



The Trillium



President's Message

Welcome to Ground Hog Day again.

Isn't it funny how a popular movie can change the vernacular in a culture. Ground hog day once upon a time referred to a day in the calendar year when we celebrate that we had reached the mid point of another winter season. Along comes Bill Murray playing a hapless television journalist who is given the opportunity day after day to

become a better person until he gets it right, and is able to move on to the next day.



I started writing this Friday May 14, the day after the next lockdown announcement and was feeling a bit despondent. I'm getting a fair bit of yard work completed, but it would have been nice to use our dear Olive some where other than our own laneway. At that time, I hadn't even de-winterized her yet.

The Feds were talking that day that by this summer, "Partially vaccinated Canadians will be able to gather out doors," but in the end it will be on the Provincial Governments to make that call. Let's hope enough of us get vaccinated and the Province is comfortable with us assembling.

Jump forward to June 26 and the Province has now announced we will be moving to Step 2 of the [Provincial Reopening Plan](#) on June 30 @ 12:01 am. I have tried my best to decipher their statement and by my reckoning we will now be able to meet outdoors in groups of up to 25. After the third stage requirements have been met (70% to 80%) or more of the population with at least one shot of vaccine and 25% fully vaccinated larger indoor and outdoor social gatherings will be allowed. Limits are still to be determined, but it looks hopeful for our "Rendezvous at Summerhouse in late September.

Unfortunately, at the recommendation of the campground, we had to cancel our plans for the Summer Rendezvous in Norwood. At the time the decision needed to be made, in late May, things were still too uncertain. Kate D. had a long chat with Paul at the Norwood Fairgrounds office and his recommendation was to cancel this year and plan something for next year.

Looks like we are starting to get it right. Stay safe everyone, take a jab, and encourage others to do so too.

Your President Jim F

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Dues News from the Treasurer

We will be changing the way we pay our dues this year. Dues for 2022 will be paid using the Airstream Club International (ACI) web site (airstreamclub.org). The renewal process is simple: log on, go to renew membership, update your information if necessary and enter your credit card info. If you don't have internet access you can renew by phone by calling Jackson Center (937-596-5211). If neither of these will work, call me and you can pay through me.

You may wonder why we are making this change. We are members of a US based club and our fees are in US dollars: US\$ 75 to ACI and US\$ 10 to our Ontario club, totalling US\$ 85. The amount in Canadian dollars changes with exchange rates. In previous years we also had a price in Canadian dollars \$100, for members paying dues through me.

Last year the dual payment system did not work well. Those paying through ACI paid about \$112 and about \$12 came back to us. Our club averaged \$0.08 for dues paid to the Treasurer. The amount the Club netted from dues paid to the Treasurer ranged from a loss of \$4 to a gain of \$5. This is neither fair nor manageable. Paying through ACI portal has everyone paying the same price. Currency exchange fluctuations will not have as great an effect on our Ontario club revenue.

Your dues don't need to be paid yet. You will be receiving reminders about dues in the Fall.

From The Editors Desk

So it seems to be the issue to reminisce about travels to Oregon. The "Salem Eh" caravan to the International Rally in 2018 was Vern and my very first Caravan adventure and it holds a special space in our hearts. Most of the random snaps are from that Caravan. Hope you don't mind the indulgence... sometimes looking back at good times helps to bring hope for those times again.

It has been a busy couple of months for me. Up until just a few weeks ago work was crazy busy. Covid case numbers where high, meaning we, as case managers, were very busy. At the height of the 3rd wave we were handling 600 cases a day and those were just cases in York Region. Oh but what a difference just a month and lots of vaccine can make, case numbers in York yesterday were down to 14...yes 14. Now we are like fire fighters when there is not a fire, ready, prepared and waiting, with the hope we will not ever be that busy again.

Vern has not been idle while I have been working. He has filled his days with completing every household project we had ever discussed. The latest addition being, a beautiful outdoor dining table built by Vern himself. Not bad if I say so myself.

Much thanks to Kerry M. and Linda S. for taking up the call to share how they came to be 'Airstreamers'. Hope to see you all at Summerhouse end of September. Vern and I will be in site D21. I can't wait to until September and my contract ends and I get to see all you lovely folks. Until then stay safe and stay healthy.



