



Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27 Nov. 2025

President's Corner

Inside this issue:

Backing Up	2
2025 Rallies	3
2026 Rally Schedule	9
New Members	11
Charity Project & Sunshine Report	13
Club Information	14

Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 4 times per year (Feb. May, Aug. Nov.)
- Due date for articles is the 20th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the WBCCI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out at any time. We do not share email addresses.

Hello fellow Airstreamers,

This newsletter article will cover a wide range of topics but hopefully won't be long and boring.

If you didn't make it to the Hanna Park Rally you missed out on a lot of fun! I'm not just saying that because we hosted it either. Here's a quick rundown of the activities:

Happy Hour(s) [of course], Pumpkin Carving Contest, Costume Contest, Sandcastle Contest, Chili Cookoff, Airshow, Annual Business meeting

So a little about each one:

The Happy Hours were a great time! We had a very nice turnout with over 50 Rally goers attending. We even had a few two members show up just to visit (Chris and Ron Allen) and another couple that just happened to be camping for the weekend and popped over to join in the fun (you know who you are). We had Rally goers from all over the state plus some from Georgia, South Carolina, Kentucky, and probably somewhere I missed.

This was a Halloween themed rally so some (A LOT) pumpkins got carved and judged. There were some really awesome carvings that made great centerpieces for the rest of the weekend.

The costume contest was also a hit! There are some really creative people in our group.

The sandcastle contest was a lot of fun with several teams making it really diffi-

cult for the judges to choose.

There were 8 pots of chili to eat and judge. No one left hungry after that!

The Airshow just happened to be going on during the rally so that was available for everyone to enjoy.

The annual business meeting was held during breakfast on Saturday. This was a clever ploy by the Florida Airstream Club president to get people to show up. It seemed to work as we had a nice showing. The meeting covered the usual stuff like past rallies and upcoming rallies and the budget. The breakfast was definitely the hit of the meeting. The 2026 Officers and Executive Board who will be installed at the Cracker Christmas Rally are:

President	Gina Fafard
1st VP	vacant
2nd VP	Patricia Dovi
Treasurer	Bruce Fafard
Secretary	Gina McGinn
Immediate Past President	Mike McGinn
Trustee	Judy Barrett
Trustee	Brenda Marr

All in all it was a great weekend to hang out with old friends and to make some new friends. Mike and Gina McGinn
Big Red Number 7226

PS. It was necessary to change the rally dates and location in Feb. 2026. Instead of Stinkweed Woodberry Farm near Havana, FL, it will be held on Feb. 12-15 at Okefenokee Swamp Park, Waycross GA. More details are available on the website.

How to Back an Airstream Like a Pro

Backing a travel trailer can be one of the most intimidating parts of RVing, especially if you're new to it. But with a few simple steps and one golden rule — **turn toward the problem** — you can make it look easy. The “problem” is whichever side of the back of the trailer is drifting the wrong way. Whether you're backing straight or into an angled space, that little phrase will guide every correction you need to make.

It's best to start by practicing in a straight line. As you back up, watch both sides of your trailer. If one side starts to wander off course, turn your steering wheel slightly toward that direction — toward the problem. With larger trailers, you may need to move the wheel between the 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock positions for small adjustments. Shorter Airstreams react faster, so minor turns to 11 o'clock or 1 o'clock are often all it takes. Once you're comfortable keeping it straight, try gentle curves, like following the inside line of a driveway.

When it's time to back into an angled campsite, the process involves **three main steps**: setting the angle, maintaining the angle, and straightening out. To begin, pull forward so your vehicle is close to the entrance of your site. As soon as your rear wheels pass the edge of the space, turn your steering wheel slightly toward the site to start creating the backing angle. Since the trailer will swing in the opposite direction, remember — the “problem” is on the far side, so turn the wheel harder toward that side to create the rest of the angle that will guide the trailer into the spot.

Once your trailer begins to turn into the site, focus on maintaining your angle with small steering corrections. You'll be turning both directions as needed to keep the trailer tracking smoothly. When it's time to straighten out, turn your steering wheel **toward the campsite** to bring your tow vehicle back in line with the trailer. If at any point your turn gets too sharp, don't worry — just pull forward a foot or two while turning the opposite direction. That small move can fix your angle and prevent jackknifing.

