

NORVA NEWS



Summer 2024

Message from the President



NORVA completed the “Endless Summer Caravan” led by Jim and Nicky Oxley. A good time was had by all even though there was endless hot weather. Renewed old friendships and made new ones as there were 6 couples from other Airstream Clubs on the caravan. There is more information on the caravan in the newsletter.

Voting for NORVA Officers for 2024-2025 is underway. Pete West, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, has submitted an excellent slate for the coming year. I appreciate all those who have decided to serve for another year and those who have volunteered for the first time to lead NORVA in the next year.

The Commonwealth Rally will be held at Madison Vines RV Resort and is hosted by Spirit of Virginia. During the rally the officers for next year will be installed.

Gerry

NORVA 2024 ENDLESS SUMMER CARAVAN

By Dana Dando

Photos by Patsy Nagle and Pete West

The NORVA 2024 Endless Summer Caravan was full of endless sunsets and endless fun! Thirteen Airstreams joined together to make the trek down the eastern coast through North and South Carolina. Jim (NORVA 2nd Vice President) and Nicky Oxley served as

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fearless leaders of this expedition and were gracious hosts at our gatherings throughout the trip. Their planning and preparations helped everyone have a great time. The rest of the caravaneers were Scott Foster and Anita Orr, Thomas and Judith Baker, Richard and Nancy Sibly, Matt and Dana Dando, Brent and Donna Mayo, Robert and Wanda Trexler, Larry and Shala Wilson, Pete and Elizabeth West, Ed and Beth Jones, Pamela Reising, Robert and Wendy Nickel, Gerry and Patsy Nagle.



We gathered at the OBX Campground in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina for our first stop.



This waterfront campground sits on Colington Island just minutes from the beaches and attractions of the Outer Banks. We enjoyed a Welcome Pizza party and happy hour while reuniting with fellow NORVA folks including our NORVA President Gerry Nagel and his wife, Patsy. We also got acquainted with new friends including an affiliate member from Cincinnati, some full-timers, and fellow campers from Florida and the Top of Georgia Clubs. Two families brought their children, so that was a special bonding adventure for them. Jim passed out our caravan notebooks and gave us an overview of what to expect for the next twelve days. Friday morning, we regrouped at the Wright Brothers National Memorial. We explored the newly renovated visitors center and listened to two talks about the days of those first historic flights.

We left OBX and travelled to New Bern, North Carolina. New Bern is the home to the Tryon Palace, the home of the William Tryon who served as the governor of NC during the colonial era. It is also the birthplace of Pepsi Cola. We stayed at the New Bern KOA Holiday which was another beautiful waterfront location on the Neuse River.





We packed up and headed out the next morning to go to Carrollwoods RV Park in Tabor City, North Carolina. This campground is nestled in a grove of lovely tall pine trees that gave a respite from the summer sun. We enjoyed live music and sandwiches on porch of the Grapefull Sisters Vineyard during the afternoon and then an evening of wine tasting.

We learned all about the health benefits of the plump Native American Muscadine grape. Did you know the Muscadine grapes are naturally low in sugar and 40 times higher in antioxidants than other vinifera grapes? We sampled 9 delicious varieties from semi-dry red to sweet white wine and also enjoyed jams and jellies in the tasting room.

The next day was spent on our own touring locations around Myrtle Beach which was about 45 minutes from the campground. We all gathered back in the evening for a delicious catered Southern dinner including fried chicken, watermelon and all the fixings. We cleared the plates away, and Bob Nickel (NORVA First Vice President) served as the caller for three fun rounds of bingo to wrap up our time in NC.



Our caravan then made our way down to sunny South Carolina. We camped at the Mount Pleasant/Charleston KOA Holiday which is about 26 minutes from historic downtown Charleston. During our four-night stay in the Charleston area, we took in several historical sites. The first morning we met up at the Visitor Center to depart for an air-conditioned bus tour of downtown Charleston. We enjoyed roaming through the open-air City Market and



eating at various restaurants in the city. The next day we met at Patriots Point for a 30-minute cruise to historic Fort Sumter.

We spent an hour roaming the fort to learn more about its pivotal role in the American Civil War. Over the next few days, we were free to visit area beaches on the Isle of Palms or tour

the nearby plantation homes. On the final day in Mount Pleasant, we enjoyed a breakfast together at Toast! All Day to get the final travel brief and prepare for the last leg of our journey.



Our last stop was at Hilton Head National RV Resort. It truly lived up to its resort designation. We had premium spots just a stone's throw from the main clubhouse. Behind the clubhouse was a large pool with a lazy river, private cabanas, a tiki bar and full-service snack bar. The pool area was flanked with pickle ball courts and a game room. You know you are glamping when the doughnut truck pulls up the next morning to serve hot doughnuts on site. The campground is close to Hilton Head and the quaint artsy town of Bluffton, so we had our choice of lots of good dining options including seafood and low country cuisine. On one of our evenings, we enjoyed a luau in the clubhouse featuring pork BBQ and delicious sides. On the last day we met up at Jim and Nicky's campsite for a cookout and ice cream social. It was bittersweet as we parted the next morning, but we left with the feeling that Wally Byam would be proud of us keeping the creed as we opened "a whole world of new experiences...a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions." Thanks to Jim and Nicky for their hard work and planning that went into this trip. It was a great adventure and endless fun!



Fun at Galax Fiddlers Convention 202

Photos by Pete West and Tom Carmichael

The usual rockling good time was had by NORVA members, including but not limited to a family concert just for us, cloggers, jam sessions and just hanging out. Join us next year!





