

RIVETED RAZORBACK



December 2025

President's Message

By David Holsted, BRN 6884

Greetings Airstreamers and Happy Holidays!

As the leaves have turned and fallen and the air grows crisp, we're excited to bring you the latest updates from our Arkansas Razorback Club family. This past fall has been one to remember with outstanding rallies, new friendships, and a growing community. Let's look at our exciting upcoming adventures for 2026!

Great Fall Rallies: Memories to Last a Lifetime

Region 6 Rally at The Ridge Outdoor Resort in Sevierville, Tenn. was like a mini-international rally. Four parks were packed with silver Airstreams which was a successful Region 6 Rally, thanks to Region 6 President David Gulley

and First Lady Mary Gulley. They started working on this more than two years ago, putting in many long hours to make this one of the most memorable rallies we have had. The talking seminars, entertainment, meals, goodie bags, etc. were top notch. We are looking forward to the next Region 6 Rally (September 2026 in Foley, Ala.) and know it will be a blast.

October began with Airstreams on the Square in El Dorado, Ark. which was a peace and love success. Jan Heavener and Mark Magie continue to outdo themselves each year with the mystery of what the next year's theme will be. As the word spreads, the rally keeps having new people from all over who want to experience this event.

Burning Mouse / Arkaluma at Petit Jean Mountain was an-

other great time with the largest attendance we have ever had. We had to use overflow parking, and we are now discussing additional parking for more attendees in the future. This is always one of our favorite rallies as many enjoy putting their boondocking talents to good use. I can't thank Paul Greene and the other planners enough for all the hard work they have done over the years to put this rally on.

A stopover between Arkaluma and Buffalo Point at the Kenda Drive-In Theatre in Marshall, Ark. was a fun time. Thanks to Jan Heavener and Jeff Dalrymple for putting this together. It may come up again in the future.

The Buffalo Point rally, hosted by Jason and Dana Landrum, was a farewell event to end the 2025 season. If you want to come in 2026, let Jason know and he'll put you

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Please Welcome Our Newest Members!

ARAC Members:

- **Chris & Susan Hunter, BRN 7194**, Russellville, Ark., 2017 Flying Cloud 26 [former affiliate member and transfer from Virginia Airstream Club]
- **Byron & Lou Kaelin, BRN 13713**, Crossville, Tenn., 1992 Classic 34 & 2005 Safari 25 [former affiliate member and transfer from at-large]
- **Kent & Jenny McKay, BRN 5559**, Bossier City, La., 1959 Ambassador 28
- **Paul & Tina Patrick, BRN 7713**, Eureka Springs, Ark., 2025 Globetrotter 27 [former affiliate member and transfer from at-large]
- **Heidi Peterson & Rodney Ramsey, BRN 25165**, Joplin, Mo., 1999 Safari 25 [former affiliate member and transfer from Greater St. Louis Airstream Club]
- **Philip & Charlie Weaver, BRN 12758**, Camden, Ark., 1978 International 31 & 2013 Flying Cloud 27

Affiliate Members:

- **Steven & Linda Blackmer, BRN 1095**, Linden, Mich., 1978 Trade Wind 25 & 1954 Wally Byam Holiday 15 [Southeastern Michigan Airstream Club]
- **Todd & Kathryn Estabrook, BRN 21425**, Sarasota, Fla., 2025 Tradewind 25 [Georgia Airstream Club]
- **Gregory & Annette Hathaway, BRN 5491**, Maryville, Tenn., 2011 International 28 [East Tennessee Airstream Club]
- **Robert Hoffman & Wayne Clark, BRN 22384**, Charlotte, N.C., 2020 Globetrotter 27 [Carolines Airstream Club]
- **Stuebe & Denny Kennedy, BRN 7971**, Venice, Calif., 2019 International 25 & 1946 Curtis Wright Model 2 16 [Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club]
- **Michael & Tina Lambert, BRN 1640**, St. Thomas, Ont., 1996 Excella 34 [Ontario Canada Airstream Club]
- **Terry & Anna Reynolds, BRN 1158**, Gautier, Miss., 2018 International 30 [Mississippi Airstream Club]
- **Lauretta Smith & Pierre Bogros, BRN 2329**, Castalian Springs, Tenn., 1971 International Land Yacht Overlander 27 [Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club]
- **Brenda & Matthew Taylor, BRN 22911**, Georgetown, TX, 2022 Bambi 22 [Texas Highland Lakes Airstream Club]

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on the “you need to make your reservation NOW” list.

Our club’s Christmas shindig at Trent and Jennifer Roberts’ home was a festive event with the traditional Arkansas Riveted Razorbacks happy hour beginning at 4 p.m. followed by a wonderful meal and dirty Santa gift exchange.

Thank you to all our coordinators and volunteers who made these rallies so special. Your energy and creativity are the heart of our club!

