



Celebrating 52 Years – 1973-2025

The Newstream

Southeastern Michigan Airstream Club
Region 4 Club 137
Having Fun in Our Airstreams Since 1973



4th Qtr 2025 – Fall Edition

Volume 50 Issue 4

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Webmaster

Barbara Derian

Historian

Robert Smith

Airstream Links:

[SEMAC Website](#)

[Region 4 Website](#)

[Airstream Club International](#)

[SEMAC Facebook Group](#)

[Region 4 Facebook Page](#)

[SEMAC Instagram Page](#)

Presidents Scoop

Steve Rowley

Wow, it's hard to believe this is my last "President's Scoop". It has been an awesome 2 years, serving as your SEMAC President. I truly couldn't have done it without you, our members! You have all made rallying with SEMAC a fun and amazing experience! Sure, we can plan all sorts of fun rallies, but if you didn't show up, ready to have fun and get to know one another, it simply wouldn't work!

Throughout my time on the SEMAC board, I have tried to keep the focus on understanding what our members want in terms of rally locations and experiences, then found ways to deliver on that with an emphasis on fun! Your participation has helped our little club grow into a shining example of what an ACI local club should be! Not only do you come to our rallies, but many of you have made deep connections through our club and get together to camp on your own! I think that's real evidence of the value we have brought to your ACI membership.

I would be remiss, if I didn't thank Barb Derian and Linda Smith for their mentorship and guidance as I settled into the role of President. I have also been blessed by the support of Marc Cram as treasurer and friend. Bill Biland and Anna Richardson, have provided great support in their roles as Vice Presidents, and I look forward to all the fun events they will bring to SEMAC.

As you may know, I was recently elected to Region 4 Second VP, which means I'll be growing into a new role. My hope is that I can bring some of our SEMAC spirit and fun to the entire Region, and I'll be counting on your help and support!

As always, I'll see you down the road....

- Steve



Terry & Yvonne Applegate **9502**
 John & Julie Burt **6220**
 Coleen & Jerry Dubzak **5359**
 Karen & Tim Rice **10385**
 Scott & Terry Guzy **5246**
 Robert Schroeder/Laura Perkins **5206**
 Carol Baldinger **17241**

Happy ACI/WCBCCI Anniversary!

October

Richard & Elizabeth Martin **6550**
 Barbara Derian & Ralph Volk **10826**
 Steve & Cheree Rowley **5432**
 Bryan Hopkins & Kevin Tobin **5634**



November

Robert & Cynthia Schwabel **4985**
 Terry & Yvonne Applegate **9502**
 Paul Grady & Kari West **8032**

December

Dave & Sharlene Kracht **6781**
 Joe Peplinski & Lorrie Robertson **6768, 702**
 Erick & Jennifer Phillips **1096**



October

John Farmer
 Megan Butler
 Jason Nardoni
 Dawn Farmer
 Tom Cobb
 Anna Richardson

November

Stacy Bee
 Donna Cobb
 Andrew Wolf
 Don Diebell
 Matt Richardson
 Mark Cooper
 Carly Strachan
 Jackie Beutler
 Erick Phillips
 Joe Peplinski
 William Copenhaver
 Sheri Copanic

December

Valerie Mutchler
 Linda Smith
 Lois Swartzell
 Janet Pinkham
 Jennifer Phillips
 Carol Burke
 Marie Steele
 Rafeal Guillen
 Cindy Schwabel
 Mike Kalota
 Sidney Beckwith

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Is it your turn?

Steve Rowley

Have you been to one of our rallies? If so, did you notice what a great job the rally hosts did and how much fun they were having?! We encourage all members to consider serving as a rally host or co-host. Many hands make the work lighter. It really isn't as much work as you might imagine, and it's a rewarding experience.

So, "What all is involved?" you may ask... Here's a brief synopsis of how a rally gets planned in our club: Each year, the president has the privilege of choosing the rally sites, but he or she doesn't do this alone, they discuss their ideas with the SEMAC board and get input when selecting the place, dates, and theme of the rallies. Once the rallies are decided, we start looking for hosts to help execute the rallies. Ideally, there are two co-hosts working together, and often one of them is a board member.

