

*Happy
Easter!*



THE BELL RINGER

PALMETTO STATE AIRSTREAM CLUB
CLUB 022 WBCCI



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President’s Message:

by Donnie Lee (BRN 11798)



Spring is in the air, finally! Not sure if it’s just me, but I’m ready for some warmer weather.

Even though, in a few short months I will be looking for the cool weather again!

It’s time to get those Airstreams out and get ready for some rallies, regardless of the weather.

If you missed our annual Valentines banquet, you missed out on a real treat. We had 28 in attendance along with 2 new couples. Everyone in attendance had a great time catching up and socializing.

I hope everyone is looking forward to our “Silver in the Sand” rally at Ocean Lakes Campground. We are expecting approximately 50 in attendance and will be hosted by Bill & Sandee Welch and Paul & Kathy Welch. Vickie and I are looking forward to celebrating Saint Patrick’s Day, so plan on having some fun in the sand.

A special note for this rally:

We will have a short business meeting, to hold a vote on Region 3 officers. Ballots are prepared and will be handed out to all current members. I will send out an email ballot to those members not in attendance. If ballots are not returned by April 1st they will be marked “abstain”. If anyone has any other business to be discussed, please let me know.

I received notification that our Allison Creek rally scheduled for August 22-25 has a cutoff registration for sites being held for Palmetto Airstream Club of March 31st. We have 15 sites open. If you wish to attend this rally, you must contact them at 803-323-2035 or go by the park to reserve a site. When they are gone, they are gone!

Vickie and I continue to work out the details of our Carolina Mountain Jamboree rally in September, at Palmetto Cove (September 18-22). We plan to review the proposed agenda while at Ocean Lakes during our business meeting.

Be sure to review our upcoming rallies and join us for more fun!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March Birthdays

Mark Weaver – 9
James T Schaal – 13
Cheryl Smithson – 14
Jan Wilson – 14
Lisa Holden – 20
Julie Gray – 21
Allen Kirchner – 22
Michael Miller – 22
Rob Eggebrecht – 27



April Birthdays:

Brit Cox – 4
Dan Steadman – 6
Bill Butucel – 6
Joyce Butucel – 7
Bob Hoffman – 8
John Leake – 11
Roxanne DeVecchio – 12
Marvin Snead – 25
Donnie Lee – 27



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March Anniversaries:

Chris & Maggie Zerkus – 13
Donnie & Vickie Lee – 25

April Anniversaries:

Terry & Annie Montgomery – 6
Eddie & Sandi Lee – 21
Donn & Julie Gray - 22



Spring

Cares and Prayers:

- Continued prayers for Jeff Morehead for healing and for the passing of his father.
- Healing prayers for Burt & Gail Broadway.
- Healing prayers for Bill Butucel.



Nuts & Bolts by Eric Graham (BRN 05097)

Airstream's Electrical System – Solar - Part 8

What is 27 million °F in the center and 1.3 million Earths could fit inside? The answer is the sun! The sun converts more than 4 million tons of solar material into energy every second, reaching Earth in 8 minutes 20 seconds later. Solar energy can be harnessed and converted into direct current (DC) power using solar panels. There are so many panel types and brands, all with wide price differences. How do you choose? Do you permanently mount the solar panels on your Airstream, or do you use a solar panel suitcase? Let us dive into details so you can decide if solar is right for you.

There are three main types of solar panels:

•**Monocrystalline:** Is most efficient solar technology, but it's also the most expensive. It has a distinct black appearance and has a polarized front glass with an aluminum back plate making the panels a bit heavy. Monocrystalline will have the longest life span of other cell types, but they do need an air gap to help cool the panel, or heat will shorten the life span.

•**Polycrystalline:** Polycrystalline is less efficient than monocrystalline but is also less expensive. It has a bluish appearance and has a polarized glass front with metal body, also making it heavy. They also need air circulation to help cool the panels, or you risk shortening the life of each panel.

Continued on page 4

Airstream's Electrical System – Solar - Part 8

- **Amorphous:** These are thin, light, and flexible panels. The cells are attached to a substrate like glass, metal, but most commonly plastic. They are very thin and bendable, unlike other panels. They are ideal for Airstream's curves, but they are not very efficient compared to other panel types. They are less expensive but have the shortest life span.

