



GOOD LIFE NEWS

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 | Sept. 2023

President's Points

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Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 6 months per year (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Due date for articles is the 20th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the WBCCI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out at any time. We do not share email addresses.



Summer is over! But Hurricane Season is not. I hope you remain safe during these unpredictable times.

Although Mother Nature may not be aware of this, one thing is for certain: Rally Season has begun! Please check pages 9, 14, and 15 for the list of the 2023 and 2024 rallies. With our new online registration system, it is recommended that you first make your campsite reservations before registering for the rally. That way you w

ill know that campsite space is available prior to paying the rally fee.

Please plan on attending the Annual Business Meeting on October 14th. It is held during the "Silver Between the Greens" Rally at Traveler's Rest RV

Resort & Golf Course. This is where you will have the opportunity to vote for your 2024 Executive Board. To view the program and to register, go to <https://airstreamclub.org/florida-airstream-club-silver-between-greens-and-annual-meeting>

If you are not able to attend, it is important that you vote electronically on the Slate of Executive Board Candidates as presented by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board. Your electronic vote will be counted toward the quorum needed to officially convene the meeting. Whether you plan to attend the Annual Meeting or not, you can still cast your ballot electronically prior to October 12th. You will just not be able to vote at the meeting. Either way, please vote.

Your ballot will be emailed to you on **September 13**, so watch for an email with a subject line of **Your Invitation to Vote in the Election**.

Until we meet at one of our upcoming rallies, Happy Autumnal Equinox!

Larry Scovotto, President

CANDIDATES FOR THE 2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD

- President: Steve Kane
- First Vice President: Mike McGinn
- Second Vice President: _____
- Secretary: Geri Prisco
- Treasurer: Bruce Fafard
- Two-Year Trustee: _____
- Two-Year Trustee: _____

John Walker will remain serving in the third Trustee position and Larry Scovotto will fill the Past President position.

Since no names were submitted for 2nd VP or Trustee, they will remain vacant until the new board considers appointments.

You've Been "Airstream Flamingo'd"!

By Susan Poole

Have you received a small flamingo-themed gift or card when you were parked with your Airstream at a campground? Then you may have been "Airstream Flamingo'd"!

There is a new custom flocking around Airstreams. When one Airstream owner sees another Airstream parked at the same campground, they drop off a little gift on or near the Airstream to welcome them. The gift may be a little stuffed or plastic flamingo, card, embroidered towel, painted rock, key ring, or flamingo-themed gift bag. Most are given anonymously to someone they don't know, but you can put your Big Red Number or name on it or give one to a friend if you want. Sometimes it starts a conversation and new friendship with the other Airstream owners; other times the giver has no idea what the receiver thought about it. But either way, hopefully it leaves both the sender and recipient feeling a little pleased!



David and I were "Flamingo'd" for the first time this year when we were staying at a KOA Campground near Harper's Ferry National Historic Park in West Virginia. When we returned from an outing, a pretty pink bag with an attached flamingo key ring was sitting on our step. Inside was an embroidered tea towel and a card encouraging us to check out the Facebook page. There was only one other Airstream parked at the same campground, so when I walked by and saw them sitting outside, we chatted a few minutes. It was pleasant way to meet someone!

Maryanne and Mike Swegles were also recently "Flamingo'd" at Virginia Highland Haven with a pretty flamingo bag and glass.



How did it all get started?

The practice of leaving a gift at another owner's Airstream is fairly recent, perhaps about one year, but it could have been done less formally for a longer period of time. The Facebook page "[You've Been Airstream Flamingo'd](#)" was started March 15, 2023, by Heide Beecher Schlagel and there are already over 700 members. She also developed an Instagram page. She encourages people to post the pictures and stories about the gifts they gave or were given.

At the most recent Airstream International Rally in 2023 at Rock Springs, WY, the organizers encouraged attendees to leave a flamingo gift or card at "first timer's" Airstreams to welcome them to the flock. There were lots of posts of the event Facebook page with new members pleased about the little surprises they received. In fact, one of the Florida Airstream Club couples, Jean and Jake Piper, painted little rocks with a pink flamingo on the front and their Big Red Number on the back. They left them at a few friends' Airstreams and some other miscellaneous places. Later in the week, a couple of young girls came by on a golf cart from the other side of the campground and wanted to meet the owners of BRN 22373 to tell them they loved the little painted rock!



“Airstream Flamingo'd”! *(Continued)*

What do pink flamingos symbolize?

In order to figure out when and why flamingos became so popular with Airstreamers, it is beneficial to learn more about them and what they symbolize. When searching the internet, I found out that pink flamingos symbolize many different concepts.

Flamingos often symbolize beauty and balance, which comes from their unique pink color and ability to gracefully stand on one leg, even when sleeping. Many people associate flamingos with romance and family relationships because of their elaborate courtship, romantic appearance, and tendency to flock together in large strongly-bonded family groups (called a “flamboyance”). Flamingos can also represent truth, due to the fact that flamingos’ tongues filter sludge water for food, hence the analogy with the ability to filter lies and seek the truth.

