

# GOOD LIFE NEWS



Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 March, 2020

## Airstreamer on 2020 Census Poster!



The 2020 Census is coming up and a poster features one of our “own”! **Erica Marquette** (#13270, Washington DC Unit) is the daughter of **Fran and Richard Marquette** (#3270, Florida Airstream Club Affiliate). Erica and her puppy Sully are shown in the door of their Airstream talking with a Census taker. This poster is being sent to campgrounds all over USA to inform people of the Census. If you are a “R.V. full-timer” or know anyone who is, remind them to look for Census takers April 9 through May 4, 2020.

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## President's Points

The first rally of the year was January 30 for 4 nights at Spirit of Suwannee Music Park. Weather was cool and a little rainy but that didn't seem to dampen spirits. The Masters and Swegles did a terrific job hosting.

Membership is strong and we are growing. I just received the new roster and will update the web site soon. With new members and current members we still need volunteers to help mentor. Please

contact Larry Scovotto for information, (386) 405-0160.

We have 2 rallies (Suwannee River Rendezvous and Bluegrass Rally) coming up before the Region 3 rally. Participation will be high, so register if you haven't done so yet.

Please check the website for information: <https://airstreamclub.org/>. Click on “Events” so search for the rallies.

It is with great sadness that we communicate the passing of Dave Wenger following his battle with melanoma cancer. Dave went to his heavenly home on February 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at home with his wife Betty and their children and grandchildren. He was a long-time member of WBCCI and the Florida Airstream Club and will be greatly missed.

Steve Opel, President

## Tribute to David Swope Wenger (1942 – 2020)

In the comfort of his own home, surrounded by his loving family, Dave peacefully went to be with the Lord on February 7, 2020. He is survived by his wife, the love his of life of 57 years, Betty, daughter Cheryl, son Chris, daughter-in-law Nicole, and grandsons Sim, Grant, and Xavien. Dave was a loving husband, father, Papa, and friend to everyone.

Dave worked hard his entire life to care and provide for his family. In 1992 he founded Excel Auto Body in Maitland, FL. He often remarked how he thought

he wasn't the most educated man, but if you knew Dave there was no doubt that he could create, fix or build anything. He was always there to help relatives and friends with projects and anyone who needed a helping hand. He loved traveling the country with Betty and friends from the Florida Airstream Club 027. Most of all, Dave loved his family and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

Dave and Betty Wenger (#1393) were members of the WBCCI and the Florida Unit (now the Florida Airstream Club) for over 14 years. Dave

was our Club president in 2008. Dave loved working at the Florida State Rally, and many will remember him as the head of the Scooter Patrol and the Morning Coffee and Donuts chairman. Together, Dave & Betty attended many Region and Club rallies, and enjoyed nine National Caravans between 2006-2017 all over the US, including Alaska.

Donations in Dave's name may be made to the [Moffitt Cancer Center Foundation](#) online or sent to:  
12902 Magnolia Drive  
MBC-FOUND



**Ron & Chris Allen** — We had the honor of traveling with Dave & Betty Wenger on several Airstream Caravans. We got to know them both as we spent time on the road, enjoying meals together, playing joker, sightseeing, sharing family stories and endless conversations. We saw first hand the way Dave was willing to share his talents, experiences and helping hand to those in need. Most of all Dave was willing to give of his time to serve others. Dave's good-hearted humor, welcoming smile, love of life and the sense that he never met a stranger taught us a lot about this Godly man. He will be greatly missed!



**Randy & Pat Godfrey** — We first met Dave & Betty at the 2007 International Rally in Perry, GA. Dave was our Club's incoming president, and Randy became his 2nd VP. Dave wanted no part of the "business" aspect of the Club, so Randy told him that he would handle that for him if Dave would help us learn what we needed to know about our new Airstream. It was a deal! From that moment, Dave was always there when we needed help, a special tool, or advice. When Dave found out that Pat's politics were different from his, he was quick to throw in a tease or something to get her going—but always with a smile on his face. Pat and Dave spent many hours talking about the books they were reading. And, you could usually find Dave sitting outside his Airstream reading a good book, sometimes even with his eyes closed.

At the last rally where we were together, May 2019, Dave helped Randy change our water pump. After it was all assembled, it wasn't running correctly; a washer was missing. Randy and Dave looked everywhere for the missing washer, and Randy ended up driving an hour away to get a new part. Reassembled, with the replacement washer, it was operating perfectly. As we were cleaning up everything, including the towel used to collect the water drips, out fell the missing washer. Dave looked at Randy and said, "I think I'm going to say a bad word!" He didn't.

**Lynn & Bill Behnke** — The first time Bill and I met Dave Wenger was at the October rally in Daytona Beach. We pulled up in our less than a year old Airstream and Dave's comment to us was "I bet you took a beating buying that new

airstream!" After getting to know Dave, I found that he doesn't buy NEW airstreams, he just fixes up older ones. When Dave bought his last truck, he and Betty flew, I think, to Arizona to pick it up. Of course it was a used truck, but he was so proud of it, as it was the newest truck he had ever owned! Dave was a great Joker player and a good teacher!

**Linda & Larry Scovotto** — The highlight of attending a rally was visiting with Dave and Betty and of course playing Joker with them. Dave introduced us to Joker. He was a master strategist and taught us that to win a game, always hold a 4 to the end! We will miss his wit, humor, and friendship. He will be greatly missed.



# Trip Planning Software – by Steve Opel

*Preface: For this month's feature article, I asked members to submit their suggestions for trip planning software and why they recommend it. We are fortunate to have three members who sent in articles. Read on to learn about Roadtrippers, Campendium, RV Trip Wizard, Road Trip Planner, and a few other apps.*

*Roadtrippers software makes planning your cross county trip a snap.*

Deb and I travel 4-5 months a year in the summer. Planning this can be a daunting task. I have tested several different software programs and settled on **Roadtrippers**, <https://roadtrippers.com/>. It has a free version and a pay one. I used the free version since 2015 and when they went to the pay version I went for it (no ads and a few other options).

