



PALMETTO STATE AIRSTREAM CLUB  
UNIT 022 WBCCI



**January-February 2021**

### Inside this Edition:

Page 2 – President's Message, Officers

Page 3 – Birthdays, Anniversary,  
Nuts & Bolts, Cares

Page 4 – 2021 Rally Schedule

Page 5 – Welcome New Members

Page 6 & 7 – Travels & Tales

Pages 8, 9 & 10 – Recipes

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### President's Message:

#### **KEEP THOSE WHEELS A ROLLIN'**

Our Airstream is not nearly as well traveled as some, but it has enjoyed the sights of Maine on a couple of occasions, twice to Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Florida and a whole month in Texas last year, to name a few. What have we learned from these adventures? We and our Airstream are much happier when we are out and about than when we are sitting at home.

The truth is: your Airstream was made for moving on down the road. Remember, that's one of the reasons you bought it in the first place.

It's alright to travel a distance and just enjoy a new venue for a while, like parking your "beauty" right there on the curb in downtown York, SC. Besides, they won't chase you off. As a matter of fact, they will make a space for you. That's how welcoming the City of York is to "Silver in the City."

They love for us to show up . . . sort of roll out the red carpet.

Put it on your calendar: Thursday, April 15 through Sunday, April 18 2021 . . . Silver in the City. Terry Montgomery can tell you all you will ever need to know about this event. It was his brainchild!

Then you can hook up and start rolling on down to Tallahassee, FL for our Airstream Region 3 Rally. It should be an easy trip because you will have 3-4 days to mosey on down there. The rally (April 21-25, 2021) will be held at the North Florida Fairgrounds, 441 East Paul Russell Road in Tallahassee, FL 32301. Lots of new people, vendors, seminars . . . the whole works!

Registration details are not available yet. We will let you know when they are, but for now, you might want to put it on your calendar.

Don't forget some of our other sights right here in SC. We are holding 20 sites at the Crooked Creek RV Park, 777 Arvee Ln., West Union, SC 29696. You can make your reservation for May 14-16, 2021 by calling (864) 882-5040. Be sure to tell them you are part of the Palmetto State Airstream Club. We already have 7 units who have made reservations and if we reach 15 units, we get a bigger discount. RV Camping is at an all-time high and campgrounds are filling up.

Don't miss out on all the fun this Spring! Keep those wheels a rollin' and we'll see you down the road.

Paul Welch – PSAC





#### January Birthdays:

Steve Schnaubelt – 5  
Eric Pollard – 9  
Pat Chapel – 12  
Paul Welch – 16  
Gail Broadway – 20  
Terry Montgomery – 22  
Susan Leake – 24  
Donna Pollard – 26

#### January Anniversaries:

George & Martha Harris – 25

#### February Birthdays:

Thomas Suttlemyre – 4  
Joanne Wallis – 4

#### February Anniversaries:

Tom & Nancy Suttlemyre – 19

#### March Birthdays:

Mark Weaver – 9  
Jan Wilson – 14  
Bob Eggebrecht – 27

#### March Anniversaries:

*Happy Anniversary!*

#### Cares:

- Chuck Hearn is healing from shoulder surgery.
- Eric Pollard is healing from a minor surgery.
- Prayers for Tom and Nancy Suttlemyre. They are dealing with home repairs after their washer leaked and flooded their house. This leak caused lots of damage to their house.
- Continued prayers for George Harris and Diane Butts.



#### Nuts & Bolts:

##### **RV battery maintenance tips:**

Did you know when you properly maintain your 12 volt lead-acid, deep-cycle batteries they could last up to at least six (6) years or more? They just require some basic maintenance.

But first of all, before you get started let's talk safety. Do not smoke or use an open flame around lead-acid batteries! Also, it is important that you use eye protection and gloves. You should also remove your jewelry before performing any sort of maintenance on your batteries.

