



Region 4 WBAC



June 2023

airstreamclub.org/region4

Summer Issue

Region 4 Officers

President r04president@wbcci.net	Brad Briggs (614) 207-1241
1st Vice President fred@kiehbuilding.com	Fred Kiehl (330) 697-0463
2nd Vice President mustang6147@gmail.com	Mike Pastva (330) 352-0344
Corresponding and Recording Secretary r4secretary@wbcci.net	Mark Kennedy (937) 609-9415
Treasurer r04treasurer@wbcci.net	Elaine Barrick (513) 477-7102

Region 4 Chairpersons

Membership r04membership@wbcci.net	Linda Smith (248) 284-3627
Community Service ikingseed@gmail.com	Jamie Kingseed (937) 539-3139
BB Contributing Editor stella10826@gmail.com	Barbara Derian (248) 425-2417
Webmaster velina@durbin.com	Velina Durbin (513) 703-0990
Newsletter Editor jebriggs80@yahoo.com	Jane Briggs (614) 679-6936

President's Corner



Hello, Region 4 Members!

This edition of the *Region 4 Newsletter* has a wrap-up of the Region 4 Rally in Kalamazoo. There is news regarding the changes at the region level and announcements of events to come plus more!

The picture above, was taken at the Region 4 Rally in Kalamazoo. I receive a lot of compliments on the rally on behalf of all who helped make it possible. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who helped and attended.

We left the Region 4 Rally in Kalamazoo to take a slow journey to the International Rally in Rock Springs, WY. Our journey has brought us to Indiana Dunes National Park with dry camping, on to Hamilton, MO, so that Jane could visit the Missouri Star Quilt Company. We were there on my birthday, having cake at a gas station turned cafe.

Inside this Newsletter

From Your Region Officers	1-5
Region 4 News	6-11
Swiss Festival National Rally	6
The Great Eclipse Rally 2024 National Rally	6
Community Service	10
Region 4 Rally Wrap-up	12
International	16-17
IBT Meeting Synopsis	16
Update on BRN Motion	17
Member Tips and Tricks	18
Where We Are Going	20
Where We Have Been	23
Recipes	24
From the Newsletter Editor	26

Quilt shopping was not the way I wanted to spend my birthday. But it just so happens that James Cash Penney was born on a farm just outside of Hamilton in Caldwell County, MO. If you do not know who James Cash Penney is, you may know him better by the stores that bear his name—JC Penney. I enjoyed my day by visiting the J.C. Penney Museum and the house he grew up in that was moved to downtown Hamilton.

The rest of our trip takes us to Hannibal, MO, and a couple of Missouri State Parks around Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS. We stopped at the Great Tetons NP, Yellowstone NP, and are then rolling into Rock Springs, WY, for International. On the way home, we plan to visit the Amana Colonies, IA, over July 4th. We will be out in the Airstream for nine weeks and having a wonderful time!

Region 4 Newsletters. The Region 4 Website has back issues of the Region 4 Newsletter, going back to 2008! I want to thank Dave Brett for providing these issues and for his service of being the *Region 4 Newsletter* Editor for over 10 years. I also want to give my appreciation to Jane Briggs for doing a wonderful job as the *Region 4 Newsletter* Editor for five years. Jane introduced several new sections to the newsletter. See her farewell as newsletter editor in this edition.

Changes at the regional level in Region 4. As you will read in 1st Vice President Fred Kiehl's article, Region 4 is doing away with the 2nd Vice President's position and going to one Region 4 rally every two years. I support the concept because it more closely aligns with the international-level philosophy. Still, for the first time in six years, I have seen members of different local clubs interacting with each other at the Region Rally. I am sorry to lose the annual opportunity for inter-local club interaction.

Happenings at the International Level. See the International Section for updates and news. In addition, on the day this newsletter is to be published, June 15, there will be a special IBT meeting to approve the draft budget for FY2024. Included in the draft budget is a savings of around \$100,000 by eliminating the paper directory and going to four printed *Blue Berets* a year. Monthly electronic publications will be produced in the other months, including the newly launched ACI Blog. These savings will be used to fund a solution to the aging and other limitations of the Headquarters Building in Jackson Center and fund initiatives identified in the May IBT strategic meeting.



A Look Backward and Forward. As I get closer to the transition from President to Immediate Past President, my term ends July 31, 2023, I want to write about some of the positive things that have happened in Region 4 during my time in office. In addition, I want to share a few thoughts about how to continue moving Region 4 into the future in my humble opinion.

Jane and I started our six-year officer term in the summer of 2017 with an installation at the Region 4 Meal Event during the International Rally in Escanaba, Michigan, which we did not attend because it was sold out when we went to register! What an auspicious beginning to our term of office! We served as 2nd Vice President and First Mate under the direction of Don and Marian Hetzler, from whom we learned a great deal about the region's workings and the importance of learning to know the membership. We worked with Don on two wonderful Region 4 Rallies held at Clinton County Fairgrounds, OH, and Ottawa County Fairgrounds, OH. As we moved up to 1st Vice President and First Mate, we worked with Karen Fisher and Wally Kimmel, who showed us the importance of understanding the organization and planning. We worked with Karen on two Region 4 Rallies, with the Adrian, MI Rally being canceled during the "Covid Years," as we have come to call them. Karen's second rally was held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve Boy Scout Camp in West Virginia with a good time had by all.

