



TARHEEL TRAVELER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB
THE 21ST CLUB IN WBCCI FORMED IN 1960



February 2023

CAC Upcoming Rallies & Events 2023

[CAC Kick Off James Island Rally March 16-19](#)

[Tanglewood Park NC Rally April 13-16](#)

[Trot Into Tryon April 20-23](#)

[Shining in Shelby "Urban Rally" May 11-14](#)

[Cool Breeze Galax, Virginia June 8-11](#)

[Hot Springs Resort and Spa Rally July 13-16](#)

[Top of Georgia Rally August 17-20](#)

[NC/SC States Rally Palmetto Cove, Cleveland SC](#)

[September 21-24](#)

[Myrtle Beach Rally at Ocean Lakes November 9-12](#)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

RICKY WILCOX #5016



Hello streamers 2023 Rally season is coming fast!

We just celebrated Valentine's Day and have our sights on our season kick off Rally at James Island County Park in Charleston!

My wife Joan and I celebrated our Valentine's Day in Big Pine Key Florida, where we are until February 28th. We'll head north from here to Daytona Beach for a couple weeks.

Another passion of mine besides camping is motorcycle riding. We will be at Daytona for Bike Week, which will make 26 consecutive years attending. Actually, this year I get to do both and for the first time I'll go up to Daytona Beach, from the Keys.

Our first Rally as your President will also be James Island. I'm sure this will be an awesome year for you all in our club. Get out there and enjoy this country that we're all so blessed to live in. You can go to as many Rallies as your schedule will allow. The more Rallies you attend the more you'll connect with other members.

Please also consider hosting and or co-hosting a Rally. Our club is 100% a volunteer club and without volunteers we wouldn't have a club. When you host you build and strengthen relationships that last a lifetime. If that's something you are or would consider, please contact me for more details.

Until we talk again safe travels to you all.



~ Ricky 021president@wbcci.net

VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

STEVE THOMPSON #19771



Greetings to all CAC Streamers,

HELP!!! A reminder and a plea for your support of our Carolinas Airstream Club. We are in need of hosts to support the following rallies:

- Cool Breeze, Galax VA (8-10 June)
- Top of Georgia, Helen GA (17-19 Aug)
- Ocean Lakes, Myrtle Beach, SC (9-11 Nov)

Don't be shy and jump on these opportunities to improve our club's adventures. Signing up is easy on our website and once you have done so many will help you along the way. Benefits include no rally fees for your rig and a \$40 gift card.

Our 1st rally is going to be at James Island, SC., in March. Jan and I will be your hosts and the theme is celebrating St. Patrick's Day. If you are attending wear the "green". As I scanned the remaining rally sign up rosters, the lists continue to grow. Don't miss out on an opportunity to sign-up and have some fun and meet new people.

If you have any questions regarding our rallies or hosting, please feel free to reach out to the CAC leadership team. Thanks for your support and safe travels.

Thanks for your support and safe travels.

~Steve, 1st VP 021vicepresident@wbcci.net



2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER & 2024 RALLIES

RAY COMBS #822



Hello Fellow Streamers,

To update everyone, we have been in contact with many campgrounds. We have already scheduled some for 2024 and are waiting for the reservation window to open up for others.

If you aren't already, be prepared for rate increase shock as most all private campgrounds are taking advantage of the recent high demand for camp sites and raising prices. Some of the campgrounds we are working with are charging over \$100 per night. For this reason, we have included several state and national parks in our 2024 schedule which are still relatively inexpensive. Because our club have grown so much, we will be scheduling some rallies midweek and sometimes two a month. So, get those 2024 calendars handy as we'll be filling it up soon.

If you have not already done so you should set up accounts with recreation.gov, reserveamerica.com and for North Carolina State Parks go to NCParks.gov.

