



GOOD LIFE NEWS

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 March 2021

President's Points

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Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 6 months per year (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Due date for articles is the 20th 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 at any time. We do not sell email addresses.

I recently noticed that two ACI (Airstream Club International) couples who attended our Stinkweed rally in December have transferred into our club and also joined us again at our last rally at the Sertoma Youth Ranch Campground in Brooksville. In addition, three other ACI couples who attended or visited us at this last rally became affiliate members of our club.

I got to wondering why we seem to be enjoying membership growth. Nearly every issue of our "Good Life News" posts & welcomes anywhere from half a dozen or more new members into our club. Why do those who attend a first rally with us often return for another?

I have come to believe that how a club consistently treats "newbies" & guests, as well as their veteran club members, may be a key indicator of club health and may contribute to club growth.

Our first Airstream rally experience was at Daytona Beach in October 2015 with the Florida Unit, which is now our Florida Airstream Club. I remember clearly how Chris & Ron Allen, the rally Hosts, met us as we arrived and made us feel totally welcome and

encouraged us to join into the happy hour meet & greet. Afterwards we enjoyed a communal Stone Soup dinner into which we had added our soup contribution we were encouraged to bring. I remember how Dave & Betty Wenger scooped Maryanne & I up in their truck one night and took us out to dinner with the rest of the club members, how everyone at dinner made us feel like we belonged with this group and how fun the evening was together with these Airstreamers. It seemed like we'd been a part of this group for years, not days. I remember attending the annual executive board meeting, which was a key part of the rally, and was impressed with how effectively the meeting was run and lead. I remember the awesome pontoon boat tour of Spruce Creek paid for by the club that many of us enjoyed. I admit that Maryanne had to drag an introverted Mike to this rally, but by the end of the rally, it would take a team of horses to pull me out of this group. I was hooked to say the least because everyone went out their way to make us feel included, appreciated and welcome while we enjoyed a host of interesting rally activities.

I believe it is this attitude, which I've continued to observe & experience over the years at our rallies, that is consistently expressed by our club members to guests, new members & longtime members, that makes our club so enjoyable, healthy, fun to rally & caravan with and growing!.

I'm honored to serve as your President
Mike Swegles



At the Sertoma rally, members demonstrated this attitude by willingly cooking a meal for the group, volunteering to take turns serving, and pitching in to clean up, all while observing COVID-19 precautions.

Florida Airstream Club Supports Fisher House

Due to the tireless efforts of our Community Project Chairperson, Chris Allen, and the charitable nature of Florida Airstream Club members, over \$3000 was donated to the Fisher House Foundation for the 2020 calendar year. The check was accepted by Sean Kelly, Fisher House Manager, on February 18, 2021 from President Mike Swegles with Maryanne Swegles, 1st Vice President Bob Masters and Lyn Masters in attendance.

For those who are not familiar with the Fisher House Foundation, the houses provide a 5 star home for visiting family members of veterans who are receiving treatment at Veterans Administration Hospitals. The accommodations include a very comfortable bedroom with private bathroom and access to common areas including a living room, dining room, laundry room and gourmet kitchen, all at no charge. Fisher Houses were started by Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher at the Bethesda National Na-

val Medical Center campus in 1991. By 2020 there were 90 Fisher Houses located on VA Hospital campuses around the United States.

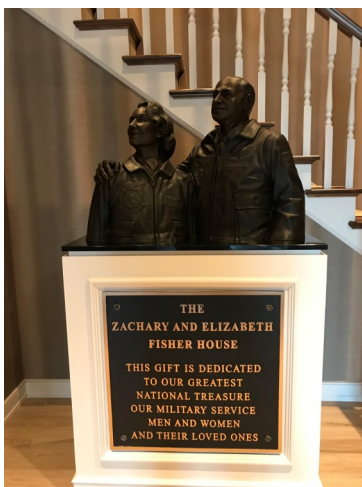
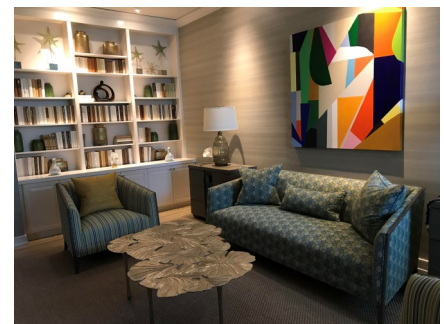
Asked where they will use our donation, Sean explained that the VA system pays the salaries of the staff who work at Fisher Houses and for major facility repairs such as air conditioning, but all other incidental costs come from donations. One hundred percent of the donated funds are used to support the facilities. Donations buy new or replacement furnishings, linens, pillows or anything else needed to make individuals more comfortable during their stay.

The 20 room Fisher House at the James A. Haley VA Hospital in Tampa opened in 2007. Since the first one was so well utilized, a second 16 room Fisher House was constructed and opened in 2019. Our Florida Airstream Club donations are being put to good use in support of our veterans and their families.

