



British Columbia Airstream Club

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

www.airstreambc.com



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"the news"

JULY 2021

John's Journal

Editor: Arlene Matches

Home Phone: 604.535.4237

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Email: matches7403@gmail.com

Hello everyone and welcome to summer 2021! Just a brief journal entry this month as we really have been quite busy preparing for our summer holidays. As I write this in mid-late June we are just about to head out with our '73 Airstream (Peggy) and trusty steed (Bert) to meet up with the Wheelers in Hope. A few days of exploration with Janet and Paul should be fun and will include touring the Othello tunnels and other local attractions (where's Rambo) in Hope. Following Hope we will head out through Manning Park to the Hedley Hoedown! It would appear that Bev and Eileen (with help from Bob) have things well in hand. It will be nice to see everyone after such a long time won't it? Unfortunately the Matches and Van Iderstines won't be at the event. We certainly wish them well and do hope things improve for both families, we definitely miss them. We will however certainly feel them in spirit and will no doubt raise a toast or three in their honour while in Hedley.



UNIT OFFICERS 2020-2021

- President** John Millard, 604.536.6372
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604.793.6412
emeston@telus.net
brobson@telus.net
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char.shar.wieder@me.com
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halliwell4840@telus.net
Arlene Matches, 604.535.4237
matches7403@gmail.com
- Youth Ambassador**
Currently Vacant

The Provincial restrictions for travel have now been lifted thank goodness. It does appear that this awful COVID experience that we have all faced together is finally dissipating. While we still have to be careful, I do suspect that everyone will be somewhat relieved as we find a way to move forward to the new normal (whatever that is).

I do hope that many of you have booked other camping spots this summer. I just booked South Okanagan Provincial Park for late August through Discover B.C. and was successful in securing a spot prior to the Merritt Installation rally. The Provincial booking is restricted to two months which means you should book exactly two months prior if you want to get a good spot. We have also booked a couple of weeks in late July at Monte Lake (private campground), and hope to also attend the Mount Baker Vintage Trailer Rally in early September should the border restrictions be lifted. If you haven't been to that rally I would suggest to the members to at least drive down to Lynden on the Saturday where you can tour all the various vintage trailers (250 plus) on display (it's free too). This will include our '73 as it has done in the past. It's a lot of fun and we really look forward to it every year. If you search for the Mount Baker vintage rally on Google you can find more information about it, or alternatively give me a shout.

In closing Chris and I wanted to wish you all a great summer in where ever you're traveling may take you. Everyone please stay safe out there and we hope to see you 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 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



Manitoba / North Dakota Unit rally looking at the American side
John Fikkert photo

THE COMMUNITY CORNER

by Arlene

This is a message from Lalani Vanderheide

Dear Friends in the Airstream Club;
I would like to convey my sincere appreciation for the support Ralph and I received from so many of you in the Club over the past 18 months. Ralph loved the club and all of its rallies. We made so many life-long friends because of our love for the shiny silver home on wheels. Special thanks to the remaining "three Musketeers" (Al, Bob and Dave) for taking such good care of Ralph and I. Your phone calls and trips to Keremeos to help Ralph meant the world to us. I would also like to thank the club members for your phone calls, messages, cards and face book posts supporting me through this very sad time. I am very grateful.
I know Ralph is loved by many people because of his compassion, kindness and sense of humor. I am hoping to have a celebration of life for Ralph in Kamloops on September 11th. I will keep you posted when the date is confirmed.
Again, Thank you, Lalani

An email from John Fikkert:

Hi:
I just spoke to the Airstream Sales @ Midtown RV re their former Airstream mechanic, Tom. They have followed up with Tom and he is not interested in taking on any work at this time.
I asked them to please pass along my contact info to Tom as we WBCCI BC Chapter 121 would like to have the potential to work with him in the future.
Time will tell,
If you would pass this along to the others.



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:

(transferee from Ontario Unit)

Murnaghan, Peter and Rita

#1121

#231 - 3996 Beach Ave

Peachland BC V0H 1X5

Email murnpr@yahoo.ca

Phone 905-317-3618

Trailer: 2017 30-foot International Serenity

Ward, David & Stacey

#14379

5637 Mountainside Drive

Kelowna, BC, V1W 5L5

Email: davewardbc@gmail.com

staceilynward@gmail.com

Phone 250-869-2724 (David)

250-550-7097 (Stacey)

Trailer: 1993 25-foot Excella Classic



ROSTER/ADDRESS CHANGES:

Sharpe/Tripels

Sharpe has an 'e' at the end

New address is 37158 Schooner Way, Pender Island, BC, VOPN 2M2

Trailer number corrected (should read #6162)

Email spelling corrected to tripelsdiane@yahoo.ca

Tuason's new address is:

3417 Main Avenue, Belcarra, BC, V3H 4R2



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>
<u>2021</u>			
July/August	Regional Tour of BC, Alta, Sask, Idaho Montana, Oregon & Washington	Michel & Ellen Bourassa rmbourassa@gmail.com	Expected to be 2 weeks in duration. Dates and itinerary TBA
July 17-24	International Rally Lebanon, TN	WBAC Committee	Details in the Blue Beret
August 27-29	AGM & Installation Get-Together 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	Golf Tour 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
<u>2022</u>			
Jan 25--Mar 23	Road, Sea & Rail Caravan Mexican Caravan	Janet Soucy & Paul Wheeler	Details TBA
June	Region 10 Gathering Lynden Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA	Region 10 Executive	Dates TBA
June	Fishing Tour Loon Bay Resort, Sheridan Lake, BC	Bob & Gayle Halliwell halliwell4840@telus.net	Dates TBA

Photo (by Janet) of
Stone Lin, Claire
Cao and Walter
(who just happened upon the
Hedley Hoedown the day it
ended)





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 (or 604-538-4149), he will email members copies either as a Word document or as a PDF — your choice.

Hedley Hoedown Rally — June 24-27

All photos (this and next page) by Janet Soucy and Paul Wheeler
Rally hosted by Beverley Robson & Eileen Meston

Dear Fellow Hedley Hoedown Campers:

I cannot resist this opportunity of dropping you a line. Thank you for your pioneering spirit as we ventured forth to Hedley one week ago. It started out as a bit of a post-Covid breakout event but ended up an endurance test of the heat wave that passed through BC.

1. Regarding the heat, some of you pulled out early and I'm thankful you were confident enough to do so. With the uncertainties surrounding the usage of our air conditioners, it would not have been wise to linger on. It became so sultry and hot on the final Sunday and Monday that those of us still staying on used our air conditioners regardless of what we thought could happen. Fortunately, we never lost power and everyone stayed more or less cool!!

2. I personally enjoyed getting to know several of you just a little better. What a range of just-plain-lovely members we have. Eileen and I enjoy our adventures, large or small, with the Airstreamers and look forward to the upcoming ones. I'm sure we are going to be learning even more about our rigs, and one another, on our next group outing as we dry camp at Historic Hat Creek Ranch at the end of July. There is still time to plan to join us if you haven't already.

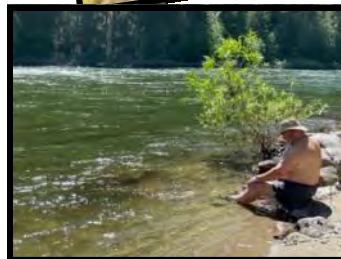
3. For those of you who could not make this rally, please know that you were really missed. It seems to me to be quite the phenomenon that many of you have been fully engaged in a lifetime of Airstream adventures for more than 40 years. And now some of you find yourselves bowing out gradually with grace. The good part is that you will still be able to attend the Tuesday breakfasts, or the rally at Merritt, or whatever!

4. Caroline, our Treasurer, asked me if I was pleased with how the rally went. I certainly was! Each of you made the Hoedown a good time. Thank you! As for "planning", we did not find that part of it onerous at all. Help from Bob simplified things a lot. BTW, I thought the *Bun on the Run* breakfast was just great. I especially loved having it on the Saturday instead of on our departure day. Thanks Bob, Al and Dan. Overall, if any of you have suggestions for doing things differently another time, please send your ideas along.

OK. Until the next time!

Bev





ATTENDEES

Denis & Janice Brisson

Al & Terry Gamache

Bob & Gayle Halliwell

Barry Hook

Brian & Lynn Jackson

Wayne & Jeannie Jeffrey

John & Chris Millard

Dick & Sharon Moffat

Beverly Robson & Eileen Meston

Janet Soucy & Paul Wheeler

Dan & Carolyn Stewart

Trenor & Barbara Tilley



ENLARGE THE PAGE TO GET FULL
BENEFIT OF THESE PHOTOS

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



Hi All:

You may be well aware and informed on recommendations for saving your COVID vaccine record card, but a brief survey reveals a varying level of knowledge and suggestions. It seems almost certain that those people who have been fully vaccinated will be welcomed for access to travel before those who have one or none shots. Here are a few tips you might consider:



- 1. It is important to have more copies than just the card..make photocopies.**
- 2. Store a copy of it in your computer.**
- 3. Take a photo of it with your phone.**
- 4. Store it in the Cloud (make a note which cloud you have your head in).**
- 5. Get the card laminated – Staples will look after that for \$1.50.**

6.

Hope you find this useful.



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**



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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

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Along with the ad for Midtown RV in Penticton, shown are four business cards for technicians that are proven to be reliable (and who are able to bring their garage to you....!!)

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- Electrical •Plumbing •Winterizing

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Pre Purchase Inspections

MARK SCHULZ
Licensed RV Service Technician
604.649.8651
streamsiderv@hotmail.com

STREAMSIDE RV
MOBILE SERVICES



!!...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 and for Arlene use: 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