The best way to build confidence is with practice. A quiet mall parking lot with a few cones makes a great training ground — or if you're lucky enough to live in the country, a friendly neighbor's pasture works too. Backing an Airstream takes patience and practice, but once you get the feel for it, it becomes second nature. And if you run into a tricky setup or a tight campground, feel free to reach out — I'm always happy to help you plan your next perfect back-in.

Steve Kane
Florida Airstream Club
Past President



Florida Airstreams parked at Cracker Christmas Rally, Ft. Christmas, FL, December 2023

Camp Margaritaville Rally

Auburndale, FL Sept. 17-21, 2025

We started the rally off with a meet & greet and continued on with happy hour, competitive game of girls vs boys trivia, pickleball tournament, and cornhole tournament. We shared a pancake and sausage breakfast, potluck dinner featuring lasagna and sides, and a Dutch oven demo with cherry chocolate cake and apple cobbler.

Other activities were watching NFL football games and movies on the “big screen” (popcorn included), riding on a pontoon boat, bicycling, swimming, and relaxing with Margaritas.

We truly enjoyed meeting everyone and are so happy you came to “chill” with us at Margaritaville. We look forward to seeing our friends again next month & if not before, in March for the Region 3 rally in our hometown, Lakeland, FL!

Hosts: Rachel and David Torres and Jason Wikman.



Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park and Annual Meeting Jacksonville, FL October 23-27, 2025

The Halloween rally at Hannah Park was attended by about 60 people in 30 rigs. We had loads of fun with a pumpkin carving contest, a chili cook-off, costume contest, and a sand castle competition. There were lots of entries. The weather was perfect.

Hosts: Mike and Gina McGinn

Co-Hosts: Jeanne and Tom Scheitler



1st place: Kathy and John Walker with Lion Hearted Pumpkin



First place Gina and Mike McGinn



Hanna Park Rally continued



1st place Jane and Glenn Guaraldi, steam punk characters



1st Place Chili
made by Ray
McCullers

2025 Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule

Registration for 2025 Rallies is now open.

<https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>

Be sure to make your reservation with campground first (unless otherwise instructed).

Arrive	De-part	Rally Name	Campground	City	Host/Co-Host	Rally Fee*	Notes
11/13	11/17	Cypress Glenn Campground	Cypress Glenn Campground	Brooks-ville, FL	Susan and David Poole	\$10	Overflow at Silver Lake Campground
12/4	12/8	Cracker Christmas & Installation of Officers	Fort Christmas	Christmas, FL	Steve and Laura Kane	N/C	Host will make Campsite Reservations

*Rally fees are per person and should be paid online.



Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>. Rally Fees are usually \$10 per attendee and paid online. It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend.

Cypress Glenn Campground

Brooksville, FL Nov. 13-17, 2025

Cypress Glen Campground is one of three campgrounds at Silver Lake near Croom, Florida (east of Brooksville). It is part of the Withlacoochee State Forest that surrounds the Withlacoochee River South.

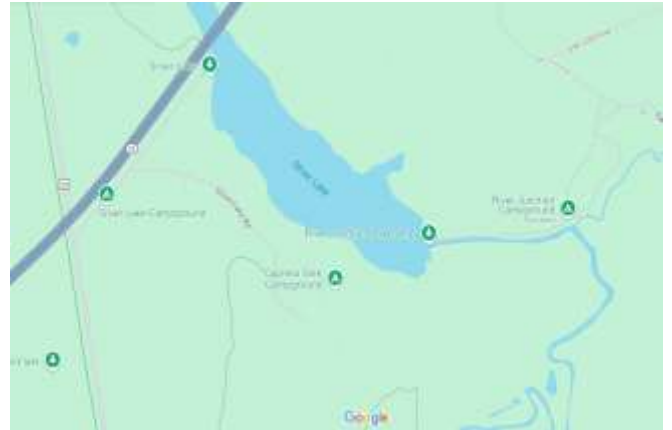
Cypress Glen and Silver Lake campgrounds are both located next to Silver Lake, which is a wide spot in the river. The water is prime for kayakers, paddle boarders, and fisher-people. On the southeast end of the lake, the Withlacoochee River is narrower and it is a very scenic place to paddle.

