# NORVANEWS October 2021



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome everyone, I am Ronald Raymond, president of the NORVA Airstream Club for 2021-2022. Your new officers and I are ready for the year ahead.

I would personally like to offer kudos to Gerry and Patsy Nagel, now past president and first lady for sharing their knowledge, experience, leadership, and enthusiasm for the past 12 months. Their stories and insights have been contagious. To their current and past board members, THANK YOU!

Moving forward, Tom Carmichael is taking a welldeserved break from the Board; Lew Brodsky (Membership) continues to work hard to introduce others to the Club and its benefits.



Half Dome, Yosemite National Park.



President Ron and First Lady Chris

Peter West has already drafted an itinerary for the club caravan to Maine in July; Gail Perkins (Secretary) has agreed to keep us informed of board actions; Beth Jones (Legislative Director) will continue keeping us within the club guidelines; Kevin Quinn (Treasurer) will keep working his magic with the multiple spreadsheets and financial reports; and Gary and Sue Shepard (Newsletter Editors) still have heart for building community and camaraderie by highlighting club members, rallies, and caravans. Thank you, again, to ALL Board members.



Now, for a little information about your new president and first lady. We have been Airstreaming since 1987. We tried another brand of RV but quickly came back to our Airstream realizing this was the life we enjoyed most. Both of us were Membership Directors and quickly learned the more you participate the more you get in return.

We are on our fifth Airstream. Looking back, we began with a 1978 25-foot Classic, to a 1999 29-foot Classic, to a 2008 30-foot with slide, to a 2018 26-foot Flying Cloud, and finally to our home away from home 2020 27-foot Globetrotter. Each trailer has served us well with purpose. The Airstream, was introduced us to as "the Handyman's toy," and it is that.

We hit the road for five years, traveling around the U.S. twice often volunteering. We've had U.S. presidents staring down at us at Mount Rushmore and hot air balloons taking off near us in Indio, CA, to highlight a few of our many memories. We recently celebrated our 50th Anniversary traveling back to California to camp host at Yosemite National Park's valley campgrounds.



Shoshone Falls, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Have you ever dreamed of camping at the mouth of the Mississippi River and four days later, finding yourself in Yosemite? We had Half Dome as our backdrop and the river soothing our minds nearby. We volunteered for 2 ½ months working a light schedule of 3-4 days a week for 6 hours daily. While in Yosemite, we went off the grid for three months... no phone, internet, computer, or TV streaming. No outside contact except when we drove a few miles for supplies. WE DID IT! We handled it well after a short withdrawal. Books, games, and friends were our mainstays. Yes, we would do it again.

Have you ever been to Boise? We were blown away by all there was to see and do. Remember Evil Knievel jumping a 1000- foot gorge on his motorcycle? His jump took place there. We were captivated by base jumpers jumping off the bridge, canoes and paddle boarders were in the river below, and the Shoshone Waterfalls were as beautiful as Niagara Falls in their own way.

I find Airstream Dreamin' signifies hopes for the 2021-2022 season. New members and not-so-new members (hopefully) will join NORVA at Club events, other Club events or International events. New Airstream owners will find a wealth of knowledge in a club setting. The outings will provide information on Airstreaming, places to go, things to do, all the while linking new and old friends. Give club events and gatherings a try. Your home on wheels will thank you for it.

Ronald Raymond, NORVA President



# Induction of the 2021-2022 NORVA Board Members

The new officers for NORVA were inducted at the Commonwealth Rally, Williamsburg, Va. on Sept. 24-26. Tidewater hosted a fantastic joint rally. NORVA provided breakfast for the 90 people in attendance. NORVA had the highest officer representation present. NORVA officers followed Gerry's lead and dressed in the traditional induction garb of navy and white. As you can see from the photos, NORVA was on pointe. Following the induction ceremony, the Raymond's hosted a campfire for the Club, and officers flags were distributed by Gerry, and there was good discussion about NORVA and social media, possible upcoming events, and the Club Caravan for 2022. The office of 1<sup>st</sup> vice president is still open. Please reach out to one of the officers if you are interested. Until then, Seneca, the Perkins Lab, has agreed to fill in. STRE





2021-2022 NORVA Officers (L-R) Peter West, Patsy Nagel, Gerry Nagel, Chris Raymond, Ron Raymond, Sue Shepard, Lew Brodsky, Gail Perkins. Missing: Kevin Quinn, Ed and Beth Jones.