This month's great campground rejects are Buck Hill CG in Newland NC. and Camp Le Conte Luxury Outdoor Resort in Gatlinburg Tennessee. They aren't able to take big groups but are great for individuals. So long for now, Ray Combs

~Ray 021vicepresident@wbcci.net

Explore 20 plus National Caravans that travel almost 750,000 miles across North America. We caravan from Alaska to Louisiana, New York to Mexico and along the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Join us for unforgettable Airstream travel adventures. Plan now for 2024. Visit the [Airstream International Caravan Site](https://www.airstreaminternational.com)

Cajun Country Caravan 2023 A-1

7-22 2026 Atchafalaya River Highway Breaux Bridge LA 70517

GEORGIA... Georgia on My Mind Caravan 2023 MY MIND

9-31 205 Indian Mounds Road Blakely GA 39823

AIRSTREAM CLUB INSPIRED BY EST. 1955 Cajun Country Caravan-2023 A-2

14-29 2026 Atchafalaya River Highway Breaux Bridge LA 70517

Rollin to the Big Easy Caravan 2023

14-26 711 Powwow Drive Kinder LA 70648

Join us as we explore the history, natural beauty, and cuisine of rural Georgia. From antebellum homes to Presidential history, you will become familiar with Georgia's charm.

Our caravan over thirteen days will introduce some of the best sites, sounds and food which Louisiana has to offer.



PAST PRESIDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

Bruce Bodenstein

CAC President 2022

#8168

Hello Streamers,

Surprisingly, as the most immediate past club president, I have been asked to write one last (well, perhaps not) newsletter column so

Happy 2023 to you all. Apparently, all the other living past presidents have had their go at it so here I am, having been booted out of office just six weeks ago.

First, I have to ask, how is President Ricky doing? It's my understanding that as soon as he took up the baton, he and Joanie skedaddled down to the Keys for the winter. If that's true, I'm sure they're both busily hunkered down, planning a tremendous year for the Carolinas Airstream Club.

Claire and I are well again after our surprise holiday gift of Covid which arrived just in time for Christmas. Thankfully our youngest son pitched in and hosted the rest of the family over at his place and over the next couple of weeks a few presents got swapped off our front porch. At the end of January, we all did get together to exchange the stockings hung with care, except by then they were more like dirty socks hung to dry.

Seriously though, 2022 was a special time for me. If I haven't said it publicly, thank you again for entrusting me with a leadership role in your club these last three years. When I stumbled, you picked me up. When I looked good, the Board shone through. It was an experience and privilege I will never forget.

As usual, my winter means checking off my Airstream to do list. It's fairly short this year thankfully. Last year's preparation for the trip to Maine cost thousands with a new air conditioner, tires, and brakes all around and on and on. This winter, I've installed a new flagpole and plan to refurbish my Equalizer Hitch and paint the trailer tongue.

I'm sure you've all heard way too much from me in the last months so I will leave you with this; Our club is still growing by leaps and bounds. Not only are we one of the oldest clubs in the organization but we are no doubt in the top six in membership numbers as well. Sure, some of the growth can be attributed to the popularity of our iconic Airstreams, however In my humble opinion, the majority of the growth we've experienced has come about because of who we are... welcoming, friendly, helpful, fun loving, charitable, caring folks. Keep it up you guys and we may get a Region to ourselves one day.

For you newcomers, welcome to the club. Let our leadership know how we can do better, and... and don't be afraid to step up and lead. You know who you are and what you can offer. Start small if you want. Volunteer to host a rally. Talk about fun. Lee and Dawn Dunn and Claire and I are teaming up to host a four-club rally in September and we want a hundred trailers to show up. Join us and we will put you to work.

Bruce Bodenstein

Immediate Past President



CHERYLANNE WEAVER

#9883

Happy Valentine's Day Streamers!



I hope everyone got to share some love this heart-filled month. My next-door neighbors were thoughtful and brought me a beautiful bouquet of flowers and my 'faux' grands down the street brought myself and the other widow on our block heart cookies, a plant and homemade card. I am blessed with a great neighborhood of caring people.

The hunt for an Airstream continues. I need to find one so I can locate my house again on my street. The Airstream was the landmark in the driveway and without one I almost pass my house every day!

I haven't heard any news from our members, so I hope that means all is well with everyone. Let me know if you have any news to share - new grandkids, moving, trips with or without your rig, upgrading to another Airstream – you get it. I look forward to hearing from you.

