



Good Life News

May 2026

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27

President's Corner

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Facebook

Connect with members on our club's Facebook page "[Florida Airstream Club 027](#)" Look for the page with our logo.

Editor's Note

- Good Life News is published 4 times per year (Feb. May, Aug. Nov.)
- Due date for articles is the 20th of the month preceding publication.
- By providing your email address, you agree to receive emails from the ACI Florida Airstream Club. You may opt out at any time. We do not share email addresses.



Dear Fellow Airstreamers,

What a fantastic start to the year for our club! As your new president, I couldn't be more excited to kick things off alongside all of you. With several rallies already behind us, it's shaping up to be a year full of adventure, friendship, and fun with the Florida Airstream Club.

Our heartfelt thank-you goes out to Susan Poole for her outstanding work as our Newsletter Editor over the past 6 years. Her time, talent, and dedication have meant so much to our club. Now, let's give a warm welcome (and big thanks!) to Lyn and Bob Masters, who are stepping in to carry the newsletter forward for the rest of the year. We're lucky to have you both on board! And if you've got a flair for the creative - writing, photography, graphics, editing - we'd love to have you join the fun. don't hesitate to reach out and let us know you'd like to join the FAC News Team!

Mark your calendars for our next zoom Hitch & Huddles in which we showcase various Airstream-related vendors and spend time sharing tips on how we can improve our rigs and our travel experiences. So far this year we've had lively discussions with The Airboard Shop, and Vinnie's Airstream Innovation and Repair. Mark your calendars for our last two Hitch & Huddles for the year:

Hitch & Huddle Tuesdays June 2nd and October 6th @ 6:30 – 7:30 pm,
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/9894129316?omn=93105725107>
Meeting ID: 989 412 9316

Our membership continues to grow with membership currently at 259 rigs, 100 affiliate rigs, and over 600 members total – and we'd love to have you share your talents to help shape our club for the future. Current opportunities to serve are 1st Vice President, Charitable Project Committee, Rally Committee, 2027 Secretary, 2027 Treasurer Assistant. If you'd like to speak to me about what's entailed in these positions, feel free to reach out.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead - let's get ready to hitch up and make some lasting memories!

Gina Fafard, President
Florida Airstream Club



1948 Airstream Liner



I wanted to share an update on our 1948 Airstream Liner. Although it is not yet fully finished, after eight years of restoration, we have finally gotten it road-worthy!

Tim and I have already taken three short trips in it so far this year. Our first stop was a vintage trailer rally in Dunnellon, Florida, this past February. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed finally giving tours during the vintage open house. Next, we headed to the Airstream Region 3 Rally in Lakeland, Florida. While there was no formal open house, we still spent a lot of time showing people the interior and enjoying the company of friends, old and new.

On our most recent trip, we took the Liner to Titusville for the Artemis II launch. It was a humbling experience to witness such a historic mission. We felt it was important to bring the 1948 Airstream because when we first purchased it, there was an Apollo 17 sticker on the back window from 1972 - the last lunar landing. We can only guess she was there for that mission, so it felt appropriate to have her there for this one. We had a "blast" viewing the launch and even got to watch a Falcon 9 launch the following morning.



There is more to come later this year with this amazing rig. We are already looking forward to our next historical adventure: a Route 66 Centennial celebration! - Alice Wymer #4249



Did You Know

The average lifespan of an RV is 15 years with normal use and maintenance. With exceptional care an RV can last 25 to 30 years unless it is an Airstream. An Airstream will generally be around for 40 years or longer due to their enhanced build quality and durability. The Wymers' Airstream is a great example at 78 years young.

Affordable New Orleans



I've loved New Orleans for decades and have visited nearly every year for the past 40 years. After buying our first Airstream four years ago, we searched for an affordable campground near the city. While there are beautiful resorts nearby, their prices are steep.

With a little research, we discovered a better option, Bayou Segnette State Park, about 20 minutes out of town. The park charges \$33 per night for water and electric hookups, with a 50% discount for guests over 65 when you check in.

