



TARHEEL TRAVELER

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

January 2022



CAC Upcoming Rallies & Events 2022

[Kickoff Luncheon in Gastonia Feb. 12](#)

[James Island Rally March 17-20](#)

[Tanglewood Park Rally April 7-10](#)

[Shining in Shelby May 5-8](#)

[Savannah Georgia Rally May 12-15](#)

[Table Rock June 9-12](#)

[Maine International Rally Caravan Waitlist](#)

[Misty Mountain, VA July 14-17](#)

[Grumpy Bear Bryson City Aug. 11-14](#)

[Cool Breeze, Galax, VA Sept 15-18](#)

[New Bern Sept.29-Oct.2](#)

[Myrtle Beach Rally Nov. 10-13](#)

Other Upcoming Rallies & Events 2022

[Carolina Balloonfest October 14-16 \(website not updated\)](#)

[Alumalina October 20-23](#)



Are you looking for a short, exciting caravan, right in our NC backyard? Then here it is! There are currently four openings on the 2022 Smidge of the Blue Ridge Caravan. The dates are June 17 – 25, 2022.

The “Smidge” is a short, active, exciting fun filled caravan! We will zip line, raft, hike, and bike and eat our way through the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. We will begin in Bryson City, NC where we will camp on the banks of the Tuckasegee River. While there we will raft the Nantahala

Gorge. After two nights in Bryson City, we will move to Asheville, NC. In Asheville we will hike to see the waterfalls in DuPont Forest and fly on a zip line through the mountains. Our last stop is in Boone, NC you have the options of riding a horse on a mountain trail, doing some more hiking, or fly fishing. Finally, we will bike DOWN the Historic Virginia Creeper Trail, and end our great experience with a dinner at the Daniel Boone Inn.

If you’ve never been on a caravan and wonder what they’re like, or if you’re still working and need to get away, this 9-day caravan may be a great opportunity to try out.

To learn more and register, you can go the [Smidge of the Blue Ridge Caravan 2022 webpage](#). Also, you can email any questions to Ed & Joni Hall at <mailto:edluvsj@gmail.com>.

We hope you can join us!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
BRUCE BODENSTEIN #8168



New Year's Greetings to all of you from your new President,

First, let me thank you for the confidence you have placed in me as your leader during this coming camping season. Honestly, being part of this club is encouragement enough, but with an excellent board of directors backing me up and the wonderful friendships I enjoy with so many members, how can I fail?

According to the latest roster received from WBCCI (also known as WBAC or Wally Bynam Airstream Club) headquarters, as of January 1, 2022, our Carolinas Airstream Club comprises 170 Regular Member Units (trailers or motorhomes) and 11 Associate Member Units. Associate Member are members of another unit that have elected to join our local club as well.

With the apparent COVID driven increased interest in camping, we have seen a dramatic rise in new club memberships during 2020 and 2021, causing our numbers to hover close to 200 units. New Airstream owners are introduced to the many benefits of club membership during the purchase process, thus the flurry of new owners from the Southeast choosing to join our unit. With "International's" membership renewal hard cutoff date of December 31 in order to get into the "official Member Directory", the numbers have leveled off to 181 Airstreams in our club at the end of 2021. Look for a "bump-up" in the member count early in the year, when some of you realize you forgot to renew by the deadline, but that's OK... Renew. We still love you! New topic... I was speaking to our 1st VP, and we lamented that there are still **6 or 7 rally hosting slots** still unfilled for 2022, and that's a lot, even this early in the season! Claire and I have attended many rallies AND we've hosted several. It's not mandatory to have a host, but the difference between a fun rally and a fantastic camping experience can simply be one or two couples putting their heads together for an hour or two and working up a simple rally agenda. Last season, at least 4 couples hosted rallies for the first time. My recollection is that they overwhelmingly loved the experience!

Elsewhere in this newsletter, someone is offering advice to club newcomers to "Get involved".