Welcome to Our Many New Members

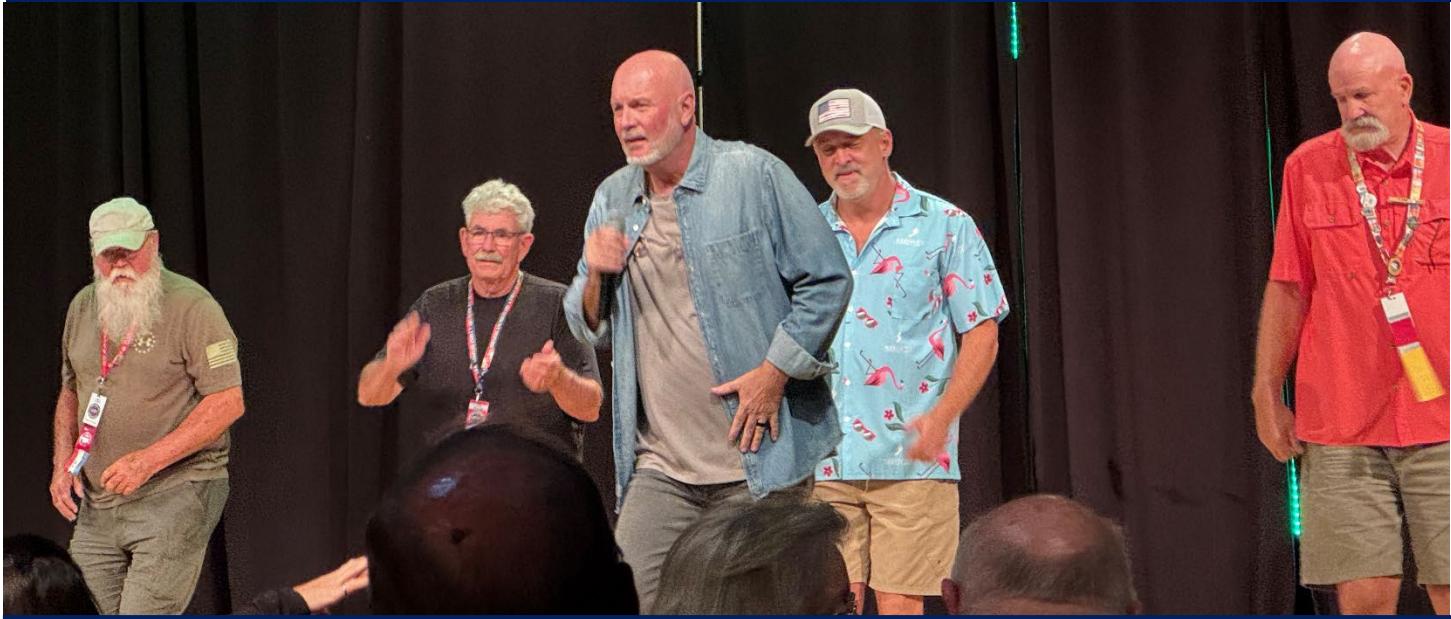
We are thrilled to announce a surge in new and affiliated memberships this season! A number of new Airstreamers have joined our community bringing fresh perspectives and enthusiasm. Whether you’re a seasoned traveler or a first-time adventurer, we’re excited to get to know you and share our rallies down the road ahead. Don’t forget to introduce yourself on our club social media and join our upcoming events!

Remember to check our website and social media pages for the latest news, photos and event updates. Share your rally stories and travel tips—we love seeing the adventures our members embark on!

Thank you for making our club an incredible community. If you have ever attended the annual International Rally and hear “Oh … you’re with the Razorback Club,” you will get a sense of how we are well known as the “fun club” and why so many want to come to our rallies.

Happy holidays and see you down the road!

New email address for club!!! Many thanks to Martis Tipton for updating our membership directory and creating a new email address for the club: rivetedrazorbacks@gmail.com. You can email to this address, and an officer will be contacted to respond to you. Only officers, board members, and selected representatives will have access to this email account or send out emails from this account. However, newsletter submissions should still be sent to Dana at rbackairnewsletter@gmail.com for now.



2025 REGION 6 RALLY

The Ridge Outdoor Resort • Sevierville, Tenn. • September 24-28

For more news and photos from the Region 6 Rally, check out the Region 6 December 2025 Travelin' Times.





the good, the bad, and the...



Modern two-way radio for caravans and rallies

By: Jeff Dalrymple BRN 7026

In this modern age, we have more ways to communicate than ever. We can post to Facebook, send texts, and use apps to put out into the Ether. However, none of these are great real-time mediums, one-to-many mediums. We never know when folks are going to look at their messages. I am probably the guiltiest of not checking my own, but I digress.

