



"The Mich-i-gram"



4th Quarter (October, November, December) 2025

2024-25 Board Members

President

Fred Bryant

MACPresident052@gmail.com

1st Vice President

Sarah Smith

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2nd Vice President

Pegeen Smith

MAC2ndVPresident052@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tom Cobb

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Secretary

Sharon Bryant

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Immediate Past President

Vacant

2025 Committee Chairs

Membership

Kat Hibbard

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Newsletter

Laurie McLean

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Webmaster

Sally Lobaza

MACWebmaster052@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Karen Fisher

MACParliamentarian052@gmail.com

President's Corner

A Note from the President

Hello MAC Members,



We have had two great MAC Rallies this rally season. With one more coming up in October, at Pentwater's Whispering Surf Campground, October 2nd thru October 5th. There will be an Executive Board Meeting during this rally. Members are encouraged to attend. Our Executive Board serves a two-year term. This year is the end of that two-year term. There will be a swearing in of the new officers. This part of the meeting will be a short ceremony but is important to have the new Executive Board receive official recognition.

We have started planning for the 2026 rally season. Share your interesting favorite campgrounds to have a rally, better yet, plan a rally there. MAC has Rally Guidelines to help you with planning it. The MAC Executive Board will review your plan and help to guide it to a fun, successful rally. It can be as simple as a morning coffee gathering sharing your days adventure plan, and an evening campfire where everyone can share their discoveries in the area. Or planning places to tour, potluck dinners, entertainment, so on. It's your rally to plan as you like.

We need your participation on the Executive Board. The second Vice President position is open currently. This position supports the First Vice President and Second Vice President positions as needed. It is a great position to learn and see what the position requires and whether it is a good fit for you. It is a great opportunity to see for yourself what MAC leadership is about. Try it and see how it fits for you!

At the October Executive Board meeting I will be moving to the Past President position. If elected, Sarah Smith will be the President, Pegeen Smith will be the First Vice President. The Second Vice President position is still open. I am looking forward to assisting both as they need. I would like to thank the whole Executive Board for their support and guidance for the last two years.

I hope to see you at a rally soon!

Safe travels,
Fred Bryant,
BRN# 30962
MAC President

Stay Connected:



[MAC Website](#) [Region 4 Website](#)
[Airstream Club International](#)
[WBAC Caravans](#)

New Members

The Michigan Airstream Club wishes to welcome:

- ✦ John & Julie Burt
[Affiliate]
- ✦ Jerry & Colleen Dubzak
- ✦ Richard & Anne Main
- ✦ Robert Schroeder & Laura Perkins
- ✦ William & Diane Seeloff
- ✦ Lynn & Gary Talsma
[Affiliate]
- ✦ John & Marcia Taylor
- ✦ Necole & Jason Wesaw



New Members: Check out the Airstream International [Welcome Page](#) and [video](#).

1st Vice President's Report

By Sarah Smith, BRN 26310

Happy camping, everyone!

I hope your 2025 camping adventures were full of friends, family, bike trails, hikes, rivers, lakes, woods, books, hammocks, rallies – or whatever *you* seek out when hitting the road!



My husband John and I are considered *weekend warriors*, still both full-time employees with jobs that keep us physically in offices in downtown Grand Rapids. Trying to cram in our “Airstream time” means carefully curating when and where we’ll go - and planning our travel times far in advance. If we’re lucky enough, we also try to take a full week (or two) and roll out of state.

Whether you are Airstreaming full time, part time, or taking a couple trips a year, how do you determine your travels? How soon or late in the year do you camp in Michigan? The Pentwater rally has been held in early October for the past four years and the fall weather has been incredible. For the past many years, John and I have ended our camping season in Traverse City the first weekend in November at private campground. Do we winterize before we pull out of the campground? Yes, we do! But we have become pros at maximizing our camping season and investment in our Airstream. Don’t let Memorial and Labor Day be the bookends of your in-state travels. This fall and into next year, I challenge you to start sooner, end later, and try someplace new. Many Michigan state parks open in mid-April and close late October, with private parks helping extend your “local” camping season. Watching the weather and being prepared to blow out your lines can be just another thrilling part of the adventure!

