

# TIDEWATER TIDINGS

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WBAC Airstream Club International



*Fall 2024*

Thank you for reading this special edition of Tidewater Tidings. At the 2024 Commonwealth Rally, our new club president, Rosemary Plum, was installed. In this newsletter you will find letters from her and Frank Munoz, our outgoing president. Be sure to also check out the [last page](#), which lists the club's rallies for 2025.

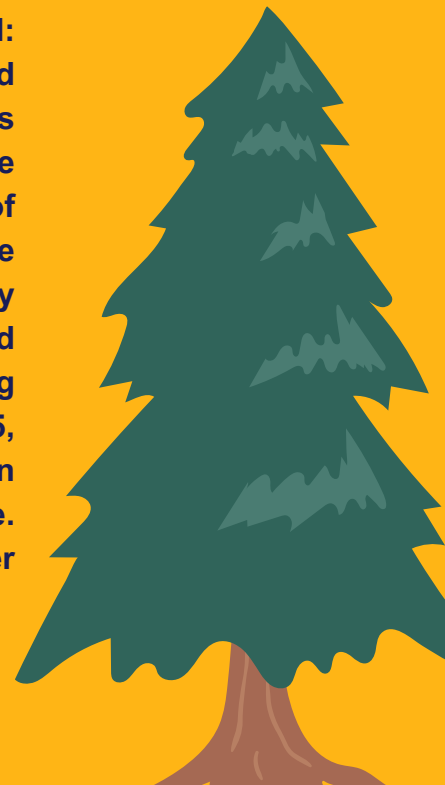
Happy camping!  
Phoebe Richards, newsletter editor

## From The President

Greetings,

As the newly installed president of the Tidewater Airstream Club, I want to say that I will do my best to continue the great work of our past president, Frank Munoz. I'm sure that we all want to thank him for a job well done.

At the Commonwealth rally, the following new officers were installed: president – Rosemary Plum; first vice president – Kathleen Holschuh; and second first vice president – Dave Plum. Richard Duncan will continue as treasurer and Ellie Worcester as recording secretary. Our trustees are Janea Whitacre and Rhonda Evans. Kathleen and I attended a meeting of the presidents and first vice presidents for all the Virginia clubs. The meeting was chaired by Janeen Rider, the Region 3 secretary. It was very exciting to share rally schedules and hear about activities being planned by the other clubs. Everyone liked the idea of collaborating on planning rallies throughout the year and including all four clubs. In July 2025, Virginia Airstream club is planning a Rockbridge Balloon Rally in Lexington – more information to come on how Tidewater can participate. Also, in the works is a combined rally at Douthat State Park in October 2025.

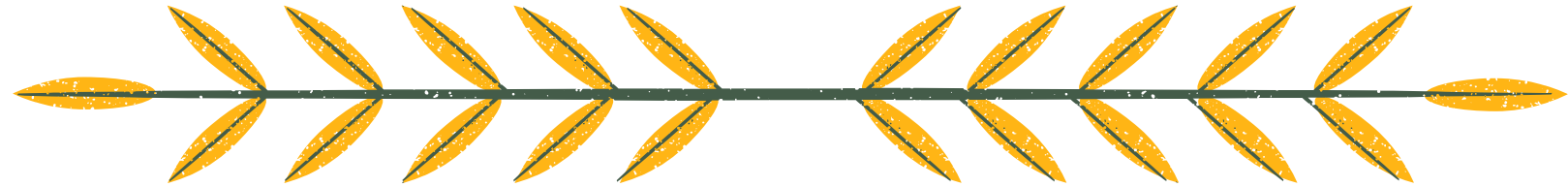


To be successful as a club, we need the participation of our members. Consider hosting a rally or taking a leadership position. Several people co-hosting a rally can make the event easier to plan. We have rallies planned for 2025 and the draft rally schedule will be in this newsletter.

Looking forward to a fun and successful year. I'll be sending monthly updates via email so that everyone is tuned in to the planned events.

See you down the road.

Rosemary Plum, Club #111 President



*Letter from Frank Munoz, outgoing club president:*

Dear Tidewater Airstreamers,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president this past year. Thank you to all those who have pitched in to make it a great year and a lot of fun. Our club continues to grow, more than doubling in size in the past seven years (thanks to the efforts of my predecessors) and has a new and exciting energy. Our new members are stepping up and taking leadership positions and bringing in new ideas for rallies and venues that promise to make a great club even better. Thank you to my leadership team for supporting me and helping with our rallies and club duties. I am proud to say that our new leadership team is in place and ready. Rosemary Plum has a great team behind her and I know she will be an excellent president. Don't forget, we have some great rallies ahead to finish out the year: Urbanna Oyster Festival (we have 36 rigs signed up!) and our Christmas celebration (thank you Duncans).