It is no secret I am a radio aficionado (perhaps “geek” would be the label some would choose). Two-way radio is the primary mode of communication used by many organizations to convey time-sensitive messages. For instance, firefighters, police officers, school bus fleets, and manufacturing plants all use two-way radio to perform their jobs to the best of their abilities. It provides instant communication to either one or many people, and direct feedback can be given that the message was received.

During the height of the Citizens’ Band (CB) craze of the 1970s and 1980s, even the WBCCI got into the party. At the International rallies, Wally Byam Control was staffed 24/7 by volunteers to make announcements, answer questions, and provide real-time information to the masses. Members installed radios in their trailers and used them much like an onsite intercom.

Obviously, cellular phones and electronic messaging have eliminated the need for a wireless intercom while parked at a rally, but a radio in the tow rig while traveling as a group could be handy and fun. To be able to announce an unplanned stop at an interesting spot or perhaps summon help in real time without worrying about when a text message might be read, could be a helpful tool.

CB radios still exist but let’s face it … they are not that good and never really were. Large antennas that must be installed and tuned correctly to manage even a mile or two of range are a pain. The frequency band and AM voice modulation used by CB radio are both very susceptible to interference that causes static and noise that makes most of us turn them down or completely off.

Enter GMRS, or more properly, the General Mobile Radio Service. This is a group of radio channels set aside by the FCC for the public to use. These frequencies are in the middle of the business and government channels at 460 megahertz. No-static FM voice modulation keeps the radio quiet and the voice clear for several miles of range. The radios are very similar to the units used by fire and police.

For the casual caravanner, the basic radios are compact and can be powered from cigarette lighter plug for temporary use. The antennas are small and don’t require difficult tuning. Simple magnetic mounting allows for easy installation, and then you are ready to travel. For the slightly more interested, the radios and antennas can be mounted more permanently. There are even handheld radios available for local onsite communications, such as from the rear of the trailer to the cab during parking.

I would be amiss not mentioning that by the letter of the law, GMRS users are required to obtain a license from the FCC. It is a simple process that can be found by searching “GMRS license application,” online. The fee is \$35.00 for a ten-year license for the entire family of the licensee.

The level of use discussed in this article only scrapes the surface of the GMRS world. Enthusiasts put up towers and repeater systems that are connected to the internet. We can take advantage of occasional short-range use while traveling. Let your conscience be your guide.

The Cost is nominal. Complete mobile radio kits with medium transmit power, and a magnetic antenna can be found for around \$100.00. Higher transmit power will extend the talk-out range. The radios with more power are a little more expensive, usually around \$250.00-\$350.00 with the antenna. Small portable radios are handy when parked, but not a substitute for a mobile radio when traveling. The handheld radios

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Airstreams on the Square, El Dorado, Ark., October 16-19





ARKALUMA a/k/a BURNING MOUSE

PETIT JEAN MOUNTAIN

October 23-26

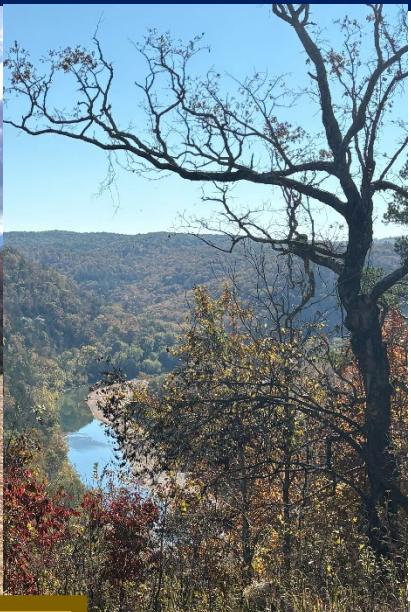






Movie Night at the Kenda Drive-In
Marshall, Arkansas • October 26





BUFFALO POINT

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 2





This was ARAC's eleventh year to hold a rally at Buffalo Point. This year, we had another Halloween-themed happy hour, campfires, a hike to Indian rock house, a Seinfeld trivia contest, and all the usual fun, including our third Blackstone competition organized by Gail Estabrook. Thank you, Gail!!!





2026 RALLY SCHEDULE

February 19-22, 2026: Unit Board of Trustees (UBT) (open to all members) in Stuttgart, Ark. Join us for a weekend at Zach Bullock's magnificent estate in Stuttgart, the duck and rice capital of the world! There will be all sorts of fun and some sort of meeting. Emphasis on fun. *Host: Zach Bullock (zachdbullock@me.com)*.

March 19-22, 2026: Hope, Diamonds & Jonquil Rally in Hope, Ark. Enjoy the Old Washington State Park Jonquil Festival while camping at the Hope Fairground. Other activities: Bill Clinton's birthplace home; Depot Museum; Klipsch Speaker Museum; and Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro, Ark. *Hosts: Arnie & Eleanor Jester (ajester2002@yahoo.com) and Pam & Ronnie Belk (calfneck42@yahoo.com)*.

