

The Road Awaits

Club Officers 2024-2025

President -

Devin Bowman

1st Vice President -

Ron Raymond

2nd Vice President -

Vacant

Secretary -

Lisa Sachs

Treasurer -

Janie Tarrant

Trustees -

Jill Bowman

Nancy Lawn

Jon Rathke

Tina Regan

Membership -

Melodie Rochelle

Parliamentarian -

Joe Baum

Web Master -

Jack D'Atré

News Editor -

Greg Heuer



This issue

Editor's Corner P.1

President's Corner P.2-3

Future Planning P.4-5

Detail/Registration Pages P.6-7

Trailer Opportunities P.8-9

Membership Report = 65 rigs as of this month.

Club Calendar and Editor Retirement Issue

The Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club has a published calendar that can be accessed through Outlook. Webmaster Jack has worked his magic. The calendar includes various events such as the Chesapeake Adventure Caravan from May 8 to May 18, 2025, and the Chippokes Plantation State Park event from June 13 to June 15, 2025. Take a look here:

[Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club CALENDAR LINK](#)

In Other News, I need to step away from the computer screens. I **love** to edit and publish documents, books, guides, and news. My 'eyes' however don't seem to want to cooperate after 40 years of squinting at screens through various iterations of eyeglasses, cataract removal, and age. ONE of you now has the opportunity to be the News Leader for our fun group. Step up, please. ~GH



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The President's Corner

Happy Spring!!

The weather is getting warmer and airstreams are hitting the road. We just returned from the Region 3 rally in Ladsen, SC. Roughly 200 trailers, great food, fun, and fellowship. I hope you all get out and enjoy some of our upcoming rallies. Joe Baum is planning the "Olde Virginia Airstream Rally" in June at Chippokes Plantation State Park. July 4-6, all four Virginia clubs are rallying in Lexington for Balloons over Rockbridge. Please check local rally schedules for our club and other local clubs and join in the fun! Jill and I will be at the June rally, then we will be on the Airstream Cruise "Silver on the Seas" to Alaska for the 4th of July. Our club will be looking for leadership in the coming months. Also, Greg is looking for someone who is interested in taking over the newsletter. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions with our club!

Happy travels and see you down the road!

Devin Bowman





Region 3 2025



The Sea of Silver Outside



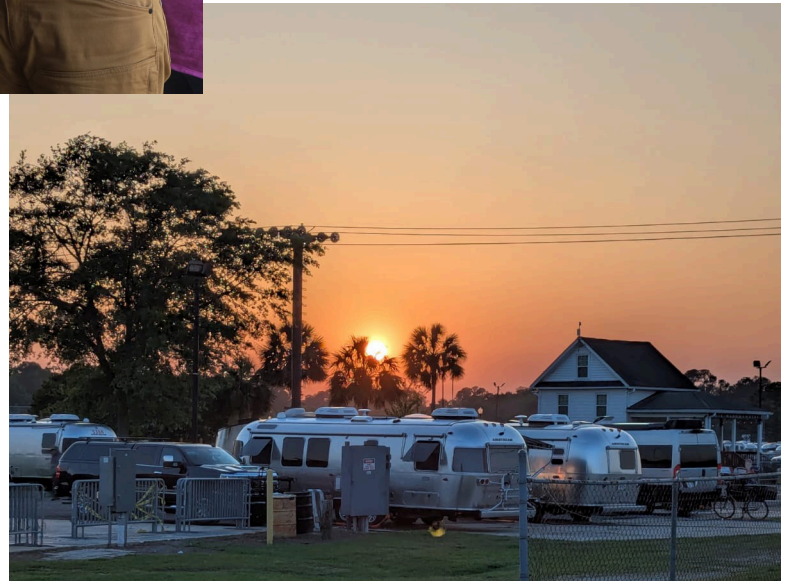
The Room Full of Friends and Fun Inside



Region 3 2025



Enjoying a Beverage



Sun and Silver



Table Bonding

Our
Flag
Of
Pride





2025-26 Rallies & Events Schedule, some Tentative

v.10
(04/26/25)

