



# MOUNTAIN ECHOES

Newsletter of the

**Northeast Mountaineers Airstream Club**

[Airstreamclub.org/nemac](http://Airstreamclub.org/nemac)

Facebook: Northeast Mountaineers Airstream Club

August 19, 2024

## Greetings Mountaineers!

Our annual business meeting is coming up next month on **Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**. To make it easy for members to participate, we will once again hold the meeting remotely, this time via Microsoft Teams video. The full agenda will be published next week, but it will include reports from the officers, and election of 2025 officers.

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate of candidates:

<i>President:</i>	Paul Hynek
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</i>	Roger Nagy
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:</i>	Mark Brash Brian Lumb
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Pat Hynek
<i>Secretary:</i>	Andreas Lehner
<i>Director 2/2</i>	Jim Reck
<i>Director 1/2</i>	Jessica Lumb
<i>Director 1/2</i>	Dave Chisholm
<i>Director 1/2</i>	Stacy Reck

Directors are elected each year and can serve two terms. Because of changes in availability, this would be the first year for three of the candidates.

We'll send out a ballot with the agenda next week; it will include opportunities for write-in voting.

## October Lunch

The installation ceremonies for the elected officers will take place at an end of the season luncheon at noon on **Saturday, October 19** at *T-Bones Great American Eatery* in Concord NH. We'll be able to order a two or three course meal off the Private Dining Lunch Menu – see attached. Prices including taxes, tips, and soft drinks/coffee/tea are \$38.55 or \$48.05 We'll send out ordering information after the Business Meeting; in the meantime, **save the date!**

## Thanks

At the *Camping at the Cog* rally in June, NEMAC honored **Dave and Lori Peirce** for their thirty years membership in the Unit with a stay at the splendid Mt Washington Hotel. Soon afterwards, we received the following note:

To the NEMAC Membership:

When we joined the White Mountains New Hampshire unit in 1994 the club was vibrant, and although we were still working and the youngest members, we were accepted enthusiastically by the older members.

Now, we are the older members. We have seen many, many changes in the leadership and club structure. But what's most important is that the club still accepts newer members with enthusiasm and gets them involved and accepted as we were 30 years ago.

We were surprised by the generosity of the club and greatly appreciate the recognition bestowed on us as long-term members. Please accept our thanks for the recognition and may NEMAC continue its robust growth and remain a strong unit within the region.

Lori and Dave Peirce BRN 6996

## And what about 2025?

Will NEMAC be sponsoring the events and rallies that you want to join? We're trying to get a head start on planning them, so it's not too early to speak up. How do you feel about dry/boondock camping – are you more or less likely to participate if there are no hook-ups? Ideas are percolating – help make sure we know what you want! We'll have time to talk at the business meeting on September 9.



## Boondocking at the Crown Point Rally

With warm days and cool nights, Northeast Mountaineers caught relief from the summer heat at the Crown Point State Campground, July 19--21. Eleven rigs participated, including a guest family from North Carolina. Mountaineers learned about the history of the Crown Point fort peninsula jutting out into Lake Champlain, how to cook by fire (the old way), and what to do and not do when boondocking. Many members woke up Saturday morning with very low battery power. If that's happened to you when you're camping with no hookups, Michael Giunta offers some tips and tricks to stay powered up:

- a. Make sure that everything is off except the main power and the fridge.
- b. The inverter is a major power drain, so it's best to not use it at all while boondocking... The USB ports will still work for USB devices.
- c. Make sure the power antenna is off; it's usually near one of the TVs and will glow a little green light when on.
- d. Keep the pump off unless using.
- e. Keep lights off when not in that space and use only when needed. I use a battery lantern in the camper when boondocking.
- f. Keep the fridge on but only put pre-cooled items in it (ice packs help also)

- g. On a sunny day try to park in the sun so any rooftop solar panels will charge the batteries.
- h. Buy a portable solar panel (a great simple environmentally friendly option) that you can place in the sun if you're parking in the shade.
- i. Bring along a gas generator to help if the power gets low.
- j. Running the vent fan will use up the batteries over time. OK to leave the vent open but turn off completely (put knob on 0)

Mike says we have been doing the above for many years now and my family and I boondock 80% of the time and we are doing this on just AGM batteries.

The batteries most important job is to keep our food at the right temp. (Refrigerators on older rigs can also run on propane)

I have also installed a Victron Smart Shunt to know what item is using how much energy. The shunt has an app on the phone that is very useful.

If you have any questions let me know.

Michael Giunta

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