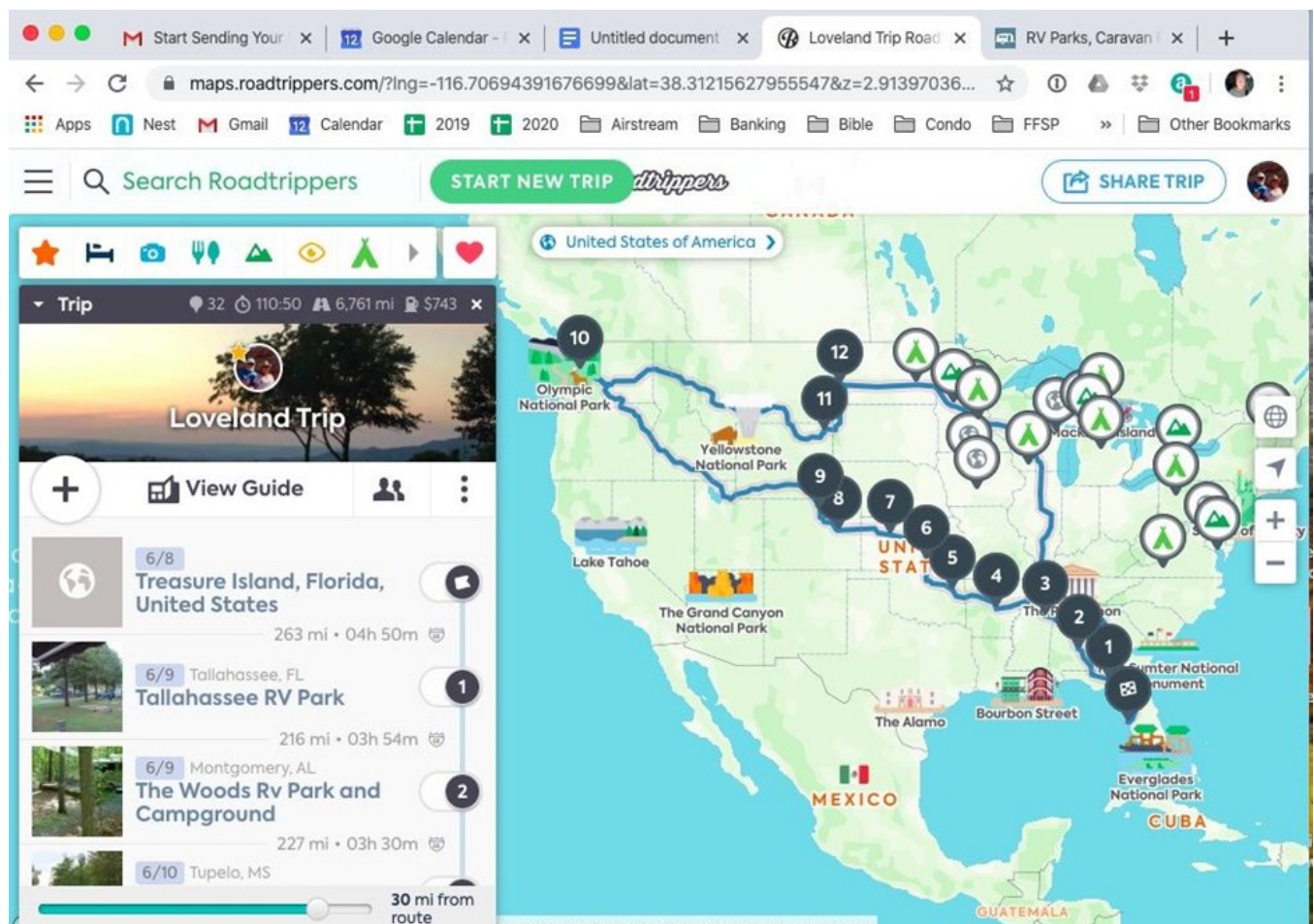
Roadtrippers is very easy to learn and use. Just put in your starting and ending destination. From there you can find routes, camp sites, etc. You can easily navigate the site, adding and editing your trip. It also saves your trips so you can go back and see what

you did! It also has a mobile app that syncs so you can take it with you. It has a built-in navigator.

There are many other features such as searching for suggested trips and trip highlights. I think it's worth taking a look at.

My second favorite is **Campendium**, <https://www.campendium.com/>. This is a great search tool. We like state parks and Army Corps campgrounds. And a mobile app. It's also free but you can donate to support it.

Steve Opel # 1260



## RV Trip Planning Software – by David Poole

For years I have done trip planning. In the old days you had to collect information on the places you wanted to go. You picked a place to go then collected information on that place. Maps, campground directories and chamber of commerce items were often gathered. Now days it is a little easier this app puts all that right in front of you.

I use **RV Trip Wizard**. <https://www.rvtripwizard.com/> The program provides trip planning using your profile of rig information, maps, campground lists, and information on “points of interest” (POIs) along your route. There is a site subscription fee around \$40 per year.

The steps go something like this. First, I loaded my profile for the rig listing size, height, weight, length, etc. The program uses that information to plan the route. Our rig is set for 11 ft height and 18,000 pounds. The program shows hazards along the route, mostly on secondary roads that this rig shouldn't go through. Examples would be short over passes and bridges less than 9 tons capacity.

Next, I loaded the miles I prefer to drive per day. The program shows a radius circle for planning purposes on the map telling me where my limit for daily driving is. The program estimates fuel consumption average and

range, and gives me a little note along the route telling me to refuel. I still use the fuel gauges but this program has many things I don't use.

Third, you start a trip by loading a name, starting place and date. You place the name of the place you want to go on the search bar and click search. It finds it on the map. You click on the resultant dot and it gives you information. If you desire that point you click on the “add to the trip” and it puts the place on the map and calculates the route. There is a button that automatically lists a return trip if desired back on the route taken out.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Trip Planning Apps – by Bob Masters

*Trip planning apps that make it easier to go on your next adventure!*

For planning long trips, we use software called RTP (**Road Trip Planner**). With it you enter your start point and destination and it calculates your route. You can then break the trip into segments based on how long you want to travel each day or where you will stay along the way. You can enter your average speed, price of gas, time in the morning you want to depart, etc., and it will calculate your itinerary. It will map out a route and then you can use RV apps to find parks in the area(s) where you want to stay. It is not the easiest program to learn but it has a lot of capability. It was relatively inexpensive and synchs with Apple Maps.