For some people, flamingos symbolize the inner potential of each individual and how it needs nurturing. This may be due to the fact that baby flamingos are born with gray to white plumage and develop a pink to orange color as they age, depending on the number of pigments in the algae, mollusks, and crustaceans they eat. As the expression says: “You are what you eat!”

Still others believe that flamingo totems, such as artifacts and jewelry, remind us to let our inner beauty shine. When given as a gift, flamingos can be a token of love, affection, and appreciation. Maybe it is simply, like flamingos who thrive in large groups, we also want to socialize with others who have similar interests and are seeking a connection to other like-minded people.



Conversely, one internet search for “What do two pink flamingos mean?” revealed a completely different meaning. An article on RVtravel.com stated that some people believe the secret meaning is an invitation to “swing” -- meaning to exchange partners and have an open relationship. Although flamingos are a social species, this connotation isn’t consistent with the way flamingos commonly mate for life and make life-long friends. More people believe flamingos are a common icon of America that is displayed to celebrate the heritage of the Airstream and/or love of traveling. So, in order to prevent your intentions from being misinterpreted, just give one flamingo artifact or display any number other than two!

How did pink flamingos become associated with Airstreams?

There is no simple answer to when and how flamingos became associated with Airstreams, but it may have started over 100 years ago. Flamingos only live in tropical and sub-tropical regions, and may have been brought to Florida from South America. During the 1920’s, when Florida was the hottest vacation spot in the United States, many tourists brought back pictures and souvenirs of a unique pink bird they saw there – flamingos. Soon it became a status symbol which showed the owners were rich enough to travel to exotic places. Everyone wanted them!



“Airstream Flamingo'd”! *(Continued)*

So, manufactures started creating flamingo designs. The early flamingo lawn ornaments were flat and unappealing, followed by ones constructed of foam which fell apart quickly. Then, in 1957, a young man named Don Featherstone who worked for Union Plastics, created a pink mold-plastic flamingo lawn ornament on stiff wire legs. Many people started displaying them in their gardens or in front of their RVs when traveling. The plastic flamingo design hasn't changed much in over half a century, and they are still being made with Don Featherstone's name embossed on the rump.

Pink flamingo ornaments also became a way to add a little color to campsites, especially by those who travel in vintage Airstream units. Perhaps this is because it reflects back to the retro style of the 50's when the ornaments were invented. Even now, it is a common site to see flamingo-themed decorations beside Airstreams at rallies across the country. In fact, you can find a pair of the original pink flamingos for sale at Airstream Supply Company website, along with other flamingo-themed gifts.

No one knows for sure who was first to display pink flamingos with their Airstream. I was fortunate to speak with a couple a few years ago who gave me some insight at a Florida Airstream Club rally at Fort Christmas, FL.

Albert and Grace Buchanan (#800) were the caravan leaders on the Alaska Caravan for many years. They live in Melbourne, FL now, but Gracie mentioned she was born in Canada and the caravan traveled near her little home town. When I complimented her on how nice the pink flamingo ornaments looked in front of her Airstream, she told me in her soft voice with a sweet smile that she was the one who started the tradition of displaying pink flamingos outside their Airstream! Since they traveled with a lot of different couples during their years of leading the Alaska Caravans, they could have influenced many others to display pink flamingos with their Airstreams. There are probably other “early adopters”, but I heard it first from Gracie!

Summary

In summary, pink flamingos are associated with beauty, balance, potential, romance, family, and affection. They have become a way to welcome other Airstreamers and promote a sense of community and belonging. A flamboyance of flamingos is a sight to behold, much like a group of Airstreams parked beside each other. Maybe flamingos are so popular because they simply remind us of the warmth we feel when we rally together!

Susan Poole BRN 03899



“Flamingo Symbolism & Meaning (+ Spirit & Omens)”

<https://oceanjewelrystore.com/flamingo-symbolism-meaning/#:~:text=Flamingo%20symbolism%20and%20meaning%20include,leg%20represent%20balance%20and%20harmony.>

“Flamingos” <https://www.birdlife.org/birds/flamingo/#:~:text=Flamingos%20are%20a%20social%20species,loyal%2C%20life%2Dlong%20friends>

“The Iconic Pink Flamingo” <https://airstreamsupplycompany.com/story/the-iconic-pink-flamingo/>

“History of the Plastic Pink Flamingo” <https://www.airforums.com/forums/f161/the-history-of-the-plastic-pink-flamingo-11221.html>

Quebec is a Delight!

By John and Julie Cooke

Bonjour! Did you ever want to travel to the province of Quebec, Canada, but were more than a little intimidated by not speaking French? We were in the predicament of trying but failing miserably at learning the beautiful French language, but decided to take the plunge to see the province of Quebec with less than a few well-rehearsed words. We are very happy we did! Granted, knowing French would be the perfect way to see this beautiful province of Canada but it shouldn't be a deciding factor on your travel.

First of all, don't be intimidated by crossing the border. Crossing the border at Lansdowne/Alexandria was very easy. Remember, NO GUNS. Our conversation with the Canadian Border guard went like this:

Port Authorities @ the border, "You are from Florida?"

