

The Shiny Hiney Review

September/October 2024



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In This Issue

Musings and Ramblings from the President	Page 2
Message from the Vice President	Page 4
Rally Schedule	Page 6
Piedmont Membership Report	Page 9
Ed and Tech (Streaming without a net)	Page 10
Today's news from the Campfire Curmudgeon	Page 12
Piedmont AS Club 2025 Slate of Officers	Page 15
Updated 2025 Rally Schedule	Page 16
A Carolina Spring Thing Rally Information	Page 17

<https://airstreamclub.org/piedmont-north-carolina>

Musings and Ramblings from the President ...

Captain's Log Stardate: September 2024

My motto....."If I learned something today, I am blessed". Often, I feel like the synapses in my brain are perking on all 8. Other times, not so much. Camping can often send a swift slap on the head of one's ego. Then again, camping requires a lot of thought and planning.

Big Mike and I started this camping journey 7 years ago at Kerr Lake only 1 hour after picking up the Poodle Palace. Were we prepared? Pretty close. The only provisions we omitted were bath towels. Hand towels got us through the weekend with the PAC. We were delighted that no one pointed and laughed as we positioned the PP into our site. SUCCESS!

Roll the clock forward a couple years to the Southwest Adventure Caravan. Off we went to live for 66 days with 50 of our closest friends that we'd never met. How many ways could that have gone wrong? However we had not one hitch.

Roll forward a little more to the Springtime in the Rockies Caravan. Off to the Wild, Wild West with the Byrums and the Hvizdaks. Now being seasoned campers, we called a planning session to divvy up the list of tools to bring. After all, space is limited with food, spirits, music, guitars, autoharps.....you get the idea. One driver brought the air compressor, someone else the box of special tools. Big Mike was proud of the brand spanking new Coleman grill gifted to him by his dear wife. Yep, he was grilling for everyone. So add that equipment to our list.



This thing was about the size of Texas!

What were we thinking going to the high mountain areas with a well seasoned grill? I had the deer-in-the-headlights look when one word was said by our caravan leaders...BEARS. Our tough-fabric tonneau was not going to deter a hungry bear sniffing the enticing aroma of our grilled dinner left over on the grids. Every night we had to reposition our salon in our 25' Safari with the boxed Coleman that looked like a giant coffee table. What a pain. Humility engaged. Lesson learned. **“Don’t take a big grill to bear country.”**



Gaile Broom, President

A Message from the Vice-President

Trip to the Mothership!

We arrived at the Mothership service center late on a Sunday afternoon and pulled into the Terraport. Monday's 7 a.m. appointment came early for those who are not such early risers!

We weren't sure what to expect but were pleased to be greeted and quickly checked in for our appointment. After attaching our number to Luna's hitch, we returned inside and waited for our service representative to come get us. Ryan was a delight. He welcomed us with a smile and a handshake and immediately put us at ease with the process. Since we were primarily at the service center for warranty

work, we went over those items first. We had one major item that we had questions about - the flooring. We noticed circles of discoloration evenly spaced in several areas. I had sent photos but the spots were hard to see, so we weren't sure it would be covered under warranty. While waiting for the warranty department to arrive, Ryan got to work on some things we had requested, and we went back to the lobby. Within about thirty minutes, Ryan was back with answers about our warranty service. Everything, including the flooring, would be covered. What a relief! Not only that, we were allowed to choose any flooring that we liked. I couldn't believe that they would do this. The flooring replacement took about



two weeks since they had to remove anything that came in contact with the floor from the trailer. Chris and I chose an upgraded flooring and are thrilled with the results! We were very impressed with the service that we received and thought that the trip there and back twice was well worth it.



On another note, I have discovered a wonderful thing for travel! For those who are vertically challenged, large vehicles can sometimes be uncomfortable. In the Wagoneer, my feet don't touch the floor, causing me to slouch or look for a place to put my feet. I recently purchased an airplane footrest from Amazon for our

trip to Europe but found it works great in the Wagoneer! I simply use the glovebox to hold it and away we go!

If you are interested I've included a photo with all the information. Amazon has plenty of other styles and colors too!

Happy Travels!

April Strader Bullin, Vice-President



2024 Rally Event Schedule

Here is our exciting schedule of rallies for this year. Our hosts have designed clever locations and activities for your camping delight. After you reserve your site, notify your hosts via email so you get into the weekend headcount for activities and meals.