Chris Allen, Community Project Chairman



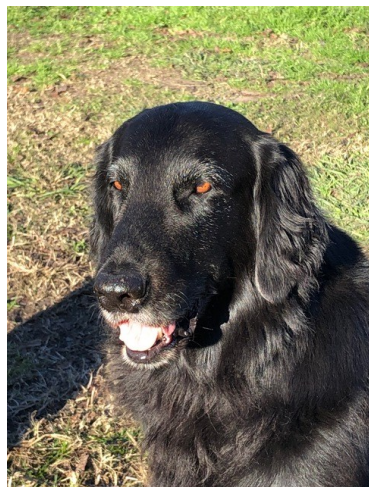
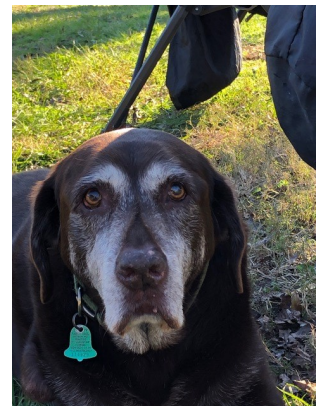
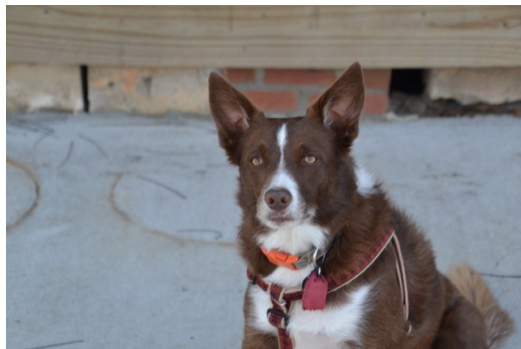
In February, Bob & Lyn Masters and Mike & Maryanne Swegles delivered a check for \$3043.27 (from 2020 donations) to the Fisher House in Tampa, FL.



Furry Friends and Mut Shots



Many Airstreamers travel with their furry friends. Here are some of their "Mut Shots"



Row 1 Abby (Poole), Edith (Shanklin), Gigi (Swegles)
 Row 2 Madie (Masters), Ollie (Walker)
 Row 3 Oscar (Loretta), Riker (Poole), Woodrow (Denius)
 Row 4 Sparky (Piper), Zelda (Kane)



Florida Airstream Flags

We have had some requests for placing orders for our Florida Airstream Club flags. Flags include the Florida Airstream Club logo, name and WBCCI (see artwork). The single sided flags read correctly on front side with the image showing through to the back side in reverse.

There are currently 3 sizes available:

1. 3' x 5' Digital Print Logo Flag with grommets.
2. 2' x 3' Digital Print Logo Flag with grommets (our most popular flag)

3. 12" x 18" custom Garden Flag with pole pocket on top for use with garden pole. Single sided. Free embroidery option on Garden Flag with 1 line on top (above logo) and 1 or 2 lines on bottom. Max 15 letters/line. Typically people include their names and home town/state.

Below is an order form for your use in placing an order. If desired, add a note next to Garden Flag showing exactly what you want embroidered.



Be sure to place your order by April 1

FL Airstream Club

****Flag Order Form****

Quantity	Size	Pricing	Pick up at Rally	Mailed to home	Total
	3' x 5' Single sided	\$77.00 ea.	no additional charge	\$6.95	
	2' x 3' Single sided	\$55.00 ea.	no additional charge	\$6.95	
	Garden Flag 12" x 18" Single sided	\$39.00 ea.	no additional charge	\$6.95	

Embroidery option
Top:
Bottom:

TOTAL

Complete the order form with the quantity indicated beside the size flag you wish to order and send to Chris Allen, 1633 Flintlock Ct., Jacksonville, FL 32225

Orders must be received no later than April 1, 2021 to be added to our next order.

Questions: Call (904) 534-9896

Name: _____

Address: _____

WBCCI # _____

email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Recent Trips: Silver Springs State Park

Once again Wandering Labs came through for us (<https://reserve.wanderinglabs.com>) We set out an alert for a few of our favorite state parks once we decided we weren't flying home to see family for the holidays. We ended up scoring a spot at Silver Springs State Parks Dec. 30 – Jan. 3rd., which has become one of my favorites. The sites are big and clean with small gravel to avoid the normal FL sandy soil. It is a great kayaking location as well.

We arrived on Dec. 30 and kayaked every day. The 1st day we launched from the state park and kayaked a ways past the springs then back.

The 2nd day we tried to kayak up the springs from Ray's Wayside Park. However, the spring was moving quite quickly and strongly, so paddling up stream was a bit more than anticipated. For what seemed like every 15 pedals with the Hobie I only went a foot or two. So we turned around as it wasn't real enjoyable. That day we ended up loading up the bikes instead and going to the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross

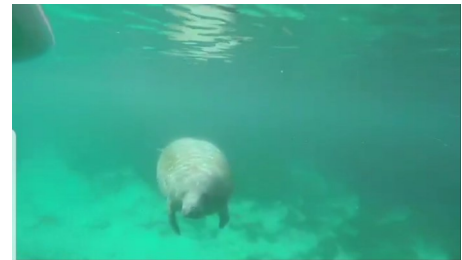
Florida Trail. We just did a bit that is part of a park. It was a nice 5-6 mile loop.

The other days we were able to kayak and saw lots of wildlife. We ended up paddling the whole way from the state park launch to Ray's Wayside Park (about 5 miles). This was due to the fact that guy that was running one of the shuttles said that he could bring us back for \$10 back to the State Park location. So once we reached the half way point we decided to just go all the way to the Wayside park. It ended up being a great trip as we saw so much wildlife – alligators, manatees, monkeys, red tail hawk, black-capped night heron, lots of other birds as well, and a turtle that looked like an alligator had tried to get it at one point as the shell was cracked pretty badly (pictured below).

