



TARHEEL TRAVELER

March 2022

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



Please consider hosting one of the Rallies that you are attending this year. You might even be interested in cohosting. See more about hosting a rally at this [link](#).

CAC Upcoming Rallies & Events 2022

[Trot into Tryon Rally March 31-April 3 \(NEW\)](#)

[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](#)

Looking for Additional Rallies?



[Silver in the City, Abingdon, VA](#)

May 12-15th

Stay in downtown Abingdon, where one can walk to the Barter Theatre, the Creeper Trail, and the Martha Washington Inn. The food is fantastic! Tours and events will be available as well as good local food at your doorstep.

[“Nuts for Ruts” Finding the Oregon Trail Caravan](#)

August 25-September 29th

This is a history-based caravan, covering a month of travel. You will explore several significant places along the original Oregon Trail, from Saint Joseph, Missouri, to Oregon City, Oregon.

Following the path of the early pioneers you'll cross the plains searching for the actual ruts the wagons left on their way west. You'll visit museums, historical sites, and wonderful places to meet and eat





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BRUCE BODENSTEIN #8168

Hello Carolinas Airstream Campers,
As you read this, the first rally of the year at James Island, SC, is in our rear-view mirror. However, right now I am preparing my trailer for this first outing of the season. As usual, I have accomplished a few needed repairs over the winter. Hmm... I'm still waiting for that off season with nothing to patch or fix on our beloved trailer? A shiny, new built-in microwave is in place finally and I know Claire will love it (fingers crossed). Both propane bottles have been topped up at an insane cost. On the first sunny and hopefully warm afternoon next week I will scrub her (the trailer, not Claire) down from top to bottom, carefully buff out a few scratches and maybe get a coat of wax applied.

One project over the winter was to troubleshoot and fix my small Honda generator in preparation for dry camping at our first M.O.R.E. (Member Organized Rally Event) of the season, "Trot into Tryon" at the end of this month. This urban rally is Hosted by our own *Skip and Denny Crowe* who reside off season in that picturesque little village. The excitement level over this upcoming event is palpable, especially by the town officials in Tryon NC.

That reminds me... Have I made reservations for, and RSVP'd our second M.O.R.E. of the season, in New Bern, NC? Yes, I have! and thank you *Larry and Pam Brodsky*, for dreaming up AND **hosting** that event. Come on guys and gals, I know you have a secret *fav* campground ready to share with us. Let Steve Thompson and his Rally Committee know, as they are firming up our 2023 travels.

Back to work! The generator is nearly new in terms of hours used, but the last time I used it (2021 Silver in the City, York, SC) it sputtered and groaned terribly and would barely run. I pretty much knew what the problem was; Fuel residue clogging the carburetor bits. This is what happens with these small engines and our modern fuels when these gadgets are not regularly used. I've heard that it's best to avoid fuel containing much ethanol and lots of gas stations have a pump for "marine or ethanol free" gas which I look for. Also, running your tank dry before putting your generator away for the season is recommended. Doesn't always work though. With the help of "YouTube", I managed to completely disassemble, clean and reinstall the carb. Hang on... where did that hose go? It started right up, sounding sweet. I'm going to try adding some Sea Foam additive to my gas in future. It's purported to be a miracle product for small engines. Anybody use it?

Back to the Rallies! This is late for James Island, but I should make a few general comments about our behavior at rallies and similar gatherings. No, this isn't about a "time-out chair". I'm talking about COVID. It's waning. There's no question about that. Even the CDC seems to agree. They have recently established a color-coded scheme called the "COVID-19 Community Level" where they rate the country by state, Green, Yellow or Red based on risk levels. The Carolinas and much of Virginia are showing Green for low risk. But that doesn't mean NO Risk! We are adults and most of us are blessed with common sense. I know I find my personal behavior has changed over these last months and it may never revert to earlier times. I'm guessing that most of us have chosen to be vaccinated, primarily because of our average ages and somewhat higher aversion to risk. My advice, keep a mask handy for those times, when everyone in the immediate area seems to be masked up and maybe it's best to do the same. Clearly, we need to be aware of our surroundings and abide by any local COVID regulations posted, both at the campgrounds and in the places we visit.

