



Happy Holidays

Tarheel Traveler

December 2025

21<sup>st</sup> club established in the WBCCI in 1960

Celebrating Adventure & Community



## Incoming President First Vice President's Corner

**Roger Holland**  
BRN 5796

[roger@h-harchitects.com](mailto:roger@h-harchitects.com)

For my final newsletter article of 2025, I would like to keep it brief and to the point. As we wrap up the year, my primary thoughts are those of thankfulness and appreciation. Specifically, to our Board of Directors, our committee chairs, our rally hosts, our officers, all those willing souls that jumped in and helped at rallies, and last but certainly not least, our outgoing president Ray Combs and his wife Carol. Few people realize the amount of time, effort and love that Ray and Carol put into making the Carolinas Airstream Club the wonderful organization that it is. At every turn and every discussion, Ray's constant focus was on what will make our club better. The 3:00 a.m. emails and texts I received from Ray throughout the year (of which I never read until much later that morning!) were a testament to the club always being in the forefront of his mind and regarding what we could do to make the club better to serve our members. For his leadership and guidance, I will always be grateful.



As we move forward toward 2026, we will strive to maintain the standard of care and concern demonstrated by Ray and our Board this past year and look for ways to continue to improve. 2026 awaits, and we are ready to enjoy every bit of it with you, our CAC family!



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**Ray Combs**  
BRN 822

[raycombs100@gmail.com](mailto:raycombs100@gmail.com)

Next month, be sure to check out the January issue of the *Tarheel Traveler* for some exciting news.

## 2025 CAROLINAS AIRSTREAM CLUB LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Executive Board of Directors:

President – Ray Combs  
First Vice President – Roger Holland  
Second Vice President – John Hoffman  
Treasurer – Janice Overcash  
Recording Secretary – Shari Hord  
Corresponding Secretary – Lee Dunn  
Email Administrator – Lee Dunn  
Director (2-Year) – Vic Fordham  
Director (2-Year) – Jim Plyler  
Director (1-Year) – Jack Grimes  
Director (1-Year) – Björn Kasper  
Immediate Past President – Steve Thompson

### Appointed Roles & Committee Chairs:

Parliamentarian – Bob Hoffman  
Membership Chair – Lee Dunn  
New Member Engagement – Terry Sheally  
65th Anniversary of CAC Celebration Chair – Terry Sheally  
Newsletter Editor – [Penny Guenther](mailto:Penny.Guenther)  
Club Historian – John Carriker  
Facebook Coordinator – Helen Bailey  
Rally-Round-The-Campfire Coordinator – cherylanne "ca" weaver  
Webmaster & Online Store Manager – Wayne Clark



## Second Vice President's Corner

**John T. Hoffman**

**BRN 11416**

[021CACvicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:021CACvicepresident@gmail.com)

As you may know, our Club collected \$2,400 in charity donations at the Ocean Lakes rally. Renee and I were honored to deliver the checks from CAC to MANNA Food Bank and Brother Wolf Animal Rescue in Asheville last month. The staff at both organizations were very grateful and overwhelmed with our Club's generosity.

The proposed JotForm-based survey of our Club membership's participation in the ACI International Rally in Minot, ND, will be live in January. At that time, please watch our website for the survey where we request that you login and complete it. Your answers will help us coordinate travel to this and future ACI rallies to improve planning for future CAC rallies. Even if you are not planning to attend the 2026 International Rally in Minot, your responses would be very much appreciated.

The 2026 CAC Punkin' Chunkin' Rally will now be hosted at the Murphy/Peace Valley KOA Holiday park in Marble, NC, October 15-19. Reservations must be made by phone. The reservation window for our club members opens on January 5, 2026. Call directly to the park office at 828-837-6223. Tell them you're with the Carolinas Airstream Club. They have blocked 25 sites for our rally. Our special rate of \$60 per night (vs the normal \$70/night rate) is good until January 31, 2026. So, you **must** call in January to be certain to get a site and to get this discounted rate. Once you have registered with Peace Valley KOA for your site, go to the CAC website and register for the rally itself. This rally will fill up quickly, and leaf season means the park will sell out, so be sure to book your RV site and register for the CAC Punkin' Chunkin' Rally in January.

