



The Trillium

December 2025
Volume 53 Issue 6



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Events Calendar

9:00 a.m. First Friday in each month until May	Eastern Ontario Breakfasts Thruway Restaurant 10432 ON-7 Carleton Place, ON	Hosts: Kerry & Betty M Contact hosts to register
10:30 a.m. Dec. 29 2025	Waterloo Brunch Dearborn Restaurant 105 Lexington Rd, Waterloo, ON	Host: Joyce W Contact host to register
May 8-10 2026	Eastern Shakedown Richmond Fairgrounds, Richmond, Ontario	Hosts: Lynn & Rob D Contact hosts to register
May 8-10 2026	Western Shakedown Wyoming, Ontario	Hosts: Jim & Ena F Mark H. & Lynn E Contact hosts to register
May 14-17 2026	Region 2 Rally Pocono Raceway Infield, Long Pond, PA, USA	Registration is open Note: Collides with OCAC Spring Rally
May 15-18 2026	Spring Rally Drayton Agricultural Fairgrounds Drayton, ON	Hosts: Murray & Glenda P Ruth & Bud G Registration TBA. Deadline April 30
Late June 2026	Early Summer Rendezvous Details TBA	Hosts: Kim & Jeannie E Caroline B & Patrick S Registration TBA

June 25-28 2026	Pennsylvania State Rally Rose Point Park Campground, PA, USA	Hosted by Al-Mon-O PA Airstream Club Registration is open
Aug. 22-27 2026	69th International Rally Minot, ND	Registration is open
Sept 11-14 2026	Fall Rally and AGM Quinte Isle Campground	Hosts: Helen T & Roch G Rally registration TBA Deadline Aug. 27 Book campsite directly 613-476-6310 Availability guaranteed until July 15
Oct. 2-4 2026	Fall Rendezvous Seaforth Agricultural Grounds	Hosts: Kathy B & Gordon D Registration TBA. Deadline Sept. 17
2027	70th International Rally Rock Springs, WY	Registration TBA

Shakedown – is a very informal gathering in the spring and gives us an opportunity to get together, renew friendships and make new ones, dust the cobwebs off our rigs and make sure everything is in good working order for the upcoming camping season. The weekend does not have club business meetings and will likely involve a potluck and casual get-togethers.

Make your own fun.

Rendezvous – another opportunity to get together and a little more structured than a Shakedown but again, it does not include

club business meetings. Subject to the Hosts' planning, it may include a potluck meal and other activities or events.

Another make your own fun.

Rally – as well as getting together, a Rally goes one step further and includes some organized meals, entertainment and may also include training seminars and other activities. Our Club holds a yearly Spring and Fall Rally which involve a business meeting, and the Fall event is our Annual General Meeting.

Important Information For Booking Events in 2026

The Club Executive and hosts have worked hard to arrange the above events well in advance of the 2026 camping season. This should give members the opportunity to bookmark Club events prior to booking their other 2026 camping activities.

As a result of consultations with Executive members, the registrars, and past hosts, there will be some changes to the booking procedure for Club Events.

1. You will notice that there is now a booking deadline beside each event that requires a registrar (rally and rendezvous). It is approximately two weeks prior to the start of the event. This is to give the hosts and caterers more time to finalize numbers and avoid last minute scrambling. As a general rule, no booking will be accepted after this date. We understand that there might be a rare exception, and that will be at the discretion of the registrars and event hosts. Every effort will be made to open registration as early as possible.
2. Payment must be made by etransfer or cheque. Cash will no longer be accepted. This is to ensure better financial tracking and accountability. Due to issues moving money across the border, American attendees may make separate arrangements with the registrar.
3. Any cancellation will result in a refund minus a \$10.00 fee. This is required to cover the increasing costs of bank fees. Please cancel in a timely manner as soon as you are aware you cannot attend a booked event.

Many of these policies are not new, but have been forgotten. I am asking for your support and cooperation so all our volunteer registrars and hosts can conduct events in an organized and low stress manner.



Photo: Tim D



President's Message

Lesley S

I would like to thank you all for your confidence in me, by electing me your Club President for 2026. No one does this job alone. I have the assistance of a talented group on the executive and several past presidents have already provided their help and guidance.

There are many ways that you can assist our club. The number one is volunteering:

- ▶ Be a host or co-host for an event.
- ▶ When the job lists are posted, be the first to sign up.
- ▶ Collect pop tabs or make a Linus blanket.
- ▶ Download a brochure to give to other Airstream owners and tell them about the club. Encourage them to join.

I want to ask everyone to please display your big red numbers when at a Club or other Airstream event. Display them on a window, on the aluminum, or on a portable sign. It is required for all caravans and the International Rally.

Please start your planning now to attend next year's events. We have already spent many hours planning them for you. There are firm dates and location for all events save one, and that is presently under construction. We hope that by publishing this information before the New Year it will allow you to incorporate Club events into your 2026 camping plans.

I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Holiday Season.





Past President's Message

David H

Hello fellow campers. My year as president is now behind me and you are well in the hands of your new executive. I enjoyed my year at the helm but now it's time to move forward with our travel plans.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to my team for helping create a shared vision for the success of our club. The executive worked cohesively as one and the results were amazing. You were a great group to work with.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who dedicated countless hours towards our club, big or small, little or a lot, your tireless efforts are invaluable.

