



# TARHEEL TRAVELER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB  
THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CLUB IN WBCCI FORMED IN 1960



August 2022

## CAC Upcoming Rallies & Events 2022

[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](#)

[Alumalina October 27-30](#)



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BRUCE BODENSTEIN #8168

Hello Airstreamers,

Claire and I arrived home from Fryeburg, Maine on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> with a weekend in upstate NY in between to celebrate a biennial family reunion. We were feeling exhausted but pulled ourselves together and dutifully showed up for the August Rally at Grumpy Bear RV Park near Bryson City, NC. First-

time hosts, Lee and Dawn Dunn put together a great agenda for fifteen rigs, with the crowning event a performance by local Cherokee indigenous Americans after our delicious baked potato with all the fixings meal on Saturday night.

What can I say about International? It was hot, at least for the first few days. After the weekend, it cooled down a bit and was bearable. The venue couldn't have been better. Water and 30 amps for everyone. We ran our AC as much as we wanted. With nearly a thousand trailers in attendance, sure, we all had to hike a bit, but it was also easy to jump in the truck and drive across the fairgrounds when necessary. The caravan up was a high point for me. Got to know a few more couples better along the way. Thanks to our dedicated caravan committee made up of Mary Shaw, Ed Hall and Elaine Myers, who detailed the journey to a tee. The coolest part was the last short leg, where we convoyed down the road all together and streamed onto the fairgrounds as a group. It was impressive and because we mostly arrived together; we were all pretty much in one spot on the Fairgrounds. This made our Happy Hours easy.

As your President and First Lady, we got treated special a time or two. The opening Flag Ceremony was one of those times when our club's name was called out and I got to carry our flag across the front of the arena. Pretty sure the cheer I heard was the loudest in the hall, as I'm thinking we had one of the largest contingents in attendance (over 40 units). Thanks for giving me that opportunity.

Many others in our club made significant contributions to the meeting in Maine. I know that Ricky and Joan Wilcox along with Bob Hoffman, Wayne Clark, plus John and Sharon Carriker, arrived early and stayed after we all left, working in critical roles. They tasked Marcia Thompson

with finding masters of ceremonies for all the seminars, which was not a trivial task either, and she wasn't feeling at the top of her game for part of her time there. Of course, Jim Cocke and Debbie Wood were everywhere. I missed some names for sure, but we played our part well. Sadly, on our first night there, Barbara Hackett wasn't feeling up to par, did a self-test and came up positive for Covid. That was a bummer as they ended up quarantining in-place that night and Dennis made for home the next morning. We missed them a bunch.

Overall, it was a tremendous part of our wonderful country to spend some time in, and I'm looking forward to heading west to Wyoming next year. Yippie-i-o ki yay!

Til next time,  
Your Prez,  
~ Bruce. [021president@wbcci.net](mailto:021president@wbcci.net)

**The Old National Road Caravans, East, Central, and West, still have openings for 2023.**

**These caravans are unique in that they are three short, nine day caravans, running back to back to back. If you are pressed for time and spend a month traveling with your Airstream friends, you can sign up for one, or two segments, and enjoy the full caravan experience!**

**<https://airstreamclub.org/old-national-road-east-caravan...>**

**<https://airstreamclub.org/old-national-road-central...>**

**<https://airstreamclub.org/old-national-road-west-caravan...>**

**Follow these links to the Airstream Club International web pages, where full descriptions are available!**



## 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT & 2022 RALLIES

RICKY WILCOX #5016

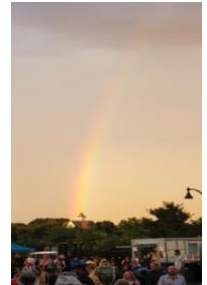


Hello streamers,

Once again, another month has gone by. We're still on the road and haven't been home in over a month. We attended the International Rally in Fryeburg, and it was awesome. We arrived on the 18th and had some work to do unloading the trailer before the teams got there and started setting up. Like I mentioned, I had some hand surgery and was a little concerned about how helpful I would be. Everything was fine and my hand continues to get better every day. We were at international until 8/1/22.

