



Celebrating 51 Years – 1973-2024

The Newstream

Southeastern Michigan Airstream Club
Region 4 Club 137
Having Fun in Our Airstreams Since 1973



1st Qtr 2024 – Winter Edition

Volume 49 Issue 1

2024 Officers

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SEMAC Website

Region 4 Website

Airstream Club International

WBAC Caravans

SEMAC Facebook Group

Region 4 Facebook Page

SEMAC Instagram Page



President's Scoop

Happy New Year! Have you started planning your camping trips for 2024 yet? If not, it's time to start getting serious about that!

There are so many exciting places to camp and explore in this great country of ours and we hope that SEMAC and your fellow members can be a resource to you as you set-off on new adventures. Join us at our upcoming winter luncheon at the Historic White Horse Inn on Feb. 17th in Metamora and share your planned adventures or get inspired by others. And thank you to the SEMAC members (pictured right) who joined us for a luncheon featuring great beer, hand-pulled pretzels and other good eats in December at Batch Brewing Company in Detroit.



I hope you'll include some Airstream rallies in your plans for 2024. We have a lot of fun rallying and camping together and we've got some great opportunities for you to consider. We'll take you "south of the border" to Maumee Park in Ohio, "up north" to Mancelona, Petosky and Mackinac City and to the "west side" to Mason County.

There are also number of regional rallies to take part in this year, including an opportunity to take in the solar eclipse together or a chance to camp "downtown" in Logan, Ohio. And if you can include it in your travels, the 2024 International Airstream Rally will be held in Sedalia, Missouri on October 5-10.

You will find more information on upcoming rallies and events below in the Newstream – but you can always visit <https://airstreamclub.org/events> for the latest!

See you down the road . . .

Steve Rowley

SEMAC President

SEMACpresident@gmail.com

Club & Membership News

A New Way to Follow SEMAC!

The Southeast Michigan Airstream Club is now on Instagram! Follow us [@semichiganairstreamclub](https://www.instagram.com/semichiganairstreamclub) for the latest updates on events, rallies, and other member news. Be sure to tag us in your Airstreaming adventures!



[@semichiganairstreamclub](https://www.instagram.com/semichiganairstreamclub)

SEMAC Metamora Mingle Luncheon

Join us for a lunch on **Saturday, February 17** at **12:30pm** at the historic **White Horse Inn** in Metamora to share stories of travel and memories of our time as Airstreamers. Originally established in 1850 as a general store, then an inn and working stagecoach shop, the White Horse Inn is a historical and architectural beauty, recently renovated and serving classic cuisine. *RSVP by Feb 5 to Linda Smith, Luncheon Host:* SEMACMembership@gmail.com or 248-284-3627

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Saturday, February 17, 2024

Welcome NEW Members!

Dale & Hazel Wagner #29229

William & Jennifer Giezie

#11150

Diane & Ray Mann

#1070

Erick & Jennifer Phillips

#1096

Kevin Tobin & Bryan Hopkins

#5634

Eric Borgelin

#5905



Happy ACI/WBCCI Anniversary!

John & Dawn Farmer ★
 Terry & Lois Sqartzell ★
 Laura Morrow
 Larry & Dee Henn
 Mark & Peggy Stephenson
 Victoria Walls & David Copenhaver
 Carol Baidinger
 Carly Strachan & Jason Nardoni
 Mazel Heermann
 David & Cherylin Tuck
 Michael & Emily Andrews
 Richard Steele
 Richard & Amy Lieblein

JANUARY

Bob Schwabel
 Peggy Stephenson
 Steve Rowley
 Douglas Cervin
 Eve Caldwell
 Larry Henn
 Daniel Marquardt
 Wally Kimmel
 Richard Steele
 Ethel Poldsfofer



FEBRUARY


Scott Beutler
 Tom Thoman
 Kari West
 Ed Duprey
 Cheree Rowley

Victoria Walls
 Bob Anderson
 Nick Tonkin
 Michael Andrews
 Maggie Cervin
 Mark Romanowski

MARCH

Kelly Brecken
 Debbie Duprey
 Grace Guillen
 Elena Cram
 Dean Caldwell
 Diane Bergquist
 Jeriel Beard
 Fred Bryant
 Paul Grady
 Leanne Romanowski

**If you are not receiving a birthday card from SEMAC, then we may not have your birthday on file! Please send our Membership Chair Linda Smith a text at 248-284-3627 with your name and birthdate!*

