

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

February, 2025

OFFICERS:

President: Thomas Herron
515.988.4950

Vice President: Terie Taylor-Wolf
515.360.7887

2nd Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: John Wolf
515.473.4982

Treasurer, Kathy Allen
515.473.0256

1 yr. Director: Chuck Helle
319.270.1189

1 yr. Director: Norm Van Klompenberg
641.791.9547

2 yr. Director: Margaret Jespersen
563.422.8182

2 yr. Director: Shirley Herron
515.556.9339

Prez Sez

Hello everyone, we certainly hope you all had a great Christmas and Happy New Year. I want to take a moment to reflect our prayers to the victims of the California fires, it is our hope recovery is bountiful. The long dreary days of January are almost in our rearview window. And Spring is approaching,



Unusual weather patterns aside, 2025 promises to be a fun time and is proceeding quickly. First outing prep list for Camper growing, would love a little more warmth outside to start clearing the list.

Please watch for the Region 8 newsletter giving the details for April's Midwest Region 8 Rally.

A shout out to Iowa for June's Tri-Club Rally, there's been a great response to the sign up. Overall, 34 trailers and still counting, and if there's someone out there that hasn't gotten their site yet. There's still time.

Denny Chapman has been hard at work meeting with Decorah and Spillville planning a wide variety of options for a great experience in August at Upper Iowa. If you haven't already done so request your site for this adventure.

There will be announcements for the May, September, and October Rallies as the time arrives for how to get your site reserved. We hope you can attend as many of the planned events as possible.

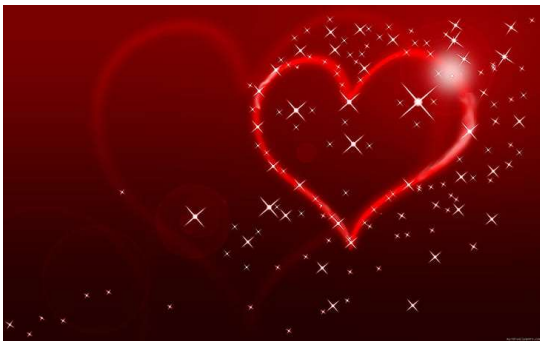
Hoping December weather luck is behind us, so we can enjoy the February Luncheon and Fellowship at "Boonie's" in Muscatine. Be sure to let the Spreads know if planning to attend.

Looking forward to great adventures for 2025.

*Happy Valentines
Day!!*

New Members:

Nelson & Dana Haukap - BRN 1235
Carroll, IA



Caravan Corner

The Mother Lode of the Mother Road – Historic Route 66 Caravan – 2024.

You could hop in your car in downtown Chicago, Illinois, and using the interstate highway system (some with tolls!) be in Santa Monica, California, (on a pier overlooking the ocean), by driving 5 days. 8 hours a day. You will be very tired at that point and definitely jittery after the California highways into Santa Monica. Or, you could hook-up your Airstream, avoid most of the interstates, take lots of 2-lane roads and visit lots of interesting small towns and other sights in a leisurely fashion, and do the same thing in two and a half months. That's what you do on "The Mother Lode of the Mother Road" caravan.

In the fall of 2024, along with 27 or so other Airstreamers and our two volunteer leaders (the incomparable Tom and Vicki Ketchum), Max (the wonder dog) and I spent from mid-September until just before Thanksgiving doing just that. One of the top trips we have ever done.

Surprisingly, an estimated 85% of original Route 66 is still drivable, even though with the completion of the Eisenhower Interstate Highways System, it was "decertified" in 1985 as an "official" U.S. Highway. Because it is so popular it is often still marked with US Highway shaped brown signs identifying it as "Historic Route 66." The downside is that without a set of Route 66 maps and/or a good app for your cell phone, the