I'll leave you with "Safe and Jolly" camping this season. See you down the road.

~ Bruce

021president@wbcci.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT & 2022 RALLIES

RICKY WILCOX #5016



Hello streamers,

I hope all are well and ready to get out there and get camping. We're entering the new 2022 rally season. I've been busy over the winter removing the old carpet and tile and replacing them with luxury vinyl plank. The next project will be new batteries and solar panels. We've got a busy calendar this year and we're ready to get going.

As I'm writing this newsletter, we're at the James Island County Park Rally in Charleston, SC. Our next Rally is an urban rally and is a MORE (Member Organized Rally event) in Tryon, NC, on March 31st through April 3rd. This will be our first Rally there. After that we'll rally at Tanglewood RV Park in Winston Salem on April 7th through 10th. The next rally is in Savannah Georgia at Red Gate Farms RV Park. My wife and I are probably going to host this one unless someone would like to volunteer for that one. We need a host for the rallies going forward. Please consider hosting a rally. We're a 100% volunteer club and if no one volunteers then we will not have a club. It's fun and can be as simple as you want it to be. There's always plenty of people willing to pitch in and help. As for us, we're planning on attending every rally, but possibly one. I have a schedule conflict. Please consider hosting. I'd be glad to help anyone with any thing, just ask. Lots of other members would as well. That's about all I have this month. I hope everyone has an awesome summer of traveling. One last thing with a heavy heart I want to let everyone know we've lost a long-time member Duane Carter. He passed mid-day on 3/17/22. Please keep the Carter family in your prayers. Safe travels everyone and I'll see you down the road.

~Ricky, 1st VP

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2ND VICE PRESIDENT & 2023 RALLIES
STEVE THOMPSON #19771



Greetings to all CAC Streamers,

I know we are in the early stages of our 2022 rally schedule, but it's not too early to consider planning and scheduling 2023 events. All of you recently received an email soliciting your thoughts on how, when, and why we rally. Your input provides insight on improving how we go about making these adventures interesting for all. Thanks to all who have already responded to the survey and to those who have not responded it's never too late. Your

opinions count.

The 2023 rally schedule is still working with the assistance of your Rally Committee. Our goal is to have a completed 2023 rally schedule posted NLT June. Posting the rally schedule as soon as possible, allows you to plan and hopefully join us at as many events as possible.

Mark your 2023 calendars and jump on the following events:

- James Island, SC 17-20 March 2023. The facility accepts reservations a year in advance so if you are going this year reserve next year's spot while you are there and if you are thinking about going next year call on 17 March and reserve a spot—**you can always cancel at a later date**. Recommend reserving sites in Loop 1. They do not “hold” spots for us.
- Tanglewood, NC 6-9 April 2023. This facility takes reservations a year out. They are holding 30 sites for us so please call 336-703-6494 and let them know you are with the Carolina Airstream Club. **Reserve soon and cancel later if needed.**

Safe travels from your Rally Committee!

Ross Gary rving01@gmail.com

George Lamb georgeN4ROT@gmail.com

Bob Rychly rychly@charter.net

~Steve, 2nd VP

021vicepresident@wbcci.net



Hey Streamers!

Bruce Thompson here! - Hope everyone is doing well & ready for an exciting 2022 camping season.

As many have noticed, this column has been dedicated to our Past Presidents, and we have heard from them in reverse order of the year of their presidency - starting with 2021 (me), then 2020 - Phil Drake, and last month's was 2019 - Rocky Johnson. That brings us to the year 2018 which belongs to our late, beloved Anne Seslar. We'd like to honor her & dedicate this month's column in her memory by re-publishing one of her articles from the 2018 archives. Anne really loved this Club & kept us rolling on many exciting adventures. Here's to Anne, we miss you!

