



## Minnesota Airstream Club

### 2023-2024 Unit Officers

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Corresponding Secretary

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Kathy Yanke, #7528

Pete Yanke, #7528

Chuck Dodd, #5153

Cordell Woods, #5148

# Silver Times

Spring 2024



## Vern's Gypsy Traveler

From President Vernon Petersen

BRN 1573

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What little snow fell here in Minnesota has melted and "frost out" means the ground is getting spongy. Not ready for gardens, we're weeks away from that, but we're certainly ready to start moving our Airstreams South to North, or from storage to the road. As I write this, I'm preparing to pick up our Airstream at the Mothership in Ohio after some basic work. We lost a window on our way to the region rally this past

Sept, and we have absolutely no clue how it happened. It doesn't matter, it was repaired.

Now, you may wonder why we took our "Gypsy Gray" (Airstream registered name) all the way to Jackson Center just for the window replacement when it could have been just as easily replaced at Airstream of Minneapolis? The answer is somewhat convoluted. First, Carry and I consider the leisurely trip through the countryside to Jackson Center to be our last trip of the year; patched window and all. We try to keep away from the major freeways as much as possible and drift along the countryside. Late September and early October is the best time for such a trip through middle America. Corn fields, wind turbines, small town diners and sometimes Amish folks with horse drawn carriages slow the pace of a frantic life.

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But we also had other work to be done. With our AGM batteries being 5 years old I figured it was time for replacement. After all, I noticed they weren't holding a charge like they once did. However, that wasn't the only problem! As late summer was setting in toward the end of the season, we noticed that there was somewhat of a whirring sound coming from behind the fuse box, kind of Like a light wind blowing. We didn't think too much about it but should have because the sound was new. Lesson learned! When the call came in from the service department last November, we were told that the converter was bad and needed replacement. So, new batteries and new converter. If something strange is happening, pay attention!

We also have news that a major storm event has caused large scale damage in and around the Jackson Center, Ohio area, including the Airstream campus. Our own Ginger Slattery, Region 7 President, was in the area when this event occurred. You will read her story in this issue. We are so thankful she was not injured. But there were deaths in this event. It will take a very long time to recover from a storm such as this, so our thoughts are with those who are picking up the pieces. I've seen tornados before, but I've never been directly impacted by their terrible wrath.

So...on Friday morning after the storm, before I understood the seriousness of the matter, I phoned the service center to tell them that I would be arriving the following week to pick up our unit. I should have known something was wrong when it took longer than normal to reach the service department. As soon as I was able to reach them, Cris, the service billing clerk, informed me of the seriousness of the storm, baseball size hail having damaged nearly every unit sitting outside in the lot at the facility. And ours was one of them. I don't know how much damage we have yet, but however much damage we have, it can be fixed. A travel trailer matters little in comparison to the lose of homes, businesses, and of course, human life. Whatever it looks like, I'm towing it out of there.

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## Open Positions in the Minnesota Airstream Club.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

Qualifications:

Willingness to take on a leadership role in the Minnesota Airstream Club.

### **Backup Webmaster**

Qualifications:

Do you have computer skills that you would like to contribute to the MN Airstream Club? We're in need of a backup Webmaster. You do not need to know web design or HTML! Heaven knows, I don't know HTML. Both the Airstream Website and JotForm are designed so that you can put webpages and registration forms together without knowing the underlying code. If you are interested in knowing more about it, please contact me. I would be happy to sit down with you and explain what I do.

Thanks!

Chris Olsson

MN Airstream Club Webmaster

Ph: 612-741-2794

[cwolsson@comcast.net](mailto:cwolsson@comcast.net)

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## THIS AND THAT

### GINGER SLATTERY, R7 PRESIDENT

March 2024

#### 'THAR SHE BLOWS!!!

This week I have had the privilege of meeting with our Executive Council and all 12 Region Presidents at our 2nd annual Strategic Planning session. You do not get to hear the summary of this week.....yet! Instead, I wish to share how our 3 days ended!

