



The Trillium

Volume 52 Issue 3

June 2024



Airstreams in the mist at Blyth Rally

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Events Calendar

Aug. 1 - 5	A Taste of New York Rally Sampson State Park, NY	Registration open now
Aug. 20 - 29	Grapes & Grains Caravan Wapakoneta, OH to KOA, Niagara Falls, ON	Registration open now
Aug. 29 - Sep. 2	Grapes & Grains Intra-Club Sip Rally KOA, Niagara Falls, ON	Registration open now
Sep. 6 - 8	Fall Rally & AGM Can-Am RV, London	Andy Thomson Boondocking opportunity Contact Registrar to register
Sep. 5 - 8	2024 Pennsylvania Rally Emlenton Pennsylvania	If you're in the Pennsylvania area... Registration open now
Sep. 19 - 23	Fall Rendezvous #1 Western Ontario Summer House Park	Jim & Ena F. See article for registration information
Date TBA	Fall Rendezvous #2 Eastern Ontario Lindsay Fairgrounds	Bill & Julie R. Mentors needed!
Oct. 5 - 10	67th International Rally Sedalia Missouri	Just a short hop from Ontario Registration open now
Aug. 23 - 28, 2025	68th International Rally York Pennsylvania	An even shorter hop from Ontario! Registration TBA

President's Message

Melanie C.

June already!? We had a very successful Flamingo Fling Spring Rally thanks to the hard work of Kathy B. and her team. The Blythe Fairgrounds were a perfect venue and, despite the odd rain shower, it was a welcome start to the camping season.

I was delighted to see Don & Kathy M. and Terry & Sally T. It is always wonderful to see old friends and catch up. Many thanks to Don for his installation of club officers and induction of new members.

On a sadder note, we wish a fond farewell to Past President and First Lady, John & Evelyn F. They announced at the Spring Rally that it would be their last Airstream Club event. John & Evelyn are longtime members, having joined the club in 2002. They will be selling their Airstream, so any interested parties, please get in touch.

I was able to connect with Andy Thomson this week and finalize the Fall Rally plans. That information will be highlighted in this newsletter. Read through the details and register as soon as you can.

Thanks again to everyone who made the Spring Rally so successful! Enjoy your summer and stay safe.



Region 2 President's Message

Gary R.

May is when my Cleveland Pear trees bloom and what a spectacular site it is. We have four 20+-foot-tall pyramidal trees in my backyard, and my truck and trailer are now in the driveway. I have DE-winterized MaryAnn II. Hard to believe that we are less than a week away from the Region 2 Rally.



In this message, I would like to talk about the Region 2 Facebook page. This Facebook page is for the advancement of Region 2, Club activities, Airstream trailer related issues, and How To videos. We are now working on the rules of the road for it. One aspect is the security and safety of people who are members of this Facebook page. Stay tuned for more information as we move forward.

As with the use of any social media:

- Use appropriate language and behavior when interacting with others (i.e. no cyberbullying)
- Respect the opinions and ideas of others
- Obey all intellectual property laws
- Do not use or share others' work without permission
- Follow rules and/or codes of conduct for the Facebook page
- Responsibility to report cyberbullying, threats, and inappropriate use of digital resources

See you down the road.

Gary

New Members

Please welcome our newest OCAC members.

Robin & Carol S.
2023 Basecamp 20X

Chris & Jacqueline L.
2006 Safari 25

Arner & Nancy A.
2023 Flying Cloud 27

Jaclyn & Rolly J.
2023 Flying Cloud 25

Benn S.
2023 Atlas

JoAnn & Brian M.
2023 Flying Cloud 23

Brenda & Andy E.
2022 International 25

Anita Schmitt & Paul S.
2024 Flying Cloud 23

New members are reminded to send in headshots (together with partner if applicable) to the [newsletter editor](#) or Kathy B.



Thanks Can-Am for all your support!

Breaking News! Fall Rally Update

Melanie C.

This year's Fall Rally is being held at Can-Am RV. Andy and staff are rolling out the red carpet for us. The dates are September 6-7-8. Andy has room for 200 rigs to boondock but arrangements will be made for anyone needing an electric hookup.

