



The Trillium

June 2025
Volume 53 Issue 3



Events Calendar	2
President's Message	4
New Members	6
Rustic Canuck Weekend Rally	7
Rendezvous at Rideau	9
Take OFF, Eh?	10
Eastern Shakedown Report	11
Rockin' and Rollin' ... Success!	12
Tanner Steffler ... Donation	17
Dale (PeeWee) Schwamborn	18
Editorial — The Game	19
Getting to Know Your Executive	21
Caravan Corner	23
Airstreamer's Kitchen	25
Preventative Maintenance	26
Airstream Life Hacks	28
Sunshine Report	29
Community Services Update	30



Events Calendar

Jul. 11-13	Rustic Canuck Weekend Coe Hill Agricultural Fairgrounds, Coe Hill, ON	Hosts: Joan M. and Theresa B. Registration is open
Jul. 31 to Aug. 4	Joint Sampson State Park Rally Sampson State Park Romulus, NY	Registration is open
Aug. 15-17	Rendezvous at Rideau Rideau Acres Campground Kingston, ON 613-546-2711	Hosts: David H. & Carol B. Registration coming soon! Contact the park for camp reservations
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 M.
Oct. 3-5	Windezvous East Smuggler's Cove RV Resort Picton, ON	Hosts: Roch G. & Hélène T.
2026	69th International Rally Minot, ND	Registration TBA
2027	70th International Rally Rock Springs, WY	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.

Winedezvous – 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 everyone, we're off and travelling. The 2025 camping season officially kicked off with The Richmond Shakedown May 9 – 12 and the traditional visit to the Glen Restaurant for a delicious inaugural away from home dinner. The Ontario Airstream Club has been holding events at the Richmond Fairgrounds since 2004, a long-standing tradition. The weekend started out on the cool side but quickly changed with the warmth and friendship of members of the 15 trailers attending. Some members visited Museums, others admired the tulips or got their steps in meandering through flea and craft markets, while others took the opportunity to just sit back and put their feet up.

Thank you to our Hosts, Rob and Lynn D. and Ken L. and Kate Dowsett.

BLYTH - WOW, all I can say is WOW!. What an amazing time we had.

Again, a huge thank you to our hosts, Neil and Nancy M., Ron and Sue B. and Jim and Nancy W. and all the volunteers who pulled together to make the event the success it was. And hats off to Frankie and the Fairlanes for a wonderful Saturday evening of music and entertainment. The bit of rain and cool temperatures certainly did not dampen anyone's weekend spirits. If you didn't have a Rockin' Good Canuck Time between May 16 and 19 then you weren't at Blyth.

What'z Zup!

Rideau Acres Rendezvous Aug. 14 - 17

1014 Cunningham Rd.
Kingston, ON
613-546-2711

You can book your campsite anytime, call Rideau Acres and say you are with the Ontario Airstream Club. Campsite fee will be the responsibility of the members and is not included in the registration fee. Registration will be available very soon but do not include camping fees. If you would like to extend your stay, no problem, arrive earlier or stay later and explore the area, book as many nights as you like but the Rendezvous will run August 15 – 17.

Call the campground to book your site now.

OCAC Travel Brochure

Our new brochure is on the website. Print a copy and take it with you when you travel then you can hand it to any folks you meet that have an Airstream but are not Club members.

New Member Handbook

The New Member Handbook is on the website. This handbook is an excellent resource for all members old and new. You never know what you may learn.

Coe Hill Rustic Canuck Weekend

Coe Hill Fairgrounds
2095 Highway 620
Coe Hill, ON

This promises to be an unforgettable unplugged weekend away from the Hub and Bub of the bustling city. We'll be Off Grid and self-contained, just the way Wally Byam intended an Airstream to be. There is no fresh water facilities and with only four 15 amp receptacles for the entire park. Power is EXTREMELY limited to those who absolutely need it.

Please be sure to arrive with empty black and grey tanks and full fresh water. Please see the Trillium article for further details.

