



GOOD LIFE NEWS

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 | Nov. 2024

President's Points

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Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 6 months per year (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Due date for articles is the 20th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the WBCCI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out at any time. We do not share email addresses.

Hello, Airstreamers!!

It is with a heavy heart as I think about the last couple of months in Florida, which means for many of our members, especially in the Big Bend West Coast areas. We've had two whoppers roll through, just weeks apart, and cause catastrophic damage in some places, major damage in others, some damage in others, and luckily, some very minor damage or none at all for some. Times like these mean that together as a group, we make sure that everyone is taken care of.

If there is something you need help with, please reach out to the executive board and we will help figure out ways to get you help. We have a collective mind that blows me away every time we get together. I really don't think there is a problem that we can't solve as a group! Over the last 6 years, I have seen us work together so many times. Our Airstream friends have always offered to be there when our plans have been changed by weather or Covid, when our families requested help, or we just needed a little help tinkering on something. Please don't hesitate now if there's something you need help with, through networking, we will try to get you help.



Unfortunately, we had to cancel the annual meeting rally at the Florida Sand Music Ranch and the follow-up rolling rally to Mary's Fish Camp (Oct. 28—Nov. 4). We've heard that they do have some camp spots open, but we made a group decision that we did not want to interfere with their repairs and to leave it available for residents who are displaced.

We checked with Fort Christmas, and our Cracker Christmas volunteer rally and officer installation is still on for December. The second part of that rolling rally will also be held at the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park (Florida). The campground is open and the Festival of Lights is being planned, although some facilities may or may not still be closed (such as the Spring House and canoe launch).

Once again, I want to humbly thank my executive board for all of their help in getting ready for the annual meeting, being able to get online votes so we are able to meet quorum, and help with the installation of new officers. We truly could not have done it without you. I also want to thank each and every one of you for your willingness to volunteer when and where you are able. We understand everyone has different strengths, talents, and schedules, and we appreciate everyone's help when you're able.

Respectfully, Steve Kane
President Florida Airstream Club



Annual Meeting Business

Last month the Florida Airstream Club had to cancel their annual meeting due storm damage at the planned campgrounds. So the votes on last year's annual meeting minutes, Election of Officers, changes to the constitution was done online and a quorum was met.

The results are as follows:

1. Minutes of 2023 annual meeting were approved
2. Candidates for the President and Treasurer positions were approved (Mike McGinn and Bruce Fafard)
3. Amendments to the Florida Airstream Club Constitution were approved.
 - A. Reworded process to become affiliate members to fit the current method on the international website.
 - B. Removed Second Vice President and Trustees from the Executive Board.
 - C. Added vacant positions shall be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
 - D. Changed annual business meeting from October to no later than December 1st.
 - E. Changed when constitutional amendments may be amended to any business meeting rather than only at annual or special meetings, providing a notice is provided to all members at least 15 days prior to the meeting.

After the election closed, Beccy Hosoda stepped up to volunteer to serve as our Vice President and Gina McGinn volunteered to serve as our Secretary (pending current Executive Board approval).

Volunteer Needed –

A volunteer is needed to prepare and mail the official Club name badge to new members. Name badges, perforated card stock, envelopes, and stamps provided. Average mailing is three members per month. If interested, please contact Larry Scovotto at larry.floridaairstreamclub@gmail.com.

Executive Board 2025

President: Mike McGinn

Past President: Steve Kane

Vice President: Beccy Hosoda*

Secretary: Gina McGinn*

Treasurer: Bruce Fafard

* pending Executive Board approval



2024 Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule

MONTH	ARRIVE	DEPART	RALLY NAME	RALLY FEE	LOCATION	CAMPGROUND	HOST
Dec.	12/5/24	12/9/24	Cracker Christmas & Installation of Officers Dec. Rolling Rally (Part 1)	NC	Christmas, FL	Fort Christmas Historical Park	Steve & Laura Kane
Dec.	12/9/24	12/11/24	Lights at Stephen Foster Dec. Rolling Rally (Part 2)	NC	White Springs, FL	Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park	David & Susan Poole



Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend. Rally fees are per person and should be paid online.