SEMAC Board Updates & Financials	From the SEMAC Secretary...
<p>At the October Annual Business Meeting, the 2023 financials were audited by a member not elected to SEMAC Office. Everything was in order. This audit is performed annually at the end of the President's term. If anyone wishes information about the SEMAC financials, please contact your treasurer at SEMACTreasurer@gmail.com.</p> <p>If you wish to receive a copy of the meeting minutes or board actions, please reach out to your secretary at SEMASEcretary@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Your SEMAC Executive Board works hard to make sure your Club has activities and adventures that are meaningful and fun! All minutes from the Board meetings and the Membership meetings, along with any financial information, are available upon request to any member of the SEMAC Executive Board. If you wish for a topic to be discussed by the Board or wish to present a topic to the Board, please give me call or send me an email at SEMASEcretary@gmail.com.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- Barb Derian</p> 

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 NEWSTREAM SPONSOR – WOODLAND AIRSTREAM

Our 2024 *Newstream* sponsor Woodland Airstream is opening its 3rd dealership this year! Located in along Dixie Highway in Clarkston, MI, this location will house sales and service departments and Woodland's Airstream Parts Store.

Stay up-to-date on the new location by visiting their website at <http://www.woodlandairstream.com/>



5190 Plainfield Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan
www.woodlandairstream.com
616-363-9038
Service and Sales, used and new

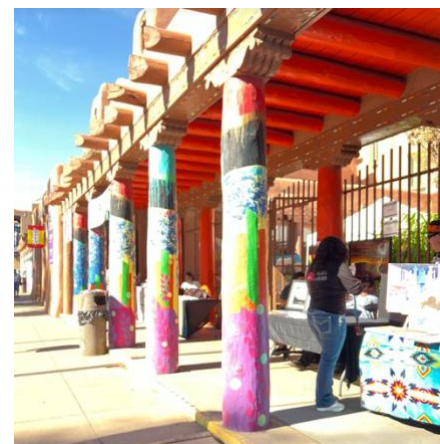


Our Southwest Adventure

By Barb Derian & Ralph Volk

Three years ago, before the Covid lockdowns, we attended our first International Rally near Nashville. We learned about the Southwest Adventures Caravan and immediately signed up – going to the national parks in Utah was on our list of “must do” travels and the caravan explored so much more. On August 1, 2023, we hit the road for a 3 ½ month trip to the SW which included 7 weeks on the caravan.

We planned to check off eleven more states in our journey to explore all 49 continental states. We spent 2 almost 3 weeks visiting Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and parts of Kansas on into the Texas Panhandle. Now, I will say that this past year was not the best year to spend August in the central south, where temps were consistently over 100 degrees. Southern Missouri and northern Arkansas are beautiful, and we plan on revisiting the area to explore more of the mountains and countryside. Heading west into Oklahoma, we planned on a stop in Tulsa, but temperatures between 105-110 had a change of plans and we continued to head west. Our weekend in Palo Duro Canyon near Amarillo also was cancelled due to the temps of 115 at the floor of the canyon. So, our plans to explore those areas will be postponed to another time. We needed to get to the mountains and Santa Fe as quickly as we could – and even then, the temps were in the 90s. We love Santa Fe – we love the food and the art. We were lucky enough to be there during the annual Indian Native Market which is an incredible display of art, vendors, and native American focused events.





The Southwest Adventures Caravan officially began on August 21 in Albuquerque where we learned all about turquoise and how to evaluate for purchase. We also went to the Pueblo Museum to learn about the Pueblo nations, a number of which we would visit in the upcoming weeks. On to Taos (*pictured left*), which is deep in art and history. We were lucky enough to have a live painting demonstration by Elizabeth Jose, who owns a vintage airstream with her husband and is famous for her airstream/southwest paintings. Unfortunately for our caravan, the Taos Pueblo was closed for a sacred ceremony. After Taos, we headed to Durango Colorado.

Durango was one of our favorite stops – we took the Silverton Gauge train up to Silverton for the afternoon. And we drove the Million Dollar Highway up to Uray! Barb found her an authentic cowgirl hat in Silverton! The next stop was our first National Park (we visited 9 this trip), Mesa Verde, New Mexico. We hiked down into the Cliff Palace and toured the ancient pueblos. So much history that we had not been taught in school.

From Mesa Verde, we headed to Monument Valley. Yes, Barb did a quick run on the Forrest Gump highway! We were privileged to take a tour onto the Navajo Nation and to a sacred ancient hogan where we were treated to music and song. Amazing experience. We spent the afternoon in the Valley of the Gods driving unpaved roads winding through the valley with stunning views of rock formations – and up the Moki Dugway, which makes the Million Dollar highway look like an easy drive, to have lunch on the Mesa. And just when we thought, this must be the pinnacle of the trip, we drove to Moab.