After these rally experiences, I decided it was time to move to the “Main Street” style of rally on a bigger, Region-level scale. The idea of parking on the streets of Wooster was very appealing to many Airstreamers.

Continuing the rotation of Ohio-West Virginia-Ohio-Michigan-Ohio etc., for Region 4 Rallies, Jane and I decided to hold the next rally in lower Michigan. Unfortunately, we could not find a town (we looked at over 80 cities and towns and contacted 40+) for a Main Street style rally, but Kalamazoo was happy to host our group at the Expo Center. What a great turnout, especially from the Michigan Region 4 members! We certainly appreciate all of the support!

In thinking about the future of Region 4 and how best to move forward, consider these facts:

Many people have mentioned that a six-year term for an officer position seems a bit long; but in reality, as I reflect on those six years, there was a great deal I learned about the organization, rally planning, budgeting, marketing/promotion, and the details that help make successful rallies. I also played an integral role on many initiatives at the international level. Jane and I are proud of our two rallies and hope Region 4 members enjoyed them as much as we did! Leadership of Region 4 is important, regardless of the term of office.

A few facts:

1. Region 4 grew from 371 memberships in 2020 to 515 in 2023. That is an increase of 38.8 percent.
2. Our term saw local clubs decrease from 12 in 2020 to 10 in 2023. Others are considering mergers.
3. The highest registration numbers for our rallies were at a Main Street style of rally. Ninety-eight Airstreams pre-registered for the Wooster Rally in 2022. However, there was a high rate of cancellations for many reasons, including a spike in fuel prices, bringing the final number to 70.
4. Technology use among our members is increasing yearly, with just 5 out of 73 using a paper registration for the Kalamazoo Rally in 2023, for example.

I introduced the tagline “Region 4—The place where new best friends meet.” for several reasons. One is that Region 4 is tied with another region as the Region with the most longevity. In other words, our members, on average, have been in the club for more years than members in other regions. It is easy to hang with your besties; but remember, those new members have joined to be included, and it is our responsibility to make them feel welcome. Some of our most enduring ACI friends are 10-15 years our senior. Yet, Jane and I look forward to continuing to meet new friends who are younger than us!

In closing, Jane and I have thoroughly enjoyed the people in the region! Region 4 members (and Airstreamers across the Club) have a bond. How many of you have flicked your lights at another Airstream while traveling our beautiful highways and byways? We have very much enjoyed serving Region 4 as President and First Mate. We wish nothing but the best to Fred and Kathy and Mike and Jill and know they will do an excellent job for our region.

I look forward to seeing each of you down the road,

Brad

Brad Briggs #215
President, Region 4



From the First Vice President

Changes are in the air!

Hello Everyone,

Mike and I were installed last month at the 4 Region Rally in Kalamazoo. Though my tenure as Region 4 President starts on August 1, Mike and I have been planning and working on some changes that I would like to share with you.

Recently at the International Level, there was a change from an Executive Committee to an Executive Council, eliminating the third and second Vice-President positions. This reduces the time commitment to serve at the International Level as a President. Similarly, we have followed suit in Region 4 by eliminating the second Vice-President position according to the International By-Laws. This reduces the time on the Region Board from 8 years to 6 years. Also, we will not have a Region Rally in the even-numbered years, giving the leadership more time to focus on our members.



Moving forward, the International President will not be intimately involved in the search for the location and planning of the International Rally. The leadership can focus on guiding the ship. I like to think of it in this way—Whom do you want to steer the ship--the Captain or the Cruise Director?

In May, Jamie Kingseed, Region 4 Community Service Chairperson, and several others did a trial run of the Region 4 Community Service Event at the Mountaineer Food Bank. This was in preparation for the big event to be hosted by the West Virginia Airstream Club in October. The Food Bank passes out 5,000 boxes of food a month to area seniors. Join us as we strive to surpass our goal of 1,500 boxes. Jamie is looking to organize similar events elsewhere in our region. If you have ideas, please contact Jamie at jKingseed@gmail.com. We are hoping to make Community Service Rallies recurring events.



Some of you may remember that we had posted a save the date for April 2024!! Since we will not have a Region Rally in 2024, Mike, Jill, Kathy, and I have decided to host The Great Eclipse Rally 2024 as a National Rally (I have asked for more campsites, obviously)! Save the date now as registration starts on July 10, 2023. Make sure you don't get closed out of this once-in-a-lifetime rally. See the details in the Region 4 Section of this newsletter.

That's enough for now. I'm looking forward to working with everyone to keep our Region moving forward. I welcome communication from all.

Fred Kiehl, #02544

Region 4, 1st VP and President Elect

330-697-0463, fred@kiehlbuilding.com

From the Second Vice President

We are excited about our next chapter.

Greetings,

Jill and I enjoyed our time in Kalamazoo during the Region 4 Rally. We ran into old friends and met new people. It was fantastic so many new members joined us at the rally. Having Eric and Laverne McHenry attend and participate in all of the events was an added bonus.

I would like to thank everyone who worked on the Indoor Crew. We did a great job, and I appreciate everyone who helped. Thanks!