The hosts

- Coordinate closely with the campground to organize our campsites and ensure we have access to a pavilion, etc., as needed.
- Plan the rally activities, including social hours, a group meal, any raffles or give-away activities, or any big group activities that are planned.
- Create a rally "packet" with an agenda for the weekend and suggestions for things to do and see in the area (we have lots of examples). A good practice is to reach out to the local chamber of commerce and request information and maps, etc. to include with the rally packets.
- Are given a rally budget to work with based on the rally fees collected and club contribution. The budget can be used to offset the cost of group meals, raffle prizes, and any group activities, etc.
- Reach out to registrants via email as the rally approaches, to share information and start building excitement for the rally.
- Welcome participants to the rally via a rally check-in, and social hour.
- Maintains a whiteboard at their site that is updated with the day's activities and other fun information.
- Submit a financial report at the end of the rally and get reimbursed for any expenses they personally incurred.

Throughout the process, rally hosts are supported by the SEMAC board. Help is always just a phone call away! We also have a rally planning document available to hosts. Our club is focused on camping and fun for everyone, including the rally hosts!

So, do you think you have what it takes?! If so, please reach out to a club officer: Anna Richardson, or Bill Biland, and ask for more information. We'd love to have you as a host!

SEMAC APPAREL



Get Your Swag On....

Are you aware of the SEMAC swag offerings? Check it out at www.seriousgraphicsandsigns.com there is a "Online Stores" tab, click on it, then click the SEMAC store. The quality is really good, the pricing is very fair. The offerings are t-shirts, sweaters, hoodies (youth and adult sizing), hats, and flags. Turn around time is about three weeks. There is no profit for SEMAC, and Serious Graphics is a local business, so it is great to support them.



We had a great Rally, at the Double JJ resort in Rothbury, Michigan. We went, expecting to have fun riding horses, but discovered a lot of other great things to do in the area! I can't believe that in 59 years of living in Michigan, I had not done the Mac Wood's Dunes Ride! Wow, was I missing out! It was the highlight of our trip, and I look forward to doing it again in the future.

It was great to have some Future Streamers join our rally as well, with one family traveling all the way from Iowa! Giddy-up!





Dale Schwamborn at the Kentville club historical marker

70 years ago, Helen Schwamborn established the Wally Byam Caravan Club in the little town of Kentville Nova Scotia Canada. Region 1, headed up by the Quebec/Maritimes Club, set up a rally in nearby Annapolis Valley to celebrate the founding of our Club. Two Club members, Barb Derian/Ralph Volk and Susan Saravis/Michael Cyr were lucky to get on the list of attendees and met up at the Rally. As is typical of a club rally, we had wonderful dinners and evenings full of music and camaraderie. We toured the founding site and were honored to have club member, Dale Schwamborn, present. Dale was in his teens when the club was founded and went on a number of international caravans with Wally. We then were able to take a day trip on the Bluenose II, a recreation of a 1921 schooner out of Lunenburg Nova Scotia. We encourage all our members to keep an eye out on the airstream club events pages to find events across the continent that might be of interest. We were able to combine this rally with further exploration of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Maine, New Hampshire and New York finger lakes.



