



The Trillium

Volume 53 Issue 1

February 2025



Inside This Issue...

Events Calendar	2	Tech Bites - Plastic Wrap Hacks	24
President's Message	4	Scratch the Scratch	25
Region 2 President's Message	6	Sunshine Report	26
New Members	9	Quatermaster's Report	27
Spring Rally	10	Community Services Update	28
Getting to Know Your Executive	12	By-Law Committee Update	30
Editorial	16	Reminders	32
Mother Lode of the Mother Road	18	Executive & Committee Chairs	33
Caravan Corner	21		
International Tales	22		

Events Calendar

Feb. 19, 2025	Waterloo Brunch	Contact Joyce W.
Mar. 18, 2025	Waterloo Brunch	Contact Joyce W.
Apr. 14, 2025	Waterloo Brunch	Contact Joyce W.
Mar. 29, 2025	SEMAC Rally Port Huron, Michigan	"Watching for freighters at Freighters" Registration TBA
May 1-4, 2025	Region 2 Rally Centre Hall, Pennsylvania	"Kentucky Derby" Registration open
May 9-11, 2025	Shakedown East Richmond Fair Ground	Hosts: Lynn & Rob D. Registration TBA
TBA	Shakedown West Location TBA	Hosts: Murray & Melanie C. Registration TBA
May 15-20, 2025	Spring Rally Blyth Fairgrounds	Hosts: Neil & Nancy M. Jim & Janice W. Ron & Sue B.
TBA	Windezvous West Location TBA	Looking for hosts Registration TBA
Aug. 15-17, 2025	Rendezvous East Rideau Acres Campground Kingston	Looking for hosts Registration TBA

Events Calendar (continued)

Aug. 17-21, 2025	Great Cannuck Caravan Rideau Acres to York, PA	Jeannie E. Kerry M.
Aug. 23-28, 2025	68th International Rally York Pennsylvania	Registration is open Filling up fast. Do not delay!
Aug. 28 2025 (Tentative)	Caravan to Region 1 Rally York PA to Annapolis Valley NS	Contact Jeannie E
Sept. 4-7, 2025	Region 1 Rally and 70th Anniversary of the WBCCI Annapolis Valley Exhibition, NS	Registration is open
Sep. 12-14, 2025	Fall Rally and AGM Lombardy Fairgrounds	Hosts: Kerry & Betty M. Registration TBA
Oct. 3-5, 2025	Windezvous East Smugglers Cove RV Resort, Prince Edward County	Looking for hosts Registration TBA
2026	69th International Rally Minot, North Dakota	Registration TBA
2027	70th International Rally Rock Springs, Wyoming	Registration TBA

President's Message

David H.

Hello anxious campers. Hopefully, everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Santa was exceptionally generous with some new travel gear.

As we sweep 2024 to the curb and put another notch in our calendar belt, I'm very happy to report that Lawrence & Claire N., Neil & Nancy M. and Kerry & Betty M. have stepped up to host events. Thank You. I am still looking for Hosts for a Winedezvous West. Step up, don't be shy. Make a difference in your Club. There's lots of support available.

Do you have a talent, hobby or expertise you can share with the club? If so great, I'm looking to introduce new and interesting topics and ideas for our events, and I would love to hear from you.

Have you started your 2025 travel plans yet? If not, now is a good time to get started. Most private campgrounds are closed for the winter, and we can't book Provincial parks until 5 months in advance but don't let that slow you down. Reach into your travel bucket list and pull out a handful of travel destinations and get started.

So, what is on your travel bucket list? Before we got our Airstream, Carol and I talked about travel but never really put a lot of thought into it. When we got our Airstream, we decided to take time to familiarize ourselves with its features, towing and staying around Ontario and attend a couple of Club events. We had no idea what to expect. Then we attended our first Club Rally where we met others who had more experience travelling in their Airstreams. During our conversations we talked about places they had visited, after that we wanted to get up and go, that's how it all started. And we've made many good friends because of this.

One of the great benefits of being in the Club is meeting like-minded people, making friends, and perhaps planning trips together, which has brought us to today. Owning an Airstream is an investment in your travel future; with it comes a learning curve, but it's a wonderful curve; enjoy the ride.



Review your travel bucket list as often as you like and talk with other members at an event; you're likely to find someone who has already been where you want to go and has some planning suggestions for you or perhaps would like to join you in the journey. With some solid ideas, and an early start to your planning, you can cross destinations off your travel bucket list in no time.