##### Now for a few more tips:

Make sure to recharge your battery as soon as possible. This will extend the life of the battery. Sulfation starts as soon as your battery state drops below 12.4 volts. **NOTE:** Never let a 12 volt battery discharge below 12 volts! A fully charged battery should be 12.7 volts.

Your RV or trailer has what is known as parasitic loads that can discharge your batteries overtime. Some examples are LP gas leak detectors, TV antenna power boosters, clocks, stereos, and appliance circuit boards. When storing your RV or trailer for long periods of time without having it plugged into a shore power, you may want to disconnect the batteries.

High temperatures and high usage is the enemy and it will kill your batteries quickly. Keep the water levels checked and topped off with distilled water, as needed.

Batteries should only be watered after charging, unless the plates are exposed. If the plates are exposed add enough water to cover the plates and charge the battery. When the battery is fully charged fill each cell to the bottom of the vent well. Always leave the vent caps on when charging your batteries.

In closing just a few more reminders:

1. A fully charged battery is 12.7 volts
2. Below 12 volts is at or below 50% charge
3. Lots but not all RV or trailer converters are 3-Stage or multi-stage chargers which will properly charge your batteries

Save you a \$150 headache times two. Do your best to maintain your batteries. I hope that you will find this version of Nuts and Bolts helpful.

No one wants one of those oh moments when you discover that you have too weak or dead batteries. Besides, there could be a lot of other stuff in your RV or trailer that does not work as results of not taking care of your batteries. In the meantime safe travels to you all and see ya down the road.

Terry Montgomery – BRN 3156



# 2021 Airstream Rally Schedule

## Valentine's Luncheon: Feb 13 at 11 am

Clearview Baptist Church  
5611 State Park Rd.  
Travelers Rest SC 29690

Our caterer will be Sammie Daigle. She and her staff are excellent and will take every precaution to serve a safe and tasty meal.

COVID precautions:

The cost will be \$12.00 per person for the meal. We will need an exact count so Sammie will know how many meals to prepare, so you will need to pay for your meal in advance.

### The Menu:

Parmesan Crusted Baked Chicken  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Green Beans  
Rolls  
Tea & Coffee  
Dessert (homemade)

**Paul Welch will need your payment in hand by Saturday, February, 6, 2021. If you are writing a check, please make it out to Sammie Daigle.** When Paul receives your payment, he will contact you to confirm that you are on the list.

## March 12-14, 2021

Ocean Lakes at Myrtle Beach  
Ocean Lakes Rates \$45 plus tax, ocean front with concrete pad . . . they are holding 20 sites . . . individuals must make their own reservation under Palmetto State Airstream Club. Suggest you make your reservations as soon as possible.

## April 15-18, 2021

Silver In The City, York, SC

## April 21-25, 2021

Region 3 Rally  
North Florida Fairgrounds  
441 Paul Russell Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
PHONE: 850-878-3247  
FAX: 850-942-6950  
sales@northfloridafair.com  
www.northfloridafair.com



Eric Pollard has graciously agreed to find hosts for the rallies and give assistance, as needed, for rally schedules . . . and as always, we will all step in and make their job a lot easier.

Let's all get ready for some fun and adventure in 2021. After all, we're Airstreamers!

## May 14-16, 2021

Crooked Creek RV Park  
777 Arvee Ln.  
West Union, SC 29696  
(864) 882-5040

The Park is holding 20 sites, individuals must make their own reservation under Palmetto State Airstream Club.

## June 11-13, 2021

Kids' Rally  
Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, SC

## July 16-24, 2021

Airstream International Rally  
Lebanon, TN

## August 13-15, 2021

Airstream Rally  
Top of Georgia

## September 10-12, 2021

Airstream Rally  
Joint rally with Coastal Unit at  
Wateree State Park  
*Bill & Joyce Butucel volunteered to host*

## October 21-24, 2021

Alumalina  
Tom Johnson, Marion, NC

## November 5-7, 2021

Airstream Installation Rally  
Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, SC



## Welcome New Members:

We retired at the end of 2018, and six months earlier, we purchased a Montana High Country 5th wheel. At the time, we had never "camped", so we truly didn't have a good understanding of, or appreciation for, all of the things that needed to be considered when starting this journey, so we made our fair share of mistakes.