In general, a solar panel's lifespan ranges from 10 to 20 years depending on panel type, and time exposed to the sun. The more sun exposure the shorter the life span. Most panels today have a solar conversion efficiency of <22%, which is determined by cell type, quality, and the region. The Carolinas region will produce 4.5 to 5.0Kw/day with optimal angle for 6 hours on a clear summer day. You will utilize a small amount of energy due to the limited number of panels. Most permanent installed panels will be <200watts. There are many factors that determine the number of panels that can be installed such as panel size and obstacles on the roof. Solar panels need to be treated as a supplement or short-term power source. There are few occasions when panels will produce power at their full capacity.

Solar panels are a terrific addition for boondocking. You still need a power budget, but you can boondock longer and have more comfort luxuries from charging your batteries. A solar panel's power is wildly inconsistent, but with a multistage solar charger you can keep your batteries charged even on cloudy days, and it will regulate the power and protect your batteries as the solar panels will work like a resistor at night discharging your batteries.

Using a solar panel suitcase is a great option if you do not want to permanently install panels, or in addition to permanent mounted panels. An advantage of using a suitcase panel is the ability to move to an optimal position throughout the day. You can clamp the suitcase panel directly to the batteries, making it easy to use without modifying any on your Airstream.

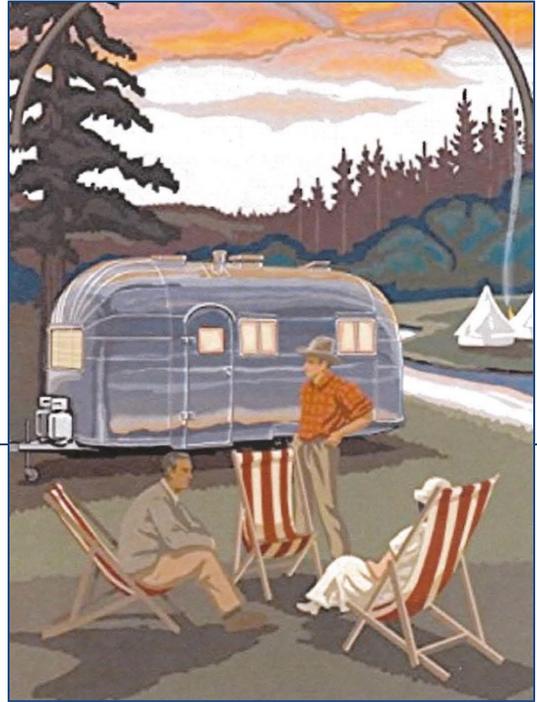
Permanent installation is an investment that creates instant convenience. You do not have to worry about leaving them behind, theft, or taking up camping space. The panels will also charge your batteries even when traveling down the road.

This is a brief introduction to solar. I have more information if anyone would like additional reading.

Updated just for PSAC:
airstreamclub.org/palmetto-state

We need **HOSTS** for the
2024 Rally Schedule.
Please review the
schedule and let Donnie
Lee know what rally you
would like to host.

Region 3 'Streams In The Meadow'



April 17 - 21

Meadow Event Park
13191 Dawn Blvd.
Doswell, VA 23047

Join your friends at Region 3 for a great time in beautiful Doswell, VA. Campsite fees and rally registration will be handled together at online registration, which is now open.

Deadline for registration and/or cancelation is **April 1, 2024**.

Google: Region 3 Airstream Rally 2024 to be taken to the registration page.

Event Contact:

Christine & Joe Baum, Region 3 President

baumjc@gmail.com

609-202-5015

St. Paddy's Day Rally Schedule

March 14-17, 2024 St. Paddy's Rally

Let's celebrate St. Paddy's! Dress in green and decorate to

"Do the GREEN thing!"



Time to get your Airstream out of hibernation and come join us for the first camping rally of the season with the Palmetto State Airstream Club. No better place to kick off the season than Myrtle Beach, SC, home of the "Grand Strand." Fifty miles of some of the finest beaches to be found anywhere! Enjoy the company of your friends and the local attractions at your leisure!! **Rally Fee \$20/person.**



Plus...we will have access to nearly a mile of fabulous beaches, right at our doorstep, at Ocean Lakes Family Campground. That's right, ocean front camping with all the amenities just steps away from the surf.