Barb Derian & Ralph Volk

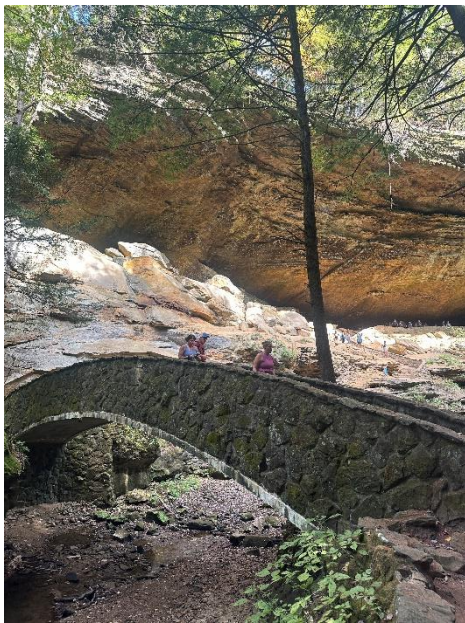


Susan Saravis & Michael Cyr





Our Head for the Hills campout at Campbell Cove Campground was exciting. For those of us hoping for fall like weather, we were surprised as it was South of the Border hot (for those that attended our South of the Border rally, you'll know my reference)! But that did not stop us from exploring; Hiking Old Man's Cave, attending the Jack Pine Glass Pumpkin Festival, to taking a tour of the Columbus Washboard Factory, the area had a lot to offer. One night we even had the sounds of gunshots, sirens, and helicopters, but that did not deter us. I find the best part of our rallies or campouts are the group gatherings, we had our nightly group fire, meeting new friends, and catching up with friends we have not seen in a while is always great. Our last evening at the park, Eric made pizzas with his pizza oven. This was a fun and tasty unplanned meal! I always think how lucky we are to have a friendly, fun, and active club!



We love the coastal areas of the US. And we had intended on coming home from Florida one spring up the east coast. Then we heard about a new caravan – the Southeastern Coastal Crawl and it fit our plans perfectly. When the registration opened for this inaugural caravan, we jumped immediately and were one of the lucky 27 rigs to participate.

The caravan started in St Augustine, Florida – one of our favorite spots to hang on our way home in the Spring, and moved north along the Georgia, South and North Carolina, and Virginia coasts, ending in Chincoteague, VA.

This 5 week caravan is full of historical cities and harbors. The places we explored were:

- St Augustine, FL
- Jekyll Island, GA
- Savannah, GA
- Charleston, SC
- Saint Helena, SC
- Wilmington, NC
- New Bern, NC
- Hatteras, NC
- Williamsburg, VA
- Chincoteague, VA

We loved all the history from the early settlements and into the Revolutionary and Civil War periods. Trolley rides brought these old town to life with their historical homes and deep rooted history. Boat rides to see Charleston from the harbor and to come close to the wild ponies of Chincoteague. We explored coastal delicacies and came to love the variations of shrimp & grits. We sought out the historic lighthouses. In every caravan we've taken, we've learned more about our country's history – what they don't teach in schools and this caravan was no exception. Look up the history of the Gullah/Geechee Nation experience of St Helena. We were given the privilege of dry camping at the historical Penn Center Historic Landmark and learning more about the people who call this area their home.



Kayaking Outer Banks



Wet Bottoms after Kayaking Outer Banks



Dinner at Williamsburg Christiana
Campbell's Tavern = Making ends meet
with our napkins!

As we made our way to the Outer Banks and Hatteras, we found what we love about the east coast – the shore (without the little biting bugs!). Unfortunately, the famous Hatteras lighthouse is still shrouded in scaffolding as its restoration continues, but there are more lighthouses in the area to seek out. The historic town of Manteo on Roanoke Island and the island of Ocrakoke were there to explore and imagine landing on Roanoke in the late 1500s and before the settlement “disappeared”.

If you love history, the Virginia Historical Triangle is a must visit. Three historical parks await exploration: Jamestown, Yorktown & Williamsburg each are multi-day visits. So much to explore if you love early American history. In Jamestown, you can deep dive into the relationship between early settlers and first nations. Visiting Yorktown, you can hike through the battlefield imagining fighting for independence.

Exploring the Eastern Shores on the Southeastern Coastal Crawl Caravan cont.



Never too many fresh James
River Oysters

And then there is Williamsburg, where you can spend days appreciating life in colonial times. We stood in the tavern where the independence vote was taken and we sat in the courthouse where plans were made for furthering the entry into the revolutionary war. We had dinner at a historical tavern. Did you know that the phrase “to make ends meet” came from colonial times when large cloth napkins were tied around necks to protect clothes – being able to make ends meet by having a large napkin meant you were doing well financially. How remarkable it was to go back in time.

