

Fun Times Newsletter

South Florida Airstream Club
Wally Byam Caravan Club International

October /November 2023
Volume 3, Issue 12



Our Mission Statement
South Florida Airstream Club is a welcoming family of Airstream owners who invite and mentor others to experience the adventure and fun of Airstream travel.

President's Message

Submitted By: David Robshaw

Hello from the road, Unit 30 members!

It's an honor and pleasure to write my first "President's Message" to you. Thanks for your trust in me and in our new board members. Congratulations to them! I look forward to working with Lucy (VP), Tim (2nd VP), Emilio (Corresponding Secretary), Judi (Recording Secretary), Linda (Treasurer), Lewis (Immediate Past President) and our trustees, Ron, Liana, Tom, and Sandra. Thanks to all of you for your leadership.

My goals for the next year are simple:

1. Continue to do what we're doing well. That includes growing our membership, both regular and affiliate, by always improving our communications and outreach. Our active social media presence and the "personal touch" we've applied have been two very successful strategies we'll continue.
2. Do fun things together in new ways and in new places. That means expanding the horizons of our mutual adventures, looking at venues and explorations that appeal to the broader base of our membership.
3. Focus on training members interested in deepening their involvement in the club. From executive board positions to rally hosting, our membership benefits from the diversity of interests and skillsets we each bring to the table. Getting more members involved and supporting them with internal training is a priority.
4. I think a great way to deepen interest in our club is to encourage our members to become more involved with the ACI on a regional and national level, through attendance at recognized National Event Rallies, the ACI International Rally (October 2024 in Sedalia, MO), and the Region 3 Annual Rally (Doswell, VA, in April 2024)

Linda and I are so happy to be part of this club. Your friendship and guidance have enhanced our Airstreaming experience in ways that we could never have imagined. It's been especially important to us since we became "full-timers" over two years ago. You are now our next-door neighbors - often literally – as we navigate this beautiful country. "Familiar faces in faraway places" is a simple thought, but the warmth it brings is amazing.

I hope to see you all soon at a rally or pop-up event.

David



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Immediate Past President's Message

Submitted By: Lewis Fogel, Immediate Past President

My Airstream Journey by Lewis Fogel

When we joined the South Florida Airstream Club (SFAC), I expected we would meet some like-minded people and go camping with them occasionally. And that, indeed, was all I/we were looking for.

Not long after becoming a member, Eileen Frerking approached me and asked if I would be interested in joining the Board as the 2nd Vice President. Initially, I was hesitant, but I knew I would be surrounded by people who would guide and help me. From there, I went to 1st Vice President and eventually President of the club. As my term ends, I have several thoughts and emotions.

I am grateful to the club for allowing me to serve this community of Airstreamers. Since joining the SFAC, we have met and made friends with many wonderful people. Along the way, we have learned so much about our Airstream, safety, maintenance, places to camp, and more. And that is more than we ever expected to get from our membership.

I am thankful that I was encouraged to become one of the leaders of this club. It allowed me to have a chance to actively contribute to the SFAC and foster connections with like-minded enthusiasts. It also allowed me to help influence decisions that shaped the club's policies, membership, events, and direction. I gained tremendous personal satisfaction from being on the Board and serving our members.

In closing, I want to encourage each member to get on a committee, get involved, or give thought to perhaps even running for office on our Board. And yes, joining a board involves a commitment, as it involves time, effort, and a sense of responsibility. But it is so worth it.

I am excited by the direction in which our club is going. When I look around and see new members and old friends, I know that I/we are in the right club. As the Immediate Past President, I wish our incoming President and Board a great year and thank everyone for your help.

Lewis Fogel

Travel Adventures and Photos Wanted

We are looking for your travel adventure stories and photos .

Do you have a great trip you want to write about for the newsletter?

Tell us about your travels and experiences on the road.

Thank you to those of you who have sent us stories and photos.

Send them to:

ec9332@verizon.net

"The views, opinions and advice, are solely of the author, and do not necessarily reflect those of the South Florida Airstream Club, it's Board, or Editor of the Fun Times"

"The Editor reserves the sole right to edit and publish your articles/pictures along with your name in one of the upcoming Fun Times"

*Please WELCOME Our New
Unit 30 Members & Affiliates*

Board of Directors

David Robshaw,
President

Lucy Comprosky,
1st Vice President

Tim McDow,
2nd Vice President

Linda Laviano,
Treasurer

Emilio Caragol,
Corresponding Secretary

Judi Fogel,
Recording Secretary

Lewis Fogel, Immediate
Past President,
Present Parliamentarian

Trustees

Sandra Gonzalez

Liana Mezza

Ron Mezza

Tom Henderson

Committee Chairs

Beth Racavich, Membership

Const. & Bylaws (Vacant)

Pam McDow, Ethics & Grievances

Emilio Caragol, Newsletter Editor

Judi Fogel, Sunshine Committee

ReShelle Enoch, Audit

Tim McDow, Webmaster

David Robshaw, Public Relations &
Social Media

New Members

Paul & Nicolle Stepler BRN 4175
David & Joyce Tait BRN 4414
Elizabeth & Scott Lehr BRN 8894
Josie & Tom Lewis BRN 19526
Richard & Deborah Schulenburg BRN 2248
Audrey & Jeff Myers BRN 9821