2026 will be a busy rally year for the Carolinas Airstream Club. There is still a lot to be accomplished for these rallies, both before and during, and it takes volunteers from our CAC club membership to make each rally a success.

If you have the time, please volunteer. No specific skills are required. As you saw if you attended the Ocean Lakes rally in November, many hands make light work of what may otherwise seem to be a daunting task.

We will need volunteers to help with hosting, set-up, meal preparation, conducting events, and clean-up at each rally. If you are willing and able to contribute time and effort to the rallies you plan to attend, reach out to the host listed for those rallies and volunteer. That is how our club succeeds!



## Rally-Round-The-Campfire

**cherylanne weaver**

**BRN 9883**

[printcessltd@gmail.com](mailto:printcessltd@gmail.com)

704-519-6600

Happy Holidays Streamers!

Hoping you are on the nice list and not the naughty list this year!

Wishing everyone a great holiday season and New Year. See you in 2026!

Mary Shaw – BRN #04132 – has joined the bionic knee club recently. Surgery went well and she is recovering and getting ready to run a marathon – kidding!! She is grateful to her family & friends who are nursing her during this recovery.

"Traveling—it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller." - Ibn Battuta

cherylanne!



## Order Your CAC Swag Here



Check out our club's online store where you can find flags, drinkware, t-shirts, and more that you can customize with your own name(s), BRN, pet name(s), trailer outlines, your trailer's name, and more.

Go here to get started:

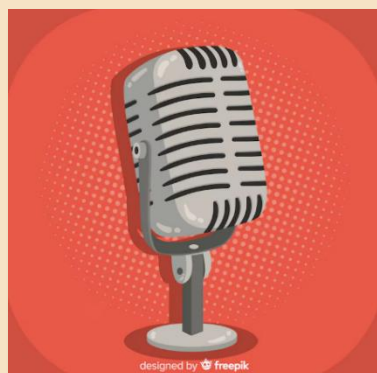
<https://airstreamclub.org/carolinas/021carolinas-online-store>



2025 has marked the 65th anniversary of the Carolinas Airstream Club's charter. To mark the milestone, Tarheel Traveler dedicated this section of the newsletter to the anniversary, and we have shared articles, links to photos, and other information throughout this year's newsletters. We hope you have enjoyed reminiscing and commemorating this achievement.

## REFLECTIONS FROM LONG-STANDING MEMBERS

Contributed by Terry Sheally



In preparation for the 65th anniversary in 2025, the Carolinas Airstream Club invited past club presidents and long-standing members to share their experiences with CAC so that we could learn about the club's history through their voices.

We close out the anniversary year with some of the club's longest standing members reflecting on their time with CAC.

- Listen to live interviews with **Dot Kalet** (<https://youtu.be/FrohFtC1TyA?si=LCbj1pI75AnV-JV>) and **Monroe Bowles**

(<https://youtube.com/shorts/O1kgOnAOaPk?si=Ge1mjo4lMEwTkHSZ>), as recorded by **George Lamb**.

- Read highlights of a phone conversation with **Charlie Fishel** (next page).
- Check out an email from **Jerry and Ann Hall** to club members (next page).

You can find these and other interviews with long-standing club members on the CAC Website/Resources and Documents/Historical Artifacts. Take a listen when you get a chance—

### Carolinas Airstream Club



This segment featuring your travel-friendly recipes has been a fun supplement to this year's recognition of 65 years of adventure and community in our club. Thank you to each person who contributed!

## CAROLINAS AIRSTREAMERS CAN COOK!

### Cranberry Apricot Cream Cheese Spread

Contributed by Nancy Benson, BRN: 6217

#### Ingredients:

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- ½ cup dried cranberries, chopped
- ½ cup dried apricots, chopped
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 1 teaspoon orange zest grated
- ¼ teaspoon ground ginger, optional

#### Directions:

In a large bowl, whisk together the cream cheese, chopped cranberries, chopped apricots, orange juice, orange zest, and ground ginger until well combined.



Congratulations to **Mindy Warde**, KR4IFN and BRN 9256, who passed her ham radio Technician License at the 65th anniversary rally in Myrtle Beach! She is the 25th ham in CAC!

A special *thank you* to the entire anniversary team that dedicated so many hours of their time finding unique ways for our members to celebrate and honor this club's 65 years of being!



