



# *The Pelican Briefs*

## *May 2025*

President: Robert Perere  
1st VP: Curt Fontenot  
2nd VP: Dale Spillman  
Past President: Gerald Peltier

Corresponding Sec/Editor: Donna McBroom-Theriot  
Treasurer: Janelle Williams  
Recording Secretary: Kathy Spillman

Trustees: John Taylor  
Jeffery Theriot  
Mark Williams

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Webmasters: Don Broussard, Dale Spillman  
Club Photographer: Dale Spillman  
Membership Chairman: Todd Malmberg

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*FROM the Editor*  
Donna McBroom-Theriot

The Bird Migration Rally was a success! It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience! As for the success, I only say this as a first-time host! I have to admit there was a little case of nerves going on because we wanted everything to be perfect. But you know what we learned? It doesn't have to be perfect. It only has to be fun! We have a wonderful group of people in our club and enjoying each other's company is what it is all about. After this experience, I can recommend being a co-host or host. We've all planned birthday parties for our children and this wasn't much different, although it WAS 60 miles from our home and on a tiny island with limited resources...I am laughing as I write this. It was a wonderful experience to work with great friends in planning and executing the details, and sharing a little of our "neck of the bayou". I hope all of you who might be mulling over the idea of hosting a rally, will hop in, throw caution to the wind, and host a rally! The planning and visiting are a lot of fun.



# Charter

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT:

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC., a corporation not for profit organized and existing under the laws of the State of Ohio by virtue of charter filed as number 264340 on June 21, 1957, with the Secretary of State of the State of Ohio and recorded in Volume 771 on page 224 of the Records of Incorporation of said state DOES HEREBY GRANT AND ISSUE UNTO

## Louisiana Unit

a unit charter as an affiliate member of Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc.

Said unit charter is issued pursuant to the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, Rules, Code of Regulations, Constitution and By-laws of Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. and subject thereto.

The unit hereby chartered shall be deemed, and is, a division or branch of the Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. and its members are members of Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. duly qualified and approved by the Board of Trustees thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto subscribed the name and affixed the official seal, of Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. by

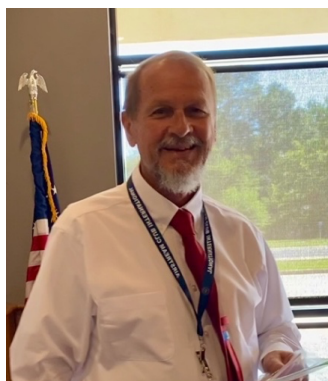
Henry J. Geisert, its President, and Mary Jones,  
its Secretary, this 26th day of June, 1968.



WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By Henry J. Geisert President

By Mary Jones Secretary



## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Robert Perere

Greetings Louisiana Airstream Club members and affiliates

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying our beautiful weather. The pollen is finally gone here in Walker, La. and it is nice.

I want to give a brief history of our Club. I am in no way our Club historian; Dale Spillman, 2nd VP is the expert in this field. Wally Byam Caravan Club International issued the Louisiana Unit a unit Charter on the 26th day of June 1968. We are approaching our 57th anniversary this June. The Wally Byam Caravan Club was chartered in 1955 in Kentville, Nova Scotia Canada. The WBCC was registered in the United States in June of 1957 in the State of Ohio.

The International Club is divided into 12 Regions and we are in Region 6. Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and the panhandle of Florida are the states that comprise Region 6. At one time, Louisiana had five Airstream Clubs. When Rebecca and I joined in 2014, there were three Clubs; Louisiana, Acadiana, and the New Orleans unit. Acadiana merged with us in 2018, and New Orleans dissolved without merging with anyone around the same time.

With all of the different Clubs in our State, there was a lot of interaction and camaraderie with each other. Rally planning and activities were centered around these different Clubs, making it easier to connect with people state-wide. There used to be a Pelican State Rally every year. All of this began to change due to a lack of participation and people aging out. This trend is not unique to Louisiana but has occurred throughout the country.

The Louisiana Unit name was changed to Louisiana Airstream Club in 2016. We now have 64 regular members and 25 affiliate members, which is about average nationwide. Our Club dues were \$5 in 1968, then raised to \$10 in 2004, and raised to \$15 in 2023. We operate on a budget. Our fixed costs are mostly printing supplies, stamps, and office needs. We also incur miscellaneous costs from time to time. We do not charge a Rally fee for our Christmas Rally, and we try to keep our Rally fees as low as possible. We also try to negotiate campground rates to keep costs down.