Helen Z

Tips & Tricks

Oh nuts. For those of you who follow Airstream Forums closely, this will be old news to you.

The wheel nuts provided by Airstream are a two part nut, meaning the working portion that is threaded on to the hub has a trim cap pressed on from the outside. This in itself isn't a problem, but the trim cap had a tendency to crack and possibly become loose. The nut will still hold your wheel on but you may have separation when you go to change a tire or do your re-torquing as I'm sure we all do before and during each trip. If the cap becomes loose professional tire installers have a special adapter that will remove a nut that has lost its' cap, so there is always a fallback position. I prefer to not take the chance and have replaced my original two piece with solid one piece nuts. I've included a photo of a cracked two part nut.



Submitted by : Jim F.

Try these easy methods to get the bugs off

1. Warm water, a sponge, and Dawn dish soap.
2. Coke - spray over the windshield, wait a few minutes and hose it off.
3. Microfiber mesh bug sponge.
4. Rub bugs off with used dry or wet dryer sheets. They can leave a slight film behind, so rinse or wipe off any residue with a damp cloth.
5. Bug Off, Turtle Wax Power Foam Bug & Tar Remover.
6. An RV detail shop suggests using a Magic Eraser but use carefully.
7. On your windshield use Rain-X Bug Remover windshield washer fluid to help release the next batch of bugs.
8. All cleaned up? Spray the front cap with 303 Protectant to help reduce the sticky bug residue from piling up in the future.
9. BUT be careful on the skin of the Airstream, go with the grain, don't rub too hard and wash off with water.
10. The main thing to do is clean before the bug juices eat into the clear-coat.

Tips reprinted from rvtravel.com by Don M.

About The Trillium: The Trillium is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December for the members of the Ontario Canada Airstream Club of the Airstream Club International (ACI).

Articles, pictures, safety hints, rally reports, recipes, trailer tips, travel suggestions, corrections, ideas, letters to the editor and so forth are welcome. Sub-mission deadlines are Jan 25, Mar 25, May 25, July 25, Sept 25 and Nov 25. Please submit to at 124Editor@airstreamclub.net .

Events 2021

Simply Camping

Just One Opportunity This Year
 Don't Miss Out Join Us
 Fall Rendezvous @ Summer House Park
September 30th - October 5th

Summer House Park is a great jumping off point for all the wonderful attractions in the Bruce Peninsula. You can hike the Bruce Trail, visit Bruce Peninsula National Park home of the world famous Grotto. Enjoy the local artisans and all the shopping opportunities in between. This event will be camping only, no meals or social events are planned. The fee will be for camping at the off season rate. The Park will not be charging the registration fee of \$13.00, wifi will be free (normally \$5.00/day) and we will have access to their club room for gathering (Covid-19 restrictions permitting). If you'd like to attend book your site by registering on-line at

www.summerhousepark.ca

Go to Rates and Reservations click on Camping in the Reservations category. Ignore the man with the Airstream (LOL) and fill in the blanks. Be sure to add in the Message box that you are with the Ontario Canada Airstream Club or you may be informed "they don't have room for you".

We're letting you in on our little secret, this is currently our favourite camp ground. Hope to see you there
 Jim and Catharine F

SNIPPITS - GENERATORS

The higher you go, the less oxygen in the air, and the less power your generator will produce — it loses about 3% output per each 1,000 feet above sea level. So at 2,000 feet you've already lost 6% output or 132 watts / 1.1 AC amps @ 120v. You also lose some power if you convert your generator to propane. A Honda 2200 will run an air conditioner IF you have a Soft-start.

Tips reprinted from rvtravel.com by Don M



Thanks Can-Am for all your
 support!

Webmaster Update

Transition to the New Website

As explained in the previous issue of The Trillium, starting in July, our current website (ontariocanada.airstreamclub.net) will be replaced by a new site within the Airstreamclub International website. The new site's address is <https://airstreamclub.org/ontario-canada>, and it is now operational, with most of the content from our current website available. The current address will remain usable until the end of 2021, but from July onward will automatically route you to the new site.