# A PHONE CONVERSATION WITH CHARLIE FISHEL



Charlie Fishel

BRN 16765

Joined ACI 1/1/72

- I was 37 years old when I joined. Back then, you could not join until two club members wrote up a history of us, we had to visit the club at least two times, and at the 2nd visit the club members voted us into the club.
  - The club back then it was more family-oriented than today. We knew everybody.
  - We did a lot of cooking and eating—Friday, Saturday, supper. My wife and I would fix dinner for the club for Thursday before the rally started. Have a poor man's supper. Made 100 tarts for dessert. Cooked about 17 pounds of beans, hush puppies, slaw, onions.
  - We put a little tip jar on the table for outreach money. Did a lot of work for the hospital at Wake Forest for Ronald McDonald House. In winter, when we did not have a rally, we would help out.
  - No one was allowed to have beer or wine in the campground, only in their trailer.
- Before we got our Airstream, we would camp at Lakewood. Then, Ocean Lakes opened up and went there its first year with my wife and three kids. There were only six sites in the sand. A photographer was there and took a picture of us with our unit. The next year, 1971, Ocean Lakes opened up and a photo of our unit was in the directory!
  - I remember when CAC split into 3 different clubs. They each had 50 - 60 members. We could all go out and eat at one time. Enjoyed it. Had lots of good fun.
  - My first international rally was in 1975. There were 4 trailers short of 4000! Water only. 500 of us were far away. Kids would get picked up and we wouldn't see them all day.
  - We never locked our trailers.
  - In 2003, we were up in NY where the World's Fair was. They lined us up so straight that I was in the 17th row back and could see people coming up from the first trailer.
  - That's when grandparents used to bring their granddaughters and have queens and parades. Every club was required to bring or make a float for the parade. Each club would try to outdo the other. We spent the week making the float. My job was to space them out as they left in the parade so they wouldn't be on top of each other. It took 1 hour to get the parade out. We went last; my granddaughter was there and had finished her first year of college. She was the queen.

# AN EMAIL TO CLUB MEMBERS FROM JERRY AND ANN HALL



Jerry and Ann Hall

BRN 2693

Joined ACI 5/3/05

Greetings from Jerry and Ann Hall!

We joined the Carolinas Unit in June 2005 at the encouragement of Jim & Debbie Cocke. Over the years, we have formed many friendships we wouldn't have had otherwise. One of the members is Charlie & Linda Fishel. We remember the rallies at Ocean Lakes; Charlie would cook his big pot of navy beans and Linda would make the cornbread. We would normally have 15 to 18 members attending. At any rally there was always plenty of food.

We have lost some of our longtime members due to death: Ray and Peggy Moser, Dwayne and Pat Carter, Ken Dorn, Lenwood Ammons.

During our time in the club, we have enjoyed traveling and have done 12 Airstream caravans.

As a member of the club, it has been a wonderful 20 years, but due to health reasons we have been unable to attend recent events and have missed getting to know our newer members.

Please continue the tradition!

# Rallies and Caravans for 2026



The 2026 Region 3 Rally is now SOLD OUT!  
[Click here to add yourself to the WAITLIST.](#)

## March 2026

Region 3 Rally, Lakeland, FL, March 4-8  
James Island SC Rally, March 19-22

## April 2026

Tanglewood Park NC Rally, April 16-19  
Trot In To Tryon NC Rally, April 23-26  
SeaBreeze, Holden Beach NC Rally, April 30-May 3

## May 2026

Shining in Shelby Urban Rally, Shelby, NC, May 7-10  
May in Mayberry NC Rally, May 14-17

## June 2026

Campfires in Cherokee NC Rally June 4-7  
NC Blue Ridge Waterfalls Galore Rally June 11-14

## July 2026

Top Of Georgia Rally, Helen, GA, July 9-12

## August 2026

Traveling Group to International, August 14-21  
ACI International Rally, Minot, ND, August 22-27

## September 2026

Little Washington NC Waterfront River Walk Urban Rally, September 10-13  
Carolina Mountain Jamboree Joint Rally, TBD NC, September 17-20  
Coastal Plains WillowTree Rally, Longs, SC, September 24-27

