

"The Mich-i-gram"

4th Quarter [October. November. December] 2023

# From 'Madame' President...

WOW, summer has absolutely flown past for Lee & I. We thoroughly enjoyed our adventures across the country. The heat, triple digit temperatures, not so much! We met up with our children, grandchildren & friends all along the way. All the grandchildren are growing like weeds.



The International Rally in Rock Springs was a fantastic event and we're looking forward to Sedalia. MO. in October of 2024.

We have changed to quarterly newsletters, so this is the last article from 'Madame' President. We've accomplished a lot in these last two years and the unofficial official tally indicates that attendance has nearly doubled at MAC rallies. We have really gotten to know each other a lot better over the last two years which makes it doubly better for us all. I want to thank the board, rally hosts and the membership for all their contributions to MAC.

I believe we've enhanced the enjoyment of our Airstream adventures where good fellowship has become our constant companion. Let the spirit continue.

Jackie Klare

"Madame" President "There is always an adventure around the corner!"



#### **2023 Board Members**

**President** Jackie Klare MACPresident052@gmail.com

#### 1st Vice President

Fred Bryant MAC1stVPresident052@gmail.com

#### **2nd Vice President**

Lee Klare MAC2ndVPresident052@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Tom Cobb MACTreasurer052@gmail.com

Secretary Sharon Bryant MACSecretary052@gmail.com

Immediate Past President & Parliamentarian Jim Conant conantfarm@amail.com

2023 Committee Chairs

Membership Sandy Lovlien & Andrew Lovlien MACMembership052@gmail.com

Newsletter Pegeen Smith MACNewsletter052@gmail.com

Webmaster Sarah Smith MACWebmaster052@gmail.com

Michigan Airstream Club

#### **New Members**

# The Michigan Airstream Club wishes to welcome:

- ◆ Peter & Deanna Blaskie [Affiliate]
- ✤ Joe & Julie Bonello
- Margaret & Douglas Coburn [Affiliate]
- ◆ Pam & Bob Fortin
- ✤ Howard & Chris Gould
- + Amy & Richard Lieblein [Affiliate]
- ◆ Carl & Jennifer Nance
- ◆ Peter & Amanda Plikaitis
- ✤ Jenny & Christopher Olejnik
- Cindy Oser & Dick Guzowski
- ✤ Jeff & Deb Tallman
- + Evan & Patti Weaver [Affiliate]
- ◆ Steve & Carly Welch



# Check out the NEW Airstream International Welcome Video!!

# Step Up to Lead

### Fred Bryant, MAC 1st Vice President



Hello Fellow Airstream Club Members!

Do you want to be more active in our club but not sure how you can serve? I am Fred Bryant, your 1st Vice President of the Michigan Airstream Club and I am here to tell you how. As the MAC Fall Meeting nears, the voting for the new Executive Board has commenced and soon a new board will be sworn in. I may have the pleasure of leading the organization as President.

However, I would still like all members to consider being active in the MAC operation. In order for our club to be fun and vibrant, your input and participation is vital.

Begin thinking **NOW** about how you can assist in the future with a board position. Board positions are described in Article V of the Mac By-Laws. Click on these links if you wish to review the entire <u>MAC Constitution</u> and <u>By-Laws</u>.

Board meeting attendance can be by way of Zoom so travel is not a requirement. Board members will be expected to work across job descriptions as needed to spread the tasks and responsibilities to distribute tasks as needed. My goal is to make involvement in the club a fun experience with duties that are flexible and shared. Always working together, never a burden carried alone.

I hope you will consider an Executive Board Position. Please contact me or any Executive Board Member for further discussion or for any questions you may have. Please look over the MAC Constitution and By-Laws and participate in our meetings. Or consider volunteering for rallies, organizing social meet-ups, or helping with our website and social media efforts.

I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully working **WITH** you to keep our Michigan Airstream Club going strong into the future! Thank you for your consideration in a MAC Executive Board position or volunteering at any level to keep us growing strong.