You don't even have to leave the country, Canada has so many wonderful and beautiful places to visit and explore. The joy is in the journey.

Happy New Year and see you down the road.

**Ontario Canada Airstream Club
Making Every Mile Memorable Since 1964**

David H.
President



Region 2 President's Message

Gary R.

Hello from the Sunny FROZEN North,

Right now, it is a cool 14 F or, for Canadian members, a cool -100 C, not including the wind chill temp. Brrrrr. Earlier today, when looking out my window, I could only see about 50 yards beyond the patio door due to the falling snow.

Headquarters will be sending out a notice searching for Executive Council candidates to fill the subsequent slate of nominee positions. I want to encourage members to take the time to read about the candidates, get acquainted with them, and reach out to their local Club President or the Region officers if they have any questions while making their voting decisions.

Registrations for the Region 2 Rally at the Center County Grange Fairgrounds, the Sampson State Park Rally, and the Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York are now open. The links are below. We have limited space for seating at the International Luncheon in York so do not delay!

Region 2 Rally at Center County Grange Fairgrounds registration

<https://form.jotform.com/243194535933159>

Sampson State Park registration

<https://form.jotform.com/243194600769159>

This rally has a limited number of sites so don't delay your registration. Last year we had a wait list for this event.

Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York registration

<https://form.jotform.com/250156206580148>

The search is on. My term as Region 2 President will be coming to an end on July 31, 2025. The Region 2 team is looking for a 2nd VP. Region 2 covers the following areas: Ontario Canada, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Washington DC, Delaware, and Maryland. If you are interested in volunteering as a Region officer, please contact me, Patti Galupo or Matt Moore to join this dynamic team!

Debbie W. is looking for people to support the following positions at the International: Tours Chair and Community Service both of whom report to Sherrye M. Sherrye works out of the Jackson Center office. Debbie is also looking for people to support the Meals & Refreshments committee. The descriptions for these roles are separately attached to this newsletter. Please review both attachments from Jackson Center.



If you see an area of support that interests you, please step up.

- Provide local information for International Club's Marketing/Communications including:
 - Identify several contributors to write articles for club publications about the rally locale,
 - Best routes to the rally site,
 - Camping suggestions for enroute to the rally through the region,
 - Staging areas near the rally site for members to meet up before entering rally site (for parking together),
 - Suggestions for local vendors to participate in the exhibitor show, and
 - Other local information specific to the region and rally site that is useful to members traveling in the area.
- At the Sedalia Rally, the Ambassador program was started and well received. A signup list will be coming from Jackson Center.
 - Recruited volunteers from the local clubs in the region will act as Ambassadors at the rally which will involve:

- Answering questions, providing directions to events in the park and being that enthusiastic presence ready to offer a smile and some assistance.
 - Attending an orientation session at the start of the rally to be briefed on the rally logistics and other information as needed, and to set up the rally event app and learn to use it.
 - Wearing special vests provided by the rally that identifies them as Rally Ambassadors.
 - Posting at strategic locations around the rally site to assist members with questions, directions, or local information.
 - Manning the doors to the Exhibitor Hall before opening hours to allow only exhibitors to enter.
- Identify
 - Community Service programs
 - Local tourist attractions

As you can see, we have multiple opportunities to help at the York Rally.

Please contact

- Primary: Debbie W.
- Secondary: Sherrye M.

Let's Make History at the 68th Airstream Club International Rally located in York, Pennsylvania: August 23-28, 2025. Registration is now open. Go to the Airstream Club website today and don't miss out seeing old friends and making new ones at the event. This event is in our Region -- let's show them how to have fun!!!



New Members

Please welcome our newest OCAC members.

Ryan & Richelle M.
1964 Safari 22

Larry P. & Carol A.
2011 Flying Cloud 25

Paul R. & Lianne P.
2021 International 27

Toby & Abigail M. (Affiliate members)
2014 Flying Cloud 25

Andrew P. & Julie T.
2024 Flying Cloud 27

New members are reminded to send in headshots (together with partner, if applicable) to the directory editor, Steve A.



The Towing Specialists

**Thanks Can-Am for
all your support!**

Spring Rally - Blyth, ON

Neil M.