Please don't forget we are a volunteer organization and through our combined efforts we make our club thrive and successful.

Be safe ... and to quote a wise old Quiddler master, "Remember, it's only camping."

Frank

## Tidewater Club

### Officers

President - Rosemary Plum  
First Vice President - Kathleen Holschuh  
Second Vice President - Dave Plum  
Treasurer - Richard Duncan  
Recording Secretary - Ellie Worcester  
Past President - Frank Munoz  
Trustee - Rhonda Evans  
Trustee - Janea Whitacre

### Standing Committee Chairs

Constitution and Bylaws - Don Shafer  
Club Directory - Greg & Ellie Worcester  
Membership - Joanna Duncan  
Newsletter Editor - Phoebe Richards  
Nominating - Ed Whitacre  
Safety - Larry Evans  
Sunshine - Ellie Worcester  
Webmaster - Open Position

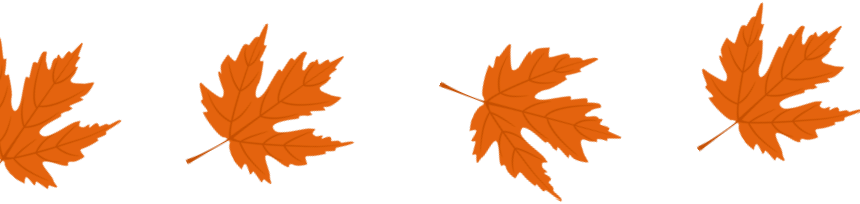


# CAMPING HIGHLIGHTS

## Airstreamers at Commonwealth Rally

*Club #111 enjoyed good food and fellowship at Madison Vines RV Resort.*

Members of Club #111 joined Virginia's three other Airstream clubs at this year's Commonwealth Rally. Hosted at Madison Vines in Madison, Virginia, the Rally featured a pulled pork dinner and pancake and sausage breakfast on a gigantic wood-fire smoker.



# Enchantment at Belle Isle

*Airstreamers explored Virginia's Northern Neck at the Belle Isle Rally.  
Submitted by Martin Berend*



Belle Isle State Park has plenty of trails with beautiful views of the Rappahannock River and tidal creeks that are accessible to hikers and/or cyclists. There are kayak and canoe rentals available at the park with a very nice kayak launch site on Mulberry Creek. Keep your open and you'll certainly see Osprey and even some bald eagles! The Belle Isle Rally was held on Friday, June 7 through Sunday, June 9 at Belle Isle State Park on the Northern Neck of VA (NNK). As I live only six miles from Belle Isle State Park I was asked to host the event. It was my first experience hosting a rally and it was a breeze.

Hosting was made easier by a great bunch of attendees. Everyone pitched in and all seemed to have a good time. I recommend that everyone give hosting a try.

A group of nine trailers was scheduled to attend but two had to drop out at the last minute. Some folks, including my wife and me, showed up on Thursday, June 6 while the majority of trailers arrived on Friday. At least one trailer stayed on through Monday, June 10.

A "No Host Happy Hour" was held at Frank and Jayne Munoz's trailer on Friday evening where introductions were made, stories were swapped, laughter was shared and plans were discussed. Frank and Jayne were also kind enough to host a pancake and sausage breakfast on Sunday. Frank was the breakfast chef and served pancakes and turkey sausage along with a variety of fruit and plenty of orange juice for everyone.

As Rally hosts, we (Martin & Diana Berend) invited everyone to a mid-day lunch at our site where we grilled hamburgers and hotdogs that were served with all the fixin's. Others provided some delicious macaroni salad and hummus with crackers. Everyone had their fill and some took the opportunity to have a peek inside our vintage 1999 Airstream Safari.



The "Friends of Belle Isle State Park" hosted Music by the River on Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. The Airstream group and a substantial crowd of locals were entertained by "The Big City Band" from Grottoes, VA who describe themselves as a Rockin' Country Band. The very talented group played a lot of classic rock and country tunes familiar to all while volunteers from The Friends of Belle Isle State Park handed out free popcorn to anyone who wanted! The Northern Neck of Virginia is rich with history and nature.