Wickham Park Weekend Rally Sep. 6-8, 2024

The Wickham Park weekend rally, was a great success with eight trailers! We had another first-time rally goer and showed them how much fun we can have, even if there is not a designated host or schedule.

We gathered at a trailer the first night and made plans for a Saturday morning breakfast. Then we went into downtown Melbourne to a local dog friendly brewery and enjoyed local music, food, and drinks. That evening, everyone gathered for great conversation and stories.

Sunday, numbers were exchanged, plans were shared for meeting down the road and we all headed home.

Steve Kane



December Rolling Rally

12/5/24 to 12/11/24

Cracker Christmas & Installation of Officers — Part I 12/5 to 12/9



As everyone is getting prepared for the holiday season, I wanted to let you know that I appreciate your volunteer spirit for the upcoming rally at Fort Christmas. I know we're all going to get busy, but it is one of the most fun rallies we have been to, because you get to meet so many locals, with such rich history and stories to share about the houses we will be watching. If this is your first time, I want to welcome you to your inaugural officer installation and volunteer rally. It will be a blast and I promise, you'll hardly have had more fun working with others than you will here. If you are returning, I appreciate your service spirit and dedication to helping them have a wonderful festival.

Cracker Christmas is only 2-ish weeks away! If your plans have changed and you're not able to make it, please let me know. We have two or three more spots open, so if you have some Airstream friends, let them know. Please plan to arrive on Thursday, December, 5th, between 12:00 – 4:00 pm and stay until Monday morning if possible. Friday arrivals are also acceptable. Note that arrivals and departures are not permitted during the festival hours on Saturday and Sunday (due to the traffic and congestion of vendors, visitors, and pedestrians etc.).

There is not a rally fee for this rally and there is no camping fee in exchange for volunteering at the festival!! As always, we need volunteers to help with parking and utilities, setting up our installation dinner, preparing for the festival on Friday, and serving as docents in the restored homes or buildings during the festival on Saturday and Sunday.

Happy Hour is every afternoon at 4 PM. Please bring extra snacks to share and your own beverages in a non-alcoholic container, like your favorite cup. During Happy Hour on Thursday, we will finalize the volunteer teams and where you be docents during the festival for half-days on Saturday and Sunday. We will have sign-up sheets for that, along with sheets the Fort Christmas Historical Society sent to me for house sitting and such. When your team is not volunteering, they can tour the festival, take a tram tour at the nearby Orlando Wetlands, or hike at Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area.

The Annual Officer Installation Dinner will be at 6 PM on Thursday night and is catered by Bernie's Gourmet-to-go in Oviedo, Florida. They will have a tray of chicken marsala, a tray of vegetarian lasagna, and a large bowl of salad. We will also be having our usual cake for dessert and lemonade or tea to drink. I've even seen some get crazy and make their own Arnold Palmers :-). Please bring your set ups.

I'm still getting confirmation on the volunteer dinner for Friday night and breakfast Saturday. In the last few years barbecue, sides, dessert, and drinks have been provided by the Fort Christmas Historical Society. We will be dining with the FCHS volunteers that evening.

Continued on next page

December Rolling Rally

12/5/24 to 12/11/24

Cracker Christmas & Installation of Officers — Part I 12/5 to 12/9



This is a semi-boon-docking camping experience. They have a few 30A outlets that we split between everyone. You should bring at least **50 feet of extension cord and be able to step down to a 20 amp Edison plug**. You will probably get only 7 or 8A or so as we split 30, 4 ways. This will be enough to charge your batteries and run small things, however, you'll want to use propane for your heat and water heater. Blow dryers, microwaves, and electric coffee makers usually blow the circuits. You can also park in a sunny spot to take advantage of your solar or in a remote spot to take advantage of your generator. Just let us know when you're parking.