A quick look at the fun we have planned.....

THURSDAY, March 14th - 4:30 PM Social Hour --- **Early arrivals**

An informal meet up! If weather permits, we will gather at the Ocean View Pavilion.

Bring your favorite beverage and snacks to share.

Dinner will be on your own at one of the many excellent restaurants in the area.



FRIDAY, March 15th - 4:00 PM Social Hour --- **Official Start of Rally**

Once again, weather permitting, we will gather at the Ocean View Pavilion.

Bring your favorite beverage, and perhaps some hors d'oeuvres for sharing.

Dinner on your own at one of the many excellent restaurants in the area.



SATURDAY, March 16th - 8:30 AM Breakfast ---

We will meet at the indoor facility for a delicious breakfast of Bill's famous pancakes, bacon, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice.

4:00 PM - IT'S FLOCK TIME  David & Sia Pickell will host Happy Hour at their site #H68, weather permitting and if weather is inclement (rain), it can be held at Ocean View Pavilion or the indoor facility. Bring your own beverage, hors d'oeuvres, or anything of your choice!

6:00 PM Supper - Gather at the indoor facility for baked ziti in marinara sauce, Italian sausage and peppers along with garlic bread and salad.

If you would like to bring a dessert that would be awesome!

SUNDAY, March 17th - 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast --- **Good-bye until next time...**

Breakfast will be held at the outside Ocean View Pavilion. Coffee, Krispy Kreme donuts and a goodwill message for the road.

Hosts: Bill & Sandee Welch and Paul & Kathy Welch





2024 Rally Schedule



For **ALL** 2024 rallies, email Donnie Lee at dllakewsc@yahoo.com or text him at **803-984-6748**. Let him know you made your reservation, for what rally and how many days you will be attending. Also, make sure to give him your site number. Always, when making your reservations, let the campground know you are from the Palmetto State Airstream Club.

Make sure to ask if they have a senior citizen or South Carolina resident discount.

******** In order to help the hosts for the rallies, it is very important to know how many people will be attending so they know how to prepare. ********

March 14 – 17 **Silver in the Sand Rally**

Ocean Lakes Family Campground, 6001 S. Kings Hwy., Myrtle Beach, SC

Let's celebrate St. Paddy's again this year and dress in green and decorate to "Do the GREEN thing!" All 26 sites are booked!

Hosts: Bill & Sandee Welch and Paul & Kathy Welch – See Rally Schedule on page 6.

April 11 – 14 **Silver in the City Rally**

Downtown York, SC

An urban rally hosted by Palmetto State Airstream Club #22. Rally is full but if you are on the cancelation hold list, and someone cancels, Terry Montgomery will give you a call.

Hosts: John & Susan Leake, Terry & Annie Montgomery and PSAC members

April 17 – 21 **Region 3 Rally**

Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Virginia. - See page 5 for additional information.

May 16 – 19 **Mountain Stream Rally**

Mountain Stream RV Park, 6954 Buck Creek Road, Marion, NC

Mountain Stream rally is full; if interested, call the campground at **828-724-9013** and ask to be put on the cancellation list.

Hosts: Burt & Gail Broadway and Mike & Debbie Madden

June 6 – 9 **Lake Hartwell State Park Rally**

19138 S Hwy 11, Fair Play, SC

Lake Hartwell sites requested are full, however, if you are interested there are plenty of nearby sites available. You can call the campground for information or ask to be put on the cancellation list. Call **864-972-3352**.

Hosts Needed:

July 19 – 21 **Creekwood Farm RV Park**

4696 Jonathon Creek Road, Waynesville, NC

At Creekwood Farm you will see all well-maintained spacious sites. Make your reservation early to get your prime Creekwood spot! Call now to book your site at **(828) 926-7977**. It's not too late to make your reservations for a site of your choice.