Adjacent to the campground is the Withlacoochee State Trail, a 45 miles long paved rails-to-trails path that traverses three counties (Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco) (pictured below). Access to the bike path is about a ½ mile by mountain bike or ¾ mile on the road bike to the “snowbird” gate. [Click here for a map of the trail.](#)

There will be a kayak group and a bike group doing those activities. We are in the state forest, but groceries are nearby. Dade City Brew House is also nearby. Tentative agenda is below. More details to be announced later.

Reservations are made at www.reserveamerica.com. You should go there and make reservations if you haven't already. The other RV campground is called Silver Lake Campground. If you can't get into Cypress Glen, try Silver Lake Campground. After you have secured your campsite, then register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>. Rally Fee (per attendee): \$10. If you need to cancel or make other changes, please notify the hosts.

Hosts: Susan and David Poole BRN 3988
Susyqmeetup14@gmail.com



Agenda

Thursday

Arrive.

4:15 pm Happy Hour and Announcements

Friday

Day time paddle or peddle

4:15 Happy Hour

5:15 David's Chicken Pot Pie Stew

Saturday

Day time paddle or peddle

4:15 Happy Hour (dinner on your own)

Sunday

5 ish. Pitch-in potluck dinner

Monday

Depart

Cracker Christmas & Installation of Officers

Fort Christmas, FL Dec. 4-8, 2025

The holiday season is almost here, and that means it's time once again for one of our most cherished Florida Airstream Club traditions — the **Officer Installation Rally at the Cracker Christmas Festival in Christmas, Florida!**

This year marks **over 25 years** of this beloved event, where friendship, fun, and Florida history come together in a truly special way. Only **a few spots remain**, and we ask that everyone **register by November 20** so we can finalize plans and secure our food orders.



A Florida Tradition with Music, History & Community

The Cracker Christmas Festival is held the first full weekend of December at **Fort Christmas Historical Park**, a fascinating site built as a U.S. Army fort during the Second Seminole War in 1837. The park now showcases **replica pioneer homes, a museum, and hands-on exhibits** that celebrate early Florida life. It's a beautiful backdrop for the rally — and this year, several of our own **Airstream members will be playing live music** at the historic houses throughout the weekend! Visitors can enjoy **historical demonstrations, local artisans, handmade crafts, and plenty of great food**, while soaking up the old-Florida charm of the Christmas community.



Welcoming Our New Officers on Thursday

After everyone arrives, tables and chairs need to be moved so we can gather for our **catered Italian Installation Dinner** featuring eggplant parmesan, baked ziti with meat sauce, Caesar salad, and cake for dessert, prepared by a favorite local café.



Friday Adventures

On **Friday morning**, we encourage everyone to explore the nearby **Orlando Wetlands Park** for a relaxing nature walk, or take a short drive to the **Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area** to enjoy its rich wildlife and scenic trails.

When you return in the late morning and early afternoon, we will start helping the staff with a variety of chores to get ready for well over 10 thousand people that will be there Friday through Sunday!

This rally is a wonderful way to get involved, meet new friends, and be part of one of the longest-running traditions in our club's history.



Don't miss out — register by November 20!

It is “semi-boondocking” with shared water and shared electricity (less than 10 amps per guest) so bring a long water hose with Y adaptor and 50 feet extension cord with 20 amp Edison plug.

To reserve your spot and register for the rally go to <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> and email me with “Cracker Christmas” in the subject so I can sort them easily. Rally fee of \$10 is paid online when you register. Please reach out to me for any questions or cancellations. I look forward to seeing you all and I wish everyone safe travels.

Steve and Laura Kane, BRN 3987

Steve@SteveKaneProductions.com

FL Airstream Club 2026 Rally Schedule

Registration for 2026 Rallies is now open. Rally Fees \$10 per attendee are paid online. More details available at registration site: <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events> Be sure to make your reservation with campground first (unless otherwise instructed).