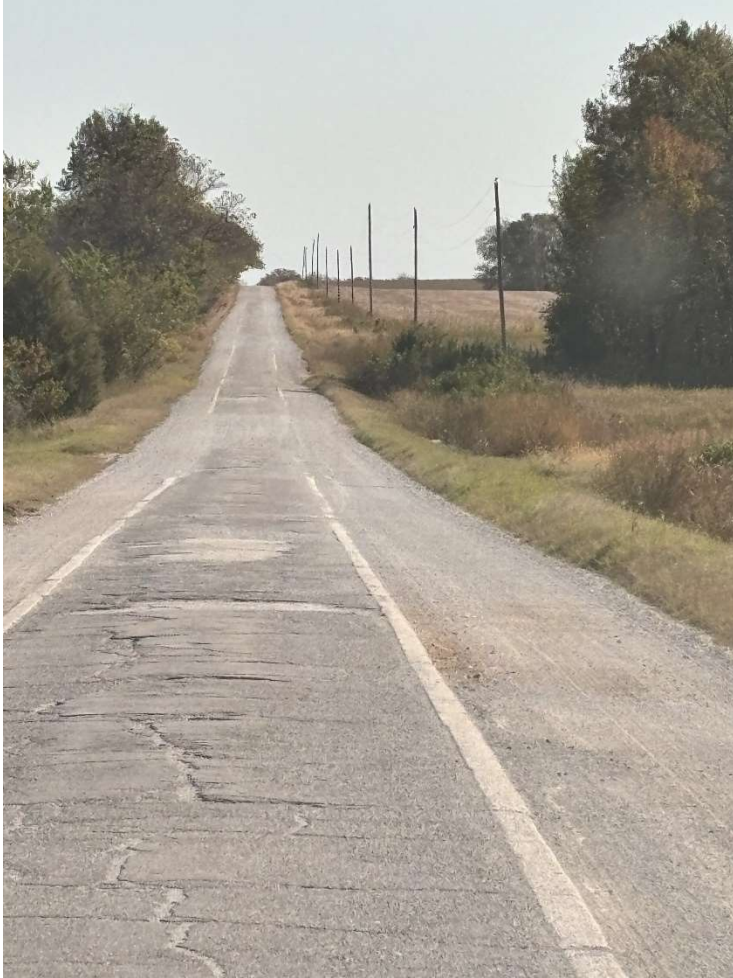


road is sometimes hard to find. The app called "Route 66" is the one most of us used on this caravan and it works great. With audio prompts, you can avoid wrong turns and still keep your eyes on the road. While I have a good built-in GPS system in the car, it doesn't work for finding Route 66. Instead, it wants to take you to your destination using current roads, mostly using the interstate highway system. I would definitely recommend using the cell phone app if you plan on doing the trip yourself, even though part of the adventure is figuring out where you are and how you get to the next segment of Route 66!



If you have never done a caravan, this is a good one to take. At the beginning, Tom and Vicki provided us with a three-ring binder covering all of the RV parks we were reserved at, plus recommended sight-seeing spots and cozy cafes along the way. In addition, they provided us with a set of eight maps- one for each state we would be going through- made specifically for following Route 66. The map series is available on the internet and it is called "Here It Is, Route 66, The Map Series"

It is a fascinating trip covering about 2400 miles with easy travel days never more than 200 miles of driving and time to stop at small town cafes and museums on the way. Many meals are covered by the “kitty fee.” The “kitty” is the amount that you pre-pay to go on the caravan. It also covers the site fees at all 18 of the RV parks we had reservations, and the admission fees for many of the venues and attractions that we visited on the caravan. Definitely nice to have those things paid in advance and not have to stand in line at the RV park office to get you parking space or to each buy a ticket for the attraction we visited.



The caravan covers the entire length of the historic highway. At the start of the caravan, we convened at a full hookup RV park in Joliet, Illinois, and our leaders had arranged a catered dinner for us. A great way to start! We found out early we came from as far away as Oregon, New Hampshire, and Toronto, Canada. We used the RV park as a “home base” to visit a number of sites in the area by bus and car. Since Route 66 “officially” starts in the center of downtown Chicago, (across from the art museum), Tom and Vicki arranged for a large tour-bus to take us downtown to “start” the caravan. Other stops in the Chicago area included a visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio in Oak Park, Millennium Park on Lake Michigan, a guided sightseeing river cruise on the Chicago River, and a trip to the top of the Willis Tower. In Joliet, we visited the old state prison (no longer used!) on our own, which is open for free walking tours. If you have seen the “Blues Brothers” movie, the first part of it was shot at the prison with Elwood (Dan Aykroyd) picking up his brother (John Belushi) at the very gate where you start your walking tour! Tom and Vicki have a great collection of videos that

they travel with and this movie was the first of many on our caravan. Not to get ahead of myself, but on two or three occasions they set-up the movie screen outside! In the Chicago area, we also had two great dinners at Route 66 era restaurants.

