

#### **Airstream Club International**

803 E. Pike Street, PO Box 612 Jackson Center, OH 45334

(614) 596-5211

### **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AIRSTREAM CLUB INTERNATIONAL WRAPS UP RECORD BREAKING 2024 RALLY AND OPENS REGISTRATION FOR 2025 RALLY

The 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Airstream Club International Rally broke attendance and philanthropic records and infused an estimated \$1,750,000 in traveler spending into the local economy.

SEDALIA, Missouri - The 67th Annual Airstream Club International Rally embodied the word community. Hosted in Sedalia, Missouri, the Rally brought together 2,289 Airstream enthusiasts from around the world for a week of camaraderie, adventure and lifelong memories.

The rally, the first held in the fall, hosted an impressive 1,195 Airstream trailers at the Missouri State Fairgrounds October 5-10, 2024. Airstream owners, families and friends, rally together annually to celebrate their shared passion for adventure, exploration and the iconic Airstream lifestyle.

As is tradition, the Vintage Airstream Club paraded more than 60 Airstreams 25 years or older through the fairgrounds to kick off the week's festivities. The Rally's 5 days



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were packed with educational sessions, a massive exhibitor fair that spanned 2 buildings, art shows, daily sporting activities, pet shows, tea parties, live music, dancing, shopping, networking, socializing, and social impact activities.

A guiding principle of members of the Airstream Club International is the dedication to leaving a positive impact on every place we travel. This year was no different. Airstream Club members stepped up to make significant donations to local charities and causes. The WBCCI Foundation, the charitable foundation associated with Airstream Club International, distributed 4 grants to local causes near and dear to the Airstream lifestyle: \$5,750 to Sedalia Heritage Foundation for Katy Trail Depot maintenance and upkeep; \$5,750 to Ozark National Scenic Riverways to purchase wayfinding signs; \$5,750 to Mark Twain National Forest to clean up and improve RV camping sites; and \$8,000 from Common Cents for Kids to Bothwell Foundation for their children's programs.

Rally attendees, through t-shirt purchases, raffles, direct donations and a matching donation from WBCCI Foundation, raised \$21,311.15 for the Bothwell Foundation to support their Cancer Services Fund, Regional Health Center patient room remodel fund and Patients' Assistance Fund. In total, the foundation and rally attendees donated \$46,561.15 to support local causes.

Additionally, Hurricane Helene deeply affected some of our members and treasured campgrounds. Rally attendees came together, with a matching donation from WBCCI, to raise over \$26,000 to assist with clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

The generosity of our club members and community is unmatched and does not stop with monetary donations. Rally attendees demonstrated their compassion by donating an impressive 164 pints of blood through our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Airstream Club International Rally Blood Drive. ACI Future Streamers, youth involved in the Airstream



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lifestyle, collected from our members an impressive 210 pounds of aluminum tabs to be cashed in toward contributions to the Ronald McDonald House, 60 more pounds than the previous Rally.

"It always comes back to community. You'd be hard pressed to find a more welcoming and generous community than Airstream Club International. Every year we look forward to seeing old friends, making new friends and leaving a positive impact on the local community. Sedalia was a welcoming host and we were so happy to be able to give back so much to this fantastic community," said Eric McHenry, Airstream Club International President.

Focus now turns to the 2025 Airstream Club International Rally in York, Pennsylvania August 23-28, 2025. Registration opens October 30, 2024 at 1:00 PM EDT and is expected to sell out quickly.

For more information about the Airstream Club and upcoming events, please visit <a href="https://airstreamclub.org/">https://airstreamclub.org/</a>.

#### **ABOUT AIRSTREAM CLUB INTERNATIONAL:**

Airstream Club International (ACI) is a not-for-profit organization with headquarters in Jackson Center, Ohio. The club originated when Wally Byam, the inventor of the Airstream, first led a group of travel trailers from Texas to Nicaragua in 1951, followed by subsequent caravans that encouraged people to get out and use their travel trailers.

In doing so, Wally inspired travel enthusiasts to see and enjoy the world, encouraging cross-cultural encounters, all the while using these environments to test the



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travel trailers he manufactured. On a caravan to Eastern Canada in 1955, the Wally Byam Caravan Club International (WBCCI) was formed.

The club was later renamed the Wally Byam Airstream Club and is currently doing business as Airstream Club International (ACI). Today, ACI holds hundreds of local club and region rallies as well as dozens of local, region and national caravans to provide club members with many opportunities to carry on the tradition of discovering fun, philanthropy, camaraderie and adventure together while traveling in their Airstreams. The ACI Annual Rally is the club's largest annual gathering. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.airstreamclub.org">www.airstreamclub.org</a> and follow ACI on social media @airstreamclub.

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