The fee is \$90 per trailer. That includes a Friday evening catered meal, Saturday wine and cheese and a chili cook off. Can-Am RV will supply all you need to make chili for 8-10 people! All you need to do is bring your secret ingredients. They are even supplying the pots to cook in! Please let John W. know when you register if you would like to participate.

Saturday morning there is a Rotary pancake breakfast at the Lambeth arena. Andy's wife Heather is part of this organization. Good food at a great price for a good cause! Sunday morning will be a continental breakfast supplied by Can-Am RV.

As we celebrate our Club's 60th year there will be displays of 60 years of Airstreaming. Andy is doing a presentation and talk about boondocking, highlighting the newest Trade Wind model Airstream. There will also be an opportunity to meet the Can-Am RV staff.

We will be having our AGM to put your officers in place for the next year. New members will also be celebrated and officially welcomed to the club. David H., your incoming President, may be unveiling his exciting plans for next year's events.

Please register by July 1st. After that, Andy would like to send invites out to Airstream nonmembers. John W. is our registrar for this rally.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Fall Rendezvous Update

Jim F.

September 19th - 23rd, 2024

We were called on last year to host a Rendezvous again this year at **Summer House Park** in Tobermory. The timing of Melanie's phone call couldn't have come at a better time; we were already at the Park and just needed to walk to the office and speak to them about scheduling another Airstream get together. They are quite happy to have us coming back.

Your host team of Jim & Ena F., Dwayne & Margaret R., Mark H. and Lynn E. are working on a schedule of events that will provide more opportunities for us to meet as a group. The rec. hall will be available for our use for meet and greet on Friday night and throughout the weekend. A schedule of events will follow, closer to the date.

Currently we are planning on a Pot-Luck dinner for Saturday night and a presentation on solar electric by David Elliott of GWN Marketing. As we are not planning on holding any breakfast gatherings we will only need volunteers to set up the hall for the pot-luck dinner and the presentation, and there won't be any additional fee to attend. There will be plenty of time for relaxation, socializing and enjoying all the Bruce Peninsula has to offer.

If you plan to attend, contact the park directly and make your reservation. Call them at 1-800-265-5557 and look up their website; summerhousepark.ca. Call early to avoid disappointment. This is a very popular destination and books to capacity at this time of year, especially on the weekends. Be sure to tell them you are with the Airstream Club. You'll find the park map of great assistance in choosing a site.

Looking forward to seeing you at Summer House Park.

Your host team.



A Taste of New York Rally

Gary R.



Tired of looking at your trailer in storage or the driveway?

If you attended last year's Sampson Rally, we hope you have fond memories. This year the theme is 'A Taste of New York'. The New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club along with the Hudson-Mohawk and Metropolitan New York Airstream Clubs have partnered together to add to those fond Airstream rally memories or to create new ones. We plan to showcase the taste of New York. On Friday, we plan to have tastings under the tent. The tastings will include wines and craft beers from the region. Each trailer will be provided with a Charcuterie Board box (enough for 2 people) and a bag of decadent popcorn, both provided by local vendors.

Last year, the event started with check in on Thursday and check out on Monday morning. This extended time was a real hit with the Canadians last year because they have a long weekend.

So, add your trailer to the August 1-5 shindig. As in the past, we have sites already reserved at Sampson State Park for the event (limited now to 97 sites), a larger meeting tent, and a live band. Cost information and registration using the JotForm is below.

<https://form.jotform.com/240374986998177>

Grapes & Grains Caravan & Rally

Grapes & Grains organizers

The long awaited CANADA CARAVAN: Grapes & Grains Intra-Club's Sipping Across Canada is now ready to accept reservations.

On August 20th, the Caravan begins at Wapakoneta, Ohio for two nights, which gives us time to explore Jackson Center, home of the Airstream Factories and the Airstream Heritage Museum. Then we head into Canada, crossing at Windsor, Ontario. Make sure your passports are up to date! Then we stay in Amherstburg, Ontario so we can visit J.P Wisers, home of Hiram Walker Whiskey and another distillery. Next we travel to Turkey Point, Ontario for visits to local wineries. Finally, we end up at Niagara Falls, Ontario, home to the 7th Natural Wonder of the World. Here we will take an all day guided bus tour of some of the wineries of the region. Next up is a bus pass which will take you anywhere in downtown Niagara Falls, from the Maid of the Mist boat ride to the Skylon Tower and many other attractions downtown. This caravan ends on Thursday August 29.