Date	Rally Name	Location	Reservations	Hosts
January 8 - 11	Cano-pener	Topsail Hill Preserve State Park 7525 W County Hwy 30A Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459	Event: Lindsay Shropshire (478) 284-2847 Reserve campsite at FL State Parks Reservations	Big Bend Airstream Club
January 22-25	Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park	Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park 3076 95th Drive Live Oak, FL 32060	800-224-5656 https://www.musicliveshere.com/	Mike & Gina McGinn gina.mcgin5@gmail.com
February 12-15	Hitchin' In the Swamp	Okefenokee Swamp Park 5700 Okefenokee Swamp Park Rd Waycross, GA, 32333	https://www.campspot.com/book/okefenokee	Gina & Bruce Fafard, Gina & Mike McGinn
March 4 - 8	Region 3 Rally	Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo 4075 James C Ray Drive Lakeland, FL 33811	https://airstreamclub.org/region-3-2026-rally	Region 3
April 7 - 14	Prehistoric Rally	Devil's Den Spring 5390 NW 180th Avenue Williston, FL 32696 352-528-3344	https://devilsden.com/	Mike & MaryAnne Swegles maryanne-swegles7@gmail.com
May 14 - 17	Cirque du Airstream	Oscar Scherer State Park 1843 S. Tamiami Trail Osprey, FL 34229	FL State Park Reservations	Gina and Bruce Fafard gfafard@outlook.com
June 4-7	Happy 70th Birthday FAC	Fort Wilderness at WDW 4510 Fort Wilderness Trail Lake Buena Vista, FL	Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort & Campground	Steve & Laura Kane SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com

FL Airstream Club 2026 Rally Schedule

Date	Rally Name	Location	Reservations	Hosts
July	No FAC Rally			
August	No FAC Rally			
August 22 - 28	ACI International	North Dakota State Fairground 2005 E Burdick Ex-pressway East Minot, ND 58701	https://airstreamclub.org/	
September 17-20	Rainbow Springs State Park	19158 SW 81st Pl Rd Dunnellon, FL 34432	FL State Park Reservations	Bob and Lyn Masters bltampa@icloud.com
October 15 - 18	Hanna Park / Annual Meeting	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park 500 Wonderwood Dr Jacksonville, FL 32233	(904) 255-6767 https://hannaparkcamping.com/reservations	Bruce & Gina Fafard gafard@outlook.com
November 10/29 - 11/2	Florida Sand Music Ranch	Florida Sand Music Ranch 85 Myers Road Brooksville, FL 43602	Register with club, sites are being held for us Water & 30 amp \$35 / night. Pay onsite Dumping is \$15	Jeff and Mary Krabel Gina Fafard and other jlk62gt@gmail.com
December 4 - 6	Cracker Christmas	Fort Christmas Historical Park 1300 N Fort Christmas Road Christmas, FL 32709	Host will arrange	Steve & Laura Kane SteveKaneProductions@gmail.com



Important: More information about rallies can be found on club website before you register. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own [RV reservations](#) with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) AND register for the rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>. Rally Fees are usually \$10 per attendee and paid online. It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, then email the Hosts. ACI members from any club are welcome to attend.

Welcome New Members and Affiliates



Hope to see you at
a rally soon!

Please send us a
picture of your
family and /or
Airstream for the
next newsletter so
we can recognize
you!

New Members

Dan Faries and Carrie Craddock
#10175 The Villages, FL

Larry and Christy Dewey
#19871 Lutz, FL
(Rejoin)

Julie Ganim and James Dicksey
#30117 Ocala, FL

Jason and Katie Elsberry
#06683 Orlando, FL

Michael and Tracey Hoy
#09147 Gainesville, FL

Bernadette Jeffery
#10484 Flagler Beach, FL

Jamie and Erica Jolles
#07819 St. Johns, FL

Judy and Dave MacDougall
#05766 Winter Haven, FL
(rejoin)

William and Jill Morrow
#04557 Jacksonville, FL

Ray Rhash
#04378 Tavernier, FL

Rainer Schindler
#05726 Zellwood, FL

William Smith
#11397 The Villages, FL

Pedro and Joanny Torres
#06046 Jacksonville, FL

Lance and Rebecca Williams
#04250 The Villages, FL

New Affiliates

Gary Brinton
#06517 New Cumberland, PA

Katherine and Gregory Brown
#06901 Kingsland, GA

Victor and Susan Collins
#07320 Thornville, OH

Diana Davidson
#07080 Huntsville, AL

Scott and Tracy Doms
#08544 Wesley Chapel, FL

Nadine Johnson
#06693 St. Petersburg, FL

LJ and Leigh Knoll
#04374 Naples, FL

Andy Schriever and Dawn Micele
#11904 Apalachicola, FL

Richard and Christine Owen
#06198 Brooksville, FL

Diane and Kenneth Pagano
#10542 Welaka, FL

Cindy Woods and Rip Rippe
#06250 Fort Myers, FL

Jeanne and Tom Scheitler
#04890 Clayton, GA

Club Communications and Merchandise



FACEBOOK

Connect with members on this club's Facebook page
["Florida Airstream Club 027"](#) Look for the one with our logo.



