

TIDEWATER TIDINGS

Published by Tidewater Virginia Airstream Club #111
WBAC Airstream Club International

Spring 2025



From The President

Camping season is well underway and hopefully all of your schedules are full. The Fort Monroe rally was held in May and the Belle Isle Rally is lined up for June. There are multiple opportunities for events throughout the summer. The Region 3 rally held in South Carolina in April was a great experience. Multiple seminars addressed rig maintenance, weather safety, national news and flower arranging. Six rigs from our club made the journey to South Carolina. Meeting new friends and greeting old friends was a great part of the event.

Being so close to Charleston gave everyone an opportunity to explore the historic city. I still love walking through the marketplace and talking to the vendors and strolling down Rainbow Row. Walking the Battery conjures up images of the city during the Civil War.

Interested in knowing what the other Region 3 clubs are doing? Here is the link to their websites: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-3/region-3-local-club-newsletters>

Balloon Rally: The Up, Up and Away Rally (Balloons over Rockbridge) will be held in July. The link is on the Region 3 website and there is a waiting list. For those Tidewater 111 members who are attending, our club is setting up the Continental breakfast on Friday morning. As we get closer, I'll send out a request for volunteers to help with the set up.

Call for Club Officers: Please see the separate article on the need for club officers. Your assistance is needed.



Call for Club Officers: Please see the separate article on the need for club officers. Your assistance is needed.

Commonwealth Rally: As you all know, our club is hosting the Commonwealth Rally, August 26-28 at the American Heritage RV Park. The registration form is also in this newsletter. I'll be sending out a Volunteer Sign Up sheet in the near future. Your help will be needed in set up, serving meals, clean up, etc. If anyone has a portable microphone that we can use during the rally, please let me know.

That's about it for now.

See you down the road,

Rosemary Plum President
Tidewater Airstream Club #111



Clear Skies at Fort Monroe

Club #111 hosted its annual Rally in Hampton, Virginia

Photos submitted by Joanna Duncan





CAMPING HIGHLIGHTS

Spring Fling Rally at First Landing

Submitted by Greg Worcester

Rob and Julie Byers hosted their first rally this past March and had a great turnout. Some 17 rigs came and a couple surprise non-club members (soon to join) in Basecamps joined the fun. The weekend started with a happy hour at Rob and Julie's site. It was a big crowd who brought plenty of treats to share. President Rosemary Plum updated club members on club needs and future events.



Saturday night we had dinner at Hot Tuna restaurant just down the road from the campground, and a campfire social afterwards. Sunday AM was a full breakfast and more social activities. Rob and Julie had some great activities worked into the weekend including some hikes and a scavenger hunt. There was plenty of time to relax too, playing cards or walking on the beach. It was a great rally and a wonderful way to start off the camping season.

Our founding club president, and former WBCCI International President, Don Shafer and his daughters Janea and Robin attended. It was great to see them – so glad they came for the dinner and visit! Thanks for a great rally Rob and Julie!



Silver in the Streets

Submitted by Kelly Holschuh

After seeing previous Silver in the Street Rally events in the WBCCI Events site, Kathleen and I ventured out to join the Virginia Airstream Club at the 2025 Silver in the Streets Boondock Rally held in Abingdon, VA. The Hosts did an amazing job for this event from rig set-up on the street, on Thursday, until departure on Sunday morning. A total of 18 rigs made it to the event with Airstreamers coming from Nashville, TN to Annapolis, MD. We were located a stone's throw away from the Farmer's Market. The Rally started off with a wonderful pizza party and, as usual, we met and made many new friends with AMAZING people.



The schedule was filled with many opportunities to venture out in the beautiful southwestern corner of Virginia. From hiking, biking, local farm/winery tours, and, yes, even local shopping. On Friday, after a hearty breakfast put together by many volunteers, we chose to bike the VA Creeper National Trail with a small group of fellow Airstreamers. Intended to reach Damascus, but impending weather and saddle soreness turned us around mid-way (9.4 miles). Saturday's Farmers Market was rock solid. Venders from the surrounding area, brought in fresh fruits and vegetables, and desserts!! Fresh scones were the cat's meow!!! Fresh strawberries were a hit, also.



Abingdon, Virginia is an amazing small city located about 15 miles northeast of Bristol, Virginia. The downtown area is a happening and vibrant area that has a constant buzz about itself. Many local shopping stores, and many local restaurants there to choose from for your tastes. We were not disappointed in any of our choices for lunch/dinners.