Click this [link](#) for additional information, agenda, and to register for this CANADA CARAVAN.

But WAIT, There's MORE.

The Grapes & Grains Intra-Club Sip of Niagara Falls RALLY, Ontario Canada starts on the same day, August 29, that the Caravan ends! Think of spending the 4 night Labor Day weekend in a wonderful KOA Holiday Campground, without moving your Airstream! Attending a different wine bus tour and two more full days to explore Niagara Falls. This rally ends on Monday, September, 2nd.

Click this [link](#) for additional information, agenda, and to register for the CANADA RALLY.

These are two separate events so you can go on the Caravan and the Rally or you can go on just one or the other.

We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Future Airstreamers Events



**Join the inaugural 2025 Kids On The Blue Ridge Caravan and make great memories!
This is the ideal family caravan!**

We will be engaging in exciting activities such as ziplining, rafting, hiking, and biking while traveling along the beautiful NC Blue Ridge Parkway! All of the activities are kid-friendly, but a few have age or weight restrictions. No worries though, there are alternate options available. And if you still have energy left at the end of the day, there will be plenty of campsite family games and campfires to cap off our fun-filled days! This is the first caravan of its kind for WBCCI, dedicated to kids and families having fun. The caravan is only 10 days long, including three travel days at your own pace to explore and take in the beautiful sites along the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway.

Dates: June 10-20, 2025

Start: Tuckaseegee RV Resort in Whittier, NC

End: Boone KOA in Boone, NC

Volunteer Leaders: Misti & Mark R. and Ed & Joni H.

For More Information & To Register: [Click Here](#)

For Questions: Please reach out to the Volunteer Leaders at kidsontheblueridgecaravan@airstreamclub.org



Fun In The Sun Rally

Join us for a Fun In The Sun Rally at the Minnesota Airstream Park! We are getting together for a fun-filled weekend of swimming, golfing, and bonfires. To book your spot, please visit the Minnesota Airstream Park website and make a reservation using the code FUTURE24. This code will only give you a 15% discount on the Rally Nights (July 11-14). Please make your reservation before you sign up for the rally.

The Fun In Sun Rally fee is \$60, which includes a pizza night, taco potluck, flamingo putting contest, glow golf, and many other exciting activities with prizes. This is an ideal opportunity to take your kids away for a fun weekend with other Airstreamers and their kids. Don't miss out on this amazing rally! Rally registration ends June 27th.

Please reserve your campsite first and then register for the rally.

Host: Misti & Mark R. (BRN 6912) futurestreamersairstream@gmail.com

From Melanie's Desk

Melanie C.

Attention New Members

If you became members of the Airstream Club just before or during Covid, and did not get officially welcomed to the club, please reach out and let me know. We will be officially recognizing those people at our Fall Rally.

Looking for a new Club Registrar or Two

Every time we hold an event where preregistration is a requirement, we have people to keep track of members registered, funds paid, etc. We have been very fortunate to have had John G. at this position for several years. John is ready to hang up his registrar hat and our Spring Rally was his last time doing this important work for the club. John W. is also a registrar but at least one or two additional members are needed to allow registrars to switch about duties so they are not doing every event. Either John is happy to tell a prospective registrar the details of what is required. Please consider this a volunteer position you can help our Ontario Airstream Club with.

Standing Committees and Members

It has come to your Board's attention that all committees of our Airstream Club need to have more than one member. This opens quite a few volunteer opportunities for our members. For instance Kerry M. is the Caravan Committee. This committee can use several members, especially if you are interested in running a caravan in the future. Kerry has indicated that he is coming to the end of his time on this committee so now is the time to act. Every committee that handles money should have at least two members for checks and balances.

All the committees need to keep records and report on their activities. The records are really important for the history of when, why and how decisions are made for the betterment of the club.

Every person on a committee has valuable opinions and input that we need to grow our club. Check out the committees we have and let us know where you would like to help out!

Call for Interest Groups

Do you have a special skill or interest you would like to share with our club? We have several members who are fabulous photographers. Knitting, crochet or quilting more your thing? Hiking, biking, running? Scrapbooking, card making? Computers, games, reading? We are always happy to have classes, slide shows or fun get-togethers to share our interests. Let us know your ideas and we will work you into a rally or rendezvous!



