



TARHEEL TRAVELER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB
THE 21ST CLUB IN WBCCI FORMED IN 1960



PRESIDENTS CORNER

BRUCE THOMPSON #5027

Hello Streamers – Hope you are surviving these Hot days, and now rains from the Fred storm. As the full-timers tell us, “if you don’t like the weather, hook up the Airstream and find a better spot”.

August 14th

I’m here at Natural Tunnel State Park, hand-writing my newsletter article (because I forgot to bring my laptop.) We’ve had a wonderful rally here – great planning as usual by Bruce & Claire Bodenstein. 15 rigs & 28 people – such a great rally group. And, what a venue: There’s the local history and the scenic beauty, and of course there’s the music that’s prevalent in the western mountains of NC, VA, and WV. We may need to repeat this one.

We enjoyed the play of The Trail of the Lonesome Pine, a novel by John Fox, Jr., which was celebrating its 58th year in production there at [Big Stone Gap](#) in Virginia. We also dined at the residence where the novel was written, and the food was fabulous! Great Show!

Last Month

Then there was the International Rally at Lebanon... with four International Rallies under my belt – this was my favorite, and the weather wasn’t too hot for a change. Our Carolinas Club was well-represented with 56 members, ~half of whom had to get there early as they were Volunteers at the Rally. The other half, 17 rigs, were in the caravan and were parked together,

which facilitated many Happy Hours & group gatherings. Next year, the International Rally will be in Fryeburg, Maine!

Also, as some of us were unable to escape work for a week-long rally, so we had a 3-day rally at [Paradise Lake](#) near Lynchburg, VA, which turned out to be a huge success, thanks to our first-time Rally Hosts Bob and Carol Rychly #7382. Sometimes smaller rallies are the Best!

Upcoming

Next Up, our Williamsburg VA Rally, Sept. 16 – 19th. There’s still time to register, but you need to hurry: <https://airstreamclub.org/2021-williamsburg-va-rally>

Our Sanctuary Vineyard Rally. Oct. 14 – 17th is **Full**, so there’s a Waiting List and you know how those lists Move as people’s schedules shift. So get on the List if you’re interested. <https://airstreamclub.org/2021-nc-outer-banks-rally>

Our Ocean Lakes Rally is **now Full** as well. Our current registrants is 112 people, so our Hosts Rocky & Susan Johnson are working on feeding that crowd – the most we’ve ever had at that venue! The agenda includes bingo, door prizes, flea market, seminars, and the famous Low-Country Boil. The Waiting List for Ocean Lake will shift as time gets closer, so get on the List: <https://airstreamclub.org/0212021-myrtle-beach-sc-rally>

Don't forget to RSVP!! – IT'S THE **ONLY** TOOL THE HOSTS HAVE FOR PLANNING. (How would you react to 20 visitors showing up at your house for dinner, when you only prepared for the 10 that RSVP? BTW, RSVP stands for a French phrase **Répondez s'il vous plaît** that simply means “please reply”.)

Reminders

- **CAC Happy Hour at 4:00 PM** on the **Last Saturday of every Month**. For August, that's the **28th**. This has become a ritual that allows us to pass along updates and news of upcoming events. There's an agenda item dedicated to our new members, and we get updates from our “Road Warriors”. So check in with us! BYOB

One of Our Own

Our 2nd VP Ricky Wilcox contracted COVID-19 and was admitted to the hospital August 10th. Each day has shown some improvements, but he says it will be a long, slow recovery process. He thanks everyone for the prayers and well-wishes, and will keep us posted on his progress.

Soapbox

As you've probably noticed, the face masks are coming back. Some places are already mandating them. Again. As much as I dislike them, they do serve a good purpose to protect others and ourselves. So, when in confined spaces, do your part whether you're vaccinated or not.

Thanks,

Stay Safe, and we'll see you at a Rally!