Welcome

Theresa B. has stepped into the position of By-Law Chair following the retirement of Lynn D.. Thank you, Lynn, for all your hard work and dedication on the committee.

Ontario Canada Airstream Club
Making Every Mile Memorable Since 1964

New Members

Please welcome our newest OCAC members.

Stephen & Fran H.
2025 Pottery Barn 28

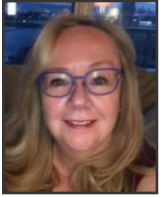
Edward & Mary Lynn K.
2021 Globetrotter 27

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



Rustic Canuck Weekend Rally

TheresaB.

OCAC Rustic Canuck Weekend Rally - July 11-13, 2025

Join us for a casual unplugged rally in the beautiful Haliburton Highlands! We'll be rallying at the Coe Hill Fairgrounds (a hamlet 25 minutes south of Bancroft).

Date:

Friday July 11 (arrival from 10 am onward) to Sunday July 13 (optional boondocking until Monday July 14 is available)

Fee:

\$90/trailer/2 people for the weekend includes camping sites and meals as listed below. Additional guests (12+ years) are \$20 each.

Address:

Coe Hill Fairgrounds, just off Highway 62, east end of Coe Hill, Ontario.

Meals:

Friday night - potluck dinner

Saturday breakfast - coffee and bagels/muffins

Saturday dinner - catered dinner: option of (1) locally famous pulled pork or (2) hummus veggie sandwich, with coleslaw, ceasar salad, rolls, and cookies

Sunday breakfast - coffee and bagels/muffins.

Entertainment:

The "Coe Hill Girls" musical duo will be performing Saturday night - vocals, keyboard and guitar with a diverse songbook including pop, folk, roots country, jazz, blues rock.

Activities in the area:

Bancroft is the mineral capital of Ontario. Visit the Bancroft Mineral Museum, and Princess Sodalite Mine and Store. Parks, waterfalls and walking/biking trails are nearby including the Eagle's Nest Lookout, Egan Chutes Provincial Park and Silent Lake Provincial Parks.

Facilities:

It's a rustic boondocking weekend as there is only one water spigot and four electric outlets. You are encouraged to arrive with sufficient water for the weekend. The fairgrounds also have washrooms but no shower facilities.

Additional Camping:

If you wish to stay longer, there are a number of private campgrounds nearby - Bear Ridge Campgrounds (bearridgecamp.ca), Red Eagle Campgrounds (campredeagle.ca), Bancroft Tent and Trailer Campground (www.bancroftcamping.ca), and Bancroft Campground (www.bancroftcampground.ca) as well as Egan Chutes, Ferris, and Silent Lake Provincial Parks.

Hosts:

Joan M. and Theresa B.

Registration:

Please register by completing the JotForm by July 1.

<https://airstreamclub.org/2025-rustic-canuck-weekend-registration>



Rendezvous at Rideau

Aug. 15-17

Details about the Rendezvous at Rideau Acres are coming soon along with registration information. **In the meantime, book your camping site!** Contact Rideau Acres at 613-546-2711. Tell them you're with the Airstream group to get the discount.

If you want to take the tour of the Kingston Penitentiary, book your tickets as soon as they become available. They sell out fast over the summer.

Kingston Points of Interest

Saturday Market downtown. Local meat, vegetable vendors

Fort Henry

<https://www.forthenry.com/>

Bellevue House National Historic Site

<https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/on/bellevue>

Tour Kingston Penitentiary

<https://www.kingstonpentour.com/>

City Tour of Kingston (Hop on - Hop off)

<https://www.kingstontrolley.ca/>

Kingston 1000 Islands Boat tours

<https://www.1000islandscruises.ca/>

Park and stroll the historic downtown with no particular destination. No reservations required!



The Trillium



Take OFF, Eh?

Kerry M.

Take OFF, Eh?

