



The Trillium

April 2025
Volume 53 Issue 2

Events Calendar	2
President's Message	4
Region 2 President's Message	6
New Members	13
International Rally Update	14
Eastern Ontario Shakedown	15
Rockin' and Rollin' in Blyth	16
Editorial — The Essence	18
Getting to Know Your Executive	19
What's New	21
Help Wanted	23
Caravan Corner	24
Thank You Tony	25
Flag Presentation	26
Tech Bites — Solar Info	27
The Tin Man Needed It	28
Sunshine Report Update	30
Community Services Update	31



Events Calendar

Apr. 14	Waterloo Brunch Dearborn Restaurant, Waterloo, ON	Host: Joyce W.
May 1-4	Region 2 Rally "Kentucky Derby" Centre Hall, PA	Registration is open
May 8-12	Shakedown East Richmond Fairgrounds Richmond, ON	Hosts: Lynn & Rob D.
TBA	Shakedown West	Looking for hosts
May 15-19	Spring Rally "Rockin' and Rollin' in Blyth" Blyth Fairgrounds Blyth, ON	Hosts: Neil & Nancy M. Jim & Janice W. Ron & Sue B. Registration is open
TBA	Windezvous West	Looking for hosts
Jul. 11-13	Rustic Canuck Weekend Coe Hill Agricultural Fairgrounds, Coe Hill, ON	Host: Joan M.
Jul. 31 to Aug. 4	Joint Sampson State Park Rally Sampson State Park Romulus, NY	Registration is open
Aug. 15-17	Rendezvous East Rideau Acres Campground Kingston, ON	Hosts: Brian & Susan P. Looking for experienced co-hosts

Aug. 23-28	68th International Rally York, PA	Registration is open
Sept. 4-7	Region 1 Rally and 70th Anniversary of the WBCCI Annapolis Valley Exhibition, NS	Registration is open
Sept. 12-14	Fall Rally and AGM Lombardy Fairgrounds Lombardy, ON	Hosts: Kerry & Betty Mm
Oct. 3-5	Windezvous East Smuggler's Cove RV Resort Picton, ON	Hosts: Lawrence & Claire N.
2026	69th International Rally Minot, ND	Registration TBA

Shakedown – is a very informal gathering in the spring and gives us an opportunity to get together, renew friendships and make new ones, dust the cobwebs off our rigs and make sure everything is in good working order for the upcoming camping season. The weekend does not have club business meetings and will likely involve a potluck and casual get-togethers.

Make your own fun.

Rendezvous – another opportunity to get together and a little more structured than a Shakedown but again, it does not include club business meetings. Subject to the Hosts' planning, it may include a potluck meal and other activities or events.

Another make your own fun.

Windezvous – much like a Rendezvous but takes place in wine country and includes excursions, tours of wineries and tastings.

Rally – as well as getting together, a Rally goes one step further and includes some organized meals, entertainment and may also include training seminars and other activities. Our Club holds a yearly Spring and Fall Rally which involve a business meeting, and the Fall event is our Annual General Meeting.



President's Message

David H.

Hello campers.

This season started slow but quickly developed into a good old fashioned Canadian winter. The persistent cold and snow certainly were a topic of conversation, and I think Wiarton Willy should get his eyes checked due to his colossal, flawed prediction. Let's hope April showers bring lots of May flowers and we can kick off the camping season sooner than later.

Wherever you decide to travel, planning is all part of the journey, excitement and anticipation. For many, travel to the US is no longer an option but that's OK, Canada is so vast and beautiful that, try as hard as you may, you can't see it all in a lifetime.

The importance of attending an event is that you meet others and find out where they've been, and you just may want to go there as well. Members love to share their travel experiences complete with pros, cons and tips and you may also end up with a travel buddy.

Here are a couple of tips and suggestions:

Books:

There are many options to choose from and we've bought books based on reviews, some good and others not so good. We also pick up books, maps and information along our travels. We recently purchased a book at

Chapters by the Lonely Planet on travelling in Canada. So far, we really like what we see in the book.

Harvest Hosts:

Harvest Hosts has a network of Hosts primarily across the USA, but they have sites in Canada as well. Membership is \$99.00 USD per year.



As an alternative, Terego is a Canadian company owned and operated by a mother and daughter passionate about camping and agrotourism. If you are the kind of traveller that likes to venture unknown routes, taking time to meet the locals and marvel at the taste of new delights while experiencing breathtaking landscapes, then this may be for you. For additional information please see the article in this newsletter under "What's New".