Renewals

Tim & Pam McDow	BRN 9652	Harry & Sandra Gonzalez	BRN 4796
Phillip & ReShelle Enoch	BRN 15960	Neil MacMillan & Evette	BRN 1689
Mary Ann David	BRN 7701	Sharon & Michael Jones	BRN 2592
Michael Northrop	BRN 7701	Marybeth & Rick Gardner	BRN 5389
Barbara Derian & Ralph	BRN 10826	Deborah & Kevin Rogers	BRN 5621
Patti & Tom Reed	BRN 0250	Ron & Liana Mezza	BRN 8612
Emilio & Shirley Caragol	BRN 9332	CJ & Teena Addison	BRN 7825
Stephen & Robin Keen	BRN 28588	Chuck & Vicki Wasson	BRN 7455
Michale & Becki	BRN 31725	Shawn & Jennifer Campbell	BRN10314
Deb Sullivan	BRN 2286	Lucy & Kevin Comprosky	BRN 5847
Laurie & Pat Jones	BRN 1133	Bob & Bernice Richardson	BRN 301
John & Victoria Magnacca	BRN 5591	James McCormack	BRN 1433
Lynda Rozell	BRN 6298	John & Eileen Frerking	BRN 227
Patricia Rice	BRN 8622	Maria Linares	BRN 8622
Richard & Debra Lucas	BRN 1086	Dick Wheatley	BRN 9455
Emory & Peggy Bullard	BRN 25863	Karina & Jose Leon	BRN 21622
Tony & Donna Laurie	BRN 2856	Tom Henderson	BRN 4650
Greg Blue	BRN 3362	Barbara Colson	BRN 28766

Breaking News!

State of Florida House Bill # 109 - State Park Campsite Reservations This Bill goes into effect on January 1, 2024

Florida residents will have the opportunity to reserve state park cabins and campsites one month before nonresidents. Florida residents will be able to reserve state park cabins and campsites

Including sites for RV, tent, boat, and equestrian camping - up to 11 months in advance, and up to 10 months in advance for nonresidents.

Florida residents must provide proof of residency
(a Florida drivers license or identification card)

When making reservations more than 10 months in advance.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect January 1, 2024.

Meet The SFAC Newly Elected Board of Directors and Trustees

David Robshaw, BRN 9602, President **Linda Laviano, BRN 9602, Treasurer**

David and wife Linda have owned two Airstreams, purchasing their first, a 2019 27' Flying Cloud, in August of 2018. They've since upgraded to a 2021 Classic 30', which they've lived in full-time since June of 2021. They call her "Silver Sue."

They've been Unit 30 members since acquiring their first Airstream. They've been to two ACI International Rally events and many local club functions. They are members of the ACI's Grapes & Grains and Pride Streamers Intra-clubs. They look forward to more extensive travel in the southwest US and into Canada and hopefully, Alaska soon.

David retired from a 30-year law-enforcement career in South Florida and Linda, from her job as a Victim Advocate for the State Attorney's Office (17th Circuit). David enjoys photography, hiking, biking, and eating Linda's fine cooking. Linda enjoys cooking, and continually improving how to live comfortably – with style – in a small space.

In his volunteer work with Unit 30, David most enjoys the satisfaction he gets from watching the club grow, and in making lots of new friends. Linda's enjoyment comes from helping the club manage its money and in participating in planning and executing a good rally. The club appreciates David's sense of service and egalitarianism and the organizational skills Linda brings to their roles as President and Treasurer.

Lucy Comprosky, BRN 5847, 1st Vice President

Lucy and husband Kevin are owners of a 2019 Classic 30'. Her nickname is "Gracie 2.0." This is their second Airstream; they previously owned a 2018 Flying Cloud, also 30' (just "Gracie").

They've been Airstreaming for almost three years and have been full-timers for over two of them. They look forward to traveling to the northwest US for new adventures. They've been members of ACI and Unit 30 for two years.

Lucy works from the road as a Client Fulfillment Manager for Ciena Corporation, a networking systems, services, and software company. Lucy most enjoys the camaraderie she feels in volunteering with Unit 30. She and Kevin enjoy traveling together in their Airstream.

Lucy enjoys working out and cooking. The club relies on Lucy's ability to multitask in her important role as the club's 1st Vice President.

Tim McDow, BRN 9652, 2nd Vice President

Tim and his wife Pam are owners of a 2021 Flying Cloud 25', the first they've had. They've been Airstreaming now for two and a half years and have been Unit 30 members for two years.

They are eager to explore the western US and particularly, Utah. Tim's a retired electrical engineer who last worked as a production manager building laser internet communication devices for Google. Tim's enjoyment from volunteering with the club comes from being part of a great group of people.

Tim's hobbies include photography, and his willingness to share his gift is deeply appreciated by our members. Also, he happily shares his amazing knowledge of RV electronics and general systems and has provided spot repairs, advice, and training to many of us.