Hosts: **Charlie & Mary Ann Purser are hosts in training; they need a veteran host team to teach them.**

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2024 Rally Schedule



August 22 – 25

Allison Creek County Park

2499 Viesta Road, York, SC

We have sites 1-26 reserved, except for site #4, which is the camp host spot! **Cut-off registration for sites being held for Palmetto Airstream Club is March 31st.** We have 15 sites open. If you wish to attend this rally, you must contact them at **803-323-2035** or go by the park to reserve a site!

When they are gone, they are gone!

NOTE: You are not able to make your reservations on-line.

Hosts: John & Susan Leake and Terry & Anne Montgomery



September 18 – 22

Carolina Mountain Jamboree/Joint Rally

Palmetto Cove RV Park, 521 Table Rock Road, Cleveland, SC

Donnie Lee needs host committee members for planning; if interested, please let him know. Reservations may be made beginning April 2024. Put this on your calendars!

Hosts: Palmetto State Airstream Club. Let Donnie Lee know if you are willing to serve on our planning committee at dllakewsc@yahoo.com.

October 5 – 10

International Rally – Sedalia, MO

See the Blue Beret for details.

October 24 – 27

Alumalina Buddy Rally

Tom Johnson Rally Park, 1885 Hwy 70 West, Marion, NC
A Carolina Airstream gathering. Four days of food, fun, fellowship, seminars, craft fair/flea market, beer swaps, bourbon trails, walking, talking, biking, hiking, paddling, picking, grinning, campfires, miles of aluminum, and lots of paroozing. Details to come on airforums.com.



November 1 – 3

Installation Rally

Palmetto Cove RV Park, 521 Table Rock Road, Cleveland, SC

Please call Palmetto Cove directly at **864-836-6221** to make your own reservations.

Hosts: Brad & Tami Van Thof and Bill & Joyce Butucel

December 6 – 8

Christmas Rally

Optional: Camping can be December 6, 7 or 8

Christmas Luncheon: December 7, Noon – 2:00 pm

Hosts: Bobby & Arlene Puryear



Hello Palmetto State Airstreamers! 

We have another year of exciting rallies ahead of us. As many of you know there are a lot of moving parts involved in planning a rally, and 2025 will be no different! At the installation rally in November, I proposed a destination of the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Everyone in attendance voted unanimously on the location, and since then, I have been looking into some details. This will be a memorable vacation!

Our club has an opportunity to caravan, not only to increase our safety, but to also experience this kind of travel. The one-way trip is approximately an 8-hour drive. The plan is to stop somewhere after 4 hours, spend the night, and continue the following day.

The dates are May 10th through May 18th, 2025. NOTE: The timeline is longer due to the travel time.

Camp Hatteras RV Resort

24798 NC HWY 12

Rodanthe, NC 27968

Booking Contact: Jen Carlson

Phone: 252-987-2777 ext. 105

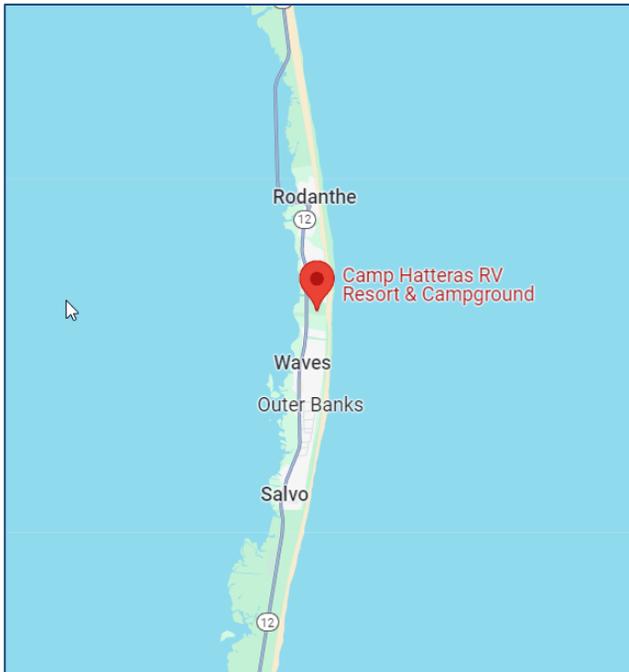
camphatteras.com

Sound Side Sites: 20% discount.

