

# British Columbia Airstream Club

www.airstreambc.com



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#### UNIT OFFICERS 2023-2024

Presidents Trenor & Barbara Tilley, 604.290.2887 tilley2007@outlook.com 1st VPs 2rd VPs **Rick Mattson & Karen Griffin** 604.657.3119 rickmattson@telus.net Recording & Corresponding Secretary Barbara Tilley, 604.290.2887 tilley2007@outlook.com Treasurer Tom Akam 604.538.4149 lighthouse13383@shaw.ca Past President John Millard, 604.536.6372 millard12581@gmail.com Directors (Lower Mainland) Bob Halliwell, 778.808.7257 halliwell4840@telus.net Arlene Matches, 604.535.4237 matches7403@gmail.com Director (Island) Currently vacant **Director (Inlerior)** Charlie & Sharon Wieder 250.231.8240 Char.shar.wieder@me.com Director (USA) Currently vacant Youth Ambassador

Currently vacant



# "the news"

Editor: Arlene Matches Home Phone: 604.535.4237 Cell Phone: 604.202.7229 Email: matches7403@gmail.com

**OCTOBER 2023** 



Tilley's Trails

Our trails have led us on several adventures lately. We camped with some old friends just after Labour Day, enjoying my recent retirement. It was enjoyable to not need to return immediately to the classroom after the summer break. As you may have heard, we were unable to hold the Installation Rally at Quilchena as planned because of the severe fire danger, smoke, and in order to clear camping spaces for those who were evacuated from their homes due to wildfires. Subsequently, we were installed on a Zoom call, which was fine, but thankfully we finally were able to celebrate John Millard's three and a half years as our Unit 121 President (in Covid, no less), and Chris' term as our club Secretary (also for 3 ½ years) at the Golfing Rally at Twin Lakes. Over the summer we also honoured Carolyn Stewart's work as our Treasurer over several years. Our profound thanks to all of these folk for all their hard work!

The Golf Rally was a lot of fun, and we enjoyed meeting with those present, John and Chris Millard, Barry Hook, Bob and Gayle Halliwell (and their daughter Robin and son-in-law John – camping in "some other brand"), Vic and Sheila McDonald, Dick and Sharon Moffatt, Rick Mattson and Karen Griffin, and ourselves. We also had visits from Sharon (who was recovering from a knee replacement) and Charlie Wieder, and Lynn and Bryan Jackson who are local residents. We had lots of fun at our wine and cheese "Happy Hours", and on the golf course and subsequently at the "chipping contest" and the "marshmallow drive" events. Chris had prepared some lovely gift bags and we were

resplendent in red and white to go with our "Canadiana" theme. Lots of prizes were given for many categories of participation. Please enjoy the photos in this newsletter.

(See next page for rest of message)

While in the Penticton area, we stopped by Midtown RV and enjoyed meeting the new Sales staff, especially Randi Westhaver. We are also pleased that Rick Mattson and Karen Griffin are going to be our new 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Presidents, Barry Hook is taking on the head of the Membership Committee, and Tom Akam will be our new Treasurer. It is both a delight and a relief to have so many members step up to support the club. If you are willing to help, we still have positions in the club to fill.

Not all of the news of the club, however, is great. Our club is sad to report the passing of Alex Matches, one of our former Presidents. His widow, Arlene, will be supplying a memorial to him in this issue, and an invitation to his Celebration of Life at the end of October.

We are preparing this on the eve of our first Unit 121 Caravan in several years, and we enjoyed exploring Telegraph Cove this late afternoon. We will be joining the other rigs tomorrow in Port Hardy. There will be lots more information, and photos, of this Vancouver Island event in the November issue of Tilley's Trails.

We wish you all a good Canadian Thanksgiving. I know we all have lots to give thanks for, especially if we own an Airstream. We were particularly thankful last evening when we arrived in Nanaimo (taking advantage of the cheaper ferry rates in the evening) and were able to sleep in our warm rig after the drenching downpour in which we set up. Happy Trails to you all!

l'm so glad l was young and stupid BEFORE there were camera phones.

Do you ever feel like your body's " check engine" light has been on and you're still driving it like "nah it'll be fine"? I don't want to adult anymore. I don't even want to human. I want to goat. Just eat all day and head butt anyone who annoys me.



So many people these days are too judgemental.

I can tell just by looking at them.