Lewis Fogel, BRN 4364, Immediate Past President
Judi Fogel, BRN 4364, Recording Secretary

Lewis and wife Judi own a 2018 Flying Cloud 27'. It's their first Airstream. They've been avid RVers since purchasing their "Sylvie" five years ago. They've participated in multiple Airstream Club events, including several international rallies and caravans. They are members of two ACI Intraclubs, Grapes & Grains and Pride Streamers.

They'd love to travel to the west coast of the US, Alaska, and Nova Scotia for new explorations. They've been Unit 30 members since they acquired their Airstream. As well as his role on the Executive Board as the Immediate Past President, Lewis serves as the club's Parliamentarian and on the Nominating Committee. In addition to her service as Recording Secretary, Judi is the chair of the club's Sunshine Committee.

Lewis loves his involvement as a club volunteer because of the opportunities he gets to help others learn about their Airstreams. Judi most enjoys the feeling of helping the club in her volunteer work with us. In addition to camping and travel, Lewis counts fishing among his pastimes. Judi enjoys her hobbies of reading, cooking, and easy bike riding. The club is grateful for Lewis's good nature and his ability to get along with those from other cultures and walks of life.

The club depends on Judi's innate sense of service and helping others in her vital role as Recording Secretary. Lewis remains employed as a business consultant, while Judi is retired from her work as a special education teacher.

Emilio Caragol, BRN 9332. Corresponding Secretary

Emilio and his wife Shirley own a 2018 Flying Cloud 28ft, their first Airstream, and they've nicknamed her "Lucky Lucy."

They've been Airstreaming for six years and are looking forward to traveling to the western US for new adventures. Emilio and Shirley have been Unit 30 members for six years. In addition to his duties as Corresponding Secretary, Emilio curates and edits the Fun Times Newsletter Editor.

The Caragol's belong to ACI Intraclub, Grapes & Grains. Emilio enjoys volunteering with Unit 30 because it keeps him involved, allows him to contribute to the club, and provides opportunities to meet new members.

He enjoys golfing and fishing as his hobbies. The club relies on Emilio's natural abilities to listen to others and his attention to detail to execute his important duties as the Corresponding Secretary.

Emilio is retired and last worked as the Corporate Security Manager in Florida for Duke Energy.

Ron Mezza, BRN 8612, 2 Year Trustee
Liana Mezza, BRN 8612, 1 Year Trustee

Ron and Liana have owned their first Airstream, a 2018 27' Flying Cloud (they call her "The Cloud" for short), for five and a half years. They've been Unit 30 members for two and a half years. They belong to the Grapes & Grains Intraclub of ACI.

They are looking forward to making their way north, exploring the east coast of the US and Canada. Ron and Liana are both retired, he as a Project Supervisor for a pipeline construction company and she, from a retail sales position in cosmetics. He loves traveling, creating hot sauces, and gardening for fun, while Liana enjoys cooking and particularly, sourdough bread baking.

Liana says she's very good at finding the positives in just about anything – and that's a good thing, since Ron says his "superpower" is getting on Liana's nerves!

Tom Henderson, BRN 4650, 1 Year Trustee

Tom owns a 2015 Interstate van, 24' long. It's his first Airstream, and he's been traveling in it since 2016. Tom is keen to travel to and explore Quebec.

He's been a member of Unit 30 for eight years. He's a retired public works executive in local government and a consultant in the field. Tom's satisfaction from volunteering with the club comes from helping make events run smoothly.

His hobbies and interests include camping, foreign travel, and freshwater fishing. Tom's laid back nature and aptitude at getting along with everyone is prized by the club.

Sandra Gonzalez, BRN 4796, 2 Year Trustee

Sandra and Harry, her husband, own a 22' 2019 Bambi Sport. It's their second Airstream; they owned a 2018 Airstream Nest prior to their Bambi. They've been Airstreaming since 2018.

They joined Unit 30 as soon as they purchased their Bambi in 2019. They are looking forward to traveling to Utah early next year. Sandra enjoys being a member of the executive board because it provides insight as to the club's direction and she wants to be involved.

Sandra is retired from her job as a Parent Coordinator with the public school system in New York. Sandra's hobbies include crafting, golfing, and scuba diving. Sandra's affinity for people is a strength she shares with the club.

We appreciate her easy-going personality and value her ability to connect with everyone.



Ways to Get Mail and Packages on the Road While Full-time RV'ing

- Get a Mail Scanning Service ...
- Use a P.O. Box or Private Mailbox Rental ...
- Have Your Mail Forwarded ...
- Have Your Mail Delivered Directly to You ...
- Have Your Mail Sent To a Friend or Relative's House ...
- Sign Up with a Virtual Mailbox Service ...
- Use General Delivery Mail Service ...
- Request to Hold Your Mail at Your Local Post Office ...

For additional information check the following Websites

- Get Mail via a Worldwide Courier, U. S Postal Service, UPS, FedEx, Amazon Hub Lockers, Campgrounds.

SFAC Unit 30 Treasurer's Report, November 3, 2023

Submitted By: Linda Laviano, Treasurer

The club checking account balance is \$3,049.79. The savings account balance is \$10,745.31.
The total of the accounts are \$13,795.10.

