



# Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club Gopher News



WBCCI - Unit 059

December 2022

## President's Message

### Do you know what time of year this is?

Veterans Day, Krampusnacht, Boxing Day, Christmas, NYE, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Makar Sankranti, Pongal – YES to all these and likely many more. But what I am referring to is a little more on the topic of camping.

### Yes, it is time to plan your trips for 2023!



In *mid-December*, the **Region 8** will be sending out reservation information for the rally in Sebetha, Kansas at Sycamore Springs White Tail Ranch. (April 26 – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

In *mid-January*, the **Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club** will be sending out reservation information for our rally in Basswood Resort with a possible caravan from the Rally 8 rally to ours. (May 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

**AND TODAY**, you can make your reservations to camp in the one and only, best most fun camping experience this side of the Missouri River and south of the Platte River – the **“JUST-FOR-FUN Rally”** – June 2-4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - Outlet Park, Melvern Lake . **Reserve early, this campground fills up quickly.** <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233695>

Want to take a trip to Wyoming this year? The **WBCCI International Rally** is in July. Information can be found at the club's website - <https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023>.



As always, plan on seeing you down the road, safe journey.

- Stephanie

## Executive Officers

*President:*

Stephanie Porto  
woodsmitty52@gmail.com

*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:*

Ed O'Connor  
eoconnor@pcpartners.net

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:*

Lee Orth  
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*3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:*

Chris Shotton  
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*Treasurer:*

Linda Poage  
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*Recording Secretary:*

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*Corresponding Secretary:*

Christine Whitney  
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*Past President:*

Charles Colbert  
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*Parliamentarian:*

Vern Wirka  
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*Membership Chair:*

Monica McAtee  
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*Community Service Chair:*

Christine Embers  
cembers1@gmail.com

*Newsletter Putertogetherer:*

Kirk Moore  
kcunitnews@gmail.com



**Welcome New Members!**

**Mike & Carol Wolf**  
Maysville, MO

**John & Elaine Hardy**  
Overland Park, KS

**Kevin & Stephanie Makalous**  
Shawnee, KS

We hope to meet you at a future luncheon or Rally!

**Int'l/Mo-Kan dues are due by January 1, 2023.**

You should have been reminded by Corporate, but our Treasurer, **Linda Poage**, will be sending out an additional email reminder around the first part of December.

**You must pay online** - [AirstreamClub.org](http://AirstreamClub.org)  
Then click the Yellow "JOIN NOW" button.  
Then look for the "Current Members [CLICK HERE](#) to renew."

Note: All other members who joined the Club after July 1, 2021, their dues will be due before their Anniversary date each year.

**On Facebook?**

Stay up-to-date with club activities and member's adventures by joining the Mo-Kan Club Facebook Group



**December Celebrations!**

**Birthdays**

Chris Lehman – 12/04	Myrna Wardrip – 12/23
Curtis Atchley – 12/17	Maria Stimach – 12/28
Phil Spangler – 12/18	Denise Osgood – 12/29

**Anniversaries**

Ronald & Helen Fults – 12/28  
Everett & Osgood – 12/29

**Make your plans now!**

After *December 1st* – we can make site reservations for our "**Just-For-Fun**" Rally at Melvern Lake, June 1-4. Make your plans now!

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233695>

**(This campground fills up fast!)**

**Upcoming Mo-Kan Club Activities**

**LUNCHEONS**

December 3, 2022 – 11:30am



**Holiday Luncheon**  
**Cascone's Italian Restaurant**

3737 N. Oak Trfy, Kansas City, MO  
Hosts – Charles & Nadine Colbert  
913-484-9864

January 7, 2023 – 11:30am

**Fields & Ivy Brewery**

706 E. 23rd St., Lawrence, KS  
Hosts – Dave & Stephanie Porto  
785-764-2154

February 4, 2023 – 11:30am

**Rodeo Mexican Restaurant**

15510 State Ave., Basehor, KS  
Hosts – Christine & Dustin Whitney  
913-221-6724

**RALLIES**



April 26 – 30, 2023

**Region 8 Rally**

**Sebetha, KS**

Sycamore Springs White Tail Ranch  
**More info to come!**

May 4 – 7, 2023

**Mo-Kan Spring Rally**

**Platte City, MO**

Basswood Resort  
**More info to come!**

June 24 - 30, 2023

**Airstream Club Int'l Rally**

**Rock Springs, WY**

Info and Registration at  
[AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023](http://AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023)