## MAINTENANCE MATTERS



Recently, Tom Akam, our new Treasurer, loaned me a book written during the Africa and Europe Caravan led by Wally Byam at the end of 1959. It describes several of the earliest caravans of the club. Along with those descriptions, he offered suggestions for living in a travel trailer, suggestions for how to buy one, information about preparing for trips, and other advice. The Appendix named the items that trailer owners should bring with them. I have shared that list below because I found it interesting to compare it with the items we carry with us today: some are similar, others are quite different as you will note below.

Tow rope – 1 inch nylon, at least 35 feet

Chain - at least 2 lengths 1/4 inch by 15 feet long with hooks on both ends

Lug wrench – the 4-socket "cross type

Hydraulic jacks – two long-handled types, one for the axle and one for the bumper

Spare tires - one for the car and one for the trailer

Tire pump

Fire extinguisher – "better to be safe than sorry"

Plastic buckets – 2- or 3-gallon nesting ones

Water can – for an emergency supply of water

Wheel chocks – blocks of wood 7" square, 4" thick and slanted at one end, plus a triangular 3-foot-long wedge about 5" high for levelling the trailer

Gasoline can

High pressure hose – 2- or 3- 25' lengths for those occasions when you have to get water from a hydrant, along with a "Y" connection so that if you travel with others, the trailers can all be hooked together on one faucet

Light cord – 50' cord – heavy rubber-covered type

Flashlight – with an extra bulb in the base or head

Coleman lantern – kerosene as a fuel source

Shovel – for digging "gopher holes" – a hole into which human waste could be dropped (that would now be stored in a black tank)

Funnel – for pouring water into the trailer water tank

Folding chair(s) – one per person

Junk pile – a metal box or old dishpan containing "everything" (miscellaneous items)

Tools – "the usual assortment" – a screwdriver kit, pipe wrench, socket wrench kit, hammer, saw, pliers, chisel, ax, etc.

Cleaning equipment – broom, mop, dustpan, mop bucket, and synthetic sponges to clean the trailer windows

First aid kit

Sewer hose – as long as you can carry

Sink hose - this is for draining the sink when camping without utility connections

Ball hitch on the front of the car – when you have to back your trailer into a tight spot it is much easier to do it from the front than from the back, or if you are stuck and need a tow it is easier to hook a chain or rope to this hitch than to crawl under the car to hook it to the frame

So, what is in your list of items to carry? We are thinking that it would be interesting to compose a 21<sup>st</sup> century list of items needed for camping with your Airstream. Send us your ideas at <u>tilley2007@outlook.com</u>.

## THE COMMUNITY CORNER by Arlene

Pull tabs are once again being collected. Tom Akam is organizing taking these tabs to be traded in for \$\$\$ for a charity...so, save them please and one of our Unit will arrange to get them to Tom.



A sincere thank you too all our friends and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy in the passing of my hubby, Alex Matches, on September 7th. He left this realm on his own terms with family around him and 'Hallelujah' being sung by Leonard Cohen. It was a very peaceful passing.



Apologies to Rick Mattson and Karen Griffin as I inadvertently missed sending out an email where he requested assistance for a dinner they were hosting on the Island Caravan. I was to solicit help putting this dinner together and I got caught up in my own drama and missed his request. Again, please accept my apologies...I hope the dinner went off in spite of my error.



From: Emma Graham <emmagraham77@yahoo.com> Date: September 13, 2023 at 4:27:34 PM PDT To: saltayre@gmail.com Subject: Airstream help

#### Hi my name is Emma

I live in the Comox valley. I have an old airstream. 33 feet long that needs some work on the inside. I'm having trouble finding anyone qualified to help me. I'm wondering if you have any suggestions on Vancouver Island ? Thank you, Emma







Thanksgiving

Check us out on *Facebook*. Some sites you may enjoy are:



BC Unit Caravana WBCCI Region 10 WBCCI Wally Byam Airstream Club Airstream Addicts Airstream Hunter Airstream Courtesy Parking Airstream Canada Adventures Airstream Pets

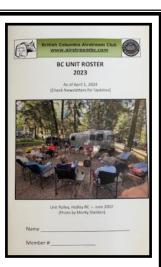


2023-2024 Presidents Barbara & Trenor Tilley

## <u>MEMBER, WEBSITE, and ROSTER</u> <u>CHANGES</u>

# **NEW BC UNIT MEMBERS & AFFILIATES**

McAULAY, Rob & Sandy 5720 Riverbottom Road W Duncan, BC, V9L 6H9 Telephone: 250-727-8411 Email: rsmcaulay@gmail.com Airstream: 1966 23-foot Tradewind BRN 8328 (BC Unit Members)



