

SECU Camping Times

Unit 12 | Region 3

SECU Officers

Lynn Talsma - President
Carol Van Dyck - Vice-President
Beth Hackney - Secretary
Irene O'Connell - Treasurer
Trustee - Jerry O'Connell
Trustee - John Thibadeau

Membership Report

The current membership stands at:

76 Regular Members

117 Affiliate Members

Treasurer's Report

As of 05/30/2025 the balance of our checking account was \$2419.48.



From the President

As I write this message to you, we are at the end of a very rainy streak here in North Georgia. I get restless when it is rainy like this, but it is a perfect time to perform all my spring clean-up and maintenance items on my Airstream. I inspect, clean, lube, tighten everything I can see every year.

Call for Candidates:

If you are a regular member of the SECU (not an affiliate) I ask you to consider serving this club as an officer. We have 4 positions opening this fall:

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- Vice-President (1 year term)
- Trustee (2 Year term)
- Treasurer/Membership Chair (1 year term minimum, may extend if re-elected)
- Secretary/Newsletter Editor (1 year term minimum, may extend if re-elected)

Terms begin in the fall, and we only have a couple of meetings (we like to keep it simple). Honestly, serving the club was an officer is not hard work, and it is fun.

It is important to the club that we continue to have a complete board for the coming years. I am asking each of you to please seriously consider running for office. If you are interested in serving, please contact me at this email address lynntalsma@yahoo.com

Rallies:

Would you like to host a rally? We have room for more, follow the 3 simple steps below:

- Pick a location you think you will enjoy
- Pick your dates
- Send your info to lynntalsma@yahoo.com

The SECU Board is ready to help you. The agenda can be simple or detailed. We have had small rallies that were just as successful as large rallies. Hosting a rally is fun! I hope you will consider volunteering as a host.

I will be attending the International Rally as will several of our members. We will have a happy hour, date and time to be announced, during this rally.

One final note, Airstream Club International (ACI) has been busy updating and expanding the Club headquarters building and adjacent properties. A new funding campaign is underway, and you can view it here: <https://airsteamclub.org/buyabrick>.

I'm thinking Frodo deserves a brick. I look forward to seeing many of you this summer and fall.

Lynn

Recent Rallies

Not Foolish Rally

We had 14 rigs at our April Fools Rally, hosted by Kathy Carl, Andy Selking and Beth and Matt Hackney. This was the first time some of our members had visited Traveler's Rest RV Resort in Dade City. We were excited to see some new faces, as well as some we hadn't seen in several years.

We had several new activities at the rally including Bocce Ball, hosted by Jim Ridolfi and Marguerite Glaser, Biking on the Withlacoochee Trail, and exploring Tarpon Springs. Many enjoyed the pool in the warm April weather. We gathered most evenings for Happy Hour hosted by Kathy and Andy or Beth and Matt. In addition, we had several group meals where all contributed. The rally concluded with an evening of music provided by Phil Abernathy and Ron Kaes.







Bent Oak Farm - Lite

Pat and Wayne Griffith hosted another great gathering at their farm. The weather was ideal, the food and atmosphere were relaxed. We had a small but great group participating on our way to the Region 3 Rally. The rally finished with the movie Young Frankenstein.

Thanks again to Pat and Wayne for hosting. We look forward to seeing many more at Bent Oak Farm at the fall rally.



Region 3 Rally

The Region 3 Rally in Ladson, SC gathered a sell-out crowd of more than 150 Airstreams. We had seminars, food, entertainment, and Ice Cream. The food was prepared by attendees, Friday - Fiesta Night and Saturday - Low Country Boil. Did I say there was Ice Cream? Lynn Talsma led the volunteers in staffing the ice cream counter. Thanks Lynn for volunteering!

We did gather at Lynn and Gary Talsma's trailer for an SECU Happy Hour. In addition to regular and affiliate members, we welcomed friends old and new. We look forward to the Region 3 Rally next March 4th - 8th in Lakeland Florida.





Jam Night at Region 3



Food Tour in Charleston. Delicious.

Exploring Chattanooga

Lynn and Gary Talsma hosted our group of 7 rigs in Chattanooga. They stepped in as Nancy and Mike Gore were unable to attend. Thanks Nancy, for finding the location and developing the ideas to Explore Chattanooga. This was a new location for the group and did not disappoint. We met new members who were attending their first rally. We also welcomed back some folks who hadn't been with us in a couple of years.

We enjoyed campsite fellowship, toured the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, explored Raccoon Mountain Caverns, and saw Rock City. In addition, we discovered a couple of nice restaurants and enjoyed a group breakfast. Thanks to Lynn and Gary for stepping in and hosting!







Announcement!

We interrupt this newsletter to bring you a most joyful announcement of the marriage of Roy Beavers (founding member of the SECU and our first President) to the beautiful Charlotte Neal. Some of us were privileged to attend their wedding. Congratulations to Roy and Charlotte. We look forward to watching all of the new memories you are going make together.



Upcoming Rallies

International Rally - August 23 - 28

The International Rally in York, PA is essentially sold out. We would like to get an idea of who will be attending, so we can schedule a few group activities. **If you are registered** for the rally, please contact Matt Hackney (eroney@aol.com) with your arrival date. An e-mail list will be developed to notify members of planned activities.

Alumapalooza - Sept 2-7

Every year, several members of the Southeastern Camping Unit volunteer to help staff Alumapalooza. Brett Greiveldinger and Lisa Forsyth (SECU Charter Members) welcome all Airstream owners and Airstream enthusiasts to Jackson Center, Ohio, home of Airstream.

For those of you that have not had the chance to attend, you should put this year's Alumapalooza on your list to attend. The normal dates are September 2, 2025, to September 7, 2025. There is an early parking option as well that lets you come in starting on Friday August 29th.

