



Region 4 WBAC



June 2019

region4.airstreamclub.net

Summer Issue

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President's Corner

Region 4 Airstreamers, those cool evenings and warm days are upon us, and we are getting ready for the WBAC International Rally at Doswell, Virginia. Marian and I would first like to thank everyone for their support during our tenure as Region Officers. Looking back on the experience, it went fast. There were things I wanted to do and things that had to be done. We succeeded in getting a fair amount of both accomplished.

The 2019 Region Rally is over--our last Region Rally as President and First Lady, and we really applaud the folks that pitched in and helped us get it done. Lake Erie was a really exciting area for us, and we look forward to getting back there to spend some time doing and seeing some of the things we missed. We hope everyone else enjoyed it too! I actually had time, thanks to Karen and Brad, to sit down and enjoy a couple meals with everyone. All of our committees were right on top of things and that is what makes for a successful event. Thanks again for everything. For those I didn't get to spend time with, thank you so much for supporting the rally. If you didn't make it, there's next year. I hope this note finds you well.

(Continued on the next page)

I wanted to share our “plan for new adventures” this year, now that we’re graduating from our management/leadership role; but you know what--we had a GREAT six years and I wouldn’t trade it for anything. We met new friends across the entire spectrum of the club. Our most dear are the friends in our “neck of the woods” (as Susan Stigleman used to say). We’ve been on countless rallies with the many units in Region 4 and spent real quality time with those friends at local and International events. Our new “International” friends are from the far reaches of the USA and Canada. We also worked closely with and mentored other Region’s Officers as part of our Region 4 rally. We spent countless hours with our own region members working out club problems and developing ideas to strengthen the clubs. We can count many successes in those areas. These were wonderful ways to develop those new friendships. It’s a great feeling, and I would recommend it to anyone who aspires to becoming a Region Officer.

Sometimes we goof up. Hopefully not enough to overshadow all the good intentions and actions, but if it is any consolation, I know most of them and apologize if I have offended anyone. I have always tried to maintain my belief in the WBAC Code of Ethics and the positive effects of being “kind.” Sometimes things get a little stressful, but it is rewarding to see how everyone works their way through those occasions. Thanks again for your support.

After completing my Presidency (boy that was a mouthful), I am looking forward to working with the Region as a member of the Region 4 Executive Committee. In closing I would like to wish everyone the best of times for the future, good health, and to conclude, I want to share the following:

Wally Byam’s Creed:

“In the heart of these words is an entire life’s dream. To those of you who find in the promise of these words your promise, I bequeath this creed... my dream belongs to you.”

- To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home.
- To provide a more satisfying, meaningful way of travel that offers complete travel independence, wherever and whenever you choose to go or stay.
- To keep alive and make real an enduring promise of high adventure and faraway lands... of rediscovering old places and new interests.
- To open a whole world of new experiences... a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions.
- To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions.
- To lead caravans wherever the four winds blow... over twinkling boulevards, across trackless deserts... to the traveled and untraveled corners of the earth.
- To play some part in promoting international goodwill and understanding among the peoples of the world through person-to-person contact.
- To refine and perfect our product by continuous travel-testing over the highways and byways of the world.
- To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end... and thus make your travel dreams come true. – Wally Byam

Our Best to You,

Don and Marian Hetzler
President and First Mate, Region 4

WBAC Region 4 Thanks You



The Officers of WBAC Region 4 would like to thank all the Region 4 Rally Committee Chairs for their outstanding work and support before and during the Rally.

We also want to thank all the countless members who saw a need and stepped in during the Rally--especially those who helped "Cookie" prepare the chuck wagon meals.

All WBAC Rallies and Caravans run on volunteerism and this Rally was no exception. Additionally, we want to thank Ralph Volk and Barb Derian from SEMAC for their work on a [Region 4 Recap video](#). Check it out!

Sincerely,

Don Hetzler, Karen Fisher and Brad Briggs

From the First Vice President

Future Region 4 Rallies

At the 2019 Region 4 Rally, I was excited to reveal the next two Region 4 Rallies for 2020 and 2021. Please mark your calendar for lots of fun and fellowship!