The board voted to separate funds into an operations (checking) account and a savings account for security purposes and will be exploring options for a higher interest yield option.

Additional income reflects rally fees from both the Rallies at Katheryn Abbey Hannah (KAH) Park in Jacksonville, and the Pumpkin Fest Installation Rally at Myakka River State Park, and monthly deposits from ACI for membership dues paid to International.

Debits include rally expenses, club operating expenses, and the purchase of a portable amplification system for use at club events.

The following is a financial summary of the final 2 rallies of the Year.

The KAH Rally had 32 attendees. We collected \$736.00 in rally fees, made a \$100. Donation to Timucuan Parks Foundation and had a total of \$767.69 in food and related expenses. The club had a net loss of \$31.69 for the rally.

The Pumpkin Fest Rally had 62 attendees. We collected \$3,340.00 in rally fees, made a \$100 donation to Friends of Myakka River State Park, and had a total of 3,202.26 in food and related expenses. The club had a net gain of \$137.44 for the rally.

Renew on Time!

Just a friendly reminder to renew your membership in a timely manner in our International Club and our South Florida Airstream Club Unit 30 online. International dues are \$75.00 and South Florida dues are \$10.00 for a grand total of \$85.00 per membership/year. Be sure to complete this soon. Affiliate members are \$10.00/year to be also paid online. Any questions on payments please contact Linda Laviano, Treasurer via email or cell.

llaviano@gmail.com

(954) 980-8715

**You will have to log in to the WBCCI Web site to have access to the membership page.
Go to member information under your name.**

A Message from the Sunshine Committee Chair,
Judi Fogel

Hello from your Sunshine Committee!

Please be aware that the SFAC Unit 30 Sunshine Committee recognizes any serious illnesses and or deaths of our members. In order for the notifications to go out to our members in a timely manner, please notify Judi Fogel (Judifogel@aol.com) of any such event and she will send the appropriate message on our Clubs behalf.

PUMPKINFEST – INSTALLATION RALLY OCT 2023
MYAKKA RIVER STATE PARK
Submitted By: Lucy Comprosky



Our Pumpkinfest/Installation rally was held on Oct 26-30 in Sarasota, Florida and our schedule of activities didn't disappoint the attendees. We kicked off our rally with our traditional "Get acquainted" Happy hour where plenty of delicious Hors d'oeuvres were shared by all. Lots of catching up with old friends as well as getting to know new members took place at the South Pavilion where we would have many more fun times throughout the weekend.

Friday was a day filled with many activities. We began our morning at 9am sharp with Nikki Palmer from SkyMed who presented the advantages of SkyMed Membership and provided us with a yummy breakfast. That was followed by Pumpkin carving led by our own 1st place winner last year Judy Harrison. There were some 1st time carvers (me included) who genuinely enjoyed this activity. Prizes were awarded to our 1st place winner Tim McDow; 2nd place winner Michelle Lacayo and 3rd place winner was Tom Lewis.



The busy day continued with a lunch-n-learn session led by a panel of some of our Unit 30 members. We munched on a Sub sandwich from Publix and learned about the advantages of Boondocking, and Multi-meter usage. This was led by the Fogel's and Tim McDow as well as some of the attendees who had some of their own experiences to share.

Our GAME DAY began at 3pm and ran until 6pm. It was the highlight of our day and so much FUN!!! There was Axe throwing, Giant Jenga and Cornhole provided by Axe Heads Sarasota Mobil Axe Throwing, Greg Garrison. We had many participants as well as a large audience. Fun was had by all and of course prizes were awarded. A big thank you to our scorekeepers Linda, Frances and Suzy!

On Saturday early morning we supplied a delicious breakfast while we listened in on a very engaging presentation by 2 park rangers from Myakka State Park. They spoke for a full hour about the history of the Myakka State Park and the many activities it has to offer. The rangers were very well spoken and super knowledgeable. At the end of their presentation, we gave them a \$100 donation check.

After the presentation, the rally attendees were free to ride bikes, hike some trails or take a walk in the Canopy trail. About half of the attendees took a 1.5hr boat tour on the Myakka River State Park. It was a beautiful day for a boat ride!

We all gathered at the South Pavilion on Saturday at 5pm for a BBQ meal catered by Mission BBQ! The meal was unbelievably delicious with many different sides to choose from and honestly didn't disappoint anyone. Western wear was optional, and we had a good show of cowboy boots and hats!

Following our delicious meal, we all stuck around for a very important part of the evening. Our new Executive Board members were installed, and we celebrated with a cake and ice cream! It was a memorable evening for all! We were so excited that we forgot to take a group picture and made sure we captured the moment on the next day at our luncheon.

(From left to right) Tim McDow, 2nd Vice President; Sandra Gonzalez, Trustee, David Robshaw, President; Lucy Comprosky, 1st Vice President; Linda Laviano, Treasurer; Judi Fogel, Recording Secretary; Lewis Fogel, Past President/ Present Parliamentarian; Emilio Caragol, Corresponding Secretary. (Not Picture) Ron Mezza, Trustee; Liana Mezza, Trustee; Tom Henderson, Trustee.