We will have shared water, so in addition to your normal water set up, **bring one long hose and a Y-connector**. I usually just fill my tanks with the hose and then use my water pump so I have better pressure. We will not be able to dump our tanks on site, but they have a restroom to help the tank situation. This is not usually a problem, as we are able to stretch 4 to 5 days with our tanks if we have an additional restroom to use. A dump station is available at a nearby RV park for a small fee.

Friends with dogs: their official policy at the park is "no dogs". However, we've always had our friendly pooches there, but we walk them very discreetly in the early mornings, lunch time, and late evenings and we always pick up after them. They tend to look the other way for us if we're in stealth mode, so we can't really flaunt it, especially in front of the guests, since they're not allowed to have dogs in the park.

As always, there will be fun things to do during the non-work times and evenings including campfires, sing or play-along time, games, hikes, bike rides, birding, photo opportunities, sunrises, sunsets, stargazing, and more! The final itinerary will be emailed to those who registered. Can't wait to see you there!! Please reach out to me for any questions.

See you there!

Steve Kane

SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com



December Rolling Rally

12/5/24 to 12/11/24

Lights at Stephen Foster

Part 2 12/9 to 12/11



The Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park is situated on the banks of the legendary Suwannee River near White Springs, FL. (NOTE: it is not the same park as the one in Georgia with a similar name).

Arrive Mon. 12/9 and depart Wed. 12/11.

The Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park features a holiday light display, museum about Foster's most famous songs, 97-bell carillon (under repairs), hiking, bicycling, canoeing and wildlife viewing.

Reservations are made at <https://reserve.floridastateparks.org/> The campground is full but there may be some last minute cancellations. After you have secured your campsite, then register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>. There is no rally fee for this 2 night event.

Questions: please contact your hosts Susan and David Poole

Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com

Agenda

Mon. Dec. 9

Arrive and decorate your rigs and campsite
4 pm Happy Hour at host's campsite #15. Bring snacks to share and your own drinks and chairs. Pets welcome.

7 pm or after: Drive through Festival of Lights (\$4 fee) and campground sites (on your own).

Tue. Dec. 10

9 am Canoe/kayak on Suwannee River (place and distance TBA);

or visit campground museum and gardens;
or sight see historical White Springs area;
or bike (mountain bike and road routes available at local bike shop)

5 pm Potluck dinner at host campsite #15. Bring your own meat to grill, grill if you have one, side dish or dessert to share, and your own setups/chairs.

Wed. Dec. 11

Depart (unless you made other reservations)



2025 Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule

Registration for 2025 Rallies is now open.

<https://airstreamclub.org/events?from=&to=&type=-1&state=-1&club=45864&list=1>
 Be sure to make your reservation with campground first (unless otherwise instructed).

Ar- rive	De- part	Rally Name	Campground	City	Host/Co-Host	Rally Fee*	Notes
1/9	1/12	Spirit of the Suwannee	Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park	Live Oak, FL	Mike and Gina McGinn	\$20	
2/24	2/27	Woodberry Farm	Woodberry Farm	Havana, FL	Helene and Stan White; Steve and Laura Kane	\$25	Host will make Campsite Reservations
3/31	4/7	Devil's Den	Devils Den	Williston, FL	Mike & Mar- yanne Swegles; Bob & Lynn Masters	\$25	Buddy Rally
5/1	5/5	Boyd's Campground	Boyd's Campground	Key West, FL	Nancy Schoene; Gina and Mike McGinn	\$20	Reservations Deadline 10/1/24
9/17	9/21	Margaritaville Campground	Margaritaville Campground	Auburndale, FL	Jason Wikman; David and Rachael Torres	\$20	
10/23	10/27	Kathry Abbey Hanna Park	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park	Jacksonville, FL	Jeanne & Tom Scheitler Gina & Mike McGinn	\$20	
10/25		Annual Meeting	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park	Jacksonville, FL		N/C	
11/13	11/17	Cypress Glenn Campground	Cypress Glenn Campground	Brooksville, FL	Susan and David Pool	\$20	Reservations 11 months out with overflow at Silver Lake Campground
12/4	12/8	Cracker Christmas & Installation of	Fort Christmas	Christmas, FL	Steve and Laura Kane	N/C	Host will make Campsite Reservations

*Rally fees are per person and should be paid online.



Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend.

Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park Rally

Jan. 9-12, 2025



Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, located near Live Oak, FL, is an 800-acre campground on the historic banks of the Suwannee River. There is a boat launch on site and lots of hiking/biking/golf cart trails, so don't forget your paddle craft, bikes, and/or golf carts (which can also be rented).

Call the park to make a reservation at (386) 364-1683. Costs available when you make reservation. Make sure you mention you are part of the Airstream rally so you will be parked with the group. There is a \$25 rally fee per adult.

Then register at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> so the hosts know you are coming and can send updates to you.

We are planning lots of fun activities (who said games were just for kids??). We hope you can join us.
Mike and Gina McGinn

Woodberry Farm Rally

Feb. 24-27, 2025

Woodberry Farm is formally a tobacco farm that has been converted into a beautiful wedding venue. It is located near the quaint town of Havana, Florida, tucked away among rolling hills and farmland. Come enjoy the weekend with us here in North Florida for plenty of laughter, music and food.

Rally Fee (per attendee): \$25

Campsites are limited. **Please register for the rally at** <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>

Host will make Campsite Reservations

Hosts: Helene and Stan White

Co-Hosts: Laura and Steve Kane



Devil's Den Spring in Williston, Florida.

March 31 to April 7, 2025

We are planning a week-long buddy rally starting March 31-April 7 at Devil's Den in Williston, Florida. Located on the edge of Levy County, Marion County and nearby Alachua, there is a multitude of activities, from Cedar Key to Rainbow Springs and Paynes Prairie.

We recently spent a weekend snorkeling in the karst cavern and felt like a weekend was just not enough. Cedar Lake Woods and Gardens is next door, and if you enjoy gardens this is not to be missed. Another day might be spent at the most beautiful Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in Gainesville. A visit to the University of Florida Natural History Museum is a must where you can see a fully intact fossil skeleton of a Tremarctos Floridanus, an extinct species of bear dating back 10,000 years geological evidence which dates Devil's Den to be between 10,000 and 75,000 years old. Hiking Paynes Prairie, Devil's Millhopper, Sweetwater Wetlands Park are some of the other activities we will be planning. Ichetucknee and Santa Fe Rivers are also nearby, with the Springs Institute in High Springs a worthy visit.

To lock into the weekly rate of \$225.00, book online soon because it is first come first serve and they will hold that rate until this year's end. When registering, be sure to put AIRSTREAM CLUB in the space that reads company name. There are 32 sites. We are looking for some co-hosts, love to have new club members that have not hosted before, to step up to lead an activity or host a meal.

www.devilsden.com 352-528-3344

After you have secured your campsite, then register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> .

Looking forward to rallying with you,
Maryanne and Mike Swegles

mswegles@icloud.com

*Don't miss out —
Make your reservations early.*



Welcome New Members and Affiliates



Hope to see you at a rally soon!

Please send us a picture of your family and /or Airstream for the next newsletter so we can recognize you!

New Members

Peggie & Guy Delparte
#07186
Saco, ME

Stacy Dukane
#05590
The Villages, FL

Gary & Karen Gandy
#06991
Leesburg, FL

Brad & Beth Kaufman
#13375
Citra, FL

Earlene Miller
#04532
Saint Cloud, FL

Joseph & Missy Morgan
#07014
Covington, LA

Diane & Kenneth Pagano
#10542
Unlisted

Markus Pfluger
#07408
Bedburg-Hau, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

Guy and Courtney Riner
#07134
Yulee, FL

Katherine & David Shearon
#06928
Land O' Lakes, FL

New Affiliates

Jeffrey & Jana Bruski
#21987
Sarasota, FL

Shawn & Jennifer Campbell
#09106
Rockledge, FL

Luc & Tara Gray
#08526
Hobe Sound, FL

John & Pearl Hadden
#03931
Live Oak, FL

Hanno & Dianne Jacobs
#22721,
Hanover, PA

Margarita Ochoa-Maya
#20250
Cohasset, MA

Deborah & Kevin Rogers
#05621
Panama City Beach, FL

Janet Ply & Tammi Terry
#05703
Bentonville, AR

Club Communications and Merchandise



FACEBOOK

Connect with members on this club's Facebook page "[Florida Airstream Club 027](#)" Look for the one with our logo.