June 1– 4, 2023

**"Just-for Fun" Rally**

**Melvorn, KS**

Melvorn Lake Outlet Campground  
**Make site reservations starting Dec. 1st!**

**Remember!** There's lots of good info, photos and archived newsletters at our Club's website:

<https://airstreamclub.org/missouri-kansas>



## 2022 Holiday Luncheon

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the Holiday Party for the Missouri – Kansas Airstream Club this coming Saturday.

To the right you will find a list of everyone that RSVP'd for this event. *We are at MAXIMUM capacity.* What a wonderful response!

### A couple points to remember for this event:

*We will be asking everyone to introduce themselves with the following information:*

- Your names
- The name of your Rig (example the name of the William's rig is Rosie – **there will be a test later** ;D.)
- The name and location of your favorite campground. We will be passing out a sheet of paper for you to include the campsite location so that we can start our own favorite's list on our website/social media.

*Common Cents for Kids will be having an auction of item donated by membership* – three families have volunteered to donate the items and Stuart Robertson will be our auctioneer. Please be generous with donations and your bids as well.

Lunch items will be ordered from the menu and *there will be an automatic gratuity of 21% added on our checks.*

If at the last minute, you find you are unable to attend – please contact me at either [woodsmitty52@gmail.com](mailto:woodsmitty52@gmail.com) or 785-764-2154. The restaurant is opening extra seats so that we can sit everyone, and we want to give them the chance to fill any unoccupied seat if we are unable.

Until then, safe journeys. Stephanie

Charles Colbert	Nadine Colbert
Charles Shotton	Ilona Baumhofer
Chris Wilson	Kerri Wilson
Clyde Cantrell	Joyce Cantrell
Cynthia Jenny	Christopher Jenny
David Brown	Cherie Brown
Deb Mitchell	John Mitchell
Donald Arnold	Kay Arnold
Douglas Brown	Marsha Brown
Dustin Whitney	Christine Whitney
Ed O'Connor	Jill O'Connor
John Eckardt	Maria Stimach-Eckardt
Julee Shields	Marshall (Bud) McFie
Kate Robertson	Stuart Robertson (+ family)
Kirk Moore	Denise Chevalier
Larry Poage	Linda Poage
Lee Orth	Jane Orth
Linda Frazier	Dean Frazier
Martin Hughey	Rachel Hughey
Marvin Williams	Deborah Williams
Megan Ira	Cliff Ira
Monica McAtee	Chad McAtee (+ son)
Monty Sowder	Tonja Sowder
Neil Schaper	Becca Schaper
Pat King	Craig King
Richard Embers	Christine Embers
Robert Fairchild	Marty Fairchild
Stephanie Porto	David Porto

**November Luncheon – Nov. 5 2022  
Jack Stack BBQ, Lenexa, KS**



## Report on the “Common Sense for Kids” program

Thanks to the work of **Linda Poage** and **Christine Embers**, we have some answers to the questions posed by club members regarding the Common Cents For Kids status.

It is true and disappointing that no Common Cents monies were distributed during the cancelled 2020 Loveland Colorado Rally and the 2021 rally in Lebanon Tennessee. This appears to be primarily due to the lack of a coordinator during that time. The previous coordinator had resigned due to medical problems, and the new Youth Services coordinator chose not to include Common Cents as part of his responsibilities. No one was in charge.