To the **Ontario Fall Frolic (OFF)** otherwise known as our Fall Rally at the Lombardy Fairgrounds in beautiful eastern Ontario. It's been six years since we last visited Lombardy and we are delighted to be back. The facilities here are great, with an excellent hall, washrooms and kitchen, lots of outdoor space and enough power and water to keep your batteries charged and your tanks full. To celebrate the autumn season, we have retained the Gib Rozon band for our Saturday night dance, right after a catered dinner. Be sure to wear your dancing shoes with your **best fall colours** and set the hall aglow!

Throughout the weekend, we will be holding the "Airstream Olympics", a fun and not particularly challenging series of

competitions leading up to the awarding of gold, silver and bronze awards. Weather permitting, we may sneak in a picnic at a nearby lock station on the historic Rideau Canal. This will also be our Annual General Meeting of members and the election of our new Executive for 2026. Breakfasts with lots of hot coffee will be available weekend mornings to get you up and going. Watch for the registration form on our website and in the next Trillium. The fairgrounds are easy to find, just a few kilometres west of Smiths Falls on Hwy 15 — watch for the buildings with the orange roofs. You cannot miss them and you should not miss the OFF Rally!

So **Take OFF, Eh?** We'll see you there! September 12 to 14, 2025. Watch for the registration form online or in the next Trillium.



The Trillium



Eastern Shakedown Report

Lynn & Rob D.

We welcomed 16 trailers to the annual Eastern Ontario Shakedown this year. In addition to members who live in the vicinity of Ottawa, also in attendance were members from Komoka (near London), Niagara on the Lake, Woodstock, Kingston, Peterborough, Lindsay and Grafton. And not to forget our visitors from “across the river”, Mo and Kathy R., from the Cape Cod Airstream Club.

The weather was typical spring: cloudy, windy and cold for the most part. However, the weather improved as the weekend went on and did not interfere with outdoor happy hours. We were thankful for the warm hall for the potluck supper on Saturday, a French toast and fruit breakfast on Sunday and snacks in the evenings. New this year was a presentation by Karen R. about her experiences painting her incredible watercolour scenes of nature, inspired by her and John’s travels.

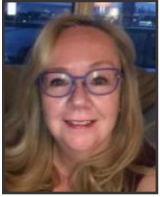


On Saturday evening was a round of Canadian Trivia, prepared by John R. We all learned some very interesting facts about Canada – like what mythical figure is on the cover of the Canadian passport (and why).

We have been holding the Shakedown in Richmond since 2018 and the Fairground has been so very good to us. In appreciation, we decided to join the fund-raising efforts to support the Fairground and have ordered an Ontario Airstream Club plaque to be added to the commemorative plaques display in the beautiful new Richmond Community Legacy Pavilion at the Fairground.

We look forward to hosting the Shakedown again next May.

Lynn & Rob D.
Kate D. & Ken L.



Rockin' and Rollin' in Blyth - Spring Rally Success!

TheresaB.

The May 16-18, 2025 Southern Ontario Spring Rally was a great success! This May long weekend rally was a wonderful way to shakedown our trailers, socialize, and kick-off the summer camping season.

120 Airstreamers and 60 trailers were in attendance, including 20 new club members with Airstreamers from across Ontario and from as far away as Los Angeles.



As with years past, the Blyth Municipal Campground and Community Centre was a great venue — green treed spaces, electric and water hook-ups, washrooms with showers and a large meeting space with full kitchen.

It was my first time in Blyth and Heron County and I was charmed. Beautiful countryside and farmlands, charming towns nearby including Goderich and Kincardine, Lake Huron beaches and Provincial Parks. Will definitely be back to do more camping and exploration of this region.

It was an active and fun-filled weekend!

On Saturday, members had a choice of activities including golfing, biking the G2G Trail (the 132 km Goderich to Guelph Rail multi-use greenway trail), and shaking down their trailers. Rally Workshops included Card Making with Lynn Burdt, Camera/Photography Skills with Steve Ansell, and Insurance Information Exchange with Patti Burke.

The informal Flea Market was a hit, giving us a chance to pick-up useful items for our trailers — there is always something you could use. [Editor's note: A big shout out goes to Jack & Mary Anne Hand and David Pearson, who have given up RV'ing, for the donation of items for the flea market, the proceeds of which went to the club.]

