



Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club

Gopher News



WBCCI - Unit 059

February 2023

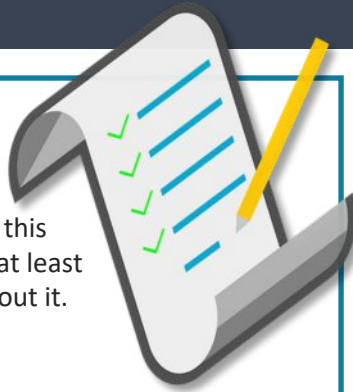
President's Message

Let's Go Camping Together!!

As you can see from the all the information in this newsletter – we are ready to go camping, or (at least while it is 16 degrees out) really think hard about it.

Here are your assignments:

- ✓ **RVSP to the March Luncheon** – Johnny's Tavern Shawnee – 13131 Shawnee Mission Parkway, 66216; 11:30 to 1:30.
 - **Deb & John Mitchell** are our hosts – *email your RSVP to Deb at mitchdeb@gmail.com* – 913-563-9370
- ✓ **Register for the Region 8 Rally** – April 26th thru April 30th
 - [2023 Region 8 Rally Sabetha KS | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](https://www.airstreamclub.org/2023-Region-8-Rally-Sabetha-KS)
- ✓ **Reserve a spot on the Caravan between Rallies**
 - Read the 🎵“Rollin’, Rollin’, Rollin’ on the River..t”🎵 instructions (page 4) on how to make reservations. (Hint: it involves emailing an RSVP to **Ed O'Connor**)
- ✓ **Register for the Mo-Kan Club Spring Rally** – May 4th thru 7th – Basswood Resort in Platte City. There will be some fun events, and some hanging by the campfire time as well – hope you can join us.
 - *Register your unit at the Eventbrite site - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mo-kan-airstream-club-spring-rally-campsite-reservations-basswood-tickets-527805639877>*
 - *Print and send the Rally Coupon to **Linda Poage**. **What, it's not attached yet???** Well, we are nailing down catering costs, and this will be available very soon. Look for it on FB and by a later email blast. Expect it to be about \$100 for a unit with 2 adults.*
- ✓ **Reserve a site for the Just-for-Fun Rally** – June 1 thru 3rd – Melvern Lake – Outlet Park
 - If you have already registered a spot, but *cannot* make it, let **Christine Whitney** know before cancelling in case we have someone waiting for a spot.
- ✓ **Get Ready for the the International Rally in Wyoming**
 - NOTE: all spots have been booked and there is a waiting list. Registered Mo-Kan Members will plan to have a get-together in the first few nights of the Rally.



Executive Officers

President:

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woodsmitty52@gmail.com

1st Vice President:

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2nd Vice President:

Lee Orth
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3rd Vice President:

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Treasurer:

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lpodge@kc.rr.com

Recording Secretary:

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glendaridgeway@gmail.com

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chriswhitney1@gmail.com

Past President:

Charles Colbert
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Parliamentarian:

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Membership Chair:

Monica McAtee
monicamcatee@gmail.com

Community Service Chair:

Christine Embers
cembers1@gmail.com

Newsletter Putertogether:

Kirk Moore
kcunitnews@gmail.com

All the best, safe travels. **Stephanie #1890**



Welcome New Members!

**Kara Lay &
Gene Harpster**
Kansas City, MO

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

Community Service

We will be supporting the community service donation drive at our Region 8 Rally in Sabetha, KS. The items collected will be going to the International rally in June. They will be collecting hats, blankets stuffed animals, women's shelter items and of course aluminum can tabs. If you are not able to attend the Region 8 Rally or International Rally, donations will be collected at our April luncheon.

Also, at the Region 8 Rally there will be a donation drive for **The Kids Closet**, which serves the Sabetha area. We are waiting for Region 8 to give us donation details to be collected. I will pass updated information via our Facebook page.

-Christine Embers, **BRN #1591**
Community Service



*Time to
Rally
Again...
AGAIN!!*

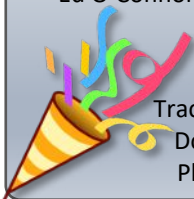
February Celebrations!