Apps we have found useful:  
There is a suite of apps for RV travelers called **ALLSTAYS**, one for Camp & RV, one that shows Military RV parks

and one to locate Walmarts if you need a quick overnight stop. Not free but not very expensive. These apps are comprehensive showing most or all RV parks in the area and seem to be accurate for pricing, rules listed, etc.

Campendium is a FREE RV app that is expanding with user reviews. It may not list all the RV parks in an area but if it does list it, there will be reviews by users that seem honest and accurate. You can also sign up to be on their email list to receive 5 RV parks per week in various states across the country, to be put on your to-visit list. They also seem to lean toward free or very inexpensive RV parking areas (BLM land, etc.) We have used Campendium several times and have contributed reviews of parks we liked to help them grow their database.

The Dyrt is another app which shows campgrounds on a map, access them by clicking on a state and then on the area you want to explore. It lists private and state campgrounds. I believe this is FREE also.

A fun app for road travelers, not just RVers is an app called **Offbeat attractions**. We like to visit offbeat and quirky attractions like a 7 foot tinman or a giant fork. You select the area you want to explore from a map and it shows icons where there are odd roadside attractions. You can usually see pictures of them and many of them have webpages to help decide if you want to visit them.

Bob Masters # 7669

# Trip Planning Software (D. Poole continued)

The program gives a table with points on the table in the order you set them up. It gives the mileage between the points and travel time. Should you want to add stops add the place to the search bar or click on it along the route.....or you can turn on "campgrounds" and it will load all the camp grounds along your route out a certain distance. (profile preferences) Click on the dot and look at the information. It will give you features, reviews and other information on camp grounds. If you want to add it, load the number of nights, place in the

site order, and click on "add to trip" button. Once you select your route it gives the websites, phone numbers, etc. for the camp ground. Once you make a reservation return to the site line and click on edit and you can put reservation numbers in the comments.

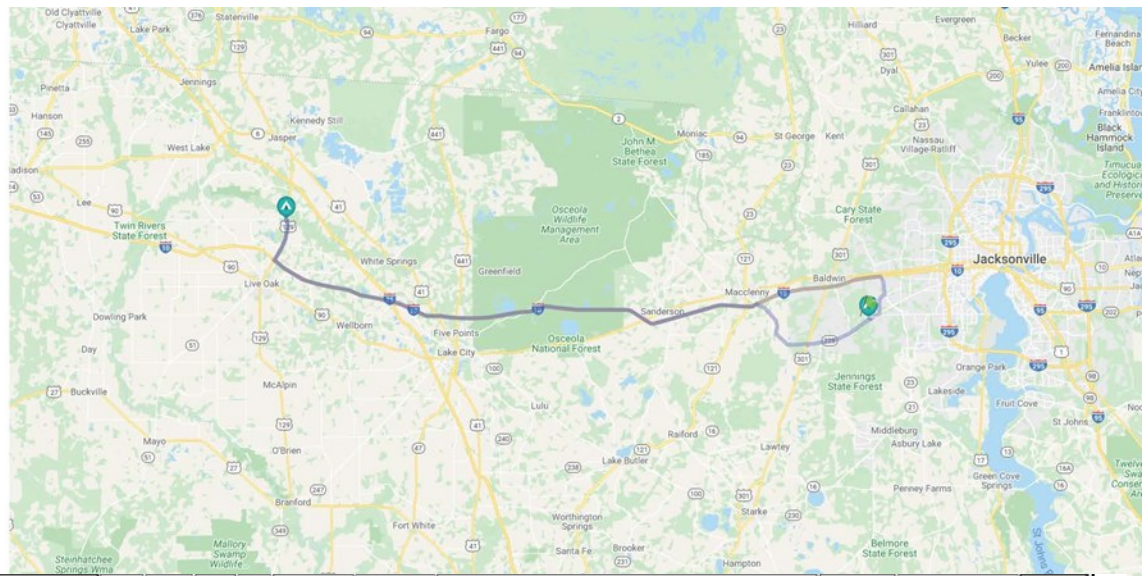
The following example is a very simple trip from Jacksonville to the rally at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, Live Oak, FL. It shows the route, miles, and travel time. All well within my own goals for a travel day. But if it was out, I'd know it right then. The cost are based upon

budget items I haven't updated. For my size rig (Classic 30") it likes right turns. Note the different route at the return to the Equestrian center. I don't always follow this exactly.

What all that gives is a printable report with map that gives the order of stops, addresses, and distance between stops, travel time, reservation number, phone number, and number of nights at each stop. You can print a turn by turn route if desired. But that's just too much information.

David Poole, #3988

*RV Trip Wizard software helps you plan your route and provides a useful printout for when you're on the road.*



Stop	Mi/Hr	Nights	Cost	Total	Arrive	Depart	Location	Reservation	Phone	Lat/Long
1 Thu 01/30/20 - Jacksonville, FL Jacksonville Equestrian Center	0			\$0	Thu 01/30/20	Thu 01/30/20	13611 Normandy Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32221, Jacksonville, FL, 32221		904-255-4227 <a href="http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/jacksonville/jacksonville-equestrian-center-251140">http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/jacksonville/jacksonville-equestrian-center-251140</a>	30.24237 -81.90561
2 Thu 01/30/20 - Live Oak, FL Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park and Campground	73 1:17	4	\$517	\$517	Thu 01/30/20	Mon 02/03/20	3076 95th Dr, Live Oak, FL, 32060		(386) 364-1683 <a href="http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/live-oak/spirit-of-the-suwannee-music-park-and-campground-725">http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/live-oak/spirit-of-the-suwannee-music-park-and-campground-725</a>	30.3937 -82.94171
3 Mon 02/03/20 - Jacksonville, FL Jacksonville Equestrian Center	77 1:17		\$20	\$537	Mon 02/03/20	Mon 02/03/20	13611 Normandy Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32221, Jacksonville, FL, 32221		904-255-4227 <a href="http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/jacksonville/jacksonville-equestrian-center-251140">http://www.campgroundreviews.com/regions/florida/jacksonville/jacksonville-equestrian-center-251140</a>	30.24237 -81.90561
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$537</b>	<b>TOTAL/DAY: \$134 STOPS: 3</b>						