The 44th Region 4 Rally will be held May 13-17, 2020, at the Lenawee County Fair & Event Center in Adrian, Michigan. The theme is "[Peace, Love, & Airstream](#)."

Want an additional \$50 discount on the 2020 Region 4 Rally? Register for the rally before July 19, 2019, and your name will go into a drawing to be held at the Region 4 Luncheon on July 22 at the International Rally in Doswell, VA. Up to 6 lucky winners will receive an additional \$50 discount on the rally fee (need not be present to win.) See the 44th Region 4 Rally Flyer and Registration Coupon at the end of this newsletter for further information.



In addition, our 45th Region 4 Rally will be held May 18-23, 2021. The location will be the Summit Bechtel Boy Scout Reserve near Beckley, West Virginia. The Summit is the location of the 2019 World Scouting Jamboree and the 2021 National Scouting Jamboree AND the site of the Region 4 Rally! Watch for more details to come and start making plans now to attend this great event as well!

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Karen Fisher
1st Vice President, Region 4

From the Second Vice President

Update on our 12V Compressor Refrigerator Conversion

In the Fall 2018 issue of the WBAC *Region 4 Newsletter*, I wrote to you about converting our Airstream refrigerator to a 12V compressor unit. I would like to give you an update on our experience with this conversion.



Last March we spent a week in Florida. The trip was great and the Airstream and refrigerator worked well--until our last day of traveling home! Unfortunately, the refrigerator stopped cooling even though the compressor was still running. Thankfully, we were close enough to home so we did not lose any food this time around.

Once home I emailed the place where we had the refrigerator converted and explained what had happened. I got a quick response and was told that they would take care of the problem. In fact, they said that they would replace the whole unit just to make sure the issue was taken care of.

Coincidentally, we had already planned on attending the NOVA RV/MH Museum Rally at Eby Pines near Bristol, Indiana, during the first week in April. This rally was only 20 miles from and on the way to the place where the repairs were to be made. There are silver linings at times--this was one!

My appointment was for 6 a.m., and I arrived just in time. As soon as my old unit was removed, the owner's son took it to test it out to see what went wrong. Two and a half hours later, a new unit was installed and thoroughly tested, and I was on my way to the rally in plenty of time.

A few days later I heard back from them via email. They found that there was a bad weld on the compressor. It stopped cooling because the coolant had leaked out. They cheerfully and completely covered the repair under warranty and sincerely expressed their disappointment and regretted that we had a problem with the refrigerator.

We have yet to boon dock with the converted refrigerator, so I cannot report on how well it does in this situation. However, I can say that I have run the refrigerator while the Airstream was sitting in the driveway for three days on several occasions and the house batteries kept a charge of more than 12V. I do have a 45-watt solar panel on the Airstream roof to help with charging the batteries during the day. This latest time the weather was mostly sunny and the highs were in the low 70's. Realizing that in this situation we were not using any other 12V lights or the water pump as we would if we were boon docking--I do find this very promising!

Here's Living and Learning with our Airstream....

Brad Briggs
2nd Vice President, Region 4

NEWS FOR INTERNATIONAL:

2019 WBAC International Rally, Doswell, VA

July 15, 2019 is the deadline to register for the Region 4 Luncheon at the International Rally in Doswell, VA.

Please RSVP to Karen Fisher:

fisherkjan23@sbcglobal.net

or (248) 672-0353

Payment can be mailed to Steve Rhodes or paid at the rally.

A graphic on the left side of the invitation card. It features a white silhouette of a knife, fork, and spoon arranged vertically. To the right of the cutlery, the word "lunch" is written in a serif font, and "invite" is written in a larger, bold, sans-serif font. A small white wine glass icon is positioned above the letter "i" in "invite".

**lunch
invite**

As a member of Region 4, you are cordially invited to attend the Region 4 Luncheon at the 62nd International Rally in Doswell, Virginia

Monday, July 22, 2019, at 12 Noon

In the Ballroom at the Mansion on the grounds of Meadow Event Park.