Meet New Members



Patrick O'Neal recently joined NORVA and lives in Clifton. After 28 years of dedicated service in the Army and a significant life transition, he traded in his uniform for the open road, embracing the idea that if you travel far enough, you meet yourself. He's taken his office on the road, traveling the country, and spends his days working remotely and evenings and weekends discovering the hidden gems of America. For him, the Airstream isn't just an RV—it's a lifestyle where quality, heritage, and a dash of wanderlust come together in perfect harmony.

Welcome, Patrick!

Upcoming Events

September

2024 Virginia Commonwealth Rally

Date: September 5-8, 2024

Madison Vines RV Resort

Madison, VA

Hosted by Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club

For detailed information: <https://airstreamclub.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/U149-Revised--Itinerary%20Commonwealth%20Rally-Sep%202024.pdf>

October

67th Annual Airstream Club International Rally

Date: October 5-10, 2024

Sedalia, MO

Information and Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2024>

Alumalina Buddy Rally

Date: October 25-27, 2024

Tom Johnson Rally Park

1885 US 70 E



Marion, NC 28752

Registration Info: <https://airstreamclub.org/PS-Alumalina-buddy-rally>

November

Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally

Date: October 31 - November 3, 2024

Urbanna, VA

Registration IS Open!

Event Web Page and Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/urbanna-oyster-festival-rally>

December

NORVA Holiday Party

Date and Location: TBD

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

Webmaster: Patsy Nagel

Legislative Director: John Bevis

Parliamentarian: Tom Carmichael

Past President: Peter West



Join us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/norvairstream>

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



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

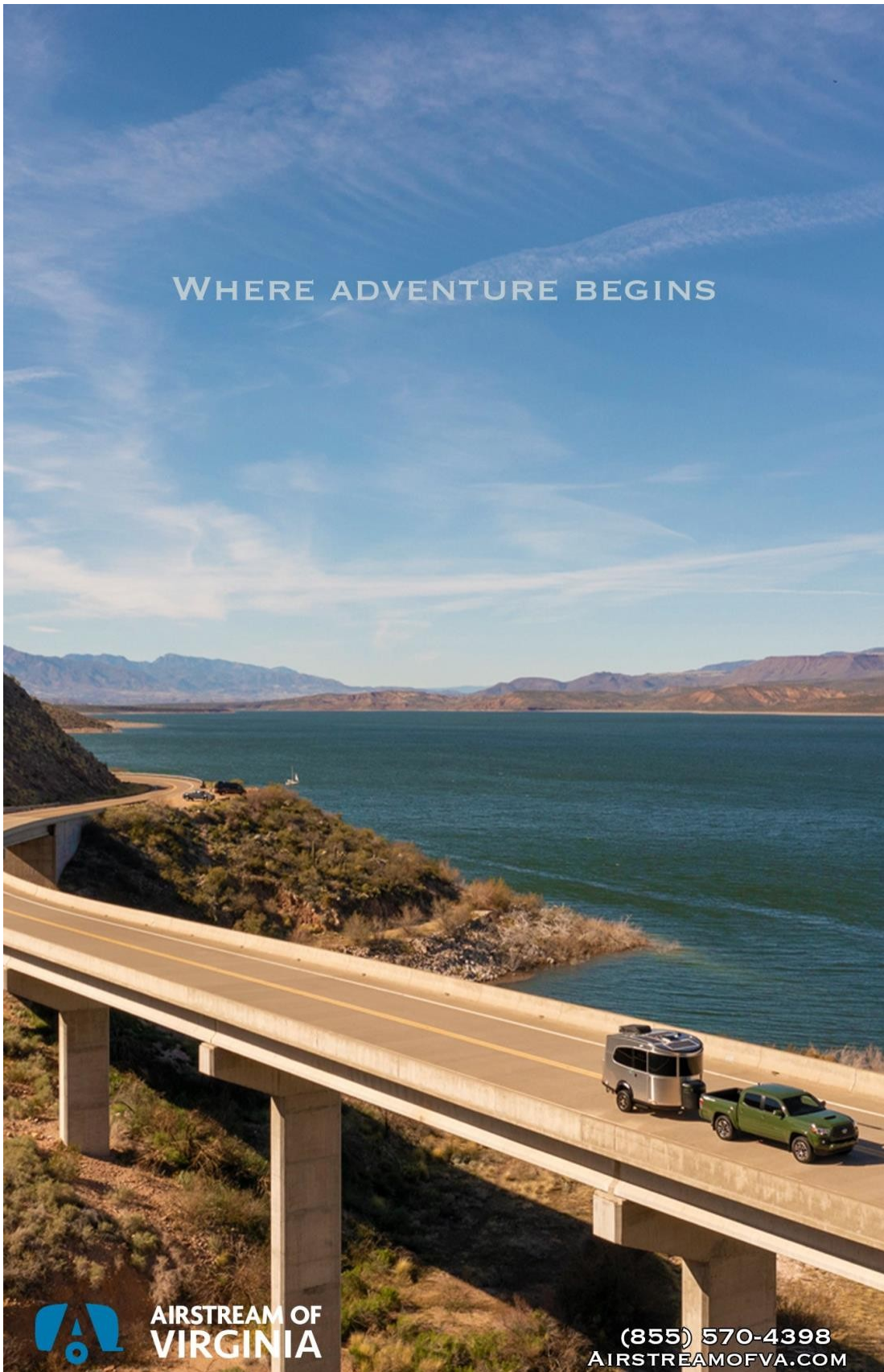
Wally Byam

Information: <https://airstreamclub.org>

Newsletter contributions and comments are welcome! Send
them to: bformoso@me.com



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