



# Silver Times

May 2022



## 2021-2022 Unit Officers

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2nd Vice President

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Open

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Corresponding Secretary

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Trustee's:

Sharon Ramler #5332

Kathy Yanke #7528

Pete Yanke #7528

Chuck Dodd #5153

## *Terry's Tidings*

Hello, fellow Minnesota Airstreamers!

Welcome to a truly lovely (albeit late) spring. The sun is out, the flowers are blooming, and here in Minnesota, so many varieties of birds are returning to nest here, as well as passing through to head north. It's so fun to see all of the flashes of colors, and the sounds of their twittering, after a somewhat silent winter (although chickadees and others keep up some singing in the winter!:) )

We enjoyed a wonderful rally in Fairmont, Minnesota last weekend. We had 30 trailers/vans there, and 59 attendees. What an incredible turnout! Flying Goose is a beautiful campground, the staff is so friendly and accommodating, and there are many activities available right there on the lake. (The last Airstream rally they hosted was in the 1970's, so they were excited to have us.) Not to mention the fine town of Fairmont, with its interesting history, five lakes, bike trails, and very friendly folks. I hope everyone had a good time. I sure did!

In honor of Martin County being the Bacon Capital of the World, we had a Great Bacon Cookoff on Saturday evening, with many fun dishes. We had prizes for the name, flavor, originality, surprise (see cookie next sentence!), and the classic bacon dish. There was a chocolate chip cookie, exquisitely accented with bacon inside it (Stahls). There was an incredibly delicious German Potato Salad that won first prize for its impromptu name "Slap Yo' Momma Potato Salad" (Holtegaards). There was an amazing hash brown dish that I never even got to taste, it was so popular—it won first prize for flavor (Andrews')! The

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quintessential bacon dish was deemed to be the bacon-wrapped scallops (Dodds)-Yum! Slattery's won two prizes for their "Charlie Chaplin Spaghetti", and Patrick Southard and Matthew Stoffel won 2nd place in the name category for their beautifully presented "Poppin' Pork Slaw". For non-bacon lovers, there was "No Bacon Bacon" (roasted chicken). Everyone was so creative—I wish we could have awarded a prize to each one!

We had good times of getting to know one another during the happy hours and the evening campfires. We had so many new members there, as well as a couple who slept in their new trailer for the very first time at our rally! People were popping over to visit one another, to tour their camper, or to help each other with a mechanical issue. That is one of my favorite things about rallies.

Our Region 7 President, Jane Carmichael, graced us with her fun presence. Our own Chris Olsson was installed as Region 7's 2nd VP, his wife Kay Olsson was installed as Recording Secretary for Region 7, and Ginger Slattery was installed as 1st VP (she's our next Region 7 president!) We are so proud of our Olssons - they are so knowledgeable, dedicated, and passionate!

Many thanks to the Martin County Pork Producers, who generously donated several sample jars of their great seasoning "Martin County Magic". It's great stuff!

Thanks to Chuck Dodd and Verne Peterson, who, along with Steve Pflighaar and Cordell Woods, conducted our first financial audit in a long while.

Thank you to Carry Ensign who provided a very fun and popular class on diamond dot 'painting'. I'd never tried it before!

Thanks to Jim Stahl, an affiliate member from Colorado, who kindly took on the pancake breakfast. His experience and enthusiasm is superior, and he led us to a successful breakfast!

And thank you to all of you who helped me and others in so many ways. You know who you are, and I so appreciate you (Brenda, Bart, Dave, Verne, Ed, and more)!

Please try to make it to the City Rally in June in Northfield, MN. Pamela Rawn has been working hard to bring us to her hometown, and she is doing an exceptional job! It is going to be a FUN rally!

Don't forget the International rally in Maine in July.

And, we will be having our fall installation rally in Biwabik, a VERY German-looking town, in September. They are excited we are coming, and we will get to join them in their Honktoberfest celebrations (Look up "Honk the Moose" online, if you are curious).

Have a great summer, everyone, and

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Promise me you'll keep your belly pan parallel to the pavement!!

Terry

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## *Welcome New MN Airstream Club Members*

Gretchen & David Lindgren #03792 - Knife River, MN

Kevin Peterson #03654 - Sioux Falls, SD

Peter Thelen #03979 - White Bear Lake, MN

Rick & Melanie Hjelm #04817 - North Oaks, MN

Jenny & Petra Hennek #04087 - Andover, MN

Richard White #04101 - Shoreview, MN

Kimberlee & Thomas Bluhm #04630 - Minneapolis, MN

Tracey & Todd Cogan #22033 - Lakeville, MN

Michael & Annette Dunford #30007 - Bloomington, MN

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members when you see them!