Amen to that! This is the reason we are one of the "Top" units in the entire International Airstream organization. Let's keep it that way.

So, call me a "Dutch uncle", but if you have done a few rallies and haven't hosted one yet... it's your go! Please email or call Ricky Wilcox at rickywilcox@carolina.rr.com or (704) 678-8507 and sign up to host a rally. You will enjoy the experience and all of us will thank you.

Before I go, just a reminder to plan on attending our first official gathering of the season at Jackson's Cafeteria in Gastonia, NC, on February 12th. It promises to be a fun time for all. And, remember to RSVP on the website so we can have an accurate count.

Have a great 2022.

~ Bruce

021president@wbcci.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT & 2022 RALLIES

RICKY WILCOX #5016



Hello Steamers,

Hi everyone and Happy New Year to you all. We're now looking forward to travel plans in 2022.



Hopefully this will be a great new year and we can put this covid stuff behind us.

I really need hosts for some of the rallies this year. Please get in touch with me and sign up to host a rally. It's easy and fun. If you need any help, there's plenty of people willing to help, even if you would rather ask another couple and co-host one. Either way please get involved, you'll be glad you did. Our next gathering is the season Kickoff Luncheon in February, at Jackson's Cafeteria at 12:00 noon. Do not go through the serving line when you come in. Come to the gathering room. I'll have a sign up for everyone to follow. Our first rally of the year is at James Island County Park and Campground in Charleston S. C. March 17th through 20th. My understanding is the park is full but keep trying they have cancelations all the time.

Our second rally will be at the Tanglewood RV Park in Clemmons N. C. April 7th through 10th. There are only 9 sites left there as of 1-6-22. If you want to go to this rally book soon. Our third rally is at Red Gate Farms in Savannah Georgia. May 12th through 15th. This is a small park. I have the whole park reserved and as of 1/6/22 there are only 9 sites left so book soon.

I look forward to seeing everyone down the road and I wish everyone safe travels as well.

~Ricky, 1st VP

021vicepresident@wbcci.net

2ND VICE PRESIDENT & 2023 RALLIES

STEVE THOMPSON #19771



Hello CAC Streamers,

Happy New Year everyone! Jan and I spent a wonderful time at the 2022 Canopener in Santa Rosa Beach, FL at the Topsail Hill Preserve State Park. (Pictures follow in the newsletter). In route, we stopped at St. James County Park, Charleston SC, to check out the accommodations. The CAC has used this rally site for several years and we can understand why, the campground amenities are plentiful, and many nearby attractions and eateries abound.

Do you have a better rally site you would like our committee to insert into the 2023

calendar? We have received a few recommendations, but please do not hesitate to give us your ideas as we need to start reserving these sites early.

Safe travels!

Ross Gary rving01@gmail.com

George Lamb georgeN4ROT@gmail.com

Bob Rychly rychly@charter.net

~Steve, 2nd VP

021vicepresident@wbcci.net

PAST PRESIDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

PHIL DRAKE #5789



Happy New Year! As “Past President, twice removed”, it’s been a while since you heard from me. So, when Bruce Thompson asked if I would have some thoughts for the “Past President’s Corner”, I did and here are a few.

OK things are still a little squirrely out there but for now, campgrounds are open, and we all know the drill of mask up, keep your distance and vax. We’ll be OK. Fresh air, sunshine and friends are the best cure for anything!

We get plenty of all three in this club. We are all affected, but not infected. However, if you’re not sick with COVID, you’re sick of COVID!

Our club is growing! As of January 2022, we had 330 members/181 Airstreams. Some are new to our club, and some are brand new to Airstreaming. Regardless of your experience, Welcome! Here are a few lessons that Cathy and I learned in this club, that I would like to share.

First- If you are new to Airstreaming, ask if you don’t know what to do. It will save time and money and believe me, we all have all learned the hard way at some point, so use our experience to avoid those “oops” moments.