Now my maternal grandmother, Lois Kenney, was a brave woman, not afraid of ANYTHING.....except wind. She had survived a tornado, and if the winds starting getting strong, it was the only time I saw her fearful! You have to understand, this woman was struck by lightening INSIDE her house, (before everything was grounded, but that's another story!) Yet it's wind that frightened her, not thunderstorms...She said an approaching tornado sounds like a freight train....I can confirm that...I shared an Air B&B with Nancy Fitzgerald, R9 President, her husband, Randy and R3 President, Christine Baum. We had a fabulous time with late night discussions and maybe a glass of wine or two! Thursday night was our last night. We were at a new local brewery 5 doors down from our Air B&B. We had ordered pizza from the little establishment right across from our cottage called Jack and Dos. (Great, Great pizza!). It was lovely. When we finished eating, we noticed the winds had greatly picked up and I said we better get back to the cottage while we can! It was getting frightening! We all got the tornado warnings on our phones! The sirens went off! Christine asked, "Where do we go?" The shower I said! It was very intimate! Let me tell you! Of course, I am too darn curious for my own good and start trying to see out the windows! Couldn't see a thing! Just wind. Now I understood why Gramma K was so afraid of the wind.... And what it can bring.

We all came through unharmed! Sorry to all you unbelievers, but we go forth but by the Grace of God. I have a picture of a gas grill in the road. When you see the picture, our cottage is in the background, the gas grill was to the left on the patio you can't see. The tornado picked it up. Flung to the left of all our vehicles and left it in the road. Science? Yes, created by God. Our guardian angels worked overtime to protect us! I was awake by 4:30 am. Couldn't get back to sleep so decided to hit the road! It was tricky in the dark. No, the power wasn't on and hard to see in the dark. I was on the road by 5:15 a.m. gingerly creeping around all the downed power lines. I could get out, but there was no going back as all the roads were blocked.

It wasn't until I got onto I75N that my passenger mirror came off and was blowing in the wind! I got off on the next exit only to find the only parking lot was the Ohio State Police and I pulled in there to see if I could unplug the mirror or what. I only had my cell phone flashlight (that's not going to happen again!) and an officer came over and asked "what's going on?" I explained I had been in Russel's Point during the tornado and it wasn't until I was on I75N that my mirror broke off. I asked if he had a knife to cut the wires and he was happy to provide assistance!

Once daylight finally decided to make an appearance, I could see how much damage there was to my truck. It had been hit by a lot of the roof debris that came off the cottage immediately next to ours. They lost their whole roof and it was raining inside as hard as outside. Fortunately, they had a friend they could stay with and were unharmed. Their names are Ashley and Scott and are an adorable young couple, which led me to a

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brainstorm that many of the workers at Airstream come from the surrounding areas affected by this tornado. Ashley and Scott lost almost everything they owned as did many others in these communities. It's already in the works that I would like our Airstream community to come together and have a special collection to aid our Airstream neighbors affected by this tragedy. When everything is in place, we'll send out an email with the details. Please be generous. Christine, Nancy and I all got to leave, the residents did not. Let's help them rebuild as they have all helped build our Airstreams....



(viriniabslattery@gmail.com; 906-250-6931).



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## LOGAN COUNTY TORNADO RELIEF

Hello, Fellow ACI Members!

Thank you already for the eagerness to reach out to help those affected by the tornado in Logan County Ohio. As you know, most of the members of your Executive Council and International Board of Trustees experienced the tornado alongside the residents of Logan County, especially Lakeview and Russel's Point. To help with the relief efforts, let's donate to the Logan County United Way. Everyone recognizes the United Way and they are a 501C3 organization. **The link for the United Way is [Uwlogan.org](http://Uwlogan.org)**. When you donate, please indicate you are with Airstream Club International. I am hoping to be able to track what our members share and report that to you. Please indicate that you are with ACI.