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## 2021 - 2022 MN Airstream Club Schedule

Event	Location	Dates	Host/Leader
Caravan to International	MN - Maine	Contact Leader <a href="mailto:vernon_petersen@icloud.com">vernon_petersen@icloud.com</a>	Vern Bob Petersen
Northfield City Rally	Northfield, MN	June 23 - 26	Pamela Rawn
	<a href="#">A city rally in conjunction with the Northfield Historical Society.</a> <a href="#">See page 5 for more information.</a>		
Fall/Installation Rally	Biwabic Campground on Vermillion Trail	Sep 22 - 25	Terry & Steve Pflagher/ Brenda Schultz
	<a href="#">See page 6 for more information</a> <a href="#">Camp site registration is open. Rally registration and details are forthcoming.</a>		
Left Behind Party	Old Log Theatre	Nov 6, 2022 (Tentative)	Cordell Woods
	<a href="#">Join us for dinner and a show!</a> <a href="#">See page 7 for more information</a>		

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## *2022 MN Airstream Club Northfield City Rally*

Hosted by Pamela Rawn

[rawnpamela@gmail.com](mailto:rawnpamela@gmail.com)

Dates: June 23 - 26, 2022

Location:

Ames Park

Dahomey Ave

Northfield, MN, 55057

Online Rally Event Information and Registration Link:

<https://airstreamclub.org/northfield-city-rally>

This will be a dry camping rally in a grassy park on the river in the heart of downtown Northfield. Generators and well behaved dogs on leash are permitted.

Cost \$50 per rig plus \$15 per person for a catered chicken dinner on Friday.

Total number of spots available: 28 units

More details will be sent to registered attendees prior to rally.

For details on "WHY Northfield" for our first urban rally, check out the link and information below from the Northfield Historical Society. Their current exhibit is all about a former Northfield resident's experiences on a 14 month Airstream Caravan through Asia and Europe. You can also learn more about what makes Northfield famous and so historically important!

Link to the Northfield Historical Society:

<http://www.northfieldhistory.org/exhibits/>

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## *2022 MN Airstream Club Fall/Installation Rally*

Hosted by Terry & Steve Pflgebraar and Brenda Schultz

Dates: Sept 22 - 25, 2022

Location:

Biwabik Campground on Vermilion Trail

321 Main St.

Biwabik, MN, 55708

Online Event Information Link:

<https://airstreamclub.org/fallinstallation-rally>

To register for the rally, please complete the two items below:

### 1. Register with the campground.

Contact the campground directly to reserve a campsite for the rally. Use their contact form at the link below. This link is specific to our Airstream Club rally, and the campground will ensure we are grouped together.

[Biwabik Campground Registration Form](#)

On the registration form, scroll to September. There, you will see the rally dates of Sep 21 - 25 highlighted. You will need to click on your planned arrival and departure dates in order to actually reserve your site.

Cost is \$35.50 per night for Water & 30 Amp Electric. No 50 amp service available. Pay online using the campground registration form.

Rally Campsites are being held until July 1st. After that, they will be released and open to general public registrations.

### 2. Register with the MN Airstream Club for the rally.

Rally Registration will open in the next couple of months. The link will be on the Online Event Information Page shown above.

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*Left Behind Party at Old Log Theatre  
Aiming for Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Final date forthcoming.*

Old  
Log  
THEATRE



## Once Upon A Mattress November 6, 2022

**Mary Rodger's classic *Once Upon A Mattress* is a delightful musical that has become a fan favorite in theatres everywhere!**

Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, *Once Upon a Mattress* is hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, a rollicking spin on the classic tale *The Princess and the Pea*. Get ready for some side-splitting shenanigans.

Many moons ago in a far-off place, Queen Aggravain decreed no couples could marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, found a bride. Princesses came from far and wide to win the hand of the prince, but none could pass the impossible tests given to them by the Queen. That is, until the "shy" swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, showed up. Would she be able to pass the Sensitivity Test, marry her prince and help Lady Larkin and Sir Harry to the altar?

**Sunday 2pm Matinee**

**\$60/person**

***Includes show, meal, tax, & tip***

For more information contact  
**Cordell Woods**  
**320-533-0533**

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## 2022 Spring Rally - Fairmont, MN

As Terry mentioned in her Tidings, we have a wonderful time at the Spring Rally held at the Flying Goose Campground in Fairmont, MN. Thanks to Carry Ensign for the pictures!

### MN Club Business Meeting



Chris (me) explaining the second amendment to be voted on in June.