The entire group of caravans does not travel together on travel days. Rather, individuals will travel as single trailers or sometimes no more than two or three together. We were advised that experience over many years has confirmed that a whole long line of trailers is a definite traffic hazard. Small groups are stressful, safer, and more courteous to other vehicles on the 2-lane roads. It also decreases their frustration from not being able to get around us!

After 5 days in the Chicago area, we commenced our caravan with a trip mostly on Route 66, to Pontiac, Illinois. We stayed two days at a county “4-H” campground with water and electric hookups and a dump station. Most all of the RV parks where we stayed had at least water and electric and a lot had sewer in addition. While in Pontiac, we visited a Route 66 museum and were treated to a showing of the animated

movie "Cars," by Tom and Vicki because it features Route 66. I think most of us (being seniors) had not seen this animated movie and it was a fun watch.

Our next leg of the caravan was a short travel day to Springfield, Illinois, again mostly on historic Route 66, where our leaders had arranged a visit to the impressive Lincoln Museum and home, and also visit a beautiful home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright- his first in the distinctive "Prairie Style" that he started. With free time, I also went to the cemetery where Lincoln and his family are entombed. Our movie treat at the RV park provided by Tom and Vicki, was an outdoors showing of the hilarious movie "The Long, Long, Trailer," a 1950's era movie starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz.

Our next travel day was to head towards St. Louis. On the way, we took a short section of historic Route 66 that consisted of paving bricks. It was in surprisingly good condition for being almost 100 years old. The construction technique called for and "underlayment" of Portland concrete with concrete curbing on both sides of the road, and then overlaid with paving bricks.

As we neared St. Louis, it was necessary to get onto I-55 since the historic route had been replaced by the interstate highway. Our stay in the St. Louis area was an RV park in the town of St. Peter, just north of St. Louis and our dinner consisted of "Missouri Wine Tasting and Charcuterie" assembled by several of our fellow caravanners. Our movie following was "The Harvey Girls." Harvey Hotels were established along the railroad lines of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe from the 1870's into the mid-20th century and young single women were hired to staff them. Tom and Vicki had again arranged for a tour bus to visit several historic sites and attractions in the St. Louis area, including the historic site where Lewis and Clark wintered before starting their epic journey up the Missouri River. We also visited the "Confluence Tower," that overlooks the junction of the Missouri and the Mississippi rivers. In addition, we visited the "Chain of Rocks" bridge, part of the original Route 66 highway system, the St. Louis Arch complex (for a magnificent view of St. Louis and East St. Louis) and the St. Louis "City Museum." - a museum so "weird and wacky" you have to see it to believe it. Our dinner (again covered by the "kitty fee") was a catered BBQ.

Our next stop was, again, only a short drive away, to the Meramec Caverns National Park Campground at Sullivan, Missouri. During the civil war, the Union army used the caverns to mine saltpeter, used to make gunpowder, until Confederate guerrillas drove them out. Legend has it that the caverns were used as a hideout by the outlaws, Jesse and Frank James during the era after the Civil War. We had a guided tour of the impressive caverns.



Our next travel day was a little longer, at 160 miles, to Springfield, Missouri. There were a number of recommended sights to see along the way, though, and long stretches of Route 66 run close to I-44, which is so busy that Route 66 was relaxing by comparison.

Springfield is recognized as the “birthplace” of the original Route 66. Our RV Park here was the Route 66 KOA, and we stayed three nights. Among our activities in the Springfield area included a visit to the “Wonders of Wildlife” national museum and aquarium. It is an amazing venue, next to the headquarters of Bass Pro Shops. In addition, we toured the historic Gillioz Theater, a theater venue that attracted nationally known entertainers. Springfield is also close to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, where the first battle west of the Mississippi was fought between a Confederate force more than twice the size of the Union force involved and resulted in a retreat by the Union forces. The Union commander, General Nathan Lyons, was killed in the battle. Iowa troops were involved and the battle.

Springfield is located about one hundred miles south of Sedalia, and the caravan was interrupted so that we could attend the annual Airstream International Rally held there during the first week of October. Side trips available through the rally that I went on included a trip to the Budweiser Clydesdale breeding farm located at Booneville, Missouri, and a trip to Kansas City to visit the World War One Memorial and the Arabia Steamboat Museum.