Sunday was an easy morning while we waited for lunch time at the Deep Lagoon Seafood & Oyster House in Osprey. The restaurant had a beautiful view of the water, and their menu offered many delicious selections.

Later that afternoon we met at the Pavilion one last time for a couple of rounds of Bingo! Fun was had by all and again many prizes were awarded.

We had encouraged our members to decorate their Airstream with Halloween decorations. At night, their beautiful decorations lit up their sites and on Sunday we announced the winners for the best decorations. Prizes were awarded for the top 3 and there were many honorable mention winners as well.

The rally ended on Monday with a lovely breakfast spread of bagels and OJ at the Robshaw/Laviano site.

I want to take this opportunity to once again thank my Co-Rally hosts Emilio and Shirley Caragol. They were extremely instrumental, and their hard work was very much appreciated by all. This was a rally for books!

National Event Rally; Potlatch Rally

Submitted by: Linda Laviano

What do you do when you are full-timers looking to extend your travels and stay out of the record-breaking heat this summer?

If you are Dave Robshaw and Linda Laviano, you make an impromptu decision to join the Washington Airstream Club as they resume the long-running Potlatch Rally at Washington Land Yacht Harbor. While attending the ACI International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming, we learned that there were still openings at a National Event Rally being held near Olympia, WA, August 1-6. We decided to register and boy, are we happy we did.

We arrived a few days ahead of schedule and the welcome we received from the Washington Airstream Club was heartwarming.

Although we were over 3,000 miles from our home state, we immediately encountered several Airstreamers we had previously met at other club events. We were eventually joined by South Florida Airstream Club affiliates, Kevin and Deborah Rodgers and Mike and Mary Anne Ferretti, as well as Jen Olsem from the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club. We were not surprised by the instant connections we made with other fellow Airstreamers, Dave and I are always running into familiar faces in far away places and now we have added another Airstream only park to our list of places to which we must return.



National Event Rally; Potlatch Rally

Submitted by: Linda Laviano

The American Indian term Potlatch signifies a gathering of feasting and gift giving. Activities during the rally included daily group meals prepared by the club members and hosts, seminars, games, an outdoor movie night, tours of the state capitol building and a gondola ride to the top of Crystal Mountain for breathtaking views of Mt. Rainier.

ACI Club President Eric McHenry was also in attendance and conducted a campfire chat discussing the future direction of the club.

The rally concluded with a silent auction to raise funds for the Nisqually Tribe Youth Program, an outdoor salmon bake, and Airstream glow night.

The Airstreams were not the only things glowing as we left Washington with warm memories, new friendships, and deeper connections to our Airstream Club family, living up to the Potlatch tradition.



Kathryn Abbey Hanna Rally

Submitted By: Tim McDow



The rally was attended by 16 rigs with 4 of them first timers. Our first timers are: Valerie and Jeff Boyd, Abrom and Soon Ja Douglas, Vickie and Todd Gilliom, and Frankie and Donna Montagnino. Thanks to all our first timers for attending the rally. I hope we met your expectations and look forward to seeing you at future rallies.

Thursday night social was wonderful with a special celebration for those attending with September birthdays. Happy birthday to Judi, Tom, Jeff and Donna.

Friday started with an outing to the Jacksonville Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. We met at the entrance for a group photo before our tour of the gardens. The walking paths were well maintained and easy to navigate. As we walked the path around the lake, we stopped at overlooks to see the gator, look at the different plant life and to take pictures.

Friday evening we met at Singleton's Seafood for dinner. We sat out back on the wood deck overlooking the water and socializing with fellow rally participants. The food was wonderful with plenty on the plate.



Saturday Tim woke to the morning sunrise and met the Pyles, Mary Beth, Mark and LaRoux. All enjoyed a great Sunrise. At 8am Saturday morning, we had the scheduled bike ride and campground walk. The walk was led by Liana Mezza and the bike ride was led by Lewis Fogel and Mark Pyles.

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Rally

Submitted By: Tim McDow

Saturday night we had the rally social dinner. Dinner was well attended by everyone and we even had some children of our campers. Jeff and Valerie's daughter Ainsley and Tim and Pam's daughter Kim joined us for dinner.

Following dinner we played the game "Name That Tune" hosted by Jim McCormack. This engaged everyone with trying to figure out the name and artist of the songs. After Jim finished we had a tie between two of our first time rally families, Jeff and Valerie Boyd and Frankie and Donna Montagnino. After a playoff round, The Boyd's were the winners and received a 12" Flamingo wind spinner.



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At 9am Sunday, we had the scheduled Photo Class given by Tim McDow. Topics were setting up cell phones to 16:9 formats, setting up the Rule of Thirds Grid lines, negative and positive image space and how to take pictures using what they learned. Sunday beach lunch was served with Publix sub boxes for those that hadn't left. Just before the activities there was a little excitement with a male wiping out on a single wheel skate board right in front of us. Our rally first aid team went to work helping the injured.

After we discovered he had a broken or dislocated shoulder, 911 was called and we had the fleet of emergency vehicles. As we thought things would finally calm down, an 4' eastern Diamondback Rattle snake slithered by on the walk way, between two bushes. Lucky it was just a close encounter with no one bitten.