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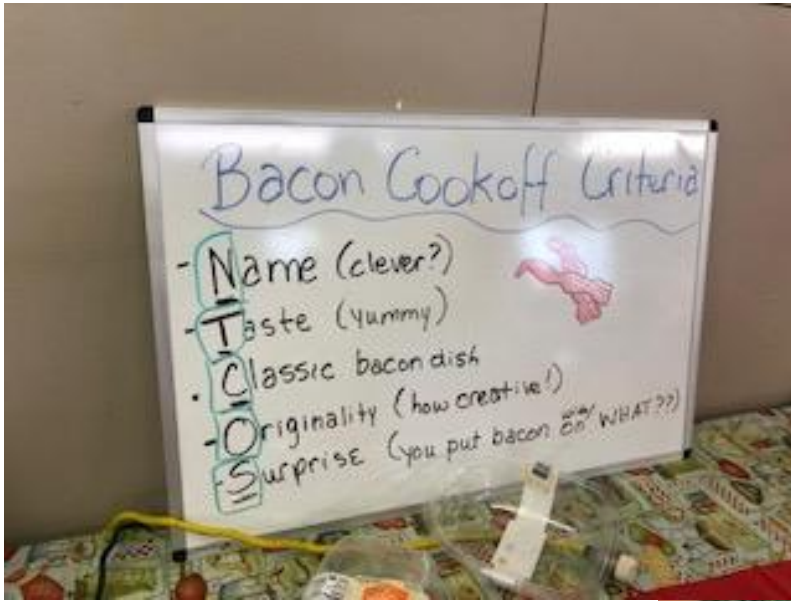
Terry told me to stand on the fire pit so I could be heard. It didn't hold me very well... 😊

## Campfire:



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Great Bacon Cookoff Potluck Dinner:



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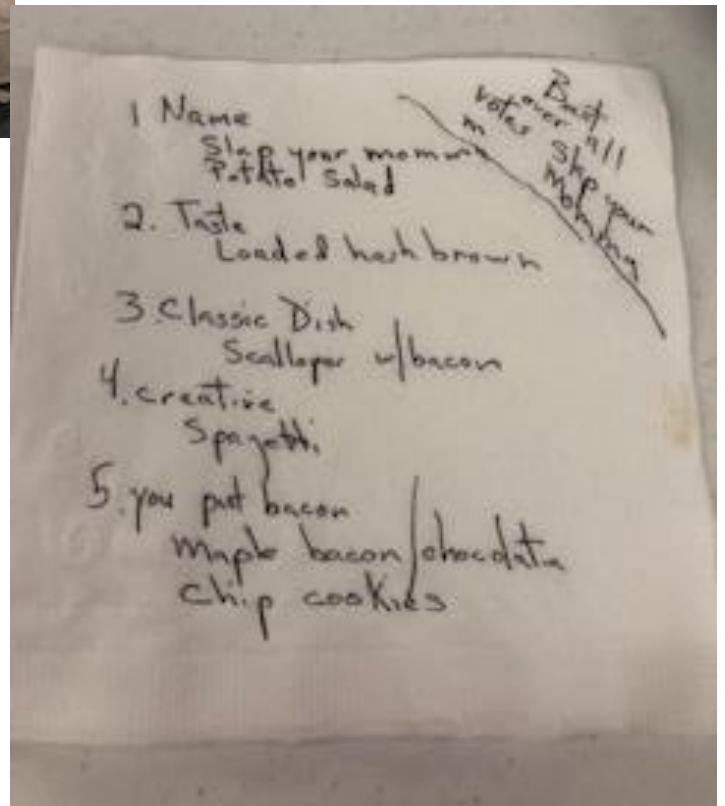


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## Winners:

Some of the recipes are on page 18.



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Region 7 Installation of officers:



Region 7 President, Jane Carmichael swearing us in.

From left to right:

Linda Agre (R7 Membership Chair)

Chris Olsson (R7 2<sup>nd</sup> VP)

Kay Olsson (R7 Recording Secretary)

Ginger Slattery (R7 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

Joe Slattery (Corresponding Secretary)

Pete Yanke (R7 Caravan Chair)



Giving Jane a departing gift (flowers and a bottle of maple syrup\* 🥰) as she ends her term as R7 President on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Ginger will be the new R7 President and Chris will advance to R7 1<sup>st</sup> VP.

\*Tiz really bourbon.

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Other random pictures from rally:





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The quilting sisters (Kim and Kay) wore the same outfit on Saturday. No prior planning!



Vern, Bob and Chris perform an emergency temporary repair on Linda's B Van. The upper part of the windshield gasket came loose, making about a 12-inch gap for water to come in. Gaffer's tape to the rescue!

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## Two of the prize-winning recipes:

### “Slap your momma potato salad” (German potato salad) by Tessa and Dave Holtegaard

1 lb bacon cut into pieces  
1 lg onion chopped  
1 5lb bag of red potatoes  
1 cup vinegar  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup water  
1 1/2 Tablespoons cornstarch mixed in a little cold water

Boil potatoes with skins on until slightly tender. I quarter them to speed up cooking time.

Chop bacon and onion and fry together.


Slice potatoes when cool enough to handle and place in a crockpot. -I removed a majority of the skins but you can leave as much as you like.

