

Piedmont Airstream Club Newsletter

December 2023



Club Officers 2023-2024

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<https://airstreamclub.org/piedmont-north-carolina>

A Message from the Outgoing President

Hi Everyone. Jane and I hope you and yours had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. With the chill of December upon us it's time to reflect and thank all those who contribute to the success of The Piedmont Airstream Club for 2023. Special thanks goes out to our new slate of officers who stepped up and volunteered to lead our club in 2024. Gail and April are both highly energetic and will surely provide us with adventure, fellowship and laughter. It has been my pleasure to lead this club and interact with all of you. Thank you for the opportunity.

Jane and I wish you the best and hope you have safe travels.

See you down the road.

Thank you,
Alan Hvizdak President

Musings and Ramblings from the Incoming President...

Want to guess what's at the top of my Christmas list? World Peace, of course, followed by a shiny new diamond encrusted faucet for my Airstream bathroom. Big Mike's stocking will be filled with the matching counterpart, a big ole bottle of Airstream polish so after he applies it with a little elbow grease, the outside of the Airstream will be as brilliant as the inside with that faucet. Don't tell him about my devious plot to harvest those diamonds and slap them in a new bracelet with matching earrings. He will be busy admiring that exterior shine and won't even notice the stones are gone.

Speaking of spit polish and upgrades, here is another idea.

"Name That Newsletter" Contest

Recently, our newsletter editor, Rob Rati, has used his creative touch to make our newsletter pop with color graphics and artful layouts. Now it's time to apply a final touch to give our newsletter its own identity with a name that will be featured on the front page banner. For sure Rob and I could come up with a name. Instead, we are looking to our family of geniuses, you our readership, to give us your best ideas.

So what do you say?! Send your creative entry to Gaile at gailebroom@aol.com right away. Entries will be accepted until **December 18, 2023**.

You won't believe the awards you will receive.....A feeling of pride when you open your monthly newsletter and see your inspiration staring up at you, plus Bragging Rights for at least one year.

Let's hear what you've got!

Gaile Broom Incoming President

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays
to our Airstream Club Family**

**Every family has a
"cousin EDDIE"**



**If you aren't sure who
it is in your family
then it's probably you**

A Message from the Incoming Vice-President

December Greetings from the Veep!

For Chris and I, our last camping trip of 2023 is in the books! The Airstream (Luna) has been tucked in for the cold days ahead and we are focused on the home fires.

Thanksgiving was wonderful and we enjoyed being with our family and friends to celebrate the blessings of the past year. For me, one of the great blessings of the year was the opportunity to continue our journey as Airstream Club members. I realized that I see my Piedmont Club comrades more than I do many of my family members during the year. You all have really become a family to us!

We love our gatherings and in 2024 there will be an opportunity every single month to gather and enjoy conversations around the campfire, adventures in new communities, and opportunities to serve the communities that we visit. Chris and I are inviting you to

join us to volunteer at [Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina](#) on Thursday morning, May 2 as a precursor to our Mayberry Rally in Mt. Airy. Even if you aren't joining us for the weekend, we would love for you to join us as we volunteer for this great organization. [Second Harvest](#) is located in Winston Salem and serves 18 counties in northwest NC. Please reach out to me if you are interested in this opportunity at astraderbullin@roadrunner.com or (336) 926-1914.

I know that many of you enjoy Caravans, family trips, or are even full-timers, but I hope that you will join us for at least one Rally this year. We look forward to welcoming old friends and new in 2024!

Best wishes for the Holidays!

April Strader Bullin, Incoming Vice-President



2024 Rally Event Schedule

Here is our exciting schedule of rallies for this year. Our hosts have designed clever locations and activities for your camping delight. After you reserve your site, notify your hosts via email so you get into the weekend headcount for activities and meals.