We left Fryeburg and headed to Bangor, Maine. On 8/2/22 we had tickets for a Jimmy Buffett concert. That was an awesome show. We were standing in line outside waiting on the gates to open and a thunderstorm came through. We had ponchos so we didn't get too wet. They delayed opening the gates because of lightning. I guess it doesn't strike outside only inside. Lol. The storm passed and the gates finally opened. I turned around and took a picture right there in line.

There was a hole in the clouds and a rainbow 🌈 shining down on a church steeple. We went to White Mountain, and it was very cold up there. We were there until 8/5/22 and went to Bar Harbor Maine. This was our first time there. Of course, we went to Acadia National Park. Breathtaking place! So much to see there. We lucked out and were there during the lobster festival. I'd love to go back in the future sometime.



We left there on 8/11/22 but had three days to get to our next destination so we went south down Hwy 1. We drove all day down following the coast. I took my inspiration from Jimmy Buffett, lol. We spent the night in a Walmart parking lot and eventually turned west, skirting around NY, and spent a second night behind a convenience store. And on day three, we arrived in Maryland, just above DC. We found plenty to see and do here. Tomorrow is 8/19/22 and we leave here and head home. We'll probably take two days getting home.

I hope you're all out there exploring, traveling, and staying safe. Until next month happy and safe travels to you all.



~Ricky, 1<sup>st</sup> VP [021vicepresident@wbcci.net](mailto:021vicepresident@wbcci.net)

## 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT & 2023 RALLIES

STEVE THOMPSON #19771



Greetings to all CAC Streamers,

I hope everyone who attended the 2022 International Rally in Fryberg had a great time. Consider making reservations for 2023 rallies soon as they fill up fast. Some of you have already started making reservations. We are still actively pursuing September and October rallies.

Should you have any questions regarding our rallies please feel free to reach out to me or the other rally committee members listed below. Please join me in welcoming Dave Lorenz as a new member of the CAC rally committee.

**March 16-19** James Island County Park, Charleston, SC- Look to reserve a spot in Loop 1.

**March 29 – 2 April** \*\*\*Region 3 Rally, Ocean Lakes Family Campground, Myrtle Beach, SC\*\*\* Reservations are filling up so reserve a spot early. Tell them you are with the Region 3 group when reserving a spot.

**April 13-16** Tanglewood. Contact the park 336-703-649 and be sure to tell them you are with the Carolinas Airstream Club.

**April 20-23** Trot into Tryon. The first urban rally of the CAC year. Reservation details will follow.

**May 11-14** Shining in Shelby- The second urban rally. Reservation details will follow.

**June 8-11** Cool Breeze Campground, Galax, VA. Call and let them know you are with the Carolinas Airstream Club.

**June 24-30** \*\*\* 2023 International Rally\*\*\* Rock Springs, Wyoming

**July 13-16 Hot Springs Resort and Spa. Reservations can be made by phone now. Be sure to tell them you are with the Carolinas Airstream Club as we will be grouped together.**

**August 17-20- Top of Georgia Airstream Park, Helen, GA**

**September- Working**

**October 26-29** \*\*\* Alumalina\*\*\*Tom Johnson RV Park, Marion, NC. We are looking also to conduct a CAC rally during October.

**November 9-12** Ocean Lakes Family Campground, Myrtle Beach, SC- Call and reserve sites in section HH letting them know you are with the Carolinas Airstream Club.

Ross Gary [rving01@gmail.com](mailto:rving01@gmail.com)

\*\*\* non-CAC events \*\*\*

George Lamb [georgeN4ROT@gmail.com](mailto:georgeN4ROT@gmail.com)

David Lorenz [annabelle5862@gmail.com](mailto:annabelle5862@gmail.com)

~Steve 2nd VP [021vicepresident@wbcci.net](mailto:021vicepresident@wbcci.net)



## PAST PRESIDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

CHARLES W. FISHEL #16765

CAC President 2013



Hello fellow club members,

I grew up in Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina. It was shortly after the depression, so we had a small farm raising corn for the mules, cows, hogs and chickens, vegetables, and tobacco for the money crop. We had no electricity nor indoor plumbing. I appreciate having had that opportunity and pleasure, even the many hours plowing behind a mule.