Speaking of 2026, please consider joining me in May for a rally in my backyard at Wabasis County Park, near Grand Rapids and Woodland Airstream. Save the dates of May 15-17, 2026, for *pre-Memorial Day* camping. Wabasis Lake is a lovely spot and together we’ll visit our friends at Woodland to learn about spring maintenance. The campground doesn’t allow group blocks, so be on the lookout for a reminder to secure your campsite online 180 days before our rally on November 11, 2025.

Whether you enjoy camping in all four seasons or just the prime Michigan months, I hope you’ve enjoyed another fabulous camping season. Starting early and ending again in Traverse City, John and I will have logged 19 weekend trips, plus 16 days of travel to the east coast ... which seems like not enough to me! John may disagree, as does our lawn. But how did you do, and will you venture out even more next year? No matter your camping cadence, I hope to see you at a rally in 2026. My calendar is blocked off for MAC!

Membership & Club News

Message from the President

I have been informed that one of our members, Karin Kurkowski, a Michigan Airstream Club Past President, has passed away. Karin Kurkowski, and her husband, Larry, were very active in the Michigan Airstream Club and Region 4, for many, many years.

This is a sad day for the MAC members that knew Karin.

Our thoughts and prayers go out for the Kurkowski family.

--

Fred Bryant

MAC Executive Board Meetings

Did you know that the Executive Board meets every month on behalf of the club? And did you know that members are welcome to attend the meeting as a non-voting observer? In accordance with the [Michigan Airstream Club ByLaws](#), the Executive Board must give the membership at least 10 days notice prior to a business meeting. So we are sharing the meeting dates for 2025 so you can mark your calendar and join us. The Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month from January - October @ 7 p.m. EST via Zoom. To join, click [here](#) unless otherwise noted.

2025 Meeting Dates

~~January 14~~

~~February 11~~

~~March 11~~

~~April 8~~

~~May 13~~

~~June 10~~

~~July 8~~

~~August 12~~

~~September 9~~

October 3, at the
Pentwater Rally

Mark Your
Calendar & Listen In!



If a meeting date changes for any reason, the board will send out a change notice to the membership via email with at least a 10 days notice.



Membership & Club News

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October

Jen & Dave Koomler, October 1, 2016
Wally Kimmel & Karen Fisher: October 9, 1982
Randy & KathyAnn Blunck: October 17, 1970
Mike & Char Henry: October 18, 1969
Jim & MaryAnn Stimpson: October 31, 1959

November

3: Laurie McLean
5: Mike Henry
26: Kelli Ray-Fry

December

10: Cynthia Adkison
19: Janet Pinkham
20: John Smith [Affiliate]
24: Thomas Smith
30: Mary Ann Borton

Stephen & Janet Pinkham: December 29



Please Note: If you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary listed in the newsletter, it's because we don't know it! In the old days that information was collected each year on your renewal slip. The ACI database doesn't collect that information, but we'd still like to include these celebrations in the newsletter. Please e-mail Laurie McLean, [Newsletter Editor](#) and she will make certain to include your information in the upcoming issues.

NOTE of CAUTION by Fred Bryant, President

I have had several inquiries from members about an email received from the MAC President that I did not send. The hackers are getting tougher to spot so be careful! There are several things you can do to spot the phishing emails. Anytime there is a request for money or gift certificates – Delete it! Move your cursor over the sender's email address. If you do not recognize it report it as spam then – Delete it. And finally, do not respond to any email you suspect. That will let the hackers know they have a valid email address and put more focus on your email address. I will never ask anyone to send money or gift certificates. So do not respond to those emails. **Report them** and then **delete them!**



Membership & Club News

Message from your New Newsletter Editor



Laurie McLean & Earl
Landesman

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as your new newsletter editor. Earl and I have enjoyed being members of MAC since buying our Airstream in 2022. We have enjoyed making new friends and look forward to meeting many more in the coming years.