John: Yes

Border Guard: Do you have a gun?

John: No

Border Guard: Are you sure you don't have a gun? We just arrested someone from Florida in one of these with a gun.

John: No, we really don't have a gun. We don't own a gun.

Border Guard: Have a good trip.

That was the extent of our crossing. Florida has a bad reputation for guns.



We toured the three big cities Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City, and then the Gaspésie Peninsula at Forillon National Park. At our stop in Montreal, we were trying to figure out how to purchase a three-day pass for the bus/metro. A family of five helped us with the translation and then made sure we were on the right corner before heading to their activity. We really haven't needed much translation. Most menus, WAZE, and Google translate have helped us coordinate our touring and Quebecers are very helpful!

Campgrounds vary widely, so do your research. Look for how close it is to the city and whether it is a parking lot. We prefer Provincial and National Parks but that may not be your style. Forillon National Park in one of the prettiest wooded campsites we have ever stayed in.

We knew that Quebec was its own nation within a nation, if that makes since, but we did not realize they have their own National Parks to camp in as well as the big Canadian National Parks. Check out Sepaq for the Quebec National Parks (scroll all the way down to the bottom for the English Translation) <https://www.sepaq.com/> In a do-over, we would explore booking Sepaq Parks as well as the National Parks. But be advised they could probably speak just French, while the Canadian National Parks in Quebec speak French and English.

Quebec is a Delight! (continued)

So why take the plunge and do something out of your comfort zone when America has so much to offer?

The exchange rate is great... currently \$1.00 CAD to \$0.76 US. In a little less than three weeks, we toured three totally unique and exciting cities, and explored a very sparsely inhabited region of the Gaspésie where moose, whales, fishing, and summer seaside villages draw visitors.

Ottawa: Capitol of Canada, feel and vibe similar to Washington DC. Highlights include Parliament, Rideau Canal Locks River cruise, By Ward market, and National Gallery of Canada.

Montreal: wow...feel and vibe similar to Milan or New York... chic Highlights include Notre Dame Basilica, Jardin Nelson (restaurant), Little Italy, Chinatown, Montreal Museum of History and Archaeology and Jardin Botanique. If it is raining, also see the Underground City.

Quebec City: feel and vibe of old-world France. Definitely see the old city and surrounding area.

Gaspésie Peninsula: wow...we were so intimidated by this area because of language differences. If we had a do over, we would have spent an additional week or more on the peninsula and gone slower.

Things we missed but will be back for: Parc du Bic and Parc de la Gaspésie. Lots of Lighthouses, little towns and discoveries!



Quebecers really *really* love outdoor activities! Know when you come, there will be myriads of adventures to choose from. In fact, you could follow the Appalachian hiking trail all the way up from Georgia and finish in Forillon National Park at Land's End or circle all the way around and end in Maine.

For paddlers, the water is clear and the seaside is filled with coves and secret hideaways. There are nesting birds and tide pools to explore. For bikers, the province is yours to explore. Quebecers believe so strongly in biking that the downtown Ottawa has dedicated streetlights just for bikes!

Quebec is a delight to all the senses! Enjoy planning and discovering this unique province. Don't hesitate to come visit Quebec!

John and Julie Cooke BRN #08308



Helpful Pointers

Blue Compass RV, Jacksonville, FL



We met some of you at the Spirit of the Suwannee rally. We are associate members of the Florida Airstream Club, although this year when we renew, we will become full members of the FAC.

Anyway....we live north of Jacksonville and there has not been an Airstream dealer/service center in town. I have recently discovered Blue Compass RV on Merrill Road in Jax (our trailer is there now for new batteries and awning repair). Website is: https://www.bluecompassrv.com/locations/florida/jacksonville?utm_source=google-gmb&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=jacksonville

Don't know if the NE FL folks already know about this or not, but personally I'm happy to have a dealer in town. I was there Friday and there are several new Airstreams on the lot. They used to be RV-One, but they are not anymore.

OK, we'll be going to the Folkston rally so hope to see you there!

Sincerely, Dan and Debbie Forney. BRN 6353

Caution: Spare Tire Exploded

My wife Dawn and I are new members to the Florida club. While camping at the Delaware Sea Shore State Park at the Atlantic Ocean just after Memorial Day of this year, I witnessed a very disturbing site.

A family pulled into a site near us in the late afternoon. Weather was moderately warm, near 80 degrees. The next morning the sun rose and it again was a moderately warm day. Around noon, while the sun was shining brightly on the spare tire that was mounted on the rear of the family's Jayco Trailer, the spare tire exploded. No one was near, or injured but the tire was destroyed. The tire was under cover and appeared new. The owner said he had recently inspected all of his tires, and made sure the pressure was at recommended level. I also looked at the tire which was a brand I had never seen before. One thing I did notice is the tire was made in China.

If I hadn't of seen it myself, I would not have believed such a thing could occur. The take away for me is be very careful when purchasing tires. I believe the market is getting saturated with inferior products, particularly from China. Thank you for your interest.