Fred Bryant Michigan Airstream Club 1st Vice President <u>MAC1stVPresident052@gmail.com</u> Cell: 616 240 3724





# **Calling All Members: Contribute to the Newsletter!**

A heartfelt thank you to those of you who read my call to action In the January Newsletter and have since provided me with nice articles. To those who just joined or have been shy, here is a reminder!

#### My Call to Action

The newsletter is nothing without the contributions of our members. We want to hear from you!

- What does the newsletter mean to you?
- What would you like to see highlighted in the newsletter?
- Do you have anything to share? A recent trip? A great Airstream-friendly recipe? A trick, hack or tip?

Please share with me!

You do NOT have to be a writer and you don't have to format anything. Just put your thoughts in an email and I can help get the information published. I am particularly interested in making sure we don't lose our historical perspective so if you have contributed in the past and the material is still relevant, pass it along. All the newbies here appreciate the opportunity to learn from those who are more experienced.

Looking forward to receiving some newsletter content in my email!

Pegeen Smith Michigan Airstream Club Newsletter Editor

**NOTICE:** Tom Cobb. MAC Treasurer wishes to remind members that when making checks out to club, please make checks payable to either:

"WBCCI" or "Wally Byam Caravan Club International"



# Membership & Club News

MAC Merchandise by Tom Cobb, MAC Treasurer

Did you miss out on the getting your MAC swag in the Spring? I have a few hats and some club garden flags available for purchase at the Fall Rally. Contact me <u>here</u>.



# In Memoriam Kenneth Briggs

Kenneth Briggs, longtime member of the Michigan Airstream Club passed away peacefully on Friday. September 15, 2023. He was 85 years old. Ken and his wife Anita traveled throughout North America with their Airstream Travel Trailer for 37 years. He served the club in many capacities including President and popcorn man. He will be dearly missed by his Airstream family.

### Where Have You Been?

Member Adventures: Tom & Donna Cobb, BRN #1617



Beartooth Pass, Wyoming



Showing off the MAC flag at Mt. Rushmore



Apostle Island Historic Museum with Fred & Sharon Bryant



### Membership & Club News

Mark your calendars with these local upcoming events. Click <u>here</u> for the "at-a-glance" calendar.

#### Whispering Surf Rally

On Friday, October 6th, through Monday, October 9th, we will have our 2nd annual fall rally in the quaint little town of Pentwater, Michigan. Currently, the rally is closed and at capacity. There are 34 Airstreams registered!! For those lucky enough to join, don't forget the rally fee is \$20/person. You can pay at the rally [cash or check] or pay in advance via Venmo or CashApp by contacting the rally host. Sarah Smith at sarahsmith1835@amail.com. Interested in being more involved during the weekend? Consider signing up to help

with weekend meal prep: Airstream Club: Pentwater Airstream Rally Volunteers (signupgenius.com)

## **State of Michigan Parks News**

#### **Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

The State of Michigan is piloting a self-check-in system for 13 state parks. so we can skip the line [if you already have a Recreation Passport] and go straight to your campsite after 3 p.m. The pilot will take place at Baraga. Fort Wilkins. Harrisville. Hoffmaster. Holly. Lakeport. Leelanau. Muskegon. Petroskey. Port Crescent. Warren Dunes. Waterloo and Yankee Springs state parks/ recreation areas.





Click on the Picture Above to Access the Full Story



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### Membership & Club News

#### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### **October**

6: Douglas Jozwiak
14: Ellen Jozwiak
Jen & Dave Koomler, October 1, 2016
Jim & Cindy Conant: October 6, 1985
Wally Kimmel & Karen Fisher: October 9, 1982
Randy & KathyAnn Blunck: October 17, 1970
Mike & Char Henry: October 18, 1969
Jim & MaryAnn Stimpson: October 31, 1959

#### November

3: Laurie McClean
5: Mike Henry
26: Kelli Ray-Fry
27: Char Henry Sandy & Andy Lovlien: November 26, 1977

#### December

- 10: Cynthia Adkison 19: Janet Pinkham
- 20: John Smith [Affiliate]
- 24: Thomas Smith
- 30: Mary Ann Borton
  - Stephen & Janet Pinkham: December 29

**Please Note:** If you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary listed in the newsletter, it's because we don't know it! In the old days that information was collected each year on your renewal slip. The ACI database doesn't collect that information, but we'd still like to include these celebrations in the newsletter. Please e-mail <u>Pegeen Smith, Newsletter</u> <u>Editor</u> and she will make certain to include your information in the upcoming issues.





