



# 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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# "the news"

## MAY 2021

### John's Journal

Editor: Arlene Matches

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Hello fellow Airstreamers! We are now well into spring and unfortunately are experiencing some unprecedented Provincial changes due to COVID. Restrictions are now in place until the May long week-end forcing a number of us to change our plans in mid stream. Chris and I were lucky enough to grab a week away during the long hot stretch in April to get out in the Airstream to the interior. We got some golf, kayaking, cycling and fishing in which was wonderful indeed. We unfortunately came back early because of the new restrictions, but certainly enjoyed ourselves just the same.

Given these new restrictions, and as a precaution, Chris and I changed our plans for camping near Oliver in early June. Instead, we have decided to camp at Cultus Lake during the first week of June. For everyone's information there are sites still open at local Provincial Parks for May and June, but most of the dates that are still open fall during the week, and not on weekends. So, if you want to do some spring camping go ahead and look into some local campgrounds, but don't wait too long.

As far as the summer Airstream events are concerned, it looks as if all four are still a go at this point unless the current restrictions are extended. This includes the Hedley get together in late June, the Installation Rally in Merritt in late August and the golf rally near Penticton in September. The regional tour rally has been pushed into July and is dependent on whether the borders are open or not. I have no further information on this rally.

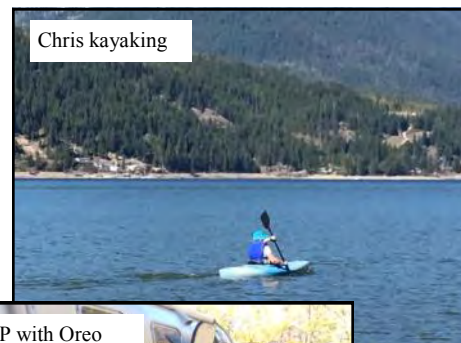
In closing, Chris and I look forward to seeing you fellow Airstreamers on the road this year despite all the changes.

Respectfully Submitted

## John



At South Okanagan Provincial Park



Chris kayaking



John at SOPP with Oreo

## 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  
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Arlene Matches, 604.535.4237  
[matches7403@gmail.com](mailto:matches7403@gmail.com)
- Youth Ambassador**  
Currently Vacant



# 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:

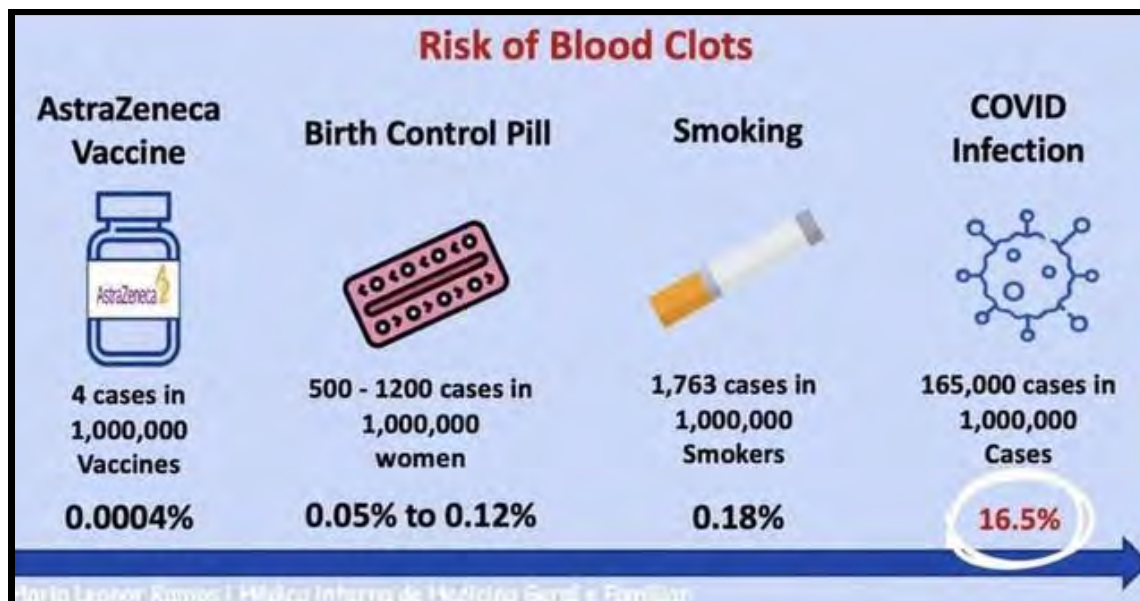
- The caravan will be announced in the May 2021 issue of the Blue Beret which comes out electronically at the beginning of the month;
- As soon as it comes out you must fill in the form and send it in to the WBAC International office (or, as an alternate, you can email [paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com](mailto:paul.jan.wheeler@gmail.com) 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)



## THE COMMUNITY CORNER

### by Arlene

*An email from the Wills advises:*

**We have sadly sold our Airstream because of health and age issues. We still plan on being associate members. We have been in the club for over 40 years and made many good friends and fun travels.**

**Ron & Carolyn Wills #16015**


*Lalani and Ralph Vanderheide have made the hard decision to sell their Airstream. See further in newsletter for details.*



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



It is with deep regret that we advise of Neil Jeffrey's sudden passing April 16th at the young age of 49. Neil was a past BC Unit member and son of long-time members Wayne & Jeannie Jeffrey. He leaves wife, Rita, and 2 young daughters.

