

# AOAC NEWSLETTER

## VAL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Winter Gathering Luncheon is right around the corner on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. The Wilch's have **changed the venue** for the luncheon and it will be held at **Lager and Vine, located at 30 W. Streetsboro Street in Hudson**. We need to give the restaurant an approximate count so they can set the room for our group. Please text Brian at 440-724-0772, or Jennette at 330-388-9863 to let them know if you plan to attend. Plus, Jennette needs to know how many cookies to bake as a luncheon "favor"!

**Andrea Scheid** is organizing our March 2026 luncheon. It will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and will feature a family style meal at an Amish home in Huntsburg. More details will follow in the February newsletter.

May, July, and October are still open for rallies. Co-hosting is a great way to dip your toes into planning a rally. The officers are always open to joining as a co-host. The Blue Beret is a great way to get rally ideas as many clubs publicize their rallies in the Beret.

Perhaps you noticed or have heard that our June Rally "Memories in Marietta" has morphed from an AOAC Rally into a Regional Rally. This change is our regional response to achieving the goal of having a Regional Rally every year rather than every other year. In December, as a Unit President, I participated in the Region 4 Airstream Club Leadership Meeting on December 2nd. AOAC had already offered to open up the Marietta Rally to the Region, but we also discussed some exciting new Regional initiatives to build cohesion among the Clubs and within Region 4.

## FROM VAL . . . PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year Airstream Friends—As 2025 comes to a close, I hope you have good memories from the past year to reflect upon and cherish. Many of our favorite moments from 2025 were from our Airstream adventures and were wonderful because of our Akron Airstream Club friends. I hope 2026 is a great adventure for us and for all of you.

Our Holiday luncheon at Mulligan's was attended by nearly 30 of our Club members. We chatted, ate, and had our ornament and bourbon exchanges. A special thank you to Linda Stallard for bringing cupcakes for dessert (in celebration of Dave's birthday). We also collected monetary donations for Camp Cheerful in Strongsville. They provide typical camp activities to children and adults with physical, developmental, and sensory disabilities. Through the generosity of Club members, we were able to send Camp Cheerful a check for \$341.



## BIRTHDAYS

1/09 Mary Schuster  
1/10 Jim Carsten  
1/12 Tom Ozbolt  
1/13 Carolyn Brothers  
1/16 Jill McCauslin  
1/17 Jack Ketterer  
1/19 Linda Stallard  
1/27 Sandy Johnjullo

## AOAC LEADERSHIP

**President: Val Fosnight**  
**1st Vice President: Adam Stearns**  
**Secretary: Leanne McIntosh**  
**Treasurer: Linda Stallard**  
**Membership: Dennis Kiehl**  
**Webmaster: Dennis Kiehl**  
**Past President: Brian Wilch**  
**Newsletter Editor: Jennette Wilch**

## FROM THE BLUE BERET

**From Mollie Hansen - Chief Marketing Officer**  
“Here in Jackson Center, there’s a lot of excitement around Airstream partnership and marketing efforts. We’ve teamed up with America 250 to help celebrate 250 years of the United States. Two Airstreams are currently traveling with the America 250 team, bringing history, connection, and celebration to communities across the country. It’s an honor to be part of this milestone - and to see Airstreams rolling into towns with purpose and pride”

## ANNIVERSARIES

no known anniversaries

Let me know if I am missing your birthday or anniversary!

## YOUNG-AT-HEART KAREN KIEHL AND A FRIEND CELEBRATING 2026!



# AOAC Christmas Gathering



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



# STEARNS'

ADAM, SUSAN, EVA



A Bambi with a “For Sale” sign on Route 21 near Bath, Ohio piqued the interest of Susan Stearns back in 2015. She and Adam connected with the seller and set-up a time to take a closer look. Before they actually got a chance to see it, the seller sold it for above asking price! But in their research about Airstreams they had discovered two interesting facts that were appealing. #1 - Airstreams are built in Ohio. #2 - Airstreams are still being built. “Oh Boy!” They thought. The possibility of getting an Airstream became their first Airstream adventure!

Adam, Susan, and Ava took a trip to Jackson Center to see Airstreams being built and learn first hand about what makes Airstreams so special. Before their factory tour, a 23’ trailer was the direction they were thinking. However, another “tourist”, mentioned the wide body starts at 25’ so with that new information a bigger trailer made sense. They shopped at Haydocy in Columbus and purchased a 2017 30’ Classic at the beginning of that model year.

They joined the Western Reserve Airstream Club and signed up for some rallies. Unfortunately, the rallies never seemed to materialize. So, in October of 2018 the Stearns attended their first AOAC rally at Pier-Lon Campground! A rally that actually came to fruition! The Stearns are great at pitching-in during AOAC rallies and Adam is currently serving AOAC as 1st Vice President.

Adam says he is from “the streets of Canton”! But his athletic prowess, and being at the right place, at the right time landed him a full scholarship to Western Reserve Academy for his senior year. He studied chemistry and physics at the University of Richmond. During college he and his friends would often go backpack camping in George Washington National Forest in Western Virginia. These backpacking trips helped build the Canton native’s love of outdoor adventuring.