From our house to yours, Carol and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with exciting travels and adventures.

David H



The Trillium

Region 2 President's Message

Patti G

Greetings from Region 2!

We're in the thick of the holiday season-which translates into winterizing the rig for most of us here in Region 2; unless of course, you are actually traveling to warmer climates where that Pepto Bismol-like RV anti-freeze remains on hold!

It's been a busy month. I attended the IBT strategy session in Jackson Center, Ohio, where we gathered under the leadership of newly installed President Jenny S for a week of work, and a hands-on look at the new HQ building. Equally as exciting is the transformation of the old HQ building into the new Member Clubhouse and Historical Center and Educational Library. President Schnettler provided a thorough synopsis of the highlights of our strategy meeting in her new direct-to-membership blog entitled "breaking news." If you haven't, I encourage you to read it.

Speaking of direct correspondence, our R2 team huddled up and dispatched our first mass email to nearly 2700 members of our region, to include local members and members-at-large. We've been talking about doing this for a while. We attached the last issue of the "The Region 2 Beat", our quarterly newsletter, as well as registration information with a more specific agenda for the R2 Rally in May, at the Pocono Raceway. We are teaming up with the Vintage Airstream Club (VAC) at



our rally who will sponsor our Sunday breakfast, as well as hold an Open House, a history seminar, and sponsor a Cornhole Tournament. Please [click here](#) to see their flyer. We have some other surprises in store for the rally; I really can't discuss it here, you are just gonna have to come!

Additionally, we're putting on the finishing touches of our joint Region 1 and Region 2 Rally at Sampson State Park in the Finger Lakes, New York. Back by popular demand, this is a popular rally initiated by R2 Past President Gary R, and has garnered positive reviews since its inception five years ago.

Gary is leading the charge again this year. We plan on opening registration just before Christmas; so be on the lookout for mass emails, Facebook posts, ACI website event cards and the like to get the word out. We're just finishing up the JotForm as of this writing.

Lastly, we want to welcome and congratulate our new slate of officers for our local clubs and units. Thanks for stepping up and leading your respective crews! We'll huddle up and have a Zoom meeting after the 1st of the year.

That's all for now. I'm preparing for my own trip into the "shop" aka the operating room to get "riveted up" aka; getting screws put into my spine on December 1st. So, by the time you read this, I should be just waking up from a long nap; humor is my way of deflecting stress if you haven't figured that out!

But seriously, from all of us here at Region 2, we wish you and yours a happy and healthy holiday season! Be safe!

Patti





Getting to Know Your Executive

Theresa B - First Vice President

I have always loved Airstreams! They are such an iconic design and the epitome of cool travelling freedom.

Some years ago, I was searching for a counterbalance to my demanding career as an executive, program-managing enterprise and industry-wide capital markets and financial services initiatives in Canada and the US. Airstreams kept coming to mind. And about this time I found, on social media, Airstreamers travelling across both North America and Europe – and my Airstreaming dream was born.



So I researched the maximum size an Airstream could be for the Western European roads – 8' wide, 25' long. Based on that I searched for 1.5 years and found a vintage trailer in Windsor, Ontario. My 1976 Trade Wind, named "Daisy", has all the charm of the mid-century modern styling as well as several upgrades and refurbishments. For example, she no longer has the orange countertops and shag carpet of the original, but fortunately, has all the original cabinetry that still works very well.



I bought Daisy in late 2018 and immediately joined the Airstream Club. I've travelled 30,000+ kms to-date, including the Viking Caravan in 2019, the Polar Bear and Northern Lights Caravan in 2023, and the Taste of the Blue Ridge Caravan in 2024. I also travelled to the 2022 International Rally in Wyoming, a number of local rallies/rendezvous in Ontario, as well as travelling in Quebec and the Maritimes.

And, yes, I still plan to take my Airstream to Europe – I'm targeting 2028 as the start of a one to two-year European adventure. To investigate further, this June I went on a small motorhome caravan through Scandinavia for the month – which reinforced my dream of Airstreaming there. Apparently the ACI will be establishing a European chapter soon – I look forward to being an associate member.

I'm so grateful for the Airstream Club and Ontario community who's made me feel so welcome and taught me so much! We have such a positive and kind group of travellers and campers. Thank you.

Now that I'm retired, it's my time to give back and I'm looking forward to volunteering with and serving our Club. As First Vice President, my primary responsibility is to identify the locations and venues for our rallies and rendezvous in 2027, find members to host these events, and provide support to them and our members. Please share your thoughts and recommendations. Looking forward to seeing you down the road!



The Trillium



New Members

Please welcome our newest OCAC members.

Andy Z & Joanne L
2021 International 26

Teresa R & Alan W
2024 International 27FBQ

Hal T & James W
2007 Classic 27

Rob L & Allison O
1993 Excella 29

David & Mary Ann B
2020 Globetrotter 27
(Affiliate members)

Marie T & Clark H
2009 International 28

New members are reminded to send in
headshots (together with partner, if applicable)
to the [directory editor, Steve A.](#)



Thanks Can-Am
for all your
support!

The Towing Specialists



Eastern Ontario Breakfasts

Kerry & Betty M

We have restarted our monthly breakfast get-togethers for both current members and alumni of our Club. These fun sessions are held the first Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the Thruway Restaurant in Carleton Place, ON. The last breakfast of the season is in May.