You will have noticed in Fred's article that Region 4 has moved to have a rally every other year. So, the next rally will be in 2025, which I know will be a great time. Stay tuned for more information on the 2025 rally!

We will have the Solar Eclipse national rally next year to look forward to. Jill and I are excited to be co-hosting this rally with Fred and Kathy and look forward to this once-in-a-lifetime event. Plan on joining us in Greenville, Ohio in April 2024.



Fred will become the region's president in August, and I will become the first vice president. As we move into these new positions, we are considering how to serve the region best. We intend to survey the presidents of each club later this year, but if you have any suggestions on ways we can improve, please let us know. We want to make sure we are serving the region as best we can. My email address is Region4VicePresident@gmail.com if you want to send me a message.

I'm excited to move into the First Vice-President's role and work with Fred for the next couple of years. I feel so lucky to have gotten to work with Karen Fisher, serve as Second Vice-President with Brad Briggs, and now be First Vice-President under Fred Kiehl. We are lucky to have such talented and enthusiastic leaders.

Jill and I have a few trips planned to some of the rallies being hosted by different Region 4 Local Clubs. We are heading off to West Virginia soon and looking forward to traveling and seeing many of you this summer.

Hope to see you soon.

Mike Pastva #06931
Region 4 2nd VP and Vice President Elect



REGION 4

Swiss Festival National Rally

By Fred Kiehl, #02544, Co-Chair



60th Swiss Festival National Rally

September 23 to October 1, 2023

Sugarcreek, Ohio



Join us for a week of FUN and FELLOWSHIP in the heart of Ohio Amish Country! Note that this is the 60th year for this historic rally! Make sure you plan to attend this VERY special national rally!

To register, go to: <https://airstreamclub.org/swiss-festival-national-rally>.

For additional information about the Swiss Festival National Rally, visit <https://airstreamclub.org/swiss-festival-national-rally> or contact Fred Kiehl at Fred@KiehlBuilding.com.



The Great Eclipse Rally 2024 National Event Rally

By: Fred Kiehl, #02544, Co-Chair

Mark your calendars now for April 7-11, 2024, to attend the Great Solar Eclipse of 2024 National Event Rally to be held at the Darke County Fairgrounds in Greenville, Ohio.

Registration begins July 10, 2023.

Rally activities are in the planning stages and right now include touring the Mothership in Jackson Center, exploring the city of Greenville including their vibrant downtown and Garst Museum (Annie Oakley and Lowell Thomas memorabilia) as well as the Darke County area. The historic Arcanum Bear's Mill is a gem!

If you have any questions, please email Fred Kiehl at fred@klehbullding.com



Region 4 Community Service Update

By Jamie Kingseed, #03824, Community Service Chair

The “trial run” of the 2023 Region 4 Community Service Event held this spring at the Mountaineer Food Bank (mountaineerfoodbank.org) was a great success! Over two days, with 8-10 people working four-hour shifts each day, we were able to assemble 800 boxes of non-perishable food for seniors in need throughout the Food Banks’ distribution area.

For the Region 4 October event, we have set a goal of assembling 1,500 boxes. I believe if attendance is good, and we can implement a few things we learned at this trial run, including two- to three-hours shifts, the goal of 1,500 boxes is realistic. I would appreciate it if you would consider attending this event. We welcome your volunteer help!

Please see the flyer on the next page for the Region-wide event that will be taking place October 18–22, 2023. Plan to attend!

As stated in past Region 4 newsletters, our Region 4 Community Service Event will move locations from year to year. If anyone has an idea or location that they would like me to look into for our next community service event, please let me know.

And, if anyone has an idea for an event or needs assistance with an event that they are currently working on, as always, I would be more than happy to help out in any way that I can.

Remember, too, if your club has participated in community service work recently that you would like to see posted in the Community Service portion of an upcoming newsletter, feel free to email me the information so I can add this to this update.

Thank you so much,

Jamie Kingseed, kingseed@gmail.com, (937) 539-3139



REGION 4 COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT

Mountaineer Food Bank “Serve Your Seniors” WE NEED YOUR HELP

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 through Sunday, October 22, 2023

Please mark your calendar and plan to participate in the Region 4 Community Service Event at West Virginia’s largest emergency food provider distributing over 23 million pounds annually and providing food and other household items to over 460 feeding programs in 48 counties in West Virginia.

- **What:** **Assembling boxes of food** for needy Seniors in the Mountaineer Food Bank distribution area (www.mountaineerfoodbank.org)

OUR GOAL FOR THIS EVENT IS TO ASSEMBLE 1,500 BOXES

- **Where:** **Mountaineer Food Bank is located in Gassaway, Braxton County, West Virginia.** Braxton County is the geographic center of the State, and the Food Bank is just off I-79 Exit 62.

Camping accommodations are reserved at the **Elk River Camp & RV** (water and electric), less than 5 miles from the Food Bank. The sites are located on the river, offering fishing, kayaking, and biking on the Elk River Rails to Trails. Sites are \$30 a night. Check out the campground here: www.elkrivercampandriv.com.