Bruce

2021 RALLIES

BRUCE BODENSTEIN #8168, 1ST VP

Editor's note: The beginning of Bruce B's article was about the Natural Tunnel rally and will be in the upcoming September newsletter

On the topic of rallies, I have a favor to ask. If you have campground reservations for one of the remaining club rallies this year, try to remember to “RSVP” or “join” that rally, on our website as well. If you're not sure, you can always email 021info@wbcci.net to verify with our webmaster that you're on the list of attendees.

This is the *second* part of “signing up” for a rally and is critical for two reasons' 1) The hosts get an accurate head count for planning purposes and 2) Again, assuring that the hosts receive their full budgeted dollar amount to pay any expenses incurred.

I find myself frequently and accidentally skipping this important component of our rally experience. Thanks for listening.

Happy trails and see you down the road.

~ Bruce B, 1st VP

2022 RALLIES

RICKY WILCOX #5016 2ND VP

Well, this just might be the most unusual newsletter article I've ever written. I don't have any of my travel notes with me and I'm quarantined, so I don't have any way to get them either. That's because I'm actually in the [Caro Mont Hospital's](#) ICU in Gastonia. I definitely have Covid and it's bad, really bad. I don't

know what my traveling future is going to look like. Short term probably not too good. It's going to take a while to recover from this one. I hope at some point in time things can get to normal, if there is such a thing as normal. LOL There's a lot of things Joan and I were planning on finishing up 2021. Also 2022 is shaping up for a busy year as well. I'm just not sure what my part might be. I love all you fellow travelers and look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Thanks,

~Ricky, 2nd VP

Editor's note:

Ricky cannot receive any cards or packages. You can mail cards c/o Joan and she will take a picture and send to Ricky's phone. Or text Ricky to see when he can talk.

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704-451-6048 (Joan)
Email: rickywilcox@carolina.rr.com



ELAINE MYERS #16767
quirkyquilter@pemt.net

Ricky and Joan Wilcox #5016 both contracted COVID. Joan recovered fairly quickly, but Ricky is in the hospital, still on oxygen, but slowly improving. No word on how long he will be hospitalized. Joan cannot visit him there. Please send prayers and healing thoughts their way.

John Walsh #7481 is also recovering from a bout with COVID. He is resting at home. Thoughts and prayers for him as well.

Susan Johnson #7322 had knee replacement surgery, and rehab has already started. She says she will see everyone down the road...SOON! Can't wait, Susan!

Congrats to Barry Berglund #3430 for getting his injured Airstream back on the road - an accident took out the left side, but the repairs and cosmetic surgery are impeccable! Silver Leaf II rides again! :-D

E!

Keep close to Nature's heart and break clear, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean. ~ John Muir

2022 INTERNATIONAL

To register online you have to be logged into the members-only section of the ACI website:

<https://airstreamclub.org/>

The 2022 International Rally dates are

July 23rd to July 29th, 2022.

A club caravan to Maine is being planned now!

MEMBERSHIP

DALE DOWLER #1972, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Our newest members (details in Evernote):

- **Patricia Lynch** from Hendersonville, NC, and her 2018 22' Bambi Sport
- **Jim & Robin Proctor** from Lake Lure, NC, and their 1992 29' Excella

Welcome all! See you down the road!

BALLOON FEST STATESVILLE, NC

October 15-17, 2021

Please join members of the Southeastern Camping, Carolinas, South Carolina Coastal, Florida, and other Airstream Clubs from Region 3 and beyond for the Carolina Balloon Fest Rally in Statesville, NC October 15-17, 2021.