Tom's Big Surprise

As told to David Robshaw by Tom Henderson

On his way to the 2023 International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming, our long-time club member (and a newly elected Trustee) Tom Henderson got quite a surprise. Staying at a Harvest Host property near Harrisburg, Nebraska, he jumped on a Zoom meeting he'd been asked to attend a few days before.

The purpose of the call – as related to Tom – was to assist the Chair of the Political Science Department of Florida State University in Tallahassee in urging a potential donor to make a major financial contribution to the Department. As an alumnus, Tom had not only endowed a Professorship in his family's name, but he also offered to urge others to do the same.

When Tom joined the video meeting, he saw – as expected - the Department Chair, Brad Gomez. What he didn't expect was to see almost all his extended family! His son, Scott (also an FSU alumnus) and his wife Betsy and their kids Logan and Molly, his son David (FSU alumnus too) and his wife Leigh Ann and kids Abby and Daniel, and his sister Billie and her kids Ben and Mariah. The Dean of the FSU School of Social Sciences Tim Chapin and FSU Foundation Senior Director Katherine Asher were also present. The many faces were almost too much for Tom's iPhone screen!

After Brad apologized for getting Tom on the call under false pretenses, he told Tom he had been contacted in April by David who explained that Tom had not received a degree when he left FSU in the spring of 1970, because he had not completed the foreign language requirement. Tom has dyslexia and mastering English, while difficult, was possible. French? Not so much.

Brad agreed to investigate David's request to review Tom's academic record to see what was left for him to obtain his degree. The registrar reported back that not only was Tom a good student but had finished all the other requirements for his degree. Moreover, the foreign language requirement had been dropped by the college in 1974. That meant that Tom would be issued a diploma dated December 1974. Tom was speechless! Thinking this call could not get any better, Dean Chapin floored Tom with the news that he was naming him as one of four of 2023's Distinguished Alumni of the College.

On his return to Florida, Tom made his first stop in Tallahassee to pick up his newly minted, 49-year-old diploma before anyone at FSU had a chance to change their mind. It now hangs in a prominent place in his den. While Tom asserts that he will not be attending the 50th Reunion of his graduating class next year, he said it's nice to know he's eligible. Congratulations, Tom! You've always been a distinguished member of our club. We're glad that FSU finally got that sorted out, too!



South Florida Airstream Club 2023 / 2024 Event Schedule

Please note that dates are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.
The club's social media posts and your email inbox should be reviewed for schedule changes prior to making reservations."

2023 Rally Schedule							
Dates	Description	Venue	Location	Owner	Site fee	Notes	ShowRunner CoRunner
Jan 5-8	Canopener	Topsail Hill Preserve SP	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	NER	~\$42 per night	National Event Rally	N/A
Jan 20-22	U30 EB Workshop	Hillcrest RV Resort	Zephyrhills, FL	Unit 30	~\$43 per night	Executive Board Only Workshop at Traveler's Rest	Robshaw/ Fogel
Feb 8-12	Florida Flamingo Rally	Sarasota Fairgrounds	Sarasota, FL	FAC	~\$30 per night	FAC-Florida Airstream Club	N/A
Mar 29 - Apr 2	Region 3 Rally	Ocean Lakes Family CG	Myrtle Beach, SC	R03	~\$30 per night	Region 3 Rally	N/A
Apr 20-28	Top of Georgia Caravan/Rally	Top of Georgia AS Park	Helen, GA	Unit 30	~\$20 per night	Limited spots available	McDow/ Robshaw
May 18-22	Spring Rally in the FL Keys (ABM)	Sun Outdoors Islamorada	Islamorada, FL	Unit 30	~\$147 per night	ABM-Annual Business Meeting	Comprosky/ Robshaw
Jun 24 - Jul 1	66th International Rally	Sweetwater Events Complex	Rock Springs, WY	ACI	Site incl in rally fee \$625+	Event waitlisted	N/A
Sep 7-11	Rally on the First Coast	Kathryn Abbey Moore Park	Jacksonville, FL	Unit 30	~\$34 per night		McDow/ McCormack
Oct 26-30	Pumpkin Fest	Avalonka River SP	Sarasota, FL	Unit 30	~\$26 per night	Installation Rally	Comprosky/ TBA
Nov 29 - Dec 3	Unit 129 Holiday Rally	Sarasota Fairgrounds	Sarasota, FL	Unit 129	~\$35 per night	Host: Florida Suncoast	N/A