There aren't any "big cities" on the NNK but there's plenty to do and see. There are several small museums dedicated to the history of the region and its aquaculture and agricultural roots. There are a couple of quirky fun things like a small car ferry across the Corrotoman River from Ottoman to Merry Point that takes about 10 minutes. It is operated by VDOT and it's free to the public.

There's also an "Enchanted Forest" in nearby Warsaw, VA where octogenarian Tom Rhodes has carved pop culture figures into trees on his 12-acre property since 2004. A couple from our group made a point of visiting the site and thoroughly enjoyed it.



We're already looking ahead to the Belle Isle State Park Rally for 2025. It'll be held on Friday, June 13 through Sunday, June 15. There will likely be an evening of "Music by the River" and we'll try to schedule a "Movie Night" in the campground and perhaps a kayak paddle on Mulberry Creek. Your suggestions are encouraged! Reservations for campsites in 2025 should be available soon. Don't wait! Belle Isle State Park is a popular destination. The campground itself is set back in the trees with plenty of tall shade trees. There are seven pull-through sites and 21 back-in sites for a total of only 28 campsites. This sometimes makes getting a reservation difficult. Reservations can be made nearly a year in advance and it's suggested that you reserve early. You can always cancel or transfer your reservation to another camper if things don't work out. Please join us. We'd love to see a larger group of Airstreamers in 2025. The Northern Neck of VA (NNK) has so much to offer!



# We Rally Together!

*Club #111 joined thousands at the 2024 International Rally.*

*Submitted by Rosemary Plum*

Greetings from Sedalia, Missouri

What a sight - over 1,300 Airstreams of all sizes and shapes together in one place! The Airstream Club International Rally was held Oct. 5-10 in Sedalia, Missouri. Seven rigs from the Tidewater club travelled to the event. Parking is an adventure made simple by the expertise of the rally parking crew. We were able to secure sites that had an open area perfect for get togethers between events and in the evening. The Missouri State Fair Grounds is on the National Historic Registry. With almost 600 acres there was plenty to explore.

Dave Plum carried the Tidewater flag for the opening ceremony and did a great job. During the ceremony the president of the ACI related the positive growth and achievements of the organization. Seminars throughout the week covered every topic imaginable from safety to full-time streaming. Multiple social events were held throughout the week. On Monday evening, the four Virginia clubs held a happy hour. It was a huge success as everyone mingled and got to meet people from across the state. We hope to do more combined events going forward.



All in all, it was a great week. More pictures and highlights of the Rally will be in the next edition of the Blue Beret. If you haven't had an opportunity to attend the International Rally, mark your calendars now for Aug. 23-28, 2025 and plan to attend the Rally in York, Pennsylvania. Camping is more fun when we rally together!

## Get Connected With Our Facebook Group!



Join the Tidewater Airstream Club's private Facebook group for Rally information, camping tips, photos and more!

To join, visit the [Facebook page here](#) and click the "+ Join Group" button on the right.

# Stella and Sally

*Submitted by Greg and Ellie Worcester*

Greetings Club #111 Folks! Ellie and I were busy this summer with travels - some local trips - but our biggie was a month in Maine. Ever since COVID, lockdown, and the acquisition and resto of our '83 Excella, our trusty old '62 Safari has been sitting in storage. We've enjoyed pulling the '83 back and forth to Maine the last couple summers, except towing passed the big city traffic parts. So, our bright idea was to take our '62 up to Maine and store it close to our friend's camp where we stay. That is what we did and are glad that our '62 is back on the job and will be available to us each summer. When driving back and forth gets old (it already is), we may fly up, borrow my buddy's truck, retrieve her and put her to good use.

The name Stella (the Excella) seemed appropriate for the '83 and she has earned her keep since her restoration. We concluded that our neglected '62 should not only get pulled from storage and freshened up for travel, but that after 15 years she needed a name. Wally! Of course - Wally and Stella. Pretty appropriate I think considering our 1962 trailer is 62 years old this year, and Wally Byam passed away in 1962.



We enjoy the Airstream lifestyle as you all do and we do appreciate the history and traditions of the brand. I think Wally and Stella Byam would approve of our trailer names. We certainly respect their legacy and the inspiration they provided generations of us to get out on the road and seek adventure.

We look forward to some more adventures this year - see you out there!



# Beers and Chainsaws - the Perfect Combo!

*Airstreamers took in local brews and lumberjack laughs at the Devils Backbone Rally.  
Submitted by Bruce Julian*

What is the best part of camping? \_\_\_\_\_

We think it's meeting new people and making new friends.