Tickets are \$15 per person.

Please RSVP to Karen Fisher by email: fisherkjan23@sbcglobal.net or by calling her at (248) 672-0353.

Please make your check payable to: Region 4
And send to Steve Rhodes, 1121 Bogey Drive,
Ontario, OH 44903.
On the Memo line of the check, reference "IR R4 Lunch."

SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

NOVA RALLY: The Blue, The Grey and the Silver Rally Hosts: Ella and Tom Brown



Early in April, as the flowering trees bloomed in Pennsylvania, 7 Airstreams (and one SOB) gathered at Pine Grove Furnace State Park, for a rally at Gettysburg. With newly redone campsites and bath house, the State Park furnished us with beautiful headquarters for the rally: hiking trails, two lakes, and biking trails – all located at the northern tip of the Blue Ridge Mountains and just 18 miles from Gettysburg.

On the first night we gathered for a short talk from host (and Gettysburg enthusiast) Tom Brown who explained the events leading up to the battle and the placement of the armies on the battle's eve. In our own outdoor theater, we watched the beginning of the movie "Gettysburg" based on Jeff Sharrah's book "The Killer Angels."



On the first touring day we began delving into Gettysburg history at the Visitor's Center viewing the film "A New Birth of Freedom", narrated by Morgan Freeman, and visiting the famous Cyclorama of Pickett's Charge. This massive oil-on-canvas painting is a three-dimensional effect that places the viewer in the center of this great historic scene that was so key in the Gettysburg story.



In the afternoon we reported to SegTours of Gettysburg where we cashed in our 30% discount Groupons for a 2-hour drive around the battlefield. First, we all had to complete Segway training on an indoor obstacle course, and then we headed out in a single-file brigade. Armed with headphones linked to our guide we navigated the road up to Culp's Hill and back through the city streets of Gettysburg. Although most of us were new to Segway travel, we all thoroughly enjoyed this intimate view of the Battlefield.

That evening we continued watching our "Gettysburg" movie, and before we went to bed, made plans for touring the battlefield in the morning.



In a variety of vehicles, armed with audio tour guides, maps, and phone apps, we set out to drive the Battlefield road. By the end of the day we were well scattered, but managed to all meet up for a drive into the town of Carlisle and a Red Robin Restaurant for dinner.

Our last full day began with breakfast at the famous Lincoln's Diner in downtown Gettysburg. Again, we separated with some returning to the Visitor Center to tour the museum, and some heading back out to complete the Battlefield tour.

At 2:00 a group met up at the Virginia Memorial for a hike following Pickett's Charge across an open field to the High Water Mark. On the other side drivers picked up the hikers, and we all drove to The National Soldier's Cemetery where President Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address. Tom, our Gettysburg historian, recapped the message and the meaning of this historic address given by Lincoln three months after the battle.



Following thus, we all retired to the campground. No Airstream rally is complete without a pot-luck dinner and the food spread was incredible. Then, we settled in for the last installment of our 4-hour movie in our outdoor theater. After focusing our efforts on Pickett's charge earlier in the day, the end of the movie, featuring this devastating assault, was a very moving way to end this rally.

– Ella Brown



FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This newsletter is for YOU, the Region 4 Member!

Feel free to submit information of interest to our members!

Newsletter issues typically include the following:

Spotlight: Where We Have Been (Unit Rally or Caravan already taken)

Spotlight: Where We are Heading (upcoming Unit Rally or Caravan)

Healthy Airstream Cooking Recipes

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Officer Articles

Announcements

Jane Briggs, Region 4 Newsletter Editor
(jebriggs80@yahoo.com)



SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE ARE GOING

SE Michigan Airstream Club: Christmas in July Rally Rally Hosts: Robert & Linda Smith



Come join the SE Michigan Airstream Club on July 12-14, 2019, as we celebrate Christmas in July in Michigan's Little Bavaria, Frankenmuth. There is so much to see and do! Visit Bronner's Christmas Wonderland, Antique Stores, Military and Historical Museums, the St. Julian Winery, or a Woolen Mill. Show off your decorating skills by decorating your campsite for Christmas.