# Commonwealth Rally



Gail Perkins, Patsy Nagel, Sue Shepard



Jane and Dick Arnold, Tom Carmichael, Lew and Cathy Brodsky



Norma and Eric Colby and Susan and Doug Anderson





Past President Gerry and First Lady Patsy



Tom Carmichael with some morning cheer.



Doug and Gail Perkins flipping breakfast burritos.

# Breakfast



Homemade breakfast burritos made by club members.



Doug Anderson contemplating the day.











Pete and Elizabeth West.



Eric Colby, Tom Carmichael and Ron Raymond.

### NORVA's Ohio Caravan Part THREE

(Editor's note: This is the final installment of an article about the NORVA Caravan conducted in June 2021.) Submitted by: Lew Brodsky



Ready to tour, Lois and Bob HItchcock, Patsy Nagel, Cathy Brodsky, Carol Luther, Gerry Nagel, Dave Carlig, Jackson McBroom

After 11 days in southwestern and central Ohio, it was time for leaders Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom to take the 10 couples on NORVA's "Ohio Presidents and Historic Icons" caravan to the third and final campground of the 17-day tour. On June 14<sup>th</sup>, the group headed for Streetsboro, a community about 26 miles southeast of central Cleveland. For the final five nights they used Woodside Lake Park Campground there as their base of operations.





Woodland Lake Park Campground.

of New York. Up to this point the caravanners had visited many iconic Ohio places, including the homes and tombs of five U.S. presidents: W. H. Harrison, Grant, Hayes, Taft, and Harding. But Ohio claims eight presidents. Three remaining? No...only two. The group could not visit sites associated with Benjamin Harrison

(23<sup>rd</sup> president, term: 1889 to 1893, grandson of the 9<sup>th</sup> president, W. H. Harrison) because none remains. There is a single historical marker near where he was born in North Bend, but the birthplace farmhouse no longer exists. Jackson explained that Benjamin Harrison grew up and attended schools in Ohio, but in 1854, at age 21 and newly married, Harrison and his wife moved to Indiana. It was in Indiana that Harrison's political career blossomed, eventually leading to his election as U.S. president (23<sup>rd</sup> president; term: 1889 to 1893). Thus, Harrison's presidential home is in Indianapolis, not Ohio.



Garfield's home, Mentor, OH.

There were two homes/tombs of Ohio presidents still to be visited in the northeastern section of the state where the caravanners now made camp. Historically, both presidents suffered the same fate; their presidencies were cut short by an assassin's bullet. Consequently, their tombs are huge and ornate; the most elaborate, dome-crested memorials seen on the caravan.



President James Garfield.

James Garfield (the 20<sup>th</sup> president; term: only six months in 1881 [assassinated]) is entombed at Lake View Cemetery in Cleveland. He was mortally wounded in Washington, D.C., less than four months into his presidency. The shot came from the gun of a mentally disturbed man who had unsuccessfully sought a patronage appointment in the Garfield administration. The new president never recovered from the wound because he received inept and unsanitary medical treatment. He died of infection two months later and was succeeded by his vice president, Chester A. Arthur of New York.



Garfield's home is in the town of Mentor, east of Cleveland near the shoreline of Lake Erie. It is open to the public as a National Historic Site maintained by the National Park Service. A decorated Civil War veteran, affable family man, and

popular member of Congress, Garfield was widely respected and admired

even before



Rotunda inside Garfield Memorial and Tomb.

being elected to the nation's highest office. It was said he would have been a great president had he lived.



President Garfield's Tomb.



Library added to Garfield's home after his death.

The caravanners toured his large, stately home, made even larger and more beautiful by his widow after his death. In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, there were not yet pensions for presidents, nor

survivor benefits for their widows and families, so friends asked America to help Mrs. Garfield and her family (the 19<sup>th</sup> Century version of a today's "go fund me" campaigns). The fund-raising was extraordinarily successful. With some of money received Lucretia

the money received, Lucretia Garfield added a large and





Statue of Garfield is the memorial's centerpiece.





President McKinley.

William McKinley (the 25<sup>th</sup> president; term: 1897 to Sept.14, 1901, [assassination]) was shot by an anarchist while attending the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y., on Sept. 6, 1901. He died eight days later and was succeeded by his vice president, Theodore Roosevelt of New York.

McKinley's home stood in Canton, but it is no longer standing. It fell into disrepair in the decades after his presidency and was

demolished. However, the childhood home of his wife, Ida Saxton McKinley, is fully restored in downtown Canton and is maintained by the National Park Service. It now serves as the First Ladies National Historic Site and was visited by



Interior of McKinley memorial.