“Life is best when you're camping” – author unknown

~Cherylanne

printcessltd@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

LEE DUNN #27312



Hello fellow members,

As of Feb 16, 2023, the Carolinas Airstream Club is 254 rigs and 468 members strong!

Evernote has come out with a free update this past month. I update my smartphone and it seems to work just fine. If you have any problems with the update, please let me know.

Have a membership question? Having problems with Evernote? Drop me an email!

~Lee, Membership Chair 021membershipchair@wbcci.net

Our newest members (details in Evernote)

- **Nikita Allen from Charlotte, NC., and her 2021 20' Caravel**
- **Kelly Glynn from Greenville, SC., and her 2020 16' Basecamp 16X**
- **David & Judy Adams from Mooresville, NC, and their 2022 30' Classic**
- **Jack & Linda Grimes from Chapin, SC, and their 2022 '27 Globetrotter**
- **Lee Helms from Sunset Beach, NC, and his 2007 23' Safari 23CB**
- **Emily Chung from Raleigh, NC., and her 2020 19' Bambi**
- **Mark & Linda Eldridge from Wilson, NC., and their 2012 19' International Signature**
- **Annmarie Templeton & Patrick Malloy from Lexington, NC., and their 2023 27' Flying Cloud**
- **James & Missy Bradshaw from Hampstead, NC., and their 2023 30' Globetrotter**

Membership Spotlight



John and Sharon

MEET JOHN CARRIKER

When John Carriker attended his second Airstream Club rally, he was invited to the front of a room full of club members. As John faced forward, the Airstream Club president looked over his shoulder and asked, by a show of hands, who approved John Carriker's joining the club. For good measure, and some humor, the president also asked the audience, by show of hands, who would deny John membership in the club, and proceeded to "count" those non-existent raised hands.

That was 50 years ago, when John was 24 years old.

Ask John where he went and what he did on any of his Airstream travels in the past five decades, and he will be able to tell you either from memory, or by consulting the dozens of logbooks John maintains. Overall, John has:

- Owned 8 Airstreams, all with BRN 3679 and named Silver Bullet
- Travelled more than 330,000 miles
- Spent between 60 days and 4,000 miles in a slow year to 115 days and 14,000 miles in a big year, with 7 ½ consecutive weeks his longest trip
- Visited all the lower 48 states except Louisiana.

As John says, "The more you go the more you want to go again!"

For John, though, it is less about the numbers and more about the people.

John has been blessed with partners who share his love of travel.

- John and his late wife, Sandy, travelled for 40 years together, starting 2 years before their son was born
- For 5 years, John travelled with his grandson, Jack, all over the country, racking up 209 nights, 28,751 miles and 4 international Airstream rallies, starting when Jack was 10 years old
- The first year they were married, John and his wife of 5 years, Sharon, spent their first summer together on a 7-week trip to Alberta, Canada ... with Jack, since trip was already "on the books" with John and his grandson. John and Sharon have been traveling together ever since.

John has stayed a member of the Airstream Club for all these years because the friendships he has made, all over the country. In John's experience, the more you invest in volunteering and spending time with club members, the more you get back. Tapping into his previous job as a firefighter, and his active role in the church, John has led an Airstream Club rally, and served as worship coordinator and first aid chairman at local, regional and at international levels.

What is still on John's bucket list? "Well, I have filled up my first bucket, so it's time to go out and buy a new bucket to fill." No doubt, in an Airstream.

"LIVE RIVETED" BLOG

This part of the newsletter is to share ideas and provide insights to members about making Airstreaming life easier. Please share your ideas at 021newslettereditor@wbcci.net.



Checklists are Your Friend!

Most RVers cannot live without their checklists, which often live in our brains. Just in case you are needing to delegate some of the arrival or departure duties, it isn't bad practice to print out your checklist and have it handy. You can find these and more on the "Live Riveted Blog".