*NOTE: The campgrounds for the March and May rallies will hold our sites through **December 13, 2023**. Make your reservations now.*

Updated
February 10, 2024 @ 12pm

Mid-Winter Banquet

Pomodoro Italian Kitchen

811 Hillandale Rd
Durham, NC 27705

Hosts: Stedman Brown & Tami Lowe

E-mail: stedmanbrown6693@gmail.com

RSVP to Stedman by: February 3, 2024

March 14 - 17, 2024

Season Opener - Piedmont Campground Olympics

Raleigh Oaks RV Resort & Cottages

527 US Hwy 701 South
Four Oaks, NC
919-934-3181

Host: Debbie and Todd Stroud

E-mail: goodfoodlady@gmail.com

Reserve by: Dec 13, 2023

Flex your muscles and your brain power with indoor and outdoor games at Raleigh Oaks. In addition to pickle ball courts and a swimming pool, the facility boasts a fully equipped kitchen and a mammoth tv that are sure to be put to good use. This place is deluxe.

2024 Rally Event Schedule

April 17 – 21, 2024

Riders Up!

Region 3 Rally

The Meadow Event Park

13191 Dawn Blvd

Doswell, VA

804-994-2800

Hosts: Christine and Joe Baum

E-mail: baumjc@gmail.com

Reserve by: March 15, 2024

Camp on the farm where a Triple Crown Winner was born. Secretariat's birthplace is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Online registration opens January 22, 2024

Updated
May 3 - 5, 2024

Springtime in Mayberry

Mayberry Campground

114 Byron Bunker Lane

Mt. Airy, NC

336-789-6199

Hosts: April and Chris Bullin

E-mail: astraderbullin@roadrunner.com

Reserve by: Dec 12, 2023

A beautiful small town vibe like no other. Echoes of Andy, Opie, Barney, and Aunt Bee still ring among the vineyard covered hills.

Piedmont Club #161 Business Meeting

2024 Rally Event Schedule

June 20 - 23, 2024

Take Me out to the Ballgame

Creekwood Farm RV Park

4696 Jonathan Creek Rd
Waynesville, NC
828-926-7977

Hosts: Amy and Jim Mount, Jessica and Jerry Smith

E-mail: rovermommy@hotmail.com

Reserve by: April 19, 2024

Put on your rally caps for a weekend of America's favorite pastime.

July 18 - 21, 2024

Frescoes, Cheddar, and Chardonnay

Raccoon Holler Campground

493 Raccoon Hollow Rd
Jefferson, NC
336-982-2706

Hosts: Diane and Bill Byrum, Shelly and Bill Townsend

E-mail: bbcubed53@gmail.com

Reserve by: April 30, 2024

Bring your adventurous spirit for this trip. The area is a Renaissance treasure trove.

2024 Rally Event Schedule

Aug. 4 – 11, 2024

A Toe Tappin' Good Time

Region 3 Rally - Galax Fiddler's Convention

Cool Breeze Campground

87th Annual Old Time Fiddlers Convention

2330 Edmonds Road

Galax, VA

276-236-0300

Host: Christine and Joe Baum

E-mail: baumjc@gmail.com

Reserve by:

From old timers to young talent on the rise. The Galax Fiddler's Convention is the best around.

August ???

Popup Rally

Host: None

Do you have a free weekend where you are hitting the open road? Want some Piedmont friends to meet you there? Put out the call and then the party starts. Let's do this!

2024 Rally Event Schedule

Sept. 19 - 22, 2024

Carolina Mountain Jamboree

Palmetto Cove RV Park

521 Table Rock Road

Cleveland, SC

864-836-6221

Host: Palmetto State Club, Don and Vickie Lee

E-mail: dllakewsc@yahoo.com

Reserve by:

All five clubs from North and South Carolina will gather in one spot.

Piedmont Club #161 Business Meeting

Oct. 5 - 11 2024

Wagons Ho! Piedmont Club Caravan

AIC International Meeting 2024

2503 W 16th St

Sedalia, Missouri

Led by: Mike Bizon and Gaile Broom

E-mail: Gailebroom@aol.com

Reserve by: Notify Gaile and Mike by March 1st if you are interested in going.

We're heading to Sedalia on a NC to Missouri caravan. Want to come?

Campgrounds will be determined based on availability after we have a tentative headcount.

2024 Rally Event Schedule

Oct. 24 - 27 2024

Alumalina

Tom Johnson Rally Park/Campground

348 Resistoflex Rd

Marion, NC

800-225-7802

Host: John and Susan Leake

RSVP to: Go to “AirForum” on Facebook. Look for “Alumalina 2024”

Sign up: Facebook AirForum

Everything has already been said about this rally. But just one more time, “Let’s hear it for the hottest ticket around”. Folks come from across the USA and Canada. Why... the fish fry alone makes it worth the trip.