The Montana was not a great decision for lots of reasons, primarily quality and warranty issues, so we decided to change to a better quality unit. Still thinking that we wanted the interior space, stability when towing etc. that a 5th wheel offers, we traded the Montana for a 42' Solitude. Again, not a great decision! The Solitude is a really good product, but it is BIG. The challenges of maneuvering it in tight spaces, finding "big rig" friendly sites and the inability to camp in many State Parks, National Parks etc. caused us to rethink our overall rig, etc.

Truthfully, my wife rethought it and informed me that we were going to get something smaller. After 48 years of marriage, I knew when to say yes Mamm, so we started looking for alternatives. Neither of us likes the quality or looks of the SOB's, so Airstream was pretty much the only thing that we considered. The end result was a 2020 Classic 30' RB, that we purchased from Out of Doors Mart in Greensboro, NC. last June.

Since then, we have camped about 60 nights and driven around 12,000 miles. It has been a delightful experience, and obviously, I wish we had been smarter and started with the Airstream. Our overall observations are that Airstream quality is significantly better than the SOB's, warranty support is much, much better, towing is a dream (Hensley hitch makes all the difference in the world re: sway etc.), the Airstream community is welcoming and supportive, and the Airstream simply has a different and much more pleasant "feel" from the SOB's. Instead of feeling like we are in an apartment with a limited view of the outside, the windows and openness of the Airstream make us feel more like we are part of the environment around us.

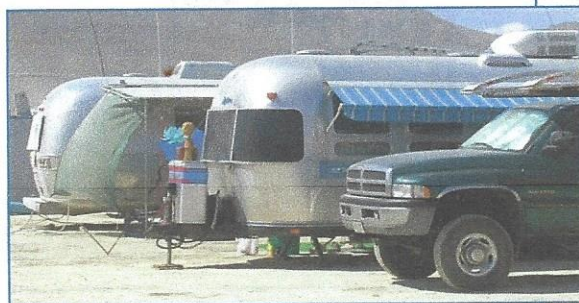
Depending on the Covid situation, on May 1st, our friends Mary and Larry McDaniel and their son Hunter will join us with their 30' Classic, and we are headed back out west to Utah, Colorado, Arizona, Montana, South Dakota and points between for about 10 weeks. Retirement is good!!!

If things settle down with Covid by spring of 2022 and Canada opens up, we are seriously thinking about a trip to Alaska with Larry and Mary. Just keeping our fingers crossed on that plan at this point.

That is probably more than you wanted to know!

We look forward to meeting you all at some point a long the way.

Best regards,  
Ancel and Cheryl Hamilton





# Travels and Tales

Well as I sit here in front of a roaring fire safely back home, I ponder my thoughts of our latest trip to Knoxville and Florida for the holidays. What went right, what went wrong and could I have prepared better to make it go smoother?

We started our adventure on Christmas day, and drove to our kid's house in Knoxville TN. Because of limited bedroom space, we drove our Argosy MH which is still a work in progress. Hey, for a night or two, what could go wrong?

The MH did great but mother nature decided to rain/snow on our little camp out, we got 2" of rain, followed by 6" of snow, and then the temperature dropped to 7 degrees just to seal the deal! It was beautiful but cold. The furnace that worked fine when we left home didn't survive the cold nylon tires warming up and never lit off after we arrived. At 10:00 pm the toilet froze and by 12:00 pm, the water pump froze, and this was with an electric heater and LP propane heater running wide open. We had to wait on the big yellow ball in the sky to thaw us out.

