



# Silver Times

March 2023



## 2022-2023 Unit Officers

President

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2nd Vice President

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Immediate Past President

Terry Pfliegaar #13303

Trustee's:

Kathy Yanke #7528

Pete Yanke #7528

Chuck Dodd #5153

Cordell Woods #5148

## *Brenda's Buzz*



Spring... Are we there yet?? Anybody else feeling like this is the forever winter? So how does the Schultz family spend these days when we are not shoveling?

Bart is still working but is retiring June 2nd! We didn't know that preparing for this is a full-time job, as we investigate various health insurances with parts A-Z. We are looking forward to a bit more freedom, enjoying time with family and friends, volunteering and spending more time in our Airstream.

My schedule is busy during the week tutoring students in reading. The Pandemic has left many students struggling and parents scrambling for supports.

Grandson #3 started hockey this year. We are thrilled that at least one of the grandkids live in Minnesota and close enough that we can watch his skills develop and the joy that the ice and team bring to him! He began the season a weak skater, unable to stop and certainly struggling to stick handle and skate at the same time. Happy to say that he had a great season and was probably the most improved player. Our other three grandchildren are out in the Denver area. COVID really put a damper on visiting opportunities while still working, as the drive is long, and we relied on flying. Looking forward to a visit the end of March.

We have been planning a cruise with some friends in April. We will be cruising the Western Mediterranean. We've made lots of plans on and off the ship. Shoveling is not one of them!

On March 28th the Lanesboro council meets and will decide whether we will have use of the other Park with 16 sites. If you are on the waitlist, I will let you know if a site is available. I will also be asking for volunteers to lend a hand with the overnight oatmeal for the rally. We will need several crockpots.

Minnesota Unit Website

<https://airstreamclub.org/minnesota>

Region 7 Website

<https://airstreamclub.org/members/region-07>

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At last year's fall rally, we discussed our club's interest in leaving a donation to a local charity in the cities we rally. A committee was formed to discuss this topic and bring a recommendation to the club. I am hoping this committee can bring a recommendation to the business meeting at the spring rally. I will send an email to the committee members.

Happy Spring...according to the calendar!

Regards,

Brenda



## Silent Auction!

There will be a silent auction at the Region 7 Rally in September benefitting 2 charities local to the area we will be at in Wisconsin: For Pete's Sake, and River Valley Commons. I am looking for donations for the Auction which can include handmade items or purchased items. Items can be brought to the Region 7 Rally if you are attending, or given to me at any upcoming rally I am at (Spring and Fall Rallies for MN, June Rally for Peace Garden Unit). Contact me if you need further information: 763-786-4217, or email at: [cwolsson@comcast.net](mailto:cwolsson@comcast.net).

Kay Olsson

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## *Welcome New MN Airstream Club Members*

Pam Bacon & Shane Miller #01494 – Avon, MN

James & Cindy Ehalt #19541 – Watertown, MN

Sharon Kaczmarczyk # 01662 – Wayzata, MN

Todd & Kari Hoffman #01589 – Saint Michael, MN

Tori Pearce #31961 – Woodbury, MN

Kristi & Christopher Harwell #01911 – Hudson, WI

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members when you see them!

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## *Club email Changes*

One advantage of being a Region VP is getting advanced notification of changes happening in the club. One of the changes coming this year is that the Airstream Club will be discontinuing all gmail accounts and moving everyone to a Microsoft Office account. This means that the email addresses ending in wbcci.net and airstreamclub.net will be discontinued. A new airstreamclub.org email will be provided for each club and region when the transaction takes place.

Looking at our MN Airstream Club, we currently have 5 airstreamclub.net emails that we use. One for the President, one for the First VP, one for the Membership Chair, one for the Treasurer, and one for the Webmaster. Once the change is made, our club will be provided with one Airstreamclub.org email address free of charge. Additional email addresses can be purchased for an annual fee of \$72.

Basically, I'm giving everyone a heads up on this, and I think it's something we need to discuss at the Spring Rally Business meeting (Kay added to the agenda).