On Sunday, Andy Thomson's (from Can-Am RV) presentation was informative and encouraged active discussion. Andy's knowledge and enthusiasm for all things Airstream is truly a treasure. Can-Am also sponsored a dinner Pizza Party – it was delicious and much appreciated by all!



As you know, Airstreamers love to socialize, and we had many opportunities throughout the weekend. An afternoon "Hassle Tassel" (smaller group cocktail hour) allowed members to introduce themselves and get to know each other. Daily breakfasts, cocktail hours, and evening hospitality gatherings gave us lots of opportunities to catch up with old friends and make new ones.



"Frankie and the Fairlanes" performed Saturday night - with a multi-media show highlighting music from television shows from the 50's onward. It was a concert and dance all in one. And Sunday evening's Bingo session was entertaining and social.

Many, many thanks to our wonderful volunteer Hosts — Neil & Nancy M, Jim & Janice W. and Ron & Sue B.! The scope and success of this rally is a testament to their significant efforts and planning. Huge thanks!

[Editor's note: Check out Patrick & Caroline's YouTube channel, [Road Trip Escapades](#). They feature the Blyth rally in [their latest video](#).]





The Trillium

In the hall



The Trillium



Can you spot your
Airstream?

Photos: Patrick Sirard





Tanner Steffler Foundation Donation

Donna C.

Thanks to everyone who donated to our fundraising event at the Blyth Rally on the May long weekend. We raised \$396.00 for the Tanner Steffler Foundation.

On June 6th, 2017 after a battle with substance use disorder, Tanner Steffler was sadly poisoned by a drug overdose at the young age of 19.

Tanner's disorder is not what defined him, rather, he was a handsome teenager, an academic student and full of life and potential. He had a great sense of humour, was a talented musician, enjoyed being with his peers, had a soft spot for his lovable bulldog and had college acceptances to fulfill his career goal of an X-ray technician. Tanner didn't want to be an addict; he wanted treatment and he wanted to be well. In the end, the "system" failed Tanner and it cost him his life.

Despite their intense grief, John and Heather (Tanner's parents) created the Tanner Steffler Foundation in August 2017, and are committed to saving the lives of Huron County youth so that others don't have to suffer like Tanner and his family. The focus of the foundation is to enhance and improve the Mental Health and Addiction resources and support networks that are in place for youth between the ages of 12-29 within Huron and Perth Counties.



Sencer & Julide E. - Winners of the "Airstream Popcorn Bucket" raffle prize



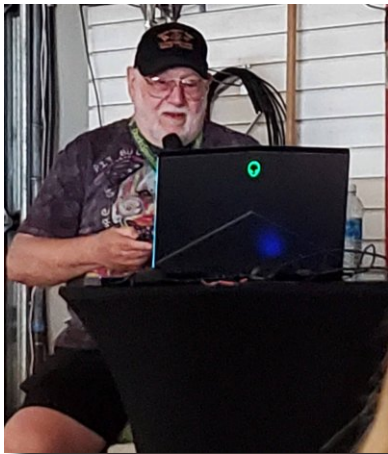


Dale (PeeWee) Schwamborn

DonM.

Early in May, Dale (PeeWee) Schwamborn gave a presentation at Can-Am RV about the history of Airstream which opened at Jackson Center. Dale is renowned for being, at the age of 20, Wally Byam's advance scout for the eight month caravan from Cape Town, South Africa to Cairo, Egypt.

It was an excellent presentation for the about 60 who attended this one-of-a-kind event put on by Andy Thomson, and hosted by fellow Airstreamer Michael Lambert. We also had lots of pizza and other things including wine. Dale and I have been good friends for 20 years.



The Trillium



Editorial — The Game

Steve A.

There is a game that most Airstream owners play. You've probably played it yourself. It's fun, and it's silly, and it harkens back to your days as a kid counting VW Beetles (*a.k.a*, "punchbuggies") on the highway. I refer, of course, to The Game of counting Airstreams on the road. I think we once accumulated eight sightings on one trip. A small number, I admit. I'm sure some of you have tallied up much higher numbers while on caravans or other long journeys.