Trip Notes:



# Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule 2020

Date	Rally Location	Hosts
Mar. 12-16, 2020	Suwannee River Rendezvous RV Resort, Mayo, FL Reservations: Call 386-294-2510 or <a href="https://www.suwanneeriverrendezvous.com/rv-resort/">https://www.suwanneeriverrendezvous.com/rv-resort/</a>	Susan and David Poole <a href="mailto:Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com">Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com</a>
Mar. 26-29, 2020	Blue Grass Festival Rally, Ft. Christmas Historical Park, Christmas, FL Reservations: Contact Host	Steve & Laura Kane <a href="mailto:SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com">SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com</a>
Apr. 1-5, 2020	Region 3 Rally Ocean Lakes Campground Myrtle Beach, SC Reservations: online (see right)	Region 3 <a href="https://region3.airstreamclub.net/2019-region-3-rally-preregistration/">https://region3.airstreamclub.net/2019-region-3-rally-preregistration/</a>
Apr. 23-27, 2020	St. Augustine Rally St. John's County Fairgrounds, Elkton, FL Reservations: Contact Host	Pam & George Millis <a href="mailto:Pammillis@yahoo.com">Pammillis@yahoo.com</a>
May 14-18, 2020	Salt Springs Recreation Area Fort McCoy, FL <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/ocala/recarea/?recid=32362">https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/ocala/recarea/?recid=32362</a> Reservations: 877-444-6777 or <a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	John and Kathie Walker <a href="mailto:walker48@bellsouth.net">walker48@bellsouth.net</a>
Oct. 8-12, 2020	Annual Business Meeting Daytona International RV Park & Campground Daytona Beach, FL Reservations: <a href="http://internationalrvdaytona.com/">http://internationalrvdaytona.com/</a>	Larry and Linda Scovotto <a href="mailto:floridalarry@me.com">floridalarry@me.com</a>
Oct. 16-18, 2020 <b>NEW!</b>	Wally Byam Carolina Balloon Fest Joint Rally Statesville, NC Reservations: Contact Host	Al & Missy Waschka <a href="mailto:awaschka@bellsouth.net">awaschka@bellsouth.net</a>
Nov. 5-8, 2020	Mary's Fish Camp Rally Weeki Wachee, FL Reservations: 352-597-3474	Deb & Steve Oppel <a href="mailto:oppels@gmail.com">oppels@gmail.com</a> Jeff & Mary Krael <a href="mailto:jk62gt@gmail.com">jk62gt@gmail.com</a>
Dec. 3-6, 2020	Cracker Christmas Rally Ft. Christmas Historical Park, Christmas, FL Reservations: Contact Host	Steve & Laura Kane <a href="mailto:SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com">SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com</a>



More details are available in this newsletter or from Hosts. Make your own reservations as early as possible, as some state and federal parks fill up. After you make reservations, contact Hosts to let them know you are attending (give your name, WBCCI #, email, phone, campsite number, arrival and departure date). WBCCI members from any club are welcome to attend. Rally fees may apply.

## Past Rally: Can Opener, Topsail State Park

I'm sitting in my office listening to the radio and staring out the window. I've been assigned by our newsletter editor to write an article about Canopener Rally, Jan. 2-5, 2020, at Topsail Hill Preserve State Park, Santa Rosa Beach, FL. That seems like a long time ago. It's only a month since but I'm planning next year.

Canopener is an annual first rally planned and run by .....well, I'm just not sure. To explain it is a rally that grew up out of the internet. It started a number of years ago. It now has WBBCI status but was originally a web site rally from the Air Forums, <https://www.airforums.com/forums/f289/canopener-2020-a-191286.html>. There are people from all over that come to the Gulf to celebrate a new year. Many out of state clubs have been coming for years. There was an Arkansas club that sponsors a Fish Fry night every year. The South East Camping unit is deep into it.

Some of our newest Florida Airstream Club members were there. Besides us, we saw **Pam & Tim George, Joe and Brenna Loretta, Stan & Helene**

**White, and Missy & Al Waschka.** We also partied with friends from Big Bend Florida Airstream club.

The rally runs from Thursday through Sunday on the first weekend after New Year. People often show up for a New Year celebration, called the "Canopening". They have of course the fish fry, the chili cook off, and the Cornhole tournament. The winner of the Cornhole Tournament received a custom set of Canopener 2020 Cornhole boards. There are often other activities scheduled, like the brewery tour, volunteer community service, hikes and bike rides. They also had an open house afternoon to meet greet and check out the other AS interiors. I can't remember the exact number of trailers but it was obvious that we were the majority in the park. Foley Airstream from Gulfport, MS is very active in the rally and provides many gifts. This year it was Yeti coffee cups in our registration package. <https://www.foleyrvcenter.com/>

We've been to two and had a good time both times. This year we pad-

dled the coastal dune lakes over at Grayton Beach State Park. We enjoy the area. There are plenty of things to do, places to eat and beaches to soak up. For us it also has the opportunity to visit family from the area.

Getting a reservation is the critical thing. It is a state park on the Gulf of Mexico that has full hook ups and cable. It often fills up 11 months ahead of time. Spaces in winter are difficult to come by. We scored a prime site this year near a lake and activities.

Next year we are at Grayton Beach State Park. This park is within bicycling distance to Seaside with the Airstream food truck/trailers. It also has full hook ups and level sites. So if you decide to come to Canopener and can't get a reservation, join us at Grayton Beach State Park (short distance) for the Canopener 'auxiliary'.