Two more national parks and one national monument awaited us. Arches NP, Canyonlands NP and the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument were so incredibly mind blowing. We kept saying “some really bad geologic event happened here.” And yes, over millions of years, the beauty of these parks was formed and affords many opportunities to hike and explore. While in Moab, we took a Jeep tour onto the Devil’s Backbone – which scared Barb to her toes! I can’t recall whimpering so much! Except when we took the truck down Schaffer Rd in Canyonlands – an old mining road – basically one lane with no guard rails down into the canyon. Oh boy, that did have some whimpers bordering on screams!

After these parks, we thought, okay, it can’t get better than this.. but...



Onto Capital Reef National Park and then to Bryce National Park and then to Zion National Park. And yes, with each stop it got more and more amazing geologically and spiritually. Barb took a horse ride down into Bryce and we rented e-bikes to explore Zion (*pictured left*). We cannot put into words how amazed we were.

From Zion, we headed down to the north rim of the Grand Canyon National Park where the caravan boondocked for 4 days on BLM land in the iconic wagon wheel formation. The north rim is a beautiful, underrated part of the park. We had a wonderful few hikes that challenged Barb’s fear of heights.

As we ended the national park destinations, we headed to Page, AZ to take some days of rest on Lake Powell. This stop challenged our clocks and watches, as it is on the border of Utah which is on daylight savings time, but in Arizona which is on standard time. And we were able to take a slot

canyon tour on Navajo land which was on daylight savings time – it amazed us that we even actually knew what time it was!! The “secret navajo” slot canyon was a testament to the artistry found in nature.

After the Grand Circle tour, our Airstream and truck were covered in red dust and dirt! We rested a bit in Gallup NM where we shopped for native art and jewelry! Barb couldn't resist some big earrings! And we did end up buying a couple Navajo rugs – we just couldn't resist their beauty.

While the geological sites and history were etched into our memories, what we learned about the Native American experience in the area made the trip extra special. Throughout our travels, we visited Native American museums, ancient ruins and learned so much about the shame of our country's history and the strength of the native American peoples. We were welcomed into communities that wanted to share their history and their cultures. Some stories brought us to tears and carved their memories into our hearts. We met many talented artisans. We purchased a few handmade pots and Barb bought two Navajo flutes.



Now I will say that up to this point, we considered the caravan to be a most amazing trip – we traveled with 28 other Airstreams, met beautiful people, had two wonderful caravan hosts – in other words, we had a trip for the memory books. But the end of the caravan was perhaps the most incredibly amazing experience – we boondocked at the Balloon Fiesta Rally at the annual Albuquerque Balloon festival. For 4 days, 500+ balloons were able to launch from before sunrise into the late morning. Over 100 Airstreams gather for this rally to experience a once in a lifetime event. Most years, the balloons can only launch on a few days, but we were so lucky to have them launch every morning. Barb was able to get up at 4:00 am each day to see the Morning Glow/Dawn Patrol where a small group of balloons launch before sunrise to check out the

skies before the mass ascension. And by “mass ascension” I do mean “mass” – the balloons all rising within minutes of each other. Crazy mass of balloons! In the evening toward dusk, the balloons inflate (don't launch) for Twilight Twinkle Glow.

After the caravan, we continued south to Carlsbad Caverns/Guadalupe Mountains NP passing through Roswell. And then onto Big Bend National Park, Texas. We could not believe how big this park is and how much there is to see and explore. We didn't take the mule ride across the Rio Grande to Mexico but we did a hike along the river. Big Bend deserves more than a couple days to truly appreciate the park. But we were expected in Dallas to visit Ralph's sister, so we continued onto San Antonio before heading over to Dallas. We stayed at The Range Vintage campground and LOVED it. What a treasure and a must stop for any Airstream owner!



Since we winter in Naples Florida in our Airstream, we decided to continue to Naples and not head back home to Michigan – so we traveled along the coast of Mississippi over to New Orleans before spending a week in Gulf Shores Alabama and the Florida Pan Handle.

I cannot say enough about this caravan. If you can take the time, get on the list. If you can't take the time for the caravan, get on the list for the Fiesta rally (lottery starts usually in January?) and be sure to add the Grand Circle to your “must do” travel adventures.



**Let's
Rally
Together**



Upcoming SEMAC, WBAC/ACI and other Airstream Events At-a-Glance

(We continue to monitor COVID guidance for gatherings. Adjustments to the calendar may be made)

