

NORVA NEWS



River Rally, 2025 Edition!

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In spite of less than ideal weather conditions, Gail and Doug and Wendy and Bob pulled off another terrific river rally. There were close to 30 trailers and 50 people (not everyone made it into the shot above). We dodged the rain all weekend but did not let it dampen our spirits at all. As many of us were pulling in on Friday afternoon, the Nickles and the Perkins with the help of Gail's sister, Wanda, valiantly tried to save the tent shelter as strong winds and heavy rain finally took it down. Never mind, the rain cleared up long enough for everyone to get out to meet and greet at Happy Hour. We introduced ourselves and chatted until pizza arrived and the rain fell again. By then, the team had put up a couple of smaller shelters that helped most of us stay mostly dry while we ate our pizza and socialized, standing up.



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Stay in Touch

For all things NORVA:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/norvairstreamclub>

<https://airstreamclub.org/northern-virginia>

Newsletter contributions and comments are welcome:

bformoso@me.com

For all things WBCCI:

<https://airstreamclub.org>



"Let's not make changes, let's only make improvements."

Wally Bayam



And then there were those (namely Pete and Elizabeth West) who gamely provided their own shelter to eat their pizza sitting down.

Unfortunately, the scheduled bingo game was postponed, but Wendy gamely served up sumptuous S'more supplies after the rain let up.



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Saturday's weather was much more forgiving. Everyone was encouraged to take a leisurely morning, resting or exploring Luray and the surrounding area. Cooter's restaurant and music venue is always a popular choice. The afternoon festivities began with a Gathering of Dogs and fun at the dog "park," where they were treated to a special snack. After their group walk-in the heat they were smart enough to rest in the shade.



Later in the afternoon, we gathered for wine and potluck to relax and enjoy each other's company. Patsy Nagel whipped up her special frozen wine treat and served it up with her characteristic generous energy.



Fortified with wine and yummy food, we carried on with the postponed game of Bingo. As usual, our host and caller, Bob Nickel, in his calm, unhurried way, led us through 5 games

with fun prizes for each winner, including 8 adorable craft bags donated by Wendy's mother's sewing group. (mine came with an owl pin cushion).



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The grand prize eventually went to none other than Tom Carmichael: an \$800 gift certificate to Torklift, a purveyor of towing and RV parts.



The fun never ends at the River Rally, so on we went to choosing teams for the Cornhole Tournament.



As usual, after persevering through many, many rounds, the winners emerged: Marcus McKinley and Doug Perkins!



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Saturday evening closed with another campfire and those irresistible S'mores.



Sunday morning proved iffy with the weather again and unfortunately the rafting trip on the Shenandoah had to be cancelled due to the forecast for more storms. But we truly enjoyed the pancake feast before heading out. Our faithful cooks kept them coming with tempting toppings to enjoy: strawberry or blueberry compote and a variety of syrups, oh, and can't forget whipped cream.



As we said our goodbyes and pulled away, we were so grateful for all the work the Perkins and the Nickels put in to making this weekend memorable for all of us. We know it is a labor of love and we can't wait to see what they have in store for us next year.

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New Member Profile

Jeff and Kris Tlapa



Kris and I bought our first RV last December, a 2012 25' Flying Cloud and are thrilled to travel, learn, and make new friends in the Airstream community. We have been married for 30 years, having met in the Marine Corps. We've lived in a lot of places (including Hawaii and Japan) and have settled in Fredericksburg since 2011. Our fourth child is on her way to college this summer and I am on the cusp of fully retiring, so the season of empty nesting is upon us and prompted us to get Airstreaming! We enjoy the outdoors, cooking, hiking, axe throwing, kazoos, and have retained a degree of wanderlust even after all those years in the Marines. The Airstream Maintenance Rally in Madison VA was fantastic, educational, and eye opening for us. The NORVA community is very welcoming and we are thankful for the camaraderie and support network being so new to RVing. We are looking forward to more rallies and many more miles of wandering.

2012 25' Flying Cloud RBQ

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Upcoming Events

Late Summer and Fall NORVA events:

August 4-9 Old Fiddler's Convention, Cool Breeze Campground, Galax, VA

Host: Christine Baum

Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/galax-old-fiddlers-rally> August 23-28

August 23-28 : Airstream 68th International Rally, York Expo Center, York, PA

Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2025>

Plans are in the works for a rally point on Friday to go into our sites together. Stay tuned here and on Facebook for specifics.

September 26-28: Virginia Commonwealth Rally, American Heritage RV Park, Williamsburg, VA

Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/2025-commonwealth-rally>

November 7-8: Urbanna Oyster Festival

Registration: Stay tuned. Registration link coming soon! Check our Facebook page and next month's newsletter.

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To check out other opportunities for fun rallies and events with other Region 3 clubs, click on the link below:

<https://airstreamclub.org/events?from=&to=&type=736&state=-1&club=-1&list=1>