Nov. 1 - 3, 2024

The Passing of the Torch

Hosts: Debbie and David Stubbs

Email: davidstubbs57@gmail.com

Reserve by:

A time for celebration as new officers step up to serve.

Piedmont Club #161 Installation Rally

November Installation Rally Report

PAC November 2-5, 2023

By David Stubbs

28 Airstreamers and guests joined together on a beautiful fall colored weekend at Salem Breeze Campground located in Southern Forsyth County. A couple of frosty nights to start reminded us how to avoid frozen water hoses, and made for some welcomed campfires to stay warm and socialize amongst new and old friends.



Our schedule included a host prepared chicken soup dinner cooked over a bed of coals Thursday evening. Friday morning, we departed the RV park for a morning tour of the Old Salem Museum and preserved neighborhood. Many of us enjoyed famous Moravian baked goods along the way.

Saturday morning featured a PAC provided pancake and sausage breakfast served at a relaxing 9 AM at the parks heated Rally Center. Afterwards many folks headed south to the Lexington area to explore the famous Lanier's Hardware store, many craft shops downtown, the Bob Timberlake Gallery, and a nice brewery at the restored rail yard adjacent to downtown.

Saturday evening featured a catered Italian dinner from the nearby Arcadia Family Restaurant served in the Rally Center. Following this was a business meeting for the primary reason of introducing and installing our 2024 club officers. Our 2023 club president Alan Hvizdak introduced the slate of officers. We were honored to have our current Region 3 president, Christine Baum, install the 2024 officers. They are:

President - Gaile Broome
Vice President - April Bullin
Treasurer - Jim Mount
Recording Secretary - Debbie Stroud
Corresponding Secretary - Rob Rati

2024 Trustees include:

Steve Lovett
David Stubbs
Peter Cap
Bob Ealy (also serving as 1st VP of Region 3)

Appointed positions include:

Membership Chair - Amy Mount
Webmaster - Delia Rati
Club Historian - Gregory Ray.



Sunday morning, we had a light breakfast at the Rally Center and said our goodbyes until we meet down the road again. We hope to meet many more of our club members at one or more events planned for 2024. Thanks to hosts April and Chris Bullin, Bill and Diane Byrum, and David and Debbie Stubbs. A special thanks to Robert Sells, campground host, a great partner to Airstreamers Rally organizers!

Christmas Tales from the Campfire Curmudgeon!

It's that time...again...People are getting giddy and silly. They are acting like they're getting ready for a trip to The Mothership. Not only are they going to The Mothership, they don't have to tow the Airstream. It will magically fly there being pulled by 8 tiny reindeer. So, no hassle of making a campground reservation, buying fuel, or dumping black tanks.

This trip is even being paid for by an unknown benefactor. Yes, so all the body work, upgrades to the flooring, and appliances are covered. They will install the mother of all internet and cell communications. They will ceramic coat your shiny heinie at no charge. All the work will be done overnight. Just tuck yourself in under a down comforter, dream about sugarplums, and the magic tractor will come tow your trailer to the service bay, fix everything, and make it glisten like the sun.

I'm here to tell you IT AIN'T SO! There is no benefactor, fat or skinny, that will cover all your Airstream work. You can dream of sugarplums or exotic dancers with the same outcome. You'll wake up and still have water spots on the Airstream after washing it. The campground Wi-Fi still will be blocked by the envelope of aluminum you have chosen to surround yourself in. When you go outside to try a cell call, the smoke from an unattended campfire will assault you like the opening of a kimchi jar. You are doomed to camp surrounded by SOB's with LED lights all over their camper that stay on all night. Your camping neighbors will get up just before the sun and cook bacon outside and not invite you over for breakfast. That "early and got to go to the next campground before the sun's up" camper will fire up their diesel truck and idle for an hour while they hookup and then roar away leaving a gray and black haze in their wake.

Maybe this year will be different. Maybe we'll all get the perfect campsite, right under a Wi-Fi repeater. Our neighbors will all have BRN's. They will be gourmet chiefs and invite you over for an amazing dinner cooked in a Dutch oven with fine wine and maybe for dessert a chocolate cake with a fancy Godiva ganache frosting. I've heard tails of such experiences. They are always in faraway places. One near Nashville and another in the Maine woods. There was a story told late night around campfires of a three day event. There was aluminum as far as the eye could see. People danced with a mysterious woman that goes by the name of "Rita".