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# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - CONTINUED

Continued from Page 4

Susan grew up in Parma and attended Ohio Northern University majoring in biology and environmental studies. She was selected for an internship in Wales, so her undergraduate experience included an “abroad” adventure. After graduation and a work experience with the Red Cross, Susan joined one of the first AmeriCorps initiatives. This experience put her at Lowry AFB in Colorado for a year. She loved Colorado and wanted to stay after she finished her AmeriCorp year but the timing of finding a job/renting an apartment and not having a car (since AmeriCorp had provided her transportation) just didn’t work. She returned to NE Ohio, which is good, because when she returned and started working at emTech she met Adam! With the technical background from emTech, the Stearns, along with a partner launched their own business AdCal Inc., a speciality adhesives coater located in Brunswick.

Having Adam and Susan in AOAC has dropped our “average age” of club membership significantly! But, even better was having their daughter Eva with our group the past 7 years! Eva has many interests and she has shared her creativity for jewelry-making with club members on many occasions by giving away her creations! She attended Padua where she played trombone in the band, and she competed in track and field for the Bruins as a pole vaulter! She is now attending the University of Findlay studying to become a Physical Therapist in Findlay’s 3+3 program. She is also playing in the Oiler’s Marching Band.

The Stearns family has a 13 acre “Hobby” Farm. They are proponents of sustainable farming and subscribe to the publication “Mother Earth News”. In addition, they have attended the annual conference “Fair” at Sevens Springs, PA sponsored by Mother Earth. At the Fair, people from all over the country come to teach workshops and offer information about all kinds of topics. It was at the Fair that the Stearns learned about raising Idaho Pasture Pigs, and growing blueberries, asparagus, and garlic.

The Stearns are also beekeepers, have laying hens, and often supply fresh eggs for AOAC Rallies! Due to the Stearns naturally curious nature, and their research and knowledge they are often “early adopters” of trends. In July of 2020 at a “Kiehl Compound Rally” they were busy making pizza-oven pizzas in their Ooni Pizza Oven using homemade dough! Delicious!

And now, for their most memorable Airstream adventure. On their “maiden” journey with their 30’ Classic they chose to take a trip through North Carolina. They were not traveling on any interstates because that is not how you “see America”. As they were motoring along they noticed a sign by the road that said 30’ limit for trailers. Ok, they thought, we are only a 30 footer.

Two-way traffic...

lots of motorcycles...

hairpins turns...

they come around one turn and there is a photographer taking pictures...

o-k-a-y...that is kind of an obstruction on this road but whatever....

more hairpin turns...

reaching the top...

“Dragon-Slayer”...what’s this?

They had just completed the “tail of the Dragon” iconic motorcycle road adventure in Robbinsville, North Carolina! Now you know, the Stearns are true adventure seekers!

More photos of Adam, Susan, and Eva on Page 8!



**AOAC**

# LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

**NOV 2025  
to  
MARCH 2026**

**15** NOV. 11:00 AM **THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON**  
POTLUCK at Fred and Kathy Kiehl's  
2010 Waycross Ave., Akron, Ohio 44320). 

**13** DEC 11:30 AM **CHRISTMAS**  
**See Photos!**  
Lunch at Mulligan's  
4118 Belden Village St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44718. 

**10** JAN. 11:30 AM **WINTER GATHERING**  
Lager and Vine Gastropub - Hosted by the Wilch's  
30 W. Streetsboro Street, Hudson, OH 44236 

**14** FEB. 12:00 PM **FUN IN FEBRUARY!**  
Lunch at Richfield Brewing - Hosted by Moran's  
3871 Broadview Road, Richfield 44286 

**14** MARCH 11:30 AM **MARCH LUNCHEON**  
Hosts: Andrea and Neil Scheid 



HERE IS WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED! **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

# RALLY SCHEDULE

**APRIL**  
to  
**OCTOBER**

**CO-HOSTING A RALLY IS FUN, AND THE BEST WAY TO START!**

**APRIL**

CAN OPENER RALLY

HOSTED BY KATHY AND FRED  
KIEHL IN COPLEY, APRIL 16-19.



**MAY**

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!



**JUNE**

REGIONAL 4 RALLY!  
"AIRSTREAM MEMORIES IN MARIETTA"  
WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
JUNE 10 - 14  
DETAILS AND REGISTRATION IN THE  
UPCOMING REGION 4 NEWSLETTER



**JULY**

PLEASE VOLUNTEER !



**AUG.**

69TH ACI INTERNATIONAL RALLY  
AUGUST 22 - 27  
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA



# SEPT.

“RALLY IN THE VALLEY III”  
RALLY OPEN TO ALL ACI MEMBERS!  
SEPTEMBER 10 - 14  
HOSTS: TOM AND JUDI MORAN



# OCT.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!



## STEARNS' PHOTOS!





## 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>**