Apps:

There are also many travel planning apps available, just find one that works for you. I use the CAA trip planner and Campendium; they're easy to use but you may find something you like better.

Planning:

Once you decide where you want to go and are planning your route, be sure to look for gas stations, places to stop for lunch, interesting sights, tourist attractions and activities.

We try to keep our drive to 4 or 5 hours, broken up into 2 legs. There are times we do a bit less or more, but we always look for convenient places to stop so that both Chloe and we can have a break and stretch our legs or have a snack.

Itinerary:

Set up your trip itinerary listing dates, campgrounds, number of nights, contact information and confirmation number. Also include what you'd like to see or experience in the area. I think we've all stayed at a campground we wish we could stay longer and others that we stayed a bit too long; it just happens. Keep copies of your confirmations on your phone, or computer whichever you take with you and print a hard copy of your confirmations and put them chronologically into a binder or folder. I take the confirmation into the office when we arrive at a campground.

Finally, please keep in mind that regardless of where we travel, we will still have Airstream visitors from the south coming into Canada to experience our culture, wonderful hospitality and the beauty that Canada has to offer. Setting all the politics aside, we will continue to be good neighbours and leave the welcome mat out and the porch light on.

Hopefully this helps, happy planning, enjoy the journey.

David H.
OCAC President

Ontario Canada Airstream Club
Making Every Mile Memorable Since 1964



Region 2 President's Message

Gary R.

As we start the 2025 camping season WBCCI has reached a milestone! The Club is celebrating its 70th year. Founded in 1955, it is the largest and oldest single-brand RV club in existence.

Wally Byam, inventor of the iconic Airstream travel trailer, had been leading groups of intrepid travelers on international caravans in their beloved Airstream trailers for four years when the idea to incorporate a caravan club was born. On Aug. 3, 1955, during the Eastern Canada Caravan led by Wally's cousin, Helen Byam Schwamborn, travelers gathered in Kentville, Nova Scotia, for the first Wally Byam Caravan Club membership meeting. This marked the beginning of a rich tradition, uniting generations of Airstream enthusiasts in our passion for adventure, camaraderie, and exploration.

An oral history project gathering current member stories and recollections about their family's history with the club has begun, with materials gathered to be donated to the soon-to-be established Airstream Club International Historical Center. I'm sending each Club President a list of WBCCI members who have been with the Club 25+ years. My hope is that they reach out to these members and send their recollections, family history and photos to the link below.

<https://blog.airstreamclub.org/how-to-participate-in-the-aci-oral-history-project/>

An historical retrospective campaign highlighting the history of the Club throughout the decades with archival photos, educational presentations by the Club Historian, Joe P., and personal stories



from Dale “PeeWee” Schwamborn, Helen Byam Schwamborn’s son, Wally Byam’s cousin.

In that vein, I did a search of Region 2 members with greater than 25 years and asked their Club presidents to send me a photo and responses to the same questions. I will be including some of these interviews in my President newsletter.

Roy D. is from the New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club with his home base in Webster, New York. Since he lives less than 5 minutes from my house, he was a logical choice for me to stop in and have a chat.

Roy is retired from Eastman Kodak.



He has been Airstreaming since 1988 making him a member of WBCCI for 37 years.

He is on his 3rd Airstream. The first Airstream he used/borrowed was a 25ft. from his parents so Airstreaming is in his blood. He has had 3 different traveling



companions: his wife Louise, Helen Lagasse, and now his daughter Ann.

Roy is a past President of the New York Finger Lakes Unit which was formed in 2003, and is now called the New York Finger Lakes Club. The following Units were combined to create this Unit: Niagara-Genesee, Greater Rochester, Upstate and Susque-Lawrence.

Roy has been on many US-based caravans and hosted multiple rallies in the US and Canada. One of his prized possessions is his 46th International appreciation gift. One of his notable quotes is “I don’t know how to travel without my Airstream.”

► **What do you store underneath your dinette?** His response was that the table is foldable and does not have anything underneath.

► **What tools or gadgets have you found to be the most useful for doing on-the-road, DIY repairs?** His response was bring everything. Especially Duct Tape!

► **What do you seek out and stop for on every Airstream Trip?** Watching the scenery and conversation. When I'm driving, I focus on the road.

Roy is noted for his interesting lawn chair. He got the plans from his daughter Nancy's husband and he built one from those plans. He still has the plans if anyone wants to build one.

Wayne and Linda M. joined WBCCI in January 1999 but were asked to be charter members of a new unit, the Washington DC Unit, just before November 1999 and haven't looked back.



2001

► **Current Airstream – 1999** (coincidence?) 30' Classic.