2024 Rally Schedule							
Dates	Description	Venue	Location	Owner	Site fee	Notes	ShowRunner CoRunner
Jan 4-7	Canopener	Topsail Hill Preserve SP	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	NER	~\$42 per night	Limited availability	N/A
Jan 19-21	U30 EB Workshop	Jonathan Dickinson SP	Hobe Sound, FL	Unit 30	~\$26 per night	Executive Board Planning Meeting	McDow/ Wasson
Feb 22-26	Disney Round-Up	Disney Ft Wilderness	Lake Buena Vista, FL	Unit 30	~\$225 per night	Filled	Robshaw/ Fogel
Apr 2-20	TX Eclipse Caravan	Various	Texas	Unit 30	TBA	Event waitlisted	Robshaw/ Ponzio
Apr 17-21	Region 3 Rally	Meadow Event Park	Doswell, VA	R03	TBA	Registration begins Jan 2024	N/A
May 16-20	Spring Rally & ABM	Traveler's Rest	Dade City, FL	Unit 30	~\$50 per night	ABM = Annual Business Meeting	Comprosky/ TBA
Sep 19-23	EsN2Fall Rally	TBA	Chiefland, FL	Unit 30	TBA	EsN2Fall = "Ease In To Fall"	TBA
Oct 5-11	International	Missouri State Fairgrounds	Sedalia, MO	ACI	\$125pp for rally	Register at airstreamclub.org	N/A
Oct 30 - Nov 4	Pumpkin Fest	Grand Oaks RV Resort	Lady Lake, FL	Unit 30	~\$55 per night	Installation Rally	TBA
TBA	Unit Holiday Event TBA	TBA	TBA	Unit 30	TBA	TBA	TBA

Lt Green = Unit 30 Executive Board event
 Green = Unit 30 hosted
 Yellow = National Event Rally, ACI or Region Rally
 Lt Orange = Unit 30 attendance encouraged
 Gray = Completed

THE SECRET BEHIND THE MAGIC OF OUR RALLIES

South Florida Airstream Club Planning Guidelines

January 21, 2023

PLANNING TEAM:

The planning team will consist of the President, 1st VP, 2nd VP and Past President. This team will plan the master calendar dates keeping in mind that we want to extend each rally through the weekend to encourage attendance by members who may still be working. This team will identify the region of Florida that will be targeted for each of the rallies. This team will identify areas for future rallies within a **2 year time frame**. This team will solicit new camping venues from the members.

LOGISTICS TEAM:

The Logistics Team will consist of the 1st VP, the 2 one year Trustees, and 2 club members from different families. This team will develop the schedule for each rally. This will include the day, time of day for each activity and will also include free time. The schedule may be adjusted as the Action Teams share their suggestions.

One or more members of this team will visit the campground to assess arrival information or campground information that must be shared with the members. This team will work with the Communications Team (Fun Times, Facebook, Website) to create enthusiasm and to promote attendance at the rallies.

The Logistics Team will contact individual members to be in charge of one small activity at the rally. The objective is to involve members in a variety of activities at future rallies. This team will provide the Action Team with specific written job descriptions. This team will work with the Member Outreach Team to recognize new members and invite them to share their interests with the club members at some time during this rally.

ACTION TEAM:

One member (family unit) will be responsible for one small activity during a rally. The person organizing an activity may ask other members to help if needed. The idea is to have many others helping. This team will be provided a specific written job description.

MEMBER OUTREACH TEAM:

Team leader chooses 2 additional members for the team. Here are some of the important activities of this team.

- Contacts new members
- Phone call/email welcome to new members
- Introduces new attendees at the rally
- Recognizes birthdays and anniversaries through a phone call and at the next rally.
- Informs new members of Facebook page and privileges

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

- **Fun Times Editor** email newsletter to all members
- **Directory Editor** keeps the membership list updated and sends a directory to new members.
- **Facebook Administrator** (chooses 2 members as manager assistants) to keep page updated with club information, monitors posts and enters new members to our page. Will keep the WBAC website up to date with club activities.



TEXAS ECLIPSE CARAVAN
April 2-20, 2024
Exciting news, Texas Eclipse Caravanners!

As of this writing (30 SEP 23), we are just months away now from the big event in Concan, TX on April 8, 2024.

The big news is that Matt and Kim Ponzio have agreed to join Linda and I as co-leaders on the caravan. We're excited to have them as partners in this adventure!

We've had some shifting around of the roster, and several original participants have turned their slots over to those on the waiting list. We're down now to just two (2) rigs on the list, so if you're interested in going, let me know. I'll put you on the list. As life happens, so do cancellations; chances remain pretty good that you'll get a chance to go.

Tim McDow did a wonderful job of obtaining eclipse viewing glasses for a large portion of the participants. Thanks, Tim!

Keep an eye on the Unit 30 Facebook group page and the WhatsApp chat group set up for the eclipse caravan for breaking news.

David Robshaw
cirrusaly@gmail.com



The 67th Annual International Rally will be at the Missouri Fairgrounds in Sedalia, Missouri.

It's the first time an International Rally will be held in the fall.

Registration August 2023

My Experience with Vinnie's Northbay Airstream Repair
Tallahassee, Florida.
Submitted By: Emilio Caragol

I first heard about Vinnie Lamica two years ago and since then I have kept up with his work, innovations, products, and customer service through different publications, social media, and the Airstream community.

I needed to have some work and upgrades done on my 2018 Flying Cloud 28 ft, so I decided to contact Vinnie and take my rig to Vinnie's Northbay, In Tallahassee Florida. To my surprise, I did not know Vinnie had his cell phone number listed on his California Website so when I called the number, he answered the phone.

During the call Vinnie answered all my questions and provided a verbal quote for the upgrades I wanted to have done. I dropped my Airstream in Tallahassee on August 18th after meeting Ray and Briston, from Master Applied Coating and Theron Perkins from Airkrafters, Inc. which are divisions of Vinnie's Northbay Airstream Repair.