*NOTE: The campgrounds for the March and May rallies will hold our sites through **December 13, 2023**. Make your reservations now.*

Sept. 19 - 22, 2024 **Carolina Mountain Jamboree** **Palmetto Cove RV Park**

521 Table Rock Road
Cleveland, SC
864-836-6221

Host: Palmetto State Club, Don and Vickie Lee

E-mail: dllakewsc@yahoo.com

Reserve by:

All five clubs from North and South Carolina will gather in one spot.

Piedmont Club #161 Business Meeting

2024 Rally Event Schedule

Sept. 30 - Oct. 15, 2024

Wagons Ho! Piedmont Club Caravan

AIC International Meeting 2024

2503 W 16th St
Sedalia, Missouri

Led by: Mike Bizon and Gaile Broom

E-mail: Gailebroom@aol.com

Reserve by: Notify Gaile and Mike by March 1st if you are interested in going.

We're heading to Sedalia on a NC to Missouri caravan. Want to come?

Campgrounds will be determined based on availability after we have a tentative headcount.

Oct. 24 - 27, 2024

Alumalina

Tom Johnson Rally Park/Campground

348 Resistoflex Rd
Marion, NC
800-225-7802

Host: John and Susan Leake

RSVP to: Go to "AirForum" on Facebook. Look for "Alumalina 2024"

Sign up: Facebook AirForum

Everything has already been said about this rally. But just one more time, "Let's hear it for the hottest ticket around". Folks come from across the USA and Canada. Why... the fish fry alone makes it worth the trip.

2024 Rally Event Schedule

Nov. 7 - 10, 2024

The Passing of the Torch

Salem Breeze RV Park

2784 Hickory Tree Road

Winston-Salem, NC

336-972-3200

Hosts: Debbie and David Stubbs

Email: davidstubbs57@gmail.com

Reservation Details: Reservations can be made on line at [Salem Breeze Reservations – Cool Breeze Campground](#) or call or email Robert Sells at robert@salembreezervpark.com, 336-972-3200. No deposit required.

A time for celebration as new officers step up to serve.

Piedmont Club #161 Installation Rally

Piedmont NC Club Membership Report

by Amy Mount
Membership Chair
September 2024

PIEDMONT CLUB MEMBERS WHO RENEWED MEMBERSHIP as of 9/19/2024

- Bob Hendrickson & Emily Smathers **BRN 7604** 1999 30-ft. Excella 1000 Classic
Wake Forest, NC (Bob has a *new* email address – hendricb416@gmail.com.)
- Jerry & Jeanette Landreth **BRN 12812** 2023 28-ft. Globetrotter Pleasant Garden, NC
- Steve & Leslie Lovett **BRN 22659** 2020 28-ft. International Serenity Hillsborough, NC
- Jerry & Jessica Smith **BRN 10703** 2021 22-ft. Bambi Sport Stokesdale, NC

THANK YOU for renewing your Airstream membership and for making *Piedmont NC* your “Home Club!”

Piedmont Club also **LOVES** our Affiliate members – the more “Streamers,” the merrier we are!

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS as of 8/10/2024

- Lewis & Judi Fogel **BRN 4364** 2018 27-ft. Flying Cloud Delray Beach, FL
(Home Club is South Florida Airstream Club)
- Chet & Maureen West **BRN 6506** 2023 28-ft. International Charlotte, NC
(Home Club is Carolinas Club)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS WHO RENEWED MEMBERSHIP as of 9/16/2024

- Jill & Alan Rabb **BRN 2376** 2020 30-ft. Classic Greensboro, GA
(Home Club is Palmetto State Airstream Club and they have a *second Airstream* with **BRN 0404**.)

Piedmont Club Member News:

- William & Angela Atkins, **BRN 5325**, and Richard & Anna Langhoff, **BRN 4511**, have transferred to Carolinas Club, but glad we will still get to see them at *Region 3* rallies.
- We say, “Goodbye,” to John & Donna Woodward, **BRN 20979**. They have sold their 2014 International Serenity and have moved out of the area. We wish them all the best!

Ed and Tech (Streaming without a net)

Submitted by Michael Bizon

Question? What's the fastest speed that humans have ever traveled?