We ended the caravan in Chincoteague on Assateague Island National Lakeshore. This was special as I remember reading *Misty of Chincoteague* as a young girl. To see the ponies in person was special. Virginia manages the herd and they don’t “roam”

beyond their part of the island that is “fenced”, unlike the Maryland wild herd that roams free. And following the caravan, we went to Assateague State Park to dry camp with the ponies along the shore! While we didn’t have a visitor at our trailer, our neighbors did!

Before coming home, we went up to Rehoboth, Delaware and then over to Shenandoah National Park, VA to drive part of the Skyline Trail, even walking the Appalachian Trail for a bit.



Sunset at Chincoteague



Oyster Bake at St Helena’s
Island

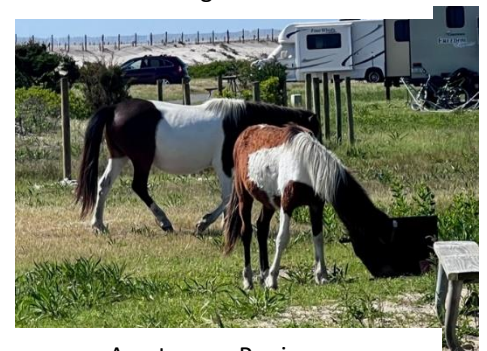
This caravan was the end of an eight month stay in our Airstream – having started in September down to Missouri for the International Rally, exploring Missouri and Arkansas before heading to Alabama and down to the Gulf Shores area before heading to our winter Airstream home in Naples. While we loved all that we saw, we were happy to get home and plan our next trip – August – September to Maine & Nova Scotia.



Chincoteague Ponies



SkyLine Drive, Shenandoah VA



Assateague Ponies

**Let's Rally
Together
2026!**



Upcoming SEMAC, WBAC/ACI and other Airstream Events At-a-Glance

(SEMAC events/rallies highlighted in yellow)

June 4-7	Silver on Silver @ Holiday RV Park & Campground, Traverse City, Michigan	Hosted by MAC in 2026. Come enjoy camping, wine tasting, and bike rides, and fellowship with MAC and SEMAC!
June 18-21	Rally in the Woods @Twin Bears http://www.twinbearscomp.com	Twin Bears Wooded Campground, 2201 M-68 HWY, Indian River, MI 49749
Jul 16-19	DeTour to Paradise, a Rally Under the Stars www.paradisepointrvpark.com	Paradise Pointe Detour Village, 20085 E. Paradise Pt., DeTour Village, MI 49725 Only 10 Spots Available. The park is holding spots until January 1, so do not delay if interested in spending time in this beautiful area!
Aug 14-16	Mitten Burger Roundup Campout www.harborbeach.com/north-park-campground	Can't make it to Minot this year? We have you covered! Come camp with others for the weekend! North Park Campground, 836 N. Huron Ave, Harbor Beach, MI
Aug 15-21	SEMAC Caravan to International Rally in Minot, ND	Join SEMAC on a Caravan from Michigan to the International Rally, in Minot, ND. Drive days will typically be 3 to 5 hours. Arrive in Minot before 8 am on Fri, Aug 21. The Caravan is limited to 12 rigs. The cost is estimated at \$300/rig to cover camping fees only. We will mostly be staying at Water & Electric sites, with one night of boondocking planned. This caravan is to Minot only. You may leave the International Rally and return home at your own pace and route of your choice. Registration will open on November 1, 2025.
Aug 22-27	International Rally, Minot ND	Just you and a 1,000 other Airstreams coming together for a week of camping, fun, and education. If you haven't been to an international rally, what are you waiting for?!
Sept 17-20	Grand SEMAC Rally; Fun, Friends, and Fires On The Grand River http://www.steamboatpark.com	Steamboat Park, 825 Taylor St, Jenison, MI 49428. Optional activities include a brewery tour, riverboat ride, and Meijer Gardens.

Information on Registration will be coming soon!