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## 2022 - 2023 MN Airstream Club Schedule

Event	Location	Dates	Host/Leader
Spring Rally	Sylvan Park Campground Lanesboro, MN	May 11 - 14, 2023	Brenda Schultz
<p>Link to rally info on our website: <a href="https://airstreamclub.org/mn-airstream-club-spring-rally-0">https://airstreamclub.org/mn-airstream-club-spring-rally-0</a></p>			
<p>Note: Registration at Sylvan Park is currently full, but we are looking to add 16 additional campsites at Riverview Park. Use the rally link above to be added to the waitlist. Watch for email update in the next week or so.</p>			
Caravan to International	Various  <a href="#">See page 6</a>	Start June 17 <sup>th</sup> Arrive on Friday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pete Yanke
International Rally	Rock Springs Wyoming	June 24 - 30, 2023	
Tag-a-Long Caravan From International	Various  <a href="#">See page 7</a>	Start June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Skip & Jan Chell
Duluth Rally	Indian Point Campground	July 27 - 30, 2023	Richard Narum
<p><a href="#">Watch for a registration email with more information in the next couple of weeks.</a></p>			

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## 2022 - 2023 MN Airstream Club Schedule (cont)

Event	Location	Dates	Host/Leader
Northfield Rally	Northfield, MN	Aug 10-13, 2023	Pamela Rawn
		<a href="#">Watch for a registration email with more information in the next couple of weeks.</a>	
Fall Installation Rally	MN Airstream Park Clear Lake, MN	Sept 7 - 10, 2023	Brenda Schultz
		<a href="#">Registration for campsites is open. See page 8.</a>	
Region 7 Rally	Wisconsin Riverside Resort Spring Green, WI	Sept 15 - 21, 2023	Ginger Slattery Region 7 President
		<a href="#">Link to online information:</a> <a href="https://airstreamclub.org/region-7-spring-green-rally-2023">https://airstreamclub.org/region-7-spring-green-rally-2023</a> <a href="#">Call the resort any time before the end of April to reserve a spot. Phone number is 608-588-2826.</a> <a href="#">See Silent Auction information on page 2.</a>	
Looking forward:	2024 Region 7 Rally is scheduled for September 12 - 19 in Spearfish, SD at Elkhorn Ridge Resort in the Black Hills area. See page 17 for more information.		
	2024 International Rally is scheduled for October 6-11 in Sedalia, MO.		

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## *Caravan to International*

We have a caravan. It will be slow moving covering only a couple of hundred miles a day. There will be 2 nights spent in the Southern part of the Black Hills near Hot Springs, SD. This will allow a little down time and some possible touristy things. This is a hop on/ hop off caravan. You will be making your own reservations and can leave or join at any point in the trip.

I will provide the campground info for my planned stops. If you would like the details, please send me your contact info ([pyanke@aol.com](mailto:pyanke@aol.com)). I would like your name, phone, BRN, and email. If you have already sent the info no need to resend.

As parking is done in arrival order, I will try to scope out meeting area for the caravan and those that care to park together if not with the caravan. If you have scheduled a parking date other than the 23<sup>rd</sup>, adjustments can be made thru HQ.

Travel Safe

Pete and Kathy Yanke

7528

[pyanke@aol.com](mailto:pyanke@aol.com)

Being the editor, I get to inject a note here. 😊

If you like trains, there's an 1880 Steam Train (<https://www.1880train.com>) that runs out of Hill City, SD, which is about 45 miles north of Hot Springs, SD. Maps says it's about an hour drive up US 385. Another plus is you would drive past the Crazy Horse Monument.

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## *Tag-a-Long Caravan from International*

Skip & Jan Chell

Jan and I are planning our route back to Minnesota from the Wyoming Rally. We're looking to travel up through Idaho, then just over into Washington, then back through Montana and North Dakota to fill in our map. Anyone else want to travel along?



Editor's note: The map is kind of fuzzy, but I think you'll get the idea of where they are going.