► **Streaming Since –** Our very first outing was Nov 1999 to the first Installation Rally. We had to go without our rig because it wasn't finished yet. Our official first outing with our restored 1966 Tradewind was April 2000 to the WDCU Cherry Blossom Rally in RFK Stadium complete with an armed guard. We also had our Airstreams on the road behind the Capital building with all of us in front of them for a photo op.

► **Number of Airstreams owned -** We have had many, but we didn't travel in all of them. Once we restored our 1966 Tradewind in 1999 we collected Airstreams from all over. The idea was to restore and sell them, but you can't restore anything if you are working then out rallying all the time. Those were the days you could find them in old



2024

campgrounds, on property along the highway and found out about others from folks stopping to talk to us and ask us “How do you keep it so shiny?” or “Do they still make those?”

► **Travel Companions** – Just Wayne and I. Kids old enough to stay home alone and no pets. When asked when making reservations if I have any pets my reply is usually, just my husband.

► **Home Base** – Wayne and I were born in New England both from Massachusetts and then moved to southern NH when we were young. In 2024 we sold our house in NH and moved to SC not far south of Greenville. There is no snow here!

► **Why did you decide to purchase an Airstream?** – That’s a funny story. We brought our kids up tenting and shortly after a pop-up camper. The pop-up had reached the end of its life cycle and I was planning on getting a new tent. Wayne showed me an ad from the newspaper for a 1966 24’ Airstream. I gave it back to him without comment and thought, over my dead body! I agreed to go see it choosing my battle. Wayne gabbed all the way, I didn’t say a word. A broom handle held the door closed, it was encased in ice and the inside was a disaster with squirrel nests in the drawers. Wayne gabbed all the way home, I didn’t say a word. The next morning, I was researching Airstreams and WBCCI. A cup of coffee was placed in my hand, and I said, I don’t know why but we have to buy this Airstream. It was flat-bedded home in January 1999 and Wayne started restoring it.

► **What do you seek out and stop for on every Airstream trip?** – While we were both working it was mostly rallies and we would try to go see something. It was always a long drive from NH to the mid-atlantic area the rallies were usually in so I was determined to see and learn something. Since retirement we rally when we can but seek out trips south and west where we have never been before. National Parks, Monuments and Battlefields a must. Gotta collect those stamps! It’s the only evidence we have been there!?

► **What do you store underneath the dinette and how do you keep things organized?** – We don’t have a dinette in our 1999 but when we did have a rig with a dinette anything could be found there, ice maker, back packs, computer bags while we were working etc. Organization was always soft bins for the upper lockers with the curve.

► **What tools or gadgets have you found to be the most useful for doing on-the -road, DIY repairs?** – Wayne usually has a few bins of tools in the bed of the truck. Rivet guns, wrenches, aluminum stock etc. I can’t talk to tools but the items I make sure we travel with is anything I can use to prepare food on the road. We quickly learned fast food on the road can take the excitement out of you. One of my favorite gadgets is my Hot Logic which is the size of a lunch box that plugs into the truck and heats/cooks like a slow cooker. I won’t leave without it. I always have my computer, which is always on my lap while traveling to help me navigate when we are in a traffic slow

down to find alternate routes, finding the next travel stop or fueling station. We recently added a CB radio for traffic issue information, communicating with others we may be traveling with or for serious weather issues.

► **How do you pass the time and stay motivated when you face long stretches on the road?** – Music, researching the area we are driving through on my laptop then sharing the findings. Wayne does most of the driving, but I share maybe 25%- 30% to be able to give him a break.

I recall telling Wayne, who is the one who signed us up with WBCCI, “Don’t be signing us up to any of those blue hair groups!” Well, here we are 26 years later and still members of the WDCU, retired with gray hair. Both of us have participated as Unit Officers, VAC Officers and I am the unit newsletter editor. I hope we can rally and travel for many, many more years! We can’t wait to go rallying with our Airstream family!

The largest celebration takes place in August at the Airstream Club International Rally in York, Pennsylvania. Taking advantage of the “Let’s Make History” theme of this year’s Rally, the club will host activities throughout the week-long rally highlighting the rich history of the club.

Registrations for the Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York, the Region 2 Rally at the Center County Grange Fairgrounds, and the joint Sampson State Park Rally, are now open. The links are below. There is

limited space for seating at the International Luncheon in York so do not delay! Right now, we have 235 rigs signed up for the International. If everyone attends, that works out to approx. 425 people for the Luncheon. Mission BBQ is catering the meal, and we have quite the spread planned!

Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York registration

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

This year’s Region 2 Rally is being sponsored by the Washington DC Unit. The theme is Kentucky Derby. We will be showing the race live at the Rally along with other activities.

Region 2 Rally at Center County Grange Fairgrounds registration

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

This year the Pennsylvania, New York Finger Lakes, and Region 1 are the sponsors for the Rally at Sampson State Park. The theme is a Taste of New York and New England. This is the 5th year for the Rally at Sampson. Come and join in. There will be Wine and Craft Beer tasting at the Rally with charcuterie boards and gourmet popcorn, two catered dinners, and a Sunday Continental Breakfast. There is also a separate bus wine tour if you are so inclined.

Sampson State Park registration

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

We currently have 10 sites left for this event in loop 4.

Again, I want to remind people that headquarters will be sending out a notice searching for Executive Council candidates to fill the subsequent slate of nominee positions. If you are interested in becoming a candidate to help direct the Airstream club, I want to encourage you to fill out an application form. Even if you are not interested, your vote does count! Please 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 you have any questions while making your voting decisions.

Why not YOU? The search is on. My term as Region 2 President comes 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 G. or Matt M. to join this dynamic team!

Support positions at the International are still open. Tours Chair and Community Service both report to Sherrye M. Sherrye works out of the Jackson Center office. Debbie W. is also looking for people to support the Meals & Refreshments

committee. Please contact Jackson Center if interested.

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.

Steve & Carrie L.
2024 Airstream

Valerie D. (Affiliate member)
2004 Safari 25

David K. & Maureen S
2007 International CCD 19

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



Thanks Can-Am
for all your
support!

The Towing Specialists



International Rally Update — Caravan Cancelled

David H.

Dear Friends.

The 2025 International Rally in York Pennsylvania was to be a highlight for me and I was looking forward to proudly carrying our Canadian Flag in the opening ceremonies. And, for Carol and I to represent our Club as President and First Lady would have been an honour. I did not want to feel that I was letting you down by cancelling my reservation, but after considerable thought the decision was obvious, and I'm not alone. Many of our members who signed up for the Rally have withdrawn as well. Sadly, the Caravan from Rideau Acres to York has also been cancelled.

Like many, we too have family and friends in the USA and will miss them dearly, but I love my country, and my patriotic pride is strong, and my Ukrainian roots run deep.

There are so many places to visit and explore in Canada. Take advantage of the opportunity to travel and see our own country while meeting like-minded folks along the way.

It will be a great summer, see you down the road.

David H.

OCAC President



The Trillium



Eastern Ontario Shakedown

Lynn & Rob D.

May 8 - 12

We are pleased to announce that our 2025 Eastern Ontario Shakedown will take place from Thursday May 8 through Monday May 12, 2025, at the Richmond Fair Ground. This is the weekend before the Victoria Day long weekend and the Spring Rally in Blyth.

As usual, we will have our Thursday trip to the Glen Restaurant at 5:00 p.m. for early arrivals, Friday snack at 7:00 p.m., potpuck meal on Saturday at 5:00 p.m., and a Sunday breakfast, cooked and served by the hosts and volunteers at 8:30 a.m. The hall (Heated, Dry and Bug-Free as needed) will be available to us all weekend for Happy Hours, games, deep technical discussions, and general merriment.

The camping fee for the event will be \$50 per night. The fee for the hall and food will be split evenly among the participants. Based on the expected number of participants it will be in the order of \$30. Payment will be collected at the event. The fairground has a mix of 15 and 30 amp hydro, daisy-chained water, a washroom (no shower) and a dump station.

To register for the event, all you need to do is email or call Lynn & Rob with your arrival & departure date and indicate if you are interested in the Thursday trip to the Glen.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

Lynn & Rob D.



The Trillium



Rockin' and Rollin' in Blyth

Nancy & Neal M.

GET READY TO ROCK AND ROLL AT THE SPRING RALLY IN BLYTH, ON MAY 15-19, 2025

Your host team is excited to see everyone at "Rockin' and Rollin' in Blyth". Here's your chance to relive some old tunes and put on your dancin' shoes too!

The Blyth campground is booked 5 nights starting Thursday, May 15. Nightly camping fees are \$52.38. The camping fee will be automatically calculated for you when you register at <https://airstreamclub.org/2025-spring-rally-registration> and indicate what nights you plan on staying. Campsites have electric (at least 15amp) and water hook-ups. Toilets and showers are close to the camp sites and a dump station is on site.