If you're looking for a really nice place to camp and kayak we highly recommend this one.

Joe and Brenna Loretta

The 4,000-acre Silver Springs State Park encompasses not only the springs, but the entire 5-mile Silver River and surrounding sandhill forest.



Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule 2021

Date	Rally Location and Campground	Hosts and Rally Registration
Jan. 28-31 2021	Nature Coast Rally at Sertoma Sertoma Youth Ranch Campground 85 Myers Rd, Brooksville, FL 34602 Campground is reserved just for us! No need to contact the campground. Please register online	Mike and MaryAnne Swegles maryanneswegles7@gmail.com Register at https://airstreamclub.org/sertoma-youth-ranch-rally
Feb. 25 – Mar. 1 2021	Salt Springs Rally Salt Spring Recreation Area Fort McCoy, FL Reservations: 877-444-6777 or https://www.recreation.gov/	John and Kathie Walker walker48@bellsouth.net Host site: 44 or near the Pavilion Register at https://airstreamclub.org/salt-springs-recreation-area-rally-0
Mar. 25-29 2021	North Florida Strawberries and More Rally Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park Keystone Heights, FL Reservations: https://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/	Susan and David Poole Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com Host site: Lake View, site 40 Register at https://airstreamclub.org/north-florida-strawberries-rally
Apr. 22 - 25 2021	Streamin' in the Highlands Highlands Hammock State Park Sebring, FL 33872 Reservations: 863-386-6094 https://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/	Lyn & Bob Masters bltampa@me.com Register at https://airstreamclub.org/highlands-hammock-state-park-rally
Apr. 22 – 26 2021	Region 3 “Tally” Rally North Florida Fairgrounds Tallahassee, FL Register by April 11. https://airstreamclub.org/region-3-tallahassee-tally-rally	Event Contact: Dick and Judi Sells region3registrar@wbcci.net Check website for more info. https://airstreamclub.org/region-3-tallahassee-tally-rally
Apr. 27 – May 1, 2021	Key West FL Rally Boyd’s Campground - mile marker 5 6401 Maloney Ave. Key West, FL Reservations: https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/246892 .	Linda and Larry Scovotto floridalarry@me.com (386) 405-0160 Register at https://airstreamclub.org/key-west-rally
Jul. 17-24 2021	64th International Rally Wilson County Fairgrounds Lebanon, TN Reservations: https://airstreamclub.org/node/45470	Check website for more info https://airstreamclub.org/lebanon

Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule 2020-21

Date	Rally Location and Campground	Hosts and Rally Registration
Sep. 23-26, 2021	Jewel of the South Jekyll Island Rally Jekyll Island Campground, GA Reservations: Do NOT contact campground. Initial reservations are made thru the rally hostess when you register online. 20 rally sites are set aside for us in Section C.	Selena Smith smithselenaj@gmail.com 904.206.2688 Register at https://airstreamclub.org/jewel-south-jekyll-island-rally
Oct. 21-25, 2021	Daytona Beach / Annual Meeting Rally International RV Park, Daytona Beach, FL Reservations: Do NOT call the campground. When you register the host will make your campground reservation.	Linda and Larry Scovotto floridalarry@me.com (386) 405-0160 Register at https://airstreamclub.org/2021-daytona-beach-annual-meeting-rally
Nov. 4-7, 2021	Mary's Fish Camp Rally Spring Hill, FL Reservations: Please call the campground (352) 597-3474	Steve Oppel, Tim George, Jeff Krabel oppels@gmail.com 7636708771 Register at https://airstreamclub.org/marys-fish-camp-rally-1
Dec. 2-5, 2021	Cracker Christmas Rally Fort Christmas, Christmas FL Reservations: No need to contact campground. Just register online	Steve & Laura Kane, Masters & Swegles SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com Cohosted by Masters & Swegles Register at https://airstreamclub.org/2021-cracker-christmas-rally
Dec. 6-10, 2021	Winter Holiday Rally at Stink Weed Farm 281 Potter Woodberry Road Havana, FL Reservations: No need to contact campground. Just register online.	Steve & Laura Kane SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com Cohosted by Masters & Swegles Register at https://airstreamclub.org/winter-holiday-stinkweed-farm-rally
Dec 29, 2021 to Jan 3, 2022	Ring It In Silver In 2022 New Year's Rally Anastasia State Park St. Augustine, FL Reservations (up to 11 months prior) https://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/	Brenna & Joe Loretta brennaandjoe@gmail.com Register at https://airstreamclub.org/ring-it-silver-2022-new-years-rally



Important: Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground AND register for the rally at airstreamclub.org (see links above). It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. WBCCI members from any club are welcome to attend. Rally fees may apply. More details are available in this newsletter or from Hosts.

Sertoma Youth Ranch, Jan. 28-31, 2021

A rally in January always brings some challenges to the rally host, as the weather can sometimes be a bit harsh. During the season of Covid, whereby we are keeping all activities outdoors, this is a double challenge. But for this past rally near Brooksville, FL we were treated to mostly blue skies and reasonably warm temps, and this rally host says a big PHEW! There were 26 rigs scattered about, live oaks and hickory trees in and around the big pavilion where we managed to serve a few Covid-safe meals.