After finishing High School in 1953, I went to work, a week later, at McLean Trucking Company for three-and one-half years. During that time, as an active member in the Moravian Church, I felt the Lord dealing with me and decided to enter college and seminary to become a minister. I required 7 years in Bethlehem, PA at Moravian College and Seminary. I experienced working at many part-time jobs, driving charter buses, hospital orderly, carpenter, etc. Prior to my sophomore year, I meet a young girl, Glory Szarka from New Jersey, who became my wife during that year and over the next five years we had three children. One of our children, Chuck, is a present member of the Carolina's Unit club.

I was ordained a Moravian Minister in 1963 and started serving a church in Rural Hall, NC. My wife and I decided camping would be good for our young family. In 1968 we bought a Yellowstone box trailer and in 1971, a photographer wanted to take a picture of our unit as we were leaving the new Ocean Lakes Campground. The following year our picture was in a National Camping Directory advertising this new campground at South Myrtle Beach, SC.

A couple friends encouraged us to buy an Airstream. With a young growing family and serving the church with minimum salary, we did not know how we could afford such a purchase but we did. In 1971 we bought a new 1972, 29-foot Airstream International taking delivery in January 1972. We used it for 21 years, and never regretted that purchase.

We traded the 1972 for a nearly new 1993 and used it until it was damaged by hail. Then I purchased an early new used 2003, 31-foot classic, my present Airstream. I also owned a 1985 25 ft, and a 34-foot airstream. About 6 years ago, I purchased Lenwood Ammon's 1974 27 ft International which he purchased new and was the only trailer he ever owned. Presently I own the 2003 and 1974 Airstreams.

Two former members sponsored us to become members of the Carolina's unit. After attending two rallies (at that time you had to attend two rallies before the club would vote on receiving you as a member), we joined the Airstream Club in July 1972.

Over the years my wife and I met many wonderful Airstreamers from all over the United States. The best way we met them was by volunteering at local, regional, and international rallies. I had the privilege for a short time to serve as the chaplain in Region 3 and also the Carolina's unit, planning and conducting worship services at meetings when my scheduled allowed. You got to remember an active minister cannot be away from his local congregation every month.

My wife and I appreciated the club and the wonderful people we met. We went every time possible but then she got cancer which she fought for 7 years, dying in November 1994.

After four and one-half years I married Linda who became an active member of our club. She had been secretary, treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice President, 1<sup>st</sup> vice President and President in 2010 when our club celebrated 50 years.

I had been rather active in the club; chaplain, board member, etc. I had previously declined becoming President, but then in 2010, Linda said, I have been President so now it is your turn. So, I went through the ranks and became President in 2013. The Presidency is an easy job when wonderful members volunteer for different responsibilities within the club.

I've had many good times meeting wonderful people at rallies and some rallies really stand out. One time as chaplain of Region 3, I left Friday evening at 6 pm for Savannah, Ga, arriving in early morning, joining the club for Saturday, sleeping Saturday night, getting up early to conduct the worship service and immediately leaving for North Carolina getting home Sunday night. I also remember the first International Rally in Ames, IA, (3993) units, the original Sons of the Pioneers was the main program. On returning home we stopped by to visit a distant relative in West Salem, IL, parking where a mobile home had been parked, the first time for full hook-ups in 2 and one-half weeks. We made it and had a wonderful time.

The International Rally in Huntsville, AL, (1988) was very hot, dry and dusty with no hook ups but a little water. C.A. Coram, Carolina's member, oversaw organizing the float parade at the rally. Up until recent years, the International Rally ended on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and every unit was responsible for entering a float. I was responsible for timing the floats entry into the hour long parade at Huntsville. What a wonderful way to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup>!

Another time was in Sarasota Fla, I was to give the invocation for the Saturday evening meal. We had over 1200 people present. The caterer promised to serve everyone buffet style within 30 minutes. I sat with the treasurer at the head table, he was timing, and everyone was served within 30 minutes.