**David and Susan Poole, #3988**



David Poole kayaking on Western Lake near Grayton Beach S.P.

*"Canopening Rally"*  
was Dec. 31 - Jan. 1,  
followed by  
"Canopener Rally" Jan.  
2-5, 2020  
at Topsail Hill Preserve  
State Park,  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL.



Brenna Loretta competing in Cornhole



Joe & Brenna Loretta, David & Susan Poole



## Past Rally: Spirit of Suwannee Music Park

The skies were grey, the temperature was cool, the enthusiasm was high as the Florida Airstream Club kicked off the 2020 rally schedule in the north Florida woods January 30 - February 3 at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, near Live Oak, FL. The congenial group of 40 campers in 21 rigs gathered for meals together, shared travel and camper organizational tips, attended music concerts in the park and many played Joker. We welcomed new members Tim and Pam George of Clearwater who just joined our club in December as well as Lynn and Sue Moss of Starke who heard about our club and became our newest affiliate members.

Weekend activities included a bicycle trek looking for geocache targets around the park, a hike to a colorfully painted abandoned bridge and the site of a historic spa, a flamingo painting experience led by Maryanne Swegles, kayaking by a few brave souls, capped off by Possum stew and a Super Bowl party. Possum stew chefs Ron and Chris Allen, Gary and Dianne Mahan, David and Susan Poole, Gerald and Meriam Reed, Larry and Linda Scovotto, Lou Shinnamon and Sonja Meistrell, treated the group to an array of stews, none of which included possum, all were delicious. Our favorite short order cooks, Jeff Krable and Mike

Swegles cooked breakfasts of eggs and pancakes to include wild hog sausage. No one went away hungry.

Items were donated and an action was held by Chris Allen with hilarious auctioneers Larry Scovotto and Steve Kane to raise money for the Fisher House, the club's charity. A record amount of over \$1000 was raised by the generous campers. The sale was both productive and entertaining, thanks to the antics of the auctioneers.

It was a fun packed 4 days at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park hosted by Bob & Lyn Masters and Mike and Maryanne Swegles.



Hikers on their way to the Florida Trail by the Suwannee River

*Streamin', Strummin' and Hummin' Spirit of Suwannee Music Park, Live Oak, Florida*



Geocaching with Deb Oppel, Joyce Hoffer, Lyn Masters



Paint and Sip class led Maryanne Swegles. Everybody's paintings of flamingos were beautiful!



# Suwannee River Rendezvous Rally

## March 12-16, 2020



Join us at the Suwannee River Rendezvous Campground on the Suwannee River near Mayo FL (828 N.E. Primrose Rd, Mayo FL 32066). Rates are \$45 per night less any applicable discount (>65, military, Sam's Club, Passport America.) Activities like kayaking, bicycling, or hiking will be planned with participants.

Due to popular demand, an auction of donated items for Fisher House and Paint & Sip class will be repeated.

The campground also offers canoe/kayak rentals, swimming in Convict Springs, fishing, pigeon races, chicken poo bingo, red neck bowling, and radio controlled car race track. The campground is pet friendly, including 5 fenced dog park areas. For more information or to make reservations, call 386-294-2510 or visit this link: <https://www.suwanneeriverrendezvous.com/rv-resort/>

**The Host Site is 127**, near the Pavilion.

Please notify me of your arrival and departure dates and campsite, if you haven't already. Rally fee is \$5 per person for nonmembers of Florida Air-stream Club (0 for members and affiliates). *Look for an email from me at end of February for more details.*

Please remember to your own chairs, beverage, and meal set-ups to all happy hours and meals. We look forward to seeing you.

Susan Poole  
904-608-8563

[susyqmeetup14@gmail.com](mailto:susyqmeetup14@gmail.com)

Come join  
us "way  
down  
upon the  
Suwannee  
River"

### AGENDA

#### Thursday 3/12/2020

Arrive after 2 pm

5 pm Happy Hour at Pavilion. Last names starting with **A – L** bring snack to share.

6 pm Dinner at Pavilion: Pork Burritos (Tortillas, pulled pork, toppings provided). Last names starting with **M-Z** bring sides, salads, or deserts to share.

Evening activities: on your own

#### Friday 3/13/2020

Breakfast on own

9 am Group Activities TBA (kayaking, biking, hiking, touring, etc.)

5 pm Progressive Happy Hour Appetizers at Host Trailers, provided by 3-4 volunteers

6 pm Italian Dinner Soup/Salad, Entrées, and Desserts. Volunteers for cooks to be arranged by email and finalized on Thursday night.

Evening activities: Joker, corn hole, music, or other games at pavilion or various trailers as desired.

#### Saturday, 3/14/2020

Breakfast on own

9 am Group Activities TBA (kayaking, biking, hiking, touring, etc.)

5 pm Happy Hour at Pavilion Last names starting with **M-Z** bring snack to share.

6 pm Hot Dog Bar (wieners, buns, and beans provided). Last names starting with **A-L** bring toppings, sides, or desert to share.

Evening activities: Auction for Fisher House (*bring an item to donate if you want*).

#### Sunday, 3/15/2020

8:30 – 9:30 am Breakfast provided (Swegles coordinating)

10:00 am Activity on your own OR Paint & Sip Class (proceeds to benefit Fisher House). *If interested, notify Maryann at [maryanne-swegles7@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne-swegles7@gmail.com)* so she can plan supplies.

5 pm Happy Hour at Pavilion (by 3 or 4 volunteers)

6 pm Dinner Potluck Irish/St. Patrick Day theme food/drinks at Pavilion

Evening activity: Outdoor Movie--St. Patrick theme under Pavilion.

#### Monday, 3/16/2020

Check out by 11 am, Safe travels home



Convict Springs at Suwannee River  
Rendezvous, 12/15/19

# Blue Grass Festival Rally

## March 26-29, 2020

Join us March 26-29 for the 2020 Bluegrass Volunteer rally. There will be music, food, a lot of fun, hiking, yoga, music jams, movie night, and more. We will be volunteering a half a day each day and having fun a half a day each day for this unique opportunity to camp in the historic Fort Christmas as no others usually can. Volunteering will be light work, setting up chairs, sweeping and setting up tables. We will also volunteer watching the houses during the festival.