When bacon and onions are cooked, mix in remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil and then simmer until mixture starts to thicken.

Pore over potatoes and gently mix. Cook on lowest crockpot setting for at least an hour before serving.

Enjoy.

### CHARLIE CHAPLIN SPAGHETTI by Ginger Slattery

1# Bacon, diced  
1 Large onion, diced  
2-3TBSP Flour  
1/2 c Sugar  
1/2c White Vinegar  
1 can Petite Diced Tomatoes  
1 Large can Tomato  Purée

Cook bacon in oven or large skillet until crispy. Drain on paper towels. Add onion to bacon grease in skillet. Sauté until translucent. Add 2 TBSP flour to onions in skillet creating a roux. Add pepper, salt to taste, tomatoes and purée, sugar and vinegar. Sauté for 20 minutes. Taste. Adjust flavors accordingly.

Serve over prepared spaghetti.

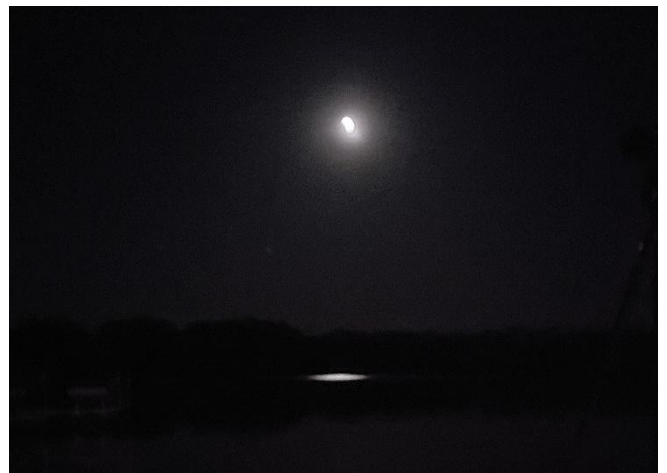
This is one of those recipes that taste better as leftovers! Was created during the depression. My grandma grew up in Kenosha, WI. She said neighbors would get together and bring an ingredient for the pot! Of course, Charlie Chaplin was a huge celebrity at the time!

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A few of us stayed Sunday night and we had a very clear night to watch the lunar eclipse. Gary Burnham took this really cool picture (above) of the full eclipse.

I used my phone to take some pictures during the eclipse. This one to the right came out semi-ok. You can see the eclipse is about 20% complete and the moon is reflected on the lake.



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## Why We Started Streaming by Shelli Stanger Nelson BRN #4062

This June I'll have made my 60<sup>th</sup> trip around the sun. But I've only seen twenty-three years of light. I lost all my eyesight secondary to Type I diabetes when I was twenty-three years of age. Despite my lack of eyesight, however, I have managed to maintain my in-born vision of a bright and productive life.

I had completed nursing school a year before I began losing my eyesight in 1986. Using my ability to imagine the life I wanted, I created a program of patient education and outcome measurements for cardiac patients who had either a heart attack, open heart surgery or other cardiac issues. I then sold my ideas, as well as myself, to a local hospital in the Minneapolis suburb where I still live.

I worked full time for twenty-five years as a RN nurse clinician, doing patient and staff education and developing risk factor management classes that I and other RN's taught in the hospital. During my tenure I served on the hospital ethics committee, the patient education committee, incorporated my knowledge of holistic nursing into patient programs and created groups to support end-stage cardiac patients and family members.

When I began losing my vision, Type I diabetes also began eroding my kidney function and finally destroyed all renal function by the time I was twenty-five. I was placed on dialysis. I was violently ill for over eighteen months. I describe this period as horrific. Only worse. Eventually I received my first gift of life, a perfectly matched kidney from my only sibling, Scott. I was twenty-five and he was twenty-six when we were both wheeled into separate operating rooms while our parents and my husband awaited positive news.

Over time, diabetes and as odd as it seems, the immune suppressing drugs I needed to take to prevent organ rejection also ruined my transplanted kidney. Twenty-one years after the surgery that saved my young life, I was back in my same previous predicament of end-stage kidney failure and in need of a volunteer donor.

In 2008, Jason, a co-worker of my husband, Brent, stepped up and offered me his kidney to replace Scott's. I was simultaneously placed on a waiting list to receive a cadaver pancreas. (This is a story unto itself.)

On June 21, 2008 I received a double organ transplant: Jason's kidney and the donation from the family of a healthy, vital teen-age girl. I call this girl, whose name I still do not know, The Sweet One. She died of a blood clot to the brain following oral surgery in California. The kidney

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from Jason saved my life for a second time. The pancreas ended my thirty-four year war with Type I diabetes. I will remain insulin-independent so long as the pancreas continues to work.