The question always comes up, though, about what qualifies as a sighting and how much is it "worth". Does a parked Airstream count? Can we count that one again on the way home? There's a rare one! Should it be worth more?

What follows is an attempt to codify the rules of The Game.

Points accumulate while you are on the road with, or without, your Airstream. The duration of the The Game is up to you. I imagine most people will just score for a single "trip", wherein you start counting when you leave your driveway and stop when you return. Feel free to score for individual legs of your journey. One could even do daily, annual, or lifetime tallies.

For the purposes of The Game, it is acceptable to count vintage, aluminum, non-Airstream trailers (Bowlus, Silver Streak, etc.). This rule is in place to preserve marital harmony. Consider the conversation: "Oh! Airstream", "That wasn't an Airstream!", "Yes it was", "No, it wasn't", "YES IT WAS!", "NO, IT WASN'T!", <silence for the rest of the trip>

Basic points

Airstream in motion – 2 points

Airstream in a driveway or storage lot – 1 point

Bonus points that apply whether or not you are towing your Airstream

Spotting an Airstream belonging to an ACI member – +2 points

Spotting an Airstream at an SOB RV dealership – +5 points

Spotting a vintage Airstream – +5 points

Bonus points that only apply when you are towing your Airstream

One time bonus for spotting any Airstream – +5 points

Spotting an Airstream at a park in which you are staying – +5 points

Spotting an Airstream in a gas station or parking lot that you are currently in – +5 points

Striking up a conversation with Airstream owners in either of the above situations – +10 points

Q & A

Q: Can you count the same Airstream twice in one trip?

A: No.

Q: Can you count Airstreams at an Airstream dealership or repair shop (e.g., Can-Am RV)?

A: No.

Q: Can you count Airstreams at an ACI event?

A: No.

Q: Can you count Airstreams on the way to an ACI event?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you count your own Airstream?

A: No. (Duh)

Q: What Airstreams qualify?

A: Any Airstream that qualifies for ACI membership.

Q: Do caravans qualify?

A: Yes, but not one that you are on.

Q: Do caravans qualify while parading into an International Rally?

A: No.

Q: Is there a prize for the highest score?

A: No, just bragging rights at the next get-together.

That's it! Comments are welcome. Send me your tallies, and tales; I will publish them in The Trillium.



Getting to Know Your Executive

Chris G. - 2 Year Trustee

Camping has been part of my life for as long as I can remember. As a kid, my parents, brother, and I started out in an old, oiled army tent before upgrading to a Shamrock pop-up trailer and, eventually, a homemade camper mounted on my dad's 1966 Chevy pickup. We traveled across Canada, from the Rockies in the west to the Maritimes in the east, making incredible memories along the way.

In the 1990's and early 2000's, Ian (my husband) and I introduced our two young children to trailer life, splurging on a pop-up with two queen beds, a dining table, and a small kitchen, pure luxury at the time! We ventured to Yellowstone, made annual trips to Saskatchewan to visit family, and explored Canada's farthest reaches. As our kids grew into teenagers, we transitioned from trailer travel to exploring the world by car and plane.

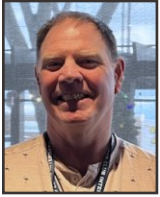
Fast-forward to 2023, after years of dreaming and with Ian's retirement on the horizon, we took delivery of our 27-foot Airstream Globetrotter. We wasted no time hitting the road, exploring western Michigan, attending the music-filled Duluth, Minnesota Rally, and, of course, making our annual pilgrimage to Saskatchewan.

In 2024, we attended the Blyth, Ontario Rally and began connecting with the wonderful OACC community, meeting

fellow Airstreamers and sharing experiences. That same year, we embarked on the Nuts to Ruts Oregon Trail adventure, an unforgettable journey where we made lasting friendships and experienced the trail's incredible history firsthand. Our trip to the International Rally in Sedalia, Missouri, was another highlight, made even better by traveling alongside our new OACC friends.