Space is limited to 20 spaces and unit 27 members and affiliates have priority. That being said, we usually have 5-10 spots for non/new members, so contact me quickly!! It is free for unit 27 members and affiliate members. To become an affiliate member, it is only \$10, or just \$25 for the entire rally for non members!!

It is "semi-boondocking" with shared water (bring a Y adaptor) and shared electricity (less than 10 amps per guest) so plan on propane for fridges, heat, and cooking, please. Please be respectful if you need to use a silent model generator.

Location:  
Fort Christmas Historical Park,  
Christmas, FL

Please email:  
[Steve@SteveKaneProductions.com](mailto:Steve@SteveKaneProductions.com)  
with Bluegrass Festival in the subject to reserve a spot.

Hosts: Steve & Laura Kane



## REGION 3 RALLY April 1-5, 2020

### Ocean Lakes Campground

### Myrtle Beach, SC

*Early Registration Information from Region 3's website:*

This year we will be back at one of the premier campsites on The Grand Strand – Ocean Lakes. For those that have been there before, you know all of the opportunities you have for great camping, fantastic meeting facilities, and a wealth of entertainment opportunities. For those that haven't, you are in for a treat!

The park is located at 6001 South Kings Hwy., Myrtle Beach, SC. The reservation number is 877- 510-1413. Rally sites are \$42 per night and can be reserved NOW at that rate. Ocean Lakes will honor the rally rate for a few days on either end of the rally.

You can reserve your campsites now by calling the campground and referencing the Region 3 Airstream Rally.

**The region has pre-booked all sites in the H and HH sections ([Campsite Map](#)), so don't try to register online.**

Ocean Lakes will let you know what sites are available in the block and reassign one to you manually.

Rally Registration information and schedule will be posted to the website as soon as they're available.

<https://region3.airstreamclub.net/2019-region-3-rally-preregistration/>

*Region 3 serves the southeastern coast of the United States from Virginia to Florida. The five states within our region contain 18 units.*





# St Augustine Rally St. Johns County Fairgrounds April 23-27, 2020



The St. Johns County Fairgrounds are located about 5 miles west of St Augustine with easy access to the city (address is 5840 SR 207, Elkton, FL). The fairgrounds offer water and 30-amp electric at each site. (We will have a few 50-amp sites for those who may need it.) There is a dump station on site as

well as showers and restrooms. We have arranged to have the club house, which offers lots of seating, air conditioning and restrooms, for Saturday and Sunday. (The club house does not have a kitchen). If you can volunteer please contact [Pammillis@yahoo.com](mailto:Pammillis@yahoo.com) or call 321-243-7663.

*Come and enjoy  
staying near the  
"Nation's Oldest  
City" and  
participating in  
activities with your  
Airstream friends.*

## AGENDA

- Thursday: Arrival after 2:00 PM followed by happy hour at 4:00 PM followed by welcome roast chicken dinner.
- Friday: Breakfast on your own. 1PM St Augustine Scenic Cruise (dog Friendly) Happy Hour at 4:30 dinner on your own.
- Saturday: Continental breakfast at club house (8 to 9). Deep Creek Reserve activity choose from kayaking, biking, a walk or just picnicking. Happy hour and Pot luck dinner at the club house.
- Sunday: Breakfast 8 to 9 hosted by Swegles. Explore Beautiful St. Augustine on your own. Happy hour and Grill night for those who are back bring a side and something to grill.
- Monday: Depart lovely St Augustine.

PLEASE BRING SET UPS AND BEVERAGES TO ALL MEALS AT THE PARK.  
Happy Hour will be at 4:30 each night except the 1<sup>st</sup> night at host site or club house.

## SIGN UP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of people: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of nights: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of nights X \$30.00 per night ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Rally fee: \$15 per person for Florida Unit members, made check to Florida Airstream Club

\$20 per person for non-unit members ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send coupon and payment to rally hosts: Pam and George Millis, 6910 Bayfront Road, Port St. John, Florida 32927.  
Make check payable to Florida Airstream Club. (tel.321 243 7663), email: [pammillis@yahoo.com](mailto:pammillis@yahoo.com).

## Salt Springs Rally May 14-18, 2020

Our May 2020 rally will be in Salt Springs Recreation Area in the Ocala National Forest, near Fort McCoy, FL.

From the website: "Salt Springs Recreation Area is one the recreational jewels of the Ocala National Forest, with a spectacular natural mineral spring that gives the area its name. Plenty of outdoor activities keep campers and day-use visitors busy, including swimming in the springs, fishing, snorkeling, hiking and boating. Salt Springs is located between the St. Johns and Ocklawaha Rivers, 35 miles east of Ocala, Florida."

We hope to paddle the Ocklawaha River and explore the forest (there are three other beautiful, accessible springs, a cross-Florida barge canal and Rodman Dam). Bring kayaks,

bathing suits, masks and snorkels, bicycles, skateboards, fishing poles, hiking shoes, fire wood. Sorry, no golf carts. There is a boat ramp in the park and a marina to launch your boat or rent kayaks. The Salt Spring run leads into Lake George. Since the spring is a constant 72 degrees, and is shallow, it is always swimmable.

Reservations are through <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233920>. A National Park senior pass secures a \$16/night full hook up. The **host camp site will be site 44** (hopefully) – see campground map online. There is an open-sided pavilion we will try to reserve with electricity and tables for group meals. This campground offers plenty of "walk up" sites for late joiners. Itinerary will follow.



Hosts:  
John and Kathie Walker  
[walker48@bellsouth.net](mailto:walker48@bellsouth.net)

*This is a popular park, so make your reservations as soon as possible if you plan on attending.*

## International Rally June 20-27, 2020

Westward Bound!

Thinking about going to International in Loveland, CO? Would you like to travel with other club members?