Rockin' And Rollin in Blyth Spring Rally, Blyth ON May 15 - 20, 2025

Spring will be around the corner before we know it and we will all be ready to get out and get camping! Your hosts have been planning the rally events for your enjoyment! The campground at Blyth is quite large and has lots of electrical (15 and 30-amp service) and water hook-ups. There are showers and toilets near the camp sites and a dump station on site. The hall is perfect for our social gatherings.

The campground is open for camping Thursday to Tuesday. The camping fees will be a separate cost to reflect the number of days camped. The actual rally and events do not start until Friday night and conclude Monday morning. The rally fee will cover the costs of:

- Saturday, Sunday and Monday breakfasts of juice, fruit, assorted cereals and baked good with spreads, as well as coffee and tea
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday night refreshments
- Common costs like printing, table cloths etc
- Saturday evening entertainment, "Frankie and the Fairlanes"
- Sunday meal TBD



Saturday night there will be a catered dinner by Pineridge BBQ at a separate cost and will be an option on your registration. There will also be a "Hassle Tassel"- a Happy Hour hosted by one of our members at their campsite. You just go to the trailer with a balloon the colour of the paper you received in your goodie bag! You will take a chair, a snack and a beverage of your choice and mingle! We need Mother Nature to cooperate with our outdoor plans! Sunday night will be a games night of some sort - TBD.

The weekend will include a golf game; opportunities to ride or hike the G2G Rail Trail, a seminar, a workshop and a flea market are in the works, and on Sunday a presentation by Andy Thomson. It will be an event you will not want to miss!

Registration will be available in the April Trillium

Your hosts:

Neil & Nancy M.
Jim & Janice W.
Ron & Sue B.



Getting to Know Your Executive

2nd VP Mark B.



Hello everyone! I'm excited to be stepping into the role of 2nd Vice-President and thought I'd take this opportunity to share a little about myself.

I've been a licensed mechanic for over 40 years and have owned Mark's Auto Service for the past 30 years. I've been married to my wonderful wife, Sandy, for 39 years, and together we've raised three kids. When they were younger, I was heavily involved in coaching recreational hockey, soccer and also served as a Scout Leader for 10 years. I played men's hockey for 40 years before finally hanging up my skates due to knee issues.

Camping has always been a big part of my life, and our adventure with camping rigs has been quite the journey. We bought our first used SOB in February 2019, traded it for a new one six months later, and by February 2020, we made the leap to an Airstream. Looking back, we probably should've gone straight to the Airstream!

Since then, we've enjoyed every minute with our 2000 30-ft Classic, "Stella". We joined the Airstream Club in 2021 and set out to visit every Ontario Provincial Park. In the last 5 years, we've stayed at 47 parks, and this summer, we're aiming for the Northern Parks. Along the way, we've made some great memories, including attending the 2022 Fryburg Rally, Region 2 rally in Niagara Falls, and we're looking forward to the upcoming rally in York, PA.

Though I'm still working full-time, I make time for hobbies like woodworking, home improvement projects, and of course, camping. Family, community, and adventure are at the heart of everything I do, and I'm always looking forward to the next adventure.

I'm really excited to be part of our Airstream community and can't wait to contribute however I can. As they say, "See you on the road!"

Mark

Secretary Carol B.

Thank you for the opportunity to write a short biography on myself. I grew up in Scarborough, an eastern suburb of Toronto, and after graduating, worked for a number of companies in both the public and private sector, until a girlfriend and I travelled to New Zealand and Australia. We backpacked and travelled extensively for a few years.

When I returned home, I worked at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre for 25 years in Human Resources/Volunteer Management. When David and I retired, we chose to move to Cobourg, east of Toronto, but not so far that we couldn't see our kids and grandchildren regularly.

After settling in Cobourg, we purchased our first Airstream in 2018, a 30 foot Classic. We joined the Airstream Club, met many new friends and took a number of trips with some of them within Ontario.

We had a big trip to Newfoundland and the Maritimes in 2022 and once we returned home, realized we didn't need a large trailer, downsized, and purchased a 25 foot International.

The following summer, 2023, we went to the International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming with Airstream friends, and continued on with a fabulous trip through the States to the west coast and back home across Canada. Loved Vancouver Island.

Last summer, 2024, we went east again, and had another memorable trip with friends from the Club, travelling around Gaspé, through Newfoundland again, up into Labrador, and around the Maritimes. An epic trip of over 13,000km, with sun, snow, rain, serious black flies, tons of cod and seafood, and laughs with many new and repeat adventures. Highly recommended.