April 12, 2026 – TBD (by you): Spring Fling in Gulf Shores State Park in Gulf Shores, Ala. Go to <https://reserve.alapark.com/gulf/campsites> to make your reservations in the 220 to 250 area. Stay as long as you like! Enjoy the Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail; Blue Angels practices; National Naval Aviation Museum; local farmers' markets; April wine dinners; tiki bar cruises and dolphin cruises; Bushwackers; Bands on the Beach on Pensacola Beach on Tuesday 7-9 p.m; and more! *Contact David Holsted (dholsted55@gmail.com) for more details.*

May 7-10, 2026: Bike Rack Brewing Co., Bentonville, Ark. *Tentative – details to follow.*

May 14-17, 2026: Bikes, Buddies, and Brewpubs at Downtown Riverside RV Park, N. Little Rock, Ark. Campground is 50-amp (bring 30-amp adapter if needed). Morning bike rides on the Arkansas River trail (optional) followed by local pub crawls. Make reservations through the park at 501-340-5312; request sites closest to river (mention Arkansas Airstream Club). *Hosts: Paul & Jeannie Beck (pacbeck@gmail.com) and Dana & Jason Landrum (jdlandrum@mac.com)*.

August 22-27, 2026: 69th Annual Airstream Club International Rally – Minot, N.D. Fun, friendships, and all things Airstream. <https://airstreamclub.org/2026-international-rally>

September 10-13, 2026: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun. Location TBD. *Hosts: Laura Wessinger (llwessinger@gmail.com) & Terry Madden.*

September 23-27, 2026: Region 6 Rally – Unhitched RV, Foley, Ala. More details to follow.



Silver on the River - ACI National Event Rally

- Custom itinerary in France on the Rhone River with a full boat charter for our Airstream Club group
- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Luxury Cruises
- Check the ACI website for complete details
- <https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>
- Airstream Club friends and family welcome!
- Space is limited, sign up today!

Sailing
July 15-22
2026

Registration
Now Open!

FALL 2026 COME-AND-GO TRAVELING RALLY

This fall Traveling Rally is a come-and-go rally. Drop in, drop out, or stay for the whole trip. Make it work for you ... the Razorbacks may be the only club that does this! We're certainly the most fun! More details to follow about these rallies.

October 15-18, 2026: 9th annual Airstreams on the Square in El Dorado, Ark. Plan for an out-of-this-world fun time at "Silver Trek: The Final Frontier" ... think Spock's pointy ears!

October 22-25, 2026: Arkaluma aka "Burning Mouse" – Museum of Automobiles, Petit Jean Mountain. Join your friends around the campfire and hear the tragic tale of two lovers with tails – Arka and Luma. This is a boondocking rally on beautiful Petit Jean Mountain near Morrilton, Ark.

October 29 - November 1, 2026: Halloween on the Rez! Jeff and Cindy have opened their place for a Halloween adventure in Jay, Okla. Costumes welcome!

November 5-8, 2026: Buffalo Point Rally, Buffalo National River. The end of the camping season would not be complete without the Buffalo Point Rally on America's first national river near Yellville, Ark. A hike to the Indian Rockhouse, and food, glorious food, are a few of the activities that delight Airstreamers each year.

2026-2027

Officers

President: David Holsted

Vice President: Katie Gulley

Second Vice President: Meagan Walker

Secretary: Cindy Kugel

Treasurer: Laura Wessinger

Board of Directors

Melissa Anthony (2024-2026)

Jack Blakley (2024-2026)

Other

Paul Beck, Webmaster

Dana Landrum, Newsletter Editor

Frank Cox, Membership Chair

Modern two-way radio, cont'd from page 5

can be found for \$25.00-\$50.00 on Amazon and on other sites that specifically sell GMRS mobile radio equipment.

At the time of writing this article, a Retvis RA-86 (a complete medium power mobile kit) is for sale for \$113.00. There is also an option on Amazon that includes this radio in addition to two handheld radios for \$209.00 total. Any radio that is advertised as GMRS with repeater channels will be compatible with each other.

As mentioned, this article exposes only the very basic concepts of GMRS. There is a world of information on the web if you are interested in learning more. A radio is certainly not going to be required hardware on a caravan, but you never know what you might miss out on!

If you have any questions or comments, you may contact me at fdcaptjd@gmail.com for more information.

2027 SAVE-THE-DATES

June 26-July 1, 2027: 70th Annual Airstream Club International Rally – Rock Springs, Wyo.

September 22-26, 2027: Region 6 Rally – The Ridge Outdoor Resort, Sevierville, Tenn.