

NORVA NEWS



May 2024

Message from the President



We had a great rally at the Chickahominy RV Park in Williamsburg, VA hosted by Drew and Elizabeth Morgan. Drew led a bike ride from the campground on the Capitol Trail bike path to Jamestown. This was initially a 14 mile ride with Drew, Elizabeth, Lew & Cathy Brodsky, Patsy Nagel, Joe and Barbara Formoso and me. Drew, Patsy, Joe, Barbara and I added another 10 miles to the ride around James Island. Barbara is very talented bike rider. She can ride with no hands and take pictures as she passes you.

What's Inside

- Message from the President
- Upcoming Events
- Recent Club Fun!
- In Memoriam
- NORVA Executive Officers

We have two rallies coming up. The first is at Pete and Elizabeth West's house and the second is the River Rally at Spacious Skies Campground in Luray, VA hosted by Gail and Doug Perkins with Cohosts Wendy and Bob Nickel. Both of these will be fun. Information on these can be found on NORVA's web page.

Airstream Club International has sent out a proposed change to the Constitution about the Treasurer position. Everyone should have received an email on this. Please be sure to vote between June 20 and June 27. A voting email will be sent from Airstream Headquarters when it is time to vote.



Now that the weather is warming up it is a good time to get your Airstream out and go traveling.

Gerry

Upcoming Events

Persimmon Hill May Rally (hosted by Pete and Elizabeth West)

May 31-June 2 Look for news on this event in the **Recent Fun** section of June's edition.

RIVER Rally 2024 Right around the corner!

June 7-9 Look for news on this event in the **Recent Fun** section of June's edition.

NORVA 2024 ENDLESS SUMMER CARAVAN

July 10-21

The 2024 Endless Summer Caravan is currently full! If you missed the deadline, contact Jim and see about a wait list. The group will embark on a summer journey along the picturesque US southeastern coast, spanning from North Carolina to Georgia, from July 10th to July 21st. You can look forward to updates and photos for sure along the way, so make sure you are following along on Facebook

The planned itinerary is a minimum of three-day stops at four locations and an overnight stay on route. Our reserved campsites include OBX Campground in Outer Banks, Emerald Isle NC, an on-route stop near Myrtle Beach, a five-day stay near Charleston, and three days at Hilton Head.

Aside from enjoying the beautiful beaches at each location, we have exciting activities lined up. We will explore the Wright Brothers Memorial in OBX, visit The North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, and experience the historical charm of Fort Macon State Park.

Contact Jim Oxley, NORVA2024Caravan@gmail.com with questions or comments.

Recent Club Fun!

Williamsburg Rally

May 2-5



We had a great time at the rally in Williamsburg, hosted by members Drew and Elizabeth Morgan, who camped with us despite living in a lovely home just minutes away from the campground, Chickahominy Riverfront Park.



We started out on Thursday with a Welcome Happy Hour, greeting old and new friends among the ten couples. Elizabeth set up the snacks and Drew shared all the possibilities for the weekend.

Drew and Elizabeth had outlined a casual schedule of optional gatherings, including a visit to Historic Williamsburg, Historic Jamestown, Yorktown, a group bike ride on the Virginia Capital Trail (running right across the entrance to the), dinners out and happy hours at a couple of local breweries. It was so relaxing to pick and choose or head off on our own for antique browsing or exploring.





Don and Peggy Eckerman



Amanda and Brian Daly



Amanda and Matt Dando



Bev and John Bevis

Amanda and Matt Dando



Amanda and Matt Dando

Leslie and Ron Stevens





Barb and Joe Formoso

Dori Schatell and Jim Johnston



The campground was lovely with nice wide sites and plenty of shade. Right on the Chickahominy River, it was truly peaceful with a beautiful sunset on Thursday night.



As Gerry said in his message above, the group bike ride was great! Peggy Eckerman took pictures and a video of the whole group start, as well as a video you can see on the NORVA Facebook page.