We are looking forward to another wonderful summer this year, hopefully travelling to Saguenay, Quebec to visit family, see new sights, go whale watching and perhaps back to the Gaspé if all goes well. If not, we will do some short trips around Ontario. There is just soooo much to see and do in Canada, and most are relatively close to home!! Somehow we have already put over 30,000km on our trailer, and will have many more before we are finished.



I enjoy gardening, cycling, painting, travel of course, and spending time with David and our labrador dog, Chloe, finding new adventures and interesting sights. I volunteer at a number of local organizations, and in my spare time, enjoy going to the gym and of course, spending time with my young grandchildren. I am a proud Hockey Gramma and rarely miss a game, dividing my time between the five of them.

In the short time I have been Secretary for OCAC, I have learned a lot about the Ontario Club and ACI. It has been quite a learning experience, but I now have a much better understanding of the work our dedicated volunteers put into the Club.

I have met great people in the Club, developed strong friendships, and look forward to spending more time on the road with them. Also looking forward to less snow, and more sun as we move forward in 2025. It's going to be a great year!!

Treasurer Patti B.



Hello Fellow Airstreamers,

I'm the club Treasurer, and I'm excited to share a little bit about myself. I'm from Wallaceburg, in Southwestern Ontario, and lived there until I moved to Windsor for university and later to London to work. During my university years, I worked hard both in class and outside, juggling multiple jobs to fund my education. Despite my initial hesitation, I got involved in student volunteer opportunities through friends. Those experiences were life-changing, shaping my adult life with lasting friendships, accomplishments, and the confidence they built in me.

After completing my studies, I found myself in London. I had worked at Kellogg's during summers at their factory, and after graduation, they offered me a position in the office—albeit on a contract basis. After a few years of uncertainty about the renewal of my contract, I decided to completely switch careers and entered the field of Property & Casualty (P&C) insurance, specializing in automobile, property, and liability coverage. It turned out to be a fantastic career, filled with new challenges each day. After more than 30 years in the industry, including various roles, I ended my career managing a Life Underwriting team at Canada Life—a big

shift from my P&C roots.

Along the way, I met Chris, and we married later in life. We were blessed with two sons, both of whom still live with us. A couple of years ago, we built a home with a granny suite for them, which gives us all plenty of independence and also provides built-in house sitters. Both Chris and I were avid travelers when we met, and we wanted to continue that passion after having children. Shortly after our first son was born, we bought a tent trailer. Let me tell you, setting it up or breaking it down with two kids, a dog, and rain—seemed like it was always raining—was quite a challenge! Eventually, we sold it and upgraded to a Class C motorhome in 2004, which our youngest fondly referred to as the “driving trailer.” It was a huge improvement, and we spent many wonderful years touring Ontario and Quebec Provincial Parks, playing Monopoly and Risk under dining tents, and making memories as a family.

As we approached our mid-fifties, we began to think about retirement and whether we’d stick with RVing. Chris had always loved Airstreams, while I was initially more in favor of a Class A, thinking it would give me enough space for everything—including the kitchen sink! But after much research into Airstreams, I was sold, especially by the incredible community that comes with it. A group of people united by camping, traveling, and shiny aluminum trailers seemed like the perfect fit—and I was right!

A couple of years ago, when the club needed a new Treasurer to replace John Flynn, I volunteered. I had previously volunteered as Treasurer for our local Scout troop for many years, so it felt like a natural fit. I’ve found that, just like in school, getting involved in the club has brought me so much joy and fulfillment. In many ways, the club has given me far more than I could ever give back, and I’m incredibly grateful to be part of such a wonderful, inclusive community. Thank you for allowing me to contribute, even in a small way, and for the friendship I’ve found here!

See you down the road;

Patti B.

Editorial

Steve A.

Airstream misadventure #37

Karen, my mother, and I were pulling out of Awenda PP after an excellent weekend of camping fun with old friends. Just as we pulled out of the campsite, the sky opened up and it rained. Hard. Really, really hard. The three of us had been onsite for three or four days and the tanks were completely full; we had to dump on the way out. We arrived at the dump station and the rain was still chucking down. Despite my raincoat and trusty Tilley hat, I was soaked to the skin in seconds.