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Don Sutton – 2/07 | Ginny Gurtler – 2/15 |
| Josh Schukman – 2/08 | Terry Mercer – 2/17 |
| Helena Fults - 2/09 | Julee Shields – 2/26 |
| Ed O'Connor – 2/09 | Glen Harris - 2/28 |
| | Nadine Colbert – 2/28 |

Anniversaries

- Tracy & Glenda Ridgeway - 2/10
Don & Myrna Wardrip- 2/10
Phil & Linda Spangler - 2/24



Upcoming Mo-Kan Club Activities

LUNCHEONS



February 4, 2023 – 11:30am

Rodeo Mexican Restaurant

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

March 4, 2023 – 11:30am

Johnny's Tavern Shawnee

13131 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Shawnee, KS
Hosts – Deb & John Mitchell
RSVP: mitchdeb@gmail.com or 913-563-9370

April 1, 2023 – 11:30am

TBD

Stay tuned!
Hosts – Debra & Marvin Williams
913-240-1597

RALLIES



April 26 – 30, 2023

Region 8 Rally

Sabetha, KS

Sycamore Springs White Tail Ranch
Register at: <https://airstreamclub.org/2023-region-8-rally-sabetha-ks>

May 4 – 7, 2023

Mo-Kan Spring Rally

Platte City, MO

Basswood Resort

Register at this [Eventbrite page](#)

June 24 - 30, 2023

Airstream Club Int'l Rally

Rock Springs, WY

Info and Registration at
AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023

June 1– 4, 2023

“Just-for Fun” Rally

Melvern, KS

Melvorn Lake Outlet Campground

Make your own site reservations at:

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



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

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

January Luncheon – Jan. 7, 2023
Fields & Ivy Brewery, Lawrence KS



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

The cover story for January “Blue Beret” was written by fellow Mo-Kan Club Member **John Eckardt. (#7352)** Not only is it a comprehensive guide to all things *Electric Bikes*, but it includes first-hand adventures of John and his wife Maria’s maiden voyage with their new bikes.

But we all knew this because we already read the article when it first appeared in the November ‘22 issue of the Gopher News!



🎵 “Rollin’, Rollin’, Rollin’ on the Rive...t!” 🎵

As Mr. Byam put it, “To play some part in promoting goodwill and understanding among the peoples of the world through person-to-person contact.” And there is no better way to start than in our home states – Missouri and Kansas. For that reason, we will have rolling rallies at both the Spring and Fall meetings.

The Spring Rolling Rally is an optional event scheduled between the Region 8 Rally in Sycamore Springs Whitetail Ranch in Sabetha, Kansas to the Missouri-Kansas Spring Rally in Basswood Resort.

We are limiting the Rolling Rally to 10 units as Stop One is space limited.

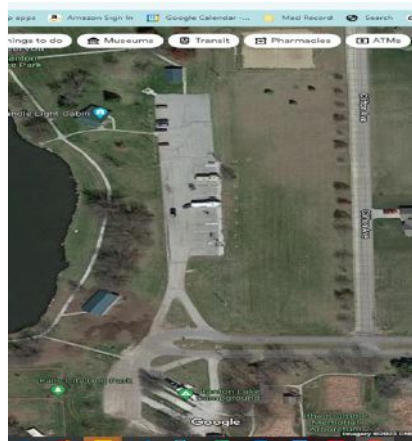
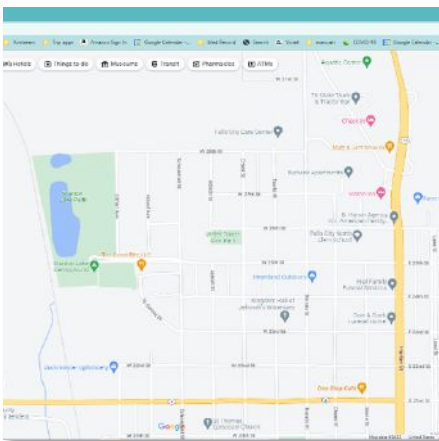
How to make reservations

Send **Ed O’Connor** an RSVP email for attending the Rolling Rally – **both stops** - eoconnor@pcpartners.net

Stop #1 Stanton Lake Park - West 25th Street, Falls City, NE 68355

April 30 - leaving May 2nd, 2023 (2 nights)

This is a city owned park situated at the NW side of town. We plan on staying two nights. This is a first come, first served venue. There is RV parking with full services at the end of the trailer (requires backing into your spot.) The first 48 hours are free, so if we arrive at noonish and leave the same in two days, the price is ZERO. After that it is \$10 a night. There are only 10 RV slots (8 on the north and 2 on the south side) –if some are already occupied, the remainder of units will need to be prepared to boondock and we will also have an alternative site planned.



What to do in Falls City – there are a few eateries and grocery store, the lake is walk-able, the town is nearby, lovely, and walkable/bikeable (caution – some cobblestone roads), great dog park, and the lake is stocked with catfish and bass. The John Phillip Walter Museum (the Norman Rockwell of Nebraska) is available if we call ahead. Weather permitting, we are hoping to pull out the projector and have a movie night and possibly a potluck dinner one evening. Hoping to have a group of breakfast grills available Monday morning for us to gather and cook. Weather permitting.