Spring Rally Wrap-up

Steve A.

Last weekend, Karen and I towed The Bug to the Flamingo Fling Spring Rally in Blyth. Flamingos were everywhere! Most trailers had some sort of flamingo kitsch on display. Flamingo shirts, tops and headbands were worn without shame; Jeannie E. was rockin' a pair of flamingo sunglasses; Kathy B. made 20 stuffed flamingos by hand to be given away as prizes. There were more flamingos than a David Attenborough nature program, enough to make [Don Featherstone](#) proud. (Fun fact: a group of flamingos is known as a "flamboyance")



It was our first visit to Blyth though it has been the site of many Club events over the years. (Google navigation insisted on pronouncing it "Blith". Funny for the first few times you heard it – not so much the hundred times after that.) Conditions had been rainy so the sites varied from "a little bit slippery" to "better not park here or you'll sink up to your axles." We, in our front-wheel-drive vehicle, only got a little bit stuck. There was at least one rig that had to be towed out of a mud hole. All part of the fun, eh?

One day I'm going to do a piece on the origins of the term "Hassle Tassel". Nobody seems to know quite where it came from but as far as I can tell it's only a thing in the Airstream Club, perhaps only in the Ontario Club. Anyway, we hosted Hassle Tassel at our shady site on the upper part of the park. Some others were not so lucky and had to endure the full sun of the lower area. Our neighbours returned looking a little like boiled lobsters. Sun or no sun, everyone had a great time meeting new people, renewing old friendships, and stuffing themselves with "healthy snacks" right before dinner.



The pulled-pork catered dinner was a big hit. The serving size was more than ample, and there were leftovers for anyone who had a larger appetite. The vegetarian option was a sealed mystery box, which to my eye looked a little dubious, but a vegan couple we talked to at happy hour gave it high praise.

Sunday was Pot Luck. What can I say about Pot Luck? You never know what you're going to get, but it's always good. Chinese steamed buns next to curry, macaroni salad, roast beef, herbed potatoes, cranberry chicken and bright pink Jello salad? Why not!

Speaking of food, Blyth and nearby Goderich (to name a few), had many fine restaurant options. (Did anyone not go to the Cowbell Brewing Company at least once?) We went to the highly recommended Goderich Harbour Restaurant (a.k.a., The Old Saltie) and were not disappointed. It's a bright blue shack of a building down by the harbour, just a stone's throw from the bulk of the salt freighters. Their menu is "Fish, Chips, or Fish and Chips". And ketchup is extra.



Bingo was a blast. Power couple John W. and Lois W. led the show. "Clickety click 66" will stick in my head forever. As the night wore on, we were all getting tired and the cards started to get a bit blurry. But, to top the evening off, I won "Frida", one of Kathy's wonderful stuffed flamingos. She will occupy a prominent place in our Airstream.



So much more! The golf tournament, line dancing, ukulele quartets, a DJ dance, and everyone's favourite, the Annual General Meeting. The good news there is that we had a quorum and wrapped up very important business from 2023. See the minutes later in the newsletter.

Finally, let's give a big shout out to the organizers: Kathy B. & Gordon D., Donna C. & Allan S., Pat & Murray L., Lois W. & John W. They were all going non-stop to make the weekend a success.



Also thanks to all of the other volunteers that stepped up to fill the job-jar slots, except the, ummm, "do the rally write-up for The Trillium" slot right at the top of the list. Well, everyone missed a golden opportunity. Doing a write-up is way more fun than setting up breakfast, cleaning coffee urns, or wiping tables. (Hey, wait a minute, how come I got stuck cleaning out coffee urns?! I want a recount!)



Region 2 Rally Report

Kim E.



We attended the Region Two Airstream Rally in Center Hall Pennsylvania, May 3rd to May 5th. There were just over 30 trailers in attendance. Many States were represented, with 3 trailers from Ontario: Kim and Jeannie E., Dan H. & Bruce B., John and Karen R.. Two breakfasts, a catered beef brisket supper with all the trimmings, followed by an ice cream social.



Jeannie and I took in the Penn Caves, just outside of Center Hall.