Decades of requiring strong immune suppressing medications to lessen the chance of organ rejection significantly weakened my body's ability to ward off cancer. In 2014 I was diagnosed with stage III aggressive B cell lymphoma. Knowing I would need all my emotional and physical resolve to survive this diagnosis, I retired from nursing.

And finally, why did we start streaming?

Brent and I traveled several times after we were married. Our cherry red Gold Wing we called The Scarlet Wing, carried us from Minnesota to Natchez, Mississippi For our honeymoon in 1997. We put many thousands of miles on Scarlet before trading her for our 1959 pink Thunderbird convertible so our daughter and my guide dog could join our adventures. Our travel has included both domestic and foreign lands by either motorcycle, car or air.

Traveling has its stressful moments for everyone. And, traveling without eyesight is a whole other animal. I rank the challenges of sightless travel in this order: 1) navigating public restrooms, 2) navigating new hotel rooms, 3) navigating rolled up clothing in a suitcase, and 4) navigating the evils of my mind.

Traveling prompts my imagination to create vile and disgusting scenes about what prior guests did on the bedspread, what was on their hands when they used the TV remote and how many times I'd need to request sighted assistance for things I did independently and effortlessly at home.

Please understand there are thousands of blind and vision impaired people who travel unaccompanied every day. People who are blind live productive, prosperous and independent lives. We simply do things differently than sighted folks. My travel pitfalls should not be assumed to apply to all people with vision loss. Nor any other physical disability.

In addition to blindness, severe immune suppression forces me to continuously consider communicable diseases. And then, of course, there was this, ahem, pandemic.

Before we started Streaming, vacations for Brent were a bit like taking a litter of puppies to Grandma's house for Christmas. For me it was like being a toddler at daycare. Each of us felt as if we were rats in an experiment; just how much agony could we endure before screaming in public?

Any exhilarating experiences we managed to have on the rare occasion we would leave home were eclipsed by my insecurity about making too many requests that would require Brent's help.

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Like, oh, wanting a chi tea as we lounged on the front porch of a B and B. Using a public restroom was like Magellan plotting an expedition through the Indies.

First we'd scout for a restroom used by both genders. Then perhaps a family restroom so Brent could escort me inside. Usually these searches were unfruitful. Using my long, white cane in the public restroom almost always necessitated Brent's aide as he peered into the lady's room shouting directions to find the sink, soap, towels and trash. Never mind what the condition of the toilet may be. Or what was left behind in the bowl! A women's washroom can be more disgusting than a well-used cat pan.

A suitcase is only so big. Sometimes trying to find that one, particular pair of socks that match my outfit, however, reminded me of searching through grass for a four-leaf-clover when I was young. After I'd spent ten or fifteen minutes unfolding each piece of clothing, looking at it with my hands and still not locating what I wanted I'd give in and anger would overtake what normally would be a simple task at home. Despite Brent's detailed orientation of each new hotel room, I'd still feel confused. I don't like to move slowly. And being in unfamiliar places forced me to proceed with caution. If either of us wanted a snack or coffee, cocktail or soda it was Brent who ran for it while I felt infantilized with my lack of my usual autonomy. Or, I sat alone waiting for Brent to hustle back to the hotel to retrieve something I needed.

All of this became oppressive and depressing; I felt more disabled than I truly was, and Brent felt as if he couldn't unwind. In fact, traveling was much more effort than life at home even though we both had demanding occupations and a good deal of responsibilities.

Adding to the logistical dilemmas was the hard truth that we needed to be vigilant about communicable illnesses. With three organ transplants, kidney disease, heart disease and three different types of cancer for which I required chemotherapy, my immune system was as fragile as the wing of a butterfly.

The ritual we felt we needed to use to sanitize gas station rest rooms, hotel rooms and airplane seats, to name a few, was lavish. All of this ruined what was meant to be an uplifting experience and so we eventually abandoned travel all together.

The idea of becoming RV'ers came up one freezing February day in 2021. We discussed the pluses of an Airstream and found the minuses of other brands. Like sun on the cold earth, hopes of visiting the USA again warmed my soul and inspiration began sprouting. We had been blessed financially and Brent was able to retire at age 56. And so we bought our first rig, a 2018 30 ft Classic in March of 2021. It was pure bliss from the onset!

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I had all my clothing in the same place every day. Using my adaptive techniques to identify everything with ease.

The threat of contracting a serious, possibly fatal, illness because of my severe immune suppression diminished. No more public toilets-thank god. No more Brent running for food and drinks. No more guiding me through crowded restaurants, past tight tables and apologizing for bumping into the backs of chairs.

Who needs a theater when we can watch our DVDs and stream in the cozy, relaxed comfort of our own beds and recliners?

No hassle getting through security at airports, being manhandled since long, white canes cannot be used to pass through the metal detectors.