Ernie Anderson, BRN 12416.



Help Wanted

Needed: Operations Supervisor, Land Yacht Harbor

Land Yacht Harbor Inc. (LYH) is an adult RV community intended to be a seasonal residence for couples or a single person 55 years of age or older. The park is in Melbourne, FL and is designed mostly for winter residences. Its focus since 1976 has been Airstreams, however, non-Airstream owners are now an important part of park. The primary job of the operations supervisor will be to provide leadership and ensure smooth operations of all daily operating systems in the office including reservations, accounting, cash management, resident-customer-stockholder relationships.

Job Description Details: [click here](#)

Desired Skills: Ability to work with Microsoft suite including Word and Excel with a working knowledge of QuickBooks. Experience in the hospitality industry a plus.

Work Schedule and Hours: 40 hour per week from October 30 to April 30 and 25 hours per week May 1 to October 30. Salary range \$50,000-\$55,000 annually with possible RV site for right person or couple.

Send cover letter and resume to: Land Yacht Harbor Search Committee at Loujoe8062@gmail.com. **Deadline to submit September 30, 2023.**

More information at <https://landyachtharbor.com>.



Airstream For Sale: 2021 Globetrotter 27 FBT

Dear Fellow Club Members,

We are selling our current rig as we had the opportunity to purchase a new 2024 Classic. We take delivery in October so are interested in finding a good home for our 2021 Globetrotter 27 FBT. Pictures and details available upon request, or [click here](#).

We would appreciate any assistance in getting the word out to those that may be interested in this gem. Give me a call if you have any questions or wish to discuss.
Thanks

Dale & Mary Anne Winterhoff
dwinterhoff@flowserve.com
484 894 3253

Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule 2023

MONTH	ARRIVE/ DEPART	RALLY NAME	LOCATION	HOST
September	9/14/2023 9/18/2023	Midnight Train to Georgia - Last Stop, Folkston	* Okefenokee Pastimes Cabin and Campground, Folkston, GA	Selena Smith
October	10/12/2023 10/16/2023	Silver on the Greens and Annual Meeting	Traveler's Rest RV Resort and Golf Course, Dade City, FL.	Larry & Linda Scovotto Steve & Deb Oppel
November	11/02/2023 11/06/2023	Florida Sand Music Ranch (formerly Sertoma Streaming)	* Florida Sand Music Ranch (formerly Sertoma Youth Ranch) Brooksville, FL	Jeff Krabel Tim and Pam George
December	11/30/2023 12/04/2023	Cracker Christmas	* Fort Christmas Historical Park, Christmas, FL	Steve & Laura Kane

* No need to contact campground. Register through Airstreamclub.org/Florida Rally hosts' emails are online.



Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend. *Club rally fees are typically \$25 per adult 18 or over.*

Midnight Train to Georgia - Last Stop, Folkston! Okefenokee Pastimes, Folkston, GA September 14-18, 2023



When obstacles become roadblocks, look for another route! As luck has it, I discovered a better camping experience a little further down the road ... **Pastimes Cabins & Campground** (28244 GA-121, Folkston, GA). This campground offers more amenities and provides an overall better camping experience. As the campground is smaller in size, the total number of available 'FHU' sites is 20, and there are 10 primitive 'boondocking' sites for those more adventure-some folks! Our rate is \$37/night; a one-time \$5 booking fee plus sales tax and if you're bringing a fur baby, there is a \$1.00/dog pet fee. Here's the campground link: <https://okefenokee.com/>.

After you make your reservation, then register on the Florida Airstream Club website <https://airstreamclub.org/florida> The rally fee of \$25 per adult should be paid online as well.

The itineraries will include boat tours, train ride, nature show, a private tour by an descendent of the Chesser Homestead, a walk along the boardwalk to Owl's Roost Tower, and includes lunch. www.OkeSwamp.org

Here are recently released YouTube informational videos filmed in the Swamp for your viewing pleasure: [Kayak Fishing](#); [Day Paddle to Coffee Bay](#); [Inflatable Kayak Review](#)

Sure do hope you will hop aboard the midnight train to Folkston to experience the Okefenokee Swamp, one of seven wonders in Georgia!

Rally Host: Name: Selena Smith 904-206-2688
Email Address: smithselenaj@gmail.com

Preliminary Itinerary – Subject to Change

Thursday –

4:00-6:00 Happy Hour / Meet & Greet @ Pavilion
Bring Your Own Chair / BYBO & Appetizer to Share
5:30 pm Guest Speaker from Two Rivers Gun Range
Dinner on Own

Friday –

10:00 am to 12:00 or 1:00 pm Two Rivers Gun Range
Sign up Required for Gun Range Excursion
www.camdencountyga.gov/TwoRivers
OR Explore Folkston / Junkin' & Lunch in Town
OR Caravan to Capt. Stan's Smokehouse in Woodbine, GA
<https://m.facebook.com/CaptainStansSmokehouse/>
OR Plan Your Own Paddle Excursion @ Wildlife Refuge
4:00-6:00 Happy Hour @ Char's Bar & Screen Patio
5:30 - Guest Speaker Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge
6:00 pm – Dinner on Own or In Town Option
8:30 Movie Night – Details in the Works