PAST PRESIDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

ANNE SESLAR #2606

NOVEMBER 2018



“The morning had dawned clear and cold, with a crispness that hinted at the end of summer” -George R.R. Martin

November brought us a rainy muggy day at Ocean Lakes, our last camping rally of the year. Thursday evening, we all gathered for our social hour, just beating the rain downpour. Sharing appetizers, we all had a great time meeting new families joining us for the first time. Our hosts George Lamb, Rocky Johnson, and Randy Hord along with many helpers were up at dawn on Friday to prepare us a wonderful breakfast of pancakes and sausage. Phil Drake and Larry Brodsky performed seminars on “Winterizing your Airstream” and “Solar for your Airstream.” Both seminars were well attended and very informative. Saturday afternoon we had our Annual Camper Crawl/Wine Snort/Open House. This was an opportunity to visit other campers and share decorating ideas to make our campers more functional and user friendly. The guys talked about tires, tanks, and other interesting ideas. We had many that participated and offered wine, cheese, sweets, and even some healthy snack alternatives. Saturday evening was our traditional meal, a “low - country boil.” This always turns out our largest rally crowd of the year. Besides the corn, sausage, and potatoes, 25 pounds of fresh shrimp went into this delicious dinner. The guys did an excellent job as always preparing for this wonderful event.

Our installation of new members was then held. Past President George Lamb did the honors of installing our new members:

Chris & Gina Fox; Bob & Marilyn Hughes; Tyler & Emilie Kingsford, Mason and Bentley; Steve & Jan Thompson; Lynn & Jodie Wollard; Bruce & Clare Bodenstein and grandson Cory Anderson.

~Anne Seslar (CAC President 2018)



CHERYLANNE WEAVER #9883



Please keep former CAC member Duane Carter's his family in your thoughts & prayers as he passed on 17 March 2022. Service details are not yet available at this time.

Ken Dorn (03139) is looking to downsize his Airstream so his is for sale. It is a 2013 AS International Sterling 27' limited edition designed by Christopher Deam. Obsidian violet interior with beautiful silver cabinetry and silver awning. Price below MSRP at \$70,100. OBO

For more information contact Ken at 919.630.6999 or kdorn333@aol.com

And a big shout out to Shari Hord for passing her second amateur radio exam! She'll soon be all over the airways! 😊

“To travel is to live” – Hans Christian Anderson.

cherylanne!

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LOOKING TO SELL/BUY
AN AIRSTREAM



WE CAN POST YOUR AD IN THE
NEWSLETTER

Jean-Georges and Lizzie Perrin are selling their Globetrotter. [View here!](#)



MEMBERSHIP
LEE DUNN #27312
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

As of March 18, 2022, the Carolinas Airstream Club is 200 rigs and 368 members strong!

Someone asked me: Why do we have Evernote now that WBCCI has a descent membership directory on their web site? I answered with two reasons that came to my mind right away. One, having an app on my smartphone to directly go to member's information is easier than traversing the WBCCI web page. Two, we can add a nice picture of our members in Evernote that is better than the small image on the WBCCI website. So, what about those Evernote pictures? Do you have a picture in Evernote? Do you like the picture? If you want to change or add a picture in Evernote please send it to me at 021membershipchair@wbcci.net and I will make sure it gets added. Having problems with Evernote? Drop me an email and let's see if we can resolve it. Our newest members (details in Evernote)

- **Dave & Stacy Fisher from Greer, SC, and their 2017 28' Flying Cloud**
- **Ben & Elizabeth Richey from Fort Mill, SC, and their 2020 25' Flying Cloud (affiliate member)**
- **Carolyn Goodman & Scott Wallis affiliated members from Knoxville, TN, and their 2019 22' Bambi**
- **Sara & Brent Hubbell from Cary, NC, and their 2005 30' Safari Bunk**
- **Markham & Dhawn Tate from Cary, NC, and their 2021 19' Caravel 19 CB**
- **John & Debbie Morck from Wake Forest, NC, and their 2022 22' Caravel**



A new film by Airstream reliving the last 90 years has been created called “The Pathmakers” which is “blazing new trails”. Click on the image above to view the film. Thanks to Marcia Thompson for posting on FB.