Feb. 17 at 12:30 pm	SEMAC Metamora Mingle Luncheon Historic White Horse Inn 1 E. High Street Metamora, MI 48455	RSVP to Linda Smith by Feb. 5 at SEMACMembership@gmail.com or 248.284.3627 https://airstreamclub.org/semac-metamora-mingle
April 7-11, 2024	Experience the "Darke Side of the Moon" – Solar Eclipse Rally (National ACI Rally) Darke County Fairgrounds Greenville, Ohio	Registration & Details: (Deadline March 15) https://airstreamclub.org/great-solar-eclipse-2024 Come and be part of a community of over 300 Airstream enthusiasts who will witness the Great Solar Eclipse of 2024. The Path of Totality will traverse Greenville, Ohio. Full hookups offered, along with opportunities to visit "The Mothership," Armstrong Air & Space Museum, and more!
April 26-28, 2024	SEMAC Spring Fit Out & Maintenance Rally Woodland Airstream 9331 Dixie Highway, Clarkston MI	Register soon (only a few spots remain): https://form.jotform.com/232913530549154 This a boondocking rally at the new Woodland Airstream facility in Clarkston. Explore the new facility, learn more about Airstream ownership with maintenance/safety demos and enjoy an Airstream food truck and outdoor movies!
April 26-28, 2024	2024 NOVA Spring Can Opener Rally Indian Lake State Park Campground Lakeview, OH 43331	Registration & Details: (Deadline April 12) https://airstreamclub.org/2024-nova-spring-can-opener-rally Get ready for the 2024 camping season at this rally.
May 2-4, 2024	Wake Up Downtown© (Urban Air ©) Logan, OH Rally	Registration & Details: https://wakeupdowntown.com/ The City of Logan will close the streets to all motorized traffic. Airstreams will line the historic downtown, forming a quiet and safe pedestrian mall.
June 6-9, 2024	Silver on Silver Lake 2024 (MAC Rally) Holiday Park RV Campground Traverse City, MI	Registration & Details (Deadline May 3) https://airstreamclub.org/silver-silver-lake-2024 This is a casual rally that allows time for bike riding, kayaking, exploring the area and catching up with friends.

June 20-23, 2024	SEMAC South of the Border Rally (SEMAC & NOVA Joint Rally) Maumee Bay State Park (on Lake Erie) Oregon, OH	Registration & Deadlines (<i>Deadline April 1</i>) https://airstreamclub.org/semac-south-border-rally Activities include a bike ride, a day in Put in Bay, winery tour and birding. And of course, a Mexican-themed dinner and social hours.
Aug. 2-11, 2024	Between the Lakes Local Caravan Mancelona-to-Petoskey-to-Mackinaw City, MI	Registration & Details: https://airstreamclub.org/between-lakes-semac-caravan Camp at 4 different spots, including a winery, brewery, a distillery, and Mackinac Island. And give axe throwing a try!
Aug. 15-18, 2024	Sauder Village Campground Rally (NOVA) Archibald, OH	Registration & Details: (<i>Deadline July 15</i>) https://airstreamclub.org/nova-explore-ohio-rally-10-sauder-village Take a trip back in time in historic Sauder Village.
Sept. 3-8, 2024	2024 Alumapalooza® Rally at the Factory Jackson Center, OH	Registration & Details: https://alumaevents.com/about/ Five days of Airstream fun including camping, seminars, entertainment, door prizes, gifts, factory tours, a group meal or two and unlimited socializing.
Sept. 5-9, 2024	Rally in the Valley II (NOVA Rally) Richfield, OH	Registration & Details: (<i>Deadline Aug. 5</i>) https://airstreamclub.org/rally-valley-ii This boondocking rally is on private property in the heart of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, which offers 125 miles of trails for hiking and biking.
Sept. 19-22, 2024	SEMAC Fall Into Mason County Rally Mason County Campground 5906 W. Chauvez Ludington, MI 49431	Registration & Details (<i>Deadline Aug. 1</i>) https://airstreamclub.org/semac-fall-mason-rally In addition to campfires and social gatherings, the rally will include 2 group meals, a brewery visit, an RC Plane demonstration from a local club, optional charter fishing, and optional disc golf.
Sept. 21-29, 2024	61st Annual Swiss Festival National Rally National ACI Rally Winklepleck Grove (near Sugarcreek, OH)	Registration & Details: https://airstreamclub.org/61st-annual-swiss-festival-national-rally Located in the rolling green hills of eastern Ohio, deep in the heart of Amish country, this rally offers fun for everyone.
Sept. 25-29, 2024	2024 Anniversary/Chili Cook-off NOVA Campout (location TBD)	More details to come!
Oct. 3-6, 2024	October MAC Rally Whispering Surf Campground Pentwater, MI	Registration & Details: (<i>Deadline Sept. 20</i>) https://airstreamclub.org/october-rally-pentwaterwhispering-surf-campground Stay at Michigan's oldest privately-owned campground!
Oct. 5-10, 2024	67th Annual International Rally Missouri State Fairgrounds Sedalia, Missouri	Registration & Details: https://airstreamclub.org/2024-international-rally-0 Get ready for all the treasured traditions of adventure and friendship at ACI Rally 2024, coupled with the fantastic tastes, sights, smells, and temperatures of fall in the Midwest