



CIAC The Ticker



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Central Indiana Airstream Club – May, 2023

Spring Opener at Spring Mill— A Fiesta of Fun!



Space still available!!

Join us for our fun filled season opener at Spring Mill State Park on May 5th—7th. Hosts Thomas and Tammy Price have a Cindo de Mayo Happy Hour on Friday as well as a Fiesta Dinner for Saturday planned and MUCH MORE so you don't want to miss it. Don't forget—Woodland Airstream is sponsoring this rally and will be donating items for a raffle to be awarded on Saturday night.

Raffle tickets can be earned by the following:

- ✂ Can food items will be collected and distributed to a local food bank in our camping areas. 5 can goods = 1 raffle ticket.
- ✂ Diapers will be collected to be transported to the International Rally in Rock Springs, WY. 1 box of diapers = 10 raffle tickets.
- ✂ Cash donations will be used to purchase diapers to be distributed at the International Rally. \$5 donation = 1 raffle ticket.

Event Calendar

CIAC Season Opener
May 5th – 7th
Spring Mill State Park
3333 State Road 60 E.
Mitchell, IN 47446
[Online Reservations](#)

Old National Road—West
Caravan
May 16th – 25th
Richmond KOA
3101 Cart Road
Richmond, IN, 47374
[Caravan Information](#)

Airstream Club International
Quarterly Membership
Campfire Chat
May 24th, 7:-00 pm ET
With ACI's President and
Corporate Manager

2023 International Rally
June 24th – 30th
Rock Springs, WY
[Rally Information](#)

CIAC Mid Summer Rally
July 14th – 16th
Indiana Dunes State Park
1215 SR-49
Porter, IN 46304



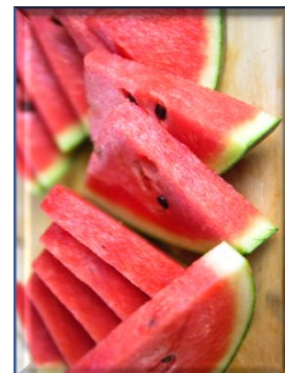
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Recipe Round Up ~ SALSA!!

These salsas are an ideal accompaniment for grilled shrimp, chicken, turkey or simply served with tortilla chips!

Chunky Watermelon Salsa

- 🌀 1 lime
- 🌀 2 cups 1/2" pieces seeded watermelon
- 🌀 1 cup 1/2" pieces seeded peeled cucumber
- 🌀 1/4 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 🌀 2 TB minced fresh cilantro
- 🌀 2 tsp minced seeded jalapeño pepper
- 🌀 1 tsp sugar



Using a small sharp knife, cut peel and white pith from lime. Cut lime into 1/4" pieces. Place in med bowl. Add all remaining ingredients to same bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Toss to blend. Cover and refrigerate at least 30 min. (Can be prepared 2 hours ahead.)



Pineapple Salsa

- 🌀 8 oz. can pineapple tidbits, drained
- 🌀 2 TB orange marmalade
- 🌀 1 TB chopped fresh cilantro
- 🌀 2 tsp minced seeded jalapeno peppers
- 🌀 1 TB lime juice
- 🌀 1/4 tsp salt
- 🌀 dash white pepper

Combine all ingredients in a small bowl. Cover and refrigerate 1-2 hours to blend flavors. *Note: You can use 1 cup fresh diced pineapple instead of the canned tidbits if you'd like.* Author/Chef unknown

Welcome New Members!

Extending a warm welcome to some of our newest members and affiliate members ~

- * Theresa Goodwin – Greenwood, IN 2023 International, BRN 19626
- * Anthony & Sulayne Kaelin - Otisco, IN, 2018 Airstream, BRN 02438
- * Lawrence & Dorothy Stark - Greensburg, IN, 2023 Airstream, BRN 02478



Event Calendar

Event Calendar Continued ~

CIAC Grandchildren &
Buddy Rally
August 4th – 6th
Prophetstown State Park
5545 Swisher Road
West Lafayette, IN 47906
[Online Reservations](#)

Alumapalooza 2023
September 5th – 10th
Airstream Factory
Jackson Center, OH
(aka "The Mothership")
[Registration info](#)

Region 5 Rally
September 13th – 17th
Kentucky Horse Park
Campground
4089 Iron Works Pike
Lexington, KY, 40511

60th Annual Swiss Festival
National Rally
September 23rd – October 1st
Winklepleck Grove
Sugarcreek, Ohio 44681
[Online Registration](#)

CIAC Season Closer
October 13th – 15th
Turkey Run State Park
8121 E. Park Road
Marshall, IN 47859
[Online Reservations](#)



Central Indiana Airstream Club – May, 2023

What is it??