When I say "your" new editor, I mean it. The newsletter is yours! Please feel free to contribute. We want to know about your camping/Airstream experiences, your adventures, your recipes, your tips & tricks, opinions, passions, and anything else you enjoy while Airstreaming. Just send your thoughts into the MAC Newsletter Editor @ macnewsletter052@gmail.com. We'll work together to keep it a great shared communication space for our community.



Garden Flags For Sale At MAC Rallies

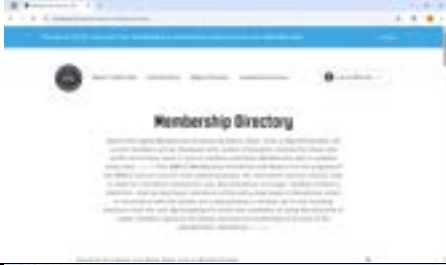
Back by popular demand! Michigan Airstream Club garden flags are available for sale at the MAC rallies (Cadillac, Alpena & Pentwater) for \$25/ each (cash or PayPal).



Membership & Club News

How to Access the Online Member Directory by Laurie McLean

I was asked by a self-proclaimed “old geezer” member to provide step-by-step directions on how to use the Airstream Club International online membership directory. While you can order and pay for a printed version each year, the online directory is more complete and up to date. This is how I access the information. I hope this helps!

1	Log into Airstream Club International at https://airstreamclub.org/ with your member ID information.	
2	Click on the Member Resources dropdown menu. Then click on Membership Directory.	
3	On the Membership Directory page, scroll down to access the search and filter fields.	
4	Type search criteria into the search field. Then click the magnifying glass. Example 1: Search for me by last name. The members with last name of McLean show in the directory. Here I am!	
5	You can also search by State, Club or Big Red Number. Example 2: Search for Michigan Airstream Club	
6	Use the filters and column headings to refine your searches.	

We Rally Together

Airstreamers Returned to Cadillac and Made a Difference by Pegeen Smith BRN #8039

The 2nd Annual Airstreams Return to Cadillac rally hosted 28 rigs (up from 19 rigs in 2025) on July 17-20, 2025 in Cadillac, MI. As one of the hosts, I want to thank my co-hosts for everything they did to make this event a success. Lovely shared breakfasts and dinners, bike rides and walks around the property and nightly campfires made for a perfect rally. But the big highlight was our annual service project(s).



Veterans Serving Veteran, Inc. (VSV) **collected \$4050.00** in donated camping fees including a generous donation from Mercantile Bank.

That money was used to pay for all of the materials for our various service projects. Here is what we accomplished:

- Two teams installed **270 feet split rail fence** (almost a football field!)
- 4 man crew **sunk 30-8 foot X 4 inch, parking lot posts**
- Crew of volunteers **painted 139 names** on etched donor boards
- The gardening group planted and mulched **60 perennial flowers** after prepping the bed by removing concrete flash and rocks, adding in a mixture of top soil and compost. They spread **20 yards** the surrounding area with starter fertilizer and top soil
- Another crew of volunteers moved **20 picnic tables** under the pavilion
- More attendees unloaded the MAC shell, set up and priced items for the rummage sale. **Thousands of dollars of items were donated to VSV**, made **\$411.00 in sales** (mostly from fellow Airstreamers) and donated the remaining items to the **Habitat for Humanity ReStore** in Cadillac
- Estimated **300 volunteer man hours** accomplished all in **ONE DAY!**



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All the above doesn't even count the endless generosity of those who volunteered to help with meals, clean up, garbage disposal, transporting rummage sale items to Habitat, can donations, fire pit management, musical entertainment, etc. etc. Also, a big thank you to SkyMed for sponsoring our Friday morning breakfast.

We are humbled by the generosity of all of you and wish to celebrate everything you have done to make this rally a success.

Dr. Roger Bandeen would like to extend his heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended the rally and volunteered their time and talent. He is already thinking about new projects for next year!

Speaking of next year, mark your calendars! 2026 marks the 60th anniversary of the 9th Airstream Club International Rally that happened in Cadillac, Michigan not too far from the Veterans Serving Veterans Park. While we don't expect to have 2727 rigs like they did in 1966, we hope to have you join us to celebrate this historic event. Airstreams Return to Cadillac III, 60th Anniversary celebration is scheduled for July 15 - 19, 2026. You won't want to miss it.