# We Rally Together WBCCI International Rally 2023

#### Rock Springs, Wyoming June 2024

Were you able to attend the Rock Springs International 2023 Rally? It was a great location in an area of the country that I had not been to before. I had the opportunity to attend presentations on everything Airstream and see great product presentations on new products.

The facilities were expansive and in top shape for the presentations that were well done. Rock Springs Sweetwater Complex was well maintained and took care of every issue that came up. I hope we can have another rally there. The campsites were well spaced and had full hookups. Sweetwater Complex upgraded the sites and was able to have them completed in time for our Rally.

There is so much great information to take in on maintaining your Airstream and anything you may want to improve on it. The only issue I had was getting to the next presentation and having to attend only one at a time.

The rally was in a great location, at a great facility, and was well planned and run. Thanks to the many volunteers, the International Headquarters staff, and the Sweetwater staff that work so hard to make the WBBCI Rock Springs International Rally a great, memorable event!

Consider attending the 66th International Rally in Sedalia, Missouri, October 5–10, 2024. Registration is open.

Fred Bryant

MAC 1st VP



Bernie Gundlach & Christine Cherry



MAC Sharing Meals Together

Fred Bryant

### We Rally Together WBCCI International Rally cont.











Left to right: Tom & Donna Cobb, Fred & Sharon Bryant, Lee & Jackie Klare, Karen & Jeff Routson

# We Rally Together Sand and Signals Rally

#### Tawas Point State Park: August 10-14, 2023

From August 10 - 14. MAC members arrived at Tawas Point State Park and nearby campgrounds to enjoy the beautiful western shore of Lake Huron and Tawas Bay. We greeted fast friends, met new friends and welcomed visitors from Texas and Ontario.

We enjoyed using the park pavilion, next to the Tawas Point Lighthouse and overlooking the Lake Huron beach, as home base for morning breakfasts and evening meals. Members enjoyed walks and bike rides around the point, swimming at the bay beach, local shopping and dining, campfires, star gazing [complete with shooting stars], and the fellowship of other Airstream enthusiasts.

The pavilion offered comfortable shelter for <u>Friday night</u>'s BBQ during quite a downpour. The weather cleared up Saturday morning for our planned boat tour. Damon Brown and his cousin loaded us onto their grandfather's repurposed great lakes fishing boat, which rolled over four to five foot swells, whipped up during the storm the night before. We hung on tight and were rewarded by views of the Charity Island and Gravelly Shoal Lights. We had distant off-shore views of Caseville's many windmills and return views of the Tawas Bay shoreline. We heard some of the local area history and enjoyed each other's company.

On a personal note, rally organizers Laurie McLean and Earl Landesman want to express appreciation to everyone attending! The spirit of friendship and cooperation was strong. Your help made everything run smoothly, easily and most of all enjoyably

for all!





Bernadette Frost & Madeleine 🍑



Recipe Share: Aunt Rosina's Taco Salad by Kat Hibbard, BRN #6664

Aunt Rosina always brought this dish to family gatherings and there was never any leftover to take back home. The same thing happens when I make it for a pot luck. Aunt Rosina used Catalina dressing. I found a recipe online for a homemade Catalina substitute that uses honey so I could use a natural sweetener and control the sweetness level. The salad ingredients are only suggestions. Adjust the quantity and substitute your favorite greens and other ingredients as desired. I don't like olives so I leave them out.

#### Aunt Rosina's Taco Salad:

In a 3 quart bowl place: 1/2 bowl of any kind of lettuce or greens [fill your bowl halfway with the greens] 1 can kidney beans, drained, rinse if desired any kind of onion, sliced thin in rings or half rings, to taste 2 roma tomatoes 1/2 cucumber 1 pepper, any color small can of olives, fresh if you can get them 1/2 lb burger, your favorite grind, browned, let cool Top with: 4 ounces grated sharp cheddar, or Mexican, etc. cheese dressing, to taste crunched up corn chips [a great use for all the broken bits always left in the bottom of the bag]

#### Dressing-makes one cup:

small clove garlic. minced 1/3 c olive oil 1/4 c cider vinegar 1/4 c ketchup 1/8 c honey 1/2 T lemon juice 1 t Worcestershire sauce 1/2 t Dijon mustard, yellow works too 1/2 t paprika I blend the dressing with a stick blender and it does not separate. For a French dressing, omit the ketchup.