This was an F3 tornado and none of us will forget it. All of the workers for Airstream, Inc were affected. Time to unite as a community to help our fellow Airstream workers and all those who need to rebuild! Local Presidents, I have tried to include newsletter editors and webmasters. If I don't have the right info, please pass on and let me know! Let's get the word out to help our Airstream community!

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Gratefully,  
Ginger Slattery  
R7 President

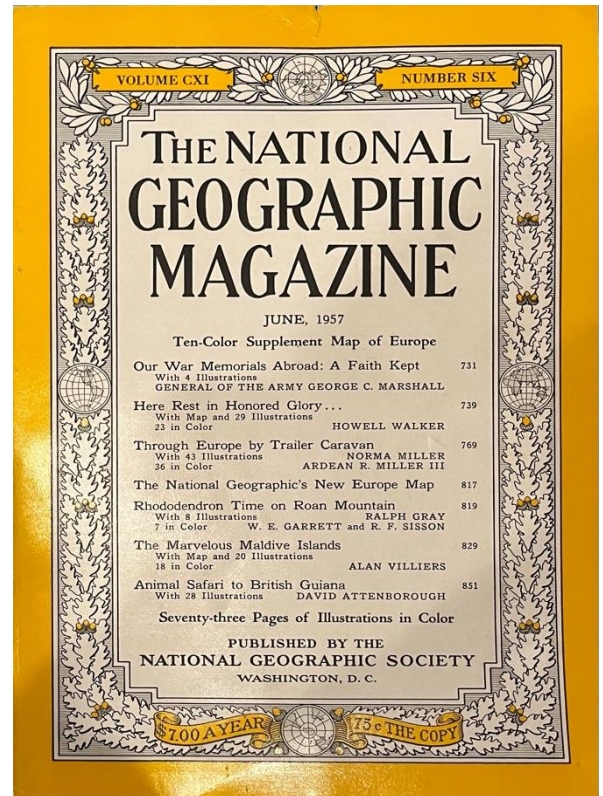
# Silver Times

## Byam: The Muse of Road Travel

Vernon Petersen, President/ Minnesota Airstream Club

We went on a European Caravan this past winter, and I mean a long 6-month journey through 16 countries with 23 other Airstreams. Well, I simply sat at my desk, and read about this fantastic adventure from several sources. Let me explain from the beginning.

This past Oct, while on a pilgrimage to the Mother Ship in Jackson Center, OH, we toured the Airstream Heritage Center. Second time for Carry and I, and this is a delightful experience for anyone who loves to travel with an Airstream. But what really caught my eye was the 1956 European Wally Byam Caravan exhibit. I must have lingered at that display for well over 30 minutes simply reading and examining every relic. But what really amazed me was a National Geographic Magazine hanging on the wall. The explanation below the magazine told the exhibit viewers that this issue contained the story of caravan; and I immediately had to have that issue. The issue was published in June 1957, one year after the the caravan. As soon as we arrived home, I found the issue on eBay and purchased a copy.



The article was written by Norma Miller with the photographs taken by professional photographer Ardean Miller, her husband. It's a very lengthy article, and the color photos are beautiful. I read the article twice, and to be honest, I wasn't overly impressed the first time through. I'm not certain what I was expecting. Perhaps a stop-by-stop travelogue; conceivably? But upon reflection, that would have been exceptionally boring. So, I let the piece sit for a week and reread. The second time around, with a fresh perspective, Norma's writing was beautiful. Her writing was poetic, and she didn't give a boring account of all the stops. What she did was wax with charm about the countryside they passed through. The beauty of the landscape and the people were all special to her. Ardean provided a total of 42 stunning photographs for the article. Most are color, with a few black and whites thrown in. Ardean was one of the few photographers who covered the liberation of the concentration camps in Europe after WWII.

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Any time I read an article of great interest, inevitably it leads me down a rabbit hole for further reading. And that's exactly what happened. An entire book was written about the caravan by Etta Payne, who was on the caravan, called "Home Was Never Like This". I could not find a copy anywhere. Obviously, it's out of print, and an internet search resulted in negative results. My favorite bookstore here in Cambridge, MN couldn't find a copy through their network, but I'm certain the heritage center has a copy.

