



Tarheel Traveler

January 2025

21st club established in the WBCCI in 1960

Celebrating Adventure & Community



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ray Combs
BRN 822
021CACpresident@gmail.com



Photo by Dan Meyers on Unsplash

"I googled my symptoms, turned out I just need to go camping."
Anonymous

Happy New Year!

It looks like we have a great year ahead of us. Roger and Robin Holland have put together a great rally program, so check into the rallies as soon as you can. Some campgrounds have already filled up, but most have not. So, give them a call, and then sign up on the CAC website.

If you must cancel a reservation to a rally, please let Lee Dunn know as soon as possible so that he can notify the rest of the Membership of the availability.

Volunteers are the heart of our club. The list of officers, board members, and committee chairs can be found in each edition of the Tarheel Traveler so please contact the individuals listed and volunteer to assist them.

This also is the year of our 65th anniversary, so be on the lookout for information from Terry Sheally's group about things that our club has done in the past. 2025 is going to be a very interesting year.

If you have not already registered for the regional rally in South Carolina or the International Rally in Pennsylvania, hurry up and do so as slots are filling up. Both rallies have proven to be extremely interesting in the past and I'm sure they will be in 2025. You should have received a registration email about both rallies.

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of the other officers.

Carol and I are looking forward to camping with you soon!

Ray

2025 CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB LEADERSHIP TEAM

Executive Board of Directors:

- President – Ray Combs
- First Vice President – Roger Holland
- Second Vice President – John Hoffman
- Treasurer – Janice Overcash
- Recording Secretary – Shari Hord
- Corresponding Secretary – Lee Dunn
- Email Administrator – Lee Dunn
- Director (2-Year) – Vic Fordham
- Director (2-Year) – Jim Plyler
- Director (1-Year) – Jack Grimes
- Director (1-Year) – Björn Kasper
- Immediate Past President – Steve Thompson

Appointed Roles & Committee Chairs:

- Parliamentarian – Bob Hoffman
- Membership Chair – Lee Dunn
- New Member Engagement – Terry Sheally
- 65th Anniversary of CAC Celebration Chair – Terry Sheally
- Newsletter Editor – Penny Guenther
- Club Historian – John Carriker
- Facebook Coordinator – Helen Bailey
- Rally-Round-The-Campfire Coordinator – cherylanne "ca" weaver
- Webmaster & Online Store Manager – Wayne Clark



First Vice President's Corner

Roger Holland

BRN 5796

roger@h-harchitects.com

What a wonderful year we have before us as we begin 2025! We have an exciting schedule of rallies starting with James Island in March and culminating with our club anniversary celebration at Ocean Lakes that you will not want to miss! Work began last year, and continues, on making our anniversary special with many surprises and special events during this rally. There are currently still sites available at Ocean Lakes reserved for us under the "Carolinas Airstream Club" name, so, as others have mentioned, grab one before they are all gone!

As always, you can find out about all of our rallies online by visiting this link: [Carolinas Airstream Club Events](#).

Please remember to pay close attention to reservation deadlines and sign up for any of the rallies that pique your interest! There will be a link on our website to the [presentation given at the 2024 Ocean Lakes rally](#) on all of the 2025 rallies forthcoming, so check back frequently to keep up to date with our rallies and club operations.

Just a reminder to please register on our website jot form for each rally you plan to attend once you get your site reserved. This helps the club and the rally host communicate with you about the specifics of the rallies you will be attending.

We will continue to explore new opportunities throughout the year to provide more options for our members to get involved so we can all experience the true value of our club—the people and relationships forged through our common love of Airstreaming! We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the coming year!



Second Vice President's Corner

John T. Hoffman

BRN 11416

021CACvicepresident@gmail.com

I want to thank all of you for your vote of confidence in granting me this opportunity to serve our Carolinas Airstream Club. I am honored to contribute to the club. I also want you to know that my wife, Renee, and I will be a team as we research and plan the club rallies for 2026. We have traveled extensively in our 2016 International 25FB and have many great ideas for 2026 activities. But first, I want to let you know that we are already planning a new Christmas at Biltmore Rally for 2025. The unfortunate and wide-ranging impacts from Hurricane Helene over Western North Carolina on September 26-27, 2024, caused the cancellation of our planned rally in November of 2024. But we have begun putting all that prior planning back to work as we prepare for November 2025. Renee and I will host this rally.