We have an Executive Board that meets 5-6 times a year and we work together as a team. We have a member meeting 2-3 times a year to keep members informed, normally at a Rally or a luncheon.

My intention in this message is to share our club history. I would like to encourage each member to give a little of your time, share your ideas, share your enthusiasm, and encourage everyone to get involved. By giving of your time, I mean helping the host to clean up, wash dishes, put out trash, help



the cook, etc. Do something so just a few are not carrying the load. It's everybody's Club. Don't be shy about asking what you can do, and I will not be shy about telling you what to do. I know that some of us are not able to help because of health issues, and that's understandable. We will help you in any way we can!

What I mean by sharing your ideas: Tell us what you would like the Club to be for you. Talk to us, give us ideas about Rallies or activities. Communication is a two-way street. We need your input and feedback so we can plan and adjust our goals accordingly. Our future and our history are in your hands, not just the leadership.

In conclusion, our main goal is to have fun, which we do, and to have Rallies at interesting places. We don't need to always have a structured Rally. Just chilling out by a campfire and having our favorite beverage is all we need. I'm excited about the future of our Club and can't wait to hear from everyone. You can contact me at: [perere@att.net](mailto:perere@att.net) or text or call 225-315-3825. (P.S. I can't wait to see the % response I get, I'll let you know in my next message. I will not publish any info I receive.)

Be kind, be compassionate, and treat others as you would like to be treated! You never know what someone may be going through!

*See you down the road!*  
*Robert Perere*





## DID YOU KNOW

by Dale Spillman #15880

A couple of months past I wrote an article about flashing headlights when approaching oncoming Airstream Trailers to say hi. But, there is another part of the greeting that has almost passed with time.

As the story goes; Once upon a time, nearly all airstreamers were able to talk to one another as they passed on the road. As you saw the oncoming trailer or motorhome approach, you could see the “Big Red Numbers” on the unit, your co-pilot would then look up the number in our handy (free) membership book and know their name and unit number. We would then acknowledge them with our handy CB radios. Traveling was fun, meeting people, getting road conditions, and other great information.

Jumping back a few years, in 1984 when we joined the club, airstreamers were almost required to have a CB tuned to channel 14 known as the Wally Byam channel. Every Airstream had one and most had one in their trailers. At internationals, we would have a Wally Byam Control radio station to disperse information, weather, and events, every morning and afternoon. Today we have the WBCCI Amateur Radio club that uses 2 meters and above, but users must have an FCC Radio License to operate. I have a radio license to operate a 2-meter radio, but not many members do or want to study to obtain a license. A CB radio uses a line of sight to transmit where a 2-meter would bounce radio waves off layers of atmosphere for a greater range. A properly tuned CB would transmit about 3 miles or more depending on the landscape, whereas a turned 2-meter would reach about 15 miles or hit a relay station and bounce waves onto another relay and so forth.

The biggest advantage of a CB is caravanning, (no more than 4 units together so as not to block road traffic). You see a lot of things along the road that you want to share but don't have time to use an I-phone. Since retiring in 2010, we have been on around 32 caravans, led 3, and assistant on 3 others. I have both a CB and 2-meter rig in my vehicle and whenever I travel with others I request they have one also. Traveling is fun again.



*Where the door is always open...*

## APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS!



# HOW TO PACK YOUR RV FOR A CAMPING TRIP

Whether you're a first-timer or a pro, packing your RV takes some forethought and planning. And even though it might seem like your RV has endless shelves, cabinets, and nooks and crannies, you'll soon find that space is limited. To help make the most of your RV's space, this RV packing checklist includes a few dos, and don'ts, tips, and tricks to get you started.

Remember to space your heavy items throughout the RV to avoid weighing down one side of the rig. Do this both from front to back and side to side. Staying as light as possible is important to keep your rig under the necessary payload and towing capacity limits.

## Documents and Important Information

When it comes to bringing along your important information, think about anything you might need to have documentation of while on the road. Your vehicle registration, campground reservations, [roadside assistance](#) info, and all of your RV and camping packing lists should be kept in a folder for easy access.

You'll also need IDs and driver's licenses, your RV manual (or access to a digital copy), your RV's maintenance history, and any relevant medical documents or other personal items.