I found two sources other than the book that provided great information. The first was an eight-part blog written by Dale Schwamborn, written for Live Riveted in 2016, the second was from an article written in the Blue Beret in Oct 2016. All from a different perspective. Both were written to honor the caravans 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Can you imagine planning something as gigantic as a caravan across the ocean in 1956? This was a huge undertaking. It didn't happen in a vacuum. We do know that Wally travelled to Europe for the first time in 1948 with a good friend. Dale doesn't tell us if this was a business or pleasure trip. Only that Wally had "wide eyes" with the firsthand destruction he witnessed left over from the war. It's doubtful that Wally was actually thinking about a caravan at this stage. But in 1953, Wally returned to Europe and attended the International Caravan Rally in Copenhagen, Denmark. Again, Dale doesn't tell us if Wally was thinking "caravan" when he took his trip. As a high school student, and Wally being his uncle, he probably didn't know. But if Wally wasn't thinking about a caravan on the way to Europe in 1953, I have to believe he was "scheming" about one on the way back.

Scant information is available concerning timing on the caravans at this time period. But, it seems to me, after reading all the material I could get my hands on, Wally was in a hurry to organize the European caravan and get started. I base my opinion on the fact that he also had an Eastern Canadian Caravan for 1955 that he abandoned. In his place, he put his cousin, Helen Byam Schwamborn, in charge of that caravan as Wally and his wife, Stella, travelled to Europe to scout Europe for the following year. Wally's stateside organization could not have survived without Helen. She held it all together. Keep in Mind that what we have today, WBCCI, had not been organized until Aug 3, during that very same caravan in Nova Scotia. Perhaps the entire organization was Helen's idea!



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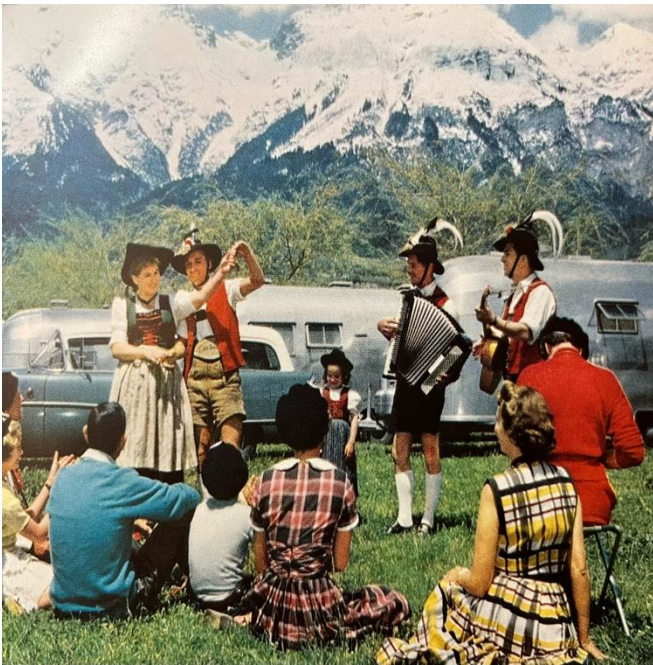
If rallies and caravans create lifelong friendships, the “village” meandering through Europe in 1956 was very successful. Wally Byam’s caravan was greeted nearly everywhere they stopped as if they were diplomats. And in a way they were. The caravan assembled in Rotterdam, Netherlands, and they were treated like movie stars. As Norma writes in the National Geographic... “flowers for the women, mugs for the men, baskets of cookies, fruit, candy, wooden shoes, potted tulips-the gifts poured in”. It was like this nearly everywhere they went. Or this stray quote, “We Austrians...appreciate deeply what America has done for us. When you get back to the States, please tell Mr. Eisenhower that we will never forget how America fed us when we were starving. We shall be forever Grateful!”