CANTU, Lucia 10120 88th Avenue CT SW Lakewood, WA, 98498 Telephone: 360-688-0495 Email: texmex12@hotmail.com Airstream: 2021 16-foot Caravel

BRN 5197 (BC Unit Affiliate) (Member Washington Unit)

## **ROSTER CHANGES**

**STEWART, Dan & Carolyn (now have a new address)** 1409, 8485 Young Road, Chilliwack, BC, V2P 2Y2

**WIEDER, Charles & Sharon (BRN** 3683) are 'Affiliates' of BC Unit (121) and full members of Oregon Unit (90). The roster doesn't show them as affiliates

Hi Arlene,

First of all we want to apologize for not getting in touch before now. We have enjoy receiving the Newsletters but with a busy summer we just never made the time to reply. Well, today we make the time!

So an introduction to Murray and myself.

We live in Victoria and this October we will celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary. In those years we have camped and RV'd starting with a heavy old tent belonging to Murray's Mom and Dad to a 40 foot Triple E diesel pusher. We are now driving an Airstream Interstate19 motorhome and looking forward to taking part in some of the BC Airstream club activities. Unfortunately we are in a townhouse so we are unable to offer anyone an overnight parking space but are willing to meet with anyone who happens to be living in or visiting in Victoria.

Our hobbies included camping and cruising and we have several Classic Cars which we enjoy taking to the many car shows here on the island.

Paul's idea of a caravan visiting BC smaller cities sounds great. We have done this with our Vintage Car club several times but sometime it would be nice to drive a vehicle that we don't have to coax along to make it to the finish without a breakdown. We will be in touch.

Looking forward to meeting everyone, Murray and Carol Firth Victoria, BC

mandcfirth@gmail.com

# British Columbia Unit #121 2023/2024 Activity Schedule

## DATE

## **EVENT**

White Spot Aldergrove, BC

*Back Oct.10th* 9:00 am Every Tuesday

December 2

**Coffee/Breakfast Get-Together** Roadhouse Grille 1781 King George Boulevard Surrey, BC

Christmas Luncheon

## HOST(S)

Tom Akam 604-538-4149 To reserve your spot

Trenor & Barbara Tilley

**Region10 Executive** 

halliwell4840@telus.net

Brobson@telus.net

Bob & Gayle Halliwell halliwell4840@telus.net

Trenor & Barbara Tilley

778-808-7257

**Bev Robson/Eileen Meston** 

**Bob Halliwell** 

## **STATUS**





#### <u>2024</u>

- May 8-12 Region 10 Rally Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- April ? Maintenance/Newbie Rally
- June 28–July 1 Hedley Rally Riverview RV Park, Hedley, BC
- Aug.25-Sept.1 Fishing Rally Loon Bay Resort Sheridan Lake, BC
- Date TBD Installation Rally
- Date TBA Ft Langley Rally
- Date TBA Small Towns BC Caravan
- Oct.5-10 67th Airstream Club International Rally Sedalia, Missouri



#### PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS — WE ARE OPEN FOR SUGGESTIONS

# **Installation Celebration and 3rd Annual Golf Rally**

From September 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual British Columbia Airstream Golf Tournament was held at Twin Lakes Golf Course and RV Park near Penticton B.C. Overall the tournament was a great success! Combined with the tournament was a wine and cheese installation celebration following our zoom AGM of September 12<sup>th</sup>. A Canadian theme was enjoyed throughout the three days.

On Friday September 15<sup>th</sup> the installation celebration was held to congratulate the new Executive for 2023/24. The celebration included introducing Barbara & Trenor Tilley as co-presidents as well as the rest of the Executive. John Millard gave Barbara & Trenor an Airstream book similar to the one he received when he took on the position. Barbara & Trenor presented John Millard with a plaque and past president's flag in thanks for his work as President over the past 3-1/2 years. Chris Millard was also given a bouquet of flowers for her work as secretary for the club. There were a number of people in attendance as well as some new members. This included Barbara & Trenor Tilley, Bob & Gayle Halliwell, Barry Hook, Karen Griffin (and her brother Eddie, with Rick Mattson, Sheila & Vic MacDonald, Sharon & Dick Moffat, and John & Chris Millard. Sharon & Charlie Wieder also drove up from Penticton for the evening celebrations which was great to see. The many plates of food and drinks were well received as were the countless stories and jokes (many of which were provided by Rick). Our thanks to all of you who participated with special thanks going to Barbara & Trenor who organized most of the food etc and to Chris Millard who gave special attention to the Canadian theme.