The rally activities start on Friday and end on Monday after breakfast. Camping is available Thursday to Tuesday. The fees for camping and the rally are separate on the registration. The rally fee will cover:

- ▶ Breakfast Saturday, Sunday and Monday which offers a variety of fruits, juices, cereals and baked goods, plus of course coffee and tea.
- ▶ Refreshments Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings

- ▶ Common costs like printing, table decor and miscellaneous items
- ▶ Saturday's evening entertainment, "Frankie and the Fairlanes"
- ▶ Can-Am is sponsoring the Pizza Party Sunday night

The catered dinner Saturday night is optional and can be selected on the registration form. Before the meal there will be a "Hassle Tassel" – happy hours at host trailers to get acquainted with fellow campers. You'll need your chair, a snack to share and a beverage. We all hope for no rain!

Sunday dinner is a Pizza Party sponsored by Can-Am. Afterwards we will have a game of BINGO with lots of crazy fun!!

There will be a golf game Saturday am, a Card Making workshop with Lynn Burdt, an Insurance Information seminar by Patti Burke, and a presentation by Steve Ansell - How to Take Better Pictures. In the

afternoon there will be a Flea Market for those wishing to participate at their sites, weather permitting. Sunday morning there will be a Membership meeting and a special presentation by Andy Thomson after lunch.

Please register before May 9th for planning purposes.

It's going to be a great weekend you won't want to miss! Register ASAP!

See you in May!

Your host team:

Neil and Nancy M.

Jim and Janice W.

Ron and Sue B.





Editorial — The Essence

Steve A.

I often wonder at the magic of an Airstream. You know what I mean. That special something that made you want to own one in the first place. That quality that makes you shout out with childlike glee when you spot one on the highway – “Oh! Airstream!”

Is it the shiny aluminum? Sure, that’s part of it. Is it the high construction standards? Maybe, on a good day. Perhaps it’s the near-mythic history of the brand. Definitely a factor. Is it the comradery of our club? Absolutely, but most of us didn’t buy an Airstream to join the club, we joined the club because we bought an Airstream.

It’s all of these, but for me, none capture the “secret sauce”, that *je ne sais quoi*.

But, I’ve figured it out. One word sums it up. Style. Style is the *essence* of an Airstream. It’s the wing-tip shoes with a finely tailored pinstripe suit. It’s taking the limo rather than the airport shuttle. It’s the flamingo shirt and sunglasses. It’s french fries with French’s Ketchup. It’s the Tilley hat with hiking boots and Awenda T-shirt. (Maybe that’s just me.)

And it’s not the *same* style for everyone. Factory pristine, rustic, high-tech, low-tech, vintage, back country, up on blocks, country kitchen, Art Deco, plush, spartan; it doesn’t matter. The hallmark of an Airstream is that it’s adaptable. You can rip out, rebuild, paint, upholster, whatever, and your Airstream will still be an Airstream and will still be stylish.

An Airstream’s style is timeless. I can imagine, far in the future, when civilization collapses, or the sun expands to swallow us up, folks will still think “Damn! Those Airstreams look good!”

But not all style stands the test of time. Tastes change, trends come and go, and people get tired of looking at the same thing over and over again. The look of a newsletter, for example, can get boring. If not refreshed from time-to-time, they start to look dated and stale. In that light, I hope you enjoy the new style of The Trillium. Not as stylish *as* an Airstream, but talks about Airstreams, and Airstream owners, and has lots of pictures of Airstreams.

And that will never go out of style.



The Trillium



Getting to Know Your Executive

Julie F. - 1 Year Trustee

My husband John and I settled in Milton 7 years ago after living in Mississauga for 36 years. Prior to that, his job had us moving every 18 months to 2 years.

John and I are among those who worked their way up to an Airstream. We and our five children camped in tents for many years. Finally, down to one child at home, we moved up (off the ground!) to a small tent trailer. No luxury but much more comfortable, particularly in bad weather.

In 2005, we bought our first white box trailer. It took us to Newfoundland that year and the following year down to Texas, across to California and up to Vancouver. From there we travelled back home through Canada — seven wonderful weeks on the road.

2007 took us to PEI. The next year, we decided we wanted a bit more space, so traded in our 23 ft. trailer for a 26 - still a white box, as we didn't believe we could afford an Airstream.



We enjoyed numerous trips in both Canada and the US. Five years later, we stopped in at CanAm on the way back from the west coast because we were having a number of problems with the trailer. By the time we left we had traded it in on - you guessed it! An Airstream! A 2002 Classic 30.

In 2014 we joined the Ontario Airstream Club and have never looked back. We have enjoyed rallies, rendezvous and caravans, as well as being involved on the executive - John as treasurer and Julie as a Trustee. It has been a marvellous time in our lives.