At the conclusion of the rally, our caravan got back on track by heading for Baxter Springs, Kansas. Route 66 only cuts through a small triangle of Kansas located in the southeast corner of the state but the two primary towns there were great fun to visit. The town of Baxter Springs really enjoys having the caravan stay there and after arriving there, we assembled at the “Rainbow Bridge” just outside town to be led to the campground by



the Chief of Police! It was like being in a parade and the only time all of our Airstreams assembled in one line to go anywhere. With squad cars blocking major intersections, we were led through downtown Baxter Springs with townspeople waiving! In the evening there, we attended a outdoor event where there were food vendors and arts and crafts for sale. Our second day at this stop involved a short trip to the small town of Galena, Kansas, which is also dedicated to sustaining the Route 66 connection. Pixar, creators of the animated feature “Cars,” traveled Route 66 in the early 2000's to get ideas for their production. What they found in Galena was an ancient tow truck that became the model for “Tow Mater,” one of the main characters in the movie, and that original tow truck is a well visited attraction in the town. Other caravan stops became part of the movie too.

Back on the road again, we traveled to Claremore, Oklahoma, where we set up camp at a Corps of Engineers Campground on Oologah Lake, a huge reservoir that provides water to the city of Tulsa. Claremore is the hometown of Will Rogers. He was born on a ranch house that now sits of the shore of Oologah Lake, and he is buried at the Will Rogers Memorial History and Art Museum in Claremore. Also from Claremore were the US

astronaut, Stuart Roosa, and Lynn Riggs, the author of *Green Grow the Lilacs*, which was adapted into the musical hit "Oklahoma!" While we were visiting the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, by chance we were introduced as a group to one of Will Rogers great-granddaughters, who was visiting there at the time. When she discovered that our destination was Santa Monica, she told us that we really had to visit the Will Rogers Ranch located at Pacific Palisades, and that she would contact the park administration at the state park to arrange tickets for us. The normal waiting list for tickets to visit the Ranch is usually several months and so it was exciting to be able to go there. As a sad after note, the Ranch Home, and all other structures there were burned to the ground in the recent wildfires that raged through the Los Angeles area. A sad ending.

Our next stop was Oklahoma City where our RV park was located within the city itself. It was a nice park, but nerve-racking to drive anywhere. We did have great sites to visit including the Oklahoma City Memorial to the victims of the bombing of the federal building in 1995. Adjacent to the memorial is a museum with a numerous artifacts and exhibits relating to the bombing. It was a solemn place to visit. We also visited the Oklahoma State Capitol building and had a great guided tour of the beautiful building. The same day as the capitol visit, we visited an incredible museum that also had outstanding art, called the "Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum." As with so many of the museums we got to see on the caravan, you could easily spend much more time there than we were able to do. I am a fan of the western artists Charles Russell and Frederic Remington, and the museum had a number of original works of art by both of them.

Our next caravan stop was "boondocking" in the parking lot of the Stafford Air & Space Museum at Weatherford, Oklahoma, where we also had a guided tour of the museum. Thomas Stafford was an Air Force officer, test pilot, and NASA astronaut, and one of the 24 astronaut who flew to the moon. He was the commander of Apollo 10, the second crewed mission to orbit the moon, and was the first to fly an Apollo Lunar Module in lunar orbit. Sadly, he passed away in March of 2024 in Florida. The museum is a testament to his influential status as the museum has a duplicate of the Lunar Landing Module, a rare MiG-21 fighter jet, and a A-10 "Warthog" fighter jet, as well as other military aircraft.

On our way to Amarillo, Texas, after another over-night stop at Sayre, Oklahoma, we made a short stop in Erick, Oklahoma, located on Route 66 near the Texas border. Our purpose was to visit the "Sandhills Curiosity Shop" (see picture) of Harley Russell, the "redneck entertainer and Rt 66 hoarder." The Curiosity Shop was also one of the stops made by the creators of the "Cars" movie on their research trip in 2006. A colorful entertainer, accompanying himself with his guitar, Harley screeched out his version of the lyrics as he belted out the song "Get Your Kicks on Route 66." An additional stop before Amarillo was made in the small Texas town of McLean to visit the incredible "Devil's Rope Museum." The museum has a huge collection of different types of barbed wire and also had an exhibit of excellent photographs of the Dust Bowl migration.