Many thanks to Karen Fisher for these great recipes from the Cadillac Rally!

Pumpkin Risotto with Crispy Sage

From the Kitchen of Karen Fisher

Prep: 15 minutes

Cook: 25 minutes

Serves: 4

Description: This creamy pumpkin risotto recipe with crispy sage is based with warm spices to accentuate the warm spices and to accentuate the warm spices and herbs. (Bacon, half and half, and Parmesan make it decadent while white wine cuts through the richness. It's a lovely addition to a holiday spread, but also the perfect cozy side dish during cold weather months.

Ingredients:

- 1. 1/2 cup olive oil
- 8 leaves fresh sage
- 2 1/2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1. 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup dried onion
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 cup minced fresh fennel
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup dry white wine such as Sauvignon Blanc or Pinot Grigio
- 1/2 cup creamed pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 pinch black pepper
- 1/2 cup fat free half and half creamer
- 1/2 cup ground nutmeg
- 1 1/2 oz freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Instructions:

1. **Crispy Sage:** Add the butter to a large skillet over medium heat. Once melted, add the sage leaves and cook until crispy, about 30 seconds to 1 minute per side. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate.
2. **Pumpkin Risotto:** Add the stock to a medium-large soupçon. Bring to a gentle simmer over low heat and keep the heat warm throughout the entire cooking process.
3. Add the oil to a large soupçon over medium heat. Add the onion and cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the garlic and fennel and cook for 30 seconds, stirring constantly. Stir in the rice and cook for 1 1/2 minutes, stirring frequently, to toast the rice. Stir in the wine and use a wooden spoon to scrape any brown bits up from the bottom, cooking until the wine has evaporated, about 1 minute. Stir in the pumpkin puree, salt, black pepper, and about 1/2 cup of warm stock. Turn the heat down to low.
4. Continue adding about 1/2 to 3/4 cup of warm stock to the rice as the liquid, while stirring occasionally (but stirring much more frequently towards the end of the cooking process). It takes about 30 minutes for the rice to cook and absorb all the stock.
5. Once the stock is absorbed, stir in the half and half until creamy, about 3 to 5 minutes, stirring constantly.
6. Remove from the heat. Stir in the nutmeg and 1 ounce of grated Parmesan cheese.
7. Transfer the risotto to a serving dish. Serve garnished with the remaining Parmesan cheese and the crispy sage.

Notes:

Adapted from <https://www.thespruceeats.com/pumpkin-risotto-recipe-1177777>

Substituting: You can adjust risotto either on the stove top or in the microwave, but you'll need to add about 1/2 cup of liquid per 1 cup of dry rice. And just like when you first made it. Be sure to stir frequently when you adjust risotto.

Vegetarian/Vegan: As written, this dish is considered vegetarian. To be considered vegan, substitute olive oil for the butter and plant-based options for the half and half and Parmesan cheese. I have also omitted the half and half and Parmesan cheese for a vegan option.

Crockpot Chicken & Dumplings

From the Kitchen of Karen Fisher

Serves: 4

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup onion, diced
- 12 oz uncooked skinless, boneless, chicken breast
- 1 can condensed cream of celery soup (or cream of chicken)
- 1 tsp poultry seasoning
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- 1 tsp dried parsley
- 1 cup fat free chicken broth
- 1 package (12-oz) frozen peas and carrots, thawed
- Pillsbury Grands!® Golden Layers Buttermilk Biscuits (package of 8)
- 1 Tbsp fresh parsley

Directions:

1. In bottom of crockpot, place onion. Add whole chicken breast. In small bowl, mix soup, poultry season, thyme, and dried parsley. Pour over chicken. Add chicken broth. Cook on low for 6-8 hours or high for 4-6 hours.
2. Approximately 90 minutes prior to serving. Remove chicken breast and shred. Return to crockpot. Add peas and carrots. Mix well. Roll each

1. biscuit flat and cut into short strips. Lay strips on top of chicken mixture. Cover and cook for remaining 90 minutes.
2. Prior to serving, stir gently, breaking up biscuits. Sprinkle with fresh parsley and serve.