- ▶ December 5
- ▶ January 2
- ▶ February 6
- ▶ March 6
- ▶ April 3
- ▶ May 1

We had 15 people at our November breakfast and we hope to grow this number as we continue through the winter. The Thruway gives us a private area of the restaurant and their breakfasts are great. The only thing that we ask is that [you let us know that you are coming](#) so that we can give the restaurant a heads-up for staffing purposes.





Region 2 Rally

The 2026 Region 2 Rally will be held from May 14-17 at Pocono Raceway, offering a mix of motorsport action and local attractions. The Infield Campground offers full hookup sites for convenience. The event begins with a catered breakfast buffet on Friday morning, providing a variety of morning dishes to prepare attendees for the day's events. As the weekend unfolds, a taco bar on Saturday night will serve beef and fish tacos. On Sunday morning, participants can enjoy coffee and donuts.

In addition to the food, the rally features activities that showcase the Pocono region's appeal. Attendees can take racetrack tours to learn about Pocono Raceway's history. For adventure seekers, the Pocono Outdoor Adventures Tours offer a chance to explore the surrounding landscapes. Motorsport fans might also have the option to book a Stock Car Racing Experience, depending on the 2026 schedule, for a chance to drive on the famous track. The 2026 Region 2 Rally combines racing excitement with the charm of the Pocono Mountains.

Use the included link to JotForm to sign up.

<https://pci.jotform.com/form/252582870185060>

A promotional poster for a rally event. The background is a textured purple. At the top, a yellow banner with a black border contains the text "Pit Stop in Pocono 2026" in stylized fonts. Below the banner, the words "Region 2 Rally" are written in red. The center of the poster features the words "REGISTRATION OPEN!!" in large, bold, black letters with a red and blue 3D effect. Below this, the dates "14-17 MAY" are shown in white and yellow. To the right, the location "POCONO RACEWAY INFIELD" is written in yellow, followed by the address "1234 Long Pond Road" and "Long Pond, PA 18334" in white. The bottom of the poster has a yellow torn-edge border with two crossed checkered flags on each side.

Pit
Stop in 2026
Pocono

Region 2 Rally

**REGISTRATION
OPEN!!**

14-17
MAY

POCONO RACEWAY INFIELD
1234 Long Pond Road
Long Pond, PA 18334

Pennsylvania Rally



2026 Pennsylvania Rally
June 25-28, 2026

Rose Point Park
Campground
8775 Old US 422
New Castle, PA 16101
724-924-2415



Scan or Click the
QR code to
Register today!



Rose Point Park Campground – New Castle, PA

Nestled along Slippery Rock Creek, Rose Point Park Campground offers a relaxing getaway with modern amenities. From full-hookup RV sites, cabins, and yurts to a heated pool, playgrounds, fishing, hiking trails, and a dog park, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Families can also take part in seasonal events and activities right at the campground.

Just minutes from McConnell's Mill and Moraine State Parks, outdoor adventure is right around the corner. Shopping, dining, and attractions in New Castle, Grove City, and Volant are also nearby. With Interstate 79 close by, Pittsburgh is an easy day trip away—making Rose Point the perfect spot to enjoy both nature and city life.




Silver on the River Rally



What you can expect:

- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Cruises.
- An Airstream exclusive river cruise sailing from Lyon to Avignon through the Rhone Valley and Provence region of France.
- Inclusions: Gourmet meals, unlimited premium drinks, choice of shore excursions, all gratuities, and all panoramic balcony-window suites with butler service.
- Great pre-cruise group options include additional 3 nights on Ravel, tours to Normandy or Champagne region. Post cruise is an optional group trip to Paris.



July 15-22, 2026

More Info:

JASONGRENDAHL@GMAIL.COM



<https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>



Northern Lights & Polar Bear Caravan Report

Patti B

Chris and I just returned from the 2025 Northern Lights and Polar Bear Caravan, and we had an absolute blast. Although the caravan itself was relatively short at 30 days, we spent an extra month exploring northern Ontario before heading to Manitoba to meet up with the rest of the group. Our caravan consisted of 21 rigs, five of which were Canadian, four of those from our Ontario club: us, Pat & Murray L, Tulio S & Beverly E, and Bruce B. Bruce was also one of the co-hosts, along with our Manitoba hosts, Gail & Bruce H. Not only did we make some wonderful new American friends, but we also had the chance to deepen our connections with folks from our own Ontario chapter—a true highlight of the trip.

At first, we thought the main draw of the caravan would be the northern lights and polar bears, and while those were absolutely spectacular, we quickly realized the entire experience surpassed our expectations in every way. The tours, museums, and group dinners were an unexpected delight. Chris, who grew up on a farm, was especially skeptical about the potential excitement of visiting a potato farm, a canola farm, and a bison ranch. He figured, been there, done that, well, he was completely wrong!



From learning about a potato operation that produces enough potatoes to supply an order of McDonald's French fries for every man, woman and child across Canada, the U.S., and most of Mexico, to riding in a horse trailer out to a bison field and being just an arm's length away from dozens of these majestic creatures—it was an eye-opening experience. Even for a seasoned farm boy like Chris, these farms had something new and fascinating to offer.