The first morning we had an oatmeal bar (is there a better vehicle for walnuts and chocolate chips?) so as to be fortified for a morning, ranger- led hike at Chinsegut Conservation Center. It was followed up by a visit to the historic Chinsegut Hill antebellum mansion. Located on one of the highest points in Florida, 32 club members listened to docents tell stories of visits from Helen Keller, Thomas Edison and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

We returned to camp for steak and chicken fajitas. A big thank you to our cooks and servers. It was delicious.

Saturday was bustling with activity, beginning with Chef Krabel's much anticipated shrimp and grits, fantastic! The Donation Bloody Mary and Mimosa fundraiser led by The Kanes was a treat, pairing well with the grits. Our club is so creative.

And then, the first ever YARD SALE. Ten tables full of treasures, enthusiastic buyers....and lots of help from our club members. The funds raised are in the \$800 range. SUCCESS! We had a donation of Royal Doulton decorative plates from the House of Erte. Thanks to Deb Opell, who took them home to sell on EBay, it brought in an additional \$130. After it was all over, Jericho House Ministries came with a big truck and happily carted away the leftovers for their local Thrift Stores that fund their Shelters. The gift that keeps on giving. Thank you all for your donations and efforts. Afterwards, SKYMED came with lunch and a presentation, and many of us that are SKYMED members learned new things about our benefits, and there were some new members signed up.

Sunday was the Withlacoochee Bike Trail day, and there was a nice turnout. Clear skies, perfect temps and just enough wind to give us a vigorous workout. Some visited Beasley Farms and came home with a box of produce; others kicked back and enjoyed the warm fellowship we so enjoy with each other, masks and all. Hope to see you at the next rally.

Maryanne Swegles

There were 26 rigs scattered about, live oaks and hickory trees at Sertoma Youth Ranch Rally



Ranger- led hike at Chinsegut Conservation



Tour of Chinsegut Hill antebellum mansion



Gerri and Charlie Prisco's rig at sunset



Breakfast Oatmeal bar



Bike ride on Withlacoochee State Trail

Sertoma Youth Ranch rally (continued)

Maryanne Swegles received this email after the rally:

“Good Morning Maryanne,

You are probably still traveling back from Sertoma but I wanted to take a second and let you know how much Patty and I enjoyed our first rally with you. We found everyone very warm and welcoming. From the moment we pulled in Dick and Fran were there helping us back into a spot and setup, to the gatherings under the pavilion, and the various activities that occurred over the weekend it was all very well done. We were concerned that there might be some reluctance to welcome newbies into the group but much to our delight we saw no evidence of this.

While the first two nights were too cold to sit out, and the Covid protocols limited inside interaction, the third night we were able to enjoy a campfire with several other members Saturday night. The food was very good and we enjoyed properly social distanced conversation over meals with various club members that sought us out and made us feel welcome.

Thanks to you, Mike, Steve, and all of the other great people that made this a very enjoyable weekend. We look forward to many additional adventures with all of you.” Rex & Patty



Hiking at Chinsegut Conservation
(they aren't resting — they are waiting for the slow ones!)

We are thankful to those of you who so welcomed us into the Florida Airstream Club years ago and thank those of you who welcomed this new couple into our club at our last rally. Well done!

Mike and MaryAnne Swegles

State Park Full? Try this....

Have you been excited about camping at a Florida State Park or other public campground only to be disappointed when you find it is full? If so, then you may want to try this link to secure a site as soon as an opening appears.

<https://reserve.wanderinglabs.com>

This website monitors popular campground reservation websites looking for new availabilities every few minutes. Tell them where and when you want to camp. When one matches your request, it notifies you via email or txt msg.

If you are willing to pay for an annual Premium Membership, then the benefits are they check twice as often (every 3-5 minutes), no pausing (free version pauses every week), and up to 500 Text alerts. Cost \$15-50 per year (depending on what you think this service is worth).

Several Florida Airstream Club members have tried it and were excited to find it worked! They were able to get into Fort DeSota State Park near Tampa over New Year's weekend.

The site was created by Tim Watson, who lives fulltime with his wife in an Airstream, so they could stay in popular campgrounds without planning months in advance.

Try this website if you really want to snatch a site as soon as an opening appears.



Silver Springs State Park, FL

Salt Springs Rally, Feb. 25-Mar.1, 2021

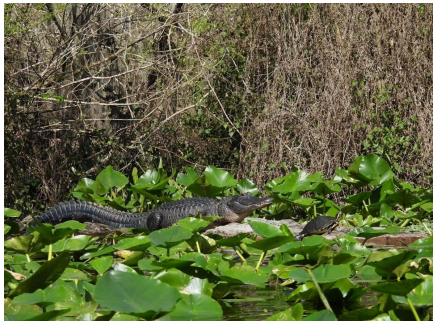
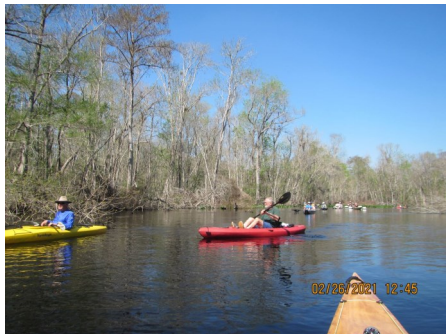
Our second rally in 2021 was held in Salt Springs Recreation Area in the Ocala National Forest, near Fort McCoy, FL. It was attended by about 56 people in 28 rigs, including some new affiliates or ACI members from other clubs.