In addition to 2025 activities, we have numerous rallies for 2026 in the planning stages—some are recurring and popular rallies and several will be new rallies at new venues with new themes. We are also working directly with Terry Sheally and the CAC 65th Anniversary Planning Committee as we plan for our Ocean Lakes Rally and our 65th anniversary celebration there. This will be an exciting event that you will not want to miss!

Lastly, as we put these 2026 rallies together, we will need volunteers to be Rally Hosts. Hosting rallies is fun. It not only brings you new friendships and experiences, but it also helps build community within our club by engaging more members in club activities. Please consider volunteering in 2026.

Welcome New Members

Guy and Rebecca Etheridge from Lewisville, NC, and their 2019 Sport

John and Gerianne Mann from Nebo, NC, and their 2024 Pottery Barn

Rufus and Gail Cain from Bennettsville, SC, and their 2021 Caravel

Sandra and James Haselden from Darlington, SC, and their 2017 Flying Cloud

Our online store is open and ready for business!

Are you ready to get yourself and your rig decked out for 2025? Now you can easily order customized flags, drinkware, t-shirts, and more. The items can be personalized with your own name(s), BRN, pet name(s), trailer outlines, and beyond!

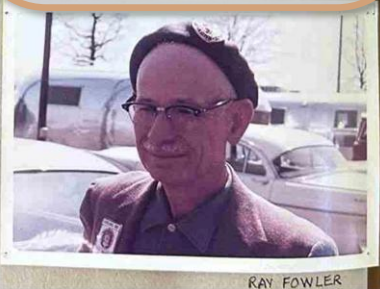
Visit our CAC website to get to the online store where you will see both the new Carolinas Airstream Club logo and the special edition 65th Anniversary of the Carolinas Airstream Club logo:

<https://airstreamclub.org/carolinas/021-carolinas-online-store>



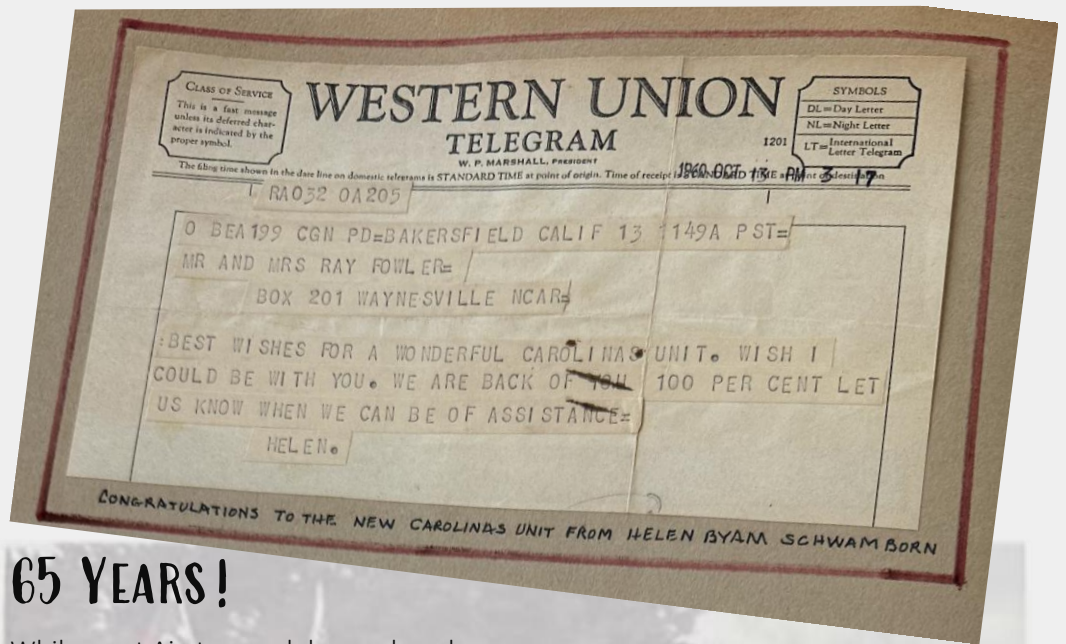
CAC 65th
Anniversary
News

2025 marks the 65th anniversary of the Carolinas Airstream Club's charter. To mark the milestone, Tarheel Traveler is pleased to introduce this new section of the newsletter that will be dedicated to the anniversary. Be on the lookout for articles, links to photos and recordings, and information on how you can participate in the anniversary throughout the year and at the Anniversary Rally at Ocean Lakes in October of this year.