Just down the road from the Rally, is State College, home of Penn State University. The University is very large and the economic engine for the city. Jeannie and I visited on Friday. We biked over to their Arboretum. It is massive and really well done.

Jeannie took my picture in front of the famous Penn State football stadium, home of the Nitty Lions.



There are many opportunities for hiking in this area. Here's a shot from Mount Nittany (2076') overlooking State College. This was a good work out, with a lot of ankle twisters on the trail. I purchased a pair of waterproof hiking boots the next day.



Eastern Shakedown Weekend

Lynn & Rob D.

Nineteen trailers enjoyed the Eastern Ontario Shakedown at the Richmond Fairgrounds this year. We had to squeeze into a new area on the fairgrounds as our usual spots would have swallowed our Airstreams with all the rain we have been experiencing. The power was not as abundant, but we managed. To compensate there was lots of water (from taps) available.

We were so pleased to welcome new members, Bill and Suzanne J. (new to trailering as well as Airstreaming) and Amelia and Gary R. We also welcomed Ron and Sabina B. from Montreal. Joining for visits over the weekend were new members, Brian and JoAnn M. (picking up their new trailer at Can Am on May 16); Walter B. and Nina M.; Art W.; and long time members Bev and Bob C.



Besides lots of visiting, we had our usual happy hours, potluck supper and eggs-in-a-bag breakfast. Some people did some bargain shopping at the town wide garage sale, some fixed nagging issues with their trailers and others visited with family in the Ottawa area. We all enjoyed reconnecting and introducing the new members to our Club.

Our co-hosts, Larry and June D. did an amazing job providing the goodies for evening snack and the Sunday breakfast. Unfortunately for us, our Shakedown weekend interferes with their restoration work at the Smith Falls Railway Museum so they have to bow out as co-hosts next year. Fortunately, though, Ken L. and Kate D. have stepped forward as co-hosts. Jane C. and Ken have volunteered to look after the food. We have challenged them to try to meet Janice J. very high standards!

The Richmond Fairgrounds have us down for May 8-12, 2025.



Caravan Corner

Kerry M.

As we write this, it really feels like summer is finally upon us. Everything is greening up, the birds are nesting and our Airstreams are on the road. Do you have a caravan booked for this year? If not, why not? If vacation time is a limitation, there are shorter caravans of two to three weeks that might fit. If time isn't a factor, there are many possibilities all over Canada and the USA.

Sometimes I hear from members that the waiting lists are too long, so why bother. Well yes, all the caravans are popular and our membership is growing faster than our stable of caravans. That said, I'm also hearing more often that people on a waiting list for a caravan several years in the future are getting a call saying a spot has opened up this year. What gives? We think that people are registering for multiple caravans and then waiting to see what might open up. If you can stay flexible on your timing, you may be happily surprised to see that the wait may not be as long as you expected. All caravan leaders get cancellations, sometimes with quite short notice. Lets face it, life gets in the way of the best of plans. Stay flexible, let a caravan leader know that you can be available on short notice and you may get lucky.



As a Club, our biggest need today is more members who will step up and take on the role of caravan leader. We exist because of volunteers and this role is no different. Caravan leader training is available at the International Rally each year and on occasion at other ACI functions. There has even been a Zoom style online session. If you take the course, and we recommend it for anyone interested in how caravans work, don't feel that you need to immediately take on a caravan in the national program. Starting with a local club caravan is the simplest and easiest way to get started. It also means that you will be traveling with a group of people that you already know – your fellow local members. With the exception of the Meandering the Maritimes and Capital to Capital Caravans, all my other 17 caravans have been under the umbrella of the Ontario Club. We are ready to assist any member with an idea or an interest.

Next year, the International Rally will be in York, PA in August. This is about as close as the Rally has been to us in quite a few years and we are hoping for a big turnout from Ontario. There will be a short caravan starting from a summer rendezvous that is being planned by David H. At this time, it would be good to get an idea of how many members are thinking of attending so that we can scope out some interesting stops on the short drive to York. Let me know if you would like to go and we can get the planning started. It will also be the perfect time for someone thinking about caravan leadership to get their feet wet on a short one. Let me know.

Sunshine Report

Lynn B.