Our camping location will be Pine Ridge RV Campground, 11700 Gera Road (M-83), Birch Run, MI 48415. If you are interested in attending, make your own camping reservations by contacting the campground at (989) 624-9029. For additional information on these and other SEMAC activities, visit our website at <https://southeasternmichigan.airstreamclub.net>.



Columbus Ohio Unit: Salt Fork State Park Rally Rally Host: Chris Lang



The Columbus, Ohio, Unit will gather July 11-14 at Salt Fork State Park. This Park is located near the quaint town of Cambridge, Ohio, and is the heart of "Big Foot" country. There have been reported sightings in and around the park. The park contains an 18-hole golf course as well as a lake with a marina. Nearby attractions include "The Wilds", a wild life sanctuary emulating the Savanna, and Amish Country. On Saturday evening, a group dinner will be held at the pavilion. Join us!

NOVA: Escape Room Rally

Rally Host: Alan McDowell

Come and join our NOVA members on August 22-25, 2019, as we attempt to solve some escape room puzzles!



*How this rally came about.....*It was late last Summer, friend and NOVA member Tom introduced me to a puzzle game for iPad called *The Room*. It was a video game where you solve puzzles to move on through the game and onto the next levels. Turns out there are three Room games in the series and we played them all!

Tom is a puzzle buff and we discussed the idea of the escape room craze that swept the nation. Neither of us had ever done one before and we both enjoyed doing puzzles so I thought, how about an escape room rally, where we would be physically immersed in an actual puzzle! What a fun thing to try!

After contacting some local escape rooms and trying to get a feel for how these things operate, I decided on a company called Escapology. This place is a national chain that has a number of locations across the country.

*When this rally is taking place...*I decided on the dates of Thursday, August 22, 2019, through Sunday, August 25, 2019, and the escape room “mission”, as they call the adventure, will be on the morning of Friday, August 23. At the time I was planning this rally, I figured the escape room mission takes place indoors, so the hot August temperatures will not be a problem.

*The escape room mission options...*At this Cincinnati location, there are three missions to choose from. All take approximately an hour to complete and vary in difficulty from easy/intermediate to intermediate/expert. Here is a description of the options:



- 1) An assassination mission that takes place in 1932 Minnesota aboard a train carrying the future President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt. The object is to solve the puzzle in the time allotted and save the President-to-be from being assassinated.
- 2) A nuclear annihilation mission in which you have to solve the puzzle and save the world before a nuclear bomb goes off. It takes place in 1962 Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- 3) The third option is called Extinction and you have to solve the puzzle before an airborne toxin is released in modern day Atlanta.

*Camping Location....*The campground I chose for this rally is the Lebanon KOA in Lebanon, Ohio. It is one of two campgrounds located fairly close to the Escapology facility, which is located in Loveland, Ohio.

For the camping information, rally schedule, and additional registration information, check on NOVA's website at www.CampNOVA.com and look under Rallies, [Escape Room Rally](#). Please contact Alan as soon as possible if you are interested!

HEALTHY AIRSTREAM COOKING RECIPES



Who loves to eat more than people who camp, right? I know we do! Continuing in this issue of the *Region 4 Newsletter*, I have shared a few recipes for *healthy* eating while camping. As a Diabetic Type II, I am always on the lookout for great food that also helps me meet my food goals. If you, too, have a great "healthy" camp cooking recipe to share, email it my way, and we will get it into an upcoming issue of the newsletter! Jane (jebriggs80@yahoo.com)

Rainbow Fruit Skewers with Vanilla-Honey Yogurt Dip



INGREDIENTS:

10 long wooden skewers, cut in half
Assorted fruit (Use whatever you like!)
2 cups plain or vanilla yogurt (if using plain, add 1 tsp. vanilla)
1/4 cup honey
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

DIRECTIONS:

In a medium bowl, stir together yogurt, honey and cinnamon. Thread fruit onto skewers and serve with yogurt dip.