- Initially, certain items will not be available from the new site, in order to conform to our club's privacy policies.

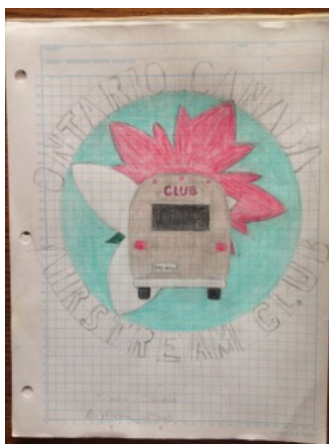
We will work around these issues as follows:

- The Trillium: Members will be sent either the file itself, as an attachment, or a direct link to the file. There will be no password required.
- Online Directory: The online directory will continue to be maintained, and a link to it will be included in each issue of The Trillium.
- Business Reports: A link to them will be included in each issue of The Trillium.
- The International website continues to evolve, so watch this space for further updates to our operations.

Submitted by Gordon D

Logo Update

Your executive has narrowed it down to the top three contenders!! A high level top secret committee has been struck to make the final selection....(Ok its been a long cold winter) Stay tuned for the great unveiling...Here are the top 3 contenders in all their respective glory...Of course, final editing and a print ready mock up will be created once the final selection is announced. Thanks again to all who contributed their creative efforts to find our club a new logo.



Historians Corner

A Look Back at Rallies and Rendezvous of the 1980s

After perusing more binders in my care I thought it might be interesting to see what our club was planning for their members in the 1980s. It is apparent that many of the events were made between Canadian and US clubs. It is obvious too that so many great memories were made with lots of laughs and camaraderie with all involved. I have looked at spring events and think you will find it interesting to see where the rallies were held. Maybe some of these locations could be revisited in coming years.

The 1981 Spring Rally was held in Amherstburg. Miss Ontario graced the group with her presence. As usual lots of good food. In the spring of 1984 the Ancaster Fairgrounds was the meeting place. This fairground has now been replaced by a beautiful new facility with a spacious main building and up-to-date barns for livestock. Ancaster holds a wonderful fair every fall. If you get a chance to attend you are sure to enjoy it.

A later rally in the year was held at the Glendale Fairgrounds. The membership were desperately searching for a young woman to represent the group at the 1985 International Rally as Miss Teen Queen.

- Prerequisite: age 13-19, parents, grandparents or legal guardians who own an Airstream trailer.
- Benefits: To have fun make new friends, travel and be able to expand or develop a new talent.

They eventually supported Laurel J. for the position. She is quite an accomplished young woman and I am sure she did the Unit proud representing us at the rally that was held in Lake Placid, New York.

In 1985 the Spring Rally was held in Cornwall at the Civic Centre Complex. At least 500 trailers attended and were described as a "Sea of Metallic Silver" by the local paper. The rally chairman Ed Elliott commented that unlike vacationing in hotels when you go to a park with other Airstreamers you meet and make friends in the first 10 minutes. I am sure that is one perk we can all attest to. Not only do we meet people we make good friends.

In the spring of 1986 the first rally was held in Bothwell. There was a presentation of Highland dancing. Later in the season members could attend an event in Port Severn. Midsummer saw a gathering in North Bay at the local arena. It was billed as a trip to the Near North. One of the highlights of that trip was a tour of NORAD, after giving all your personal information to the powers that be.

1987 was a Beamsville Rally at the Lincoln Fairgrounds. It was a Bring a Buddy Rally encouraging members to expose their friends to the Airstream way of life. 1988 saw an event called The Kingston Kapers. It was held at the St. Lawrence College Campus. This rally was held as a home base for tours to galleries, forts, the waterfront, Confederation train ride and historic homes. The Honourable Flora MacDonald, minister of communications, the mayor and other dignitaries took part in the opening ceremonies. 1989 ended the decade with a spring rally in Lambeth.

Submitted by Melanie C.

Caravan Corner

Well, it is the curse of living in “interesting times” — as most of you know by now, we have had to cancel the 2021 Autumn in the Maritimes Caravan, so it looks like Ray Barrick’s Group of Seven caravan will be our full 2021 program. Oh well, we tried!

