



# Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club Gopher News



WBCCI - Unit 059

April 2023

## President's Message

Oh, what a winter it has been...

***Our members do not let grass grow under their Airstreams!***

Members have travelled all over the world – sometimes in their trailers. At the next campfire, be sure to ask the about everyone's travels. The **Eckhardt's** have been to Brazil and Panama to just name a few locations, the **McAtee's** visited Colorado and other places, the **Embers** enjoyed a cruise in the Med, the **Cantrell's** led a caravan with many of our rowdy members to Cajun Country; and many others visited Texas, Arizona, and Florida. And those are the only the ones I've seen on our Facebook site. And then, a few of us were blessed to visit the Orthopedic Surgeon.

**Please keep in mind we have many activities yet to come:**

April 1<sup>st</sup> – **Luncheon** and possibly **boondocking** at the Harvest Host location – Van Till Family Farm Winery near Rayville, MO.

**Melvorn Outlet** – April 14-16<sup>th</sup> – informal camping kick off – talk with **Christine Whitney** for particulars.

**Region 8 Rally** at Sycamore Hills Resort followed by our own **Rivet Rolling Rally** to Stanton Lake in Nebraska and the Pony Express RV Campground (currently 7 units signed up, room for two more) near Maryville MO ending in our **Spring Rally** at Basswood – May 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Please see Itinerary (also attached to the email) for the Spring Meeting.

Return to **Melvorn Outlet** in June for a Just-For-Fun camping experience.

Then on to the **International** in Wyoming, followed with a **Rolling Rally** in SE Kansas in late September finishing with our **Fall Rally** in Spring Lake near Halstead KS. This will be a first time for our group to use this facility and we are looking forward to expanding our choices of campgrounds. This will be followed by more luncheons and the Holiday Party.



### Important Note:

**Glenda Ridgeway** has resigned from the post of Recording Secretary and **Marsha Brown** has agreed to take on this task. The Executive Committee is placing her in nomination for this spot and *members will vote on this at the Spring Meeting.*

Our club runs on volunteers – be it in charge of parking rigs at rallies, helping plan meals, giving a talk, serving as an officer – please consider serving when we tap you on the shoulder and say – “ I think you would be great helping us with.....” It makes the experience of belonging to the club so much better.

See you soon, down the road;

- **Stephanie**

## Executive Officers

*President:*

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

Ed O'Connor  
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*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:*

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

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*Treasurer:*

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*Recording Secretary:*

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*Corresponding Secretary:*

Christine Whitney  
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*Past President:*

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*Parliamentarian:*

Vern Wirka  
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*Membership Chair:*

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*Newsletter Putertogether:*

Kirk Moore  
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Lewis Fogel from the South Florida Airstream Club made a few “suggestions” to the ChatGPT and the following poem was the result:



Airstream, oh Airstream, a silver dream,  
A symbol of adventure, an icon it seems.  
With curves and contours, a shape so sleek,  
It's a work of art, a sight to seek.

From coast to coast, it roams the land,  
A true American classic, always in demand.  
A home on wheels, a mobile retreat,  
Wherever it goes, it can't be beat.

Inside its walls, a cozy abode,  
With everything you need, to lighten your load.

A bed to rest, a kitchen to cook,  
A bathroom to freshen up, a perfect nook.

The road is calling, the Airstream awaits,  
To travel new lands, to explore new fates.  
A life on the move, with no end in sight,  
With an Airstream by your side, it's all right.

Airstream, oh Airstream, a silver dream,  
A symbol of freedom, or so it seems.  
A home on the go, a lifestyle supreme,  
An Airstream life, a traveler's theme

- Posted on the “Airstream Addicts” Facebook Group.

(And apparently our own **Glenda Ridgeway** had something to do with the naming of that group)

Printed with Mr. Fogel’s permission – although he wants to remind us that he didn’t write it – ChatGPT did.

## Upcoming Mo-Kan Club Activities

### LUNCHEONS

April 1, 2023 – 11:30am

#### Van Till Family Farm Winery

13986 Highway C, Rayville, MO

Hosts – Debra & Marvin Williams

913-240-1597

May & June

**No Luncheons in May or June  
due to schedule conflict with  
various Rally Dates**

### RALLIES

April 26 – 30, 2023

#### Region 8 Rally

**Sebetha, 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 1– 4, 2023

#### “Just-for Fun” Rally

**Melvern, KS**

Melvern Lake Outlet Campground

**Make your own site reservations at:**

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

June 24 - 30, 2023

#### Airstream Club Int’l Rally

**Rock Springs, WY**

Info and Registration at

[AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023](https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023)



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

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



#### Birthdays

Wayne Gurtler - 4/1

Frank Melton – 4/1

#### April Celebrations!

Delores Crain - 4/8

Rachel Hughey - 4/28

#### Anniversaries

Henry & Kerstin Roberts - 4/4

Glen & Pat Harris - 4/18

Larry & Linda Poage - 4/25

March Luncheon – Mar. 4, 2023  
Johnny's Tavern, Shawnee, KS



EXPERIENCES OF AN AIRSTREAM OWNER

***“On a trip to Los Angeles, I ruined the Dometic Refrigerator in my Flying Cloud.”***

**- John Bennet #1898**

I knew that parking on a grade would affect the refrigerator but I didn't know that it would be fatal. When I got home I checked with an Airstream dealer for a new refrigerator and was told that it would be about \$1,700. I went online and found a new one at Michigan RV Outfitters for \$800. They were great to deal with and delivery went smoothly.

My brother helped me take the broken refrigerator out which wasn't difficult. However, when reading the instructions for installing the new one I saw that the manufacturer specified that there should only be about an inch between the back of the fridge and the outside wall. (This was so that the air conducted by the fan on the back would pass through the fins at the top of the unit.) The problem was that Airstream put the refrigerator in a space with several inches behind it. The result was that air didn't have to pass through the fins and during high heat it was not efficient. Dometic's instructions were to put in a baffle to narrow the gap. My brother and I solved the problem for less than \$5. We fashioned a piece of sheet metal to direct all of the air over the fins. What we did was bend the metal so it would move all the air upward to the fan. We cut the sheet metal in half to fit it into the opening and then used duct tape to put it back together. A couple of small screws secured it to the bulkhead on the side, it weighed just a few ounces. All-in-all it took about an hour to build.

I feel good about how it works now and don't know why Airstream didn't follow the specifications from Dometic. All is well now and I would be happy to show our fix to anyone interested.

*If you have an Airstream Experience that you'd like to share with the club, write it up and send it to [KCUnitNews@gmail.com](mailto:KCUnitNews@gmail.com)*