We traveled north at a leisurely pace towards Thompson, enjoying the journey as much as the destination. Along the way, we took a horse-drawn wagon ride and a nature walk through Spruce Sands Provincial Park, explored a fascinating rail museum, and visited the vibrant Ukrainian community in Dauphin. One of the highlights was a visit to the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Resurrection, where we were not only given a tour of their beautiful, historic church but also a hands-on lesson in the art of painting traditional Ukrainian eggs. We were treated to a lovely authentic Ukrainian dinner that was delicious, complete with a lively performance of Ukrainian dancing and singing—an unforgettable cultural experience.

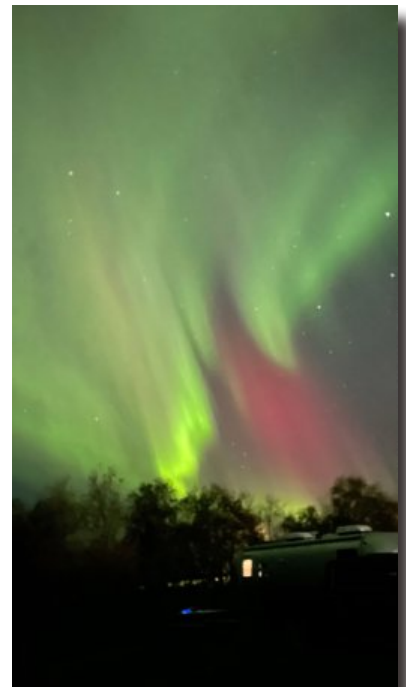
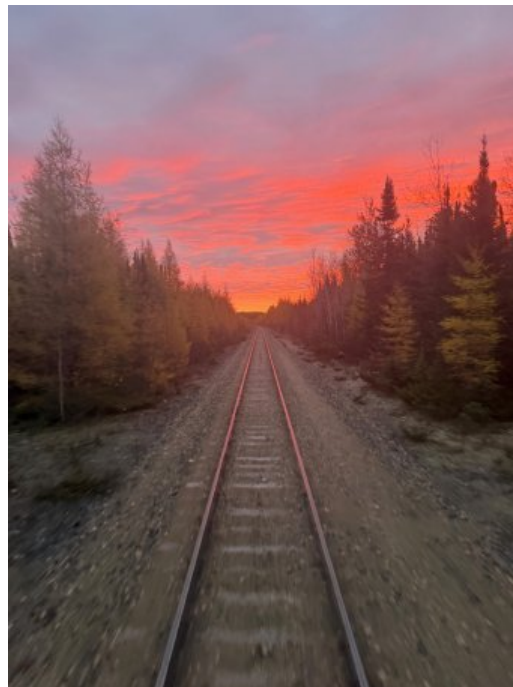


In The Pas, we had the chance to take a stunning nature walk through a marshland area, and on Truth and Reconciliation Day, we participated in a powerful "blanket exercise" that brought Indigenous history to life. Using blankets and the participation of the audience, this experience made the stories of the past more tangible than any textbook ever could. I highly recommend it if you ever have the chance. It was a history I'd learned in school, presented in a way I will never forget. Every school teacher would benefit from introducing this exercise in their classrooms—it's that impactful.

And then, of course, there were the Northern Lights. The Pas was where we witnessed our first true display, and it was nothing short of breathtaking. I felt especially blessed, as the first show came at 4 a.m. on my birthday, and then, miraculously, we had another incredible display that evening at 10 p.m. The

Universe truly gifted me with an awe-inspiring experience, beginning and ending the day with one of the most magnificent natural shows I've ever witnessed.

Next, we headed to Thompson, Manitoba, where we prepared for our train journey to Churchill and organized our community giving project to support multiple organizations in both Thompson and Churchill. After a bumpy 15-hour train ride (thanks to permafrost that made it far bumpier than any train I'd ever taken in Southern Canada!), we arrived in Churchill. Within half an hour off the train, we saw our first polar bear—a thrilling moment. For the next four days, we toured the town and ventured out onto the tundra in specially equipped tundra buggies. We never stepped foot off the vehicles or the tundra lodge, both to protect the fragile tundra ecosystem and because, frankly, tourists being eaten by polar bears would create quite a liability!