If interested or if you want more information, please contact Skip & Jan Chell at: [mnychells@icloud.com](mailto:mnychells@icloud.com)



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## *Fall Installation Rally*

The Fall Rally will be held at the Minnesota Airstream Park in Clear Lake, MN. Use the information below to reserve a campsite if you are not a member of the park. Please note that the Group Code is mnwbcci23, and not mnwbcc123 (it's an i and not a 1).

The Minnesota Airstream Park online rental reservations system is now live. All available sites for the Fall Installation rally have been set aside in a "group hold" that expires June 1, 2023, only accessible with the code provided below. There are currently 16 sites throughout the Park for rent that weekend, with an option to expand at a later point, if needed. Any rental sites still available after June 1, 2023 will be released to the general public.

To book a site using the Group Hold, go to:

<https://app.fireflyreservations.com/reserve/property/MinnesotaAirstreamPark>

Fill out the search fields in the reservation portal and use the Group Code: mnwbcci23

Any campsite reservation specific questions should be directed to [reservations@airstreampark.com](mailto:reservations@airstreampark.com)

If all of the campsites are full, you will automatically be put on a waitlist by the Airstream Park. As of the date of this newsletter, there are 3 campsites still available.

Rally Registration, where you pay the rally fees and register to attend the rally, will be forthcoming. The first thing to do is reserve a campsite if you want to attend.



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## *Valentine's Party*

We met at The Tavern Grill in Blaine on February 11<sup>th</sup> for lunch and fellowship. Here are some pictures of the get together. Pictures taken by Carrie Ensign.



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## **This and That** **R7 President Ginger Slattery**

It's March! Is everyone getting a little spring fever yet? I sure am! Can't wait until it's warm enough to get the Silver Twinkie ready for camping! I'm ready for rallies and seeing everyone again! Winter can be so isolating.

I am including a list I compiled of all the club rallies in our region in case anyone wants to explore another club! (ed. – see page 15) All 3 of our clubs have such unique and fun personalities! I've enjoyed getting to know you all!

Speaking of rallies, for International in June, I have included the information for the Region 7 Lunch! (ed. – see page 16) Most attendees last year in Maine said breakfast was too early! I listened! A few have already inquired about it so if you have any questions at all, let me know!

Also, please mark your rally calendars that the Region Meet and Greet will be Tuesday, June 27 from 4-6 pm. Once again, Lizann Skelton and Anita Olson are graciously co-hosting! Thank you, Ladies! This year, I was able to reserve a pavilion with bathrooms, near a playground and lots of parking so if we are blessed with liquid sunshine again this year, we will not have to curtail our fun!

The "Spring into Fall" Region Rally is September 15-21 in Spring Green, WI. Planning is still under way, but sites have to be reserved early by April 30, so please contact the Wisconsin Riverside Resort at (608)588-2826 to make your reservation. Let them know you are with the Airstream group!

Kay Olsson is organizing the Silent Auction to benefit 2 local charities. I know we have many talented members! Please contact her if you have any questions or to let her know what you will be donating. She can be reached at (612)751-9778 or at [cwolsson@comcast.net](mailto:cwolsson@comcast.net).

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The quarterly IBT was held via Zoom on February 23. Much of our time is taken up with all the reorganization the membership voted on last year. I will go into more detail in the Region newsletter I hope to get out in the next couple of weeks also!

One item was postponed to the May IBT so we could get membership feedback. It pertains to the BRNs (Big Red Numbers for our newbies!) The current policy as written states:

## 16.6.10 Airstream Numbers (7/19/21)

16.6.10, D, 2. 4, a. The display of Airstream Numbers **is required during club activities** to assist with the identification and location of club members for logistics and safety (e.g., first responder) considerations.

Many people now do not like putting the BRNs on their camper for a variety of reasons. I have seen clever ways of displaying those numbers without attaching them to the rig. Think of the upcoming sold-out rally in Wyoming. 1284 rigs so far will be attending. Can you imagine trying to find somebody without the BRNs showing in some fashion?