Store your documents in a safe place, away from any moisture or excessive temperatures.

A [waterproof folder](#) is ideal for keeping your documents dry and reduces exposure to humidity. Some RVers also use a clipboard or notebook when walking through their setup and breakdown checklists to mark their progress.

**This Newsletter: Documents**

**Next Newsletter: Electronics**

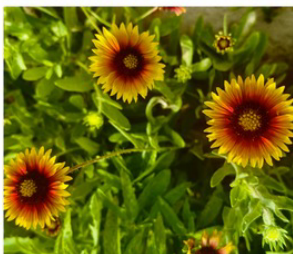
[https://roadtrippers.com/magazine/rv-packing-list/?utm\\_source=customerio&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=April15\\_Newsletter&utm\\_content=roadtrippers](https://roadtrippers.com/magazine/rv-packing-list/?utm_source=customerio&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=April15_Newsletter&utm_content=roadtrippers)

## WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

Welcome to new members Craig and Trudi Wilson  
from Madisonville, LA, and affiliates John and  
Jacquelynn Fortner from Lucedale, MS



# LAC BIRD MIGRATION RALLY! APRIL 2025











## UPCOMING RALLY SCHEDULE



May 29-June  
1, 2025

Seafood Rally. Hosted by: Charlie Davis and Diana Hobbs at La Pay E Bas RV Park in Eunice, LA. This is always a fun rally. Email Diana Hobbs ([hobbsdiana2@gmail.com](mailto:hobbsdiana2@gmail.com)) to make your reservations. Please include the length of your rig and the number in your party.

The Ronald McDonald House Auction will be held during this rally. Its success depends on us cleaning out our closets, attics, and garages! Let's do some spring cleaning and donate to the auction! One man's trash is another man's treasure!

August 2025

International Rally in York, PA. Much more to come!

Sept. 24-28,  
2025

Region 6 Rally. Registration has already begun! The Rally is being held at The Ridge Outdoor Resort, nestled in the heart of the Smoky Mountains in Sevierville, TN. Reservations: 865-505-3111.

Oct. 31-Nov. 9,  
2025

"Following the Natchez Trace to Nashville." Unit caravan limited to 12 units. For **regular** and **affiliate** members of the LA Airstream Club. Other WBAC members can apply and will be placed on waiting list for empty spots available. ***Please contact me ASAP no later than May 10, 2025 if you can make the caravan.*** This is a cost as you go caravan; no arraignments have been secured. More information to follow. All applicants are to email Dale Spillman: [Laul5880@yahoo.com](mailto:Laul5880@yahoo.com)

Dec. 4-7, 2025

Christmas Rally. Hosted by Charlotte and John Taylor at the River View RV Park and Resort, 100 River View Pkwy., Vidalia, LA 71373; Phone: 318-336-1400. When you make your reservations, please let them know you are with the Louisiana Airstream Club. Additional information will be available at a later date.

*Do YOU enjoy Rallies? How about hosting one? Grab a buddy to co-host and call Robert! (225-315-3825) He has loads of ideas and help is always available!*



Print me!



# Seafood Rally And Auction May 29-June 1, 2025

Hosted by Charles Davis and  
Diana Hobbs

Location:  
La Pay E Bas, Eunice, Louisiana

(Schedules are always subject to change.)

*Don't forget your badges!*

Bring a  
fishing line  
if you enjoy  
fishing!



May 29, 2025  
Thursday

**Di's for dinner.** Carpool leaving the campground at 5 pm.

May 30, 2025  
Friday



Breakfast – **“Breakfast Plus One”**

Each rig will cook breakfast and make a little extra to share with friends in the a.m. TBA

**4 PM Happy Hour** (please do not bring snacks to Happy Hour) followed by **Crawfish Boil**. Bring your beer, bibs, and trays!



May 31, 2025  
Saturday

**10 AM Annual Club Election Meeting**

**4 PM Happy Hour** followed by **Heavy Hors d'oeuvres**

**6:30 PM Look See.** Head over to the pavilion to look at the items that will be up for auction. All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

**7 PM Auction.** The auction fun begins! Payment will be collected once the auction is over. **Cash or checks!**

June 1, 2025  
Sunday

Hope you all enjoyed the rally! Have a safe trip home!

**Print Me!**