I hooked up the hose, stuck the end in the hole, and let 'er rip. The rain was so loud I couldn't hear the flow through the stinky slinky. After a while, I figured it must be done so I gave the hose a wiggle. It was absolutely solid; clearly nothing was flowing and the hose was completely full.

My first thought was "must be clogged." I gave the hose a good shake from end to end - nothing. I cautiously checked the outlet of the hose. The makers of the hose adapter kindly provided a cap to catch the drips from the end of the hose. In my haste, I had forgotten to remove said cap. It was firmly in place, completely blocking the effluent from escaping the hose.

My next thought was "Oh crap." (Actually, my next thought was considerably more colourful.) Consider that the hose was about a foot and a half lower than 39 gallons of liquified human waste. In engineering terms that means that the hose contents were now under considerable pressure.



There were a couple of options that came to mind. One was raising the hose above my head, thereby relieving the pressure, removing the cap, and quickly (!) lowering the hose back into the hole. Visions of Robin Williams in "RV" flashed through my head.

The second option was to reach down and release the cap. So that's exactly what I did. The resulting explosion of sludge and muck was as disgusting as you might think. Fortunately, the chunkier bits missed me and the spray was restricted to my lower extremities. The only saving grace was that it was still chucking down rain so most of the muck just washed away.

When I related this event to the friends we'd been camping with, they said "why didn't you just close the dump valve?" To this, I had no answer. Hindsight, as they say, is 20/20. Did I mention it was raining? Really, really hard?

Lesson learned.



Mother Lode of the Mother Road Caravan (Iconic Route 66)

Lesley S. and Leanne J.

September 13-Nov 21, 2024

Let the adventure begin. 16 trailers on the Mother Road together determined to see as much of the original Route 66 as possible. Chicago to Los Angeles. 8 states, 4 time zones, 70 days. 13,000 km there and back. Also included, for 2024 only, the Airstream International Rally in Sedalia Missouri.

Although Route 66 has stopped existing as a continuous highway it is possible to travel most of the old route if you know where to look. Many of the original businesses and buildings still remain from the time when Route 66 was the only way to travel by car to the west coast. It winds its way through small towns, big cities and all the open spaces in between.

At one time, this road was so busy little towns built walkways under the highway in order for children to cross the road safely to go to school. Now the pace is calmer given that all the through traffic now travels on Interstate 40.



As we travel, the group of caravaners start to blend and mingle with each other. We have come from all over the US and two of us from Canada. Leanne and I, as always, in the Shiny Dragon.

Our caravan leaders Vicki and Tom K. are fantastic. They are so organized and detail oriented. They always set the right tone for a relaxed and fun adventure. (We travelled with them for the 2023 Old National Road caravan which is also well worth considering). There is a good mix of planned events and free time to explore on your own, at your own pace.

The caravan is sometimes like a scavenger hunt. We are given the location of the next rv park and the time we can arrive and check in. Now the fun begins. Find Route 66 and during your drive look out for this old gas station or that motel or that restaurant. Stop in here for lunch or pie or ice cream. In the big cities bus transport was arranged so no one had to drive. In the small places you drove yourself stopping at whatever struck your fancy. We also travelled by boat to tour a city and a train to the Grand Canyon.



We saw natural wonders like the Petrified Forest and the Grand Canyon and man made wonders like the Bean in Chicago and the Arch in St Louis. Deserts, forests, mountains and then Hollywood.

We learned about the comedian Will Rogers, and a little about the Navaho, the Hopi, Comanche and Arapaho who all call the south west home. Did you know there is a museum dedicated to the history of barb wire?

When we had a day out in Santa Fe and Lesley went fly fishing in the Rio Grande. For her first time she caught six trout and had an unscheduled swim when she lost her footing.

There were issues to deal with including 7 flat tires, one air conditioner unit, one water heater, one set of truck oil lines and one hitch that had to be replaced. One couple had to leave the caravan due to medical problems. He has since had surgery and should be good to go for next year. Through it all everyone helped each other with tools, advice and the occasional cocktail.



Our final banquet was at sunset at the End of Route 66 on the Santa Monica pier. What a view over the Pacific Ocean. The next days it's hugs and goodbyes as most head off towards home wherever that is.

This was a long trip but it seemed to be over too fast. We loved the people we travelled with and their spirit of fun and adventure. The big question is would we do it again or recommend it to others? To both we say:

Absolutely!!!