Our sincere condolences go out to all family members at this trying time.

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:**

**BROWN, Randy & Angela**

**WBAC #1134**

180—170 Stocks Crescent

Penticton, BC, V2A 9C6

Email: randygbrown@shaw.ca  
angelajbrown@shaw.ca

Phone: 250-488-8465 (Randy)  
250-486-1640 (Angela)

Trailer: 2019 25' Flying Cloud



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

New members Jack COOPER and Kathleen McDONALD membership number is #6307 and I spelled Kathleen's name wrong in the email address. Also, they own a 2021 19-foot Bambi



**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 <i>***Riverhaven campground is fully booked (except for 2 smaller sites). Half the sites are reserved by Airstreamers. The other half are non-A/S. So I have made some additional arrangements. IF ANYONE WOULD STILL LIKE TO COME, please do and make your reservation right next door at Gold Mountain RV Campground. The owner (Danny at 587-435-3924) is holding some additional sites just for us until the end of March.</i>	Beverley Robson brobson@telus.net	Itinerary TBA
July	<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. Michel advised (in January) he is determined to make this happen.
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> <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.</b>	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 250-497-5319
Early Fall	<b>North Cascades Circle Tour</b>	Gerry & Judy Greth, jggreth@gmail.com Bill & Paula Faulker	Dates & itinerary TBA
<b><u>2022</u></b>			
Jan 25--Mar 23	<b>Road, Sea &amp; Rail Caravan</b> Mexican Caravan	Janet Soucy & Paul Wheeler	Details TBA



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.*

A MAN went to the movies and was surprised to find a woman with a big collie sitting in front of him. Even more amazing was the fact that the dog always laughed in the right places through the comedy.

"Excuse me," the man said to the



woman, "but I think it's astounding that your dog enjoys the movie so much."

"I'm surprised myself," she replied. "He hated the book."

—Graham Foster in Tomahawk, Wis., *Leader*, quoted by Debbie Christian in *Milwaukee Journal*

## THE OTHER SIDE

When this is over,  
may we never again  
take for granted

A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves at the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
A crowded theatre  
Friday night out  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The school rush each morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
Each deep breath  
A boring Tuesday  
Life itself.

When this ends,  
may we find  
that we have become  
more like the people  
we wanted to be  
we were called to be  
we hoped to be  
and may we stay  
that way—better  
for each other  
because of the worst.

---

LAURA KELLY FANUCCI



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



I feel like potatoes don't receive enough recognition for their versatility. Breakfast? Hash browns. Fast food? French fries. Fancy dinner? Baked potato. Holidays? Mashed potato. Relaxing at home? Potato chips. There's a potato for every occasion.

## *2013 – WBCCI Tri-Unit Rally, Whidbey Island, Washington*

We all need good memories right now. Along that line Janet and I were going through her photos today and came across these from the first Tri-Unit Rally we attended in 2013 (thanks Tom Akam for encouraging us). This would be the first time we met anyone from the group except for 2 phone calls: Doug McGill, then President who called to welcome us to the Club; and Tom who called to ask us to think about going to the Rally. Needless to say, when we were arriving we were a little trepidatious as we thought about joining all these folks who knew each other and had never met us. Well, that didn't last.

As we were parking our rig these 2 women came running toward us followed by 2 men we later learned were their husbands (Arlene Matches & Deb McGill trailed by Doug McGill and Alex Matches). They were effusive as they greeted us, quickly introducing themselves and getting all our info straight. We VERY soon realized we needed have no nervousness about joining these folks. They introduced us to the others nearby and, at dinner that night, to all the other people gathered for the Rally. To tell the truth, we felt like we were coming home to a bunch of family we hadn't seen in a long while.

Fast forward to today. We've made such wonderful friendships. Met so many caring, kind people that we love "hanging out" with. We're so glad we took that first step and also that the others decided to reach out back to us. So, as we continue to build memories, thanks to everyone in the BC Unit. We look forward too many more memories together.

Janet Soucy & Paul Wheeler  
WBCCI #4223



### **NOTE:**

**Some of these photos are memories of other rallies...not all are from the Tri-Unit Rally of 2013.**



## Ralph & Lalani Vanderheide's trailer is for sale

This is a beautiful 2018 International Serenity 25 foot with Queen bed. We are asking \$95,000 for it. Anyone purchasing it would get a spectacular trailer for approximately \$35,000 less than a new one. There is not a mark on it inside or out. It also comes with a lot of extra stuff including the brand new Blue Ox hitch system. Unfortunately, we do not see Ralph being able to tow and set up a trailer anytime soon, and it is a lot of money tied up sitting in our driveway. It breaks my heart to sell it, but unfortunately our dreams have had to change. Anyone interested please contact Lalani at: 1-250-318-2436 or email: [ralphlalani@nethop.net](mailto:ralphlalani@nethop.net)



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### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Budget Committee

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

Safety Chairman

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

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**!!...SMILE...!!**



*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)*