Astronauts Thomas Stafford, John Young, and Eugene Cernan reached a speed of 24,816 mph while returning from their eight-day voyage on May 26, 1969, a record that not even subsequent Apollo missions managed to top. Other speed records don't even come close to the speed of Apollo 10.

The land speed record set in 1997 by a 54 foot Thrust SuperSonic Car is 763 mph.

The commercial Airliner travels at a speed of 550-600 mph. That's as fast as some of us ever get to go.

Some of you might have heard I got a new TV. I went in all the way with a Tesla. Can't wait to drive this into the International Rally. I haven't opened it up yet when pulling the Airstream. I'm sure Elon's got this thing dialed in for towing. Come on wide open spaces.

What speed are you comfortable pulling your trailer? Is there a difference when you're solo vs. in a caravan?

I know that I usually let the lead dog set the speed when in a caravan. My first experience was a trip to International in Michigan. The leader

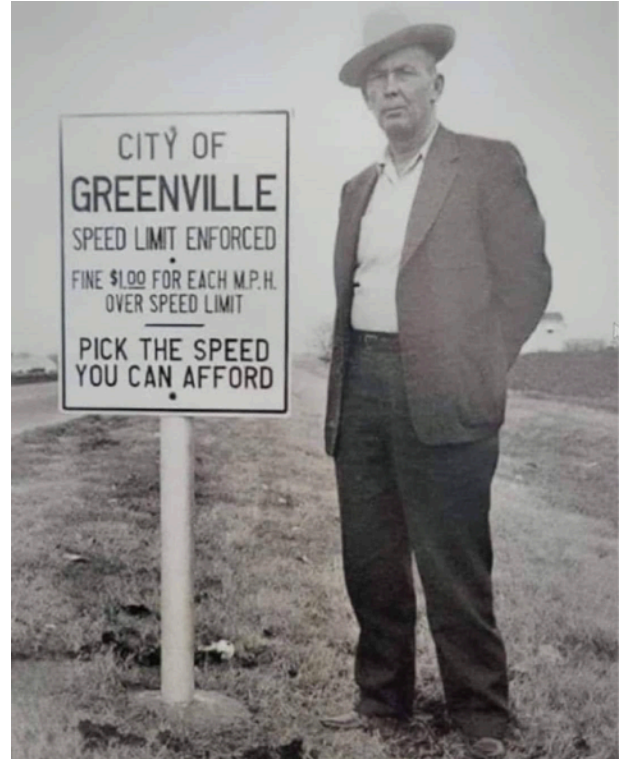
My Tesla Cybertruck from Temu finally arrived!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 🤩🤩🤩
😂 Wooooo hooooo! 😂



was a 5 mph below the speed limit guy. At that stage of my experience, it was just right.

As I traveled in more caravans, I became comfortable going 5-10 mph over the posted speed limit, except when we were in Wyoming and Texas where the posted speed limits were in excess of the tire ratings. I wished I was in my convertible then since I'm never going to get that chance on the Autobahn.

My advice is don't exceed your tire ratings and pick a speed you can afford.



Your experience may vary. Don't forget to tip the waitstaff.



It was only a matter of time. Gas, Hybrid, Electric and coming soon Vegan

Today's news from the Campfire Curmudgeon!

I think the dryer shrunk my shorts.

I'm sure the planners for this year's rallies were counting on cooler, drier weather in the mountains and the foothills. Oh well, that went a little wrong. We weren't high enough to enjoy the mountain cooling effect. Desperate times call for.....well, you know.

If you walked around one of our recent campgrounds you might have seen



this setup in the tent camping area. Well played tent camper, well played. I was a little cautious and didn't get a good picture of the manifold setup on the output side. It had to be a solid HVAC technician in one of the tents.

I can't complain about the food at our rallies. I know it's my job to complain, but no whining from me. It seems Airstreamers either eat like a High School football team and scarf up everything in sight OR like a bunch of ladies at a church social nibbling on tuna puffs. You know the ones that followed Mammy's advice from **Gone with the Wind**. *Now, Miss Scarlett, you come on and be good, and eat just a little, honey.,* to which Scarlett replies, *"No. I'm going to have a good time today and do my eating at the barbecue."* Mammy responds saying, *"If you don't care what folks says about this family, I does! I has told you and told you that you can always tell a lady by the way*

she eats with folks. Like a bird. I ain't aiming for you to go to Mr. Wilkes' and eat like a field hand and gobble like a hog!" Maybe **Gone with the Wind** could be the next rally movie?