On Saturday the golf tournament was held with three teams of golfers teeing off mid-morning. The course was in great condition and the views were spectacular. For those of you who understand the game we played a texas scramble best ball scoring system. Upon completion of the golf we gathered together for our annual marshmallow drive, chipping contest and then presentation ceremony. The winning team of Bob Halli-well, Robin & John Gulliker (Bob's daughter and son in law) and Barry Hook took home the amazing trophy as well as some Canadianna gifts. Dick Moffat won the chipping contest and Rick Mattson won the marshmallow drive. Kudo's go to our new co-Presidents (Barbara & Trenor) who actually walked the course on a rather hot day (well done). Special mention also goes to Lynn & Bryan Jackson who dropped in for a spell as well.

Over all it was nice to see some new members involved in taking in all of the festivities. This year there were more golfers than in the past which was encouraging to see. Chris and I hosted the event for the third time and hope to continue the tradition pending any complications. Chris and I want to thank the club for it's thoughtful gifts and wish you all safe travels in 2024.

Respectfully submitted John Millard (Past President)













# British Columbia Airstream Club Annual General Meeting

DATE: September 12, 2023 VIA Zoom

Called to order: 7:10 pm

Attendance: John Millard, Chris Millard, Trenor Tilley, Barbara Tilley, Bev Robson, Eileen Meston, Tom Akam, Victor MacDonald, and Sheila MacDonald.

Quorum needed 9: We had 9 members

Minutes AGM 2022 approved:John Millard $2^{nd}$  Barbara TilleyCARRIEDAgenda approved:Tom Akam $2^{nd}$  Bev RobsonCARRIED

Membership: 104 members including affiliate members.

Website report: No changes as ACI would like all information on their ACI Unit sites. Monty Sheldan continues to add the monthly news letter to our site. *Thank you Monty*.

Treasurer report: John Millard read a September 5, 2023 statement from the bank. Canadian Account: \$4,797.24 American Account: \$4,155.28 GIC Account: \$6,441.33 Total \$15,389.85 Moved By: John Millard 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Trenor Tilley In favour 8 Abstain - 1 CARRIED Tom advised that because the statement was current and did not reflect our year end of June 30<sup>th</sup> that he would abstain.

*Banking Resolution*: Effective immediately will remove Carolyn Stewart as a signing authority (TD BANK) for the club. Effective immediately will add Barbara Tilley (co president) and Tom Akam (treasurer) as additional signing authorities (TD BANK) for the club.

Moved By: John Millard 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Trenor Tilley In favour 9 CARRIED

The Mid Town Cheque has not been received by Trenor. The Tilley's will check into this with Carolyn and perhaps with Mid Town RV.

Vancouver Island Caravan;

Port Hardy, Tofino, Victoria from September 21 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. Trenor & Barbara Tillley would like the club to approve this event for insurance purposes, as this is required for all caravans.

Moved by: Barbara Tilley 2<sup>nd</sup> by; John Millard Approved: By all CARRIED

Your 2023/2024 B.C. Unit Executive was elected.

Co Presidents: Barbara & Trenor Tilley Vice President: Vacant Treasurer: Tom Akam Secretary: Barbara Tilley Directors at large Mainland: Bob Halliwell and Arlene Matches Interior: Charlie Wieder or Sharon Wieder Island: Vacant U.S.A.: Vacant Past President: John Millard

Moved by: John Millard 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Victor MacDonald In favour: All

Cont'd on next page ...

CARRIED

#### Rally Fees:

We had a discussion about continuing to wave rally fees this upcoming year. While a motion was approved to continue to wave rally fees for this year some alternatives were suggested as members often don't inform the rally hosts as to their attendance. One suggestion was that we have a deposit option so that rally hosts can track who is attending. Further discussion is needed and this issue will be be tabled at the next executive meeting. Until that meeting is held the rally fees will continue to be waved.

#### Presidents report:

—Last year Chris & I held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual golf rally at Twin Lakes with about 5 trailers in attendance. This was a buddy rally with 2 non Airsteam trailers, a good time was had by all. Al Gamache won the marshmallow drive, Trenor Tilley won the putting contest & Trenor Tilley, Bob Halliwell and Barry Brickwood winning the first place trophy again.

-Barbara & Trenor hosted a wonderful Christmas luncheon in early December. Thank you for a job well done. (Note: This is usually held on the first Saturday in December.)

—In January we had our first in person meeting at Traveland which is always a fun time. I believe some bottles of wine were distributed (won) by several new members attending. As well a nice gift from Traveland (2 wine glasses with lids perfect for camping.) Thank you Traveland.