On Friday 15 people paddled 7 miles of the Ocklawaha River, starting at Rodman Dam to Highway 19. On Saturday a group went hiking or swimming at nearby Silver Glen Springs or Yearling Trail. Some enjoyed snorkeling in Salt Springs or paddling Salt Springs run. A few intense games of pickle ball and joker were also played.. We shared campfires a couple of nights and got to know each other better. And those who stayed for Sunday night were treated to an outdoor movie about Marjorie Rawlings. The Happy Hours and shared meals were also good opportunities to fellowship, while observing COVID-19 precautions.

Due to popular demand, look for it again on next year's rally schedule!
Hosts: John and Kathie Walker walker48@bellsouth.net



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.



North Florida Strawberries & More Rally Mar. 25-29, 2021

We're planning on attending the Bradford County Strawberry Festival on Saturday, March 27 at the Bradford Fair Grounds, Starke FL, where you'll taste "the sweetest strawberries this side of heaven". We will camp at Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park, 18 miles from Starke. Other activities are planned, like hiking (camp ground trails), biking (Palatka to Lake Butler State Trail), and paddling (on Little Sante Fe Lake). Feel free to bring your Joker boards, pickle ball paddles, musical instruments, and/or DVD movies to exchange.

Gold Head Branch State Park is about 2400 acres of rolling sand hills, marshes, ravines, lakes, and scrub located midway between Gainesville and Jacksonville, six miles north of Keystone Heights on SR 21. It has old growth longleaf pines and a nice nature trail to a ravine with seepage springs. The RV campsites are nestled under the trees, mostly back-in with water and 30 amp hookups (dump station is available). Reserve your space early through <https://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/> Register with hosts at <https://airstreamclub.org/north-florida-strawberries-rally>

The state park is full but it might be possible to obtain a site by registering with <https://reserve.wanderinglabs.com/>
Alternative RV parks:
Starke KOA, 1475 S Walnut St, Starke, FL 32091.
NEW RV PARK opened nearby! **Keystone Heights RV Resort** is off FL-100, just 8 miles away from Gold Head Branch.
1177 SE Keystone Ave., Keystone Heights FL 32656
Tel: 352-645-4330

Hosts: Susan and David Poole
Lake View Loop, site 40 Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com



View of long leaf pine and reed grass restoration from Sandhill Loop site.

*Remember to wear your mask
when necessary and practice
social distancing*

NEW: Text Notifications
Be sure to register to receive text notifications of program scheduling changes and emergency situations where action is needed. To register, call or text the toll-free number below. At the end of the rally, your phone number will be deleted from the system.

Text-In Information: Text: 844-292-2290
type **marrally** in the message box and send.
or
Call-In Information: Call: 844-292-2290 and follow the prompts. PIN: **0325**

- AGENDA**

 - Thu.** 5 PM Happy Hour and Announcements
Dinner: on own
 - Fri.** 9 AM Activity (bike, hike, or kayak TBA)
5 PM Happy Hour
6 PM Dinner: Catered BBQ (club sponsored)
7 PM Campfires, Joker, music, movie exchange...
 - Sat.** 7:30-9:00AM Breakfast by Mike Swegles
10 AM - 4 PM Strawberry Festival at Bradford County Fair Grounds, 2300 N Temple Ave, Starke, FL
Addition or alternative: Big Flea Market, Waldo, FL
5 PM Happy Hour, Fisher House Auction
Dinner: on own
7 PM Campfires, games, music, movie exchange
 - Sun.** 9 AM Activity (bike, hike, or kayak TBA)
5 PM Happy Hour
Dinner: on own
 - Mon.** Checkout and safe travels



Above: Palatka to Lake Butler State Trail



Right: Little Sante Fe Lake

Streamin' in the Highlands Rally

Apr. 22-25, 2021

As you read this, the April rally at Highlands Hammock State Park near Sebring is just around the corner, April 22-26, 2021. We have lots of activities planned for this beautiful historic park which is CCC constructed and one of Florida's first state parks.

The Avon Park - Sebring - Lake Placid area is unique, with many historic and scenic sites to explore. We will have a fact sheet for all attendees in the rally bags, but here are a few quick facts in advance:

Sebring is called the "City on a Circle," rather than being built around a square. The city sits on Lake Jackson, a scenic spot for dining, fishing, recreation or sunset watching.

The nearby city of Lake Placid is known for its caladiums, nearly 50 outdoor murals and charming downtown district.

Avon Park will be hosting its Bluegrass & Blueberry Festival on April 24. Near the historic Jacaranda Hotel is an art community displaying and selling their art.

If you are a golfer, Spring Lake Golf Course is a few minutes from the park.

Established in 1931 and developed later by Florida's Civilian Conservation Corps, (CCC) this lush and incredibly diverse 9000-acre park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



For GeoCachers, the Sebring Area GeoTour was launched in August 2020 to include 38 geocaches in the Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid area. For more information, go to www.VisitSebring.com/geocaching.

Due to COVID restrictions, the park CCC museum is expected to be closed until sometime in the summer, however many other park facilities are available. Hiking and bicycle trails are open so bring your bikes. The camp store offers camp supplies, ice cream and tram tickets. The park is now running 3 tram tours per day, weather permitting. These tours go to parts of the park not otherwise accessible to visitors, good for learning more about the park history, flora, wildlife and for spotting gators!