Another time, as President, I had the honor and privilege to represent our club at the International Rally in Huron, SD. (2013)

On and on I could go, but I do not want to bore you any further. I appreciate the opportunity and privilege of being a member of this club, the wonderful experiences, and wonderful people I have met over the years. Thank You,

~Charles

[ly](#)

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*Plea from your President... Some of you may have heard rumors of a joint rally with all four Carolinas clubs involved. That would be the Carolinas unit (us), Palmetto unit, Piedmont unit, and the SC Coastal unit. Currently several are tossing around the timeframe of September 2023 (possibly at Palmetto Cove). There is strong momentum growing for this and all four clubs are buying in to what would be a tremendously fun time as "The Greater Carolinas Airstream Rally" (my choice of words). What is needed is an individual from each club to be a point of contact for this joint rally, purely for coordination purposes. Is there anyone reading this who would be interested in taking on this role (for the first joint rally only) representing our club? If so, please contact me at [brucebodenstein@gmail.com](mailto:brucebodenstein@gmail.com) or text/phone 704 277 2018*

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CHERYLANNE WEAVER #9883



Hello Airstream friends,

I left Monday 18 July to make the trek to Fryeburg ME with the many other caravanners. We arrived Friday 22 July and caravanned into the campground as a group. What a sight to see!

My first international rally was quite an experience – so much to do and see. A big Thank You to Greg & Lynne Wilson – BRN11007 – for taking the time to come back down the coast the following week & a half with me. I learned soooo much from Greg and now own more tools!

While on the way to ME, Marcia Thompson (Bruce) – BRN05027 - contracted Anaplasmosis from a tick. She was quite sick and spent some time in the hospital. It wasn't until they departed Fryeburg that they received the diagnosis from Josh Browning, PA from Bridgeton Hospital; the second time Marcia was in the ER. He called Bruce 1 August with the diagnosis and the meds she needed to get her on the healing track. A big Thank you to Jim Cocke & Debbie Wood – BRN04822 – for escorting Bruce & Marcia back to NC safely. Marcia is on the mend.

Rocky Johnson (Susan) – BRN07322 – has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. It is a slow growing cancer, so the Dr wants to monitor it for the next 6 months. The potential surgery is dangerous and needs to be avoided if possible. Please keep Rocky in your thoughts and prayers.

Alice Martin – BRN09598 – had a scare with her furry friend Watson while in Fryeburg. He too contracted a tick born disease, Parvo, which is especially harmful to young pups. Watson spent a week in the Vet ER. Robin Ashley – BRN02662 – started a GoFundMe page that raised \$2770.00 towards Watson's bills. Watson was fully vaccinated for Parvo so the company that makes the vaccine is also helping with the bills which totaled about \$8000. Thankful Watson has made a full recovery!

A note from Alice & Watson:



**Dear CAC,**

***Words seem inadequate to describe the gratitude Watson & I have for all of you! The love, support, & kindness we received during his illness will never be forgotten. The Airstream community is one of a kind and we feel so honored to be part of this special family. Thank you for rallying behind us, your prayers pulled him through! ~ Alice & Watson***

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

~Cherylanne!

**MEMBERSHIP**  
LEE DUNN #27312  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR



Hello Streamers,  
As of Aug 17, 2022, the Carolinas Airstream Club is 243 rigs and 443 members strong! New Feature starting this month "Member Highlight". Let me know what you think of this addition. Also, let me know if you would like to be 'Highlighted' next month. I will need volunteers to keep this going.~Lee,  
Membership Chair [021membershipchair@wbcci.net](mailto:021membershipchair@wbcci.net)



## MEET THE KUEFFERS

Jeff and Nancy

### About the Kueffers

- Members of CAC since 2019
- Their second Airstream is a 2013 International Sterling 27FB Obsidian Violet
- They live in Durham, NC.
- Jeff and Nancy have two daughters
- Their eldest daughter just made them grandparents for the first time in July
- Their other daughter is getting married in November.
- They have a little dog named Scout who is a 16 pd Aussidoodle



### Jeff

Jeff's hobbies are fly fishing, walking, and biking. He considers any campground he's camping at his favorite campground. He likes being in the club so that he can learn from others. The oddest thing that ever happened to Jeff while camping was when he forgot a corkscrew. He has added modifications to his airstream such as an eye bolt on curbside stabilizers to connect straps to help secure the canopy from high winds.