If you haven't ever attended a boondock rally, may we suggest attending next year's Silver in the Streets in Abingdon. It is a perfect setting for a first time Boondock. Small urban event in

a quaint, but bustling town with many new friends waiting to meet you. As we found out, with this much fun being had, you won't even know that you are without power. Happy trails and camping Tidewater Airstreamers. Until our paths cross, we wish each of you safe travels.

Balloons in the Sky



Submitted by Richard and Joanna Duncan

Richard and Joanna Duncan took the Airstream Southwest Caravan starting August 19 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and ending October 7 in Albuquerque at the Balloon Festival.



Thousands of miles of travel through Santa Fe, Durango, Mesa Verde, Moab, Coral Reef, Bryce Canyon, Zion, Grand Canyon and so much more.

There were 38 trailers traveling together and enjoying all of the sights. Socials, hikes, jeep rides, mule rides, balloon rides and meals together were wonderful to get to know Airstreamers from around the country.



2025 Break Out Rally – Rockahock Campground, Lanexa, VA

Submitted by Kelly Holschuh

The 2025 Tidewater Airstream 111 Club Break-Out Rally, hosted by Kathleen and Kelly Holschuh, was held at Rock-a-hock Campground in Lanexa, VA. The weather could not have been more cooperative for early April. Temps in the mid-high 70s in the day and high 50s in the evenings. GREAT weather for GREAT times with GREAT Tidewater Airstreamers of the 19 rigs in attendance, including Tidewater Airstream Rally 1st Timers – Rich and Elle Coleman. They told me they felt the warm welcomes from everyone!! That is what “RALLYs” are all about. Camping with known friends and creating new relationships with GREAT people.

With the use of the pavilion during MAXIMUM Pollen weekend of early April, Friday night’s Happy Hour and the planned meals were enjoyed in the solitude of not having excessive pollen intake during the events of the rally.

Friday night’s Happy-Hour (heavy appetizers provided by all) started off the Rally with a knock-out punch. So many unique and amazing appetizers



were brought to the table and enjoyed by everyone as they met and mingled. As the spectacular sunset over Lake Chickahominy ended, it was time to continue the many conversations being had by the campfire(s). Forty chairs encircled the solo-stoves to watch darkness fall and watch the night skies to reveal the light show of its starry wonder.

On Saturday, as the main entrée (smoked PORK BUTTs) being prepared for dinner continued to smoke, the hosts invited club members to a game of Pictionary held in the pavilion. Many Airstreamers showed to play for a GRAND prize!! A standard playground pick’em was used to create the two teams. Hosts selected sisters Sophie (Team POLLENATORS) and Penny (Team ROCKAHOCKERS) Leonard (Parents - Damien and Tia) as CAPTAINS to pick their teammates for this GALA event. As one team leader selected an anxious club member, their significant other was placed on the OTHER team (Fair is FAIR). After all team members of each team drew for their teammates, a WINNER was declared.



Captain Penny and the ROCKAHOCKERS eked out the WIN by 1 point.

GRAND PRIZE - ICE CREAM TREATS for ALL!!

As dinner was happening in the pavilion, a rather large pollen gust whipped around the campground, ensuring all silver rigs, 1 white rig and TVs were alike; FLORESCENT YELLOW.

As dinner ended the winds died down, allowing another beautiful setting for another campfire for ALL. Everything a camper desires, and even some s'mores were eaten.

Kathleen and I want to thank everyone that lent their hands to make this a GREAT one. Many hands made our jobs easy and enjoyable.

The 2026 Break Out Rally will be hosted by Maggie and Dan Biel in March 2026. The details will be posted as they become available. Until our paths cross, we wish each of you safe travels.





CLUB HAPPENINGS

Club Officers Needed

In order for a club like Tidewater 111 to continue, we need member involvement. Kathleen Holschuh will be our President for the 2025-2026 year. However, we need members to step up and volunteer for the positions of first and second vice-president. This is not a complicated job and after hosting the Commonwealth rally this September, our club will not be responsible for the gathering until 2029. The President assists in coordinating the rally schedule and keeps members updated on happenings within the region and club. Intermittent correspondence with the National organization is infrequent. They also coordinate soliciting articles for the newsletter. Please consider volunteering. Below is the message Kathleen sent previously.

A Message from Kathleen Holschuh

I'll be your new President from September 2025 - September 2026 starting at the Commonwealth Rally. Our club needs a 1st and 2nd Vice President.

1st Vice President Serving as President - September 2026 - September 2027

2nd Vice President Serving as President - September 2027 - September 2028

Our Presidents have included (just to name a few):

Current: Rosemary Plum

Past:

- Frank Munoz
- Greg Worcester
- Jayne Munoz
- Larry Evans
- Rhonda Evans

Our club needs your leadership to continue to succeed. Please step forward. Any questions about duties and how available you need to be, please ask.