Here is this month's photo question. Macro photography is extreme close up photography in which everyday items can be unrecognizable. What is this a photo of? We'll have the answer for you in the next edition of The Ticker!



Photo Credit: ANDREY ARMYAGOV/SHUTTERSTOCK

Old National Road Caravan stopping in Indianapolis

The Old National Road Caravan is coming to town Friday May 19th and Saturday, May 20th and you're invited to join us for one or both days!

On Friday, May 19th - join us for history highlights tour of Indianapolis!

Enjoy a fun day of sightseeing, a terrific lunch at a historic restaurant, and the camaraderie of fellow Airstreamers. Find out what life is like on a caravan - get all your questions answered This is the sightseeing tour we have planned: Bus from Hendricks Co Fair Campground to the Indiana State House - Guided tour of the Statehouse Bus to Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site; guided tour Bus to Lunch and tour at the Slippery Noodle Bus to Indiana War Memorial - *self-guided tour*. Saturday, May 20th, a group is planning to go the Indianapolis Motor Speedway!

Tom Price will be organizing a group of caravaners to visit the Indianapolis Speedway. We will meet as a group, visit the Motor Speedway Museum, and then stay to watch racing action on the first day of Qualifying for the 2023 Indianapolis 500! The beginning of the day will be organized as a group; after the museum, everyone will be on their own to stay or depart as they wish.

SO - if you want to join us for one or both days, let us know! Space on the bus is limited! The bus tour, including lunch at Slippery Noodle, will be \$48.00 per person. You will pay entrance to the speedway and museum on the day of the event: \$20 gate fee and \$15.00 museum entry fee.

Email Vicki Ketchum: vicketchum@gmail.com for more info or to sign up!



The Natchez Trace and Outer Space: Part I

A Travel Diary by Member Candice Kissinger

As soon as we finished winterizing the trailer last Fall, we began to think about where we might travel in 2023. We wanted to revisit the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, an organization we had supported as donors since its inception. After a decade, it was time to return and view the new exhibits. We read about the inaugural ‘Cruisin’ The Natchez Trace’ caravan in Blue Beret magazine and thought it might be possible to combine these destinations. The WBAC organizers advised that the Caravan was sold out for 2023 and filling up fast for 2024. I did some research and contacted NatchezTraceTravel.com (P.O. Box 155, White House, TN 37188), gaining an excellent collection of materials to plan my own trip. Using my usual tools (RVTripWizard, tips from Airstream Addicts/Facebook, etc.), I was able to make campground reservations along what ended up being a 2,027 mile route from West Lafayette, IN to Louisville, KY, Nashville, TN, the entire length of the Natchez Trace (Nashville, TN to Natchez, MS), New Orleans, and a return through Alabama (Mobile, Montgomery) so we could visit the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL.

Last year, I used a KOA campground for the first time. I had always avoided them, thinking that staying there violated some unwritten code of Airstream ethics. However, when I needed a couple of overnight stops in 2022, I found KOA to be clean, consistent, reliable (full hookups with everything functional), easy to book and a very handy way to get a refill for a propane tank. Usually, I was able to get a pull-through site...much appreciated after a long day of driving. They were also secure and more appealing than a noisy night spent in the parking lot of Walmart or Cracker Barrel. As I describe the trip, you will notice one-night KOA stops before and after the Natchez Trace.

We departed West Lafayette on March 29th, 2023 with our still winterized trailer in tow. We would get it flushed, sanitized and ready at our first stop: a KOA south of Louisville (***). Along the way, we passed Seymour, IN and called up some John Mellencamp music to honor their favorite son. The early spring weather was cool but pleasant. After de-winterizing, everything worked...a great start to the trip!



The next day we headed towards Nashville with Johnny Cash setting the musical mood. Just before crossing the KY-TN border, we passed the construction site for a mega-factory in Kentucky being built to manufacture batteries for Ford electric vehicles. The weather was considerably warmer as we pulled into our site at the KOA (***) close to the Grand Old Opry. After a quick setup, we enjoyed a family-style Southern meal at Paula Deen’s restaurant nearby to satisfy cravings for fried chicken, collard greens, sweet potatoes and big fluffy biscuits with butter. With the unknown territory of the Trace ahead, our meal plans were to be self-sustaining and we picked up additional groceries

sufficient for several days.

Getting out of Nashville and finding the starting point for the Trace was a bit tricky but Exit 192 on I-40 had a sign pointing out the Natchez Trace Parkway (NTP), which leads to McCrory Lane, terminating at State Rd 100, a quick right turn and another big sign. We entered a road presenting lots of twists, turns, and hills ahead.