Year	Month	Date(s)	Rally/Event	Location	Point of Contact
2025	May	2-4	Dark Skies Rally	James River State Park Gladstone, VA	Bob Sachs Safari27fbse@hotmail.com
2025	May	8-18	Chesapeake Adventure Caravan [Sold Out]	Maryland/Virginia Eastern Shore	Greg Heuer gheuer@umich.edu
2025	June	12-15	Olde Virginia Rally	Chippokes Plantation State Park, Surry, VA	Joe Baum Baumjs@outlook.com
2025	July	4-7	Co-rally with all 4 VA clubs for "Up, Up, and Away" Rally (at Balloons Over Rockbridge Festival)	Virginia Horse Center Lexington, VA	Balloon festival rally led by Virginia Airstream Club with support from other 3 VA clubs.
2025	Aug	4-9	Old Fiddler's Convention	Cool Breeze Campground Galax, VA	Christine Baum baumjc@gmail.com
2025	Aug	16	Spirit of VA Annual Club Meeting & Election of Officers	Rue Verde Hacienda Roseland, VA	Jon Rathke Jon.rathke@gmail.com
2025	Aug	TBD	Virginia Commonwealth Caravan to York	(All 4 VA clubs discussing caravanning together to International Rally)	(will advise)
2025	Aug	23-28	Airstream 68 th International Rally*	York Expo Center York, PA	Airstream Club Int'l rally@airstreamclub.org
2025	Sept	26-28	Virginia Commonwealth Rally	American Heritage RV Park Williamsburg, VA	Tidewater Club
2025	Oct	17-19	Rally Theme TBD Possible co-rally with Tidewater Club (and potentially the West VA unit)	Douthat State Park Whispering Pines CG Millboro, VA	Bowmans / Regans devinbowman@juno.com
2025	Nov	7-9	Rally Theme TBD	North Landing Beach CG Virginia Beach, VA	Ken Tarrant Kentarrant@comcast.net
2025	Dec	20	Holiday Luncheon (2025)	Casa Bowman	Devin & Jill Bowman devinbowman@juno.com
2026	Jan	TBD	Planning Session for 2027	Casa Regan	Tina Regan reganty@yahoo.com

Year	Month	Date(s)	Rally/Event	Location	Point of Contact
2026	Feb	14	Valentine's Day Luncheon	Maggiano's – Short Pump 11800 West Broad St Richmond VA 23233	Greg Heuer gheuer@umich.edu
2026	Mar	4-8	Region 3 Rally	SUN'n FUN Aerospace Expo Campground 4075 James C. Ray Drive Lakeland, FL, 33811	Bob Ealy bgealy@att.net
2026	Apr		Itchin' to Hitch 2026	[tent.] Cozy Acres	TBD
2026	May	1-5	Cinco de Mayo Rally	Fort Valley Ranch?	Sachs?
2026	June	TBD	Newport News City Camp	TBD	Tarrants?
2026	July	TBD	Pipestem Buddy and Family Rally	Pipestem State Park Lerona, WV 25971	Phil and Connie Miller philmlrplm@gmail.com
2026	Aug	TBD	90 th Old Fiddlers Convention	Galax, VA	Christine Baum baumjc@gmail.com
2026	Aug	TBD	Spirit of VA Annual Club Meeting & Election of Officers	Rue Verde Hacienda Roseland, VA	Jon Rathke Jon.rathke@gmail.com
2026	Sept	TBD	Commonwealth Rally*		
2026	Oct	TBD	Shenandoah Valley Rally	TBD	Bowman/Regan
2026	Nov	5-8	Traditional Hatteras Rally	Camp Hatteras	Jon Rathke Jon.rathke@gmail.com
2026	Dec	TBD	Christmas Party	TBD	TBD

*Included for planning purposes (to avoid scheduling conflicts)

For schedule updates, please visit: [Spirit of Virginia Events | ACI\(airstreamclub.org\)](https://airstreamclub.org/spirit-of-virginia/spirit-virginia-events)
<https://airstreamclub.org/spirit-of-virginia/spirit-virginia-events>

Dark Skies Rally

James River State Park

May 1 thru May 4, 2025

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the park features rolling grasslands, quiet forests and beautiful views, as well as 3 miles of shoreline along the James River. The park's size is 1561 acres.

James River received the **International Dark Sky Park** designation in 2019 and is ideal for stargazing.

Lisa and I will be the Rally Masters for this event. We have reserved 12 sites in the Red Oak Campground. The Campground has sites with water and electricity and a full-service bathhouse with laundry facilities and a dump station. The links below show a map of the campground and photos of the camp sites. Pets are permitted (Dogs must be on a leash)



- <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/document/site-spec-jr.pdf>
- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/vastateparksstaff/albums/72157662668300168>

We will work with the Park Ranger to arrange 1 or more interpretive sessions.

Depending on the weather, you can do a 2 hour or 6 hour float trip on the river. To lessen debris and its impact on wildlife, James River is a trash-in, trash-out facility.

The camping fee for 3 nights is \$113.00. We will advise you of the Rally Fee as we get closer to the Rally dates.

Please contact us to make your reservation: safari27fbse@hotmail.com or 202-577-5860.

A good time will be had by all.



Olde Virginia Rally
Chippokes State Park
June 12-15, 2025

Three Campsites Still Available

Act Now

Chippokes State Park is in Surry County. It is named after the Chippokes Plantation which was established here in 1619. The original planter (Allen) named it Chippokes after a friendly Algonquin Indian chief. The property remains, even to this day, a working farm)

On-site activities include hiking, cycling, a farming museum, and two manor houses. The campground is modern, shady and spacious. All sites are paved and electric/water service. Check out the park at, <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/chippokes>

We will have a private tour of nearby Bacon's Castle (the oldest brick residence in the U.S.), a group dinner in Surry, and more to come.

South of the James attractions include charming Smithfield VA, Isle of Wight, and the Hampton Roads Winery (come for the wine, stay for the "goat tower"!).