### Nancy

Nancy's hobbies are Mahjong, walking, and gardening. She likes being in the club in order to meet new people. Her favorite campground is at Kure Beach. The oddest thing that happened to her was when she spent the night in Winn Dixie because the tow vehicle broke down on the Florida Keys. She encourages folks to have fun with their decor in their Airstream. Spice it up!



Our newest members (details in Evernote)

- Keith & Janet Gapen from Oriental, NC, and their 25' 2022 Flying Cloud
- Paige Anderson from Greer, SC, and her 20' 2022 Basecamp
- Dale Weiler & Loti Woods from Tryon, NC, and their 25' 2020 Atlas
- Richard Stetson & Glenda Harden from Port Saint Lucie, FL, and their 25' 2017 Flying Cloud
- Heidi Utley (affiliate member) from Sunnyvale, CA, and her 28' 2019 International Signature
- Todd & Katherine Smoots from Charlotte, NC, and their 27' 2022 Globetrotter
- Nick Dross from Carolina Beach, NC, and his 31' 1973 Sovereign
- Christopher & Lacey Carter from Shelby, NC, and their 23' 2022 Flying Cloud
- James Cooper from Raeford, NC, and his 30' 2021 Flying Cloud 30 FBB
- Tyson Stager from Franklin, NC, and his 31' 1969 Land Yacht International
- Susan & Joseph Beck from King, NC, and their 25' 2022 Flying Cloud
- Bjorn & Nicole Kasper from Belmont, NC, and their 40' 2003 Land Yacht 396XL



**Airstream Play Time**



## "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](mailto:021newslettereditor@wbcci.net).*



## The Airstreamer's Guide to Propane

[\(Live Riveted Blog\)](#)

Along with shore power electric and sun-powered solar, propane is the third piece of the Airstream power puzzle. Learn more about this valuable resource, and how, when, and where to use it best.

Propane is an essential part of Airstreaming, letting you boil water on the stove and heat up your Airstream on cold nights. Some older Airstream models have combination propane/electric refrigerators that can use either power source, and Airstreams equipped with a gas water heater use propane to provide a warm shower and deliver hot water at the tap. Easy to transport and readily available across the country, propane is a source of power that can set you free. Here's some recommendations

### **When Dealing with Any Fuel: Safety First**

First and foremost, we recommend not traveling with the propane valves turned on. We recommend closing both valves whenever in motion, and any time you're hitching or unhitching. Regular maintenance of your Airstream's propane system ensures you can have a carefree adventure. You don't want any propane hiccups destroying your fun. You should visually check

your entire propane system at least twice a year. Check all your hoses, lines, and connections. Look for wear on the lines, and make sure nothing is out of place that could rub on the hoses or lines. Make sure there is no debris gathering around your tanks or where your propane runs to appliances and your water heater. Spiders and other creepy crawlers love the smell of propane. Remove any webs or nests you might find. Your Airstream comes with fire, propane, and carbon monoxide detectors already installed. Check your detectors before every trip to make sure they have fresh batteries. It's a good practice to change any batteries in your detectors at the start of every camping season.

### **Propane Usage: An Inexact Science**

It's hard to determine how much propane you will need on any given trip. Many variables affect how much propane you burn while cooking, firing your furnace, or heating your water. The exterior temperature will largely determine how much heat you need – that, and your relative level of comfort. And when cooking, it depends on how much frying you do over the stove, how many dozen cookies you decide to bake, and how much water you boil for coffee.

Complicated equations will help you determine the amount of BTUs required by your propane appliances, but seasoned Airstreamers will tell you that the best strategy is the one you apply in your car: keep an eye on the gauge. With two propane tanks on the hitch of most Airstreams, running one tank down before switching to the other tank is a great prompt to get to the refill station. And many Airstreamers don't hit the road until they've topped off the tanks. Seasonality plays a part as well – if you're camping in the summer, your propane requirements are quite different than if you're heading out in October. And if you're not taking showers and washing your hands with warm water, you'll use less propane in your water heater.