The caravan traveled at about 150 miles per day, and typically didn’t stay in developed campgrounds. The difference in electrical standards required that they use generators or gas lighting. All drinking water was boiled. Gray water was dumped on the ground, and black water was disposed in “gopher holes”. When space permitted, Wally would park everyone in his famous “wagon wheel” formation. In decision making, there was one trailer, one vote, but Wally didn’t vote at all. Of note, the majority voted to allow an American couple who wanted to buy an English trailer and join the caravan. They also allowed a German optometrist to join the caravan with his VW bus. This person proved to be invaluable with his advice about traffic situations.

Adventure and slight danger was part of this caravan as well. Both Norma Miller and Dale Schwamborn mention the ordeal of “the Pass”. When early June arrived, the caravan of 36 Airstreams arrived at the Alberg Pass ready to enter Austria from Switzerland on the other side. (This is where Dale arrived to join the caravan after graduating from High School. His mother, Helen, picked him up at the Zurich airport just days before.) A snowstorm had made the Alberg Pass impassable, at least until the next morning after their arrival. As the next morning dawned, the local police said that the caravan could go on at their own risk. The vote was taken, and the majority voted to take the risk. You only live once, right! Plows did their best to clear the pass, but it was difficult under heavy snow conditions. The caravan crawled up the pass and stopped. The police at the top would only allow the caravan to proceed after all other traffic had cleared. Then, they were allowed to proceed, one at a time, at 3-minute intervals, with one foot of snow underneath them. Down the pass they proceeded at 10 mph with very little traction. Norma mentions in the “Geographic” that the descent was “easy”, but Dale mentions that the same experience had somewhat of a lasting affect on him. There were no incidents, and everyone was fine.

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The caravan attended the 1956 International Trailer Rally in Perpignan, France near the Mediterranean Coast. This became the inspiration for the first WBCCI International Rally that was held at Bull Shoals, Arkansas in 1958 where 300 Airstreams attended. Now, it would be tempting to assume that this is where Wally's idea of the Blue Beret was also born. But that's not true, as evidenced by the fact that the caravaners are already wearing them on this caravan and at the '56 Trailer Rally. For that mystery, we once again turn to a blog post written by Dale Schwamborn for the Live Riveted Blog on May 22, 2014. Dale turns us back once again to the 1948 trip to Europe. Wally was introduced to the beret and "he found it covered his head, kept it warm and could be folded up and stuck in his pocket". He simply liked it, and it became part of his persona. Thus, the Blue Beret was born. It is now a huge part of the WBCCI image.



Norma remarks that "the days merged into weeks the weeks into months". The Millers ended their trip at the end of August while many others continued on to the Scandinavian Countries to complete a full 6-month caravan.

Norma wonders if it had all been worth it? For this she quotes mid 20<sup>th</sup> century American humorist Robert Benchley, "There are two kinds of travel: first class, and with children." To her satisfaction, the Miller's proved that you can combine the two. To add my own thoughts on the subject, not only did they combine the two, but the Wally Byam Caravan to Europe made history that is remembered

and is still being written about to this day. It takes an incredible amount of vision, skill, determination, and business savvy to put together such a huge undertaking. I don't believe there was anyone else in the RV world of the day who would have dared such an adventure. Failure was not an option; the preparation the previous year was too extensive. Wally was way too experienced to allow anything but success. But that wasn't enough! How about a nine-thousand-mile caravan from Capetown, South Africa to Cairo, Egypt! Not the subject of this article, but the European caravan was good practice. Actually, from what I know about the African caravan, Europe was a stroll through the park.



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In conclusion, do you have an attic or trunk full of National Geographic Magazines? If so, search for the June, 1957 issue and read Norma's article. You will be glad you did. If you want to purchase a copy on eBay, make certain your copy has the map of Europe supplement. My copy didn't. Out of the multiple copies available, I didn't know enough to look to make certain.