Saturday –

7:00—8:30 am - Coffee Hour / Bakery Café @ Char's Bar & Screen Patio
9:00—3:00 Swamp Day @ Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
Sign Up Required w/Host ... www.OkeSwamp.org
5:00-7:00 pm Happy Hour & Catered Dinner at Char's Bar
Local Band/Live Entertainment @ Pastimes – Open to the public

Sunday –

7:00—8:00 am - Coffee Hour / Bakery Café @ Char's Bar & Screen Patio
Option #1 - 9:30-2:00 Swamp Day @ Okefenokee Swamp Park (Waycross) Sign Up Required w/Host ... www.OkeSwamp.org
Option #2 – Campground Games – Pickleball/Corn Hole/ Board Games & More
Dinner at Own Campsite Or Char's Bar (No Restaurants Open Sunday)
8:00 pm – Shredder Pigs Campfire Sing-Along

Monday—Safe Travels to All – see ya down the road at the next rally!

Silver on the Greens and Annual Meeting

Traveler's Rest RV Resort and Golf Course, Dade City, FL

October 12-16, 2023



Please join us for a rally and annual meeting at **Traveler's Rest RV Resort and Golf Course**, 29129 Johnston Rd in Dade City, FL.

Travelers Rest RV Resort & Golf Course features an affordable par 34 nine-hole golf course, a practice range, and chipping and putting greens. Afterward, enjoy a spacious heated screened-in swimming pool and hot tub to ease those aching golfing muscles. Additional recreation includes great tennis and pickleball courts, exercise equipment, bocce ball courts, and shuffleboard courts. We also have many trails and paths to walk while enjoying the nature of rural Florida at its finest.

Our Club Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, October 14th, followed by a lunch provided by the club.

Please contact the Resort directly to make your campsite reservation.

Campground Phone Number: (352) 588-2013

Campground Website: <https://travelersrestresort.com/>

Register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

Campsite (per night): \$40 + Tax

Rally Fee (per attendee): \$25

Rally Host's Name: Larry and Linda Scovotto

Email Address:

larry.floridaairstreamclub@gmail.com

Silver On the Greens and Annual Meeting Preliminary Program

Thursday, October 12

Arrival

4:30 pm – Happy Hour

Welcome Dinner provided by Club

Friday, October 13

8:00 am – Executive Board Meeting

10:30 am – Bingo (proceeds to The Fisher House)

4:00 pm – Happy Hour

Open Evening

Saturday, October 14

10:00 am – Annual Meeting

1130 am – Lunch provided by Club

4:00 pm – Happy Hour

Open Evening

Sunday, October 15

8:30 am – Continental Breakfast provide by Club

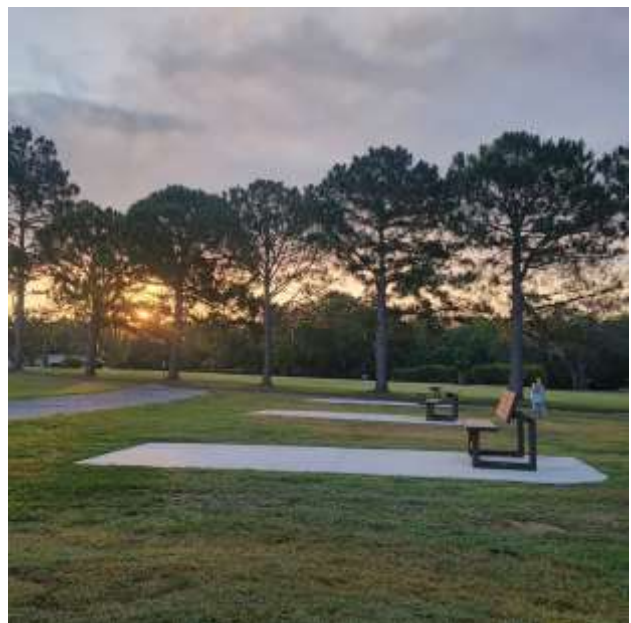
10:00 am – Shuffleboard Tournament

4:00 pm – Happy Hour

5:30 pm – Pot-Luck Dinner

Monday, October 16

Departure



Florida Sand Music Ranch

Brooksville, FL

November 2-6, 2023

The Florida Sands Music Ranch (formerly Sertoma Youth Ranch) is an 80 acre, wooded camping retreat located at 85 Myers Road, Brooksville, Florida.

Everything You need to know (and more)

1. Registration

Registration for the rally is on-line at the Florida Airstream Club website. <https://airstreamclub.org/florida> Rally Fee is \$25 per attendee and collected online when you register. DO NOT contact the campground as sites have been reserved by the rally host. Camping fee is \$30.00 per night, and will be collected at Happy Hour.

We will be camping just to the north of the main pavilion. Follow the signs to our area. Water and 30 amp electric are at every site. Restrooms and dump stations are available on site.