We had a great Christmas with the granddaughter and kids, thawed out the MH and headed back home to SC knowing we only had two days to swap everything to the AS, load the Milk truck and head to a vintage camping rally in Salt spring FL. We made lists, we checked them twice loaded up and headed south for New Year's E with 30 other campers.

This was the first long trip with the new 6.0 L turbocharged gas engine in my 1959 Chevy milk truck. The intent of swapping engines was to increase pulling power at lower rpm and hoping to get a little better gas mileage. Well that plan half worked, it pulls like a beast but like all beasts they must be fed. The gas mileage went from around 9 mpg with the LS1 to about 6 with this new one, but hey, it was cruising down the highway great. We even survived two 30 minute traffic jams going through Atlanta. Somewhere, just above Tifton, GA after all the traffic jams and delays, radio blasting road thumping, I get a chug and all goes quiet. As luck would have it, we were a few hundred feet from an exit ramp. We coasted up the ramp and as I started flipping switches and kicking things, I switched to the reserve fuel tank and varoom its running again. Feeling really proud of myself for putting two complete fuel systems in place we headed back down the road but now with only a 12 gallon tank. Okay, that can work; just stop a lot more often until we get to our first halfway campsite in Valdosta.

It was getting dark and we had a campsite reserved about 15 miles down the highway. Maybe I can figure out what happened to the main tank and then chug, and all goes quiet again, with no backup, we coast about a half mile and there we sit on the side of I-75. Great, now what?



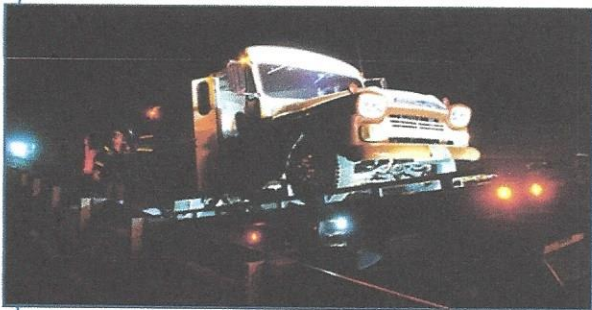
<https://airstreamclub.org/palmetto-south-carolina>



## Travels and Tales continued...

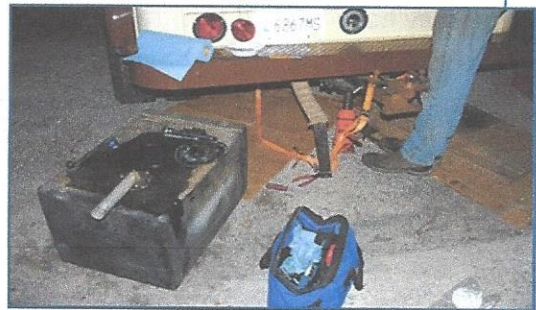
Of course my phone battery is now dead from rocking out to Pandora. I find the charger and get enough signal to find a wrecker that can tow the milk truck and AS somewhere to fix it. After a few calls I find GT wrecker which is only a few miles away and they have a shop. I call the campground to see if I could tow it there, where I can work on it, but I end up leaving a message. As the wrecker pulls up, I get my call back from the campground, absolutely not, no working on anything! Great! I plead my case to the wrecker driver and tell him I have tools, and offer to pay for his shop time. I guess we looked pitiful, at least enough that they dropped us at the parking lot, in front of their business to camp and work on the AS that night.