The temperature at our 8:AM start was cool as we waited for Patsy and Gerry. After they arrived we were ready to go. As you can imagine, Patsy led the way. What a strong rider she is! The Virginia Capital Trail is just wonderful, with a great little coffee shop

called "Spoke & Art" about 5 miles into our ride. We headed toward Drew and Elizabeth's home and parked our bikes in their driveway to walk across the street to a pier out into the James River. From there we could see the old ships at Historic Jamestown. Our final group gathering was a happy hour on Saturday at the Billsburg Brewery. What a fun weekend!



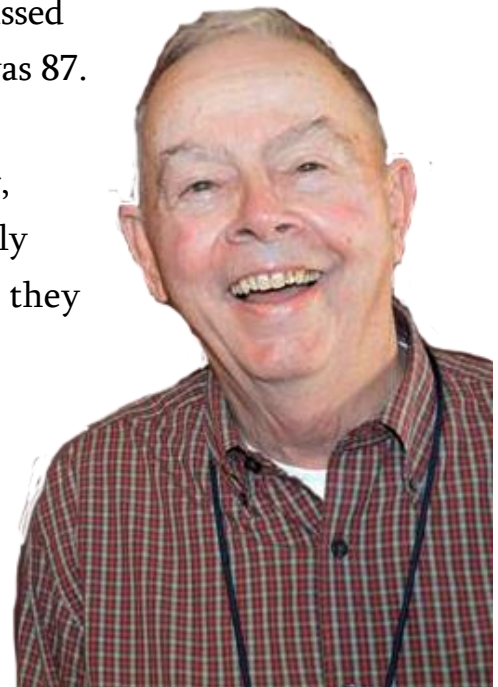


In Memorium

Edgar Simmons, a long-time member and leader of NORVA, passed away on May 13, 2024, from complications after surgery. He was 87.

With Kathy, his wife of 65 years, the couple called Bridgewater, Va., home. They joined the Club in 2000 and were exceptionally active NORVA members for 22 years, right up until 2021 when they sold their 36.5-foot 2001 Airstream Land Yacht motor home.

Edgar served two terms as NORVA's president, 2005-2006, and 2012-2013. He will long be remembered for his wit, boundless energy, and broad smile. He and Kathy traveled to all 50 states and 61 countries. Edgar organized and led NORVA's unique "Mystery Caravans." Only Edgar and Kathy knew





where the caravanners would be going. The destinations were kept secret...participants were not told where they would be traveling, or what route to take, until the night before each travel day. As eventually revealed, the first caravan's destinations in May 2011 were sights and sounds throughout Tennessee. The ten rigs made stops including Nashville's Grand Ole Opry, the Oak Ridge nuclear historic site, and the Jack Daniels Distillery. The second Mystery Caravan in June 2017 had 12 rigs. It began at Harpers Ferry, WV, then explored Pittsburgh, western Pennsylvania, and northwestern New York State. Stops included the Altoona Railroad Museum and (in New York) the Chautauqua Institute and community.

Edgar greatly influenced and enriched many lives as a teacher, father, grandfather, and friend. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at 11:00 am at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Lots of his fellow Airstreamers are planning to attend. The service will also be live and streaming on the church's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmrSIzG2si0fY-i9YA2DPeg>).

To honor Edgar, NORVA is making a memorial contribution to the Bridgewater Retirement Community Foundation.



NORVA Executive Officers 2023-2024

President: Gerry Nagel

1st Vice President: Bob Nickel

2nd Vice President: Jim Oxley

Secretary: Gail Perkins

Treasurer: Bev Bevis

Membership: Lew Brodsky

Newsletter Co-Editors: Barbara Formoso & Colleen Heron

Webmaster: Patsy Nagel

Legislative Director: John Bevis

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Past President: Peter West

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<https://airstreamclub.org/northern-virginia>

Information: <https://airstreamclub.org>



“Let’s not make changes,
let’s only make
improvements.”

Wally Byam

Newsletter contributions and comments are welcome! Send them to: bformoso@me.com or colleen.m.heron@gmail.com





WHERE ADVENTURE BEGINS



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