If so, join a "Rollin' Rally" to Loveland. We have 5 rigs so far and welcome more.

We have a scheduled a travel itinerary leaving Tallahassee on June 9th and arriving in Loveland on June 18th with stops in Montgomery, Tupelo, Little Rock, Porter, Wichita, WaKeeney and Limon.

For more information about the International Rally, look it up online at:

<https://airstreamclub.org/events/loveland-2020-international-rally>

If you would like to join the adventure, please email me at

[floridalarry@me.com](mailto:floridalarry@me.com)

Larry Scovotto





# Wally Byam Carolina BalloonFest Joint Rally, October 16-18, 2020

Please join members of the Southeastern Camping, Carolinas Airstream, South Carolina Coastal, Piedmont NC, Florida, and other Airstream Clubs from Region 3 and beyond for the Carolina BalloonFest Rally in Statesville, NC, October 16-18, 2020. We will have parking convenient to the entrance to the festival grounds.

The schedule is available at: <http://www.carolinaballoonfest.com/>.

New this year there will be a password-controlled page for us to sign up and pay online. It will still be possible to mail in a check and it is required to mail in a signed copy of the parking application. The application will also include a privacy release allowing the festival to release names of those signing up to the rally organizers (me) so that I can know who has signed up. Last year they stopped providing that information toward the end of the rally due to privacy concerns. There will also be (only on the password-protected page for us) a listing of those who have signed up so that members can see who is coming.

We will have access to sign up before the general public. ***In order to guarantee a space with the club, our applications and deposits will have to be received by the end of May.*** After that the

festival, as last year, will start assigning spaces with WBAC starting at space 1 and the general public starting at the other end (whatever that may be, this year it was 75).

This will be a no-frills rally with no rally fee. We attempt to plan our happy hours and meals around the festival events which requires some flexibility as the event timing is dictated by weather conditions. Note:

1. Reservations are not refundable, but the festival has committed to support transfer of a reservation to another person as needed.
2. This is boondock-style camping. Arrive full of water, batteries charged, and holding tanks empty! Generators are allowed and pets are OK in the camping area. There will be food trucks on site. Exit and re-entry are possible, but not convenient.

If you think you might attend, e-mail me at [awaschka@bellsouth.net](mailto:awaschka@bellsouth.net) and I will send you the signup page address and password when it is released. I don't want to put it in newsletters for security reasons.

**Al & Missy Waschka**



*In order to guarantee a space with the club, our applications and deposits will have to be received by the end of May.*

# Welcome to our New Members!



Have you renewed for 2020 yet? Go online to <https://airstreamclub.org/> and click on Menu & Current Members

To become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, see instructions on last page.

**FRENCH, CHRIS & GRAY, MISSI #9507**  
Fernandina Beach, FL

**SMELSER, JAMES & PARKS, KATHLEEN #6335**  
Melbourne, FL

**KUHNS, JACK & PATRICIA #12319**  
St Johns, FL

**WINKLER, RODNEY #8653**  
St. Augustine, FL

**MASTIN, MATTHEW & HAGOOD, BEN #6713**  
(transfer)  
Fairhope, AL



Julie & Jim Harn #5397  
Nokomos FL  
January 2020



Matthew Mastin  
2018 Airstream Flying Cloud 19  
CBB Bunk  
Been streaming since we bought it in December 2017



We just picked up our 30 Classic in January, so are new members (#4688). We live in New Smyrna Beach, FL and just took our first short trip to St. Augustine. Our first real trip will start with the Suwannee River Rendezvous and from there we will head to Texas. We are looking forward to meeting other Airstreamers at Suwannee River.  
Bonnie Jacobs & Erick Piskator  
Joined November 2019



# Volunteer Mentors Needed

Mentorship is a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person.

It's all about family . . . the Airstream family . . . the Florida Airstream Club family. What better way to welcome a new member than to have someone from our Club who lives in close proximity to a new member personally welcome them?

When an individual joins the Florida Airstream Club, a welcome letter is sent by Frank Carson, Membership Chair, to the new member with a copy to the Club. An administrative follow up from the Club is then initiated. However, an additional step is needed to make sure new members feel that they are part of the Club family . . . a personal touch from another member.

The task of the Florida Airstream Club's Mentoring Committee is to identify Club members who are willing to mentor a new member(s) who live in their region. New member information would be emailed to the volunteer mentor(s). All that is required is to reach out to the new member, welcome them and see if they need any additional information. This can be done by phone or email. Then just keep in touch.

For purposes of membership demographics, we have divided the Club into six geographic regions (see map) . . . North West, North East, South West, South East, West Central and East Central. The numbers in the figure below indicate how many members we have from each region.

So far we have 5 people who have volunteered but we still need more in some regions.



**North West** -- Open

**North East** -- Ron & Chris Allen [ron-chrisallen@bellsouth.net](mailto:ron-chrisallen@bellsouth.net) and Susan Poole [susyqmeetup14@gmail.com](mailto:susyqmeetup14@gmail.com)

**East Central** -- Joyce Hoffer [joycemneal@hotmail.com](mailto:joycemneal@hotmail.com)

**West Central** -- Open

**South East** -- Open

**South West** -- Meriam Reed [meriam@reeddesignbuild.com](mailto:meriam@reeddesignbuild.com)

Interested in becoming a Volunteer Mentor? Email my vice chair Larry Scovotto at [floridalarry@me.com](mailto:floridalarry@me.com). Thank you for your continued support of your Club.

Florida Air Stream Club  
Mentoring Committee  
Deb Oppel, Chair  
Larry Scovotto, Vice Chair



*Interested in becoming a Volunteer Mentor?*  
Email Larry Scovotto at [floridalarry@me.com](mailto:floridalarry@me.com)

# Gleaming Rigs in Gorgeous Places

*Send a picture of your gleaming rig parked in a gorgeous place for the next newsletter!*



Jeff and Mary Krabel's (#2980) rig reflecting on the pond at Suwannee River Hideaway Campground, Old Town, FL



Matthew Mastin and Ben Hagood (#6713) stayed in their 2018 Airstream Flying Cloud (19') at Pensacola Beach RV Resort in Florida.