Stop #2 Pony Express RV Park - 4469 S. Highway 33, Maysville, MO 64469

May 2nd – leaving May 4th, 2023. (2 nights)

Each unit will make their own reservations - 816-449-2039. Cost will be about \$40.9 cash/check, \$42.50 credit per night. - let them know that you are with the MISSOURI-KANSAS Airstream Club. They will also need to know the length of your unit. Parking will be buddy style – head to toe. This will leave the second unit without transportation for that day. Dinner one of two nights will be in the club house – pizza or tacos served, ordered individually from menus. The second dinner is still TBD. We may have a game night with match play at ping pong and/or pool, sing along (or humming) with the 1912 player piano. Things to do locally –Hamilton is reported as epic center for Quilting – Missouri Star Quilt Co. Laundry, restrooms, showers, and farm animals to pet are on site. Need to fill your empty propane tanks – they have that also. There are 20 sites at this park, so other members could join us at the Pony Express and proceed to Basswood from here.

2023 WBCCI MO-KS AIRSTREAM CLUB SPRING RALLY

Basswood Resort Campground and Country Inn

15880 Interurban Road

Platte City, MO 64079 May 4-7, 2023



Thursday, May 4th

5:30 p.m. Meal in Clubhouse. Meats to be provided by the Club. Pot Luck – a list will be provided to the attendees for suggested items to supply with the meats (potluck, salads, chips and deserts).

NOTE: Our Airstreamer-in-charge of planning and providing meals is **Deborah Williams**. Be sure to thank her for her hard work! *Unless stated, bring flatware, silverware, and your own drinks.*

Friday, May 5th

7:30 a.m. Breakfast on your own. Coffee provided in Clubhouse.

8:40 a.m. Line up to leave for a private tour of McCormick (Holladay) Distillery (One McCormick Lane, Weston, MO. <https://mccormickdistilling.com/>). Tour starts at 9:30 a.m. *This tour is optional for the Club members, but if joining, the cost is \$25 per person.* McCormick is the oldest distillery west of the Mississippi River still operating in its original location. You'll peer into the limestone spring first discovered by Lewis and Clark in 1804. Tours last about 90 minutes, including a Bourbon tasting.

11:30 a.m. (approximate). Lunch at American Bowman Restaurant (500 Welt Street, Weston, Missouri). <https://westonirish.com/america-bowman-restaurant/>. Located above the O'Malley's 1842 Pub. Possible tour of the underground pub during or just following lunch. It's the tallest structure located in Weston! But its all underground.

1:30 p.m. (approximate). Tour of Weston. No cost, but donation welcome. Will have a walking tour of the town hosted by an historian provided by the Weston Chamber of Commerce. Depending on the level of group energy, the tour could include Main Street, Historic Buildings, and the Laurel Hill Cemetery. Dinner on your own. At night, enjoy campfires.

Saturday, May 6th

8:00 a.m. Coffee provided in the Clubhouse. Breakfast to include a "Grill-along". Details to be provided but likely to include multiple grills at a yet to be determined campsite.

10:00 a.m. General Membership Meeting in Clubhouse

12:00 noon. Lunch on your own.

1 – 3:00 p.m. Demonstrations to include: Location TBD

Organizing my RV – **Beth McCall**

Cooking and Prep in an Airstream – **Deb Williams**

Electronic monitoring – **Vern Wirka**

What's in my Red Bag – preparing for an emergency – CPR review – **Stephanie Porto**

Weigh in on my hitch – **Lee Orth**

3 – 4:30 p.m. Open up our RV's to all. (optional participation)

5 – 6:30 p.m. Catered Dinner in Clubhouse by Scott's Kitchen. Costs included in Rally Fee.

7 – 9:00 p.m. Live Entertainment in Clubhouse or outside. Costs included in Rally Fee.

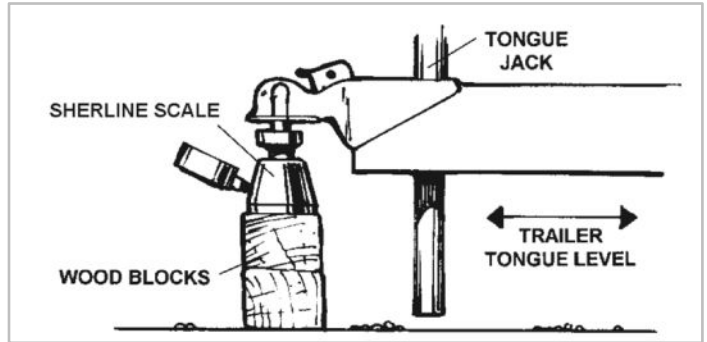
Sunday, May 7th

8:00 a.m. Coffee provided in Clubhouse. Assorted pastries, yogurt, and juice. *Bring your own service.* Juice provided.

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – Clubhouse TBD: To Be Determined

About Tongue Weight...