Looking ahead, we're excited for upcoming adventures during the OACC Byth and Lombardy Rallies; the Meandering the Maritimes Caravan 2025, and the Southwest Caravan in 2026, where we will finally experience breathtaking landscapes of the U.S. national parks and the Albuquerque Balloon Festival.

We love our Airstream, the incredible community we have found, and the unique way of seeing North America that only Airstream life can offer. As a trustee, I am committed to representing and supporting our members, ensuring accountability and continuity within the Ontario Club. If you ever have questions, concerns, or just want to swap travel stories, please reach out, I would love to connect.



Getting to Know Your Executive

Bill R. - 2 Year Trustee

My wife, Julie, and I have been camping our entire time together. We have camped in the Maritimes and Newfoundland, Maine and Massachusetts, Alberta and BC, as well as Utah and Arizona. These vacations were all enjoyable as well as being intense, sorry, I mean, IN TENTS.

The pandemic isolation brought two interesting scenarios: watching YouTube and a desire to do something — anything — different. Our viewing of the numerous RV YouTube channels exposed us to various models of AIRSTREAMs and we decided that we wanted one. We picked up the phone and ordered our 2022 BaseCamp 20x from Can-Am, sight unseen, and could not be happier. This is our first travel trailer after 20+ years of decidedly less luxurious, ground-based accommodations.

The Silver Rim Motor Inn has now been to Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, Northern Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. A particular delight of ours is spotting an Airstream in the wild.

We attended our first rally in Niagara Falls in 2022 as non-members and met so many wonderful folks that we joined the club the day after.

We look forward to more rallies, rendezvous and definitely a caravan or two.

I am happy to serve all the club members as your trustee, and if there is anything you need myself, or my fellow trustees, to approach the executive about, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Caravan Corner

Kerry M.

Well, this summer certainly hasn't gone as originally planned! After cancelling our caravan to the International in York, PA we realized that it is too far into the camping season to plan an alternative, so we are looking down the road instead.

Our first step has been to add some experienced members to fill out an OCAC Caravan Committee and that has gone very well. I'm pleased to say that Pat Leggatt, Jeannie Ellison, Janet Nentwig and our Treasurer, Patti Burke have agreed to be members. Our first task was to draft a policy statement on caravans for the OCAC Executive. This has been completed and adopted. While at Blyth, we had a brief meeting to start developing a caravan program for next year and beyond. So far, so good!

Leaders Needed

One of our biggest needs is volunteers to take on the role of Caravan Leaders for our local caravans. Our Committee can be a tremendous resource for new leaders and new caravans. Several members of OCAC have taken the course at past Internationals and the Leaders course is now available on line. If you are interested in taking on this rewarding role, please let us know and we can help you sign up and get access to the course. At our Fall Rally at Lombardy, we will be holding a seminar which should be interesting to all members, and helpful to any prospective Caravan Leaders, to show examples of caravan planning and the flexibility that exists in how local club caravans can be planned and run. You will hear more about this in the next Trillium.

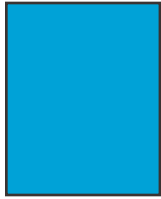


Ideas Needed

Our next priority is picking your collective brains for new ideas for fun and interesting caravans. Ontario has a host of festivals and summer events that could be incorporated into a caravan. Our neighbouring provinces also have many attractions and scenic areas to explore. We

will be brainstorming ideas during our Lombardy session, so bring your thoughts and ideas with you. Down the road, we would like to have a caravan program that matches the rally/rendezvous program for the number of activities. It's a big challenge, but we can do it with your help!





Airstreamer's Kitchen

Sue & Guy P.

[Editor's note: This was served at the Hassle Tassel at Blyth, and was "super yummy".]