When the WBCCI Foundation was started, Common Cents was included in their goals as of June of 2022. All monies collected prior to that date had been held in a separate fund by the WBCCI. During the interim, (2000 – 2022), our Region 8 held our contributions separate until the coordination of Common Cents For Kids funds was finalized. Those funds were released to the foundation a few months ago. Our club was not made aware of Region 8’s decision to hold on to funds and that will be addressed directly at the next Region 8 meeting. Ultimately, they did arrive at the designated account.

In 2022, monies were distributed to the following recipients at the Fryeburg Maine Rally:

- **Jen’s Friends of Conway NH** – Direct assistance to four children currently fighting cancer – Assistance includes travel to and from treatment, durable medical equipment and prescriptions not covered by medical insurance. All patients are in the Mount Washington Valley.
- **Laura Foundation for Autism and Epilepsy** – Madison NH – Donation will be used for their 3-part summer program where children are taught social skills, adaptive PE and other physical activities like therapeutic horseback riding, adaptive bike riding and wall climbing.
- **Starting Point for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse** – Conway NH – support includes education and prevention in area schools as well as support of families leaving domestic abuse. This program primarily covers western Maine.

Each program received a \$3500 grant each.

In the past, specific fund recipients were identified and introduced at each International Rally – that practice will not continue due to privacy issues that constrain agencies we are working with at local venues. All monies are now within a 501(3)c registered Non-profit. The good news is that any contribution that individual club members make can be tax deductible. If you desire to get a tax deduction for your contribution, these should be made directly to the fund, not through our local club, until a record keeping process for that purpose can be created.

Current Monies – from an email to Linda from Karen Fisher, Foundation President – 10/6/22.

“In early June 2022, \$19,199.92 was transferred from the Club to the Foundation. There have been some smaller donations made to Common Cents For Kids but the biggest donations were received at the IR and totaled \$8607.04.” Current balance in Common Cents for Kids as of August 31, 2022, is \$17,570.55. The Foundation Board had hoped to take this balance down more after the grants presented at the IR, but the donations from some of the regions and local clubs far exceeded our expectations. We will continue to work at reducing this balance over the next few years as we feel that is not our place to hold onto the money but to get it out there to help others.”

(continued next page)

Jane Bartlett, the Region 7 and 8 Representative to the Foundation and Treasurer for the St Louis Airstream Club spoke with us at length and shares our concerns about how and where funds will be distributed and will take our concerns to the Council governing the Foundation.

One other detail discovered during our discussions was that nowhere in the club constitution or by laws was there ever any mention of Common Cents for Kids nor was there any written guidance regarding the parameters for giving out these funds. We are very lucky to have had dedicated stewards for these funds as no charter directing the processes was ever formally presented.

The only notation in the Bylaws is as follows:

- “The International Rally Committee may make a donation to the host community. This donation is in addition to those given to various local or national organizations by club groups such as, community service and Family and Youth Committee. Any donation from a religious service collection will be the responsibility of the collectors. (See Policy, 16.6.4, Rallies, Sec F, Item 22 for documentation of donations.) (6/24/20)”

And in the Policy and Procedures it is as follows:

- “Common Cents for Kids Fund will accumulate residual contributions from the Youth Charity Projects for any excess over \$6,000 collected in a given year. This fund will serve as a reservoir from which to access funds for years in which youth collections do not reach the \$6,000 limit. Interest from this fund shall accrue to this fund. Withdrawals from this fund will be authorized by the Family and Youth Standing Committee Chair and two members of the committee present. (7/5/02)”

If you are interested, you will be able to see the reports/ budgets online on the WBCCI Foundation Website after the next annual meeting. <https://www.wbccifoundation.org/>

The Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club Common Cents for Kids ad hoc committee feels that the plan going forward meets the intent of the legacy given to us by the Kennedys so many years ago. The grants made in 2022 and the transparency that we found with the Foundation President and our Region Representative was exactly what we were hoping to find. We will be watchful and continue to monitor the Foundation activities, for this and their other objectives.

Respectfully submitted.

Stephanie Porto - President

Christine Embers – Community Coordinator

Linda Poage - Treasurer