McKinley Library and Museum in Canton.

some of the Airstreamers. McKinley's Presidential Library and Museum was built nearby in Canton's Monument Park. The Park also features McKinley's majestic tomb, constructed with pink



Ida Saxton McKinley.

granite, and fronted by 108 wide stone steps. Completed in 1907, its double bronze entry doors were the largest in the nation at the time they were installed. The McBrooms had arranged for private, docent-led tours at the museum and tomb.



While in northeast Ohio, the caravanners completed their goal of visiting sites related to seven U.S. presidents: their homes, museums, libraries, and tombs. But there was more to see, and they were able to spend time as a group at two significant, iconic, not-to-be-missed places.



The entire caravan group.



Airstreamers at the McKinley memorial and tomb.



Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton, OH.

more complete appreciation of the players and coaches as they walked through the displays. All were impressed by the rows of bronze busts of inductees. They saw the uniforms of famous stars, studied lots of football memorabilia, and were entranced by the complete collection of jewel-encrusted, gold Super Bowl rings. In the Hall's theaters, they viewed films, videos, and life-like hologram presentations about this iconic, uniquely American sport.

Located alongside Interstate 77 in Canton is the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Once again, a visit there was made worthwhile because the McBrooms had prearranged special, docent-led tours. Knowledgeable volunteers showed the group the Hall's highlights. They voiced "back stories" about Hall of Fame events and shared their personal anecdotes about football celebrities they hosted at induction ceremonies in past years. This gave the Airstreamers a



*Listening to the docent in the room displaying busts of Hall of Fame inductees.* 





Warther Museum, Dover, OH.

an expertly scaled and crafted work of art depicting railroading's steam era. On display are magnificent creations that must be seen in person to be believed. They appear perfect in every detail, with working wheels, pistons, gears, couplers, valves, cranks, and drive rods. Each has thousands of parts, all accurately carved, and assembled (with no glue), down to the minutest detail; some models taking more than a year to complete. It was easy to understand why "Mooney" was reputed to be a mathematical and engineering genius and the world's greatest carver.





John Marks,a docent at the museum, shows the group a model Warther made of the steel mill where he was employed. Photo by Bob Hitchcock.

On the final Thursday evening, as the travel adventures neared an end, the group assembled near their trailers at the campground for a final group meal. They enjoyed a catered barbeque dinner, featuring music by the Pattersons, and a fun "trip facts" quiz emceed by Bob Luther.



Engine 4004.



*Mrs. Warther was a button collector. Displays viewed by Cathy Brodsky and Bob Hitchcock.* 



The caravan formally concluded with a last "free day" on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, when the Airstreamers "on your own" could see additional sights in the Cleveland area. Some went to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at the city's lakefront. A few returned to Lake View Cemetery to spend more time at the ornate Garfield Tomb. Several couples used the day to get an early start on their trip home. All looked back on 17 days spent exploring surprisingly memorable sites throughout the State of Ohio. Beforehand, few had assumed the



Cathy Brodsky, Shala and Larry Wilson admire Warther's hand-carved model of President Lincoln's Funeral Train.

midwestern state could provide such adventures.

"Like the other caravans Mary Ann and I led in the past five years, this one brought to life American history and cultural perspective for everyone who participated, especially the two of us," said Jackson, summing up this most recent experience, "And we've come to appreciate, at a much deeper level, the camaraderie shared with Airstream friends. I strongly encourage others in our club to take the leap and step up to plan and lead a NORVA caravan. You will be rewarded many times over."Jackson added, "Caravanning is one of the great joys of Airstreaming; a delightful way for us to discover places, events, and historical landmarks we never considered or simply did not know existed. This was especially true on this Ohio caravan."



Submitted by: Janeen Rider





Beautiful weather ruled the day (every day) at "ALUMAPALOOZA 11" held Sept. 7 -12 at the Airstream Factory in Jackson Center, Ohio. The week was punctuated by wonderful camaraderie among the hundreds of trailers in attendance (and lots of food – but then, what Airstream get-together isn't?). Attendees availed themselves of a variety of educational sessions ranging from Airstream exterior maintenance, boondocking power secrets, trailer tire changing, awning maintenance, CPR training and trailer polishing, to name a few of the workshops offered.

In addition to the Wally Byam Airstream Club International (WBCCI) Pizza Party, Beer Garden and Bourbon Tasting parties and the Airstream Addicts Charity Bingo Games, this year's fun included a spirited corn hole competition and some hilarious Gong Show acts. Support was also evident at the BBQ Chicken Dinner fundraiser for St. Jude's



Sea of Silver

Billy Mack and the Juke Joint Johnnies on Friday night was followed by Saturday night's music by Antsy McClain and the Trailer Park Troubadours.