\$80 per night plus one-time \$3.50

Sound Front Sites: 15% discount.

\$107 per night plus one-time \$3.50



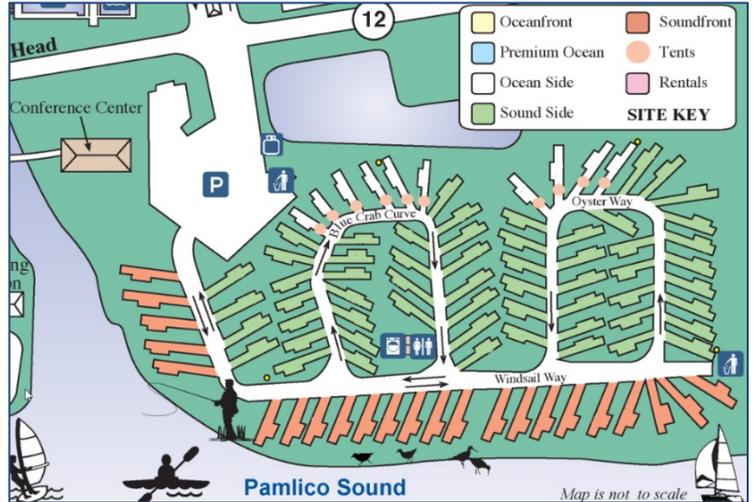
Cape Hatteras RV Resort Rally submitted by 1st VP: Eric Graham (BRN 05097)

Camp Hatteras RV Resort has a total of 35 sites reserved for us. Campground rules only allow a total of 10 discounted “sound front” sites to be reserved for a rally and they are first come, first served. There are more than 10 “sound front” sites available, but at the regular rate. An additional 25 discounted sites can be reserved within the “sound side”.

We have access to the conference center with a fully equipped kitchen.

A few of the amenities:

- Cable and Wi-Fi
- Full hook-ups (50/30 amps)
- Game Room
- 3 Pools
- Shuffleboard
- Pickleball
- Bike and Watercraft Rentals
- Dog Park
- And more... visit the web site for all the benefits.



Please let me know if you are planning to attend and if you would like to take part in the caravan. Reservation details to follow.

Please take a moment to help by completing the 3-question survey. Your feedback and suggestions are appreciated.

[2025 Outer Banks Survey](https://forms.office.com/r/efeK4b8k3R)
<https://forms.office.com/r/efeK4b8k3R>

Scan QR CODE with your phone camera to open link!





What a GREAT job Burt & Gail Broadway did as our HOSTS for this event! Creativity galore!




AIRSTREAM
Valentine's Luncheon
February 10, 2024



Thank you!

Donnie Lee for the beautiful hand-made wooden hearts for all us ladies!



Welcome! 1st timers!



AIRSTREAM

**Valentine's Luncheon
February 10, 2024**



Kiss! Kiss!



Love is in the air 





Love
y'all



AIRSTREAM
Valentine's Luncheon
February 10, 2024



Service with a SMILE 





Welcome New Members

Michael Malloy mpmalloyjr@gmail.com
 Laura Malloy lomalley1@gmail.com
 BRN 10222 (2020 Classic 33')
 Cayce, SC



SOME OF OUR NATIONAL HOLIDAYS IN MARCH

March 2

- Banana Cream Pie Day

March 10

- Daylight Savings Day

March 12

- Plant a Flower Day



March 14

- Genius Day

March 17

St. Patrick's Day



March 22

- International Goof-off Day

March 24

PALM SUNDAY

March 26

- Live Long and Prosper



March 29

- Good Friday

March 31

- Easter



Welcome New Affiliate Members

Gary Menne gmenne1949@gmail.com
 Wendy Menne wmenne6@gmail.com
 BRN 03727 (2015 International Serenity 27')
 Seminole, FL



DONATE

Anyone can donate anything at anytime as a door prize.

Donate whatever you'd like, such as a craft, or something you think would be a nice door prize. It's always fun to give and receive.

Please bring your donation(s) to the next rally that you attend!

At every rally there will be this box to put your donations in, so you can donate at anytime!