2. Soggy Bottom Bluegrass

The Soggy Bottom Bluegrass group will be sharing the campground with us. They will be gathered on the east side of the park by the pavilion. We have been invited to drop by and listen to them play. There are no scheduled or named bands, just some very nice and talented people playing bluegrass.

3. Yard Sale

A yard sale to benefit the Florida Airstream Club's community service project, The Fisher House, will be on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9:00-1:00 at the small pavilion. Please bring any items you no longer need or use.

4. Any questions?

Please contact the rally hosts

Jeff Krabel: jk62gt@gmail.com

352-796-8821

Or Tim and Pam George: tsgeorgesr@gmail.com

352-573-0489



Agenda

Thursday

Arrival and set-up.

4:00- Happy Hour at the small pavilion.

Dinner on your own.

8:00 p.m.- movie night at the small pavilion.

Friday

8:30-9:30- Breakfast of shrimp and grits.

4:00- Happy Hour

6:00- Dinner by Deep South

Saturday

Breakfast on your own.

9:00-1:00- Yard sale

4:00- Happy Hour

6:00- Pot luck dinner. Meat provided by the Club.

Last names: A-I salads; J-P side dishes; Q-Z dessert

8:00- Inaugural Florida Airstream Club Trivia Championship. Awards will be presented after the competition.

Sunday

8:30-9:30- Breakfast.

10:00- Trip to Beasley Farms.

4:00- Happy Hour.

Dinner on your own.

Monday

Safe Travels

Cracker Christmas Festival

Nov. 30 — Dec. 4, 2023

Come join us for the Cracker Christmas Rally the first weekend of December for the Cracker Christmas Festival and Crafts Fair at the historical Ft. Christmas, in Christmas, Florida. There will be food, music, crafts, demonstrations, and fun for all ages. Visit the historical homes dating back to the early 1800s and get an up-close look at what Cracker Cattle life was like in central Florida during the early years.

Remember, this is a volunteer, public service rally, so half of each day is volunteering for the fort and half is having fun with your friends. The Florida Airstream Club has been volunteering at this festival for over 20 years, helping set up tables and chairs, freshening up their homes with a broom, and educating visitors about the historical homes during the festival. Due to our turnout and number of hours we volunteer, we are the only group ever allowed to camp there! So, join us in this opportunity, have fun, meet new friends, and help make a difference in the community.

An agenda will be emailed to registered participants. You can expect Happy Hour/Announcements at 4-5 PM every day. Provided meals: 2 breakfasts on Fri. and Sat.; 2 Dinners on Thu. (Installation Dinner), and Fri. (Volunteer appreciation). Two teams of volunteer will be arranged, who alternate volunteering in the mornings or afternoons. Evenings will include campfires, sing alongs, games, dancing, or ghost hunt (bring whatever entertainment you like...)



Space is limited to 25 spaces, so Unit 27 members and affiliates have priority. That being said, we usually have 5-10 spots for non/new members, so contact me quickly!! There is a \$25 rally fee, but no camping fee, as long as you volunteer.

It is “semi-boondocking” with shared water and shared electricity (less than 10 amps per guest) so bring a long hose with Y adaptor and 50 feet extension cord with 20 amp Edison plug. Plan on propane for fridges, heat, and cooking, please. Please be respectful if you need to use a silent model generator. There is a generator parking area, please let us know when you arrive. There is no dump station on site, but there are restrooms available at the fort. An RV park 5 miles away allows dumping for small fee.

The best time to arrive is Thursday between noon and 4 PM (or at least by Friday 4 PM). Please, no trailer traffic leaving on Sat. or Sun. until AFTER the festival has ended each day and we encourage you to stay until Monday after breakfast.

To reserve a spot, please sign up online at Register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida> and email me with “Cracker Christmas” in the subject so I can sort them easily. Please reach out to me for any questions or cancellations. I look forward to seeing you all and I wish everyone safe travels.

Steve Kane, 1st Vice President, FAC #27
Steve@SteveKaneProductions.com

407-267-2294



2024 Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule

MONTH	ARRIVE	DEPART	RALLY NAME	RALLY FEE	LOCATION	CAMPGROUND	HOST
Jan.	12/28/23	1/1/24	Ring In Silver Rally	\$20	St. Augustine, FL	Anastasia State Park	Joe & Brenna Loretta
Feb.	2/12/24	2/15/24	Spirit of Stink-Weed Rolling Buddy Rally (Part 1)	\$20	Havana, FL	Stinkweed Farm	Steve & Laura Kane - Stan & Helene White
Feb.	2/15/24	2/19/24	Spirit of Stink-Weed Rolling Buddy Rally (Part 2)	\$20	Live Oak, FL	Spirit of the Suwanee	Mike & Gina McGinn - Steve & Deb Oppel
Mar.	3/14/24	3/18/24	Salt Springs Rally	\$20	Ocala, FL	Salt Springs Recreation Area	John & Kathy Walker
Apr.	4/17/24	4/21/24	Region 3 Streams and Meadows Rally	See fee online	Doswell, VA	Meadow Event Park	Region 3
May	5/2/24	5/6/24	FAC Charity Golf Rally	\$20	Dade City, FL	Travelers Rest RV and Golf Resort	Harold and Marlene Hughes
May	5/17/24	5/19/24	Long Point Weekend Rally	\$10	Sebastian Inlet, FL	Long Point Park	Bob & Lyn Masters
Jun.	6/6/24	6/10/24	Schools Out for Summer WDW Rally	\$20	Ft. Wilderness, FL	Walt Disney World	Steve & Laura Kane - Pat Dovi
Jun.	6/21/24	6/23/24	Sebastian State Park Weekend Rally	NC (No Charge)	Sebastian Inlet, FL	Sebastian Inlet State Park	<i>Need host</i>
Jul.	7/4/24	7/8/24	Hanna Park Rally	NC	Jacksonville, FL	Hannah Park	<i>Need host</i>