Having cancelled our annual planned caravan for the second year in a row thanks to Covid-19, we have had time to reflect on how we got started in caravanning in the first place. It has been an adventure that has lasted for 15 years. We joined WBCCI and the Ontario Unit in the Fall of 2004, with our first activity being the Eastern Ontario Pre-Winter dinner. At that dinner, all the talk was focused on a caravan being planned by Royce and Kathy Graham, two wonderful people that we lost prematurely just a few years later. That caravan was the Trans-Canada Snowball Caravan, which would travel from Ottawa to Salem, Oregon for the International Rally in 2006. Along the way, the ranks of the caravan would grow with members from other Units in Canada joining us. We signed on right away. In the Spring of 2006 we bought our current Classic 31, making the Snowball not just our first caravan but also our first trip with the new trailer. It was truly an adventure and with Royce and Kathy’s leadership, it was a real introduction to the joys of caravan travel. By the time we reached Salem, I was sure that this was something I wanted to do. At the International Rally, I took the Caravan Leaders course and really got hooked.

The 2007 International Rally was to be in Perry, Georgia so I volunteered to plan and lead a caravan to Perry. It was great fun planning a trip that would take us onto the Blue Ridge Parkway and through some spectacular scenery. And fun it was, mixed with just a little more adventure than planned. I remember one member who had excitedly followed the planning at every step, discovering about an hour into the winding route of the Blue Ridge Parkway, that she and her husband both had a serious problem with vertigo. They bailed at the first exit and she was able to get up off the floor of their truck. A little further on, despite my admonitions to make sure everyone set out with a full gas tank, I got a worried CB call from one caravaner that he was very low on fuel. There are no gas stations on the Blue Ridge, so we headed downhill at the first exit to find a gas station. That exit turned out to be a series of classic mountain switchbacks and the low fuel rig, which I was following, was a big 34. By the time we got to the bottom, the smoke from his burning brakes was so thick that my eyes were watering in our truck. But, we made it, got gas and continued on. The reward was our camping experience at Virginia Highland Haven – just beautiful. A few days later as we headed to our campground on the verge of the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina, I committed the ultimate sin for a Caravan Leader - I got lost with a whole bunch of trusting folks faithfully following. With the help of some local advice and the great good luck of not meeting any oncoming vehicles on a one lane rural “road” that we were directed to, we eventually reached our destination. The rest of the caravan was without incident, but the caravan members decided to take up a collection to help me acquire one of those new fangled things called a GPS. I still have that old TomTom and some memories not to be forgotten.

Since then, we have run 15 more caravans for the Ontario Club, ranging from a few days to a few weeks to a few months. We have been back to the West Coast, east to PEI twice, north to the NWT and Yukon, around Lake Superior twice, to the Big Bend country of south Texas and through the Black Hills of South Dakota. All of it has been done with the company of the many helpful, friendly and adventurous people of our Club. That first experience, back in 2006 with Royce and Kathy, turned out to be life changing. I hope that we can keep traveling this way for a long time.

Caravan Leadership Training

The Club's training program is a modular, video based program that can be run in a one day session. When we can again start having our rallies, I hope to run a session for anyone who is interested in exploring the idea of caravan planning and leadership, or anyone who just wants to get a better idea of what caravanning is all about. The demand for caravans always exceeds the supply and we are always looking for new people to take on existing caravans or start new ones. Think about it and watch for announcements — we will get over this pandemic and get our Airstream lives back on the road. Until then, stay safe.

Submitted by Kerry M

Check us out! If you own an Airstream and are curious about what being a member of the Ontario Canada Unit and the Airstream Club International would be like, think about checking us out in person! We invite you to attend one of our events. Of course, event fees apply. See our calendar of events on page 4, and watch for further postings on the Events page of the Airstream Club International website.