Riker, Flat-Coated Retriever, next to his 2018 Airstream Classic 30' at Sunset Isle RV Park, Cedar Key, FL. Caretakers David and Susan Poole (#3988).

## Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 6 months per year (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Due date for articles is the 15th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the WBCCI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out

## Call for Newsletter Articles

Help make your newsletter one that illustrates to everyone why you love being a member of the Wally Byam Airstream Club. In addition to the past and upcoming rallies with our club, I would like to start regular columns or features in our newsletter.

Topics could include My Favorite Park, Streamin' Tips, New Member Introductions, Humor Hotline, Best Rig Photos, or your own idea.

Submit articles and photos to [susyqmeetup14@gmail.com](mailto:susyqmeetup14@gmail.com)

Susan Poole  
Newsletter Editor

## Community Project: Fisher House Foundation

What is our Community Project for 2020? The **Fisher**

**House** . . . is "a home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers.

### Community Project Update. .

We have had great success kicking off our fundraising efforts for 2020 by collecting donations for the Fisher House. At the first rally for this year, at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, we collected \$1,130.50. WOW!

A special thank you goes out to Larry Scovotto and Steve Kane our club auctioneers. At the rally they alternated placing items available for our bidding pleasure. Not only did we get entertained with their auctioneer skills but the outcome for the Fisher House more than exceeded our expectations.

We also want to thank Joyce & Gerome Hoffer, Larry &

Linda Scovotto, Gary Mahan and Dave & Betty Wenger for their auction item donations. Not to be forgotten are Jeff Krabel for his special hand-made wood items (Joker sets, hot plates, napkin holders, etc.), Maryanne Swegles for her art class donation, and our members who have stepped up to the plate to make purchases that benefit the Fisher House.

Four members delivered our 2019 donation check for \$2,443.28 to the Fisher House in Tampa, FL (pictured below). If you are interested in joining them please contact them directly at email bltam-

pa@me.com for the time and date of delivery. And, if you haven't been on a tour of one of the Fisher House Facilities, let the Masters know so maybe they can set something up during delivery of the check to show those interested why we are so passionate about this project.

As always, please let me know if you have a fundraising idea. I would love to hear from you. I can be contacted at [ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net](mailto:ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net) or by calling (904) 534-9896.

Chris Allen,  
Community Project Chair



Bob & Lyn Masters, Debbie & Steve Oppel, and Sean Kelly (Fisher House)

*Florida Airstream  
Club members  
delivered a check for  
\$2,443.28 to the  
Fisher House in  
Tampa, FL*

## Sunshine Committee Report

The Florida Airstream Club members were sorry to hear about the recent death of two members.

**Dave Wenger** passed away in February. Anyone wishing to send cards can send them to Betty Wenger, 1007 Quinwood Lane, Maitland, FL 32751 or email [davewenger@hotmail.com](mailto:davewenger@hotmail.com). (See page 2 for more details).

**Kathleen Osborne** was the other member who we lost. She was the wife of Joseph Osborne (#5604). You can send condolence cards to him at 1022 Blue Horizon Drive, Deltona, Florida 32725. Joseph, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

This month we have two members of our Club who will be having knee replacements.

**Betty Kucowski** will be having one knee replacement surgery on March 18. She will have her other knee replacement a few months later.

**Fred Yochum** will have a knee replacement on March 2nd. We wish both members a speedy recovery. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

If you would like someone to be included in the next newsletter, please send it to Joan Carson at [fc23343@aol.com](mailto:fc23343@aol.com)





# Florida Airstream Club, WBCCI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web

<https://airstreamclub.org/explore/florida-airstream-club>

Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and recently **Airstream Club International**.

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as The Southeastern Unit in 1956 making it one of the oldest units. We schedule rallies all over the state from October through April. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in a relaxed atmosphere.

**New applicants and renewing members** apply online at <https://airstreamclub.org/> Contact Membership Chair below if questions.

**Affiliates:** If you are a member of another WBCCI club and want to become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, please mail your name, WBCCI #, address, phone number, email, and \$10 to Treasurer below.

## Florida Airstream Club Officers 2020

### \*President

Steve Oppel #1260  
(763) 670-8771  
[oppels@gmail.com](mailto:oppels@gmail.com)

### \*1st Vice President

Mike Swegles #19557  
(603) 770-6784  
[plumercrest@gmail.com](mailto:plumercrest@gmail.com)

### \*2nd Vice President

Bob Masters #7669  
813-0886-7402  
[blmasters@icloud.com](mailto:blmasters@icloud.com)

### \*Recording Secretary

Janet McGloin #2185  
(904) 716-0781  
[mcglointrio@comcast.net](mailto:mcglointrio@comcast.net)

### \*Corresponding Secretary

Joan Carson #23343  
(321) 704-2568  
[fc23343@aol.com](mailto:fc23343@aol.com)

### \*Immediate Past President

Lynn Behnke #5572  
(407) 461-1973  
[Lmbehnke4@gmail.com](mailto:Lmbehnke4@gmail.com)

### \*Treasurer

Brad McGloin #2185  
(904) 716-0781  
[mcglointrio@comcast.net](mailto:mcglointrio@comcast.net)  
1869 Riveredge Drive  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

### \*1 Year Trustee

June Esposito #17806  
(321)-243-9505  
[spo427@aol.com](mailto:spo427@aol.com)

### \*2 Year Trustee

Steve Kane #3987  
(407) 267-2294  
[SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com](mailto:SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com)

### Community Project Chair

Chris Allen #3433  
(904) 534-9896  
[ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net](mailto:ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net)

### Legislative Chair

Frank Carson #23343  
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### Membership Chair

Frank Carson #23343  
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[fc23343@aol.com](mailto:fc23343@aol.com)

### Mentorship Chair

Larry Scovotto #1021  
(386) 405-0160  
[floridalarry@me.com](mailto:floridalarry@me.com)

### Sunshine Committee Chair

Joan Carson #23343  
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\*denotes Executive Board