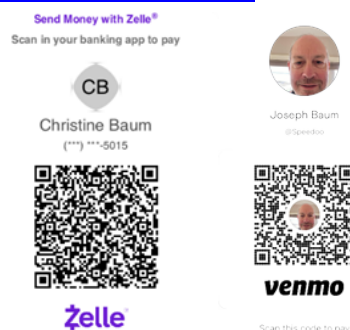
We will be camping only 4.5 miles from the free ferry to historic Jamestown & Williamsburg (North of the James). A great opportunity for a cycling adventure!

We have reserved 12 campsites with water and 30/50-amp electric. A full-service bathhouse and dump station are on site. Sites will be assigned after we receive your Jotform registration and payment.

The campsite fee for three nights is \$135. The rally fee is \$20 per person.

Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/233316274846157>

Pay here by Zelle or by Venmo:



or mail a check payable to:

Christine Baum, 14308 Medley Grove Lane, Doswell, VA 23047

89th Old Fiddlers' Convention - Galax, VA - August 4-9. 2025

Before International there is this Most Fun Event. Here's your link for the latest:

<http://oldfiddlersconvention.com/>

The schedule is about the same as ever. YOU know to be there for the Monday show to see the kids!

Monday, August 4, 2025, 5:30 PM - Fiddlers' Youth Competition

Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 6:00 PM - Old Time Fiddle, Dobro, and Mandolin Competitions

Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 6:00 PM - Bluegrass Fiddle, Dulcimer, and Bluegrass Banjo Competitions

Thursday, August 7, 2025, 6:00 PM - Clawhammer Banjo, Autoharp, and Guitar Competitions

Friday, August 8, 2025, 6:00 PM - Old Time Band and Bluegrass Band Competitions

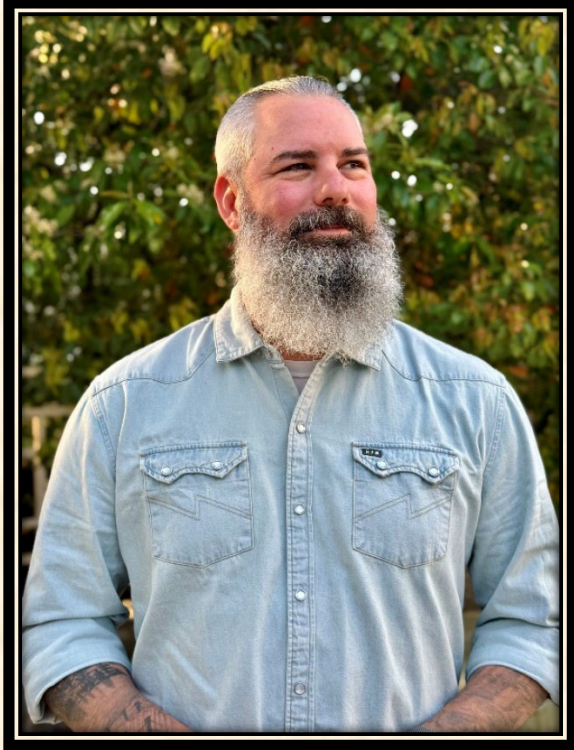
Saturday, August 9, 2025, 12:00 PM - Folk Song and Flatfoot Dance Competitions

Saturday, August 10, 2025, 6:00 PM - Bluegrass Band and Old Time Band Competitions

Registration is easy. Just call the Cool Breeze Campground [267-236-0300] - reserve a site for at least three nights.

Here's your link: <https://www.coolbreezecampground.com/>





Hello fellow ACI members. I'm Bill Hamblin and I'm running for Executive Council.

I'm a semi-retired 45-year-old traveling full-time in a 25' Globetrotter with my wife, Frances, and our two dogs, Sutton and Rhett. We enjoy traveling and learning about our country through local history and local cuisine.

From the moment we joined the club we felt like part of a community.

Traveling full-time in our RV gives me a unique perspective on the Club as we meet members from across the country.

I feel the best way to give back is to volunteer. From holding local office to leading the Tables & Chairs committee and being a part of the photography committee at International, I enjoy serving the Club.

I encourage you all to check out each candidate's Statement of Candidacy and video. And be on the lookout for the upcoming mini-interviews and webinar to better understand each candidate and their platform.

I think the Club is a great resource for all its members and I look forward to helping it grow in the years to come.

Thanks for your consideration and I'll see you down the road.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Hamblin". The signature is stylized with a large "W" and a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Bill Hamblin
BRN 21813

My name is Artie Martin!

I am currently the Immediate past President of Region 5 Airstream Club. I have served two complete terms of President of Region 5, 2016-2018 and 2020-2022. So I have experienced 4 years of IBT Meetings!

Serving as President has provided me with the operational knowledge to take on larger challenges as our club continues to grow. I look forward to researching new ideas, and reaching out to members for suggestions and opinions of how our club can successfully move forward !!!
I thank you so much for your support!!!

Artie Martin
BRN 213
513-288-3419
aom1215@yahoo.com