- **When:** **Wednesday, October 18 to Sunday, October 22, 2023**
 - Arrive Wednesday
 - Work Thursday and Friday
 - Free day to explore the area on Saturday*
 - Depart Sunday

*Note that Saturday, October 21, is an opportunity to attend West Virginia’s largest single-day festival located in the newest National Park. **The New River Gorge National Park.** Thousands of people gather on the New River Gorge Bridge in Fayetteville, West Virginia, to watch daredevils BASE jump 876 ft. into the New River Gorge below. Travel time from the campground to the bridge is approximately one hour. Check Out [A Visitors Guide to Bridge Day: The Largest Single Day Festival In West Virginia — Mountaineer Media](#)

For more information on reserving your camping spot and to sign up to help, please contact:

Jamie Kingseed, #03824
Community Service Chair, Region 4
(937) 539-3139



Calling All Region 4 Members for Tips & Tricks



As a Region 4 member, you have undoubtedly worked around many issues, challenges, and storage problems while traveling in your Airstream. This section of the newsletter is dedicated to sharing travel tips and sharing tips and tricks for making our Airstreams work better for us! Please send any tips and tricks (no matter how trivial you think they are) to Jill McCauslin (jill.mccauslin@gmail.com) for use in future newsletter editions.

47th Region 4 Rally Wrap-up

By Jane Briggs, #00215, Newsletter Editor

The 47th Annual Region 4 Rally was held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 16-21, 2023, and by all accounts was enjoyed by all who attended. A huge thank you to all officers and committee chairs who helped to once again put on a fun rally for all as evidenced by the photos below!

The charity selected for this year's rally was the Animal Rescue Project located in Kalamazoo. Donations came from the Local Club Basket Raffle and animal-related items donated exceeded all expectations! Well done, Region 4 Members! MUCH thanks to Chris and Nancy Seplak, Region 5 Past-President and First Mate, who helped work with the Animal Rescue Project personnel and pets as well as delivered the collected items to the shelter. Money raised for the Animal Rescue Project totaled \$1,636 and 74 items for the animals were collected!

From the Animal Rescue Project's Volunteer Director, Jack Frost, "Brad, thank you so much for thinking of the Animal Rescue Project. Jamie had fun bringing puppies. I, myself, had fun and enjoyed coming to the dinner. What a great group of people! Tell your wife thank you for finding us. It was a great honor to be picked."

Thanks again. We really appreciate it.

Animal Rescue Project
Jack Frost, Volunteer Director
219 Peekstock, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Shelter: 269-492-1010
Web: www.animalrescueproject.org

Below are our "memories" of the 2023 Region 4 Rally:

*Check-in and
Parking*





*Rally Opening with
Flag Ceremony*





*Local Club
Basket Raffle –
A Success!*





*Social Time
(GAMs)*





*Group Tour:
Air Zoo*



*Group Tour:
W.K. Kellogg
Bird Sanctuary*



Fun and Informative Sessions





Animal Rescue Project—Our Rally Charity



Officer Installation and Closing Ceremony



INTERNATIONAL

67th International Rally in Sedalia, Missouri

Save the Dates: Saturday, October 5, through Friday, October 11, 2024, are the dates for the 67th International Rally held in Sedalia, Missouri.

Note that this International Rally will be the first one held during the fall of the year. It is hoped that a fall timeframe will take advantage of cooler temperatures for the rally.

Registration Opens: During the International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

International Board of Trustees (IBT) Meeting

By: Brad Briggs, #215, Region 4 President

On May 10-12, I was pleased to participate in the first Airstream Club International Strategic Planning Meeting representing Region 4 on the IBT. The meeting was held in the Board Room at Airstream, Inc. in Jackson Center, OH.



The fact that Airstream, Inc. permitted the ACI Board into their private spaces shows a new collaboration between Airstream Inc. and ACI. It has become apparent to me that two things have made this possible: 1) the membership of ACI more and more resembles the demographics of all Airstream buyers; and, 2) the new Executive Council structure allows increased continuity from year to year and from one International President to the next allowing the partnership to grow positively.

The Strategic Planning Meeting Goals were as follows:

- Develop a Strategic Plan with goal achievement of 1-3 years
- Develop a plan to evaluate goal success and challenges each year
- Keep continuity from year to year, even with leadership change

Throughout my career, I have been involved in several Strategic Planning processes that are very worthwhile. The initial part of this process identifies the organization's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT). Once the SWOT is specified, the IBT prioritizes these items. The highest items become the goals to work on in the coming years. The key to making this process work is to assign deadlines for completing each goal, who is responsible for completing the task, and oversight that the tasks are progressing within the timeline.

It was good for the IBT to meet in Jackson Center to see the condition of the WBCCI Headquarters. Some members had never been to Jackson Center's WBCCI Headquarters. Even though the Headquarters Building was built in 1985, maintenance has been lacking. For example, the roof is leaking, and the electric is underpowered. There is overcrowding and a lack of storage. You will be hearing more about this in the future.

During this time, we also had an IBT meeting on May 11th. The big issue before the IBT was the update to the Big Red Number (BRN) policy. Region 4 Members played a big role in the formulation of this updated policy. The response to my requested feedback was tremendous. See the next article for details. Full IBT minutes can be found at: <https://airstreamclub.org/international-board-trustees/ibtpastmeetings>.