Florida Airstream Flags

Flags

Garden Banner



2' x 3' and 3' x 5' Sizes

12" x 18" Size

FAC Merchandise



Check it out at <https://florida-airstream-club.myspreadshop.com/>

T-shirts, hoodies, hats, bandanas, tote bags, etc. with the Florida Airstream logo (in a variety of materials, sizes and colors) are now available for ordering online. Now is the time to get ready for future rallies with your very own Florida Airstream Club logo apparel!

Pricing

2' x 3' Florida Airstream Flag
(200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)

\$60.00 Each

3' x 5' Florida Airstream Flag
(200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)

\$90.00 Each

12" x 18" Florida Airstream Banner
(200 Denier Nylon / 1" Pole Pocket on Top)

\$38.00 Each

Contact The Flag Loft to Order Today. Shipping Estimate 1-2 Weeks

800-995-FLAG (3524)

Community Project: Fisher House Foundation

The Florida Airstream Club members work together to hold fundraising activities throughout the year so that we can present the raised funds to a Fisher House facility in Florida chosen by our members.

We need a new Charitable Project Chairperson. If you are interested in chairing this important foundation, please contact Steve Kane at president@floridaairstreamclub.org



Sunshine Committee Report

This column is the place where we express praise for members' major life accomplishments or concern for those experiencing difficult times.

Please send notifications for Sunshine Committee to:
Deb Oppel
sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
763-670-8772



Florida Airstream Club, ACI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web
<https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

Airstream Club International. (ACI) Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and recently Airstream Club International (ACI).

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as The South-eastern Unit in 1956 making it one of the oldest units. We schedule rallies all over the state from September through June. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in relaxed atmospheres.

New applicants and renewing members apply online at <https://airstreamclub.org/> Contact Membership Chair below if questions.

Want to be an Affiliate? If you are a member of another ACI club and want to become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, do it online anytime during the year by logging into the [ACI website](#) and pulling down the menu under your name in the upper right corner and click on "Join as an Affiliate."

2024 Florida Airstream Club Executive Board and Committee Chairs

2024 Executive Board

President - [Steve Kane](mailto:president@floridaairstreamclub.org) - president@floridaairstreamclub.org
1st Vice President - [Mike McGinn](mailto:first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org) - first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
Treasurer - [Bruce Fafard](mailto:treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org) - treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org
Secretary - [Geri Prisco](mailto:secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org) - secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee 3 - [John Walker](mailto:trustee_3@floridaairstreamclub.org) - trustee_3@floridaairstreamclub.org
Past President - [Larry Scovotto](mailto:pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org) - pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org

Appointed Positions

Badge Committee Chairperson - [Mike McGinn](mailto:badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org) - badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org
Charitable Project Chairperson - [- charity@floridaairstreamclub.org](mailto:charity@floridaairstreamclub.org)
Communications Editor - [Randy Godfrey](mailto:communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org) - communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org
Historian - [Jeff Krabel](mailto:historian@floridaairstreamclub.org) - historian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Membership Committee Chairperson - [Nelson Arias](mailto:membership@floridaairstreamclub.org) - membership@floridaairstreamclub.org
Newsletter Editor - [Susan Poole](mailto:newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org) - newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org
Rally/Caravan Committee Chairperson - [Steve Kane](mailto:rally_chair@floridaairstreamclub.org) - rally_chair@floridaairstreamclub.org
Social Media Editor - [Judy Barrett](mailto:social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org) - social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org
Sunshine Committee Chairperson - [Deb Oppel](mailto:sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org) - sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
Parliamentarian - [Larry Scovotto](mailto:parliamentarian@floridaairstreamclub.org) - parliamentarian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Webmaster - [Steve Oppel](mailto:webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org) - webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org