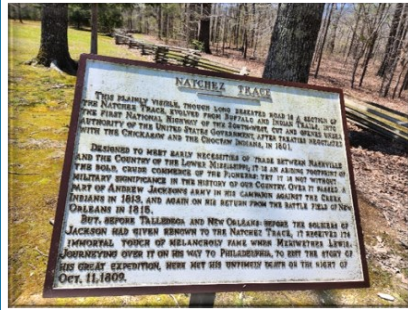
Candice and Pete Kissinger have been Airstreaming since the purchase of their 2019 International Serenity 23FB. They tow BRN 3227 (The Parrot Palace) with a 2019 GMC Sierra Denali and are supervised by their winged overlords: Winston and Clementine (a pair of Indian Ringneck parrots who rule the back seat and make witty comments about the traffic, weather and driving skills of their hapless minions). A birdy rating system is used in this essay to indicate inferior () to superior (****) camping experiences encountered on this trip.*

Editor’s Note: Winton & Clementine’s original rating symbol was a parrot. Unfortunately due to my publishing challenges, it had to be revised to a much less exciting star.

Natchez Trace and Outer Space Route

March 29–April 16, 2023

- Home (West Lafayette IN)
236 miles
- Louisville South KOA
(Shepherdsville KY)
154 miles
- Nashville Opry KOA
(Nashville TN)
84 miles
- Fall Hollow Campground
(Hohenwald TN)
144 miles
- Barnes Crossing
Campground (Tupelo MS)
184 miles
- Spring Ridge RV Park
(Jackson/Clinton MS)
95 miles
- Riverview RV Park (Vidalia
LA)
165 miles
- French Quarter RV Resort
(New Orleans LA)
161 miles
- River Delta Marina &
Campground (Creola AL)
161 miles
- Montgomery KOA
(Montgomery AL)
197 miles
- US Space and Rocket
Center Campground
(Huntsville AL)
185 miles
- KOA (Bowling Green KY)
132 miles
- Charlestown State Park
(Charlestown IN)
178 miles
- Carmel IN and then home
(West Lafayette IN)



Nashville is actually the end of the Trace, from a historical perspective. Its original travelers were the Kentucky traders (“Kaintucks”) who loaded flat boats on the Ohio River with goods to be sold in Natchez on the Mississippi River. They sold the boats too because those were the days before steam engines existed to return boats upstream. Using profits from the sale of the boat and merchandise, each merchant bought a horse and supplies and then followed the old Buffalo trail from

Natchez all the way home to Tennessee/Kentucky. The organizers of the WBAC caravan were traveling from Natchez to Nashville. We were doing it backwards. Today, the entire length of the 2-lane parkway is a single National Park, run by the U.S. Department of the Interior. It features mile markers that were referenced on the maps we obtained. There are countless brown signs with white letters advising the distance to waterfalls, overlooks, rivers, picnic tables, prehistoric mounds, historic sites, and wild turkey crossings with lovely turnouts that make it easy to pull a tow vehicle and trailer off the road for a quick look. Traffic is restricted to small vehicles, with campers and trailers allowed but no large commercial vehicles. Some of the old bridges that cross over the NTP are too low for a semi. I double-checked the height of our Airstream...no problem! The speed limit is restricted to 50 mph most of the way and it is enforced. After being encased in the rumble and flow of semis on I-65 for a couple of days, it was a pleasant downshift to be cruising along the serene and beautiful NTP, with dogwoods and redbuds in full flower.



Our first stop was near Hohenwald, TN, at the Fall Hollow Village Campground (*), right off the NTP on Columbia Parkway. This was frankly overpriced at \$55/night but the operator of the camp claimed it was an event weekend for something called ‘Mule Days’ and thus worthy of a higher rate. Since there was no evidence of any festival called ‘Mule Day’ in Hohenwald, I concluded that the owner was just amusing himself by making an ‘ass’ out of the tourists. As it turns out, the celebration was further away in Columbia TN, but we missed it. The camp itself was not more than a group of full-time trailers in various degrees of disrepair, with no amenities at all. I had just finished reading an article about severe weather precautions which recommended taking shelter in the restroom at a campground, since these were typically brick or block buildings with no windows. This place didn’t even offer a bathroom. As it turned out, severe weather was headed our way with a wide front



that was already causing havoc further west. We had scheduled 2 nights in Fall Hollow so we could go back along the Trace and do some hiking to see a waterfall and visit the final resting place of Meriwether Lewis, the famous explorer who, with help from Sacagawea, found a way to Oregon (Lewis and Clark Expedition, commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson). On our second night, our phones lit up at midnight with warnings from the National Weather Center. This was a surprise because we hadn’t detected any connectivity in that location beyond a very faint signal

(barely one bar). Now we were getting a message which said “Severe Danger! Take cover immediately!!” When I looked outside, lights were going on in other trailers and in the one