Your Feedback Is Wanted About **BRN** Policy: An Update

By: Brad Briggs, #215, Region 4 President

As reported in the last newsletter, at the February 2023 IBT meeting, a motion was presented regarding Big Red Numbers (BRN) that has been tabled until the next meeting in May so Region Presidents can get feedback from their members. I reached out to all the Region 4 members for feedback through the *Spring Region 4 Newsletter* and by direct email.



I have to say this was a hard task for the IBT because the majority of the IBT display their BRNs on their Airstreams. So, listening to your feedback was helpful for everyone.

Your response was tremendous! Seventy-two BRNs responded to the survey for a 15.25% BRN response rate!

One of the most telling responses is:

“I do not agree with the baseline hypothesis of your interpretation of the current *Blue Book*. Leave Policy 16.6.10, D, 2. 4 as it is because it contains the word “should,” which means optional.”

This sums up why this policy needed to be updated. This view does not reflect the official view of the WBCCI International Constitution and By-laws Committee, as stated by the Chairman, Tom Smithson. This is why this issue had to be clarified.

The updated policy contains more items in the policy, but the first part is the meat of the policy. The following is the final consensus of the introductory paragraph. The real data that I and other region presidents were able to provide played a big part in shaping this verbiage:

“The display of the Big Red Number (BRN) is encouraged for participation in Club activities to assist with the identification, location, logistics, parking, communications, and some safety considerations. When the BRN is required for participation, the activity organizer shall inform the participants in advance and at registration. All methods for displaying BRNs, when required, should be visible and clear to read as described on the “All About BRN” Club webpage.”

This policy allows for the comparatively few volunteers who put on events for the rest of the membership to require what they think is the best way to run the event. Just as the person who came up with the Big Red Numbers did—Wally Byam.

There were several responses that stated they would not attend an event where the display of BRNs on the Airstream was required. That is fine; we live in a free market society, and the Club is a microcosm of the greater society. Any event that has such a requirement will live or die by registrations. You can please some of the people some of the time, but you cannot please all the people all of the time.

For a full breakdown of the survey, go to [R4 Results of the BRN Motion survey](#).

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Try Something New

By: Jane Briggs, #215, Region 4 Newsletter Editor

After the International Rally in Lebanon, TN, Brad and I were driving back and a call came in from a caller I did not recognize. Brad went ahead and answered it then proceeded to talk with the caller about being a charter member/officer of the proposed Boondocker's Intra-Club. After several minutes of discussion, I heard Brad say, "Yes, I can do that." From previous experience, when he says those five little words, look out! After he hung up, I asked him why he was talking about boondocking with that caller. He went on to describe his wish for us to begin using our Airstream "off the grid." For those who know me, you can imagine...what could the reason possibly be for this type of RV camping? Isn't that what hookups are for?



After finally getting a little time off from work, I decided to do more research about what boondocking really means and begin the search for online and in-print resources for boondocking. This article shares some of what I have found. Yes, I realize many of you may know a thing or two about boondocking; but for any newcomers, this might be of benefit to you.

Definitions

Compendium shares that "Boondocking has two main components: how you camp and where you camp. 'Dry camping' and 'wild camping' are two ways to describe the how of boondocking. When you boondock, there are no connections to water, electricity, and sewer like you'd find in a developed campground. There aren't any bathrooms, water spigots, or picnic tables. It's just you, your camper, and a piece of land to call your own for a night or two. Boondocking is generally free, though sometimes a permit is required." (<https://go.compendium.com/what-is-boondocking/>)



Another source, the Boondocker's Bible, states that "Boondocking means camping the more traditional way of being in nature, deep in the woods, or the desert, or up in the mountains, away from town and without public utilities to hook up to. However, boondocking tends to be used with vehicle-based camping, like in an RV or van." (<https://www.boondockersbible.com/knowledgebase/what-does-boondocking-mean/>)

In an online article from ToGo RV, "Boondocking in an RV is when you camp without hookups to electricity, water, or sewage. You can boondock in many different ways, like staying overnight in a business parking lot or camping on public lands. Most of the time, when campers talk about boondocking, they're referring to camping in national forests or on BLM (Bureau of Land Management) land. Boondocking in this way is sometimes referred to as wild, primitive, or dispersed camping and often comes with Instagram-worthy views." (<https://togorv.com/rv-living/how-to-boondock/>)



Boondocking, according to bloggers *We're the Russos*, is defined as follows: "Boondocking is not the same as dry camping. Dry camping is another term used to describe boondocking, but there is a slight distinction. While boondocking is camping without any hookups outside developed campgrounds, dry camping is simply camping without any hookups.

The distinction is dry camping can take place at a developed campground.” (<https://weretherussos.com/pros-cons-rv-dry-camping-boondocking/#:~:text=Dry%20camping%20is%20another%20term,place%20at%20a%20developed%20campground.>)

Online Resources

Now that we have a better idea of the term, any RV camper can see that boondocking will take some thought and planning—so much thought and planning! For a person who really prefers “glamping,” like me, this is going to be quite the challenge. It is time to find some resources and take some notes. In addition to the online resources above, here are some additional online resources I found helpful:

1. Boondocking on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) - <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/camping>
2. Army Corps of Engineers - <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/> and look for the Recreation.gov link to camping sites
3. USDA – National Forest Service - <https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/know-before-you-go/camping>
4. Harvest Host - <https://harvesthosts.com/rv-camping/boondockers-welcome-is-joining-the-harvest-hosts-family/>.