Theron was my point of contact for the work, and he provided us with excellent product knowledge, and customer service. He also responded to my phone calls and emails with no delays. Unfortunately, the work was delayed due to Hurricane Idalia that made land fall 70 miles southwest of Tallahassee, and the Labor Day Holiday.

The Ceramic Glass - Master Applied Coating was done by Briston and crew, and after completion my Airstream looked brand new. They were able to buff and removed the superficial scratches from the aluminum surfaces prior to completing several days of work.

Theron from Airkrafters, Inc. upgraded our trailer to Lithium batteries and SoftStart to our air conditioners. We were completely satisfied with quality of work, customer service, and professionalism of everyone at Vinnie's Northbay Tallahassee. It is very unusual now a days to do business with a company where the customer did not have to sign a work authorization or contract for work performed. I feel that Vinnie has built his business the old-fashioned way with just a handshake or verbal agreement.

I can recommend Vinnie's in Tallahassee, Florida to anyone needing repairs or upgrades.



Emilio Theron Ray & Briston
AirKrafters Master Coating

Birthdays & Anniversaries



January

Bill Racavich	5
Susan Quintana	9
Nai Carlson	13
Caraline Stone Zimmer	14
Barbara Colson	18
Julie Nicholas	26

February

Dave Perrucci	19
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March

Pat Jones	8
Jim Nicholas	18
Bill Furst	18

April

Bob Konnagan	11
Beth Racavich	27

May

Jane May	2
Lucy Restrepo Comprosky	6
Tony Laurie	11
Max Joseph	14

June

Myra Joseph	1
Tim McDow	7
Lewis Fogel	19

July

Donna Laurie	5
Darla Furst	11
Kevin Comprosky	19
Bob Richardson	20
Pam McDow	31

August

Harry Gonzalez	3
Sandra Gonzalez	16
Linda Laviano	21
Keith Martin	25
John Frerking	25
Chuck Wasson	25
Charlie May	27

September

Tom Carlson	7
Judi Fogel	10
John Magnacca	18
David Robshaw	18

October

Fran Perrucci	4
Vicki Wasson	5
Bernice Richardson	10
Laurie Jones	18

November

Gay Konnagan	14
Betty Jean Glouner	24

December

Emilio Caragol	1
Eileen Frerking	8
Victoria Magnacca	10
Sissy Towsley	16



January

February

David Robshaw & Linda Laviano	14
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March

April

Jim & Julie Nicholas	24
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May

Emilio & Shirley Caragol	4
Fran & Dave Perrucci	4
Laurie & Pat Jones	5
John & Victoria Magnacca	25

June

Gay & Bob Konnagan	13
Harry & Sandra Gonzalez	18
Tony & Donna Laurie	21

July

Lewis & Judi Fogel	8
Bob & Bernice Richardson	25

August

Bill & Beth Racavich	5
John & Eileen Frerking	8
Tim & Pam McDow	18
Max & Myra Joseph	28

September

October

November

Charles & Jane May	12
Kevin & Lucy Comprosky	24

December

Tom & Nai Carlson	23
Chuck & Vicki Wasson	24

If you would like to be listed on this page, send an email to:

Emilio Caragol ec9332@verizon.net

SFAC Unit 30 Standing & Special Committees

Constitution & Bylaws:

(Vacant)

Ethics & Grievances:

*Pam McDow
Bill Clutter
Missy Clutter

Membership:

*Beth Racavich
Lewis Fogel
David Robshaw
Sandra Gonzales
Vicki Wasson

Newsletter Editor:

*Emilio Caragol

Sunshine Committee:

*Judi Fogel

Public Relations & Social Media:

*David Robshaw
Julie Nicholas

Webmaster

*Tim McDow

Audit Committee:

* ReShelle Enoch

We encourage you to volunteer and participate in any of the committees listed.

Volunteering is a great way to meet and establish friendships and, at the same time, enhance our club and services to the next level of excellence.



SOUTH FLORIDA AIRSTREAM CLUB Unit 30 Officers & Trustees

David Robshaw..... President
Luciana Comprosky..... 1st Vice President
Tim McDow.....2nd Vice President
Linda Laviano Treasurer
Emilio Caragol.....Corresponding Sec.
Judi Fogel.....Recording Secretary
Lewis Fogel.....Past President
Sandra Gonzalez.....Trustee
Liana Mezza.....Trustee
Ron Mezza.....Trustee
Tom Henderson..... Trustee
Lewis Fogel.....Parliamentarian

Editor's Note

When submitting articles for the newsletter, please send in a **Word File Format, not PDF**
Send photos by **email, not text**
To: ec9332@verizon.net It will make the files easier to work with. Thanks, Emilio

FUN TIMES Newsletter

Emilio Caragol, Editor
Email: ec9332@verizon.net

South Florida Airstream Club Websites:

Tim McDow, Webmaster
Airstream & Facebook
Email: mcdow.tim@gmail.com

<https://airstreamclub.org/south-florida>

On Facebook go to:
South Florida Airstream Club - WBAC-Unit 30