Second- Get involved. This is a big club and if everyone does a little, nobody needs to do a lot. Let any of the club officers know that you are willing to volunteer to help by assisting a rally host or becoming one, serving on a committee, sharing your camping recipes, campground suggestions or maintenance ideas.

Third- Have fun. It’s camping and we really do this stuff to have a good time, relax and enjoy the journey. This is a great group of new friends you have joined.

After being “locked down” in 2020, we were ready to camp last year, and we did. Campgrounds were open, COVID was a bit more under control, and we all felt safer. The International Rally was well attended, and our club had a big turnout. Our 2022 rally schedule is fantastic and if you look around at other clubs, ours really stands out.

In December I was privileged to deliver our club’s recognition award to Airstream of South Carolina/John’s RV in Lexington SC. Ron Rawl of ASC has been a big supporter of our club for several years by helping underwrite our Ocean Lakes rally. Ron was very appreciative of the framed certificate presented by the board. He especially asked me to thank all the members who have sent him “thank you” notes.

Cathy and I hope to see you at our February luncheon and/or our first rally of the year at James Island. In the meantime, stay healthy and safe.

~Phil Drake (CAC President 2020)



CHERYLANNE WEAVER #9883

Hello Fellow Airstreamers!

I hope 2022 is off to a good start for each of you!

This is my first posting to our newsletter, and I'd like to ask that each of you please reach out to me if you have some news you'd like to share – surgeries, milestones, happy events, etc. We like to keep up with our Carolina Airstream Club family. **Friend me on Facebook as well!**

- * Please keep in your thoughts Susan Johnson (Rocky) BRN 07322 as she is having kidney stone surgery.
- * Eddie Conrad's (Kathy) BRN 03058, Dad celebrated his 100th birthday 16 January 2022! What an achievement! Happy Birthday!!! Austin Conrad!!



Our very own Bob Ealy #9919 is
2nd Vice President for Region 3!

[Bob Ealy](#) - 2nd Vice President



It feels good to be lost in the right direction – Anonymous

~Cherylanne

printcessltd@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50 YEAR MEMBERS!



CHARLIE FISHEL
DALE AND SANDY DOWLER

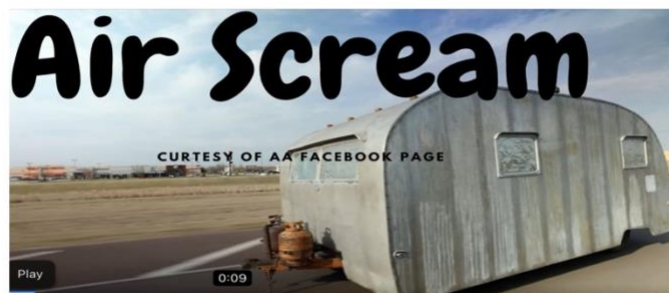
MEMBERSHIP

LEE DUNN #27312

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Our newest members (details in Evernote)

- **Gray and Paige Flippin from Dobson, NC, and their 1972 25' Land Yacht Tradewind**
- **James and Rondi Jennings from Chimney Rock, NC, and their 1963 24' Tradewind**
- **Sidney and Candi Lavender from Winston-Salem, NC, and their 2022 25' Serenity IT**
- **Eugenio and Elaine Yvette Santovenia from Sugar Grove, NC, and their 2022 30' Globetrotter**
- **Carolyn Hunter from Catharpin, VA, and her 2011 28' International**
- **Cathy and Jeffrey Pascoe from Angler, NC, and their 2017 '25 Interstate**
- **Doug Bevell from Wilmington, NC, and his 2022 27' Globetrotter**
- **W.Wayne Mills from New Bern, NC, and his 2022 25' flying Cloud**
- **Henry and Susan Duffie from Mount Pleasant, SC, and their 2021 27' Flying Cloud**
- **John and Willie Rosemond from New Bern, NC, and their 2018 30' Classic**



“LIVE RIVETED”

This part of the newsletter is to share ideas and provide insights to members about making Airstreaming life easier. Please share your ideas at 021newslettereditor@wbcci.net.