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Sep.	9/6/24	9/8/24	Wickham Park Weekend Rally	NC	Melbourne, FL	Wickham Park	<i>Need host</i>
Sep.	9/19/24	9/23/24	Blythe Island - Camp Hair, Don't Care Rally	\$35	Brunswick, GA	Brunswick Regional County Park	Selena Smith
Oct.	10/5/24	10/10/24	ACI International	See fee online	Sedalia, MO		ACI
Oct.	10/11/24	10/13/24	Silver Springs Weekend Rally	NC	Ocala, FL	Silver Springs State Park	<i>Need host</i>
Oct.	10/28/24	10/31/24	FL Sand Music Ranch & Annual Meeting Rolling Rally (Part 1)	\$20	Sertoma, FL	Florida Sands Music Ranch	<i>Need host</i>
Nov.	10/31/24	11/4/24	Mary's Fish Camp Rolling Rally (Part 2)	\$20	Baypoint, FL	Mary's Fish Camp	Larry & Linda Scovotto - Steve & Deb Oppel
Dec.	12/5/24	12/9/24	Ft Christmas & Installation Service Rolling Rally (Part 1)	NC	Christmas, FL	Fort Christmas Historical Park	Steve & Laura Kane
Dec.	12/9/24	12/11/24	Lights at Stephen Foster St Pk Rolling Weekend Rally (Part 2)	\$20	White Springs, FL	Stephen Foster State Park	<i>Need host</i>

Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend. Rally fees should be paid online.



Long Point Park Rally

May 17-19, 2024

Long Point Park is a Brevard County campground on the Indian River off Highway A1A just north of Sebastian Inlet. It has over 150 campsites, most with water and electric but 15 have sewer as well. Many are waterfront allowing fishing and kayak launching from your site. A wooden footbridge connects the campground to Scout Island where there are many trails to explore. In addition, nearby Sebastian Inlet State Park is a short bike ride or hike away and has a fishing pier, with beautiful beaches to enjoy. For want to be treasure hunters Mel Fisher's Treasure Museum is a short distance away. If you are a space enthusiast, the Cape Kennedy Visitor Center is an hour and twenty minutes away.

One of the new short weekend rallies, this rally is dedicated to family fun: fishing, kayaking, swimming. We plan to have an old fashioned cookout on Saturday afternoon and breakfast Sunday morning. Check-in is 2 to 9pm on Friday and check-out is by 11 am on Sunday.

Due to the amount of water in the area, summertime mosquitoes and no-see-ums could be an issue so bring repellent and protective clothes.

The park is now available for reservations but will fill up quickly. Make your reservation for the rally dates at (321) 952-4532 or by clicking this link: [Long Point Campground Registration](#). Don't forget to register for the rally on the [Florida Airstream Club](#) website after you have obtained a campsite. The rally hosts are located in Section 1 site 20.

Rally fee \$10 per person (18 years and older).
Bob and Lyn Masters, Hosts
bltampa@icloud.com



Welcome New Members and Affiliates



To join or renew, go online to <https://airstreamclub.org/> and click on Menu & Future or Current Members To become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, see instructions on last page. Please send your picture to be included in the next newsletter.

New Members

Don and Lauri Davenport
#03635
Lake Mary, FL

Vicki and Todd Gilliom
#05994
Jacksonville, FL

Elizabeth Johns
#18423
Deland, FL

Mark and Linda Junk
#03731
Jacksonville Beach, FL

James McLauchlen
#02641
Palm Coast, FL

Luis and Renee Pizarro
#30206
Titusville, FL

Rick and Kimberly Robinson
#06596
MacClenny, FL

New Affiliates

Kyle Blaydes and
Olivia Warren
#12734
Crawfordsville, IN

Debra and Chuck Butler
#20045
Steinhatchee, FL

Emilio and Shirley Caragol
#09332
Tampa, FL

Michael and Maureen Domery
#07495
Highwood, IL

FAC Merchandise



Check it out at <https://florida-airstream-club.myspreadshop.com/>

T-shirts, hoodies, hats, bandanas, tote bags, etc. with the Florida Airstream logo (in a variety of materials, sizes and colors) are now available for ordering online. Now is the time to get ready for future rallies with your very own Florida Airstream Club logo apparel!