Getting to Know Your Executive

Ken L. - 1 Year Trustee

We bought our first Airstream in the fall of 2009 and joined the Ontario Canada Club in 2011. Our first caravan was the Around Superior 3-week caravan and that launched our love of travelling with other Airstreamers. We have taken our Airstream across Canada and the States and dipped our feet in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

Kate and I have been to three International Rallies, but our love of travel remains firmly centred in Canada, especially in this time of strife between the two countries.

This is my second go round as a trustee for the Club and I highly recommend it as a way to become involved with your club Executive. The Club relies on volunteers and Kate and I have co-hosted some shakedown, rallies, and rendezvous. In a previous life I worked as a chef and I have been able to volunteer at club events using my cooking skills.

I look forward to connecting with everyone again this summer after a rather brutal winter. We haven't been able to dig out our Airstream yet, but the snow is disappearing and there is a glint of silver in our backyard.



The Trillium



What's New

David H.

Vehicle Discount Program

Matt McMurray is the General Manager of Boyer Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in Cobourg. Matt and his family are avid campers and travel in an Airstream Basecamp. Matt is offering special discount pricing for our members needing a new or used pleasure or tow vehicle.

Matt can be contacted by email at mattm@boyerautogroup.com

Mention to Matt that you are with the Ontario Canada Airstream Club, and he will be pleased to help you.

Terego Club Camping Discount

Terego is Canadian owned and operated by a mother and daughter team offering our Club a 10% discount on an annual Terego membership.

As a tasty alternative, there is something for everyone, including wine routes, beer routes a wide range of farms and sites with breathtaking views. In addition to local producers, the Terego network also includes artists/artisans, historical sites, museums and outdoor sites.

The Terego website is terego.ca and when signing up for your membership enter AIRSTREAM124 in the applicable discount code box and get a 10% discount.

For further information or questions please contact

Karine Morin
Vice-President, Communications and
Customer Service
Terego
(514) 974-4005
www.terego.ca
kmorin@terego.ca

New Member Rally Discount

Are you a New Member in 2024 or 2025 and attending your first Rally? You are eligible for a one-time \$50.00 discount off your Rally registration in 2025.

When registering for the Blyth or Lombardy Rallies indicate on the registration form that this is your first rally, and the discount will be applied automatically. The discount is only valid on your first rally either Blyth or Lombardy in 2025, does not have any cash value and is not applicable to a Rendezvous or other club event.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Coe Hill Rendezvous

Mark your calendar NOW.

Friday July 11 to Sunday July 13, 2025.

Hats off to Joan M. from stunning Downtown Coe Hill, Ontario for putting together the “Rustic Canuck Weekend” Rendezvous at the Coe Hill Agricultural Fairgrounds, a scenic 45-minute drive from Bancroft.

The Fairground offers ample space for our rigs, 15amp service, daisy-chain water and a hall we can use to gather for activities.

Details are still being worked out, but the preliminary plans are;

Friday arrivals and potluck dinner in the hall.

Saturday arrivals and explore the area or relax and enjoy the rustic atmosphere.

Saturday evening there is an optional catered dinner in the hall which will be prepared by a local group. Then, following the meal we will be joined by the Coe Hill Girls, a duo from the area who will entertain us with a variety of toe tapping music spanning decades.

Sunday, we depart but if you want to stay longer in the area there are two options; Bear Ridge and Red Eagle Campgrounds are close by.

The program and budget have not been finalized but the very reasonable weekend fee will include 2 nights camping and Saturday entertainment by the Coe Hill Girls. The optional catered Saturday dinner will be additional cost with details to follow.

Look for registration in the June edition of the Trillium.

For information please contact Joan M.





Help Wanted

DavidHutzal

Winedezvous West

We are still looking for an enthusiastic member or members to take on this unique opportunity to find a campground in or near wine country in Western Ontario. Plot a tour route with stops for tastings, perhaps a brewery or distillery and, if possible, nothing tops off a wine tour like cheese and fresh baked bread.

The Rustic Canuck Weekend

Coe Hill

July 11-13

Joan M. only joined our club in 2023 but has already taken the bull by the horns to put this event together but will need some help planning and delivering a classic rustic event.

Rendezvous East

Rideau Acres Kingston

August 15-17

Brian and Susan P. jumped in feet first never having hosted an event before but need help with the planning and execution.

This was supposed to be the launch location for the Caravan to International in York but that has been cancelled so we may extend the weekend by a day or two.

Winedezvous East

Smugglers Cove Picton

October 3-5

Lawrence and Claire are very excited about hosting this event and have lots of ideas and plans but need help putting it all together and delivering a sommelier's dream.