“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.

Must-Have Power Accessories

[Thanks to “Live Riveted” Blog](#)

Power can be complicated, but protecting your investment is easy.

Here are some road-tested, must-have accessories to help you protect and get the most from your Airstream’s electrical system.

- **Surge Protector**

There are two types of surge protectors, portable and hardwired. It protects your unit’s electrical system from power surges that can damage your wiring and any electronic devices connected to that system. Surges can result from any number of sources, including a nearby lightning strike or a flaw in the wiring of a campground power hook-up.



- **Electrical Management System (EMS)**

An EMS guards your Airstream’s electrical system and electronic devices against both low and high voltage, both of which can be damaging. Standard A/C current flows at 120 volts. EMS accessories vary from product to product so check your user’s manual for the most up to date info. But in general, if your power source dips under 104 volts or above 132 volts, the EMS will cut off the power. An EMS can also detect such dangers as an incorrectly wired campground power pedestal or the absence of grounding.

- **Power Adapters**

Known as a “dog bone” because of its shape, these devices expand your campground options by allowing you to stay at facilities with limited option for electrical service on their power pedestals. True, you may never use the adaptor. But if you ever do need it, this \$20 device will more than pay for itself. A 50 amp to 30-amp connector is a common piece of the power puzzle, but it’s also good to have a 15-amp adaptor at the ready. With a [15-amp adaptor](#) in place, you can plug into residential electrical systems without popping the house’s circuit breakers. That will undoubtedly make friends and family even happier to see you when you back into their driveway.

- **Battery Tender**

Batteries that sit unused for long periods of time slowly lose their stored energy – to the point that lasting damage can occur. A good battery tender will keep your battery topped off so it’s ready to for your next camping trip. But even more importantly, many battery tenders will gently cycle your battery to keep it in prime condition for years of service.

- **Portable Solar Panels**



Prized by BoonDockers looking to go further afield, portable solar panels will help you keep the lights on while camping off-grid.

Harness the free and abundant energy from the sun with a good portable solar setup.

- **Jump Starter**

Power preparedness is also important for your tow vehicle. A dead vehicle battery means a headache getting to your destination. Carry a portable jump starter for peace of mind. Portable jump starter can also include a convenient air compressor so you can keep your tires inflated as well.



- **Portable Inverter**

Your airstream includes an inverter that converts the DC power in your batteries to AC current appropriate for many electronics. Add the same functionality to your tow vehicle with a portable inverter. These types of devices plug into your dashboard “cigarette lighter” DC outlet and are equipped with AC outlets like what you find in your home. Whether you need AC power for portable equipment or simply want to recharge your laptop, a portable inverter is a lifesaver.

- **Big Box o’ Fuses**

Carrying a box of assorted fuses is an inexpensive insurance policy against inconvenience and frustration.

- **Plugs with USB outlets**





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



First Rally of the 2022 Season St. James Island South Carolina



Rally Potluck and Induction of New Members

- Michelle Dagenhart #3303
- Markham and Dhawn Tate #19970



"All Hands on Deck " to help with a new awning for Bob Clark!



George and Margie Lamb with Pam Brodsky and Susan Johnson

Let us spotlight your travels.
Send pictures to
021newslettereditor@wbcci.net



John and Renee Hoffman #11416 Enjoying Grassy Key, Florida. Expect to see both at Tanglewood at the end of the month.