What say you? Should the policy stand as written or should there be wording to allow alternative ways to display those all-important numbers? Please let me know your thoughts by April 15. Thanks!

Email is [virginiabslattery@gmail.com](mailto:virginiabslattery@gmail.com) or text me at 906-250-6931. Please tell me who you are, club, BRN!

In the meantime, keep smiling and looking forward to camping!

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## R7 2023 RALLY CALENDAR

May 5-7 Wisc-UP Spring Business Meeting & Rally @ Wyalusing State Park @ the Homestead sites 245-255

Hosts: Mary & Kurt Jorgensen

May 10-12 IBT Planning Session In person @ Jackson Center, Oh

May 11-14 MN Spring Rally @ Sylvan Park Campground

Host: Brenda Schultz

June 1-4 NDPG "Spring Shake Out Winter Rally" @ Hazel, ND @ Lewis & Clark RV Park

June 24-30 66th International Rally @ Rock Springs, WY

July 20-23 NDPG "Summertime Fun Rally" @ Teflon, Manitoba, Canada @ Teflon RV Park

July 20-30 Wisc-UP Lower Door County Rally

Hosts: Ed & Sandy Emerick

July 27-30 MN Duluth Rally @ Indian Point Campground

Host: Richard Narum

Aug 2-6 Wisc-UP "Kids, Kids, Kids Rally" Place TBD

Host: Bree Moore-Lawrence

Aug 17-20 Wisc-UP Monroe County Cheese Rally

Hosts: Linda & Chuck Meinholz

Aug 10-13 MN Northfield Rally, @ Northfield, MN

Host: Pamela Rawn

Sept 7-10 MN Fall Installation Rally @ MN Airstream Park

Host: Brenda Schultz

Sept 15-21 "Spring Into Fall In Spring Green" Region 7 Rally @ Wisconsin Riverside Resort

Host: Ginger Slattery

Sept 14-17 NDPG "Let The Leaves Fall" Installation and Buddy Rally @ 109 RV Park Big Stone City, SD

Oct 12-15 Wisc-UP Fall Business Meeting & Rally @ TBD

66th WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY



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## REGION 7 BUFFET LUNCH

When: Monday, June 26 from 11:30 am to 1:00pm  
Where: Santa Fe Southwest Grill  
1635 Elk St, Rock Springs, WY 82901  
Who: Region 7 Attendees, Families and Friends  
Cost: \$26.00/person (Includes tax and tip but not beverage)

Hello Happy Campers! I listened to all who attended breakfast last year! This year, we're doing an all-you-can-eat Mexican Buffet! Buffet includes beef & chicken enchiladas, hard & soft tacos, green chili, bean burritos, rice, beans, homemade chips & salsa and sopapillas. (Nothing too spicy) Unfortunately, beverages are not included since Covid.

Because the International Rally is so early this year, please sign up as soon as possible - June 1st so we can get a count to the caterer. Thank you!

Please send registration and check made out to **WBCCI Region 7** to:

Chuck Zeller  
400 Garland Ct,  
Waukesha WI 53188

Have Questions? Call/text Ginger at 906-250-6931.

I'm so excited to see you all at Rock Springs!

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Cut and mail below to Chuck

### Rock Springs Mexican Buffet Registration

BRN: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Amt pd (\$26.00 each): \_\_\_\_\_ (make check payable to **WBCCI Region 7**)

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## 2024 Region 7 Rally

Dates: September 12 - 19, 2024  
Location: Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort in the Black Hills area  
20189 US Hwy 85  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
Phone: (605) 722-1800  
Website: <https://elkhornridgeresort.com>  
Host: Chris Olsson ([cwolsson@comcast.net](mailto:cwolsson@comcast.net))

We have 45 sites reserved for the rally. All are pull-through sites with full hookups in one area of the campground. We are working on the planning for the rally. Some of the things we're looking at are:

- Buffalo feeding tour
- Golf outing
- Bus tours of the Black Hills area
- A potluck dinner
- Happy Hours and campfires
- A catered dinner on the last night

You can call and reserve a campsite anytime. The sites are being held until 2 months before the rally. 2023 costs are ~\$70 per night. There is a weekly rate plus they offer Good Sam, AAA, Military/Veteran, First Responder/Nurse discounts.