Anyone new to the trailering world comes across many terms and items to comprehend...TV, torque, hp, GVWR, GAWR, GTW...the list goes on and on. To most everyone's mind, the term that most often arises has to do with towing capability...in



other words, can my vehicle pull this trailer, and if not, which vehicle is sufficient? Unfortunately, the answer given (and typically the only answer given by dealers) is often just the tow vehicles (**TV**) tow capacity. While there is a limit based on the particular TV, most TV's of any size can pull most trailers...Even a Subaru Ascent can tow 5000 lbs, a Toyota Tacoma 6800 lbs, and so on. **But often ignored is a very important detail...the PAYLOAD of the TV.** Most TV's can pull a pretty good load. Fewer, however, can lift a load. That is what we are talking about here...the payload. The payload is how much weight the TV can support. It is common to think that anything larger than a sedan, any kind of truck, given it's tow capacity, can pull most trailers. But not so. And this is majorly important. A Tacoma for example (which we had owned), had a payload of only 1170 lbs! So it could not safely pull our 25' Flying Cloud. Which is why we traded for a ¾ ton TV.

Now some of this seems contradictory to everyday intuition. I mean, some might say. "Well I have a large SUV, or a ½ ton pickup truck, so I should be good to go. Well, no. When we first looked into getting a larger TV, Jane, my wife, immediately mentioned a Toyota Sequoia, which we once owned. But upon investigation, the Sequoia has a payload of just over 1300 lbs. Similarly, many ½ pickups may have a lighter than thought payload as well. My Son-In-Law's first TV, a Ford F150 4WD had a payload of 1700 lbs. Often, though, ½ tons will sport a payload of 2000 lbs, depending upon configuration. *But why are these seemingly large vehicles so tender on payload?* The answer has intended use. SUV's and ½ ton pickups have become daily people movers in their everyday applications. And of course, that means the suspensions are therefore softer, to produce a more comfortable ride. Which they do, and many get great miles per gallon as well. But they are not primarily designed to do heavy lifting...that task has been relegated to ¾ and one ton pickups. This is not to say a ½ ton is automatically deficient...many do have adequate payload for the trailer they are pulling.

So...to calculate the actual operating payload, it is important to know the tongue weight (TW) of one's trailer, to make sure it is under published limits. This limit can be found on the drivers door jamb. *So what is the TW of your trailer?* And how do you calculate it? Well, there are several methods, including those where you weigh your trailer, your TV, do some calculation...or even use a bathroom scale with a 2x4, and... well, good luck. I guess you can do that, but in my mind, the results can be suspect. Well, why doesn't one simply go to the Airstream site, look up one's trailer, and voila! There you have it! Well no. The published TW may be way off...in our case, a 25' front bedroom Flying Cloud's TW is listed at 837 lbs. But the actual, weighed TW is 1100lbs! That is with the propane tanks nearly full, and 40 fresh water (which tank is located over the double axle wheels), 15% black tank and 0% gray. I measured 3 or 4 25's, with the same TW...

(continued next page)

...result. Now, assume that the TV has a published payload of 1500 lbs...subtract, say, 1000 lbs, you have 500 safely left. Minus two adults leaves 150 lbs leeway. 150 lbs left for children, a dog, and all the camping paraphernalia you can possibly stuff into the back of your pickup or SUV. The result is not encouraging.

And of course, the TW of each trailer will vary based on the way the trailer is loaded, the weight of that loaded amount, and the amount of liquid in the tanks, (and of course, the distribution of those tanks in your particular trailer...while all our trailer's tanks are at and forward of the axles, the tanks of our SIL's 30 AS are at or behind his axles...thus decreasing his TW).

So ...we have hopefully established that it is important to know one's TW and payload, to safely navigate our highways. But also, one can do calculations...if one is so inclined and proficient. One such person, **Stephanie Porto**, correctly calculated their trailer's TW. But for the rest of us...What is one to do?

Well, take heart. There is a much easier, precise way to find your trailer's TW. And that is to measure it with a scale. A Sherline scale, made for just this purpose. But you don't have such a scale, and it is not super cheap. **Enter, moi! I have such a scale**, purchased just because I was curious, and did not trust my mathematical calculations (not being Stephanie). Well, such a scale needs to be put to good use and not neglected, so for everyone's info, **I will continue to bring my scale to each rally we attend. And will be glad to measure your TW.** Now, to do so, we will have to temporarily raise your stabilizing jacks. And maybe remove your X-chocks. But that is all! And you will have a real number. Of course this number can vary depending on how you have loaded your trailer. But you will have an accurate travelling number that you can rely on.



So do feel free to mention this to me if you would like to be weighed. And till then, happy safe, stress-free camping!

- Lee Orth #27274