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## ***Welcome New MN Airstream Club Members***

Mellissa Dahl & Jeffrey Diehm, #24726 – River Falls, WI

Kim & John Gearin, #25700 – Star Prairie, WI (Affiliate)

Dave & Kristin Gerton, #11494 – Shorewood, MN

Rich & Pam Knutson, #08362 – Clearwater, MN

Audrey & Andre Pereira, #02908 – Lino Lakes, MN

Antonio & Marci (Conlin) Rodriguez, #16494 – Lakeville, MN

Peter & Deborah Yost, #14367 – Stillwater, MN



**Please extend a warm welcome to our new members!**



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## **2024 - MN Airstream Club Schedule**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Host/Leader</b>
Spring Rally	Brookside Campground Blooming Prairie, MN	May 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Vern Petersen Carry Ensign
St Louis County Fair Rally	St. Louis Co Fair Grounds Chisholm, MN	June 20 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Vern Petersen Richard Narum Sarah Priest
Fall Installation Rally	Adrian Municipal Campgrnd	September 5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	Vern Petersen Carry Ensign

## **2024 – Region 7 Club Schedule**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Host/Leader</b>
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**Region 7 Rally:** 2024 Region 7 Rally is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Spearfish, SD at Elkhorn Ridge Resort in the Black Hills area. See page 10 for more details.

## **2024 – International Rally**

**October 6-11** 67th International Rally in Sedalia, MO

[Have you registered for the International Rally in Sedalia MO 2024 yet?](#)

**Reminder:** In an effort to coordinate and communicate as a group prior to next year's International rally in Sedalia MO, a group has been started on the TeamReach app. So far, most MN registrants on the app have defaulted to choosing a Friday entry as that's what the MN caravan chose for Rock Springs 2023. Entry dates can be adjusted if the eventual caravan decides on a different entry date.

**Install:** Find and install the TeamReach app from your App Store or go to TeamReach (<http://www.teamreach.com/>)

**Enter code:** 2024-Sedalia

Join the conversation on the app and let us know when you've registered! Can't wait to see how big "Minnesota row" is in 2024!

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## Rally on the Range!

**Join us for our Music & Mines Rally in Chisholm, MN - June 20-23rd.**

The Minnesota Airstream Club welcomes our neighbors for a special event this summer! Following a super successful summer rally in Duluth last year centered around local music, natural beauty, and area highlights, Richard Narum and Sarah Priest (BRN 21040) have-partnered up with Club President Vern Petersen (BRN1573) for another rally of music and more - this time in the impressive Iron Mining region of northern Minnesota.

We'll be rallying on the site of the northern St. Louis County Fairgrounds, steps away from the Minnesota Discovery Center - the largest museum complex in the state outside the Twin Cities. It's the place to learn everything about *the Land, the Mines, the People and the Work* of the Iron Range and also home to the world renowned and very popular Redhead Mountain Bike Park which has been carved from the walls of an abandoned water-filled iron ore mine pit - a great place for hiking too. You can also pick up the Mesabi Trail for a great paved trail ride or walk.

This rally will have a fantastic day-tour featuring the history and highlights of Bob Dylan, the Hibbing High School and Auditorium, mining in the region historically and today, the Greyhound Bus Museum, and the Paulucci Planetarium. And the most fun will be in the music!

You won't want to miss the Barn Dance with Sugar on the Roof and Field Birds, complete with lessons and Dance Caller on Saturday night. Friday night will be jazzy with Sam Miltich and the Clearwater Hot Club. And don't be late to Happy Hour on Thursday with Paul Metsa - the 'other' Iron Range famous song writer and storyteller.

We are sure to have a great time & we hope you'll join us! There's plenty of room for all of us!



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## Photographs and Memories.....



### Will You Be My Valentine?

Vernon Petersen/President, Minnesota Airstream Club

Feb 17 was the day for bringing your date to our Valentines Lunch at Billy's Bar and Grill in Anoka, Minnesota. We had a wonderful time of chat and laughter, starting off with the drink of your choice an hour before we ordered our food.