If you call to reserve a site, let them know you are with the Region 7 Airstream Rally.

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*If you were wondering...*

Got a question about the Wally Byam Airstream Club (aka, WBAC or WBCCI) or the MN Airstream Club? Wondering who you can talk to? These wonderful people are more than happy to hear from you and help answer your questions. Please feel free to email them. Your question may be forwarded to and answered by another member on the MN Airstream Club.

President	Brenda	<a href="mailto:055president@airstreamclub.net">055president@airstreamclub.net</a>
1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice-president	Vernon	<a href="mailto:055vicepresident@airstreamclub.net">055vicepresident@airstreamclub.net</a>
Membership Chair	Daryl	<a href="mailto:055membershipchair@airstreamclub.net">055membershipchair@airstreamclub.net</a>
Webmaster	Chris	<a href="mailto:055info@airstreamclub.net">055info@airstreamclub.net</a>

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*On the following pages are various articles and pictures sent in by fellow club members. Enjoy!*

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*From Eric Jensen*



Eric Jensen and Deb Metcalfe were in Florida for January and February staying at Boyd's RV Campground in Key Wey. This was a great experience as Key West has much to do. Beach lounging, fishing, pool socialization with other campers, dining out – there was a plethora of outstanding experiences. Boyd's is unique. It caters to all types of campers at its beachfront park. From large motor homes to scouts tenting on sites overlooking the ocean, this park really is a collection of diverse camping styles. It is also nearby the local Naval Air Base where we were entertained with multiple fighter jets, helicopters and cargo planes coming and going. Key West is friendly to bikers, hikers, scooters, and e bikes.





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Lastly, chickens are a protected species on Key West. We were awakened early every morning by the Roosters crowing their location! We are now heading to the Georgia on my Mind Caravan for March. More on that in future editions.



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## *From Pam Rawn*

Get out of your bubble to expand your world. In our experience, Airstreamers are the best community and we love meeting people from all backgrounds and walks of life. The best (and easiest) way we've found to make new, real connections is to attend other club's rallies.

We were first introduced to the concept of trip planning to include attending other club's rallies at OUR first rally as affiliates. As we attended a rally with one of the Florida clubs (with our Minnesota Airstream Park neighbors), we met a couple also attending as affiliates. They were from an out of state club, knew none of the local members prior to the event and were heading to the Florida Keys while hitting several rallies with multiple clubs on their route. The idea of planning a trip to purposely include stops at other club's events had never occurred to us and sounded genius! My route planning will never be the same again!

As of today, we have attended rallies as affiliates with three different clubs in three different states. Each one has brought us new friends and new connections across the country. Imagine having Airstream friends spread across the country that you enjoy spending time with and having future meetup possibilities! We're so grateful for the new friendships we've made and look forward to seeing our friends from all over the country "down the road".