No-Chop Skillet Chili – 4 Servings



INGREDIENTS:

1 teaspoon canola oil
12 ounces 95%-lean ground beef
1 (15 ounce) can no-salt-added red kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 (14.5 ounce) can no-salt-added diced tomatoes, undrained
1 14.4-ounce package frozen sweet pepper and onion stir-fry vegetables
1 (1.25 ounce) package reduced-sodium taco or chili seasoning
2 to 3 teaspoons chili powder
2 tablespoons reduced-sugar ketchup
Shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese, plain fat-free Greek yogurt, sliced black olives, thinly sliced green onions, and/or snipped fresh cilantro (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

Light firewood or charcoal and let campfire burn down to medium-hot embers or coals. Top with a grill rack.

In a 10-inch cast iron skillet heat oil over campfire. Add ground beef; cook until browned. Stir in the next five ingredients (through chili powder). Cook 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat. Stir in ketchup.

Let stand 15 minutes to allow flavors to blend. If desired, top servings with cheese, yogurt, olives, green onions, and/or cilantro.

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Perfect Trash Bags

Submitted by Sara Rebman, NOVA

The trash cans in newer Airstreams are a unique size. Here is a picture of the 4-gallon trash bags that fit!

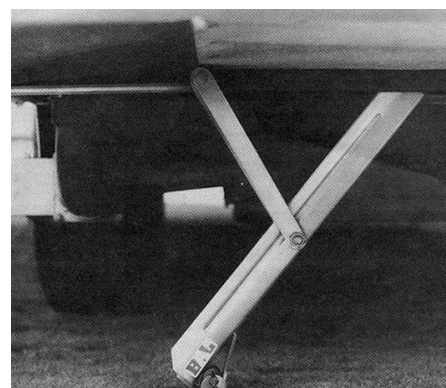


Cranky Stabilizer Jacks

Submitted by Dave Brett, Mahoning Valley Unit

Our Airstream will celebrate it's 31st birthday this year and if you are pulling a similarly aged or older rig, you know there is always something that needs attention. For some time now the stabilizer jacks at the corners have been getting more difficult to raise/lower and very noisy. Over the winter things came to a head and the decision was to replace them.

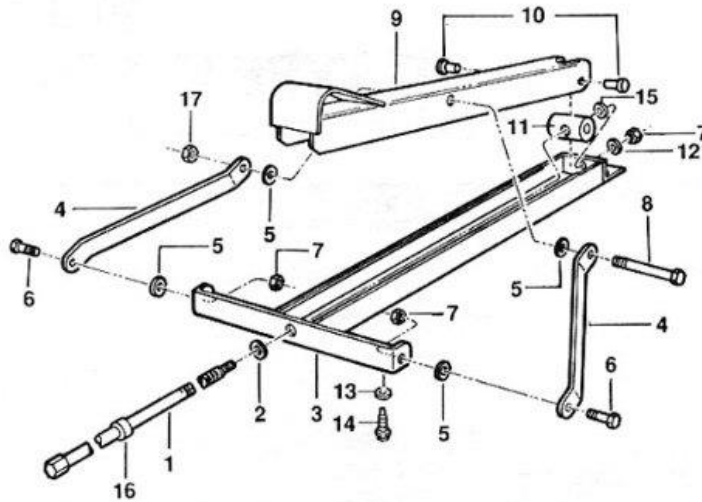
So when the weather broke in Ohio I reached out to BAL, the manufacturer, for help getting the right replacement. The bad news is they no longer make that model, the new version does not line up with the original holes in the frame, and you have to special order them with an extended shaft. (The original was called a T Type, named for the shape of the unit and the new ones are C types) Considering the cost to replace and that they were going to have to be rigged to fit, maybe we better look at fixing up the old ones.