Amarillo, Texas, is the only major city in the Texas panhandle and it provided us with a number of sites to visit, including both the “Cadillac Ranch” and the “Bug Ranch. Their claim to fame is that both have a lot of cars partially buried nose first in an almost upright position, and people are welcome to spray paint the cars for free. More serious sites included the Jack Sizemore Museum, which contains a collection of vintage Airstream trailers and other vintage travel trailers and vehicles including the renovated bus used in the 2006 movie “RV.” It is also home to the “first” Airstream – called the 1935 Torpedo. The Torpedo design is clearly replicated in the Airstream Basecamp today.



Our travel across the state of New Mexico included stays in RV parks at Tucumcari, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, and Gallup. While the original concept for Route 66 was to make it the most direct route from Chicago to Los Angeles, when it came to New Mexico, the powers to be wanted Santa Fe included, so the direct route plan was interrupted to make the jaunt up to Santa Fe adding over a hundred miles to the trip across the state. This was finally changed in 1937 and the realignment eliminated Santa Fe from the route. For purposes of our caravan, however, we left I-40 just past Santa Rosa, New Mexico, and headed northwest on US 84 towards Santa Fe. This turned out to be a beautiful drive through the foothills of a sub-range of the Sangre de Cristo mountains and connected to I-25 to get us to Santa Fe. Our stay in Santa Fe allowed us to visit a number of sites including side trips to Los Alamos and the ancient ruins at the Pecos National Historic Site. We also had a breakfast buffet at the beautiful La Fonda Hotel, another in the Harvey chain built before the turn of the 20th century. We also visited the Palace of Governors, the New Mexico History museum, the San Miguel Chapel, (which is the oldest church structure in the United States dating from 1680 and 1710), and the oldest house (at least in Santa Fe) located nearby.



We traveled back to Albuquerque on I-25. One of the few times we had to use the interstate highways for the entire trip of about 60 miles. Our stay there found us visiting the Indian Pueblo Culture Center as a group, and then on our own, Old Town Albuquerque on the first of November for the celebration of the Day of the Dead where the streets were full of people decked out in

exotic costumes and makeup. We also visited the Petroglyph National Monument and the museum at Balloon Fiesta Park. On our own, some of us took the Sandia Peak Tramway to the top of the Sandia mountains that border Albuquerque for a breathtaking view of the area around Albuquerque.

Long stretches of Route 66 still exist in western New Mexico often in very good condition and the trip from Albuquerque to our next stop at Gallup was pleasant, although we encountered our first snowfall of the trip. It wasn't much of a surprise though, since it also involved crossing the continental divide. That's the point where the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains drain towards the Pacific Ocean and the eastern slope towards the Atlantic. Our stay in Gallup allowed us to visit their multi-culture museum that houses an extensive exhibit that is a tribute to the Navajo Code Talkers. As of November 2024, only two of these men are alive, both living on the Navajo Reservation. We also visited the Richardson Trading Post which has been in business as both a pawn shop and selling native arts, jewelry and rugs, for 107 years in Gallup. It was interesting to find out that the Indians trade there often to use the pawn as a secure storage for their valuables, including valuable pow-wow costumes in the off-season, since they are reluctant to try to store such things at home for fear of theft. They pay a reasonable "vig" (fee) for storage.

Leaving Gallup, our next stop on Route 66 was Holbrook, Arizona, only about 100 miles away. We used it a hub for traveling to both the Petrified Forest National Park, and visiting Winslow, Arizona. We enjoyed a catered dinner of excellent Mexican food our first evening followed by a moderate snow fall throughout the night. Unfortunately, I didn't get a picture the next morning, but I did get several at the Petrified Forest before it melted away. The National Park was much larger than I anticipated, but there is excellent 2 lane roadway the entire length of 28 miles from south to north through the park with stopping places along the way. While it was cold, it was a calm day and the trip was beautiful. Returning to Hollbrook for the night, our next day involved driving to Winslow. Winslow was an important stop on the A.T.&S.F RR, and it remains a fun place to visit. If you are a fan of the rock band, The Eagles, you are familiar with "Take It Easy," a song written by Jackson Brown and Glen Frey, but made famous by the Eagles. It includes a verse "Well, I'm a-stand-in on a corner in Winslow, Arizona and such a fine sight to see." The town attracts many visitors who simply want to stand on that corner and there were many there the day we were. Winslow is also famous for the fabulous "La Posada" hotel and restaurant. The hotel is only a platform away from the main line of the railroad tracks and while we at lunch, a train pulled in a stopped. The hotel was designed by the famous architect Mary Colter and built in 1930. It remains a popular destination hotel today.