Eight Tidewater Airstream unit folks met at the Devils Backbone Brewery & Campground in September to enjoy good company and good food. We also enjoyed two shows of the Timber Jacks vs. Timber Jills competition. The competition was sponsored by the Stihl outdoor power equipment company and participants generated lots of sawdust and wood chips. Who would think you could cut a log in three passes in under four seconds! We were, however, disappointed that we weren't allowed to run chainsaws or swing any axes sharp enough to shave with!

The weather was perfect for the entire Rally and Pat Julian's homemade Brunswick Stew [less the squirrel meat] and cornbread was a big hit. Pat's stew even attracted an Airstream couple from NOVA.





# Camping at Highland Haven

*Submitted by Greg Worcester*

Hi everyone. Ellie and I experienced Highland Haven for the first time this year. Thanks to Frank and Jayne for invite. We enjoyed beautiful sunsets, great meals, fun card games and a nice hike in the woods. We also took in some lunches and walkabouts in the towns of Floyd and Roanoke. We had heard about Highland Haven for years and always meant to go. Glad we did!






# CLUB #111 CHRISTMAS EVENT



**SUNDAY, DEC. 15**



**3 p.m.: Christmas Musical Holiday Concert at Williamsburg  
Community Chapel (3899 John Tyler Highway)**

**Followed by**





**5 p.m.: Dinner at Sal's by Victor (1242 Richmond Road)**

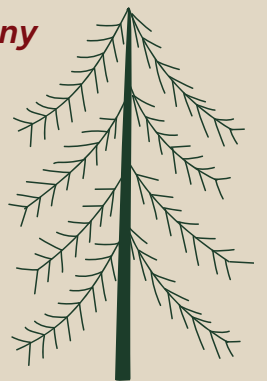
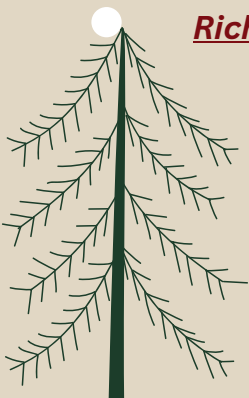


**The Great Christmas Airstream Giveaway**

**New! This year at the dinner we are asking each couple to  
bring ONE Airstream item wrapped in festive wrap to give  
away. (Please no Solo firepits)**



***RSVP to Richard and Joanna Duncan by Dec. 10 by emailing  
[Richard.joanna.1972@cox.net](mailto:Richard.joanna.1972@cox.net) or calling 740-319-1950. We fill many  
tables, so please reserve early.***



# Mark Your Calendar!

## 2024-2025 Rallies



### 2024 Rallies

**Nov. 1-3, 2024:** Urbana Oyster Festival – Hosted by Frank and Jayne Munoz

**Dec. 15, 2024:** Christmas in Williamsburg program and dinner - Hosted by Richard and Joanna Duncan, Williamsburg, VA

### 2025 Rallies

**Jan. 1, 2025:** First Day Hike, First Landing State Park, Virginia Beach – Hosted by Tidewater Airstream Club – Dave and Rosemary Plum (Virginia clubs hosting event at multiple state parks across Virginia – more information to come)

**Feb. 22, 2025:** Winery Luncheon, Williamsburg, VA - Hosted by Jim and Ellie Brennan

**March, 2025:** TBD

**April, 2025:** Breakout rally – North Landing Campground, Virginia Beach, VA

**April 11 -12, 2025:** Region 3 Rally, South Carolina

**May 16 - 17, 2025:** Fort Monroe Colonies Campground, Hampton VA - Hosted by Rhonda and Larry Evans

**June 6 – 8, 2025:** Belle Isle State Park, Lancaster VA - Hosted by Martin and Diana Berend.

**July, 2025:** TBD (Possible collaboration with Rockbridge Balloon Rally)

**Aug., 2025:** Location to be determined – Hosted by Dave and Rosemary Plum

**Sept. 26-28, 2025:** Virginia Commonwealth Rally, Williamsburg, VA - Hosted by Tidewater Airstream Club

**Oct., 2025:** TBD (Possible collaboration with other Virginia Clubs at Douthat State Park)

**Nov., 2025:** Urbana Oyster Festival - Hosted by Frank and Jayne Munoz

**Dec., 2025:** Christmas in Williamsburg - Hosted by Richard and Joanna Duncan

**Please give rally hosts an RSVP a couple weeks in advance so they can plan accordingly and be sure to book your campsites as early as possible. Virginia State Parks open for reservations 11 months in advance so mark your calendar to book accordingly!**