A hot shower in our own bathroom with all my products right where I can find them made me giddy. Inside the coach I can make our meals just as I do at home. Brent can leave the camp site without worry of leaving me stranded with nothing to do. I write, listen to audio books, organize for our next day and sit by the campfire. Instead of concerning ourselves with logistics we can both save our energy for all the activities and adventures we love doing. Best of all, we can take life easy and immerse ourselves in what it's like to feel untroubled.

We now travel in a 33' Classic. In May of 2022 we were on the road for three weeks from Minnesota to Mammoth National Park, Charleston, South Carolina, Virginia, New river Gorge National Park in West Virginia and wrapped up our journey by attending our first Airstream rally in Fairmont, MN.

During our cross country trek our E-assist tandem took us through quiet trails. We hiked, walked for hours on docent-led historic tours and general sightseeing. Airstream travel finally allowed us to be both rejuvenated and edified.

Traveling in an Airstream has reopened the world to me. And likewise to Brent. Airstream travel has already enriched not only our individual lives, but also our marriage. There is both liberation and familiar comfort to be experienced in this kind of travel. Of course, the luxury finishes used by Airstream enhance the entire ordeal.

The circumstances of my life created mental pressure when leaving our home. What resulted was a life that felt more confining than it needed to be. I'd skirted death too many times and invested too much blood, sweat and tears to settle for an existence that was less than brimming with joy and satisfying to my hungry soul. Brent had walked most of those harrowing roads at my side. He deserved to feel expanded and nourished, too.

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Life-changing occurrences can widen our perspective and work for good if we allow it. Who knows, perhaps without my challenges we would have missed the opportunity we've found in the Airstream life. Medical issues will likely always be a part of our story. No one knows how long they might live. Instead of hoping for a long life, Brent and I focus on living wide. Chummie II, the Airstream, has shaped our lives from a narrow tale to one that is wide. Traveling in our Airstream makes time and responsibilities feel inconsequential. And don't we all yearn for this reprieve?

We're looking forward to many more long, and shorter, trips in Chummie the Airstream. And in meeting new people as well as making new friends along the way.

Happy travels! Shelli (and Brent) Nelson BRN #4062

#LivingWide

Bloomington, MN

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Did you enjoy Shellie's article? I know I did. You too can be published in our newsletter! And even the Blue Beret! I am always looking for articles to include in the newsletter. Any topic is welcome, and pictures are always great!

For example, what modifications have you made or had done to your Airstream? Something simple like installing an extra shelf, replacing furniture with something that works better for you, etc.

If you have recipes to share, please email to me and I will include in upcoming newsletters. It does not need to be a food recipe. For example, one time I published a bug repellent recipe.

Please email me any articles or ideas you have ([055info@airstreamclub.net](mailto:055info@airstreamclub.net)).



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## *If you were wondering...*

Got a question about the Wally Byam Airstream Club (aka, WBAC or WBCCI) or the MN Airstream Club? Wondering who you can talk to? These wonderful people are more than happy to hear from you and help answer your questions. Please feel free to email them. Your question may be forwarded to and answered by another member on the MN Airstream Club.

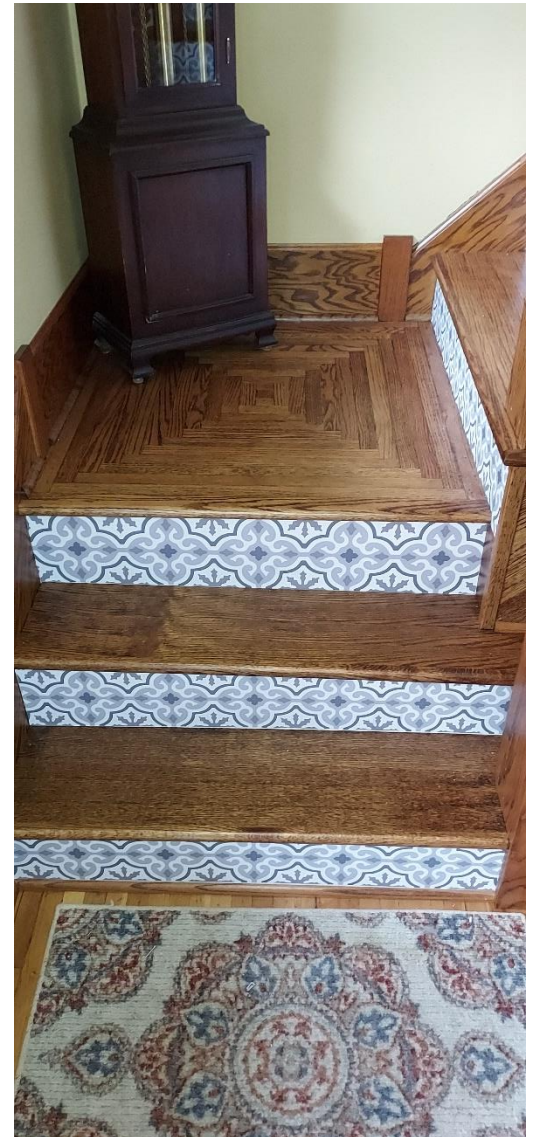
President	Terry	<a href="mailto:055president@airstreamclub.net">055president@airstreamclub.net</a>
1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice-president	Brenda	<a href="mailto:055vicepresident@airstreamclub.net">055vicepresident@airstreamclub.net</a>
Membership Chair	Daryl	<a href="mailto:055membershipchair@airstreamclub.net">055membershipchair@airstreamclub.net</a>
Webmaster	Chris	<a href="mailto:055info@airstreamclub.net">055info@airstreamclub.net</a>