Pamela and Dave Rawn 9757



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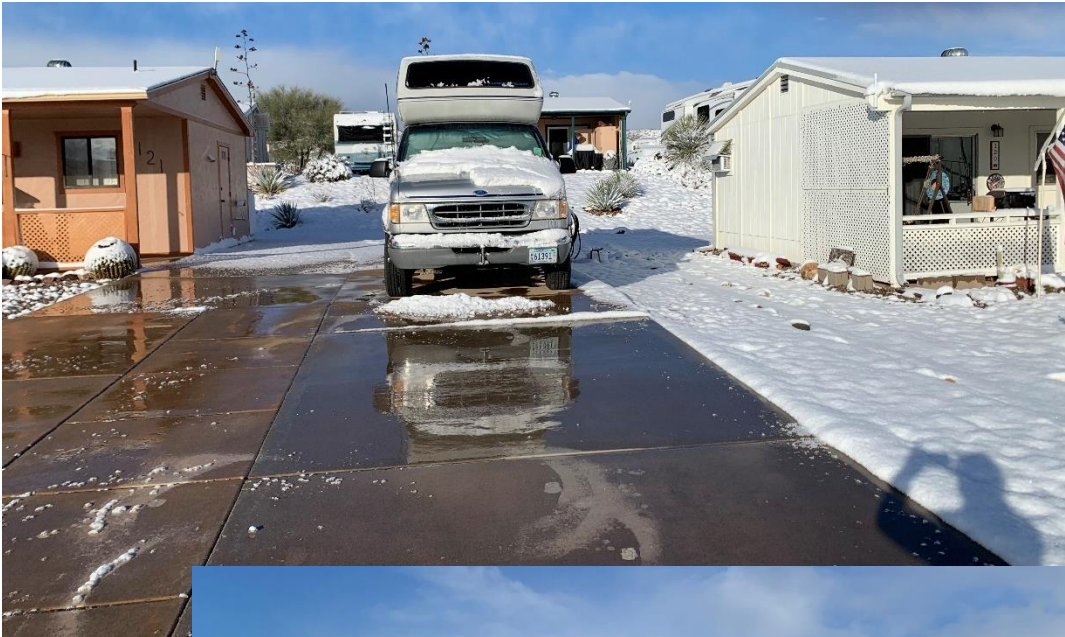




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*From Linda Agre*

The Munro's came to visit me at my favorite Arizona RV Park, the Saguaro Coop in Benson, AZ and they opened up their trunk! Out came Minnesota weather and last night we had 6 inches of snow. I snapped a couple of pictures which I sent to my Minnesota daughter and was told to be glad it wasn't 6 feet! The good news is temps are expected to climb into the 70's by the weekend.



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*From Kim Andrews*

Picture of our trailer in the snow in Minnesota. Hoping that it will be gone by mid-April, when we plan our first trip.

Kim in Minnesota





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## *From Shelli Stanger Nelson*

### **Mending the Broken Heart: A lesson in community**

By Shelli Stanger Nelson, Integrative Psychotherapist, RN, BS

I tend to write about love and the heart a good deal. Probably because I worked for twenty-five years as a cardiovascular nurse clinician. And probably because my education and work as an integrative relationship psychotherapist informs me that feeling we are loved is the most important nourishment humans require from cradle to grave.

Dying of a broken heart is a documented phenomenon in scientific literature. For real. We are all aware that coronary heart disease is one of the top morbidities of the Western world. In my work at the hospital, I saw first-hand that, despite gallant efforts, people were still dying from heart attacks and heart-related illness too often. The causes of heart problems are not limited to common risk factors understood by most people. These risk factors include the use of tobacco products, uncontrolled high blood pressure, a lifestyle that doesn't include aerobic exercise at least five times a week, diabetes, elevated "bad" cholesterol, stress and others. But what of the emotional situations that can negatively impact heart health and the risk factors associated with heart disease mentioned above? And what can we do to mitigate the adverse emotional impact to our heart health? Our Airstream community can be a salve with hidden healing properties.

Some years ago, I had the pleasure of hearing Dr. James Lynch, PhD, lecture on the noteworthy topic of the many medical infirmities created by loneliness and isolation. Lynch, a psychologist, researcher and author, is considered a pioneer on the topic of the health implications of loneliness and social isolation. Lynch has authored three books on the subject: "The Broken Heart: The Medical Consequences of Loneliness (1976), The Language of the Heart: The Human Body in Dialogue (1985) and A Cry Unheard: New insights into the Medical Consequences of Loneliness (2000).

Lynch made his discoveries as a byproduct of research he was doing in the 1960's at Johns Hopkins University. The researchers were attempting to create elevated blood pressures in canines in order to develop medications to treat hypertension in humans. By accident he discovered that interactions with humans, namely petting the dogs, dropped the blood pressure in the animal by up to 50%.

From there he went on to ask the question: "If humans can affect the cardiovascular system of animals, can humans affect humans in similar ways?"