Now, mind you, we certainly talked about our Airstreams and family. But much of our conversation went toward the history of Billy's, the restaurant we were enjoying that rather chilly afternoon. Seems the

building is haunted! Perhaps we should hold a Halloween Party at Billy's as well. The building goes back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, where the upper floor was used as a place of ill repute. Legend has it the madam was murdered, and still haunts the premises. There are several versions of the story, but the haunting is, according to "those in the know" real. But no one complained about running into the ghost, so we had a great time. The food was great, and I had my regular cheeseburger.



Our hosts, Chuck and Joy Dodd, provided the yummy cupcakes decorated with flamingos. Check out Joy's beautiful smile as she is prepared to pass out homemade cupcakes to everyone after our dinner. No one passed up this treat, they were delicious!

Next up was Valentine Bingo! Carry Ensign called out the words, such as "Be My Valentine", and other such memes, and heart symbols were placed on the bingo cards. Three games were played, and prizes handed out to the lucky winners.

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We can see our Membership chair, Daryl Herrmann, placing hearts on her Bingo card. Way too much fun. Maybe the ghost was watching too!





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## Got a Question?

Got a question about the Wally Byam Airstream Club (aka, WBAC or WBCCI) or the MN Airstream Club? Wondering who you can talk to? These wonderful people are more than happy to hear from you and help answer your questions. Please feel free to email them. Your question may be forwarded to and answered by another member on the MN Airstream Club.

President	Vernon	<a href="mailto:vernon_petersen@icloud.com">vernon_petersen@icloud.com</a>
1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice-president	Pamela	<a href="mailto:rawn.pamela@gmail.com">rawn.pamela@gmail.com</a>
Membership Chair	Daryl	<a href="mailto:darylhermann@hotmail.com">darylhermann@hotmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Chris	<a href="mailto:club055@airstreamclub.org">club055@airstreamclub.org</a>



## ***Name Badges***

Did you know you can order new name badges from Airstream Club International? They have 3 different logos (show below) and cost \$3.00 each (plus shipping). Your name and Club name are printed on the badge instead of on a paper strip slid into a slot on the badge. They have Officer badges as well, including the Blue Stripes for Local Club President and Past President as well as Red Background for Region Officers and Past Region Officers.

Link: <https://store.airstreamclub.org/collections/stuff-for-people/products/name-badge>

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## Where the Airstreams Roam 2024 Region 7 Rally

Dates: September 12 – 19, 2024

Location: Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort  
20189 US Hwy 85  
Spearfish, SD 57783

Phone: (605) 722-1800

Website: <https://elkhornridgeresort.com>

Host: Chris Olsson - R7 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
([cwolsson@comcast.net](mailto:cwolsson@comcast.net))



We have 45 sites set aside for the rally, and 16 are currently reserved. All are pull-through sites with full hookups in one area of the campground. You can call and reserve a campsite anytime (do **not** reserve online). The sites are being held until 2 months before the rally. 2023 costs are ~\$70 per night. There is a weekly rate plus they offer Good Sam, AAA, Military/Veteran, First Responder/Nurse discounts.

To attend the rally, you will need to do two (2) things:

1. Call Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort and reserve a campsite. Let them know you are with the Region 7 Airstream Rally.
2. Register and pay the rally fees using the Rally Registration form (link below).

We are very actively working on the planning for the rally. Here's a list of the planned activities:

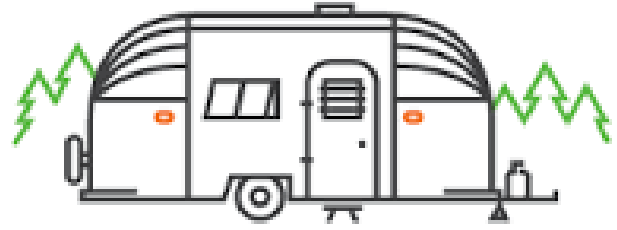
- Four Buffalo Feeding Tours (limited to 9 people each tour)
- Coffee every morning
- Happy Hours and Campfires most evenings
- A Potluck Dinner
- Ride the 1880 Train (Hill City to Keystone). Round trip with 3 hour layover in Keystone
- Fort Hays Chuckwagon Dinner and Show (Dinner served @ 6:30 pm. Show starts @ 7:15 pm.)
- Bus Tour to Mount Rushmore & Crazy Horse. All day (~9 am to ~5PM)
- A Breakfast (maybe oatmeal & ice cream)
- A Catered Dinner in the Event Center
- Coffee & donuts on last day

**Rally registration is now open.** Link to Region 7 website: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-7-2024-rally>

Looking forward to seeing everyone!!!!