For many, propane usage is a fun game of conservation. When hooked up to electric, avoid using your propane to heat the Airstream – use the heat pumps (if your model is equipped). If you've got a campfire, use that for cooking (rather than the stovetop).

### **Refilling Your Tanks**

Eventually, you will need to refill your propane tanks – luckily there are lots of places to fill up. Refill stations are easy to find, and there are many apps that can help you find a refill spot. Common places that offer propane are gas stations, home improvement stores, RV parks, and campgrounds. We recommend finding a refill station that's conveniently located so you can simply pull up and let an attendant fill the tanks without having to remove them from the hitch. If need be, you can remove your tanks from the front of your RV, but it's important that they be reinstalled correctly to prevent any possibility of their falling off or becoming dislodged in travel.

We always recommend having a qualified service individual refill your propane tanks. They must be filled as directed by the tank manufacturer. Instructions are located near the fill valve.

### **Troubleshooting Propane Flow Issues**

Imagine you just refilled your propane tanks. You head out to the wild backroads of America and find the perfect camp spot. Dinner time rolls around, and you can't seem to get your stove to ignite. You check your other appliances that run on propane, and they aren't working either. Don't panic, yet. Check these things first.

Make sure the valves on your tanks are "on."

The attendant refilling your propane tank has to close the valve before they fill your tank. It's easy to forget to open the valve when you arrive at your camp spot. Double-check and make sure the valve is open. Solving your problem could be that easy.

Most modern Airstreams have an Automatic Gas Regulator that allows for an uninterrupted switchover when your first tank runs empty. Both tanks are connected to this regulator. Make sure there is propane in both tanks before you start. Then rotate the knob on the top-front side of the regulator toward the tank you want to use first – this is now your service cylinder, while the other tank is the reserve cylinder.

If propane is available, the indicator will turn bright green and stay lit as long as there is fuel coming from the service cylinder. When the tank runs empty, the regulator will automatically switch over to draw propane from the reserve cylinder. When that tank runs empty, the indicator will turn red, indicating that it's time for a refill.

If you run out of propane, it's possible that air can get trapped in the lines. To solve that minor issue, read on.

-Bleed the lines. If you just refilled your tanks, there may be pockets of air in the lines. Turn the gas to your main stove burner "on" and light it. It may take a second if there is air in the line. Leave it lit until the flame burns steadily. Check other propane-using appliances to ensure they are working as well.

-Check the excess flow valve. The excess flow valve is a safety feature to stop or slow the flow of propane in the case of a leak, and it's a standard feature of most propane tanks. If you turn your propane valve on too quickly, it can spring/engage the valve. Close the propane valve, turn off propane appliances, and wait three to five minutes before trying again – this time, opening the propane valve slowly.

-If the excess flow valve was tripped because you have a leak, you need to turn off your propane, turn off your appliances, and extinguish any fire or heat sources that could ignite the propane. A propane leak is a serious issue that requires a visit to your Airstream dealer for service.

-Make sure your pressure regulator is working. Pressure regulators last about 8-10 years. If you have an old regulator or yours isn't working properly, you need to get it replaced. If you're still not getting flow to your gas appliances, you might need to call a professional.



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

# Nuts for Ruts Caravan/Oregon Trail

Deb Gooch and  
Steve Zoufaly

Kathleen and Jim  
Plyler and Lexie

Barbara and  
Dennis Hackett

Sandy and Tim  
Ally and Amos



# **Kathy and Duffy Tucker** **New Addition 25' Globetrotter FBT**



**2nd VP Steve and Jan Thompson**  
**at Flaming Gorge, UT.**  
**The picture shows the dam and bridge**



Let us spotlight your travels.  
Send pictures to  
[021newslettereditor@wbcci.net](mailto:021newslettereditor@wbcci.net)

# Grumpy Bear Rally Bryson City August 11-14