Thank you,

Kathleen Holschuh

katzret59@gmail.com

Treasurer Needed

Richard Duncan, the Treasurer of Tidewater 111 Airstream Group has decided to retire from that position. Richard has been the treasurer for many years and his contribution to the club has been invaluable. Thank you, Richard, for all that you have done. The resignation is effective at our Commonwealth Rally, September 26-28.

So, we need a new treasurer. Please send an email to Katzret59@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for this position. Here is the job description for the Treasurer (from our bylaws).

Sec. 6 The Treasurer shall:

- Maintain the Club's financial records and receive all monies, as prescribed in International Policies for Financial Management and Financial Data Guidelines, and promptly deposit them in the bank chosen by the Executive Board.
- Notify members of the expiration of dues and direct the members to the Headquarters website to renew their International and Club dues. They should also maintain an up-to-date roster of paid-up members. Changes to this roster shall be shared with the Corresponding Secretary, the Newsletter Editor, and the Membership Chair. In addition, the Membership Chair shall be notified of all members who have not paid their dues by their anniversary date so that the Membership Chair might assist the Treasurer in contacting those members to collect their dues.
- Submit a full written report of finances to the Executive Board at each meeting. Each year, a committee selected by the incoming President will audit the books and accounts. Before retirement, all Club books, monies, and property shall be delivered promptly to the incoming Treasurer.

Campfire Safety



Sitting around a campfire has its appeal. Campfires bring family and friends together. But campfire mishaps can cause injuries and tremendous damage to the environment. Serving as camp hosts has opened our eyes to the nonchalant attitude of some campers as they leave campfires blazing and unattended. An uncomfortable number of campers pack up and drive away while their weekend fires are left burning. Here are a few reminders about campfire safety.

- Before setting up a campfire, be sure it's permitted. Some areas may have burn bans due to windy or dry conditions. Whether in a campground or boondocking, be aware of conditions.
- Attend to the campfire at all times. A campfire left alone for only a few minutes can grow into a damaging fire.
- Keep a campfire small which is easier to control. Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids.
- Watch children while the fire is burning. Never let children or pets play or stand too close to the fire. If roasting marshmallows, help young children. Never shake a roasting marshmallow. It can turn into a flying, flaming, ball. A heated metal skewer can cause burns.
- Don't toss glass bottles, cans or trash into a fire. Glass and aluminum will not burn. Many plastic bottles and plastic coated paper products release toxins into the air when burned. Paper trash and garbage should not be put into the fire. Pack them out according to Leave No Trace principles.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll. Stop, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out. Treat a burn right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed. Never spread butter or other greasy substances on a burn.
- Always have a bucket of water or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire. Make sure to put it out completely before leaving the site. Douse with water, rake the coals to look for any burning embers or glowing coals. If water is not available, use dirt or sand, however, separate the wood or coals and smother. Dumping sand or dirt without raking can "bank" the fire, causing it to flare up again.

Mark Your Calendar!

2025 Rallies



June 6-8, 2025 **Belle Isle Rally** Belle Isle State Park, Lancaster, VA: Contact Martin and Diana Berend, Martin@berendfamily.com.

July 4-6, 2025 **Up, Up and Away Balloon Rally** Horse Center of Virginia, Hilltop Campground: Virginia Airstream Club with assistance of other VA clubs – sold out of sites for this event – If you would like to still come to the event and don't require camping, please register on the balloon rally webpage. If you would like to join the waiting list, please send an email to events@virginiaairstream.club

August 23 – 28, 2025 **International Rally** York State Fair, York PA: Register at Airstreamclub.org.

September 26 – 28, 2025 **Commonwealth Rally** American Heritage Campground, Williamsburg, VA: Registration available on website and previously sent out in EMAIL. Reserve campsite by August 1 for discount of \$64.00 plus tax per night. Please identify as a Airstream rally participant.

October 16 – 19, 2025 **“Beyond the Shadow of a Douthat” Rally** with other Virginia clubs: Douthat State Park. Sold Out

October 24-27, 2025 **Chippokes Rally** Chippokes State Park in Surry, VA: More information to follow. Hosted by Brooke Gwalthney and Alden Chester. Reserve campsite now as this is a State Park.

November 6-8, 2025 **Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally**, Urbanna, VA: More information to follow. Contact: Frank and Jane Munoz

December, 2025 **Christmas in Williamsburg**, Williamsburg, VA: More information to follow. Hosts: Richard and Joanna Duncan.