## October 2026

NC Blue Ridge Waterfalls & Leaves Galore (Autumn Edition) Rally, Lake Toxaway, NC, October 1-4  
Mills River NC Wagon Wheel Rally, October 8-11  
Punkin Chunkin Festival and Chili Cook-Off Rally, Marble, NC, October 15-19

## November 2026

Ocean Lakes – Myrtle Beach Rally November 4-8  
Christmas At Biltmore Estate Rally, Asheville, NC, November 16-19



Considering going to Minot in 2026?  
[Click here to learn about registration, deadline dates, fees, and more.](#)

## Where You Can Find Us

- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club website:  
<https://airstreamclub.org/carolinas>
- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/NCUnit21Wbcc/>
- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club email:  
[club021@airstreamclub.org](mailto:club021@airstreamclub.org)
- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club upcoming rallies:  
<https://airstreamclub.org/events?from=&to=&type=-1&state=-1&club=45876&list=1>
- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club standard logo merchandise:  
<https://www.youcustomizeit.com/des/Carolina-Airstream-Club/7478561>
- ✦ Carolinas Airstream Club 65th Anniversary logo merchandise:  
<https://www.youcustomizeit.com/des/65th-Anniversary-the-Carolina-Airstream-Club/7533616>



# Airstream-focused Service Shop Opens in NC in 2026!



There is now a new option for Airstream service and upgrades in the Carolinas! Chad Watson, BRN 8489, is opening **Ramble Trailerworks North Carolina** on January 1st, 2026, in Kernersville, NC. The Airstream-focused service shop offers general repairs and maintenance, modifications, and upgrades, including solar, lithium batteries, generators, clear glass for the door, and more. In the near future, Chad also plans to offer ceramic coating.

Chad previously worked at Blue Compass/Airstream of Greensboro, where this past year he became the number one Airstream salesperson in the world. He also runs *Chad's RV Reviews*, a YouTube channel focused on Airstream tours, upgrades, and camping tips.

While working in the dealership environment, Chad saw firsthand the challenges facing many RV service departments. He wanted to offer fellow Airstreamers—especially those in the Carolinas and surrounding areas—another option: one built on craftsmanship, communication, and genuine care for the Airstream lifestyle.

"At Ramble Trailerworks, we believe Airstream owners deserve service that reflects the same quality and intention that goes into their trailers," Chad said. "That means doing things the right way, not the fastest way. We take time to understand how each owner uses their rig, offer thoughtful recommendations, and perform upgrades and repairs with precision. Above all, we aim to create a service experience rooted in honesty, transparency, and respect for both your time and your travels."

Chad is partnering with Jonathan Penn, BRN 22628, in this venture. Jonathan owns and operates Ramble Texas in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

More information about Ramble can be found at [rambletrailerworks.com](https://rambletrailerworks.com) and *Chad's RV Reviews* on YouTube.

If you're interested in scheduling service, you can call Chad at 336-559-ROAM (7626) or email [chad@rambletrailerworks.com](mailto:chad@rambletrailerworks.com).

Chad, his wife Laura, and their dog Rosie enjoy camping in their 2020 Flying Cloud 25FBT. This past year, they attended the Region 3 Rally in Ladson, SC, the ACI International Rally in York, PA, visited ACI Headquarters in Jackson Center, OH, enjoyed a quiet stay at Doughton Park Campground in North Carolina, and wrapped up the camping season at the Ocean Lakes end-of-year rally in Myrtle Beach, SC, with the Carolinas Club.



## CAC to be Represented at Greensboro, NC, RV Show in Jan 2026

Contributed by Keith Cooke



The Carolinas Airstream Club (CAC) will be participating with Blue Compass RV (Airstream of Greensboro) at the 2026 Progressive NCRVDA Greensboro RV Show from January 9 - 11. CAC will have a booth with the Airstream trailers that Blue Compass will have on display.

We will be reaching out directly to members in the Greensboro area, asking for volunteers to help run the booth during the show hours. The club has updated our trifold brochure and will have those available as handouts as well as a video slideshow of pictures from our 2025 rallies as promotional activities.

More information about the show can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#), or by contacting Keith Cooke at [kcooke2423@icloud.com](mailto:kcooke2423@icloud.com).