As always, there is support and guidance along the way during the planning.

If you can help, please contact the Host then let me know.

Thank You

David Hutzal

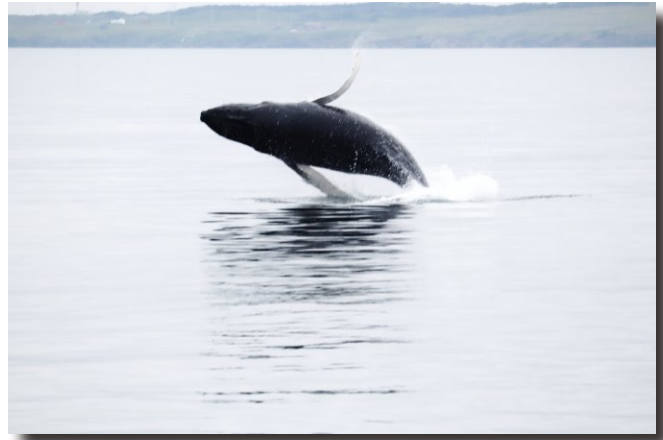


Caravan Corner

Kerry M.

To go or not to go? That was the question. We are referring, of course, to the planned Great Canuck Caravan to the International Rally in York, PA. The answer is no, we are not going – at least not as a caravan. Most of those members who originally signed up have now cancelled their registrations and will stay in Canada. These are unprecedented times and it is sad to see our travel plans with our closest friends and neighbours being upset by national politics, but here we are. So what is next?

Caravans take time to launch. Itineraries must be developed, camping facilities researched, numbers estimated and budgets struck, then advertised and filled with member registrations. While we would love to offer some alternatives this summer, it's just not doable. Instead, we will focus our planning efforts on potential caravans within Canada for next year and beyond. Ideas and volunteers are always welcome. We will look at some of our past



caravans and see if we can update them and run them again. There is no shortage of wonderful travel that we can do here given the lead time and planning necessary to make it happen. We will have some discussions in this regard at the Blyth rally and keep you all updated via future Trillium articles.

Don't forget that ACI still has several caravans that are exclusively in Canada. Our Meandering the Maritimes Caravan will be one of those in 2026 (2025 is already sold out). Other all Canadian caravans include the Viking Trail, the Canadian Rocky Mountains and the Northern Lights and Polar Bears caravans. Details on all of these can be found in the Blue Beret and online at the ACI website.

We hope that you all have a great camping season and we'll see you down the road.





Thank You Tony

DavidH.

After 20 years at the helm of our club “Membership Chair” post, Tony S. has decided to pass the torch. As a long-time volunteer with our club, I think most of us were welcomed by Tony when we joined.

On behalf of the Ontario Canada Airstream Club, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tony for his many years of dedicated volunteering with our club. And, we are fortunate to welcome our new “Membership Chair”, Donna C.

A heartfelt thank you Tony and warm welcome Donna.





Flag Presentation

Jim F.

Finally after all these years, Past President Jim F. presented Peter M. with his Past President's flag, February 1st, 2025 at a luncheon shared with the M's and Steve & Kate B.

Peter was President for the 2018 - 2019 season. You'll notice this was the last flag with the W.B.C.C.I. logo, as we have since

adopted our own logo as the Ontario Canada Airstream Club.

Regretfully, Peter and Gale left the Club the year after his tenure as President as they had sold their Airstream.





Tech Bites — Solar Info

DonM.

Looking for a good guide to Lithium Batteries? Here are several interesting links:

1. Go to [RVtravel](#)
2. For other recommendations/discussions check out [Air Forums](#)
3. On [YouTube](#)
4. Or [DIY Solar Power Forum](#) for a lot of informational videos on Lithium batteries



The Trillium



The Tin Man Needed It

John R.

When Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz first met the Tin Man in the woods, he was in desperate need of some lubrication. The Tin Man was caught out in the rain and seized up and he needed Dorothy and the Scarecrow to lubricate his joints to get him going again. What does this have to do with Airstreams? Well Airstreams, too, can get caught out in the rain, from time to time, and parts of the Airstream can seize up. That is why we should lubricate certain parts of the Airstream to keep them working as designed so we can continue like Dorothy on our adventures. I would suggest at least annually if not semi-annually depending on the amount of use your Airstream sees.

Now each area that needs lubricating requires a different type of lubricant. I have narrowed down to three I use to cover nine areas of the Airstream that need lubrication.