There are also specific boondocking experiences available by state. Check out these articles that provide boondocking spots closer to home:

1. Michigan - <https://www.boondockersbible.com/knowledgebase/dispersed-camping-in-michigan/>
2. Ohio - <https://www.beyondthetent.com/boondocking-in-ohio/>
3. West Virginia - <https://www.campendium.com/west-virginia/free-camping>

A simple Amazon search will yield several in-print publications. I selected those published within the past three years as listed below:

1. *RV Traveling Hacks & State Parks Camping Guide: Over 1000 campgrounds & attractions to visit with everything you need to know to make experiences on the road easier, safer & more fun (RV & Camping)*
Part of: *RV & Camping* (3 books) | by Tommy Kemp | Feb 6, 2022
2. *Camp for Free: Dispersed Camping & Boondocking on America’s Public Lands*
by John Soares | Jun 27, 2020
3. *Boondocking Secrets: Adventure on the Road Less Travelled: Discover the Unforgettable Sites of Untamed America: The Practical Guide to Free Dispersed RV Camping.*
by S. K. O'Brian | Apr 29, 2021

Of course, I want to share that the Boondocker’s Intra-Club has been formed and is waiting for you to join! Here is the link to this (and several other) Intra-Clubs: <https://airstreamclub.org/boondockers>

For more tips to extend your dry camping/boondocking stay, see 2012 Fall edition of the [Region 4 Newsletter](#). Hope to see you at a Boondocker’s event in the near future!

Just a quick Vocabulary Tip: The official name of the Club is Wally Byam Canavan Club International (WBCCI). The Club has seven Doing Business As (DBA) names. The two most common DBAs are Airstream Club International (ACI) and the Wally Byam Canavan Club International (WBCCI). All are used interchangeably, however, Wally Byam Canavan Club International is used on official documents.

SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE ARE GOING

Akron Ohio Airstream Club

By: Brian Wilch, # 14841, President

All are welcome to join our local club for a Joint Rally with Akron and West Virginia at Grand Vue Park, 250 Trail Drive, Moundsville, WV 26041.

The dates are August 10-13, 2023, and the hosts are Fred and Kathy Kiehl.

To register for the Grand Vue Park Airstream Rally, call (304) 845-9810, Ext. 403. To get the 20% discount, the code is WVAIRSTREAM23. The sites are #28-40 and #1-13. The cost for 3 nights with the discount should be \$205.80. The sites are available exclusively for our Joint Rally until July 1, 2023.



Heart of Ohio Airstream Club

By: Mike McGinnis, # 04703, President

The Heart of Ohio Airstream Club is headed to South Charleston, Ohio, to the Tomorrow's Stars RV Resort during July 13-16, 2023.

This will be our second Rally at this beautiful campground. Currently, we have 6 units booked. Tomorrow's Stars is a great mid-point for our Columbus and Dayton folks to meet up and share a great weekend of good food, great friends and lots of laughs! This campground has a beautiful pool, miniature golf and frisbee golf on site, along with antique malls nearby. We have scheduled a private tour of the Westcott House, a Frank Lloyd Wright designed Prairie style house in Springfield, Ohio, as a part of this event.



Also, we will be camping next at Geneva State Park, September 27-October 1, 2023.

Currently, we have 9 units booked with 2 additional spots available. We are still in the planning stages for this weekend but have a great start on activities and events. Come join the fun!

Cincinnati Ohio Airstream Club

By: Mark Kennedy #08415, President

Our local club will be hosting our annual Turkey Rally, scheduled for October 12-15. Please watch the *Blue Beret*, *Region 4 Newsletter*, and email for more details regarding this event. We hope you can join us!



West Virginia Airstream Club

By: Shelba Tucker, # 8200, President



Rally in the Valley

Thursday, June 21 through Sunday June 25, 2023

Come to the Greenbrier Valley and join the West Virginia Airstream Club in Lewisburg, “coolest small town in American”, a registered historic town and one of West Virginia’s most walkable cities. It was featured in Fodor’s Travel as one of “America’s 25 Cutest Main Streets in Small(er) Towns” and a call-out in Southern Living’s “Best Small Towns to Retire.” Boutique shops, antique stores and art galleries line its main street.

Airstream parking is at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds having full hook-ups for a total of \$31.80 (includes tax) a night. If you wish to add extra days to your visit, no problem. No reservation necessary; pay upon arrival.

Plans include:

- Wednesday, June 21 - arrival, dinner is hot dogs and burgers, courtesy WVAC
- Thursday morning, June 22 - hiking/biking on the Greenbrier River Trail
- Thursday evening, June 22 - live music at 6:30 p.m. at Carnegie Hall for the Ivy Terrace celebration
- Friday, June 23 - tour the Greenbrier Resort and Bunker
- Saturday, June 24 - West Virginia Renaissance Festival
- Sunday, June 25 - goodbyes and break camp

To register contact: Al Akers (304)346-3900 aakers@osteo.wvsom.edu
Shelba Tucker (304)542-0120 WVAC_115@aol.com

“The **Greenbrier River Trail** is a 78-mile former railroad line with uninterrupted hiking, biking and horseback riding opportunities. The trail cuts through some of the most remote areas in the state making this the perfect escape from reality.”