COMMONWEALTH RALLY SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2025

HOSTED BY TIDEWATER AIRSTREAM CLUB #111

Friday September 26 *Purchase Raffle tickets throughout all events

2:00pm – Ongoing Registration (Tidewater Airstream Club 111)

6:00pm – 7:00pm – Happy Hour with heavy appetizers (Virginia Airstream Club)

7:00pm – Campfire Get together (Tidewater Airstream Club 111)

Smore's Hosted by Tidewater Airstream Club 111: (ingredients supplied – bring your own stick and make your own.)

Saturday September 27 *Purchase Raffle tickets throughout all events

8:00am – 9:00am - Breakfast in the Colonial Room (Hosted by NORVA)

9:00am – 9:30 am – Installation of officers (followed by meeting of incoming presidents and rally chairs to share 2026 schedules)

9:30am – 2:00pm - Lunch on your own, explore the local area.

2:00pm – 4:00pm -Presentation by Mark Twain (re-enactor) (Tidewater Airstream Club 111)

5:00pm – 6:30pm - Dinner Pierce's Barbecue (Tidewater Airstream Club 111)

6:30 – 7:00 pm - Dessert Apple Pie / Ice Cream (Tidewater Airstream Club 111) Raffle drawings

6:30pm – 8:30 pm - Music (Tidewater Airstream Club 111) Complete Raffle drawings during break

Sunday, September 28

8:30 am – 10:00 am - Breakfast in the Colonial Room (Hosted: Spirit of Virginia)

2025 Commonwealth Rally Registration

American Heritage RV Park, 146 Maxton Lane, Williamsburg, VA

Call 1-888-530-2267 by August 1, 2025, to get the discounted campsite rate of \$64.00 plus tax.

September 26-28, 2025



Pay Rally Fee by check of \$35/adult payable to Tidewater 111

Send check and along with a copy of this form to:

Richard Duncan, 6907 Arthur Hills Dr, Williamsburg, Va 23188

Please Print Clearly

Full Name: _____

Email: _____

Mobile Phone No., Incl. Area Code: _____

BRN: _____ Please include BRN on your check

Club Affiliation: _____

Names of Additional Attendees:

Total Number of Attendees, Age 18 and older: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

As camping season begins, it's helpful to review the "Leave No Trace Principles." This provides a great template to teach younger campers how to preserve our parks. While this was geared towards National Parks, the same principles apply to any camping area whether in a campground or boondocking.

LEAVE NO TRACE SEVEN PRINCIPLES

Each of us plays a vital role in protecting our national parks. As we spend time outdoors, in the natural world and in wilderness, it's important to be conscious of the effects our actions may have on plants, animals, other people, and even entire ecosystems. Following the Leave No Trace Seven Principles, summarized below, can help us minimize those impacts. They can be applied anywhere, at any time, while taking part in recreational activities.

- **Plan Ahead and Prepare**
 - Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
 - Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
 - Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
 - Visit in small groups when possible. Consider splitting larger groups into smaller groups.
 - Repackage food to minimize waste.
 - Use a map and compass or GPS to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.
- **Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces**
 - Durable surfaces include maintained trails and designated campsites, rock, gravel, sand, dry grasses or snow.
 - Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
 - Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
 - In popular areas:
 - Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
 - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
 - Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.
 - In pristine areas:
 - Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
 - Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.



- **Dispose of Waste Properly**

- **Pack it in, pack it out.** Inspect your campsite, food preparation areas, and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter. Utilize toilet facilities whenever possible. Otherwise, deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep, at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- **Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.**
- **To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.**

- **Leave What You Find**

- **Preserve the past:** examine, photograph, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- **Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.**
- **Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.**
- **Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.**



- **Minimize Campfire Impacts**

- **Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the environment. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.**
- **Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.**
- **Keep fires small. Only use down and dead wood from the ground that can be broken by hand.**
- **Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.**

Get Connected With Our Facebook Group!



Join the Tidewater Airstream Club's private Facebook group for Rally information, camping tips, photos and more!

To join, visit the [Facebook page here](#) and click the "+ Join Group" button on the right.

- **Respect Wildlife**
 - Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
 - Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, [habituates them to humans], and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
 - Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
 - Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
 - Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

- **Be Considerate of Other Visitors**
 - Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
 - Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
 - Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
 - Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
 - Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

These principles were established by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, and built on work by the US Forest Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management in the mid 1980s. This relationship continues today. The principles are based on and informed by scientific research in the fields of recreation ecology and human dimensions of natural resources. Take a look at the [science behind the principles](#) on the Leave No Trace website.

Thank you for doing your part to protect our natural world.

*Leave No Trace Seven Principles © 1999 by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics:
www.LNT.org.*