Each year is different, we try to keep it fresh. But there will be lots of learning opportunities from great presenters discussing many different facets of the RV lifestyle and tech.

We do music. We have an open mic so those among us that want the big stage can perform, and we bring in entertainment from near and far. One of our confirmed entertainers will be our trailer park friend Antsy McClain, we are still working our open night.

There will be food! We hold a Labor Day picnic for the early parked attendees, there is a WBCCI pizza party, We have the Chicken Lunch for charity, a free breakfast at the Legion Hall, an Airstream cookout, and a catered dinner.

We will have fun, and you will make new lifelong friends.

Pricing is \$50.00 for early parking (fee waived if you let us know in advance that you have attended international). Finding campgrounds on the holiday weekend can be difficult.

One attendee in a trailer is \$450.00

Two attendees in a trailer is \$545.00

Additional adults are \$140.00 each

Kids under 16 are free

Begin your registration at www.alumapalooza.com

The Alumapalooza team looks forward to seeing you in Ohio!

Exploring Vogel State Park - Sept. 10 - 14

Jerry and Irene O'Connell are hosting a September Rally at Vogel State Park in Blairsville, GA. This event is currently on waitlist only. If you are interested in being added to the waitlist, please contact Jerry O'Connell (ljbandits@gmail.com). Also, if you have a site and need to cancel, please contact Jerry so he can arrange transfer to someone on the waitlist.

The preliminary schedule for the event:

Wednesday, September 10

Happy hour 4 PM at host site 53

Campfire gathering, 7:30 PM

OR

naturalist led evening hike 8 PM. Recommend that you bring flashlight and ultraviolet flashlight which will allow you to see some really interesting things that won't be seen with a conventional flashlight.

Thursday, September 11

Potluck breakfast 7:30 AM to 8 AM at host site 53.

Birds of Vogel, PowerPoint, presentation 9 AM at the CCC museum

FOLLOWED BY

Naturalist led birding walk 9:45 AM. Gather at stone steps in front of cabin 7

Luncheon at Frogtown winery, 1 PM

Opportunity to visit Dahlenega, either before or after the luncheon.

Happy hour, 4 PM at host site 53.

Campfire, 7:30 PM at host site 53

Friday, September 12

Happy hour, 4 PM at host site 53

S'mores and campfire with the naturalist 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Possum Hollow amphitheater.

RECOMMENDATION:

Take this relatively free day to visit Dahlenega.

Of particular interest may be the Underground Gold Mine tour, the Grissom, Gold Mine and the Gold Museum. Tickets can be purchased individually at each site.

OR

A discounted package that includes all three venues can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce in the center of town right across from the Gold museum. If you would like to do all three venues budget approximately 4 1/2 hours.

Saturday, September 13

Music Festival all day in the park, featuring food trucks and craft vendors.

Possible potluck breakfast, 8 AM at host site, 53

Naturalist lead orienting in the woods hike 10 AM meeting point to be determined. Will require a compass. Maps will be supplied.

Campfire at host site, 7:30 PM at host site 53

Falluminum - Hiawassee, GA Oct. 30 - Nov. 2

Ron and Brenda Kaes will once again host Falluminum on beautiful Lake Chatuge. For those who have never been, this is a beautiful location with much to see and do. Join us for this annual event by contacting the **Georgia Mountain Fairground Campground at 706-896-4191**. Inform them you are part of the Airstream Rally.

Then let Ron know your site number (pizzachop@windstream.net). A detailed schedule will be provided in the next Newsletter.

Bent Oak Farm Rally - Nov. 6 - 9

Pat and Wayne Griffith are once again hosting a rally at their farm. This is an annual event and features a number of outdoor activities, crafts, and fellowship.

Visit the ACI website for all details including how to register:

<https://airstreamclub.org/bent-oak-farm-boondocking-rally-secu>

This event is strictly BOONDOCKING, no hook ups available. All communication should be emailed to the host, Pat Griffith, patgriffith78@outlook.com Visit Savannah 2025 - Nov. 12 - 16

Visit Savannah 2025 - Nov. 12 - 16

Let's visit Savannah again! Lots to see and do in the area. The location is Skidaway Island State Park. Agenda will be sent to participants before the event. Talsma's are in site 36. We had lots of fun in 2024, come on out and play again.

Make your own reservations at this website: <https://gastateparks.org/SkidawayIsland>

Please also complete the registration form found here on our ACI website: <https://airstreamclub.org/visit-savannah-2025-secu>

2025 SECU Rally Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Host
June 5-8	Joint Rally with GA Unit and Top of GA	Top Of Georgia Park	Lynn, but no specific schedule
Aug 23-28	International Rally	York, PA	ACI / WBCCI Club Staff & Volunteers
Sept 2-7	Alumapalooza	Factory Jackson Center, OH	Brett and his Alumapalooza Staff
Sep 10-14	Exploring Vogel State Park	Vogel State Park Blairsville, GA	Irene & Jerry O'Connell
Oct 30 - Nov 2	Falluminum	Georgia Mountain Fairground Hiawassee, GA	Brenda & Ron Kaes
Nov 6-9	Bent Oak Farm (Boondocking)	Bent Oak Farm Camden, SC	Pat & Wayne Griffith
Nov 12-16	Exploring Savannah	Skidaway Island State Park Savannah, GA	Lynn & Gary Talsma

To view all of the SECU rallies, log into the ACI website and visit our event page here:

[https://airstreamclub.org/events?
list=1&from=01/17/2025&to=&type=-1&state=-1&club=45754](https://airstreamclub.org/events?list=1&from=01/17/2025&to=&type=-1&state=-1&club=45754)