Our next journey took us to Williams, Arizona, both on Route 66 and on I-40, and through beautiful the mountains in the Kaibab National Forest. Our RV Park was the Grand Canyon RV Park located within easy walking distance to the train depot for the Grand Canyon RR. The following day the railroad took us to the Grand Canyon for the day. It was a fun trip at a speed of about 40 mph, so it made for a comfortable trip of about two hours to the south rim village at the Canyon. Not a whole lot of time to do much except take a long walk along the rim to admire the vista of the Canyon and eat lunch at the historic El Tovar hotel located on the rim. The following day, many of us took the recommended drive back to Flagstaff to visit the three parks that make up the National Park Complex of the Walnut Canyon, Sunset Crater, and Wapiti National Monument. A long trip, but with the assurance it could be done in a day it was well worth the effort.

After leaving Williams and the Grand Canyon, our next stop was Seligman, Arizona, called the "birthplace of Route 66." (Remember Springfield Mo?) So named because of the efforts of the town to persuade the state to dedicate the route as a historic highway, and when it was done, the stretch of Route 66 between Seligman and

Kingman became known as “Historic Route 66.” The stretch of road departs from a straight line to Kingman, Arizona, and makes a loop of 80 miles to get there. But the driving is well worth the effort because the scenery is magnificent and there are more “Burma Shave” signs than I have seen in my lifetime. At the top of the loop, just shy of the Grand Canyon National Park, is an RV Park located at Grand Canyon Caverns, that was our overnight destination. The caverns are currently closed but we were able to have a good group caravan supper at their onsite restaurant and it was an enjoyable evening. The Caverns are billed as the largest dry caverns in the world and would have been a fun stop since you go underground about 200', by elevator. Tom and Vicki advised that this is the second year they have not been opened for touring and they had no information when they would reopen. Since we were there, however, I have learned that the Caverns are scheduled to reopen in February of 2025. If you sign-up for the Route 66 caravan this year, you will probably get to see them. Apparently, there are rooms down there and you can even sleep down there!

From this spot, the next trip was to cross into California to the town of Needles. To get there, you had a choice of driving from Kingman, Arizona, on I-40 to Needles. That would be the easiest way to get there. Or, from Kingman you could take the original Route 66 route over the Black Mountains to Oatman, Arizona and then across the Colorado River to Needles. This route consists of steep grades (some 12 percent) hairpin turns and narrow roads that require you slow down and creep by oncoming vehicles. If I would have known all this, I might have chosen the I-40, but I didn't. I don't recall ever driving a scarier road with just a car,



let alone pulling a trailer, and I do not recommend it. I was extremely happy to arrive at Oatman, Arizona, where the burros rule the town. I finally crossed the Colorado river and made it to Needles, California. The area was still very rural so Needles was a good destination to rest-up. Many in the caravan went back to Oatman, since they had made the drive from Kingman using I-40. Since I had already been there, I used to do laundry and clean up the trailer and just drive around the community including visiting their museum to see “Spike,” Snoopy's cousin. Charles Shultz, the creator of “Peanuts,” lived in Needles as a child and “adopted” the town.

Our next destination was Barstow, California, still quite rural. The setting for our RV Park was quite beautiful since it was below the Calico Mountains. The history of the area was the mining of silver in the foothills of the mountains. The close-by historic town of Calico was a great place to visit. It is a state historical site and much has been done to preserve its 19th Century character. Lots of visitors, however, and the day most of us were there happened to be a Saturday, so there were lots of kids too. Our caravan dinner that evening was a baked potato & salad bar.



Our last caravan travel day took us from Barstow all the way to San Demas where our RV Park was located. It was a bit of hectic freeway driving to get there and involved changing highways, but everyone arrived at the RV Park without incident. The following day, Tom and Vicki had once again chartered a bus to take us to sight-see in downtown Los Angeles. All of us were personally grateful for the bus ride as opposed to driving it. The driver did an amazing job of getting us to our morning destination, which was a visit to the Union Station, a beautiful train station downtown. We boarded the bus for a trip to Chinatown and lunch there followed by re-boarding the bus for sight-seeing on Hollywood Blvd and the Chinese Theater. It just so happened to be the opening day for the premier of the movie "Gladiators II," so the red carpet was out and there were many spectators waiting for the event. We did not, however, since it had been a long day and most of us just wanted to get back to our beds. I should note here that those of us with pets who did not want to leave them alone for 10 hours, signed-up with a dog walking service to walk our dogs twice during the day. Expensive, as everything in California is, but worth it to be able to not worry about your pet.