My name is Lynn B. and I'm very happy to be the new Sunshine Lady. Hope I can do it as well as Linda Smith! I live in New Lowell, Ontario which is 30 minutes west of Barrie.

Being the Sunshine Lady means that when I get word of anyone in the Ontario Club, or a loved one, needing a greeting card for e.g., Sympathy, Thinking of you, Get Well Soon or any other card, I will send the card out on behalf of our group to the person needing it.

So far I've sent out 3 cards:

A Sympathy card was sent to Brian E. for the loss of his wife Myrna. I never had the privilege of working with Myrna. She was the first Registrar and as per Lynn D. she did everything by hand, it was very impressive.

Thinking Of You card was sent to Betty M. She needed a pacemaker that has been a complete success. It was so nice to see her at the Flamingo Fling Spring Rally in Blythe May 17-20/24 looking wonderful.

A Sympathy card was sent to Leisa B. for the loss of her partner Dave C.



Pump Me Up!

John R.

In the last issue of the Trillium, I talked about the problems with the internal check valves of the onboard water pump and how to fix them. I would like to carry on with the topic of the onboard water pump and talk about the [IRVWPC \(Intelligent RV Water Pump Controller\)](#).

I recently added this feature to the onboard water pump in my Airstream and it works as advertised. What does it do you ask? It modulates the pump motor speed to smoothly, quietly and automatically deliver just the amount of water needed. The manufacturer also claims this will make the pump last longer and decrease the amount of water usage. I have yet to verify this as I have only just installed the unit. There must be something to this as Airstream as of January 2024 is installing one in every Airstream they produce.



The installation is very easy and should take less than 30 minutes. I took a little longer as I had not fully drained the system before disconnecting the discharge side of the pump and had a bit of water to clean up. Oops.

The kit comes with good instructions. All that you need to do is disconnect the 12 V DC power and ground leads from the pump and connect them to the wires on the control box and then connect the output wires from the control box to the pump power and ground. On the discharge side of the pump you disconnect the water line and insert the supplied pressure switch and reconnect the discharge line to the other side of the pressure switch. In my case due to the orientation of the pump I had to purchase a braided extender hose to get everything to fit in the location of the pump. The controller comes with some internal dip switches which can be set for some features like shutting the pump off if it runs too long, which would be because of a leak but I just left it at the factory settings. The manufacturer has a good [installation video](#).

The unit is manufactured in Canada, and you can order one from the web site www.irvwpc.com for \$229.00 Canadian. Mine came in about 4 days after ordering.

[Editor's note: I installed one of these in our rig last year. Highly recommended!]

Community Services Update

Pop Tabs - Rick A.

Airstreamers are sure very generous! When we started to collect aluminum tabs to buy wheelchairs for kids in the early 2000's, we had no idea just how successful this community service would become. Through the years, we have collected many kilos of tabs and since we began, have contributed to the purchase of many chairs. At any of our rallies or rendezvous we collect tabs from the club. If we can't be there, we always try to get a volunteer to do the collection and turn the tabs in to us. Some of our members not only collect from their own home, but also from neighbours, churches or from service clubs in their area. Most of us have service clubs near us, and if you are willing to ask, perhaps they would be able to help us too. Many people almost apologize to us for having only a small bag to contribute, however these small bags add up, so much so that, at several rallies we have collected over 50 pounds of tabs and we were told that there were more to come!

"Tabs 4 Kids Wheels" is now working on our 60th wheelchair since starting in 1992, that's an average of almost 2 per year. I am proud to say that our Airstream group has been a part of this fantastic success.

On behalf of all the kids we help, I say thank you for your help, your effort is much appreciated. Anyone wishing more information may contact either Rick or Barb Aubrey from the directory or at a rally or rendezvous

Here a picture of the **57 Kg** of tabs (or 125 lbs for the older folk!) from the spring rallies. Another great job from and by Airstreamers, thanks.



Project Linus - Joan G.

102 Blankets collected for Project Linus!

Wow, this sets a new record for number of blankets collected for the Ontario Canada Airstream Club.

A huge thank you goes to our club members and their friends and family who made this happen. The Ontario Airstream club has so many talented, generous and creative "Blanketeers".

The blankets are on their way and soon will be wrapped around a child who is seriously ill or traumatized and in need of a comforting hug.