Lesley S. and Leanne J.
The Shiny Dragon.



Caravan Corner

Kerry M.

Plans are in place for our caravan to the International Rally in York, PA this coming August. Our President David Hutzell has dubbed it "the Great Canuck Caravan", which gives us something to live up to! As we said in the last Trillium, this is a pay as you go caravan with no kitty fee, departing from the summer rendezvous at Kingston. Each member is making their own reservation at the 2 campgrounds that have been selected for our stops on the route planned by Jeannie E. – thanks, Jeannie! The first will be Sunflower Acres in Addison, NY, just a short hop to Corning and its fabulous glass museum. We will be there for 2 nights, August 18 and 19, giving us a full day to tour. On the 20th we will journey a few hours south to Penn Avon Campground, Selingsgrove, PA. From Selingsgrove, it is about a 2 hour drive to the Rally site in York. We plan to arrive late morning so we can all get parked together. Our plan was to have a caravan of about 20 rigs and at time of writing we are just about there. If you want to join us, contact the campgrounds ASAP as their space is limited.

From York, Jeannie has planned a run to the WBCCI 70th Anniversary Rally in Lawrencetown, NS. Several members have signed and more are welcome. Contact Jeannie directly for more information. We have visited this area twice with the Meandering the Maritimes Caravan and it is always nice to visit the plaque that commemorates the founding of WBCCI in 1955 in Kentville (see photo). The plaque is located in a lovely garden setting that is easily accessible.



We are always looking for ideas for caravans and people who are interested in leading them. It's a bit of work but a rewarding experience. Bring your thoughts to one of our Ontario rallies and let's chat!

International Tales

York International - John R.

Usually, I write about Airstream tips and mods, but here I am going to write about something a little different: the International Rally. This year, the Airstream Club International Rally will be held in York Pennsylvania at the York Expo Center on August 23 – 28. Since it is so close to us wouldn't it be great to see a large contingency of Canadians attend!

To start off, Karen and I have only attended one other International Rally and that was in 2023 at Rock Springs Wyoming. We both volunteered to do things at the rally which made it even more interesting. Karen helped with the art show and auction as well as an event photographer. Myself, I did four days as shuttle drive, which means I got to drive around each day for a 2-hour shift in a golf cart picking up people and taking them between their Airstreams and the event sites. You would be amazed at the information you can get from someone in the time it takes for a 5-minute ride, most rewarding.

There were over 1300 Airstreams at the Rock Springs rally, and it was so exciting to see so many shiny Airstreams in one place. Whoever said aluminum wasn't magnetic, surely they had not seen the fields of Airstreams parked row on row forming what looked like magnetic lines.

Okay, so lots of Airstreams; what else is there to do you say. Well, there are seminars on almost any topic you can think about relating to Airstreams and travel as well as hobbies like fly fishing and photography. I attended seminars on tires, solar, awnings while Karen attended seminars on Instant Pot cooking ,and travel destinations. You can even volunteer to be a speaker, if you like, on a topic you are passionate about, like brewing beer.



This year the Ontario Club will be holding a rally in Kingston the weekend before the International Rally. Kerry Mattila is setting up a caravan to leave the Kingston Rally and head to York Expo Center. This will probably be Kerry's last caravan so it would be nice to have a good size group.

There are only 1200 camp sites with power and water but there may be some boondocking opportunities so book early to ensure a spot. Booking can be done on the ACI web site, [International Rally 2025 | ACI](#)

See you in York Pennsylvania.



Tech Bites - Plastic Wrap Hacks

Don M.

Keep the RV ridge clean - Begin with clean refrigerator glass shelves. Cut plastic wrap a bit longer than the length of the fridge shelf and then apply the wrap. Smooth the surface and tuck the extra wrap under the shelf. If a spill occurs, simply remove and replace the plastic wrap.

Protect your cell phone - When hiking and biking if there's a chance for rain, wrap cell phones in the wrap. It protects the phones from potential water damage and the phones are still usable.

Keep bananas fresh - Wrap plastic wrap around the stem of a bunch of bananas to keep bananas fresher, longer.

Prevent spills - On travel days, unscrew shampoo bottles (and other containers of liquid) and place cling wrap over the mouth of the bottle. Then replace the bottle cap. This ensures that liquids remain inside the bottles even if they tip over during travel.