We drive 12 miles from the park to the Algiers Point–Canal Street ferry, park for free, and take the ferry into the city. It's a bit of extra effort, but far easier than it sounds and much cheaper than paying over \$100 a

night. A one-day Jazzy Pass costs just 80 cents for seniors and covers the ferry, streetcars, and buses. The ferry drops you at the foot of Canal Street, near the Aquarium adjacent to the streetcar line.



You can take the streetcar or it's a short walk to the French Quarter, passing Café du Monde, St. Louis Cathedral, Bourbon Street, and many classic restaurants. To see more distant attractions the streetcar lines go to the Garden District to see historic homes, the Audubon Zoo, or Tulane University. New Orleans is a great place to visit and with a little planning won't break the bank. - Jim Abernathy #31510



Wandering Labs

Having trouble finding a campsite at a popular park? Try Wandering Labs (wanderinglabs.com), a service that monitors most U.S. public campgrounds and alerts you when sites open. A free account sends email notifications, while a \$30 Premium Membership provides faster text/SMS alerts and searches twice as often as the free membership for cancellations. Many club members, including this Editor, have successfully secured sites that were previously full.

Florida Airstream Club Rally Schedule

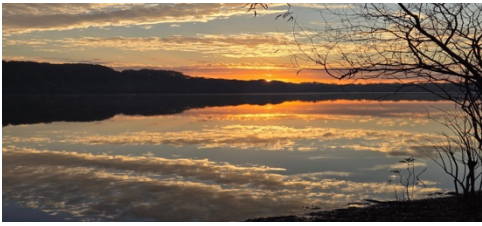
Dates	Rally Name	Campground & Reservation	Host	Notes
May 14 - 17	Cirque du Airstream	Oscar Scherer State Park 1843 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL Florida Parks Reservations	Gina & Bruce Fafard gfafard@outlook.com	Rally fee: \$10/adult
June 4 - 7	Happy 70th Birthday FAC	Walt Disney World Fort Wilderness 4510 Fort Wilderness Trail Lake Buena Vista, FL Fort Wilderness Reservations	TBD	Rally fee: \$10/adult
August 22 - 28	ACI International	North Dakota State Fairground 2005 E Burdick Expressway, East Minot, ND ACI Reservations	ACI	Information and registration at: 2026 ACI International Rally
September 17 - 20	Fall Into the Springs	Rainbow Springs State Park 19158 SW 81st PI Rd Dunnellon, FL Florida Parks Reservations	Bob & Lyn Masters blmasters@icloud.com	Rally fee: \$10/adult Park is full. Register with Wanderinglabs.com to be notified of park openings.
October 15 - 18	Hanna Park Hangout & 2026 Annual Meeting	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park 500 Wonderwood Dr Jacksonville, FL 904) 255-6767 Hanna Park Reservations	David & Susan Poole asusyqmeetup14@gmail.com	Rally fee: \$10/adult
November 10/29 - 11/2	Florida Sand Music Ranch	Florida Sand Music Ranch 85 Myers Road Brooksville, FL Register with club only.	Jeff & Mary Krabel k62gt@gmail.com Judy Barrett	Rally fee: \$10/adult FAC sites held by the park, \$35/night pay at check-in. Water/30 amp. Dump \$15.
December 4 - 6	Cracker Christmas Festival Service Rally & Installation Dinner	Ft Christmas Historical Park 1300 N Fort Christmas Road Christmas, FL Register with club only.	Steve Kane SteveKaneProducts@gmail.com	No Rally fee Host has arranged campsites, Water/10 amp. Dump fee \$15, 7/min away at nearby campground
2027 Rallies				
January 15 - 18	Fort Clinch Rally	Fort Clinch State Park 2601 Atlantic Avenue Fernandina Beach, FL	Dan & Debbie Forney dforn83@gmail.com Gina & Bruce Fafard	Rally fee: \$10/adult
February 12 - 15	Jonathan Dickinson Park Rally	Jonathan Dickinson State Park 16450 SE Federal Hwy Hobe Sound, FL	Patrica Dovi patricadovi@gmail.com	Rally fee: \$10/adult
March 15 - 19	Skidaway Island Rally	Skidaway Island State Park 52 Diamond Causeway Savannah, GA	TBD	Rally fee: \$10/adult

Important: More information about rallies can be found on the club website. Remember to RESERVE and REGISTER. Make your own RV reservations with the campground (unless otherwise instructed above) and then register for the rally and pay your rally fee at <https://airstreamclub.org/florida/rallies-and-events>. It really helps the Hosts to know who is coming so they can plan and send updates. If you need to cancel or make changes, please email the Hosts. ACI members and their families are welcome to attend.