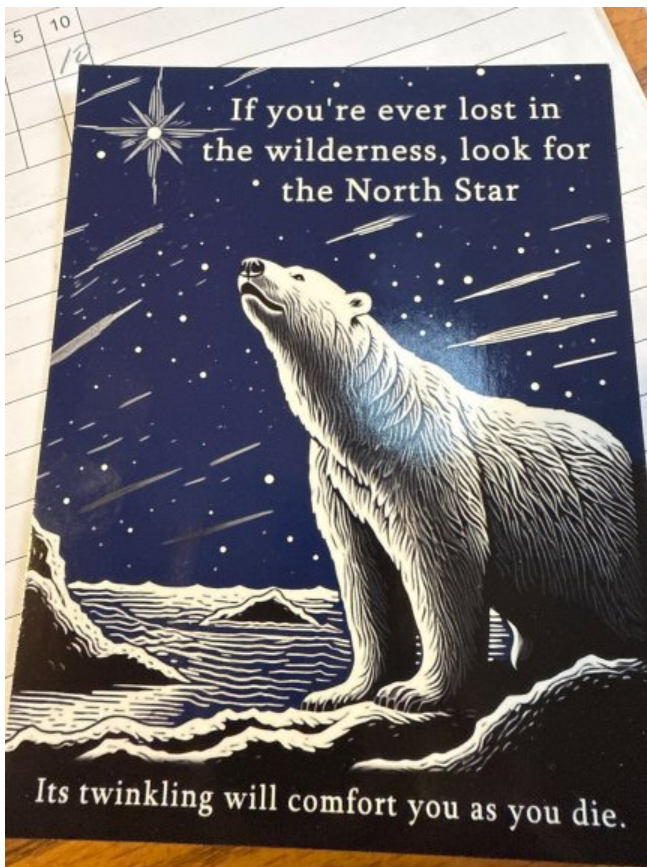


While in Churchill, we had the chance to enjoy the results of a mural festival from 2018, with murals scattered throughout town, each telling a unique story. We also attended a fascinating Dene cultural presentation and a Parks Canada talk on York Factory and the fur trade, which was hands-down the best presentation I've ever seen from Parks Canada. Major kudos to our presenter! And yes, they even allowed us some time to shop for souvenirs, much to Chris's dismay. We were fortunate enough to witness beluga whales breaching in the Churchill estuary—a rare sight by October. It felt like a bonus, adding to the magic of our experience.

Now, about the polar bears. We saw two during our time in Churchill—one shortly after we arrived, and another while we were out on the tundra. While sightings were limited, we were able to spend quite a bit of time watching the young female bear, who seemed just as curious about us as we were about her. She even came right up to one of the tundra buggies, standing on her back legs to peer into the windows and walking around the entire vehicle while we snapped photos non-stop. Though later in the season would provide better opportunities for bear sightings, it's difficult to bring our rigs that far north, and the logistics of getting home afterward make it a challenge as most parks in the north close at Thanksgiving. Although prior to the trip we second-guessed the expense, once experienced, the expense was absolutely worth it. We knew how lucky we were to be able to visit such a remote, awe-inspiring place.

After another long 15-hour train ride back south and two long rig travel days, we wrapped up an amazing month in Winnipeg with a bus tour of the city, a visit to the Assiniboine Zoo, and a stop at the Human Rights Museum. Our final night banquet was fun and easy going, reflecting the trip itself. It was the perfect conclusion to an unforgettable adventure. This is just the tip of the arctic sea ice—if you get the chance, you have to experience it for yourself!

See you down the road.





Ontario Fall Frolic and AGM Report

Theresa B

Our annual Fall Rally, whimsically entitled the Ontario Fall Frolic (OFF), was held on Sept 12-15 at the Lombardy Fairgrounds, in Lombardy, Ontario. Our hosts, Kerry & Betty M and Larry D & June M arranged an active and fun-filled weekend.

In total, we had 33 trailers and 65 Airstreamers in attendance.

We kicked off the rally Friday night with welcome announcements and socializing. We were also able to preview the many silent auction items donated by local businesses and members. Also displayed were the wonderful collection of 78 handmade blankets made by our members and families for the Linus Project – a charity that provides handmade blankets to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or in other circumstances where they need a sense of security and comfort. And a special thank you to Kate D's mother and aunt who made a number of blankets and Kathy F's mother who made 30!



On Saturday and Sunday, we gathered for a continental breakfast and catching up. After breakfast each day June Muir-Duffy offered a "chair yoga" class to help us get stretched and limbered for the activities ahead. Hopefully, we can convince June to offer this class again at future rallies!

Kerry M ran an "Everything you want to know about Caravans" seminar to encourage participation and encourage members to consider leading caravans. Of note, caravans can be of any length and can be Ontario club-specific, in addition to the broader international options. If you're interested in leadership, please contact [Kerry](#) for more details.



Given we were near Smiths Falls, Perth, and the surrounding Ottawa Valley we had time during the day to explore the area. Then, on Saturday afternoon, we held our Annual General Meeting, including the induction of new club members, the review of club business and the induction of our new executive. Many thanks to David H, our

outgoing President, and executive members, for their many contributions to the Club. As we know, the Club is entirely run by volunteers and your contributions are greatly appreciated!

We kicked off the evening with a happy hour and then a catered dinner – very delicious! After more bidding we held the silent auction and raffle to raise money for the local Lanark Animal Welfare Society; in total over \$1000 was raised! One of the coveted and rare items on offer was the Airstream popcorn holder – a limited-edition promotion for the movie, *The Accountant* 2. Lesley Stewart and Leanne Jones won, but then graciously donated it back to the club for an additional auction. After much active bidding, Theresa Brown won and now it has as a place of honour in her condo.

We then enjoyed a music-filled evening with the very talented Gib Rozon Band. Their selection of '70s to '90s music was spot on and the floor was full of Airstreamers dancing the night away.

On Sunday, some members kicked back while others joined the informal picnic and nature walk at the Poonamalie Lock Station. The weather was lovely.



We did have a bit of a challenge with the Lombardy Fairground planning, as they also booked in an auction of small animals on Sunday Morning. There was initially a great concern about the volume of attendee parking, forcing us to rearrange our trailers and put up some guide lines. However, all turned out well. It was strange to see families walking with small cages of rabbits and chickens and other small animals.

Later in the afternoon we returned for another happy hour and a pizza party dinner. We also had a movie option – watching the Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz movie “*The Long, Long Trailer*”. Truly funny and we could identify with so many of their predicaments!

It was great to see so many Airstreamers at this rally, and we look forward to many more adventures together.