Must Visit Campground by Charlie & Mary Ann Purser (BRN 28742)



Orchard Lake Campground, 460 Orchard Lake Road, is located about 5 miles from the lovely little town of Saluda, NC. Saluda is known for the famous Saluda Grade Railway (more info below). Perry Como also had a home in Saluda and would often be spotted there.



Here are the notes I took during our first trip to Orchard Lake (also our first Airstream camping trip ever!):

Our first RV trip! We love this place. Packed gravel roads and trails to run or walk on. The Palmetto Mountains-to-Sea Trailhead starts at the campground. The gravel loop roads, above the long-term camping area are wonderful, cool and quiet. There are two large ponds, with free canoes and a dock. Also, disc golf, zipline, chipping length golf pins. A lot to do. Nearest towns are Columbus and Saluda. Both are very small. So, services are sparse. The Orchard Lake office store is well stocked with last minute needs. The sites on the left of the pond, near the entrance seem to be best for privacy, view and shade. Sites 1-8 are the best. Great office staff and the photos and info on their website are wonderful. There is even a nightly golf cart parade where many folks come by to just say hi.

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Must Visit Campground by Charlie & Mary Ann Purser (BRN 28742)

Orchard Lake is a large campground; however, it does not feel large. There are four primary loops, separated by long roads, ponds or woods. It's also a quiet place as the zipline, pond, etc. are not too close to the campsites. They also have many nice cabins on site if you want to bring non-RVing friends or family with you. Church service held every Sunday morning, and they have some nice areas for group meetings, meals, etc.



Coon Dog Day is held in Saluda, in early July, shortly after Independence Day. If you love Coon Dogs and small-town festivals, this is a good one. The whole town is closed for the AKC Coon Dog judging, parade, food vendors, etc. So, you want to be set up at the campground prior to Saturday (see note below regarding driving).

Saluda has a wonderful bakery (Wildflour Bakery) - fresh bread, great sandwiches, cookies, etc. There are also many nice restaurants on Main.

A small PSAC rally could be held at Orchard Lake although we may not have everyone side by side.

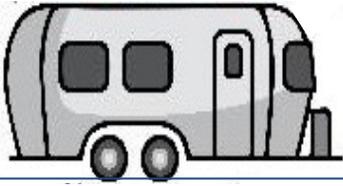
One key suggestion: If you come to Orchard Lake from SC or any other points south, come to Hendersonville-Flat Rock and take Hwy 176 into Saluda and then out to Orchard Lake. The other alternative roads are very narrow, twisty and no fun for pulling RVs. Saluda is 8 miles from Hendersonville.

Links to *Orchard Lake*, *Saluda*, *Coon Dog Day* and info on *Saluda Grade* are below.

<https://www.orchardlakecampground.com/>



A Little Something About Us by Allen & Theresa Kirchner (BRN 29803)



Hello &
welcome



We are affiliate members at Top of Georgia, South Carolina Coastal, and now Palmetto State. We don't do much rallying.

Our traveling companion is Cricket, our new Norfolk Terrier puppy. We have a 2007 Safari 25FB that we pull with a 2023 Suburban.



Recipe

submitted by Gail Broadway (BRN 06718)



Easy Rye Casserole (serves 6)

Ingredients:

1-lb. Corned Beef
8 oz. sauerkraut
12 oz. Swiss cheese
½ cup diced dill pickles
Butter or cooking spray
½ cup Russian dressing

Russian Dressing:

1 cup mayonnaise
¼ cup ketchup
4 tsp. horseradish
1 tsp. hot sauce
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
½ tsp. salt, pinch of pepper

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Drain liquid from sauerkraut.
3. Grease your casserole dish with a nonstick cooking spray or butter.
4. Layer half of the corned beef and top with sauerkraut, and then pickles.
5. Top with 1/2 of the sauce mixture and then top with 1/3 of the cheese.
6. Repeat layers (meat, sauerkraut, sauce, pickles and cheese) with the remaining ingredients.
7. Cover with aluminum foil and bake casserole for 10-15 minutes or until cheese is bubbling.
8. Broil for 2-3 minutes and serve with Russian dressing!