On our second day there, many of us drove back to San Bernardino to visit the original site of the first McDonald's and to visit the museum. It is not the "official" McDonald's museum. After the McDonald brothers sold their business to Ray Croc, he moved the

headquarters to Des Plaines, IL. The first McDonald's he built there was eventually closed and torn down in 2018, so the museum in San Bernardino, which has tons of memorabilia from McDonald's restaurants all over the world, was fun to see.

On our last day of the caravan, we again took a bus to sight-see. This time it was to the Getty Museum in Los Angeles where there are hundreds of magnificent works of art from around the world. Like many of the museums we visited, we didn't have as much time to stay there as we would have liked because we had timed-entry tickets to the Will Rogers State Park and the Will Rogers Ranch home where he and his wife resided. We arrived at the ranch on time and had been split into two separate groups to do the guided tour of the home. It was a spectacular home to see. It was not elaborate but built to be comfortable. Mrs. Rogers donated the house and all 186 acres of the ranch to the state of California to be maintained as a memorial to her husband just as it was. Nothing had been changed since her death. The tragedy is, of course, that since our visit there on November 20, 2024, it has burned to the ground because of the terrible wildfires that have ravaged the area. We have been told that in anticipation of the possible destruction of the home due to the wild fires, they

were able to remove most of the valuable art work and it will likely be transferred to the Will Rogers Museum in Claremore Oklahoma. I certainly hope that can happen.

I thoroughly enjoyed the caravan and would highly recommend it to everyone. I have it on good information the three are still some openings for the 2025 "Mother Load" caravan if you are interested. If you are, Tom and Shirley are scheduled to go on the caravan as assistant caravan leaders and I'm sure they can handle any questions for you. See you down the road! Hobe.



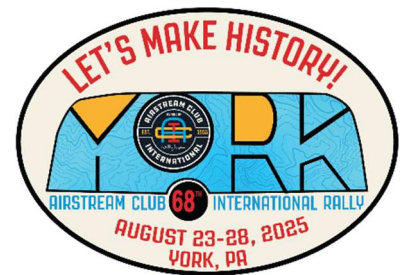
Looking for members who are willing to share the highlights of a caravan or camping trip they have participated in the last few years. It doesn't have to be long and I can send you some questions to help. Please reach out to Terie if you are interested in sharing your adventures with the club.

If you haven't heard already--

It is time to sign up for the 68th Annual International Airstream Rally!! Only 1,000 campsites available, so get registered asap.

[\(International Rally 2025 | ACI\)](#)

Location: York, Pennsylvania - August 23-28, 2025



February Birthdays

5-Carol Heckman
6-Norm Beu
17-Terry Mercer
21-Dan Bamberry
22-Nancy Helle
23-Ear Gass
Mike Johnson
26-John Wolf

February Anniversaries

None

**New members, please send me your birthday and anniversary as I don't have them and I don't want to miss it.

WINTER LUNCHEONS:

Please let all of the hosts know if you plan to attend

February: Sweetheart Luncheon

February 15th, 2025 @ 11:30 AM

Boonies on the Avenue

214 Iowa Ave, Muscatine, Iowa 52761

563-554-0145 Tom

tomsread@gmail.com

563-554-0146 Wina

winasread@gmail.com

March: Lucky Luncheon

March 15th, 2025 @11:30 am (new time to allow for members traveling)

Hickory Park

1404 S Duff Ave, Ames, IA 50010

Host Terie and John Wolf

515-360-7887

Terie62@icloud.com

April: Almost Spring Luncheon

April 12, 2025 11:30 AM

Pizza Ranch

219 W 4th St, Vinton, IA

Hosts Nancy and Chuck Helle

319-270-1189

nancyandchuckhelle@gmail.com

2025 REGION 8 AND INTERNATIONAL RALLY

April 30 - May 4th, 2025 – Region 8 Spring Regional Rally - A SEA OF SHINING AIRSTREAMS!