Winedezvous Report 1

Katie S

County Bounty! A Windezvous in Prince Edward County.

There's something about a fall weekend in Prince Edward County that just hits different and this year's Windezvous was no exception. From the first pour at the wine tasting to the last spark of the campfire, it was one of those weekends that reminds you why we love this club and the people in it.

Hi, I'm Katie S. This was my first Windezvous and, hopefully, not my last! I've been a proud club member for a year and I'm excited to share my experience with you. I travel with my mom, Colleen O, and my teenage daughter. Three generations of adventure in one rig! Our 2020 Flying Cloud 26U/RBT is the perfect fit, with comfy space for three and plenty of storage. Tagging along are the Golden Boys: our golden retriever Hank and our orange cat Tommy. When we're not on the road, you'll find us knitting, cooking, walking, or out on the water with our SUP boards. We can't wait to share more adventures with you!

Armed with a map of local wineries, we set off to explore some of the County's best sips. The charcuterie dinner that followed was picture-perfect. Good food, great wine, and even better company. The live music carried through the evening, and the campfire glow made it feel like summer was hanging on just for us.

Highlights? Too many to count. Seeing old friends. The perfect weather. Great entertainment. Watching the Blue Jays game together (win or lose, the cheers were loud!). And of course, cruising the County for food stops and views that make you fall in love with this part of Ontario all over again. Smugglers Cove was the ideal venue. Well-organized, full hookups, and the kind of easy comfort that makes relaxing simple.



It was also the little moments that made this weekend so special. One member's birthday was celebrated with a round of "Happy Birthday" and a cake shared among friends. Another member set up a table showcasing beautiful handmade jewellery, including a few pieces crafted from recycled Airstream aluminum. The perfect blend of creativity and community. Everywhere you looked, there was laughter, kindness, and a shared appreciation for this lifestyle we all love.

Getting home took a bit of a twist this time. A detour, thanks to a Boston Marathon qualifier race, closed off the main route out of the County. But in true Airstream fashion, we found the silver lining: the scenic ferry ride that came with the detour! A beautiful autumn day "at sea". Just kidding, it was Lake Ontario, but it sure felt like an adventure.

A huge thank you to our wonderful hosts Helene T & Roch G, to Marc L for curating the wine experience, and to our extra helping hands Shanna M and Theresa B for making it all run so smoothly.



This is such a kind and welcoming group of people, connected by shared interests, a love of travel, and those shiny silver trailers that bring us all together. Here's to more weekends like this one, full of laughter, good friends, and maybe even a surprise ferry ride or two along the way.





Winedezvous Report 2

Theresa B



Winedezvous East Rally – a Fabulous and Social Weekend

Wow, what a great way to wrap up our Club's events this year! The Winedezvous East Rally was held at the Smugglers Cove Campground in Picton, ON the weekend of October 3-5 and was a huge success!

Helene T & Roch G, our intrepid hosts and their helpers, truly put on a wonderful weekend of wine, food, music, and camaraderie. The rally was very well attended by 70 Airstreamers across 36 trailers.

It was an activity-packed weekend, with a Friday night meet-and-greet followed by a bonfire. On both Saturday and Sunday we had a continental breakfast – a special thank you to our early-bird volunteer Airstreamers who got up early to brew the coffee! Much appreciated by those of us who don't wake up until they've consumed a cup or two of java!

The Picton countryside location was perfect! We were literally next to Lake Ontario in a bay so we had all the benefits of the beautiful, sheltered lake views. And,





of course, it was wonderful to see so many silver Airstreams together in one location. We made great use of the campground hall and washroom/shower facilities.

Prince Edward County has a number of charming small towns (Picton, Bloomfield, Port Milford, etc.) and 20+ wineries, so most of us spent Saturday and Sunday during the day exploring and wine tasting in the region.

The highlight of the weekend was a fabulous wine tasting and extensive charcuterie spread (cheese, meats, fruit, nuts, olives, spreads, crackers, baguette, etc. and desserts) that Helene & Roch put on for us all on Saturday night.

We had a blind wine tasting from five local Prince Edward County vineyards – reds from Sandbanks, Lighthall and Del Gatto and whites from Waupoos and Exultet wineries. The wines ranged from \$16 to \$50 a bottle and we had a contest to match the samples. It was amazing how accurate some of our Airstreamers were at matching the wines to the vineyards. Gift certificates for free tastings at a variety of wineries were awarded as well.

And we celebrated Lesley S's birthday. Happy Birthday incoming President!

Then, to top the evening off, we had a bonfire and live music under the stars by the very talented Jimmy Sweets. He played an extensive selection of 70s to 90s music and was warmly received by all.

While the majority of Airstreamers departed on Sunday after our continental breakfast and informal socializing, a group of us remained. After a day of sightseeing, we gathered on Sunday night to cheer for the Blue Jays (they won!) and play Canadian wildlife Monopoly. It was a great way to extend the rally weekend.





Caravan Corner

Kerry M

The OCAC Caravan Committee is hard at work building a caravan program for 2026 and beyond. In the previous Trillium you will have read about Pat L's work on the mini-caravan to Labrador next May and her development of the next True North Caravan in 2027. We can say that the Labrador caravan is now full with standbys possible (contact [Pat](#)) in case there is a cancellation. The same is true for the True North in 2027, with a standby list already. This shows the demand for caravans in our Club. A new idea is a caravan next September tied to the International Plowing Match. Jeannie E has tabled an outline of this short caravan that sounds like a lot of fun. Her write-up can be found elsewhere in this Trillium. Contact [Jeannie](#) and get on her list, as we expect that it will fill rapidly.