Lentil Bell Pepper Dip

1 can lentils (540 ml)
1/2 red pepper, chopped
1/2 yellow pepper, chopped
3 green onions, sliced
1/2 cup dried currants
1/8 tsp sugar

Dressing

1/3 cup olive oil
1/4 cup red wine vinegar
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/2 tsp. cumin
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp curry powder
1/8 tsp ground cloves
1 tsp. lemon juice

1. Drain lentils and rinse.
2. Combine lentils, peppers, onions, currents and sugar together in a bowl.
3. Combine dressing ingredients together. (I usually combine in a jar, shake vigorously and then pour over lentils).
4. Best if prepared day before.



Preventative Maintenance

JohnR.

Some say you may have a screw loose!

As my grandmother used to say, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”. Now, my grandmother was born in 1898 and what she would say still holds true today. It’s better to keep on top of things with preventative maintenance than have to try and figure out how to do a repair while on the road.

Spring is here and some of us have already taken our rigs out and found things that need to be fixed. Maybe some preventative maintenance would have prevented these problems from showing up. Here is a list of three things that I check regularly to prevent problems down the road.

With a simple Philips screwdriver, you can prevent the cabinetry from falling apart. Just start at one end of your Airstream and see if you can snug up any of the screws holding the cabinet doors on, or the divider walls in place, or even the cabinets to the walls of the Airstream. As the Airstream travels down the road, like the Jerry Lee Lewis song about “Whole Lotta Shakin’ Goin’ On”, some things are just bound to come loose. With a simple check you can even do in a campground you may prevent an unexpected sight when you open the Airstream after a road trip.

Another problem I have experienced is the bolts backing out of the entry steps. I have heard from others that the bolts have

fallen right out on the aluminum entry steps. If you have the steel steps this is not a problem. There are two bolts that slide in a slot to allow the steps to be folded up or put down. This year, on mine, I noticed one of the bolts was backing out of the step bracket; about two threads of the bolt should be seen protruding from the step bracket.

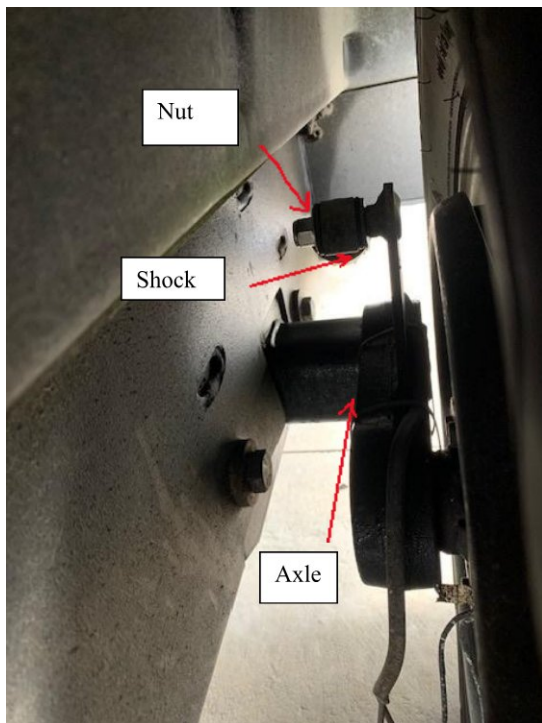
If you have a 2023 or newer, then Airstream has put in an inspection port so that you can get at the head of the bolt to tighten; for them to do this must mean it is a common problem. My Airstream did not have this inspection port, so I had to make one to gain access to the step bolt. Looking on Amazon I found that I could buy a 4-inch boat round deck inspection hatch cover in black for \$18. I bought two, one for each side of the steps.



I used a 4 ½ inch hole saw and cut a hole on the black banana wrap underneath the Airstream, one on each side of the step on the flat area. Just be mindful of outriggers that come off the frame. These can be seen by rivets attaching the banana wrap to the outrigger. Once the access hole is cut you can get to the head of the step bolt which in my case needed a 7/32" Allen wrench to tighten up the bolt. I did put some thread locker on the bolt to hopefully prevent this from happening again, but if it does, I have an access port now. The 4-inch inspection cover I attached using 3/16" by 3/16" aluminum rivets. I had to drill 3/16" holes for the rivets. Drilling one hole and attaching the inspection cover then allowed me to use the cover as a template to drill the other five holes and then use rivets to secure the inspection cover. The covers are underneath the Airstream and you can not see them unless you are laying on the ground.