Stay warm - Plastic wrap applied over RV windows will help keep drafts out during frigid temps. Use painters' tape to hold the wrap in place. Even better cut and fit double reflective bubble wrap to fit the window – this is also very helpful in the summer. Store under the mattress when not used.

Trap fruit flies - Rid your rig of annoying fruit flies. Put a piece of fruit in the bottom of a cup. Cover the cup with plastic wrap. Use a pen to poke a small hole in the plastic. Fruit flies will be attracted to the fruit but will not be able to find their way out of the cup.

Hold tight to tools - Wrap plastic wrap around hand tools (like a hammer). It will help you grip the handle better.

Keep ice cream fresher longer - Prevent ice crystals from forming on your ice cream. Tightly place plastic wrap over the container opening before placing the lid back on the ice cream.



Scratch the Scratch

John R.

scratch verb

: score or mark the surface of (something) with a sharp or pointed object.

When that something is the outside of your Airstream, and the sharp or pointed object is a tree branch in a campground, the results can be heart breaking. Do not ask me how I know. Every time you walk by that scratch your eyes are drawn to it and the emotions flood out again. But do not fear as modern science, or at least Turtle Wax, has a solution!

Last season, I had the misfortune of getting a scratch in the clear coat along the full length of the curb side of my Airstream, done by a tree branch. Looking to You Tube University I saw that people were having good results with scratch repair compounds. So off to Canadian Tire I went and picked up a bottle of Turtle Wax Scratch Repair & Renew for \$15.99 plus tax.

Following the instructions on the bottle I hand rubbed the scratch and to my relief the scratch started to disappear. I have since lent out the Scratch Repair & Renew to two other Airstreamers to tackle their scratches and both had similar results. The wife of one of the Airstreamers was very happy the scratch was gone as I gather it might have been her fault the scratch was there in the first place.

Just a note here, these scratches were visible but only in the clear coat layer, so if your scratch is deeper than that you just may have to live with the scratch. For the price, it is worth a try.



Sunshine Report

Lynn B.

Happy New Year!! The Post office strike proved to cause a problem sending a Get Well Soon card to Kate D. who had been in the hospital so I sent her an email with a picture of her card. I sent her actual card as soon as the strike was over.

December 30th two cards were sent: a sympathy card to Ted & Pam G. for the passing of Ted's mother and a Thinking of You card to Anne & Roger W. who are leaving the group.

I sent a card Jan 11/25 to Russ & Linda W. who also are leaving the group.

Here is a picture of my two youngest grandsons enjoying a present I gave them for Christmas, Dancing Cactus.



Quartermaster's Report

Brian P.

STREAM-MART will be open at the spring Rally !!

We will have the latest in spring OCAC sports and leisure wear. New baseball style hats and new crests will lead the spring collection. Of course, we will have stickers, pins and anniversary plaques. Also, I understand autographed posters of our new president will be available for \$50.



Waterloo brunch

Community Services Update

Project Linus - Julie R.

A blanket is like a hug when you need it the most



At my first rally in the spring of 2023 I was both impressed and intrigued by the collection of handmade blankets piled high on a table labelled "Project Linus". As an avid (obsessive, perhaps) knitter and crocheter I needed to know more about what this was all about and how I could get involved. So at the fall rally last year, I sat with Joan Gough and learned all about the program. Joan was seeking a replacement to act as coordinator for the club, I thought this was a perfect opportunity for me to get involved. Many thanks to Joan for your years of service and for your impeccable organization.

Project Linus is an organisation that collects handmade knitted, crocheted, and sewn blankets and quilts to distribute to children who have experienced trauma. The organization distributes the blankets collected by the Ontario Chapter, ideally to kids local to the community in which our rallies are held, or wherever there is need. As coordinator, my role will be to pass along our donated blankets to the Project Linus people.

If you are interested in making a blanket to donate, there are a few guidelines:

- Blankets are needed in all sizes and shapes, from newborn to teen
- Materials used must be new and washable and in kid-friendly colours and fabrics
- Acrylic yarn is preferred for its durability and softness. Please no wool.
- Completed blankets can be brought to the Spring or Fall Rallies.
- More details can be found here: <https://projectlinuscanada.org/>

Pop Tabs

[Editor's note: No update this month, but keep collecting those tabs! These are the aluminum tabs off of pop and beer cans, and plastic closures from bread and milk bags. Separated please! Bring them to any major event this season.]