Kat Hibbard #6664 Benzonia P.S. we have courtesy parking



Michigan Airstream Club

Traveling together since 1958



The Crowd Pleasing Taco Salad

Problem Projects & How They Unfolded by Dale Schneider BRN #6664

Kat & I own a 2013, 25 ft. International. As with many of us, problems arise that become projects. Here are a couple of issues we encountered that morphed into projects and how we they successfully unfolded.

**Project 1.** It started [in 2018] when we were having problems with the shower door dropping down into the track. Jackson Center [JC] said "We've got this," we screw and glue a nylon block under the pivot point to stop it from dropping down." All fixed. We took off for 8 months of travel. That worked for a while.

Then it broke. The support screw and the door frame came unglued, separated from the glass and almost fell to the floor. We taped it back together with Gorilla tape. We were on the east coast [at Jersey Shorehaven Airstream Park] and luckily got in to Colonial Airstream a few days later where they disassembled and reglued the door back together with new support pins, and made some other repairs, done well. That worked for a while.

Then the fasteners bent and we replaced them as best as we could until we could schedule service at JC. We went to Alumapalooza 2022 and got in to the service center right after the rally. "Not repairable." The support screw holes had been worn oblong in the frame making the support screws useless. New glass door price, installed, S1000. We wondered how many miles bouncing on rough roads before another heavy glass shower door starts falling apart? Hmmm...nope. We had JC remove the broken glass door and framing. The JC dollar store had a cheap shower curtain and some Command hooks to get us by for the next couple of short trips while we pondered. Tip: you only need half a standard size shower curtain to go across an Airstream shower opening. Do we go with a really nice shower curtain mounted on a tension rod? Airstream had the answer-in a different model! Our friends have a 26U model, all-in-one shower, toilet, sink with no room for a swinging glass door. That model trailer came with a retractable shower door that self-squeegees as it winds back up into it's cassette. The Nautilus by Stoett Industries. Choice of color trim and door style. Five pounds and made in Ohio. \$295 including shipping. We installed it ourselves.

Before

After







Michigan Airstream Club

Problem Projects & How They Unfolded by Dale Schneider BRN #6664

**Project 2.** The dinette table is mounted on the front wall and can be lowered to turn the lounge into a huge bed. It was too tall for eating, playing a game or doing laptop computer work. Kat had to sit on a 6" cushion to be high enough. In our research we found some Airstream models that had the table mounted on a single hydraulic marine pedestal. The cost to switch to a pedestal table mount would be \$500 plus labor. We tested some in new trailers and found them hard to press down [to make the table to a bed] and they were wobbly. Alternately, we could have a dealership shorten the table leg and remount the table lower on the front wall, but we would loose the ability to lower the table to make a bed. That seemed the best option so we scheduled the work.

At the same time, we found an upholsterer who could replace the squishy 10-year-old foam in the dinette seats only, not the backs, with a firmer premium foam. We dropped off our cushions to be completed in time for the table appointment. When we arrived at the dealership for the table work, put the revamped, firmer cushions in, and sat down at the dinette, we realized now the table was at the right height, no table modification necessary! Instead, we spent the allocated money and scheduled time and had the dealership replace the lower outside trim band.

The solution isn't always what you think it is going to be. Happy ending.



Kat Hibbard & Dale Schneider, BRN #6664



Globetrotter For Sale by Tom & Chris Bliss, BRN #6641

2021 25' Globetrotter Front Twin. Enjoyed by retired couple – Immaculate condition. Everything is perfect and 100% working condition.

Dinette was upgraded to a single table top but the original split table will go with the trailer for the next owner to decide which they prefer. Has optional solar panels to keep the batteries charged and convection oven/microwave. Interior is Barcelona Blue and Natural Elm. Teak floor in shower.