Florida Airstream Flags

Flags



Garden Banner



2' x 3' and 3' x 5' Sizes

12" x 18" Size

FAC Merchandise



Check it out at
<https://florida-airstream-club.myspreadshop.com/>

T-shirts, hoodies, hats, bandanas, tote bags, etc. with the Florida Airstream logo (in a variety of materials, sizes and colors) are now available for ordering online. Now is the time to get ready for future rallies with your very own Florida Airstream Club logo apparel!

Pricing

2' x 3' Florida Airstream Flag (200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)
3' x 5' Florida Airstream Flag (200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)
12" x 18" Florida Airstream Banner (200 Denier Nylon / 1" Pole Pocket on Top)

\$60.00 Each
\$90.00 Each
\$38.00 Each

Contact The Flag Loft to Order Today. Shipping Estimate 1-2 Weeks

800-995-FLAG (3524)

If you would like your garden flag personalized with your names, BRN, and/or home city and state, contact Susan Poole who will embroider up to 17 characters per line, up to 3 lines (no charge).
susyqmeetup14@gmail.com

Charity Project Chairperson

The Florida Airstream Club members work together to hold fundraising activities throughout the year so that we can present the raised funds to a charity in Florida chosen by our members.

We need a new Charitable Project Chairperson. If you are interested in chairing this important foundation, please contact

[Mike McGinn](mailto:president@floridaairstreamclub.org) - president@floridaairstreamclub.org

Sunshine Committee Report

From Al and Missy Waschka

We have been limited in their Airstream activities this year. Al had a total shoulder replacement of his left shoulder in late January and has just finished formal rehab, so it is now time to do the right one. If it goes as well as the left we should be Airstreaming again in early spring 2026. We hope to be more active in the Florida Airstream club in the cooler months. We plan to spend the hotter months in NC.



This column is the place where we express praise for members' major life accomplishments or concern for those experiencing difficult times.

Please send notifications for Sunshine Committee to:
Deb Oppel
sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
763-670-8772

Florida Airstream Club, ACI Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web
<https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

Airstream Club International. (ACI) Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and recently Airstream Club International (ACI).

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as The South-eastern Unit in 1956 making it one of the oldest units. We schedule rallies all over the state from September through June. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in relaxed atmospheres.

New applicants and renewing members apply online at <https://airstreamclub.org/> Contact Membership Chair below if questions.

Want to be an Affiliate? If you are a member of another ACI club and want to become an affiliate of Florida Airstream Club, do it online anytime during the year by logging into the [ACI website](#) and pulling down the menu under your name in the upper right corner and click on "Join as an Affiliate."

2025 Florida Airstream Club Executive Board and Committee Chairs

2025 Executive Board

President - Mike McGinn - president@floridaairstreamclub.org
Vice President - Gina Fafard - first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
Treasurer - Bruce Fafard - treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org
Secretary - Gina McGinn - secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org
Past President - Steve Kane - pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org

Appointed Positions

Badge Committee Chairperson - [Mike McGinn](#) - badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org
Charitable Project Chairperson - charity@floridaairstreamclub.org
Communications Editor - [Randy Godfrey](#) - communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org
Historian - [Jeff Krabel](#) - historian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Membership Committee Chairperson - [Nelson Arias](#) - membership@floridaairstreamclub.org
Newsletter Editor - [Susan Poole](#) - newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org
Rally/Caravan Committee Chairperson - [Mike McGinn](#) - rally_chair@floridaairstreamclub.org
Social Media Editor - [Judy Barrett](#) - social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org
Sunshine Committee Chairperson - [Deb Oppel](#) - sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
Parliamentarian - [Larry Scovotto](#) - parliamentarian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Webmaster - [Steve Oppel](#) - webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org