RAY FOWLER

Photo from 1964: Ray Fowler, President of the Southeast Region of the Wally Byam Caravan Club



65 YEARS!

While most Airstream club members know the significance of people like Wally Byam (who got the Wally Byam Caravan Club off the ground), and his cousin, Helen Byam Schwamborn (who took the reins to make WBCCI what it is today), those of us in the Carolinas Airstream Club have another person to recognize: Ray Fowler. Ray is the person who got the Carolinas Airstream Unit off the ground in October 1960. Note the photo above of the original telegram to Ray Fowler from Helen Byam Schwamborn in 1960!

In a turn of events that bodes well for the club, another Ray will preside over the club as president in 2025: Ray Combs. From one Ray to another: The charter club in 1960 consisted of 26 rigs. Today, CAC comprises around 340 rigs.

What was the club like back in the 1960s? [Click here to step back in time](#) and view our club's photos and other historic memorabilia from that era. You might recognize several of the rally sites and learn about a CAC tradition or two.



AIRSTREAM INC.

A Quarter Century of Travel Trailer Know-How.

Jackson Center, Shelby County Ohio Lyric 6-7111

Price List

AIRSTREAM CRUISING FLEET
Effective November 1st, 1960

Model	Suggested Retail
18' Caravel	\$3165.00
22' Safari	\$4120.00
24' Tradewind	\$4485.00
26' Overlander (tandem wheels included)	\$5175.00
28' Ambassador	\$5470.00
30' Sovereign of the Road	\$5770.00

All models can be customized at 10% surcharge.

Please note: There will be a \$40.00 additional charge for every trailer picked up by the customer at the factory.

Any of the above models will be designated a Land Yacht by the addition of the Self-Containment and Convenience Group of optional extras and double gas tanks (if not otherwise standard).

Western Factory: 12804 East Firestone Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, Calif.





Membership Chair

Lee Dunn
BRN 27312
021membership@gmail.com

As of January 14, 2025, the Carolinas Airstream Club is 331 rigs and 618 members strong. Last month I reported 362 rigs and 676 members. Why the decrease? We have nearly 50 member rigs who have not renewed their membership for 2025. It's not too late to renew. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact **Airstream Club International** at **937-596-5211**.

65th CAC Anniversary

With this year's 65th Anniversary celebration of our club, one of the things we would like to do is create a photo directory of all club members. So, if you have not already, please send me a picture, and I will make sure it gets into the 65th Anniversary publication. Also, for those of you who already have a photo, this is a great time to update your existing picture!

Questions about anything dealing with membership? Please email me at 021membership@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Lee Dunn
CAC Membership Chair



Friendly reminder—the registration process for 2025 rallies

Now that 2025 is upon us and travel plans through the year are being made and confirmed, now is a good time to check to see if you've fully completed the registration process for our CAC rallies. In some cases, you might have secured your campsite(s) for various rallies but unintentionally forgot to register for the respective rallies themselves. For example, we have about 15 or so rigs that have campsites for Ocean Lakes (65th Anniversary rally) but still need to pay for the rally registration.

You can check to see if you've paid your various rally registration(s) by taking a look at the registered rally attendee lists in the protected side of our CAC website (must be logged in as a member): <https://airstreamclub.org/carolinas/021carolinas-rally-event-registration-lists>



Region 3 Rally Info

The annual spring rally for **Region 3** is now open for registration—join us there! The rally will be held April 9-13, 2025, in Ladson, SC. Our very own CAC member, **Bob Hoffman**, is currently the 1st VP of Region 3 and he has assured us this will be a fun rally for all! Come join fellow CAC members and other fellow Airstreamers from Region 3. Details can be found at this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/airstreamclub.org/region-3-rally-10349819>.