It's now 9:00 pm but we are safely off the expressway. Full moon, two street lights, a flashlight and our trusty AS to boondock for the night. I've been driving all day, stressed out from all that went wrong, but can't sleep until I know what happened to cause two separate fuel systems to quit in just 45 miles. It's got to be the fuel right? Of course the main tank is about 3/4 full and weighs a ton. I had a 12 ton bottle jack, a couple of ratchet straps and a box of tools, plus the handy piece of cardboard I carry as a pad to lay on. After about an hour, the tank is on the ground, the fuel pump is out, one little broken wire is repaired on the fuel pump and hands are covered in silicon and sand. Are we having fun yet? By now I'm wiped out. It's time to get some sleep in our warm AS, but wait, the batteries are half dead. Can't deal with that now, I need to sleep... 5:00 am rolls around and I go outside and put the tank back in, calling the guy that built it (me) every name in the book for putting that bolt in just the wrong place. Crank it up and all is good again. By then the shop was opening up so I could say thank you and get on the way.



First stop, a gas station to fill everything up. I didn't look reserve tank, I figure let's get going. I can fix that get to the gas station I fill up the main tank and then fill up the reserve. It's frick'n empty! It had run out of really, 12 gal tank x 6 mpg = empty. I was so proud of about installing a second tank; I never ran it dry to see much it picked up. I just assumed and we all know what word ASSUME stands for. We drove on into the at Salt Springs with a new story to add to our adventures.

As for the battery problem, I realized the AS batteries were 7 years old and had given their all. Man, how time flies! We met a lot of new friends and got re-acquainted with some old and enjoyed the AS. We celebrated New Year's and then drove a little over 300 uneventful miles to Can-opener to spend a week having a great time seeing more friends, old and new.



Made it home without any more problems, well none I'm going to talk about. Lessons learned never assume (we already discussed what that stands for), run your tanks out to know when they run out, change and test your batteries, and keep water in your tank. You never know when you might have to depend on the AS for life support and always work to make improvements. As I end this story, the engine is out of the Milk Truck and in for revision 3. You can follow that story on MILK TRUCK BARN FIND.

Thanks for listening.

Doug Wallis - WBCCI #19773

<https://airstreamclub.org/palmetto-south-carolina>

# Recipes

## Chocolate Éclair

By Linda Foster

### Ingredients:

2-small boxes of French Vanilla Instant Pudding

3-Cups Milk

1-8 oz. Cool Whip

1-box Graham Crackers

1-can Chocolate Icing

### Directions:

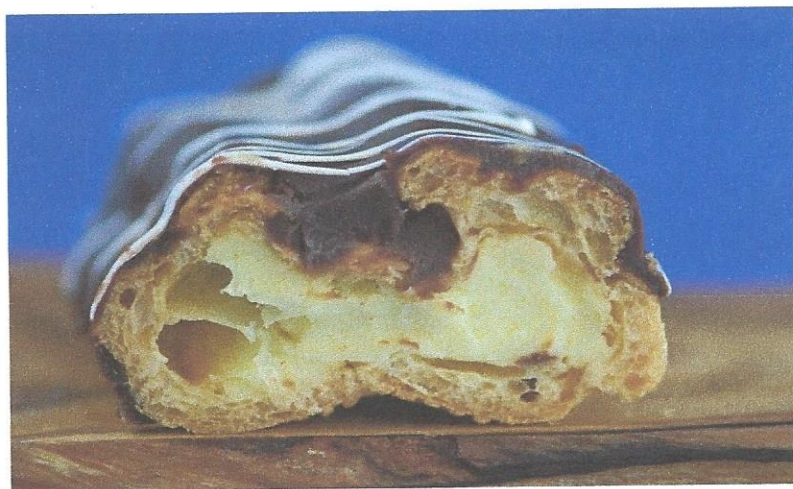
Mix pudding and milk together, then fold in cool whip.

Layer bottom of 9 x 12 pan with graham crackers. Pour 1/2 of the pudding mixture over graham crackers. Add another layer of graham crackers again, then pour the rest of the pudding on top of that layer of graham crackers. Add another layer of graham crackers on top and then spread chocolate icing over the top of last layer graham crackers.