We would love to have more caravans but our limitation is the number of Caravan Leaders that we have available. Ideas have been floated about a caravan to the International Rally in Minot ND next August or a caravan to the Calgary Stampede National Event Rally in July. Both are possible if we can find or develop leaders to take them on. We have a couple of members interested in taking a leadership course when it becomes available, and to that end, we are in contact with the National Caravan Committee to find out when a course might be scheduled. At this time, the online version is being

updated with no timeline for completion. We are looking at the possibility of running our own training, through a combination of online and in-person at the Spring Rally. If this sounds interesting, please let us know and we'll push it forward.

With the change of Chair at the National Caravan Committee and a new ACI Executive, there is a major review of the administration of the National Caravan Program. We are monitoring this carefully to ensure that Canadian leaders of caravans run in Canada are not adversely affected by decisions. This is particularly important for banking requirements where OCAC is acting as the sponsoring incorporated organization for caravans like Viking Trail and Meandering the Maritimes. Not exciting stuff, but part of our mandate as a Committee.

We hope that you all have a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We'll see you down the road.





Plowing Match, Beach, and Apple Caravan Announcement

Jeannie E

The Plowing Match, Beach and Apple Caravan is in the planning stage. Confirm [with the organizers](#) before booking sites.

This short caravan will start at a conservation area in the Saugeen Valley. Two nights: Sept. 23 & 24th. You will book your own site online.

We will be located a short drive to the International plowing match near Walkerton, Ontario.

Next stop will be Inverhuron Provincial Park, a short drive west to Lake Huron. Once again, you will book your site for two nights: Sept. 25 and 26th. You must book *early* for Provincial Parks. Bookings open five months prior to your first night, and they fill up quickly!

Last and final stop will be Meaford Memorial Park right down on Georgian Bay on Sept. 27 & 28th.

Two nights to enjoy the apple pie trail, ride your bike on the old rail trail or visit a apple cider farm.

This type of caravan is open so that you can join us for all or just some of our stops. I hope you will join Kim and I exploring what this area offers in the fall of 2026.





Labrador Adventure Caravan Announcement

Pat L

CARVAN IS FULL

OCAC exclusive

Interested in a cutting edge adventure?
OCAC caravan to Labrador is in the works.

The inland passage from Quebec to Labrador is a rugged challenge including pristine, undeveloped northern lands. Our intent is to follow the gorgeous north shore of the St Lawrence to Baie Comeau and then head inland through Quebec with stops including an Innu based station, Churchill Falls and other massive hydro electric facilities, locations highlighting the indigenous culture as well as early European and modern influences. Once along the Atlantic coast we plan a stay at a living museum as well as visiting historic and cultural sites reflecting the life of Labrador people over the past 400 years.

This early season will mean cooler, but do not expect freezing weather. Some tourism sites will not be open yet so we will focus on the land and people around us.

Overnight stays will include community parking lots - and an abandoned air strip! Some sections - various reports suggest about 100 km split in 2 sections - are unpaved and rough. Long stretches of uninhabited land so you and your trailer/ vehicle need to be stocked up, fuelled up (some travel with spare fuel containers),

with spare tires and other maintenance equipment on hand. Wildlife in abundance. Most importantly, this time of year will be just prior to the black fly and mosquito season. We hope.

The caravan end location will let you decide whether to explore the Labrador coast further on your own - dip down into coastal Quebec, cross into Newfoundland on the ferry, or return inland and take in tourist attractions that will have opened.

- ▶ Approximate dates: after May long weekend - June 12, 2026
- ▶ Start: May long weekend OCAC rally
- ▶ End: Red Bay, Labrador
- ▶ Cost: TBD

The caravan is currently full. Email Pat L to be put on a waiting list.



True North Caravan 2027 Announcement

Pat L

CARVAN IS FULL

OCAC exclusive

June 6 - July 20, 2027

Come see the great Canadian North - Northwest Territories, the Yukon and northern provinces in between. Truly a bucket list caravan.

Meeting in northern Alberta, we head north towards Great Slave Lake. Adventures really begin in Hay River, Yellowknife and Dene communities. Camp on the beach. Catch fish for supper. Experience the culture to see the land. Celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day with the community in Fort Simpson. Enjoy the solstice in a land where the sun barely sets.

Dipping down to northern BC for an afternoon at the Hot Springs, wander through the Sign Forest before arriving in the Yukon. Celebrate Canada Day in Whitehorse. Relive the Gold Rush in Dawson City. See glaciers from the air, experience tundra, Tlingit traditions.

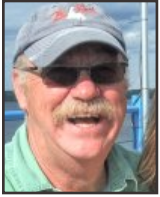
This caravan brings you to unspoiled nature, stunning views, wildlife everywhere. Roads can be rough and not always paved. There will be boondocking at times. Your cell phone may not have a signal. Fuel and groceries need to be planned.

Interested? Make sure your rig and vehicle are in good shape and ready for lots of miles. Dings and dents could happen. Dust is guaranteed. Bring spare parts. Bear Aware for everyone. For those interested: golf and fishing gear.