What was found was that even the most transient episodes of human touch positively changed blood pressure and heart rate. Even when a nurse touched a patient's wrist to count the pulse the cardiovascular system responded in a favorable manner.

From here the question was asked, "If these temporary periods of contact had such a positive effect on the human heart, how does the absence of contact and isolation over time influence heart and vascular health?"

The world has just been through the most catastrophic pandemic in over 100 years. We all experienced an abrupt change in our ability to gather socially. Whether a person believes the changes were necessary is not the focus of this

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article. Rather, it's to understand more fully how all types of isolation and loneliness are bad actors when it comes to our heart health and how our Airstream community plays an important role in reducing feelings of separation and disconnection. And in turn, how being involved with rallies and caravans promotes better heart health, reduces stress and leads to a more satisfied life.

Early on in Lynch's research studies something interesting was discovered: when people speak, blood pressure rises-across the board-and nothing brings it down. The only outlier to this was in the presence of schizophrenia. It is a normal part of physiology that talking produces a stress response in the body. Of course, the topic one speaks about has a direct correlation to the degree of rise in blood pressure. The research also revealed when people listen, blood pressure falls. What's more, the data showed that when the research participants reported they felt affirmed or "heard" by the listener, blood pressure fell the very most.

The end result is that Lynch and his colleagues proved through clinical research over an extended period of time that communication from the body-meaning face-to-face interactions, significantly decreased risk factors for coronary artery disease.

Stress and stress-related illness is now one of the top five most common infirmities in the world as reported by the World Health Organization. Stress is a major component of worsening cholesterol levels and high blood sugar levels. High blood sugar requires the hormone insulin to be released either via the pancreas or by external methods. Increased insulin levels, in turn, increases tummy fat. Increased abdominal girth plus other factors like high blood pressure and stress are a bad combination. Ultimately what we see here is what is known as "metabolic syndrome"-one of the highest predictors of heart disease. Social companionship dramatically reduces stress and, in turn, the physiological affects like those mentioned above, without pills or therapy sessions. The mere act of talking, listening and validating our comrade improves both emotional and physical health.

Airstream founder Wally Byam understood the incredible social value of belonging to a community when he and others launched the novel idea to caravan together in their Airstream trailers. What he probably didn't realize was how club life would enhance and improve one's physical health. Today we find ourselves in an era where in-person gatherings and communication is being eclipsed by texting, social media and video. Speaking as a relationship therapist, I wonder if these technologies are creating a society that fails to see the importance of community, fellowship and lacks the talent of being together.

I hope this article motivates the reader to attend as many state and international rallies as possible. Together we share a passion for Airstream life. Within this passion we meet others who, though differently nuanced, carry stories similar to our own. It's the commonalities between us that allow us to listen with rapture and invest in alliances and fellowship that's long-lived. Besides an opportunity to make friends and build a strong sense of belonging, we can now claim that attending rallies is a therapeutic tool to combat stress and heart disease!

May you have safe and joy-filled travels.

Shelli BRN #4062

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*From Erik Lee*



Here is me on the beach in Aitutaki, Cook Islands.

This seems like a cruel thing to do to you Chris...

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## *From Sharon Ramler*

In February our daughter, Patti, son-in-law, Jason, & grandchildren, Hailey & Carter Kubat, came to spend a few days with us in Arizona. One day we went for a hike on the “Wild Burro Trail” at Lake Pleasant Regional Park a few miles north of our park. We had brought along a few oranges to have for a break while on our hike. We had taken a break & ate about half of the oranges. Patti then carried the bag with the orange peels & the uneaten oranges as we continued on our hike. Sharon was taking up the rear of our group as we hiked. Periodically I’d turn around to see if bikers or faster walkers were coming up behind us.





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Once when I turned around guess what I saw — about 10 feet behind us was a wild burro walking along about at our pace. The first thing I did was take a picture of it; then I turned around & announced that someone had joined us on the hike. As everyone turned around to look I stepped aside & let the burro go past me. But it refused to go right past Patti (who was holding the oranges). His nose went straight for the bag. Patti stepped off of the trail & dropped the bag of oranges on the ground.