Getting ready for the upcoming RV season? Here is a [checklist](#) of things to consider to dewinterize your Airstream. If you prefer, click on the film below on the right and watch a video to help you prepare.

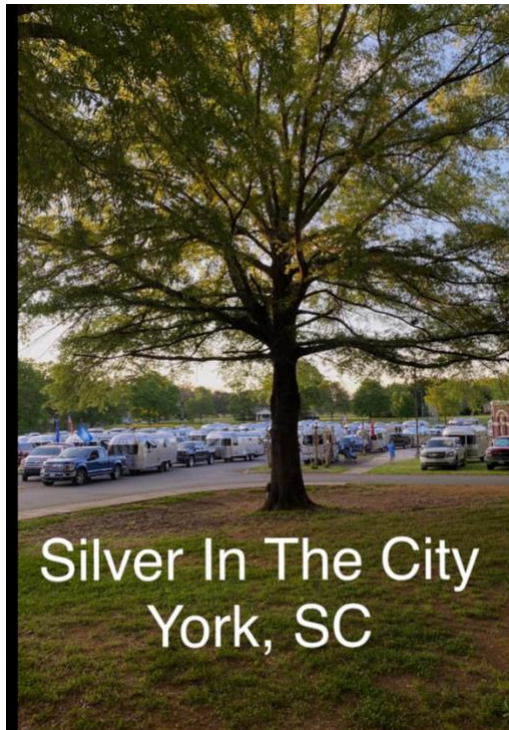
1. **Scrub-a-dub-dub inside and out.**
2. **Battery Check**
3. **Propane Test**
4. **Check-up on all Tires**
5. **Flush the Plumbing**



FEBRUARY KICK OFF LUNCHEON!

Saturday, February 12th at 11:30 am
Jackson's Cafeteria
1453 E Franklin Blvd
Gastonia, NC, 28054

RSVP [Here!](#)



Announcing 2022 5th Annual [Silver in the City](#) April 21-24

Announcing Silver in the City, an Airstream rally hosted by members of the Palmetto State Airstream Club 22 and The City of York. This is a rally held on Congress Street (main street) in downtown York South Carolina.

We hope you will come and join us for this special and unique boondocking experience.

In 2021 we had around 63 rigs in attendance. We need an accurate rig count so please let us know if you are coming. Come ready to see old friends and meet new ones. Patronize the shops and restaurants and have a great time

Terry and Annie Montgomery 803-242-6125

terrymontgomery31@gmail.com

John and Susan Leake 803-984-7225

john@leakesantiques.com

Please confirm attendance with an email if you don't mind. Safe travels and hope to see you at Silver in the

City in April!!

Carolina Airstream Upgrades to the Club's [Website!](#)

1. A password protected [page](#) that will tell you who has registered for the club events and who is hosting. (You will need to login to the Airstream Club International Member Portal)
2. A link on the [Rally and Events page](#) that can help you immediately notify the club if you need to cancel your registration. Simply scroll down to the middle of the page.
3. Easy sign up [page](#) to host a Rally for the 2022 season. We only have two hosts for this year so please consider signing up.

If you have questions or want to learn more about being a host, contact [Ricky Wilcox](#) (1st VP) or [Bruce Bodenstein](#) (President)



“OH, THE PLACES YOU WILL GO!”
MEMBERS’ TRAVELS AND CLUB EVENTS

*Canopener 2022
Topsail Hill Reserve State Park, FL*



Bob Hoffman, Steve Thompson, Jan Thompson, and Wayne Clark



Rick and Sandy LaRue traded on December 31st, their 2021 23’ Flying Cloud FQB to Airstream of Tampa where they purchased it in April and collected their 2022 27’ Flying Cloud FQB from Airstream of Tampa.