Unfortunately, there are no sites at the state park remaining and they do not have walk-in availability. However, it might be possible to obtain a site by registering with <https://reserve.wanderinglabs.com/> (see article on page 9 of this newsletter). An alternative park is Highlands Oaks RV Park in Sebring, a park recommended by FAC members who winter in Sebring. The number for Highlands Oaks is (863) 655-1685.

Next, let us know you are coming by completing a club online registration form on the following website: <https://airstreamclub.org/highlands-hammock-state-park-rally>.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone there. Questions? Email us at blmasters@icloud.com.
Bob & Lyn Masters

Key West Rally

April 27 – May 1, 2021

Margaritaville . . . searchin' for my lost shaker of salt!

Join us in Key West at [Boyd's Key West Campground](#). Only 5 miles from downtown Key West where you will find unlimited opportunities for sightseeing, fishing, kayaking, visiting unique shops, restaurants and bars or just relax and enjoy a small slice of paradise.

The Rally is scheduled for April 27 – May 1, but you can come in early and stay later. You need to call the Campground as soon as possible in order to secure a site. Their **reservations number is (305) 294-1465**. Be sure to mention Florida Airstream Rally. The rates are from \$124 to \$162 plus tax per night depending on the site you choose – Inland or Waterfront. A one-night deposit is required with a 7-day cancellation refund.

After you confirm your reservation with campground, then register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/key-west-rally> (so the Host

knows who is coming and can contact you). Itinerary to follow...

If you are leaving from the Highlands Hammock State Park Rally in Sebring (April 22-25), the group will depart on April 26th and spend one night at the [Midway Campground, Big Cypress National Preserve](#). There are only 26 RV sites, so everyone should make reservations on December 26 at 10:00 am EST (Individual sites operate on a 6-month rolling basis). Go to <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/246892>.

Rates are \$30 per night / \$15 with a Senior or Access pass.

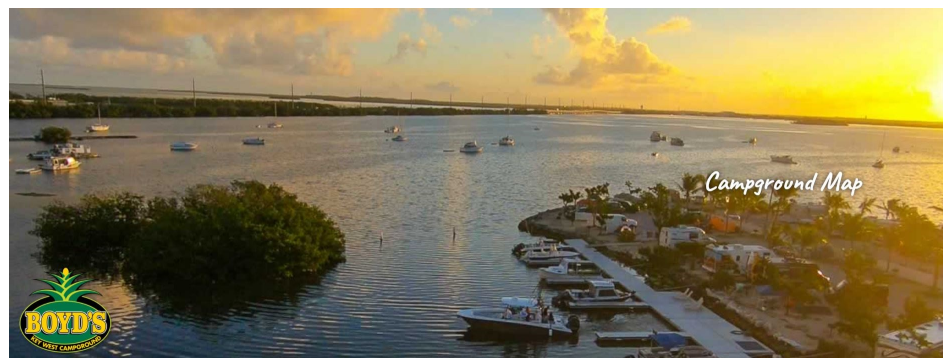
Boyd's Key West Campground

6401 Maloney Avenue
Key West, FL 33040

See you there!

Larry and Linda Scovotto #1021
floridalarry@me.com

Boyd's Key West Campground was founded in 1963 by Boyd and Elsie Hamilton, who originated from Saskatchewan, Canada. It is "Southernmost Hospitality" at it's best.



NEW: Text Notifications

Be sure to register to receive text notifications of program scheduling changes and emergency situations where action is needed. To register, call or text the toll-free number below. At the end of the rally, your phone number will be deleted from the system.

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Text-In Information: Text: 844-292-2290 type **keywest** in the message box and send

Jewel of the South: Jekyll Island Rally

Sep. 23-26, 2021

Jekyll Island is the smallest of Georgia's barrier islands and the southernmost island of the Golden Isles. Along with a fascinating history, Jekyll is one of the most popular island destinations of coastal Georgia ... from 10 miles of unspoiled beaches and perfectly preserved Gilded Age mansions, this island is a beautiful blend of serenity and discovery. Whether you are seeking the sound of silence or seeking outdoor adventures, Jekyll offers something for everyone that can keep you island bound but other adventures can also be found in nearby Brunswick and St. Simon's Island. Visit their website: www.jekyllisland.com

Rally Sites – All of Section C -- 20 Sites -- (All Back-in Sites) [Click here for map.](#) Address is 1197 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, Georgia

Reservation Process: Initial reservation is made thru the rally hostess. **Do not** make an online reservation thru the campground website as the discount rally rate will not be honored nor will you be placed with other rally members.



Reservation Deadline: August 1, 2021, to receive a 10% discount on Rally dates only; any additional nights require a separate reservation at regular rate. Your rally reservation will be turned over to the campground on August 1 and you will receive instructions via email from the campground regarding deposit payment.

Rate & Cost Information:

\$48/Night less 10% discount ... Includes Full Hook-up; Wi-Fi & Cable Inclusive

Pets Allowed: A pet fee of \$4.00 will be charged per reservation

Jekyll Island is a 'State Park'; Park fee for Oversized Vehicle is \$12.00

Register with hostess at <https://airstreamclub.org/jewel-south-jekyll-island-rally>

Hostess: Selena Smith
smithselenaj@gmail.com
 904.206.2688

Preliminary Rally Itinerary

Thursday Mingle – Meet & Greet @ Hostess Site
 Happy Hour - Announcements & Introductions – Welcome Packet
 Campground Manager – presents a 'local's spin' about the island's history .. facts only a local knows!!