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## *Newsletter Editor Ramblings*

In the last Newsletter, I showed some pictures of our new stairwell project. I am happy to report we finished it a couple of weeks later, and we both love it!

Here's a couple of pictures of the finished project.



The entire staircase, landing, handrails, and trim are red oak with Provincial stain. The risers are covered with self-stick vinyl graphic sheets we found online. If you want information about where to find them, let me know.

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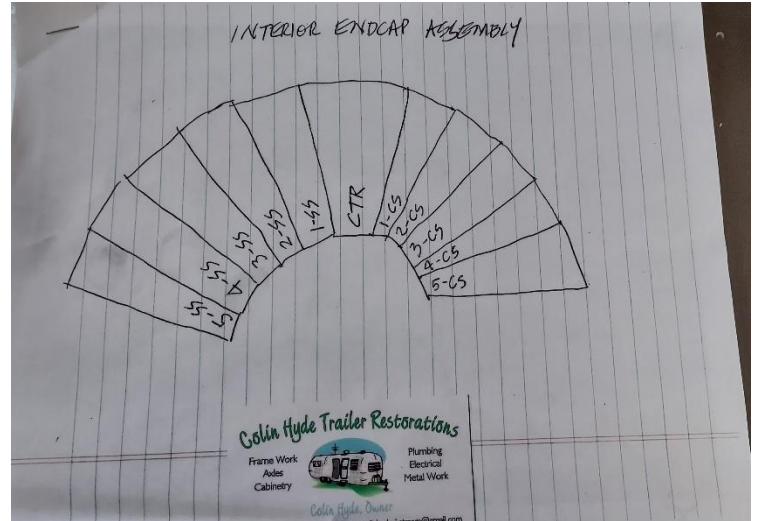
I has also mentioned that once the weather warmed up, I was going to install a new headliner in the front of our trailer. Some background: The plastic (ABS?) headliner we bought for the front of Little Girl developed a couple of cracks two years ago. Ever since then, we have been trying to figure out the best way to replace or cover the plastic headliner with something different. Last Summer, we read in the Airstream Life magazine that Colin Hyde has headliner kits for early 70's Airstreams, so we contacted them and ordered a kit last Fall. Finally had nice enough weather a couple of weeks ago (well warm enough - it was raining most of the days I worked on this), and I installed the headliner.



This is how the kit arrives. 11 segments shipped in a wood box. The segments are pre-drilled thank goodness.

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The kit has instructions showing how the segments go together (shown to the right). The recommendation is to rivet the headliner together and then install it as a unit.

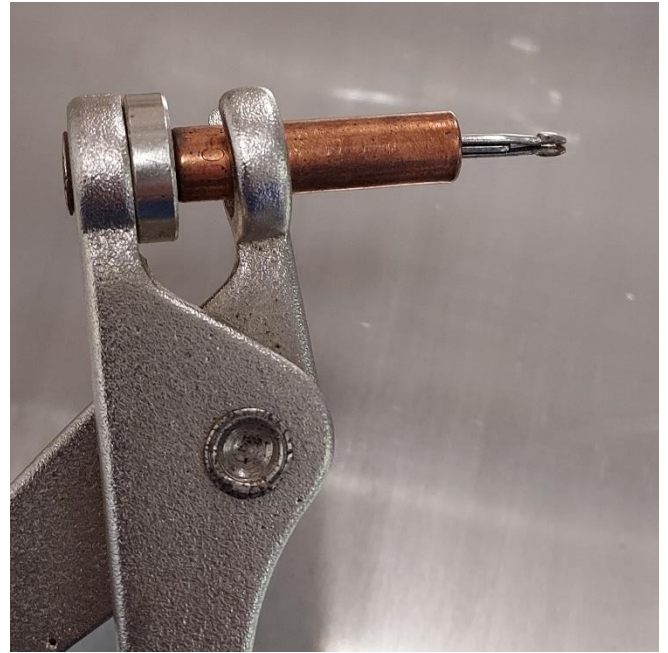


This picture is also part of the instructions, showing the entire headliner cleco'd together.