Tires have pressure sensors to monitor in your truck and GM's "Invisible trailer" Camera is installed. Airstream back up camera and monitor is also included.

Comes with everything you need to hit the road. Electrical cords and a surge protector, water / sewer hoses, weight distribution hitch, and all the airstream tools. The propane tanks are even full!

This trailer couldn't be more clean and is ready for you to enjoy. \$95,000.

For more information, contact us:

Tom & Chris Bliss <u>tombliss19@gmail.com</u> <u>248-219-8731</u>





#### Airstreams & SOBs by Pegeen Smith, MAC Editor

While on a 61 day caravan to Alaska this summer (sadly a non-Airstream caravan). I came across a post on the Facebook Group called Airstreaming for Newbies. As the only Airstream among Some Other Brands

[SOBs], I could relate to this post and asked permission to print it. The post was written by a fellow Airstreamer named Jeff Andrechyn who is a retired American Airlines Captain who travels with his wife of 37 years.

"When I was old enough my dad told me about my ancestors. They were nomads from Romania. Shocked, I said "Dad nomads from Romania are gypsies," however in that moment my life came into clarity. I was born into movement...it's my natural state.

The Airstream is never the biggest unit at the campground because she was built for another purpose. She is streamlined to move and nimble enough to take you to where the rivers turn to streams and you can drink the first waters of the mountains. She will take you up the coast to Lands End.

What if in the end, it was never about your expansive possessions but rather how often you traveled beyond your maps. How many times were you able to blow smoke rings up to the Northern Lights.

The greatest fear in life is being stuck, not being able to move. At 65, I have that constant inner voice beckoning me to sit a little longer, have another drink...you deserve it and while you're at it how about another blueberry scone.



Photo courtesy of Jeff Andrechyn

They say most diseases come from a domesticated, sedentary lifestyle. So while still on the oxygen's side of the earth's crust, I'm fighting to stay in my natural state of movement. To travel lightly but with great purpose."



# We Rally Together in 2023 (at-a-glance)

Dates	Event - Location	Host/Organizer	Links/Contact
October 6-9	Whispering Surf Fall Rally Whispering Surf Campground Pentwater. MI	MAC Sarah & John Smith	Whispering Surf Rally Website
<u>2024</u>			
January 20 11:30 am	Rally Luncheon: Herraduras Mexican Bar & Grill. Cadillac	MAC Host: Tom & Peg Smith	Herraduras Mexican Bar & Grill
February 17 11:30 am	Rally Luncheon: Harrington's Traverse City.	MAC Host: Lee & Jackie Klare	Harrington's by the Bay
March 16 11:30 am	Rally Luncheon: Blue Water Grand Rapids	MAC Host: John & Sarah Smith	<u>Blue Water Website</u>
April 7-11	2024 National Eclipse Rally Great Darke County Fairgrounds. Greenville, OH	Sponsored by Region 4	<u>Darke Side of the Moon Rally</u> <u>Website</u>
April 20 11:30 am	Rally Luncheon: TBD Lansing	MAC Host: Need Volunteers	
May (TBD)	Hartwick Pines State Park Grayling	MAC Maintenance Rally Host: Need Volunteers	
June 6 - 9	Silver on Silver Traverse City	MAC Host: Need Volunteers	
July (Tentative 18-21)	Mitchell State Park Cadillac	MAC Host: Dale & Kat	
August (TBD)	Camp Dearborn Milford	MAC Host:Need Volunteers	
September (TBD)	Ludington Fairgrounds Ludington	MAC Winterization Rally Host: Need Volunteers	
September 23 - October 1	60th Annual Swiss Festival National Rally Sugarcreek. OH	WBCCI	<u>Swiss Festival Website</u>
October 5-10	67th Annual Airstream International Rally Missouri State Fairgrounds. Sedalia, MO	WBCCI	WBCCI International Rally 2024 Website
<u>2025</u>			
August 23-28	WBCCI International Rally, 2025 York Expo Center. York, Pennsylvania	WBCCI	<u>Press Release</u>