Friday Mingle – TBD by level of interest - Catered Dinner ... Add'l. Cost Per Person. Southern Soul BBQ, St. Simon's Island ... featured on Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives by Guy Fieri; also Southern Living Magazine's "The South's Best BBQ 2018"

Saturday Mingle – Cocktails @ Georgia Sea Turtle Center – Add'l Cost \$10/person
 Mix & mingle with our education animals and Georgia Sea Turtle Center biologists to get an up-close look at the wildlife on Jekyll Island.

Sunday Mingle – Coffee/Mimosas & Brunch at Hostess Site

Day Time Activity Options: * Denotes additional cost
 More information will follow at later date as to cost per person, group size limitations/requirements and group rate, sign up required, etc.

Shopping Areas – Oceanfront & Historical Village @ Jekyll Island Club
Fishing at Pier – No Charge, *Rental Equipment Available @ Bait Shop
Beach & Picnic Areas

Individual Bike Rides or *Guided Tours – Rentals Available

Kayaking & *Guided Tours – Rentals Available

*Segway Tours, *Ranger Walks, *Oceanfront Mini Golf

*Historic Tours & *Historic Cottage Crawl

*Horseback Beach Rides, *Narrated Horse Drawn Carriage Tours

*Airboat Rides, *Dolphin Boat Tours

*Red Bug (Golf Cart) Rental

*The Emerald Princess Casino Cruise Ship

Ring It In Silver In 2022 New Year's Rally

Dec. 29, 2021 to Jan. 3, 2022

Even though this rally is 10 months out, we have already started planning for it. Currently we have 10 rigs scheduled to be there. We are hoping that more of you will score a spot between now and then! Remember to sign up for <https://reserve.wanderinglabs.com/> and donate a bit of money to them so it sends you a text message alert. Texts seem to go through quicker than emails. \$20 in our mind is worth the service to get the spot you need.

We have decided to have an alternate campground as well, since the state park is tough to get into. The St. Augustine KOA is only 5 mins away and gets good reviews on Google, the KOA website, and Campedium. So due to the closeness and the reviews we have chosen this as the next best spot. Unfortunately, due to the time of the year the manager is unable to give any discounts. However, they have a generous cancellation policy which will be helpful for those that have an alert out for the state park through Wanderinglabs. As long as you cancel by 4pm 2 days before your scheduled arrival you receive all but \$10 back from your deposit. Here is there website: <https://koa.com/campgrounds/st-augustine-beach/> (I do recommend always double checking their cancellation policy when you reserve just in case it hasn't changed for some reason due to the "craziness" of the times.) You may have to call to reserve as the 2022 rates don't seem to be out yet on the website, but I did speak to a manager about us using it as an alternate location.

I encourage you please reach out to other members if you have to cancel at either location, so we can insure we have as many Airstreamers at the rally as possible. It is a busy time of the year for St. Augustine.

*Come to experience the pristine
white sand beaches and vibrant
history of St. Augustine*



We are currently planning a private trolley tour for our group. The cost would be \$22.00 if we could collect all of the money ahead, then pay with one payment. This would need 20 people commit to it. Otherwise it \$28.99 per person (but it would still be a private tour if we had 20 people) So please reach out to us via email if you would be interested in participating in a 1 hour 9 mile St. Augustine Trolley tour. They would even have a shuttle to pick us up from the state park included in the above prices. So there are no worries to find a place to park. After the tour you get to ride the trolley and get on and off as many times as you would like to. The shuttle would take you back to the state park.

<https://www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine>

We are also looking at setting up a group lunch at a local restaurant after the trolley tour. So let us know if you would be interested in that so we can explore further options as well.

The other two activities as of right now that we are looking at is the Alligator Farm tour which if we have 10 people sign up it would be \$20/per person. This is really close to the State Park as well.

<https://www.alligatorfarm.com/> Also, a guided kayak tour from the State Park through the Salt Run water body is another activity we are working on.

One evening tour that could be taken up by anyone is the Night of Lights tour on the trolley. Currently their policy due to COVID is that you have to reserve one row and it costs \$56.99 whether you have one person or four.

<https://www.visitstaugustine.com/event/nights-lights>

There are many other tours you could take as well...we will list those in upcoming newsletters.

We have some ideas for New Year's as well, but if anyone has any suggestions please feel free to reach out to us at brennaandjoe@gmail.com. We are looking forward to having a great time in St. Augustine!

After you make your reservations, please register for the rally (so your hosts know who is coming) at <https://airstreamclub.org/ring-it-silver-2022-new-years-rally>

More details will follow in the coming months.

Brenna & Joe Loretta
brennaandjoe@gmail.com

Welcome New Members and Transfers!