Could it be that a couple of the past Rally Leaders never want to cook again? How dare they! That's what I leading up to here.

Now I will admit the bar at rallies is getting higher and higher. In fact, I came home and donned shorts with an elastic waist. You know, buffet shorts. Future Rally Leaders, do not feel you have to match up the food of previous rallies.

Let me tell you when you'll know I'm the rally leader. Don't be expecting any fancy pants stuff. The meal will be beanie weenies. That used to be the go-to camper's meal. What about Vienna Sausages and saltine crackers? Pop Tarts will be the only breakfast item at my rally. I will be the rally host willing to put out a real camping meal. One that rests hard on our stomachs and still leaves us hungry.

For entertainment, we will sit in the smoke of a campfire, choking while burning marshmallows and chocolate together so we could cram them in our mouths.

There will be no movies! We'll have shadow puppets on the side of the Airstream. Who can do the best rabbit finger shadow?

I'm going to update the PAC camping tradition. We're going to sit around the campfire and share the scariest lies we can conjure up, guaranteed to make it difficult to fall asleep. Feel good stories have no place in a campground just like there is "no crying in baseball."

My advice for future Piedmont Rally Leaders is lower the expectations to my level. There is no prize at the end of the year for "Best Rally Host" (or is there?)

The goal is to balance between structure and chaos. The prize is making new friends, getting to know our fellow Airstreamers better and having a good time. The measure of a good rally is when our club members drive

away while looking forward to the next rally instead of burning rubber to get home.

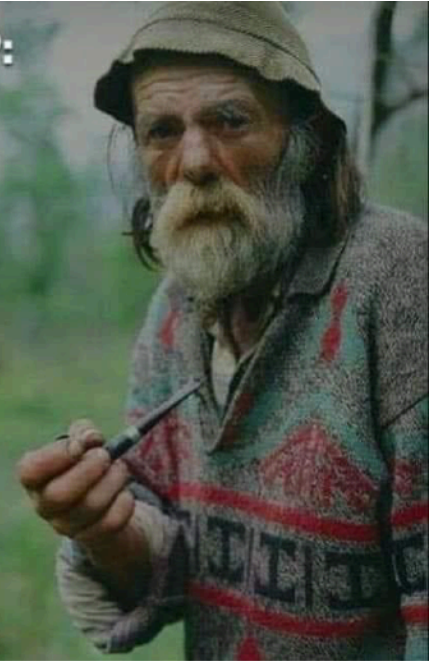
While I'm grouching let's go on to the next gripe. Back in the day when I was a working stiff, I had enough of meetings that went on too long. The higher up cronies taking care of cronies. I left the corporate life of NDA and backroom deals. I don't need people creating a political environment.

Hey, this is a camping club. My advice is the same for ACI corporate as it is for the rest of us. "Back it down!" You all volunteered to serve.

Don't set yourself up for burnout. Don't scare the crap out of people who are thinking of getting involved in our cult. This is not a reality TV show hosted by Trump.

SURVIVAL TIP:

If you get lost
in the woods
start talking
about politics
and someone
will show up
to argue with
you.



It's more like an "Our Gang" short.

The phrase to remember before the next rally, "**Bring Buffet Pants**".

Piedmont AS Club 2025 Slate of Officers



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Announcing the Piedmont AS Club 161 2025 Slate of Officers:

President - April Strader Bullin

Vice President - Diane Byrum

Treasurer - Jim Mount

Recording Secretary - Debbie Stroud

Trustees - Bob Ealy, Peter Cap, David Stubbs, Jeffrey Skeahan

Membership Chair - Debbie Stubbs

Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter - Rob Rati

Webmaster - Delia Rati

Historian - Gregory Ray

Congratulations and thanks to all who have volunteered to guide our club.

NOTE: Voting for these nominees will be conducted at our fall business meeting Thursday October 24, 2024 at 4 pm at Gaile and Mike's site BRN 4168 at Alumalina. Look for us on row H near the pavilion. Bring your favorite beverage and a chair. See you there!