—In April Bob & Gayle Halliwell hosted a maintenance rally at his place in Abbotsford. With 6 units there including 2 new members. Barry Hook provided his usual extensive knowledge base to help out some of the members and answered many questions. I also did some work on trailers and taught members how to do some regular maintenance themselves while there.

—In June Bev Robson & Eileen Meston held a great *Hedley Hoe Down Rally* at Riverhaven RV park. They brought a smoker and cooked baked beans that tasted marvellous. The ladies kept us well fed with lots of goodies for breakfast and happy hours. A special thank you to them for putting on such a great rally. 7 Airstreams were in attendance.

—The International Rally this year was held in Rock Springs, Montana with over 1100 Airstreams/members in attendance. Please see the Blue Beret for the full article. The new ACI Executive was formed & introduced.

-In August our installation rally was unfortunately cancelled because of the fires and us giving up our spots for displaced evacuees needing a safe place to stay.

—On a sad note: In April, long standing member & supporter of the club Gene Van Iderstine passed away. Gene was a wonderful person who was very involved with the BC club. He was a good friend and always had many stories and old parts for me. Rest in peace Gene.

—In early September our friend and long time member Alex Matches passed away. Alex and Arlene Matches were our mentors and welcomed us into the club. They have been a great source of information and very encouraging during the past few years. On a more funny note: Alex was a retired Fire Fighter and RCMP Officer. Chris and I used to live in Calgary and would go to Banff many times while living there. Alex shared with us that the bronze statue at the front entrance of the Banff Springs Hotel was him on a horse. He had me fooled for many years to the point where I even had my picture taken with the statue. A couple of weeks ago I questioned him about this once again and told him I didn't really think it was him to which he chuckled and said well it could have been. He had me fooled for years, what a great sense of humour he had. We will miss him, rest in peace Alex.

—Lastly: I would like to thank Arlene Matches our newsletter editor, who has been a wonderful source of information and assistance over the last 3.5 years. Marilyn Van Iderstine for her record keeping of our membership for many years, well done Marilyn. Monty Sheldon for manning our website, the countless hours spent maintaining our site for many years. Carolyn Stewart for 4 years as treasurer not an easy job. Trenor & Barbara Tilley our new co presidents, Charlie & Sharon Wieder, Bob Halliwell and, of course, my wife Chris who has helped me stay organized and keeps our notes up to date.

The meeting adjourned: 8:17 pm Next meeting at Traveland in Langley in January 20

#### Minutes taken by Christiane Millard

jm/cm

Why not carry your old expired Blue Beret magazines with you when you travel? There are future members all over North American and Europe who would love to



enjoy the Wally Byam Airstream Club lifestyle. Many owners (new and old) don't know of the club and a dust-collecting Blue Beret may be just the incentive to join us.

Tom Akam maintains on his computer an up-to-date alphabetical roster, a list of updates (corrections, additions and deletions) and separate rosters for (1) the Interior/Okanagan. (2) the Islands and (3) the United States. Upon request to <u>lighthouse13381@shaw.ca</u> (or 604-538-4149), he will email members copies either as a Word document or as a PDF — your choice.



To honour *Alex Matches* a Celebration of Life will be held at CRANLEY COMMUNITY HALL 2141 Cranley Drive, Surrey, BC Saturday, October 28, 2023 1:00-4:00

Parking may be limited in the lot at from of Hall so please also make use of the on-street parking on Cumbria Street in Cranley Place (our neighbours have been notified that we may be infringing on their frontage)



## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

**Budget Committee** Tom Akam & the VPs **Caravan Committee** Doug & Deb McGill **Nominating Committee** John Millard and two others to be selected **Community Service** Alex & Arlene Matches Equipment Chairman John Millard Hospitality & Sunshine Arlene Matches Membership & Mentoring Barry Hook **Newsletter Editor** Arlene Matches **Roster & Handbook** Tom Akam Safety Chairman Vacant **Telephone Committee** Vacant Unit Historian Vacant Webmaster Monty Sheldan Youth Ambassador Vacant







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#### !!...SMILE...!!

**Glenn** Peters

Toll Free Pager:

President, John Millard, requests new and affiliate members to please forward their info (photo and bio) for inclusion on the BC Unit website. We also encourage our regular and affiliate members who haven't done so to add a picture and update their biographies as well. Our Web Master, Monty Sheldan is working on an upgrade for our website and you will be advised when these changes are completed. Monty's email is msheldan@mac.com.



Tom Akam has a printable and up-to-date version of our Mini Roster in Word format which he will email upon request. Tom's email address is: lighthouse13381@shaw.ca