The new Airstream factory at Jackson Center.

Children's Research Hospital. Entertainment by





As expected, Alumapalooza offered a great chance to rekindle old friendships and make new ones while enjoying the best of Mother Nature's Fall weather.

WBCCI Headquarters

# NEWEST MEMBERS – NORVA is Growing!



#### Welcome to NORVA!

Greg and Linda Heuer, who joined us recently as Affiliate members. Their home club is Spirit of Virginia #149, where they have been very active as officers since joining WBCCI in 2011.

Greg and Linda just landed at their Nellysford, Va. home after an 80-night adventure in their "Silver Otter III." They saw seventeen states and covered 9650 miles. They passed by 110 other Airstreams, not including the 800 they saw at International, the 20 on the Oregon Trial Caravan they co-led or the 40+ at the Commonwealth Rally in Williamsburg.



### **NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



Matt, Kristen, Bella and Emma Smith

with the purchase of a 28-foor Flying Cloud. Up to that point they had the opportunity to test out Kristen's parents' 30- foot Airstream (also members of the NOVA club) a handful of times while staying at Lake Gaston. Matt and Kristen heard the amazing stories of Airstream travel from her parents and became interested in becoming owners themselves. It was a slow start given they took ownership of their Airstream weeks before the COVID pandemic affected travel for much of the country at the end of February 2020. Since then, they have visited a few Harvest Host wineries and breweries, stayed at military campgrounds in Virginia Beach and Yorktown (Matt is a Hampton Roads native), and spent Spring Break on the beach in Rodanthe, N.C. They were lucky enough to spend 2 weeks working and virtually learning on the beach with F-18s flying overhead, Navy landing craft approaching the beach, and Navy Seals jumping out of aircraft. A unique experience they (especially their girls) will fondly remember.

Matt & Kristen Smith, along with their daughters Bella (11) and Emma (7), currently reside in Springfield, VA. They moved to Springfield in 2007 after Matt separated from active-duty service in the U.S. Navy. They both currently work for Naval Sea Systems Command in Washington, DC.

They began their Airstream journey in February 2020



The Smith Family.

Longer trips away from home are temporarily on hold until COVID settles down, but they have plans to visit family in Louisiana and Connecticut and possibly a certain mouse and his friends in Orlando next year (shhh, don't tell the girls ;). They are planning long weekend trips around work, sports, and school to experience the relaxing outdoors, ride bikes, and spend family time together. They are happy to join the Club and learn all they can.



# UPCOMING EVENTS Alumalina 2021

ALUMALINA 14 scheduled for Oct. 21-24, 2021. It is going to be held at TOM JOHNSON RALLY PARK, MARION, N.C. John Leake, WBCCI #268 Palmetto State Airstream Club 22 and Region 3 Past President will be the host.

As always, 4 days of food, fun, fellowship, seminars, craft fair/flea market, beer swaps, Bourbon Trails, walking, talking, biking, hiking, paddling, picking, grinning, campfires, miles of Aluminum, and lots of "paroozing." No memberships required; everyone is welcome.

The Tom Johnson Rally Park features nearly 300 full hookup sites in rally style parking, all on beautiful, flat, level grass.

Rally style parking means side by side, back end to back end, in rows, with plenty of room to deploy awnings and set up a very nice camp. Every site has its own 30/50-amp power, water, and sewer.

A 13,000 square foot open air pavilion, bath house, handicap parking, lots of open green space, the Catawba River, walking trails, café, restaurants nearby, and Camping World all on site. All this for \$32 per night camping fee, plus a modest rally fee of \$70/rig or \$35 for single to cover expenses.

Marion, NC is a beautiful town located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, where "Mainstreet Meets the Mountains". The Blue Ridge Parkway and Mt Mitchell, highest point east of the Mississippi, are just a short drive away. Asheville, Black Mountain, the Biltmore House, Hendersonville, and much more are just up the road.

Procedures have changed for getting a camp site at Alumalina. You have to call to get a campsite and you are assigned a specific site. Sites cannot be held for groups anymore. Carmichaels and Nagels have reserved sites in the "R" area. They plan to arrive on Oct. 20 and depart on Oct. 24. If you want to park close to them, ask for the "R" area when you register. The sooner you call the better as 100 Airstreams are already signed up. If you call and get a campsite, send Gerry Nagel a message and let him know what site you are in.

The number to call for a reservation is: 828-634-4412 and ask for Noelle.





### NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> and 6th

# **Urbanna Oyster Festival 2021**



The **Tidewater 111** Airstream Club will be hosting this exciting event at Urbanna, Virginia. The parking fee set by the landowner is **\$100.00 per unit**. This includes 4 days and 3 nights of parking within 2 minutes of the festival events. There will be a no-host happy hour with munchies on Thursday and Friday evenings. Please make your reservation soon by sending in the attached form with your Rally Fee. There are only 25 parking spots. The first 25 registration forms will be confirmed. A waiting list will be kept in the case that any one drops out.



### URBANNA OYSTER FESTIVAL



### Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally Registration Form

Name (s)

Club Membership \_\_\_\_\_WBCCI#\_

Cell Number (s)

Email\_

Number of people attending Enclosed is a check for \$100 payable to: Tidewater 111 Airstream Club, Richard Duncan, Treasurer.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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January 16 <sup>th</sup>	July 18 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>		
Winter Lunch & Bowling	International Rally		
Location: Bowl America – Woodbridge, VA	Location: Lebanon, TN		
Hosts: Laural Veloz or Scott Arnold	Host: WVACCI		
STRIKE!	785 Airstream Trailers Strong!		
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	August 9 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>		
Virtual Valentine's Day Cocktail Party	Galax Old Fiddlers Festival		
February 14, 2021	Location: Galax, VA		
-	,		
4:30-5:30pm	Host: Region 3		
Hosts: Gary and Sue Shepard			
HUGS and KISSES!	Picking, Strumming and Dancing!		
March 26 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	September 24 <sup>th</sup> -26th		
NORVA Maintenance Rally	Commonwealth Rally		
Location: Cozy Acres CG, Powhatan, VA			
-	American Heritage Campground		
Host: Tom Carmichael	Williamsburg, VA		
	Host: Tidewater Club		
	NORVA Provides Breakfast on Saturday		
Ready to Roll	New Officers and NORVA Breakfast Served		
April 21 <sup>st</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup>	October 17 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>		
Region 3 Rally			
Location: North Fairgrounds, Tallahassee, FL	Brew Ridge Joint Club Rally		
Host: Bill Wild	Location: Devils Backbone, Nellysford, VA		
	Hosts: Spirit of VA & NORVA Clubs		
Tally Ho			
May 13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	October 21 <sup>st</sup> -24th		
Spring Rally	Alumalina Rally		
Location: Winchester, VA	Location: Marion, NC		
Hosts: Pete & Elizabeth West	Host: John Leake		
Lovely Lavender and Vintage Firetrucks			
June 1 <sup>st</sup> -16th	November 5 <sup>th</sup> -6th		
NORVA Airstream Club Caravan in Ohio	Urbana Oyster Festival		
Leaders: Jackson and MaryAnn McBroom	Location: Urbana, VA		
	Host: Frank Munoz		
Presidents, Music, Gorillas, Flamingos, and CICADAS!			
June 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	December 4 <sup>th</sup>		
Outlander River Rally	NORVA's Holiday Gathering SAVE THE DATE		
Location: Overlander - Luray, VA	Location: Harbour Grill		
Hosts: Doug & Gail Perkins	Host: Ed and Beth Jones		
Corn hole, River Tubing, Pizza and Pancakes!			



### CELEBRATIONS

#### **October Birthdays**

Barry Miller 2 Harriet Clift 3 Barbara Cox 9 Dave Colburn 13 Glenna Winnie 14 Steven Barrows 15 Edgar Simmons 15 Madelyn Lay 25 Stephen Kaczmar 29 Debra Kaczmar 30 Gerry Nagel 30 Ed Usher 30

### **October Anniversaries**

Brian Wing & Jennifer Hughes 1 James & Sally Timberlake 26



NORVA Club Flags are available for purchase. If you would like to fly the club flag, please on the link and reach out to (Jenn) for further information. Prices vary depending on size selection. Standard 3x5 is \$37.95.



www.PanhandlePrintDesign.com

**Bright Ideas** are gathered from a group of Airstreamers who enjoy adventures. These ideas will be helpful for most and came from the user's experience. Please forward your own "Bright Ideas" for future use.









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President Ron Raymond	1st Vice President OPEN	2nd Vice President Peter West Club Caravan Leader	Secretary Gail Perkins	<i>Treasurer</i> Kevin Quinn	Membership Director Lew Brodsky
<i>Newsletter Editors</i> Gary & Sue Shepard	Legislative Director Beth Jones	Parliamentarian Ed Jones	Past President Gerry Nagel	<i>Webmaster</i> Patsy Nagel	
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