Rally-Round-The-Campfire

cherylanne weaver
BRN 9883
printcessltd@gmail.com
704-519-6600

Hello 2025!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and New Year. I saw the ball drop New Years Eve—a feat that hasn't happened in my life in many, many years! And I'm certain I won't need to see it again for years to come. 😊

The start of the 2025 Rally Season is only a couple months away—make your reservations to ensure you get a spot in the campgrounds.

We had several members who got COVID over the holidays, had surgery, and/or were hospitalized—thankfully, not all the same members! I hope everyone is staying warm and away from all the winter germs that are circulating.

REMINDER

If you know of anything happening with a member – or with yourself – and you or they would like to have that information shared with CAC, please reach out to me. We are a family, and sharing in life's journey is what we do both with and without our Airstreams.

"Collect moments, not things." – Author Unknown

cherylanne!
BRN 9883
printcessltd@gmail.com

MAKE 2025 YOUR YEAR TO HEAD TO INTERNATIONAL



Registration Now Open

THE EPIC EVENT WHERE AIRSTREAM OWNERS RALLY TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE A SHARED PASSION FOR ADVENTURE, EXPLORATION AND THE ICONIC AIRSTREAM LIFESTYLE

Let's Make History at the 68th Airstream Club International Rally in York, Pennsylvania: August 23-28, 2025. Embrace the timeless traditions of adventure and friendship while exploring and enjoying the sites and sounds of the Mid-Atlantic at the 2025 ACI Rally.



www.airstreamclub.org

ACI International Rally (York, PA)

This year's Airstream Club International Rally is being held August 23-28, 2025, in York, PA.

Registration is open now at: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2025>.

TAKE NOTE:

In conjunction with the lead-up to the International Rally, CAC is having a rally at Kerr Dam in Boydton, VA (August 14-17). This will likely be the jumping off point for a "traveling group" caravan of CAC members and affiliates to journey from Boydton, VA, to York, PA. Consider making this part of your epic journey this year.

WHY NOT JOIN AN RALLY?

ACI's Indie Streamers intra club is sponsoring a special rally that you may be interested in joining when you hear about it! Even though Indie Streamers is all about the independent traveler, they do have couples in the club; sometimes a couple will travel together to rallies and sometimes just one of them goes. Please know that couples and independent travelers are all welcomed within the Indie Streamers.

This Indie Streamers rally will be held on the dates of May 19-23, 2025, in Bluff City, TN, at a full-service campground. The goal of this location is to support the local community that continues to rebuild from Hurricane Helene and to support the local businesses and fly-fishing industry. This tri-cities area is full of great things to do even if you are not an angler; but if you are an angler, this trip will be like going to a premier fishing location because the South Holston and Watauga rivers are world-class fisheries. Anglers come from all over the US and world to try and catch the rivers' giant Browns and Rainbows. This will be a great rally, regardless of whether you are an angler or not!

You can find the rally details here: <https://airstreamclub.org/springtime-great-smoky-mountains>. The event's contact person is Sharri Duncan, who will be the Rally Host and can be emailed at spduncan60@gmail.com.

CAC's 2025 Rally and Caravan Schedule

Full details on Rallies and Caravans can be found by [Clicking Here](#).

March 2025

2025 James Island SC Rally March 20-23

April 2025

2025 Tanglewood Park NC Rally April 3-6

2025 Region 3 Rally April 9-13

May 2025

Shining in Shelby" Urban Rally, Shelby, NC May 8-11

Goose Creek NC Rally May 15-18

June 2025

Cool Breeze, Galax VA Rally June 5-8

NC Blue Ridge Waterfalls Galore Rally June 19-22

August 2025

Fun Time on Kerr Dam, VA Rally August 14-17

Carolinas Traveling Group to International August 19-23

September 2025

Mills River NC Wagon Wheel Rally September 11-14

Carolina Mountain Jamboree Joint Rally September 18-21

October 2025

Broad River NC Rally October 9-12

[Ocean Lakes, 65th CAC Anniversary,](#)