We proceeded to watch the burro peel half of an orange with his mouth & eat the whole orange. Then he nosed into the bag & got another one. At that point we decided to continue on our hike. What an experience that was as we hiked the “Wild Burro Trail”!



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## *Also From Sharon Ramler*



Sharon and Harry Ramler spent the winter in Sun City, Arizona, at Paradise RV Resort. Paradise is a mix of recreational Vehicles and pre-manufactured Park Models. One of the many activities we can partake in is Fiber Arts. Sharon has been busy making different projects as shown in the photo. Going from left to right: A “dress” hand towel made for over the oven door. Behind it is a blue-&-black bowl made from clothesline rope wrapped in material & sewed together. Behind the bowl is a pink “Flamingo” beach bag. To the right is a bowl in the foreground that is made of rolled up newspapers. There are 2 bowls with painted pinecones. In front of those bowls are 2 small painted pinecones. Behind this 2 bowls is another yellow-&-green clothesline rope bowl. Next in the front is a pair of green “cactus” pillow cases. Behind them is a napkin-decorated cigar box. In front of the cigar box is a small wool-felted mushroom. To its right is a small coaster made from pine needles. On Sharon's far left side are 9 seasonal table runners. Sharon has her hands on a small blue quilt she has made.

This winter Harry got a new set of golf clubs & has spent most of his time golfing as well as practicing putting & chipping, sometimes with good results (& once in a while a little disappointing). No matter if he golfs well or not he enjoys the group of guys who pick him up 3 times a week before sunrise to go golfing.

It has been a fun and interesting winter talking and laughing with old friends & making new friends, sometimes “discussing how the wives can improve their husbands” (that’s Harry’s note!). We hope all our Airstream friends had a happy and safe winter.

# Silver Times

## *Newsletter Editor Ramblings*

Absolutely nothing to do with Airstreams this month. Except we are waiting for warm enough weather so we can get out and do the floor repair in Little Girl.

Winter activities are pretty much Kay does quilting and I do woodworking and work on my model railroad. We both have kind of special projects we are working on for our oldest granddaughter, Katie. She's graduating from college in June and then getting married the end of July. Her fiancé is currently in the Marines, and he will be discharged early June I think.

Kay has been working on a Hawaiian Quilt for Katie for her graduation. Kay has the top completed and is currently downstairs in her sewing room quilting it. It's quite pretty and impressive, especially once you know that she hand-stitched the dark blue fabric onto the light blue background, following the traditional methods Hawaiian Quilts are made. The picture is the quilt top laid out on our bed.





# Silver Times

Breaking news - she finished quilting it! She still needs to sew the binding on it after she squares it up (quilting people will understand).

The pic to the right shows some of the quilting on part of the quilt.



The pic above to the left is a wall hanging she bought in Wasilla, AK. She finished it a couple of weeks ago. I am always soooooo impressed that Kay (and other quilters I know) is so precise in the corners and piecing in the quilts she makes.



# Silver Times

I'm also making Katie presents - two bowls.



The heart bowl is a wedding shower present and the candy cane bowl is part of her wedding present. We decided to go with a Christmas theme for their wedding present and this bowl is a part of that. The black spot you can see toward the bottom of the candy cane is a hidden defect in the wood that didn't show up until I milled the inside of the bowl. So, it's adding character... 😊 The candy cane is made with maple and American padauk, and the heart bowl is African padauk.

I have also been working on the railroad - my model railroad specifically. This is my first completely finished scene, showing an old barn that fallen into disrepair on top of a hill. Hoping Barnwood Builders make me an offer before it falls down! 😊



# Silver Times

While the barn is my first completed scene, I have quite a bit more railroad to add scenery to as shown in the pic below. The barn is way back in the left-hand corner under the red arrow to put in perspective. This should keep me busy over many winter months to come.



Next time I hope to show you progress in repairing the floor in Little Girl.

Until next time, safe travels.

Chris

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