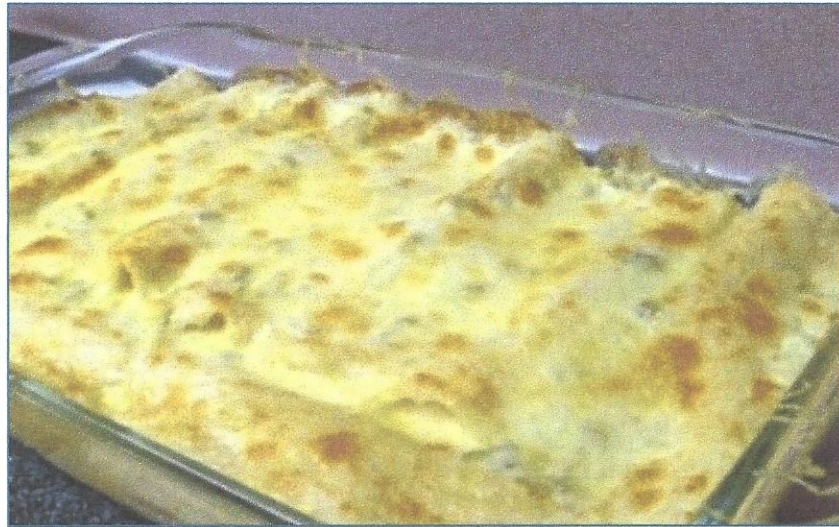
### Tip:

You may have to hold the graham crackers down when spreading icing. (A little tricky).

Enjoy!







## Chicken Enchiladas

by Joyce Butucel

### Ingredients:

8-10 flour tortillas (soft taco size)  
2-cups cooked, shredded chicken  
3-tablespoons butter  
3-tablespoons flour  
2-cups chicken broth  
1-cup sour cream  
1-(4 oz. can diced green chilies

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Mix the chicken with 1-cup cheese then roll up in tortillas and place in 9 x 13" sprayed pan (seam side down).
3. Melt butter in a small sauce pan over medium heat and whisk in flour, cook for 1-minute while stirring. Add in broth and whisk until smooth. Once sauce has thickened, turn off the heat and add in sour cream chilies, mix until all combined.
4. Pour sauce over enchiladas and top with remaining cheese.
5. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

# Cowboy Stew Dutch Oven Recipe

By Donna Pollard

## Ingredients:

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 onion
- 3 potatoes  
(all cans are about 15 oz.)
- 1 can green beans
- 1 can baked beans
- 1 can black beans
- 1 can tomato soup
- 1 can corn
- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1 tsp Chili powder
- 1 tsp cayenne pepper
- Salt and pepper

## Instructions:

Cut potatoes into 1 inch cubes.

Dice onion.

Place dutch oven over 375 degree heat for *Frying*.

Brown ground beef and onion.

Add potatoes and contents of all cans, undrained.

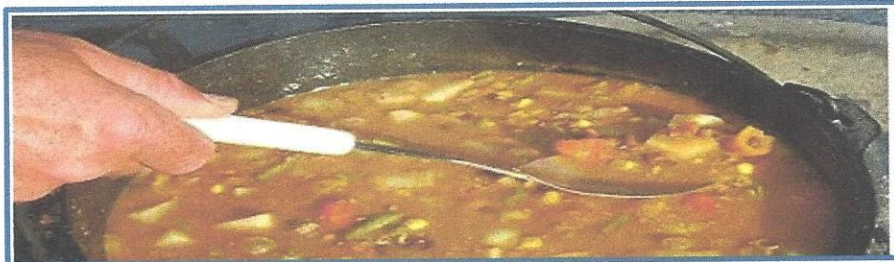
Fill one can about half full of water and pour it between all cans to clean them out. Pour the water into the dutch oven.

Add spices (more or less if you like bland or spicy)

Reduce heat to about 225 degrees.

Simmer until potatoes are soft (about 45 minutes), stirring every 5 or 10 minutes.

Serves about 8.



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