Chris

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## Peach Caprese Salad

Peach Caprese Salad is a summery sweet twist on classic Caprese Salad. Serve as a light summer supper or a side dish to any grilled dinner!



**Serves 2**

- 6oz ball fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced 1/2" thick
- 1 ripe peach, sliced 1/2" thick
- 1 vine-ripened tomato, sliced 1/2" thick
- 12 leaves fresh basil
- extra virgin olive oil
- good balsamic vinegar OR reduced balsamic vinegar
- salt and pepper

### How to Make This Recipe

Start by slicing a **vine-ripened tomato**, **ripe peach** and **6oz ball fresh mozzarella** into 1/2" slices. Layer mozzarella cheese slices with peaches, tomatoes, and basil. Drizzle with extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar, sprinkle with salt and pepper, then serve.





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## Fika – A Swedish Coffee Break

Both a verb and a noun, the concept of **fika** is simple. It is the moment that you take a break, often with a cup of coffee, but alternatively with tea, and find a baked good to pair with it. You can do it alone; or you can do it with friends. You can do it at home, when you're out-and-about, or in your Airstream. The essential element is that you pause and give yourself permission to take a break: that's what fika is all about.

Here is a simple recipe that pairs well with a beverage.

### Almond Cake Recipe

This is the easiest almond cake with just 4 main ingredients. This cake has a soft, moist crumb and is lightly sweet with a pop of lemon flavor. You won't believe it is a grain free and gluten free cake recipe!

**Servings:** 8 slices

**Calories:** 218

#### Almond Cake Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups almond flour, \* measured correctly
- 4 eggs, separated, room temperature
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 Tbsp lemon zest, grated from 1 large lemon
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds
- Confectioners sugar and lemon slices for garnish, optional

#### Instructions

##### Prep:

1. Grease/butter a 9" cake pan or 9" springform pan. Line the bottom with a circle of parchment paper. Preheat oven to 350°F.

#### Almond Cake Recipe Instructions:

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine 4 egg yolks and 1/2 cup sugar. Beat with an electric hand mixer on high speed 3 minutes or until thick, creamy and lightened in color. Add 1 1/2



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cups almond flour and 1 Tbsp lemon zest and use a spatula to fold and stir together until incorporated. Wash and dry attachments from the mixer.

2. In a second large mixing bowl, add 4 egg whites and beat together until stiff peaks form (about 2 minutes). Fold the egg whites 1 heaping spoonful at a time into the almond batter, folding with each addition just until incorporated and scraping from the bottom of the bowl to ensure batter has an even consistency.

3. Once all the egg whites are incorporated and batter is even in consistency (do not over-mix), transfer batter to the prepared baking pan and sprinkle the top with 1/4 cup sliced almonds. Bake at 350°F for 30 minutes or until top is firm.

4. Let cake rest in the pan 15 minutes then run a thin spatula around the sides and invert it onto your hand then place it right side up on the rack. Let cool to room temperature and garnish with powdered sugar and lemon slices if desired.

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## Summer Newsletter

The Summer Newsletter will be published in July. If you would like to contribute an article or pictures to the Newsletter, please send them to Bart Schultz ([bartonschultz@gmail.com](mailto:bartonschultz@gmail.com)) by June 30, 2024. Topics can include a recent rally or caravan you attended, or a favorite campground you visited, or an experience that illustrates why you love being an Airstreamer. Please include a short description of any pictures that you submit (i.e. event, date, names of people or group).

Thanks,

Bart



# Silver Times



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