SUBSTANCES THAT MAY HELP 'KILL' THE REFRIGERATOR ODOR

- Coffee grounds: No, not the ones left in the pot after you've perked up a batch. Toss a layer of unused coffee grounds in a pan and place it in the closed refrigerator. The odor of the grounds themselves will linger after they are removed, but should soon dissipate.
- Baking soda: Using a similar approach as to the grounds, a thick layer of baking soda in a pan may help.
- Charcoal briquettes: Charcoal has long been used as an air purifier. Put a few barbecue briquettes on the shelves and shut the door.
- Newspaper and bread: Crumple up some of today's bad news and toss inside the box (this is also a fantastic way to help prevent mold during the winter if the refrigerator is not being used). Add a few slices of bread. Tomorrow, you'll probably want to change them all out for new.
- Baking soda and vanilla: It is said to be the nuclear bomb of refrigerator odor killers. Take a half-cup of baking soda, stir in two tablespoons of pure vanilla extract. Leave it in a suitable container inside the closed refrigerator

Tips Reprinted from rvtravel.com submitted by Don M

Sunshine Corner

Hello there! The Sunshine news is quite scarce....So much so that there is none! Not a card has been sent out this Spring. I am holding to the hope that this means all is well with each one of you. But if perchance someone has been missed, it's never too late for us to get in touch.

Helen is looking for long term members to share how they became "streamers". So, with nothing to report, I thought I could write about our introduction to the Club. I hope 20 years owning Airstreams, with 16 of those years being Club Members, fits the criteria!

Our Airstream life began in 2001 when we purchased our first trailer from a couple in Sarnia. They were finishing their years on the road and we were ready to begin. At that time, we were residents of St. Catharines. Actually we thought we wanted to get into boating and had driven to Windsor to look at two boats when on the way back, John exited the 401 at Colonel Talbot Rd. Linda said "What are we getting off for?" and he said, "I always wanted to stop here and look at those aluminum trailers." There was nothing there at the time to suit us but it peaked our interest and began our relationship with Can-Am and Andy Thomson. Sarnia to London to St.Catharines was our first on-the-road experience. Little did we know how our lives would change with the purchase of that 1982 34ft. Classic Ltd! But it would take our second trailer, a 1990 34 ft. Classic Ltd, traded in for the '82 at Can-Am, to introduce us to the Club.



Our first of the 5 "switcheroo" adventures.

We were travelling north on I-75 from Florida to Thessalon when John suggested we check out Jackson Centre and take in the tour of the factory. While waiting for that to begin, John got to chatting with a couple from New Jersey who had been in an accident and were in for repair. Are you members of the Club, he was asked, to which he replied, what Club? Next thing Linda knew, we were in the truck and off through the town to WBCCI HQ where John had us signed up in a jiffy. The big red numbers were pushed across the counter and we went home ready to take on the task. We discovered that applying those numbers was not such an easy task....My job was to stand back and make sure they

were straight....Talk about stress! One would think we'd keep those numbers but when we sold the 1990, the numbers went with her. So the 1990 got sold privately and delivered at the spring rally in Almonte.

We could say we were trailer-less as of that moment but we really weren't. We had committed to a 1999 34 ft. Classic Ltd that we had discovered in Texas over the winter which we picked up in July and ordered a new number ('99 trailer purchased in our 40th anniversary year). This is getting too long so we'll wrap it up as quickly as possible... in 2011 we traded the '99 in on a 2005 34 ft Classic. Then in 2019 we traded the '05 in on our present 2016 30 ft. Classic. So that's our trailer history.

Both of us have been active in WBAC since we joined in 2005. We have been through the executive 'ladder' and still have positions within it. Linda continues in her role as Sunshine Lady while John is Grievance/Ethics committee chair and is also a trustee in the Classic Airstream Intra-Club.

The most important feature of belonging to the Club I've saved for the last. Yes, we travelled with family and friends and saw much of Canada and the USA. But the best part of it all is the friends we made in the Club! Both John and I have close families and great friends where we live but The Club has broadened our friendship pool. It's filled with people who care about us as much as we care about them. Even in these Covid days when we can't have our gatherings, our friendships have remained strong. And the best part is when we meet again, and we will, we'll just pick up where we left off.

Stay safe! Stay well! And enjoy your first trip when things open up and the sun shines again on our Club!

Submitted by Linda S



Waterton Lakes National Park "Salem Eh" Caravan 2018

Your 2021 Executive Board

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