There is a happy ending. These are pretty sturdy units and it turned out that there was not any major damage, just 31 years of collected rust, dirt, and wear. The unit consists of a long lead screw that moves a captive nut to raise and lower. If you carefully disassemble them, all the hardware short of the lead screw can be replaced with off the shelf hardware. I recommend starting disassembly with the nut that holds the lead screw in and work your way back removing all hardware as you come to it. Lots of wire brushing, cleaning, and lubing to do. I used white lithium grease on all parts that rub except the lead screw – used motor oil on that. Only tricky part of disassembly is the captive nut that the lead screw passes through. Bal refers to this as a trunnion and there are two small trunnion pins that slip into the ends of the trunnion. They are just a loose fit and can fall out during disassembly. The original manual for these units, complete with parts break-down is online – just Google Bal T Type Stabilizer Jacks. You're going to smile the first time you crank them down after the refurb.

(See next page for Parts List.)

PARTS LIST



INDEX NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	INDEX NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	801021	Drive Screw (20-8)	10	801039	Trunion Pin
2	2021	Washer	11	801022	Trunion
3	856010	20" Bed Plate	12	2032	Washer
4	856042	20" Side Stay	13	2023	Lockwasher
5	801052	Washer	14	3024	1" Mounting Screw
6	11019	Hex Head Bolt	15	801017	Washer
7	1014	Lock Nut	16	801028	Collar
8	801054	Hex Head Bolt	17	801053	Lock Nut
9	801090	20" Leg, 1 1/2" wide			



The 44th Region 4 Rally
Peace, Love, &
Airstream
 May 13-17, 2020

Flyer and Registration Coupon on the following pages.



Join us for the 44th Annual Region 4 Rally May 13-17, 2020

Lenawee County Fair & Event Center—Adrian, MI



Entertainment

Earth Angels

Buckle in, cruise back in time, and experience the magic of the '50s and '60s recreated by the Earth Angels. Experience a high energy, fast moving show bringing to life the great music and legendary performers of the '50s and '60s.

A performing arts group formed in 1986, the group is made up of young adults from Southeastern Michigan who range in age from 8 – 18 years old.



Motown Eagles

Crafting every musical detail with a new precision and amazing voices (there is no pre-recorded trickery), Motown Eagles celebrate an era of this powerhouse rock band with hits spanning four decades.



Activities

Catered Meals

Door Prizes

Entertainment

Hobby/Craft Show

Flea Market

Seminars

Tours

Attractions/Tours

Local Wineries

Local Craft Beer Breweries

Croswell Opera House

Historic Brick Walker Tavern

Hudson Museum

Lenawee County Historical Museum

Michigan International Speedway

Join us for the 44th Annual Region 4 Rally May 13-17, 2020

Lenawee County Fair & Event Center—Adrian, MI

Peace, Love, & Airstream



Rally Fee includes:

- * 4 Nights Camping
- * Water/Electric Hookups, Dump Station
- * 3 Catered Meals
- * Morning Hospitality (coffee, juice, roll)
- * Evening Hospitality (snack & beverage)
- * 2 Nights Entertainment
- * 60s Fashion Show
- * And much more...



44th Region 4 Rally
Registration Coupon
"Peace, Love, & Airstream"
May 13-17, 2020



Last Name(s): _____ First Name(s): _____ WBCCI #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Unit/Club: _____

E-mail: _____ Type RV: TT MH Length: _____ Handicap Parking? Y N

Rally Fee

2 Persons \$345
1 Person \$275

Extra Adult/Child \$ 70

in Party _____

Rally Fee\$ _____

\$70 x\$ _____

Total\$ _____

\$50 discount if postmarked on or before January 31, 2020

Discount\$ _____

Total Enclosed\$ _____

Make checks payable to: WBCCI Region 4

Mail To: Steve Rhodes, 1121 Bogey Drive, Ontario, OH 44903-6526

Cancellation Policy: Refund requests sent to the Region Treasurer in writing (email or snail mail) and postmarked by March 30 will receive a refund less a \$50 administrative fee. Refund requests postmarked on or after April 1 will receive a 50% refund. No refunds after May 1.