Notes:

1. When serving larger quantities, I use both cream of celery and cream of chicken soups.
2. This can be made in an electric roaster for large groups. Use 300-325 degrees F (equivalent to high on a crockpot). I also allow longer time to cook just to make sure it is ready when needed. I can always turn it down if ready early.

We Rally Together

Shipwrecks of Lake Huron, MAC Rally at Alpena, August 7 – 10, 2025 by John Williams BRN #1997

With the Shipwreck Rally in the rearview mirror, I would like to take a few minutes to say thank you to all that attended and inform the Club membership on what they missed if they were unable to attend.



This may sound like I'm honking my own horn but that's not what I intend when I say this rally was an overwhelming success! I'm sure Fred Bryant, our other co-host, will agree with me when I say it was the people that joined us at the Long Lake Campground, the MAC membership, that made this rally so outstanding. Without your participation we would have nothing but a weekend of camping.

The rally started out Thursday afternoon with an hors devours welcoming party and fellowship around the campfire. What had started out as an idea by my wife Anne and Sandy Lovlien as just a few snacks to get everyone together blossomed into a potluck with everyone bringing their favorite snack. Turnout was great and the tables were overflowing with food. I don't think anyone needed supper that evening. And the Rally just got better from there.

Friday morning started with coffee at Wally and Karen's with the afternoon free time to visit the museums or other points of interest around Alpena. Friday afternoon beginning at 5 pm we had a community dinner where you brought your own entree for the grill and a dish to pass. After dinner we had a speaker, Donald LaBarre, Historian from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Don gave the group a well-received and informative talk about Shipwrecks in Lake Huron and the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The evening concluded with the traditional campfire and ample adult beverages.

Saturday started early with coffee at Wally and Karen's even though we had to be at the ticket office at 8:30 am for a 2-hour boat tour of the National Marine Sanctuary beginning at 9 am. Mid-day was on your own again with a community dinner at Pompeo's Mexican Grill banquet room.

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The restaurant set up a taco bar for us and we had a cash bar with our own bartender in the banquet room. The Restaurant is right on the shore of Thunder Bay with the Banquet room overlooking the bay, what a view! We closed out the evening with door prizes and a thank you to everyone who helped make the weekend something worth remembering.



Sunday began with Wally and Karen for coffee again before packing up and heading out.

We had 27 Airstreams and 54 people at the Rally. I think that's a pretty good turnout.

While Fred is an experienced hand at hosting Rallies this was my first time so I want to say thanks to Fred for his thoughtful guidance as we discussed different ideas for activities. I also want to say a big thank you to Wally and Karen for hosting the coffee every morning and to Dale and Kat for hosting the evening campfire. Also, a thank you to everyone who helped with set-up and clean-up for the Thursday and Friday evening get-togethers. I can't name everyone because there were so many I would leave someone out. So, you know who you are and again thank you.



In closing I have a very personal THANK YOU to the Airstream Community and MAC group. If you didn't hear, Anne and I were in an accident Friday afternoon. We were in town to get a couple tarps to block the wind at the pavilion for the Friday night dinner. While in town another driver ran a red light and totaled our Suburban. Thankfully Anne and I were unhurt but we were suddenly stuck in Alpena, 10 miles from the campground, with no vehicle and a trailer and 2 dogs and no way to get them the 70 miles home. Standing at the accident scene, in the rain, watching the wrecker loading up our Suburban we were trying to come up with a plan. I don't recall which one of us called Andy Lovlien but he drove in to rescue us from the chaos of the accident scene and the rain. I cannot express how grateful we are for all the offers of help we received from everyone at the rally. Within an hour of returning to the campground I had 5 offers to tow my trailer home. A special thank you to Andy for rescuing us at the accident scene and to Fred and Andy for chauffeuring us around when we didn't have any way to get where we needed to go! And finally, thank you to Jon Lovlien who insisted on towing our trailer home for us. I don't know how I'll ever repay your kindness but hopefully we can pay it forward if the need arises.