Carnegie Hall, one of only four still open in operation worldwide, showcases a wide-ranging repertoire of music from all over the globe.

The **Greenbrier Resort** is a “National Historic Landmark and world-class resort that has been welcoming guests from around the world since 1778. The bunker at **The Greenbrier Resort** would house Congress should there be a nuclear fallout. During its Eisenhower-era use it could accommodate 1,100 people in the 112,544-square-foot space. Today, you can tour the facility to get an in-depth look behind the hidden doors.”

West Virginia Renaissance Festival showcases equestrian performances, circus acts, comedy, live music, and magic. The festival is held at Hollow Hills Farm, around 10 minutes from the fairgrounds. For additional information on the Renaissance Festival check out their website at www.wvrenfest.com.

This Is How We Roll!

West Virginia Airstream Club

By: Gina Busch, # 25304, Recording Secretary



Join the West Virginia Airstream Club overlooking the Ohio Valley at the new RV park at Grand Vue Park, Moundsville, West Virginia.

Park activities:

- Outdoor adventure park
- Zipline and aerial course
- Water park & pool
- 13 miles of hiking and mountain bike trails
- Disc golf courses
- Miniature golf
- Relaxation on the mountain, enjoying the view

Area tours:

- Tour the former State Penitentiary built in 1866
- Palace of Gold, "One of the 30 most beautiful places to visit in the USA" by *Business Insider*.
- Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex is among the most famous and prominent of the Adena Burial mounds. Construction from about 250-150 B.C.

For detailed information, visit the Parks website at <https://grandvuepark.com/>

The Park Management is very accommodating and will offer discounts on several activities.

One perk is a 20% discount on the RV site; the current rate is \$75, and the discount rate is \$60, plus tax.

The **Ultimate Marshall County Adventure Package** costs \$336 and includes tax:

- 1 night RV Site stay other nights at 20% discount.
- 2 Zipline tours with picture package
- 2 Penitentiary day tours
- 2 Palace of Gold tours
- Free appetizer at the Vue Bar and Grill at Grand Vue Park

To make your reservation, call Grand Vue at **(304) 845-9810 Ext. 403** and request the 20% discount using the code: **WVAIRSTREAM23**. We have secured 20 sites, #28-40 and #1-13, available exclusively for our Rally until July 1, 2023. The cost for three nights with the discount should be \$205.80. The cancellation policy is a fee of \$20.00, with no cancellation date restriction.

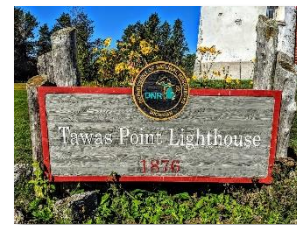
The West Virginia Club will host a Welcoming Happy Hour on Thursday evening, August 10th. A BBQ Buffet is scheduled for Saturday, August 12th, catered by River City Ale Works of Wheeling. The Rally fee is \$20 per person.

For additional information, contact Gina Busch at (304) 542-1269 or email her at ginarbusch@aol.com.

Michigan Airstream Club (MAC)

By: Pegeen Smith #8039, Newsletter Editor

Mark your calendar for August 10-14, 2023 for the Michigan Airstream Club's "Sand and Signals 2023 Rally" to be held at Tawas Point State Park, East Tawas, MI. This is a beautiful area with lots to see and do. Register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/august-rally-tawas-point-state-park>. We hope you can join us!



Southeastern Michigan Airstream Club (SEMAC)

By: Carly Strachan # 9298, Newsletter Editor

Our next event "SEMAC on Tap" will be held on July 23, 2023, starting at 1 p.m. at the Bearded Lamb Brewing Co., 149 West Liberty Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. Check out our website for more details: <https://airstreamclub.org/semac-tap> and make sure to RSVP to Steve Rowley at: SEMACvicepresident@gmail.com.



August 18-20, 2023, will find us at the Harbor Beach Lighthouse Rally, North Park Campground, Harbor Beach, MI. If you like lighthouses and wish to join us, please register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/harbor-beach-rally>.

SPOTLIGHT: WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

A Final Note

By: Jane Briggs, #215, Region 4, Newsletter Editor

Dear Region 4 Members,

It is my pleasure to announce that Jill McCauslin will be your new *Region 4 Newsletter* Editor starting with the Autumn 2023 newsletter. Welcome, Jill! I know you will do an excellent job! Region 4 Members, you are lucky to have her at the helm of your newsletter as well as VP First Mate!

Of course, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your *Region 4 Newsletter* Editor for the past five years. Back in the spring of 2018, Don Hetzler asked if I would be willing to serve as the Editor. After talking with Dave Brett over the phone for an hour or more (I have so many questions), he gave me a great deal of guidance and encouraged me to take on the newsletter, starting with the 2018 Autumn Issue! Thank you, Dave!

It has been my thought that the Region 4 Newsletter (when read) is a keep piece of communication for all of us!

See you down the road,

Jane

RECIPES FOR THE ROAD

Salads that Travel Well!