Yes, this year will be different. There's a new sheriff in town. This curmudgeon will have to remain anonymous. Don't fear, I will communicate and keep it real. "Bah humbug" is the phrase that pays for December.

Coming Attractions and Happenings

Deadline to reserve a site for the May 3-5, 2024 **Springtime in Mayberry Rally** at Mayberry Campground is ***December 12th, 2023.***

Deadline to reserve a site for the March 14-17, 2024 **Season Opener - Piedmont Campground Olympics Rally** at Raleigh Oakes is ***December 13th, 2023.***

Touch base with Mike Bizon at mikebizon@me.com by ***February 1, 2024*** if you are interested in going to International on the **October 5-11, 2024 Wagons Ho! Piedmont Club Caravan**. We were advised that campgrounds along our route must be reserved earlier than we thought during leaf-peeping season.

February Mid-Winter Banquet Hosted by Stedman Brown and Tami Lowe will be at Pomodoro Italian Kitchen, 811 Hallandale Road in Durham on Saturday February 10, 2024 at 12 noon. RSVP to stedmanbrown6693@gmail.com by ***February 3, 2024.***

Check our 2024 [Rally Schedule](#) for additional details on these events.

2024 Piedmont 161 Newsletter Publishing Schedule

Courtesy of Gaile Broom

Do you have information or photos to submit to our Airstream publications? Here are the cutoff dates you need to know.

Rob Rati has put together the newsletter schedule for the coming months. He will be publishing a December newsletter for us followed by a combined January/February edition. March through November the newsletter will be monthly. Please email your articles and reports to Rob at rvers@midsummerdream.org by **the 20th of the prior month** of the publication month. All rally hosts should also submit their rally flyer to Rob two publication months before their rally occurs or a month before your campground reservation RSVP date.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Articles Due</u>
December	Nov 20th
January/February	Jan 20th
March	Feb 20th
April	Mar 20th
May	April 20th
June	May 20th
July	Jun 20th
August	July 20th
September	Aug 20th
October	Sep 20th
November	Oct 20th

2024 Blue Beret Publishing Schedule

Courtesy of Gaile Broom

Have you ever wondered who submits the content for the Blue Beret Magazine? It comes from club members like you. Submit photos, articles, and potential cover shots of your Airstream travels and experience to gailebroom@aol.com to get them going in the right direction.

<u>Magazine Issue</u>	<u>Article Submission Deadline</u>
November issue	Sept. 15
February issue	Dec. 15
May issue	March 15
August issue	June 15

Meet Your 2024 Piedmont NC Club #161 Board

President - Gaile Broom

V.P. - April Strader Bullin

Treasurer - Jim Mount

Membership - Amy Mount

Recording Secretary - Debbie Stroud

Corresponding Secretary - Rob Rati

Newsletter Editor - Rob Rati

Webmaster - Delia Rati

Trustees - Steve Lovett, David Stubbs, Peter Cap, Bob Ealy

Historian - Gregory Ray

Past President - Alan Hvizdak

**PIEDMONT
AIRSTREAM CLUB**

SEASON OPENER

PIEDMONT CAMPGROUND OLYMPICS
FUN GAMES - GREAT PRIZES



MARCH 14-17, 2024

Raleigh Oaks RV Resort & Cottages
521 US Hwy 701 South Four Oaks, NC 27524

919-934-3181

Reserve by Dec 13, 2023

UPDATE!*

Join us for

Springtime in Mayberry

May 2 - 5, 2024

Mayberry Campground

Mt. Airy NC

**will volunteer at Second Harvest Food Bank as a pre-rally activity on Thursday morning, May 2.*

**Reservations, and \$45.00 Deposit Required
by Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

†For reservations call 336-789-6199.

Our Group Name is Piedmont Airstream Club.

†Reservations can be cancelled up to 14 days prior with a \$10.00 processing fee.

Questions?

Contact

Chris Bullin - cbullin@roadrunner.com (336)414-9530

or

April Strader Bullin - astraderbullin@roadrunner.com (336)926-1914