We will have parking convenient to the entrance to the festival grounds. The festival will be located at the same site as previous festivals, adjacent to the Statesville, NC airport. The schedule is available at: <http://www.carolinaballoonfest.com/>

All RVers:

- 1) Complete the RV Application:

http://www.carolinaballoonfest.com/uploads/2/5/3/3/25331844/2021_wallybyam_airstream_cbf_rv_application_form.pdf

Payment:

Option 1: Online registration: -
<http://www.carolinaballoonfest.com/wally-byam-airstream-portal.html>

→ Password: **CBF#2021**

Option 2: Tell awaschka@bellsouth.net. Sign up using the standard [RV Parking application](#). Write “**Airstream Rally**” on the application when you send

The festival has reserved 20 spots for us, but in order to guarantee a space with the club, our applications and deposits will have to be received before the slots

fill up. As was done in 2019, the festival will start assigning spaces with WBAC at space 1 and the general public starting at space 75.

This will be a no-frills rally with no rally fee. We will not have any scheduled meals or happy hours due to the need for flexibility as the event timing is dictated by weather conditions. Please feel free to gather as you wish but abide by any applicable Covid-19 restrictions or personal preferences.

Notes:

1. Per Festival policy, reservations are not refundable but the festival has in the past supported transfer of a reservation to another person as needed.
2. This is boondock-style camping. Arrive full of water, batteries charged, and holding tanks empty! Generators are allowed and pets are OK in the camping area. There will be food trucks on site, but they have been crowded in the past. Exit and re-entry are possible, but not convenient, so best plan to bring enough food and drink for the rally

Al Waschka #1322

HAM NEWS

These folks passed their radio exams at the 64th International rally in Lebanon, TN:

- KO4SFP Bob Ealy General
- KO4SFV Shari Hord Technician
- W4LAD Kathy Tucker Technician
- K4UOK Phil Drake Extra

Congratulations all!

We now have 29 amateur radio operators in this club!!!



64th International Rally

The Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc.
Jul 17 to 24, 2021

We Rally Together



Coming into Lebanon

Photo by Nancy Kueffer #10367



Arriving at the bullpen in Lebanon

Photo Wayne Clark #22384



If you went to the Grand Ole Opry, you probably talked to George Beckwith #29401!

Photo by Wayne Clark #22384



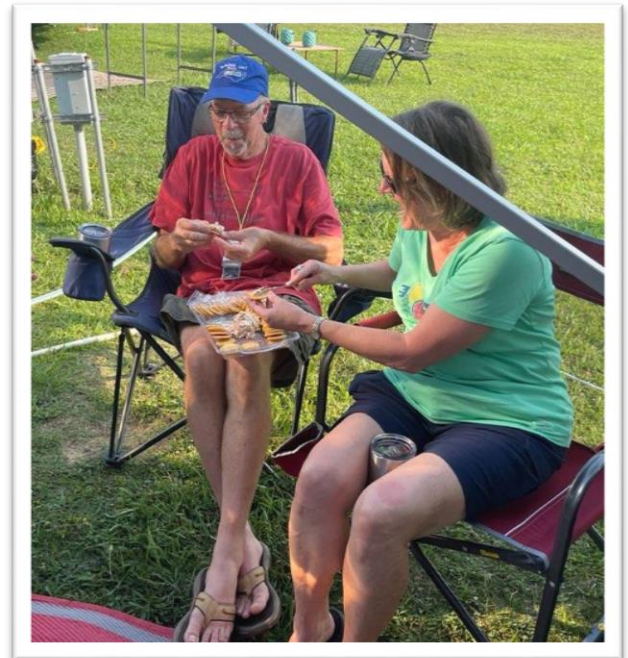
3 Amigos – Randy, Bruce, John

Photo by Phil Drake #5789



Randy Hord #5724 working at the club store

Photo by Wayne Clark #22384



Randy & Shari Hord #5724

Photo by Wayne Clark #22384



Submitted by Kathy Tucker #3223



*Photo by Peter Davey #23528 Virginia
Airstream Club*



Submitted by Ricky Wilcox #5016



Photos by Kathy Tucker #3223

HAPPY CAMPERS!
60's Dance sponsored by VAC

Photos by Wayne Clark #22384