Collected by: Jane Briggs #215

Over many years of camping, it seems to me one of the best ideas for having ready-to-go food upon arrival at your next destination can be a hearty salad. These salads are also great for potlucks, which have started showing up again at rallies and local club events. I often prep the ingredients for the salad before we leave home, making it a snap to put together once we arrive. Here are a few of my favorites, and as we are heading to Region 3's State Rally in a few weeks and a potluck is on the menu one night, so you can bet I will make one of these to share!

4-Layer Stuffed Avocado

https://www.diabetesfoodhub.org/recipes/4-layer-stuffed-avocado.html?mkt_tok=MTAzLVFDRi0zMTEAAAGLyMxD8jHP1oJmh4xy0amd38JI4f7biEIIWMeprYbdmdnN5_TEEtNWGt8pKDx6oR0cLHnC2CsJxR4RI7SDTsmbnPz39DcMkALvkUIHLAvrg

Avocados are filled with heart-healthy monounsaturated fats, and are a low-carb source of fiber. Here we top half an avocado with black beans and salsa for simple southwest snack or side dish. You can use your favorite jarred salsa.

4 Servings Serving Size: ½ Avocado

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup black beans (drained and rinsed)
- 2 avocados
- 4 tbsp Plain Nonfat Greek yogurt
- 4 tsp salsa
- 4 tsp reduced-fat shredded cheddar or Mexican-style cheese
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 lime (quartered)



Directions

1. Place the beans in a small bowl. Using the back of a fork, mash until they reach an almost smooth consistency.
2. Cut avocados in half and remove the pits. In the center of each avocado, layer 1 tablespoon of the beans, 1 tablespoon of Greek yogurt, and 1 tablespoon of salsa and sprinkle with 1 teaspoon of cheese. Sprinkle the salt evenly over the avocados. Serve each avocado half with 1 slice of lime to squeeze over the dish.

Nutrition Facts

Calories: 160 | Carbohydrates: 12g | Protein: 5g | Fat: 12g | Saturated Fat: 2g | Trans Fat: 0g | Cholesterol: 0mg
| Sodium: 180mg | Potassium: 490mg

Spinach and Parmesan Egg Bites

https://www.diabetesfoodhub.org/recipes/spinach-and-parmesan-quiche-bites.html?mkt_tok=MTAzLVFDRi0zMTEAAAGLyMxD8sS-UT--sT_ZoVxvk1AgOoEkZBMcaF7W5Zbvvy7Z0w1k9fNiDdI2S_eODBH1wJCheUEYzLDnYFwrHTy-fVigbqo9vzEilmeqgk4_nQ

The mini crustless quiches make a great appetizer, or a make-ahead breakfast to-go, perfect for meal prepping. Roasted red bell peppers brighten up the classic combination of spinach and Parmesan. Leaving off the crust lowers the carbs and saturated fat without sacrificing flavor

Prep time: 15 min Cook time: 20 min Servings: 8 Servings Serving size: 2 quiche bites

Ingredients

- 1 nonstick cooking spray
- 10oz frozen spinach (thawed and squeezed dry)
- ¼ cup roasted red peppers (drained and chopped)
- 2 green onions (thinly sliced)
- 1 tbsp plus 1 tsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 cup egg substitute
- ½ cup skim milk
- 1 tsp mustard powder
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp black pepper



Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly spray 16 cups of two 12-cup mini muffin pans or 16 cups of a 24-cup mini muffin pan with cooking spray.
2. In a medium bowl, using a fork, separate the spinach into small pieces. Stir in the roasted peppers and green onions. Spoon the spinach mixture into the sprayed muffin cups. Sprinkle the Parmesan over the spinach mixture.
3. In a separate medium bowl, whisk together the remaining ingredients. Pour into the filled muffin cups. Fill the empty muffin cups with water to keep the pan from warping.
4. Bake for 18–20 minutes, or until a wooden toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Transfer the pans to a cooling rack. Let cool for 10 minutes. Using a thin spatula or flat knife, loosen the sides of the quiche bites. Serve warm.
5. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container for up to 5 days. To reheat, put 4–6 quiche bites on a microwaveable plate. Microwave on 100% power (high) for 45 seconds to 1 minute, or until heated through.

Nutrition Facts

Calories: 50 | Carbohydrates: 3g | Protein: 6g | Fat: 1.5g | Saturated Fat: 0.5g | Trans Fat: 0g | Cholesterol: 0mg | Sodium: 190mg | Potassium: 270mg

Please help make this Newsletter interesting for all
by submitting ideas and articles.

Newsletter Deadlines and Publication Dates

Issue	Article Deadline	Publication Date
<i>Spring</i>	<i>March 1</i>	<i>March 15</i>
<i>Summer</i>	<i>June 1</i>	<i>June 15</i>
<i>Fall</i>	<i>September 1</i>	<i>September 15</i>
<i>Winter</i>	<i>December 1</i>	<i>December 15</i>



FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This newsletter is for YOU, the Region 4 Member!

Feel free to submit information of interest to our members!

Newsletter issues typically include the following:

Spotlight: Where We are Going (upcoming Local Club Rally or Caravan)

Spotlight: Where We Have Been (Local Club Rally or Caravan already completed)

Healthy Airstream Cooking Recipes

Region 4 Member Tips & Tricks

Officer Articles

Announcements

Jill McCauslin, Region 4 Newsletter Editor
(jill.mccauslin@gmail.com)