We would love to have you join us!

- ▶ Number of rigs: 10
- ▶ Leader: Pat Leggatt
- ▶ Expected start/stop location: Edmonton.
- ▶ Optional pay on your own caravan from Ontario to Edmonton
- ▶ Caravan cost (kitty fee): \$3000 currently, and expect increases as we add some activities.
- ▶ There will be optional excursions you may choose which must be covered by the leader. Your individualized payments will reflect those optional excursion fees.
- ▶ Deposit: \$500 to confirm registration
- ▶ Cancellation fee: \$50 plus any non-recoverable costs

The Caravan is currently full. Contact Pat to be put on a waiting list.



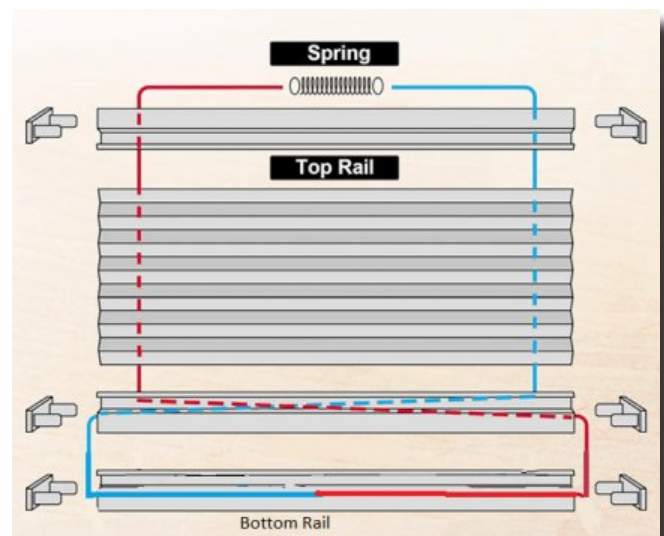
Blinded by the Light

John R

Manfred Mann's Earth Band sang a song written by Bruce Springsteen called "Blinded by the Light" and this summer that is exactly what happened to me. Nothing to do with the nonsensical lyrics of the song, but rather the morning sun coming in the skylight above the bed. You see the cord that runs through the blind broke and the blind could not be closed!

I took the blind apart and in the middle rail, where the cord was supposed to go through the smooth grommet, the grommet had dislodged itself, allowing the cord to rub against the sharp metal of the rail until it finally broke. I was able to tie the broken cord together using a trusty boy scout reef knot but that only allowed me to have the blind in the closed position. I knew it was going to be hard to find a replacement blind since you can not buy blinds with exposed cords in Canada (due to child and pet choking hazard).

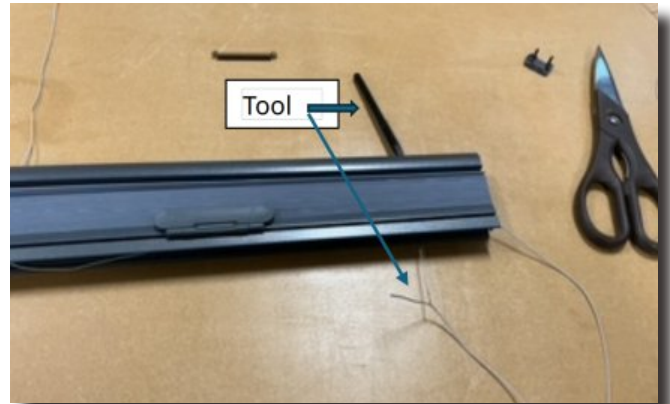
I started looking to see if I could buy replacement cord. After checking out some of the local shops without success I looked on Amazon, and they had Aupoko RV Pleated Shade Repair Kit for \$22.99 with two day delivery. The page on Amazon about the repair kit had instructions on how to restrung the blind. I have modified one of the diagrams (right) to show how mine was strung.



The blue and red cord lines are all one piece. Two colours are used to better show the path of the cord.

The kit comes with cord, extra grommets and a tool to help you string the cord through the blind. You can see the tool to the right: a long pencil like handle with a thin wire loop to catch the cord and pull it through the blind. I only needed the cord as I was able to reinstall the dislodged grommet. There was enough cord to repair 8 blinds of the size that fit my skylight.

I measured the old cord and cut a piece of cord the same length for restringing. The tool made it very easy. The one piece of cord gets connected to a spring in the top rail. Adjustment of the cord tension can be done at the spring end by either shortening or lengthening the cord. The blind was reinstalled in the skylight and is working as good as it did when it came from the factory and as the lyrics go at the end of the song, "Gonna make it through the night".



Tech Tip

Here's a tip I learned several years ago to keep spiders away from propane nozzles - cut a cat's flea collar into two inch lengths and place one length under (or close to) each nozzle.

It works!

- Gordon M



Community Services Update

Project Linus - Julie R

[Editor's note - No Linus update this month, but from the last Trillium...]

Fall and winter are blanket knitting/crocheting season! I encourage you to keep those needles active in advance of the Spring Rally where we will accept your generous donations.

If you would like more information about Project Linus, please see the February 2025 Trillium or visit projectlinuscanada.org

Tabs 4 Kids Wheels - Rick A

[Editor's note - Nothing new in the world of pop tabs, but keep collecting for pickup at the next rally.]