[Myrtle Beach Rally October 29- November 2](#)

November 2025

Christmas At Biltmore Estate November 11-14



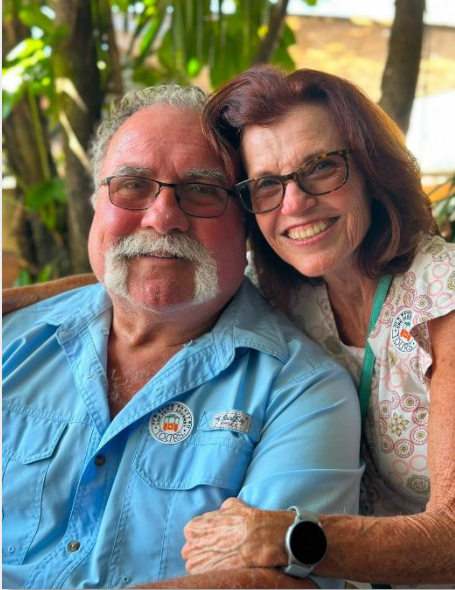
Poster art by Tabb Adams.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Ricky and Joan Wilcox

BRN 5016

2000 Land Yacht 390XL



Ricky always knew that Airstream was built well and had a reputation for lasting and holding its value. In 2012, with their retirement on the horizon and contemplating the purchase of an RV, Ricky and Joan spent several weeks exploring Alaska by train, bus, and boat and for two weeks in a rented Class C motorhome. This trip substantiated their desire for RV ownership, and purchasing one was inevitable after their return home.

In 2014, Ricky was working on a commercial storage facility, when the 2000 Airstream Land Yacht 390XL, a 39' diesel pusher they now own, pulled in. After some small talk and finding out it was for sale, negotiations occurred, hands were shaken, and "The Green House" was theirs...done deal! Shortly after bringing her home, tragedy struck. Their two best friends were killed. Being godparents to the couple's 28-year-old son, plans changed, and camping took a backseat. Their godson then lived with them for one and one-half years, which contributed to his success and facilitated his fruitful transition to independent living.



Eventually, things settled down and in November 2015 Ricky and Joan finally went camping. Coincidentally, our club was holding its annual year-end rally at Ocean Lakes. These two social butterflies, after accepting an invitation to the traditional low country boil and seeing how friendly everyone was, joined our club on the spot.

After joining ACI and CAC, they hit the ground running, learning as much as possible about Airstream as a brand, our club and affiliates, and their new rig. By joining the CAC family, Ricky and Joan have made countless friends for life and cannot imagine not being part of our community. When asked to serve within our club for 2021, wanting to give back, they jumped at the opportunity and Ricky was sworn in as 2nd VP. After service as 1st VP in 2022, he became President of our club for 2023, an amazing and fulfilling experience for all under his and our board's leadership.

Advice for our CAC members they wish to instill:

1. Plan for everything you can, taking all challenges in stride!
2. Learn all you possibly can about your rig, knowledge is power—always perform your maintenance!
3. Maintain a positive attitude!
4. Never be afraid to ask questions! We have comprehensive knowledge in this club, and our members are always enthusiastic to share.

When Ricky and Joan are not camping, and even oftentimes while they are, they enjoy riding their Harley, boating, whitewater rafting, water or snow skiing, and pretty much anything else that is done outdoors.

After 38 years of service, Joan retired from US Airlines in 2018. Ricky, having spent 40 years at Freightliner TMP, hung up his tools there in 2023, and that retirement was preceded by turning over the construction company he started in 2005 to his son in 2020. Currently, they are often found wearing out the tires on their RV exploring our beautiful country while owning and self-managing several rental properties remotely. They assure us they have plenty of stories still to share before they hang up their keys and leave this world for a new adventure, exploring the perfect and endless roads in heaven with their Savior.

Finally, some parting words of wisdom, "Do not be afraid to get involved, you will not regret it!" You can hear more of their story by listening to the podcast that was recorded during our 2024 Ocean Lakes rally; look for "The Riveted with Chris & Gina," podcast Episode 21, posted January 9, 2025, on various platforms including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, and online at [The Riveted with Chris & Gina](#).