Airstream Travel Trailer

Arrival Checklist



Outside

- ☐ Note any obstacles that could cause damage
- ☐ Locate utility hook ups
- ☐ Check AC shore power
- ☐ Safely park in any spot that is relatively level and where the ground is firm.
- ☐ When boondocking, use GPS to determine location in case of emergency
- ☐ Level unit
- ☐ Chock wheels
- ☐ Release hitch and coupler if you plan on using your vehicle
- ☐ Remove safety chains and breakaway switch cable.
- ☐ Use the stabilizing jacks to securely contact the ground
- ☐ Dismount towing mirrors
- ☐ Fully extend hitch jack; install puck
- ☐ Connect water & sewer
- ☐ Connect electricity
- ☐ Ensure LP tank valve is open
- ☐ Ensure that master battery disconnect switch is "ON"
- ☐ Turn on the LPG
- ☐ Pull out step
- ☐ Unlock the main door
- ☐ Extend your awning
- ☐ Set up TV antenna
- ☐ Set up solar panels
- ☐ Note mileage and fuel level

Inside

- ☐ Turn on water heater
- ☐ Open vents/windows
- ☐ Set HVAC
- ☐ Turn on refrigerator
- ☐ Check for items that have shuffled out of place during travel
- ☐ Set up tables and bedding
- ☐ Set up décor

Departure Checklist



Outside

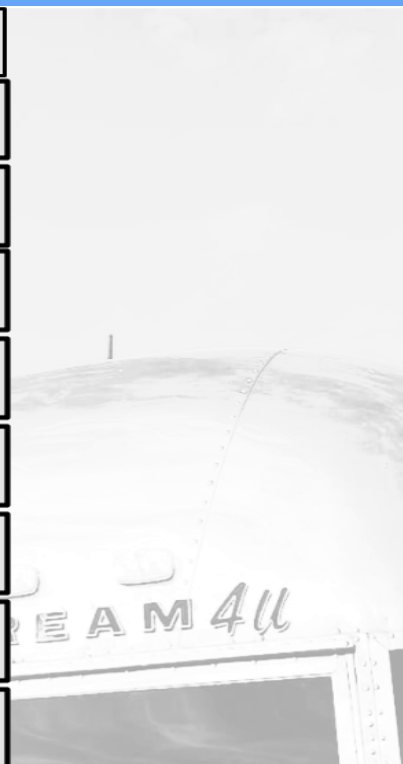
- ☐ Turn off exterior lighting
- ☐ Dump tanks
- ☐ Fill fresh water tank
- ☐ Close gray tank valves
- ☐ Disconnect and stow service lines
- ☐ Lock storage compartments
- ☐ Check generator oil level
- ☐ Check battery water levels
- ☐ Inspect electrical cords
- ☐ Check fluid levels: fuel, transmission, DEF, brake, coolant, windshield washer, power steering
- ☐ Ensure LP tank valve is closed
- ☐ Ensure stabilizing jacks are fully retracted
- ☐ Check hitch and coupler for proper attachment
- ☐ Check safety chains and breakaway switch cable
- ☐ Fully retract hitch jack; remove and stow jack stand or wood block
- ☐ Check all marker lights, taillights, clearance lights, brake lights
- ☐ Check lug nuts
- ☐ Check TPMS monitor

Inside

- ☐ Securely stow all of your camping gear and goods. Do not overload.
- ☐ Bag trash for disposal
- ☐ Close windows
- ☐ Close vents
- ☐ Lock all interior cabinet doors
- ☐ Latch refrigerator door
- ☐ Turn off HVAC
- ☐ Latch TV for travel
- ☐ Lower TV antenna
- ☐ Turn interior lights off
- ☐ Fasten sliding doors by turning travel lock inward
- ☐ Ensure that master battery disconnect switch is "OFF"
- ☐ Turn off water pump, relieve pressure at faucet and heater
- ☐ Remove water from toilet bowl, lower lid
- ☐ Stow table
- ☐ Lower blinds
- ☐ Secure hall dividers
- ☐ Pull up or retract step
- ☐ Secure and Lock main door
- ☐ Lock dead bolt

Leadership Team

Ricky Wilcox President	Lee Dunn Membership Chair
Steve Thompson Vice President	Bob Hoffman 1-Yr Director
Ray Combs 2nd Vice President	Tim Almy 1-Yr Director
Elaine Myers Treasurer	Mike Olympio 2-Yr Director
Margie Lamb Recording Secretary	Roger Holland 2-Yr Director
Nancy Kueffer Corresponding Secretary, Newsletter, email admin	Bruce Bodenstein Immediate Past President
Wayne Clark Online Store Assistant Webmaster	Ed Hall Webmaster
Cherylanne Weaver "Rally Around Campfire"	Lynne Wilson Facebook Coordinator





“OH, THE PLACES YOU WILL GO!”