To join or renew, go online to <https://airstreamclub.org/> and click on Menu & Future or Current Members

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



Volunteer Mentors

North West --Open
North East -- Ron & Chris Allen
ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net and Susan Poole
susyqmeetup14@gmail.com
East Central -- Joyce Hoffer
joycemneal@hotmail.com
West Central -- Bob and Lyn Masters
blmasters@icloud.com
South East -- Open
South West -- Meriam Reed
meriam@reeddesignbuild.com

Larry Scovotto
floridalarry@me.com
Mentoring Chair

Tina and Jim Arseneau #18586
Lake Placid, FL

Amy and Christopher Bay #1184
Tampa, FL

Diane and Lannie Bradley #1720
Jacksonville, FL

Edgar and Kathe Brannon #07438
Lake Wales, FL
Transferred from Inland NW club

Robert and Megan Camp, #07029
Tampa, FL
Transferred from Florida Suncoast

John M and Caroline Carnuccio
#18916
Naples, FL

Steven and Meghan Coltharp #9038
Ormond Beach, FL

Larry Dewey #19870
Lutz, FL

Kevin and Andrea Erwin, #16388
Fort Myers, FL

John Falcey and Audrey Phillips
#1623
Windermere, FL

Bill and Kathy Hickok, #07821
Delray Beach, FL

Keith Hollister and Barbara Durham
#01675
Oviedo, FL
Transferred from Southeastern Camping

Edward Kirsh & Myriam Kolinka,
#019439
Bay Harbor Island, FL

(continued on next page...)

Welcome New Members and Transfers (cont)



If you would like your picture (with or without your Airstream) included in the next newsletter, please send it to the newsletter editor (susymcmeetup14@gmail.com) along with a couple sentences about your Airstream and yourselves. We like to see pictures of our new members so we recognize you when we see you!

Gabrielle Knight/ Benjamin Smith #1475
Jacksonville, FL

Jennifer Mauro #3929
West Palm Beach, FL

Brent Ommert/Diana Stripp #15039
St. Cloud, FL

Alfredo and Kathleen Osuna #3609
Florida

Terri Parrott #1308
Clermont, FL

Jean and Jake Piper #22373
Vero Beach, FL
Transferred from Florida Treasure Coast

Jessica Qualls #19670
Pensacola, FL

Penny Quinn #4751
Bushnell, FL

Fred and Jennifer Reeg #29778
Merritt Island, FL

Dennis and Flo Rowley 1279
Naples, FL

Kathryn Salgado, #02023
Tampa, FL

John Sholar/ Eric Sain #6069
West Palm Beach, FL

Kent and Suzanne Weitzel #13890
Citra, FL

Sean Wofford #10021
Box Elder, SD

Also welcome our new affiliates:

Kay and Edward Rottinger, #1757
Iron River, MI

Steven Souder, #02785
Naples, FL

Stan and Helene White, #1597
Ocala, FL

Mel and Glenda Wood, #2889
Fort Myers, FL

NEW! Connect with members on this club's Facebook page "**THE Florida Airstream Club 027**"

(available to members only). Be aware there is another page with a similar name which is open to anyone. Look for the one with our logo.



THE Florida Airstream Club 027

Community Project: Fisher House Foundation

We have started off 2021 with a fun way to raise donations for our Community Project the Fisher House. At the Sertoma Rally in January we had a Yard Sale with collected donations from our generous club members. In addition, we received woodworking items made by Jeff Krabel, a truck full of items donated by Dave & Patsy Barr who recently sold their Airstream Motor Home, a premium donation of some collector plates received by Maryanne Swegles and sold by Deb Oppel over E-Bay and cash donations from our club members and those who purchased yard sale items.

We are so pleased to announce that we made \$1,093.50. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. Your kindness will greatly benefit

*Club decals, iron on transfers,
lanyards, name tag magnets,
woodworking items and RV stickers
are available for sale at every rally.*

families who use the Fisher House facilities.

We also want to thank Bob & Lyn Masters and Mike & Maryanne Swegles who delivered our 2020 donations to the Fisher House in Tampa, FL. The check for \$3,043.27 was delivered on 2/18/2021. (see story on next page).

Just a reminder, we still have club decals, club iron on transfers, lanyards, name tag magnets, wood-working items, and RV stickers available for sale at every rally. Please see me if you would like to purchase any of these items. All proceeds will go to the Fisher House.

We will continue to offer entertaining ways to collect donations for this community project throughout 2021. If you have any fundraising ideas, we would love to hear from you.

Any questions, please contact me at (904) 534-9896 or by email ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net.

Chris Allen, Community Project Chairman



Sunshine Committee Report

This column is the place where we express praise for members' major life accomplishments or concern for those experiencing difficult times.

If you would like someone to be included in the next newsletter, please send it to **Debbie Oppel** at oppeld@gmail.com or call (763) 670-8772



In Memory of Sara Clark

I was reading the recent newsletter and the club is doing great in spite of COVID. Sara and I were not able to attend any of the Fall rallies due to conflicts. Things took a turn for the worst over Christmas 2020. Sara became very ill several days prior to Christmas and passed on January 2, 2021. She has been successfully battling ovarian cancer for the past five years, but the battle ended between Christmas and New Year's. She was in a lot of pain and distress at the end before God took her to His place of Peace/Heaven. Having been married for nearly 53 years this has left a large void in our family. We had a private service due to COVID. Betty Wenger, our dear Airstream and long time friend, was able to attend. I hope to be able to join a rally sometime in the future. Please keep our family in your thoughts and prayers.

Bob Clark #1716 Orlando, Florida

Florida Airstream Club, WBCCI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web
<https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

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 2021

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plumercrest@gmail.com

*1st Vice President

Bob Masters #7669
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*2nd Vice President

Larry Scovatto #1021
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*Recording Secretary

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*Corresponding Secretary

Joan Carson #23343
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fc23343@aol.com

*Immediate Past President

Steve Oppel #1260
(763) 670-8771 oppels@gmail.com

*Treasurer

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*1 Year Trustee

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*2 Year Trustee

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Legislative Chair & Membership Chair

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Mentorship Chair

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*denotes Executive Board