Amana RV Park Event Center

3850 C St,

Amana, IA 52203

(Watch newsletters for registration open)

August 23rd - 28th, 2025 "Let's Make History"

68th International Rally

York Expo Center

334 Carlisle Ave

York, PA, 17404

2025 Iowa Airstream Rallies

May 15 - 18th , 2025 – Mother’s Day Camping

Albert the Bull Campground
1110 E Division St
Audubon IA 50025
Host Tom and Shirley Herron
515-988-4950 Tom
Herrons13007@gmail.com

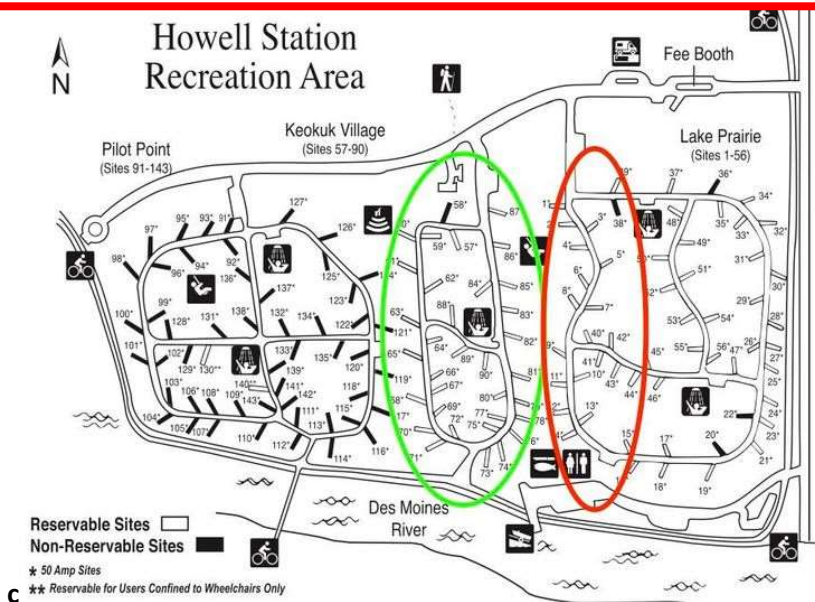
June 19 – 22nd, 2025 – Tri-Club Rally (Iowa, Iowa North, Nebraska)

Lake Red Rock Corp of Engineers
Howell Station Campground
1081 198th Pl
Pella, IA 50219
Iowa Host Tom and Shirley Herron
515-988-4950
Herrons13007@gmail.com

Important Keep this Date in Mind!!! December 19th will be the day reservations open for camping at the June Rally if arriving Thursday June 19, 2025 for 3 nights

Contact the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) toll free at 877-444-6777 or on-line at www.recreation.gov.

After you book, please let me know your site# and attendees as soon as possible for meals and activities are going to be planned based on attendees. Host for Iowa club Tom Herron 515-988-4950.



For the June Rally, try to reserve a spot in the **Green (sites 57-90)** or **Red (sites 1-16 or 40-45)** circle.

August 7th - 10th , 2025 – Exploring Upper Iowa

Riverside Campground

116 Bridge St

Spillville, IA 52168

Dennis Chapman and Margaret Jespersen

563-380-1385

denny.chapman@rocketmail.com

September 11th - 14th , 2025 – Camping on the River (register for this rally on 3/11-have your lifetime Golden Age Passport or National Park discount pass handy)

Corp of Engineers Thomson Causeway - (www.recreation.gov)

1600 Lewis Avenue

Thomson, IL 61285

Dana and Mike Johnson

563-340-1410 Mike

563-271-3030 Dana

airtandem@hotmail.com Dana

October 9th - 12th , 2025 – Fall and Installation Rally

Lake Ahquabi State Park

16510 118th Ave

Indianola, IA 50125

Terie and John Wolf

515-360-7887 Terie

terie62@icloud.com

Reservations can be made on July 9th, 2024. Please do not delay as this park will fill up quickly. I will send a map when it gets closer to camping season.

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB MARKETPLACE:

For Sale: 1979 Airstream Land Yacht Tradewind 25Ft. It is self-contained. Everything works. It has 2 new axles and a new furnace. Rear bath. A twin bed and a couch in front. Gas/electric refrigerator, 4 burner gas stove with oven, gas water heater. Newer TV antenna, radio will run CD's & other. 2 recently new 50 lb gas tanks and tires. All water and holding tanks have been replaced recently.

Asking \$30,000. or best offer. Have several extra's that can go with it. If interested, contact Donella Watkinson at 319-396-9088.



**Anyone interested in posting a gently used/new camping item for the Marketplace, please send the information on your item and a picture to Terie at terie62@icloud.com and I will get it posted in the next newsletter.