FACEBOOK

Connect with members on this club's Facebook page **["THE Florida Airstream Club 027"](#)**
Look for the one with our logo.



Community Project: Fisher House Foundation



The Fisher House Program provides temporary accommodations to families and loved ones of America's military Veterans and Active-Duty Service members during a time of need when a Veteran is ill or injured. Fisher Houses are located on Veterans Affairs (VA) grounds providing a comfortable "home away from home" that enables families to be together during extended treatment for serious illness or lengthy rehabilitation. There is no cost to the family members or loved ones during their stay.

The Florida Airstream Club members work together to hold fundraising activities throughout the year so that we can present the raised funds to a Fisher House facility in Florida chosen by our members. So far in 2023 we have raised \$3,526.47 thanks to this team effort. We have had lots of fun holding auctions, yard sales, raffles, 50/50 drawings, selling donated homemade joker sets, various crafted wooden items, lanterns, club stickers, name tag magnets, holding Bingo games and selling items donated by our members.

If you are interested in having fun, helping others and filling a leadership role to keep this program moving forward, please contact our President Larry Scovotto (president@floridaairstreamclub.org) or our 1st VP Steve Kane (first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org) to let them know your desire to help. I can assure anyone who volunteers to fill this open position of Charitable Project Chairperson for 2024 that they will see firsthand the difference these activities make in the lives of many of our Military Veterans and Active-Duty Service members who use the Fisher Houses.

Do you have an idea for a future fundraiser? Have you come up with a must have tool that would benefit other campers? Please let me know. We would love to incorporate your ideas in future initiatives to increase our donations.

Chris Allen, Charitable Project Chairperson for 2023 ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net

Sunshine Committee Report

This column is the place where we express praise for members' major life accomplishments or concern for those experiencing difficult times.

Best wishes from the Millis's: Since we joined the Florida Airstream Club in 2010, we have had many good times and enjoyed meeting you all. After long deliberation, we decided to sell our Airstream. In June, old Airstream "1989" went west without us. We decided to downsize and have purchased a Class B Roadtrek. We wanted something smaller that would tuck into more parks and maneuver easily. We hope to see you all down the road. Happy and safe travels to you all. We may even be at a couple more rallies.

George and Pam Millis



Please send notifications for Sunshine Committee to:
Deb Oppel
sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
763-670-8772

Florida Airstream Club, ACI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web
<https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and recently **Airstream Club International. (ACI)**

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as The Southeastern Unit in 1956 making it one of the oldest units. We schedule rallies all over the state from September through June. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in a relaxed atmosphere.

New applicants and renewing members apply online at <https://airstreamclub.org/> Contact Membership Chair below if questions.

Affiliates: If you are a member of another WBCCI/ACI club and want to become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, do it online anytime during the year by logging into the [ACI website](#) and pulling down the menu under your name in the upper right corner and click on Join as an Affiliate.”

2023 Florida Airstream Club Executive Board and Committee Chairs

2023 Executive Board

President - [Larry Scovotto](mailto:president@floridaairstreamclub.org) - president@floridaairstreamclub.org
1st Vice President - [Steve Kane](mailto:first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org) - first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
2nd Vice President - [Mike McGinn](mailto:second_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org) - second_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
Treasurer - [Brenna Loretta](mailto:treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org) - treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org
Secretary - [Geri Prisco](mailto:secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org) - secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee 1 - [Steve Oppel](mailto:trustee_1@floridaairstreamclub.org) - trustee_1@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee 2 - [Susan Poole](mailto:trustee_2@floridaairstreamclub.org) - trustee_2@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee 3 - [John Walker](mailto:trustee_3@floridaairstreamclub.org) - trustee_3@floridaairstreamclub.org
Past President - [Bob Masters](mailto:pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org) - pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org

Appointed Positions

Badge Committee Chairperson - [Mike McGinn](mailto:badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org) - badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org
Charitable Project Chairperson - [Chris Allen](mailto:charity@floridaairstreamclub.org) - charity@floridaairstreamclub.org
Communications Editor - [Randy Godfrey](mailto:communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org) - communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org
Historian - [Jeff Krabel](mailto:historian@floridaairstreamclub.org) - historian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Membership Committee Chairperson - [Nelson Arias](mailto:membership@floridaairstreamclub.org) - membership@floridaairstreamclub.org
Newsletter Editor - [Susan Poole](mailto:newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org) - newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org
Rally/Caravan Committee Chairperson - [Steve Kane](mailto:rally_chair@floridaairstreamclub.org) - rally_chair@floridaairstreamclub.org
Social Media Editor - [Judy Barrett](mailto:social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org) - social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org
Sunshine Committee Chairperson - [Deb Oppel](mailto:sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org) - sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
Parliamentarian - [Larry Scovotto](mailto:parliamentarian@floridaairstreamclub.org) - parliamentarian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Webmaster - [Steve Oppel](mailto:webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org) - webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org