Saying thank you does not express how much these deeds and offers meant to us. But, for lack of any other way to express our gratitude – THANK YOU.

We Rally Together

WBCCI International Rally, 2025 York Expo Center. York, Pennsylvania, August 23 – 28, 2025



Michigan Airstream Club and Southeastern Michigan Airstream Club side by side in York.



Great gatherings, home-brewed beer and snacks, lively conversations, and old and new friends!

MAC Shares

Keweenaw Sites by Laurie McLean, BRN #5792

In August and September Earl and I usually take a trip to the Upper Peninsula to escape the heat in Detroit and enjoy cooler weather. For a number of years, we have particularly enjoyed our trips to the Keweenaw Peninsula, just south of Copper Harbor. This year we took two copper mine tours. Two different mines, with two different stories.

The Delaware Mine, about 8 miles south of Copper Harbor, was started in 1846. It operated over the next 40 years and produced a little over seven million pounds of copper. Mine workers, managers, and their families lived on site in a small community that included homes, a school, church, and company store. Copper, mined from the volcanic rock on 10 mining levels, was shipped out through Eagle Harbor on Lake Superior. By 1886, the mining company and investors spent over four million dollars extracting the copper. The mine went bankrupt eight times and never made a profit.

We enjoyed our self-guided tour walking along the first level after descending 100 damp dark steps from the surface. The mine is tidied up but is generally in its original condition.

Lower levels, which you can see down old shafts at the sides of the first level, are flooded because after the mine closed water kept seeping in and wasn't pumped out.



Tillie wasn't sure she wanted to go down. But after being left behind by me and Jasmine, she worked her way carefully down the dark steps.



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The Quincy Mine National Historic Park is located in Hancock, MI, just north of Houghton. There is a large visitor center, museum and a great undergraduate geology major from Michigan Tech as a lively tour guide. We visited the museum and watched a detailed demonstration of how the world's largest steam-driven mine hoist carried copper ore and mine workers through the 9,260-foot shaft at up to 36 miles an hour. Then, we were guided through an access shaft set up as an exhibit to simulate the mining experience.



Largest steam powered mine hoist in the world that brought rocks up and lowered workers down. It wasn't scrapped with the rest of the mine equipment when the mine closed and remains on exhibition.

"Old Reliable", as it was known, was highly profitable while in operation for over 50 years, but the Great Depression took its toll on profits. Technology advanced to where skilled workers were no longer needed. After WWII the government stopped subsidies and the mine closed. Large pit mines in the west, mining copper along with other metals became more viable.

Copper from the Keweenaw Peninsula supported the Industrial Revolution and a vibrant local economy. After it fell, the economy never recovered. But now, based on tourism of its rugged natural beauty, it's still a favorite place to appreciate and visit.



An 800 lb. pure copper boulder. It was more work to break it apart to bring it to the surface than it was worth. The copper metal is soft and doesn't break apart easily. So, the mine company instructed miners to leave them behind. Small copper pieces separated from basalt by stamping were more profitable.



We Rally Together in 2025 & Beyond (at-a-glance)

Dates	Event - Location	Host/Organizer	Links/Contact
October 3-5	MAC Fall Pentwater Rally & Business Meeting, Pentwater, MI	MAC Host: Sarah & John Smith	Pentwater Fall Rally
2026			
May 15 - 18 SAVE THE DATE	Spring Maintenance Rally Wabasis Lake Campground, Greenville, MI	MAC Host: Sarah & John Smith	Details to Follow
June 4 - 7	Silver on Silver Rally Holiday Park, Traverse City, MI	Karen & Kim Pontius	Details to Follow
July 16 - 19 SAVE THE DATE	Airstreams Return to Cadillac III - 50th Anniversary Celebration, VSV Park, Cadillac	MAC Host: Dale & Kat, Karen Fisher, Wally Kimmel, Tom & Peg	Details to Follow
August 22-27 SAVE THE DATE	WBCCI International Rally, 2026 Minot, ND	WBCCI	2026 Rally

Please Note:



Keep an eye out for an email with this winter's MAC Lunch schedule!