The third checks I do regularly now are the nuts that hold the shock on the Dexter axle. Last Summer I heard about the problem of these nuts coming off and I checked my Airstream and all was good, but I put it on my preventative maintenance check list. This spring I found that one of the upper nuts on a shock was missing! Behind each wheel there is a shock that goes from the frame to the axle and at each end of the shock is a nut that holds the shock on. The nuts are 1/2" by 13 threads per inch and need a 3/4" wrench to tighten them. I purchased some stainless steel 1/2 -13 Nylock nuts. The original nuts were flanged, and I could not find any, so I used a fender washer with a ½ inch hole along with the nut. I also used some thread lock which is really not necessary; the whole belt and suspenders thing. Just wanted to make sure it would not come off again. The picture to the left shows the top nut on the shock.



Stay tuned for more preventative maintenance tips in the next issue of the Trillium!



Airstream Life Hacks

Lesley S.

I thought it would be helpful to start a new column and invite everyone to share small upgrades they have done to their trailers that others, particularly new owners, might find useful. These are things that don't require a lot of tools, special equipment, or knowledge. Not things that require a mechanic and a full shop to accomplish.

I will start off by sharing this small but useful upgrade.

The stove top in our trailer has three burners. Around the burners were a thin four piece wire system that required us to be careful when putting some things on the stove. The pot had to sit right in the centre of that wire or it could tip.



We found this cooktop online with the help of the Keep Your Daydream YouTube channel. It's a cast iron top that fits our stove top and replaces the wire frames. It looks more like a high end stove now and not a Coleman stove.



Now once a pot is finished you can move it to the side and continue cooking on the other burners.

It can be found on the Furrion web site. It's not an exact fit around the burners but it works wonderfully and fits securely inside the cooktop frame. Our local trailer supply store ordered it in for us. Easy to install no tools required



Sunshine Report

Lynn B.

There was one card sent out in April — “Thinking Of You” to Pat A. & John G. to say goodbye as they are leaving the group.

Seven cards were sent out in May. A “Get Well Soon” was sent for Linda S. as she fractured her arm. “Thank You” cards were handed out at the Blyth Rally: Andy Thomson for the pizza dinner and workshop, Neil & Nancy M., Jim & Janice W. and Ron & Sue B. for a great rally. “Thank You” cards were also handed out to Steve A. for the great photography workshop and to Patti B. for running the insurance information workshop.

I ran the card workshop and it went very well. There were about 14 in attendance and we all had a great time. Everybody got the same kit and I was impressed at the beautiful cards that were created.





Community Services Update

Project Linus - Julie R.

In addition to extending thanks to those members and members' families who created and donated an impressive 77 blankets to Project Linus at the Spring Rally, I would like to thank Kate D., Chris G., and Kathy B. for stepping in to coordinate the collection and transfer of those blankets to the London Chapter. Seventy seven young people facing challenging circumstances will appreciate the comforting warm hug of a new blanket thanks to all of you.

I encourage you to keep those needles active in advance of the Fall Rally where we will, one again, accept your generous donations.

If you would like more information about Project Linus, please see the February 2025 Trillium or visit projectlinuscanada.org.

Tabs 4 Kids Wheels - Rick A.

A note to all our tab collectors to say that I am sorry that I wasn't at the Shakedown or Blythe and I hadn't arranged for an alternative collector.

I was fully planning to attend the eastern Shakedown and Blyth, but after a surgical procedure that went awry, I ended up in hospital and clinics at the last moment and was unable to be there.

I am unable to attend the mid-August rally, but I will attempt to find an alternate collector for the tabs. To all those who help with this community initiative, thanks so much for your help, it is most appreciated by our kids.

[Editor's note: Please join me in wishing Rick a speedy recovery.]