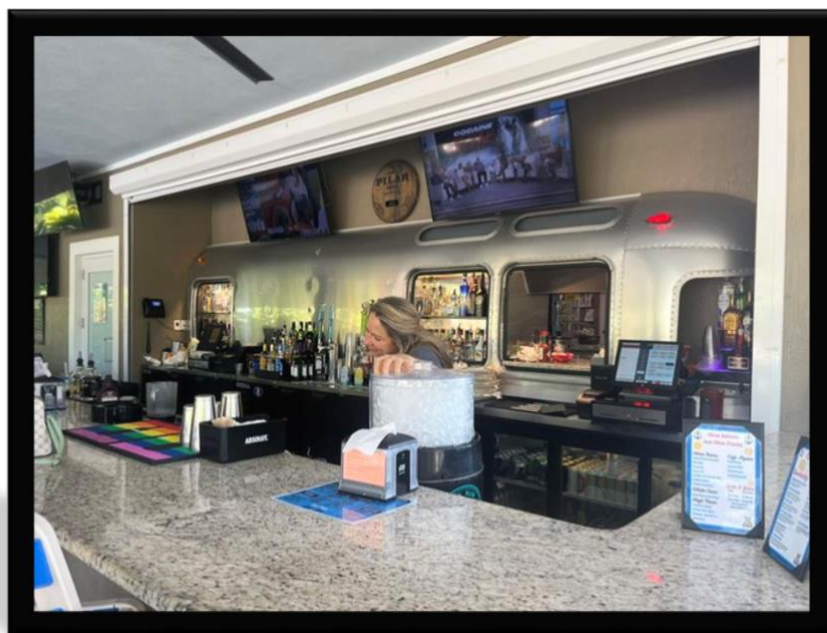
MEMBERS' TRAVELS AND CLUB EVENTS

Let us spotlight your travels.
Send pictures to
021newslettereditor@wbcci

Congratulations
to Our Own
David Lorenz

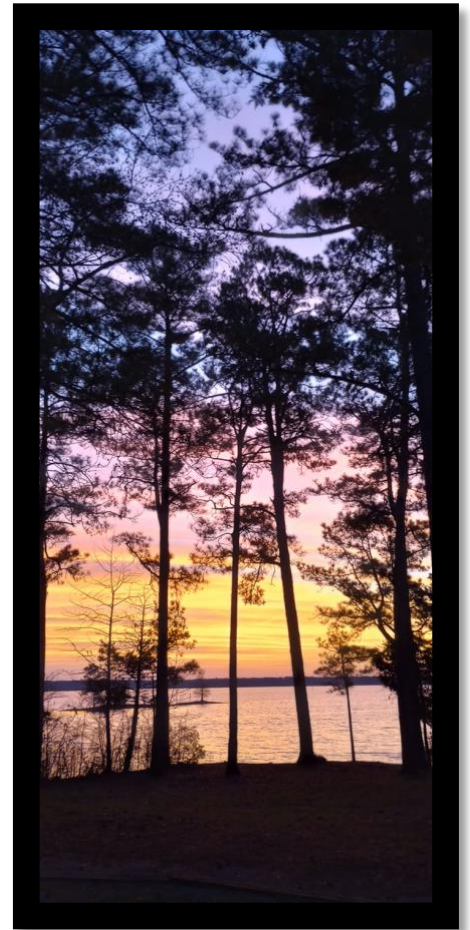


Sugarloaf KOA bar
incorporates a retired
Airstream in the Keys
visited by the Gieniewskis





Hoffmans at West Point Lake
on the Georgia/Alabama
Border
“Majestic Sunset!”



Tuckers at Arizona Airstream
Club Rally outside of
Phoenix, Arizona.
“Look at that Beautiful Sky!”