Updated 2025 Rally Schedule

We have a deadline for the May Rally. Please note that reservations need to be made by October 7, 2024. Please call right away.

We still need hosts for March and June. If you would like to help out please let me know. If you haven't hosted before and would like to give it a try some folks will help you. Remember, it's always better with friends!

DATES	EVENT/HOSTS	CAMPGROUND
January	No Event	No Event
February 6-9, 2025 SPACES HELD UNTIL NOV. 6, 2024	Joint Maintenance Rally with Carolina Coastal <i>Co-Hosts Needed</i>	Willowtree RV Resort 2000 Old Buck Creek Rd. Longs, SC (866) 207-2267
March (Dates TBD)	Hosts Needed	TBD
April 9-13, 2025	Region 3 Rally	Coastal Carolina Fairgrounds, Ladson, SC
May 29-June 1, 2025 REGISTER NOW! SPACES HELD UNTIL Oct. 7, 2023	A Carolina Spring Thing <i>Gaile Broom & Mike Bison</i>	Allison Creek City Park York, SC 803-323-2035 Piedmont Airstream Club/ Mike Bison's Group
June (Dates TBD)	Dianne & Bill Byrum	Tentatively Southwest Virginia
July (Dates TBD)	Hosts Needed	TBD
August 23-28, 2025	Airstream International Rally	York Expo Center, York, PA
September 18-21, 2025	Carolinas Mountain Jamboree	Palmetto Cove RV Park Cleveland, SC
September 25-28, 2025	Mayberry Days <i>April Strader Bullin & Chris Bullin (hosts)</i> <i>Donna & Coach Edwards (co-hosts)</i>	Black Dog Acres RV Park Pilot Mountain, NC
October (Dates TBD)	<i>Jane & Alan Hvizdak</i>	TBD
October (traditionally the third weekend but need to confirm)	Alumalina	Tom Johnson Campground, Marion, NC
November 6-9 SPACES HELD UNTIL OCTOBER 9, 2025 <i>Mention Piedmont Airstream Rally 11/6-9, 2025 when making reservations</i>	Installation Rally <i>Amy & Jim Mount</i>	Cross Winds Family Campground 159 Sowers Rd. Linwood, NC 27299 (336)853-4567
December	No Event	No Event

A Carolina Spring Thing!

May 29 - June 1, 2025

Allison Creek Park

2499 Vista Rd

York, SC 29745

Reservations Phone: 803-323-2035



Please call the Reservation Number to reserve your spot! We have 15 sites held until **October, 7, 2024**. After that date they cannot hold reservations. (Ask for the Piedmont Airstream Club, Mike Bizon's group. Do not try to make your reservation online.)

Your Rally Hosts, Gaile Broom and Mike Bizon, are working to make this an epic rally. This site was chosen for its proximity to Charlotte and the Charlotte Motor Speedway. There are also enough wooded areas and hiking trails to feel like you're away from it all.

Plans are in the works for visiting the Charlotte Motor Speedway and the NASCAR museum. Charlotte has become a craft brew Mecca with NODA and the South End providing many entertainment opportunities.



Nearby is Landsford Canal where the spider lilies will be in full bloom.



The Whitewater Center can provide some exciting memories.



York County's Allison Creek Park is a 160-acre park located on the shores of Lake Wylie. Allison Creek offers guests a wide variety of day use recreational opportunities including 4 boat ramps, a kayak/canoe launch, a fishing dock, 3 miles of trails, a playground, and picnic shelters.



This newly established campground at Allison Creek has 33 full hook-up RV campsites. We have reserved almost half of them until **October, 7, 2024**. So make your reservation ASAP.

FYI: Allison Creek Cancellation Policy

- Cancellations occurring 0-13 days before arrival will incur a cancellation fee of 1 night stay.
- Cancellations occurring 14 or more days before arrival will incur a cancellation fee of \$10.

Any reservation can be transferred to an alternate date without penalty.

Sites are \$41.00 + tax per night. If you are a resident of York SC the rate is less.

[YouTube grand opening of Allison Creek County Park](#)

There are many entertainment opportunities in the area. We're working on it! Stay tuned in for updates. Get your reservation in now! There will be a Jot Form coming out later to register with the club once you have a site reserved.