Central Indiana
Club Contact
Information:

Region 5
Unit 41

Club Email:
ciu@wbcci.net

Club Website:
[airstreamclub.org/
central-indiana](http://airstreamclub.org/central-indiana)

Club Facebook
Page:
[Central Indiana
Airstream Club](https://www.facebook.com/CentralIndianaAirstreamClub)



next to us, the door flew open and several people ran outside, jumped into a car and tore off into the night, wheels squealing like they were the Dukes of Hazzard. Knowing that we had nowhere to hide, all we could do was hope for the best. The Weather Service warnings continued and became even more urgent, leading me to expect that the next one would tell me to bend over and kiss my fanny goodbye. Within 30 minutes, the wind was howling, lightning was on a repeat loop and then we were being pummeled by what sounded like baseballs. I had visions of leftover meatloaf wrapped in aluminum foil, with Pete and I serving as the meatloaf and the Airstream becoming the foil. Fortunately, the storm ratcheted down to a steady rain and we were able to unwind enough to get some sleep. The next morning, after inspecting the trailer and miraculously finding not a single dimple, we learned that we had been 3.5 minutes away from certain death. A tornado had indeed touched down three



miles from us. As we returned to the Trace, we soon encountered the devastation of huge trees plucked, roots and all, out of the ground and scattered through a crushed section of forest. A mature red oak has a mass as high as 6,000 pounds (same as our Airstream). There was no doubt that our trailer would have been in trouble if that twister had traveled 3 minutes longer in our direction. Two weeks prior to our trip, rural Mississippi had suffered from several tornadoes and as we continued along the NTP, we saw piles of wood and the remains of large trees that had fallen across the road. Given the size of the trees, it was impressive how fast and thoroughly the Park Service had cleared the roadway.

To be continued in the June edition of The Ticker...

Got a Plan?

As Pete and Candice related in the first part of their Natchez Trace journey above and as Robb and I experienced in our recent French Lick rally with the Indiana Airstream Club, you can never be too prepared and informed for foul weather. This could include high winds, tornadoes, flooding or fires. Take a few minutes at the beginning of each stay to identify safe shelter and share contact information with other trailers you are traveling with. As our family motto goes “Safety Never Takes A Holiday!” ~ Jenn Reinshagen



Region 5 is Going to the Horses!

The Kentucky Horse Park, that is!

Registration is now open for this year's Region 5 Rally – 'Autumn Leaves and Horses, Please'. The rally will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park Campground from Thursday, Sept 13th to Sunday, Sept 17th, 2023.



The Rally is still in the planning phase, but this is what's included:



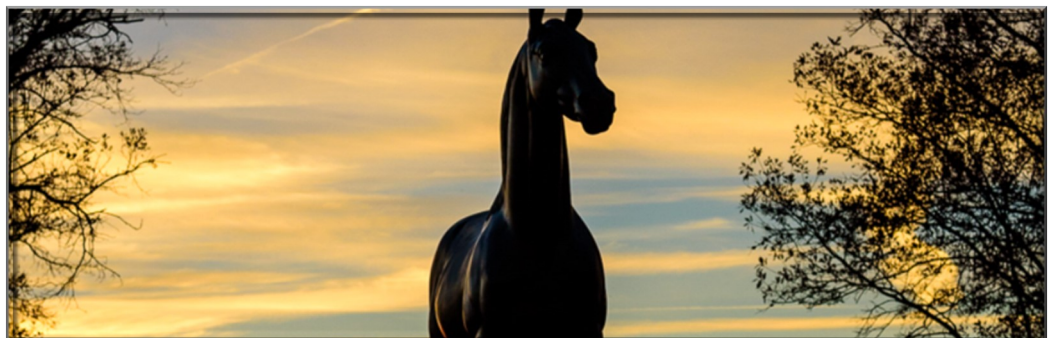
- ◇ 4 nights of camping with 30/50 amp electric and water at each site
- ◇ Dump Station
- ◇ Breakfast Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings
- ◇ Tours will include at least 1 Horse Farm
- ◇ 2 nights of entertainment
- ◇ 1 evening Banquet Dinner
- ◇ Nightly Door Prizes
- ◇ Flea Market
- ◇ Pet/Dog Show
- ◇ Dexter Axle and Brake Seminar

We have 75 sites currently set aside at the campground but register now so you do not miss out on all the fun!!!

Kentucky Horse Park Campground
4089 Iron Works Pike
Lexington, KY, 40511
859-233-4303



Registration and information here: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-5-rally-2023>



*May
you and yours
have
safe travels
and
shiny trailers ~
Until we meet
again,
Blessings
from the
Heart of Indiana*



*Photo by Candice
Kissinger—while on the
Natchez Trace*