So, what's a cleco you might ask? This is a cleco. They are used to temporarily hold two sheets of metal together while you are riveted them. Certainly easier than installing rivets only to have to drill them out because the alignment is off.

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Using cleco pliers, you press the end into the cleco, causing the split end to expand out and close together, you then stick the cleco through the holes of the two pieces of metal and release the pliers. The end expands as it pulls back into the cleco, holding the two pieces of metal together, just like rivet. But the cleco is easily removed.

Back to the headliner.

Being the dutiful person that follows instructions some of the time, I tried to cleco the three middle panels together. Unsuccessfully I should add. I have no idea how you would go about assembling this without a jig to hold it in place! So, after giving it some thought, and thinking about how others on the Air Forums have built aluminum headliners in place, I decided to try that.



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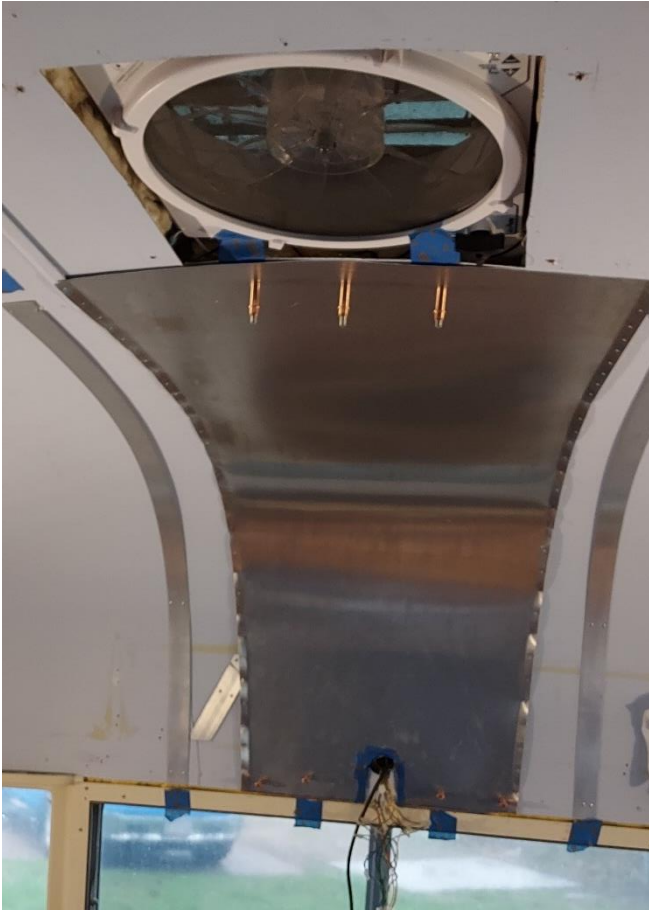


Here's a trial fit of the 3 middle segments. Hmm... this might just work ok!



Trial fit with two more segments added. Figured out that the curve in our trailer might be slightly different than other trailers, maybe in part because I was installing the new headliner over (under?) the old plastic one. Anyway, this trial convinced me that this method would work ok.

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Here's the center segment cleco'ed in place. I did need to cut both ends off a bit - a total of about 6 or 7 inches. But, it's in place and holding the curve.

The aluminum straps on either side of the headliner are there to cover up and reinforce the cracks in the headliner.

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Here's the rest of the Starboard segments trimmed and cleco'ed in place. Getting back to the curve being different, about the bottom foot of each segment no longer aligned with the pre-drilled holes in the previous segment it is overlapping. So, I drilled new holes in the overlapped segment using the exposed segment as a template. I did the drilling in place, so the holes all lined up as I installed the rivets.



Here's the Starboard side all riveted in place.



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Port side all cleco'ed in place.



All 11 segments riveted in place. The two bottom segments on each side have about 5 inches cut off the bottom (basically split in half lengthwise) as I didn't need them to extend down the walls any further.

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Everything all back together. Stereo shelf and good luck broom are re-installed. I covered the rear edge of the new headliner with 1/2" wide aluminum trim. We opted to not paint the new headliner, but I'm not going to polish it to a mirror finish either. We cleaned and waxed it and love the look.

So, if you want an aluminum headliner, contact Colin Hyde! It took me the better part of 2 days to install, once I decided to install it in place. Trying to assemble it in my workshop was another day of frustrating work.

During the installation, I about used 60+ clecos and about 380 pop rivets. I should also note that I did this by myself while Kay was at a quilt retreat. A second pair of hands would have been helpful a few times - mostly when installing the first center segment. But, the deadman worked well (rag covered 2x2 shown in the trial fit pictures).

I should note that this falls into the same category as replacing axels. No, I will not do your trailer... 😊

Until next time, safe travels.

Chris

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