The first is Boshield T9, a lubricant developed by Boeing Corporation for lubricating airplane parts. This lubricant is waterproof with rust and corrosion protection that flushes out old lubricant, displaces water and dries to a waxy film that clings to metal for months. A 1 oz bottle can be purchased from Amazon for \$12.95. A little bit goes a long way.



Areas to lubricate

1. Door Hinges
 2. Locks, put some Boshield T9 on the key and run it in and out of the lock to get the pins inside the lock lubricated.
 3. The entry step, lubricate all the hinges of the step and you will find it much easier to get those steps up and down. Maybe not easier for you to get up and down, but the steps will fold up and open much better.
 4. The window latches can use some lubrication again to help with ease of movement.
-

The second lubricant I use is a silicone spray. I personally like Jig-A-Loo which you can buy at Canadian Tire for \$7.99 a can. This is an oil-free, non-greasy lubricant that waterproofs and protects. No stains, no dripping, no scent. It stops squeaks, un-sticks just about anything, protects against rust and is an exceptional water repellent. Jig-A-Loo is ideal for wood, metal, glass, rubber, leather, fabrics, most plastics.



Areas to lubricate

1. The arms on the manual or power awning. Just spray some silicone spray on the arms where one-part slides into another to help keep them moving freely. Sometimes it is easier to spray the lubricant on an old rag then wipe down the arms.
2. The screw part of your stabilizing jacks. This can be done for either manual or powered jacks. Ensure the screw parts are clean before applying the lubricant.
3. I also use this lubricant for the hitch coupler to keep it freed up.

The third lubricant I use is a spray can of white lithium grease. The 3-In-One Professional White Lithium Grease offers a heat and water-resistant formulation. It sprays on evenly as a liquid and dries to a thick coating, without splattering, melting, running, washing off, or freezing. White

lithium grease can be purchased at Canadian Tire for \$13.99.

Areas to grease.

1. If you have a power awning in the top of each arm about halfway down towards the RV when the awning is out there is a small hole which is just slightly larger than the straw from the white lithium grease can. Spray some white lithium grease in this hole to help keep the arm extending mechanism working. I have seen several power awnings where they were not lubricated and ultimately lead to failure.
2. The other place white lithium grease is good for is the ball on your hitch. This helps prevent wear on the ball and becoming sloppy in the connector.





Sunshine Report

Lynn B.

Hi,

Its Lynn from sunny Florida. Looks like it was a good time to be away with all the snow that has fallen.

It has been pretty quiet. At the end of January a sympathy card was sent to Marg R. on the passing of her mother.

In February, a sympathy card was sent to Allan S. & Donna C. for the passing of Allan's sister Margaret B.

A thank you card was sent to Tony S. for dedicated service 20 years as the membership chair.

Lynn B.

Sunshine Lady



The Trillium

Community Services Update

Project Linus

[Editor: No update this month, but keep on knitting and/or sewing and/or crocheting! Creations will be gratefully collected at the Spring Rally.]



Tabs 4 Kids Wheels - Rick A.

'Tabs 4 Kids Wheels' is an organization whose purpose is to provide wheelchairs for kids who need them both physically and financially. It began in 1992 by a school teacher in southwest Ontario to provide a chair for the caretaker's son. All the teachers and the kids in the school began to collect aluminum tabs to buy a chair for the young boy. Having succeeded in this first venture, they decided to continue with the idea of providing chairs for other needy kids.

Over the years, news spread to other schools and people. Now, many of the schools in the southwest Ontario area are collecting tabs and even using the school transport system to collect from many schools and bring them to the coordinator near Dorchester. Many individuals are collecting from many friends and so the organization grows.

When the tabs arrive at the drop-off farm near Dorchester, they are carefully screened by many volunteers to make sure that there is no unwanted material mixed in with the aluminum tabs. Then the aluminum tabs are taken to a recycler in London and sold. The money is deposited in a bank account and, when enough money has been collected, a chair is bought.

The often-asked question 'How many tabs does it take to buy a chair?' is impossible to answer. Past chairs have cost anywhere from five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to one hundred and thirty thousand dollars

(\$130,000) if they are motorized, and the price of aluminum varies a great deal also. The co-ordinator tries to be vigilant and sell the tabs when the price is high so she is more efficient.

'Tabs 4 Kids Wheels' works with the Thames Valley Children's Centre who provide the names of kids who need a chair. What a success story this organization is; starting in 1992 with just a few people in one school to buy one chair, it now involves many schools and very many individuals who collect, transport and sort the tabs with so much success that they have provided more than 60 chairs!!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR
HELP ON BEHALF OF OUR KIDS.