everything. Packed up and headed north to Kinaskan Lake provincial park. None of the sites looked inviting so we kept driving and stopped at Morchuea Lk recreation site. It was getting late and since the next campsite opportunity was too far down the road, we stayed. The lake access was very small and rustic but the site was very quiet with no highway traffic whine and only one other camper.

## Day Nineteen

Heading north again, the highway is narrower now with basically no shoulder and quite rough with many sink holes and no center line. We spotted three black bear eating grass along the road. We took a rest break at the Stikine river bridge. The name comes from the Tlingit and means Great River. The river is very wide and flows NW out of the Spatsizi wilderness, then heading S to Wrangell, Alaska. It has such a peaceful, timeless, unhurried sound despite its size. The terrain is changing again to bigger mountains and northern boreal forest with vast ribbons of golden aspens and cottonwood trees crawling up the mountainsides. Dease Lake is the first community with any services since we left hwy 16 and headed north on hwy 37. All those names on the map? Just place names that might have had a family or two many decades ago. As for Dease Lake, it literally has one stop shopping at the combined gas station, grocery store, restaurant, deli, post



office and liquor store. If they don't have it, you don't need it. Almost 700 kilometres of road with Dease Lake more or less in the middle between Kitwanga and Watson Lake. Be Prepared! Most of this is Tahltan Indian territory and there are signs everywhere to please keep traveling through without stopping unless absolutely necessary, due to COVID-19. It is a very scenic landscape. We arrived at TaChiLa/ Boya Lake provincial park after almost 8 hours on the road. A very long day.



## Day Twenty

The park has beautiful sites along the lake with awesome views. Oh but it's the water that draws the eye! It makes you think of a tropical ocean. The glacial marl and white rock flour sand filled with ancient shell pieces look like pure white sandy beaches. This reflects all the colours in the water making it look many shades of turquoise and cerulean

blue. A heart stopping, breath stealing cold dip in the water erases any notion of a tropical vacation! However, when the sun is out and you are paddling around the many islands, you can find a nice beach to have a picnic and pretend it's the tropics. At least until you come across a huge beaver lodge and the dam close by! The dam is an engineering marvel of mud and sticks over eight feet high. The park host has been looking after this park for 20 years and had lots of history to share. The First Nations ties are very strong. They call the local mountains the Breadbasket since it provides so much food from wild animals such as caribou, sheep, deer and bison. The local gray jays thought we were a take out restaurant when we fired up the bbq for our burgers. They weren't easily



dissuaded and it took a lot of vigilance to make sure it was our dinner and not theirs. The lake became a mirror after dinner with an amazing reflection of the surrounding mountains and the sunset. The stargazing was spectacular with a special appearance from Mars low in the eastern sky. We were enjoying exploring the park so much, we ended up staying three nights.





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### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

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Tom Akam & the VPs

Caravan Committee

McGills & Van Iderstines

Nominating Committee

John Millard and two others  
to be selected

Community Service

Alex & Arlene Matches

Equipment Chairman

John Millard

Hospitality & Sunshine

Arlene Matches

Membership & Mentoring

Marilyn Van Iderstine

Newsletter Editor

Arlene Matches

Roster & Handbook

Tom Akam

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Licensed RV Service Technician

**604.649.8651**

[streamsiderv@hotmail.com](mailto:streamsiderv@hotmail.com)

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*President, John Millard, requests new and affiliate members to please forward their info (photo and bio) for inclusion on the BC Unit website. We also encourage our regular and affiliate members who haven't done so to add a picture and update their biographies as well. There is a printable roster available from the website. Please contact our Web Master, Monty Sheldan or Arlene Matches with regard to accessing the website (if you haven't already done so). The email address for Monty is: [msheldan@mac.com](mailto:msheldan@mac.com) and for Arlene use: [matches7403@gmail.com](mailto:matches7403@gmail.com). Tom Akam also has a printable and up-to-date version of our Mini Roster in Word format which he will email upon request. Tom's email address is: [lighthouse13381@shaw.ca](mailto:lighthouse13381@shaw.ca)*