Recent Rallies

Additional rally information and photos can be found on the Club's Facebook page: [Florida Airstream Club 027](#)

November – Cypress Glen Rally – David and Susan Poole



Cypress Glen Rally took place on the Nov. 13-17, 2025 at Cypress Glen Campground on Silver Lake, which is located near Brooksville within the Croom Tract of Withlacoochee State Forest (Hernando County). The sunrise picture shows why it was named Silver Lake. This rally was attended by 10 people, who enjoyed kayaking on Silver Lake, biking on the Withlacoochee State Trail, hiking campground trails, and sight-seeing the local area.

December – Cracker Christmas – Steve and Laura Kane



Members of the Florida Airstream Club gathered at Fort Christmas Historical Park for their annual service rally and club 2026 Board installation dinner. The installation was conducted by Randy Godfrey. The rally was held alongside the park's popular craft fair attended by over twenty-five thousand attendees. The event brings Airstreamers together to assist the park personnel by helping prepare the park, decorating the historic homes, and acting as docents to share the fort and early settlers' history with festival visitors. Evenings were spent in Joker tournaments and laughter.

January – Spirit of the Suwannee – Mike and Gina McGinn



The January rally at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park was chilly but full of fun. The hosts held several games and contests, golf cart competitions and adventures, hobo meals, campfires, and camaraderie, capped by the traditional hike to the visitor-painted, old graffiti bridge for a group photo. There is never a dull moment when you are down on the Suwannee with this group.

February – Hitchin' in the Swamp – Bruce and Gina Fafard



Valentine's weekend, there was swamp love in the air! Okefenokee National Refuge is a "must see". We soaked up the beauty with a guided boat tour of the swamp and walking excursions throughout the park. Some of us ventured into the town of Folkston for the afternoon, enjoying lunch and a visit to the Railroad Museum. We shared cozy campfire gatherings with entertainment by our very own Dan Forney. Bruce Fafard fired up his cool, portable pizza oven for a make-your-own pizza dinner. Rigs were decorated Cupid-style, best decorations prize going to Jean & Jake Piper. Okefenokee Pastimes campground is pet-friendly and conveniently located by the entrance to the refuge.

April – Devil’s Den – Mike and Maryanne Swegle



Our week-long rally at Devil’s Den Prehistoric Spring brought 30 Airstreamers together for water fun, food and fellowship. We visited gardens, snorkeled in the cave spring, went hiking, did lots of arts and crafts, played games and the best part was welcoming several newbies into our club. A group of art lovers went to Cedar Key Artfest, while the UF gator fans went to the Swamp for a football scrimmage. Deb Forney, our resident fiber artist, taught us how to do some stichery. Jane Guaraldi led us in a Printmaking Activity. Deb Kagan Murray kept our creative juices flowing with paints. Our nightly dinners were well received and a time of coming together to get better acquainted. Sad for it to end!



Sunshine Committee

This column is the place where we congratulate members’ having major life accomplishments or share best wishes for those experiencing difficult times. Please call in or send notifications for Sunshine Committee publication to: Deb Opiel 763-670-8772, sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org.

Honoring 18 Years of Dedicated Leadership of Ron and Chris Allen.

For nearly two decades, we have been blessed by the steady leadership, generous spirit, and unwavering commitment of two truly special individuals who served our Airstream club as Past Presidents and committee chairs. Eighteen years is more than just a number, it represents countless hours of planning, organizing, encouraging, and bringing people together.

Their time in leadership was marked not only by responsibility, but by genuine care for every member. They created a welcoming community where friendships flourished, laughter was shared around campfires, and memories were made that will last a lifetime. Their dedication helped shape the heart and spirit of our group, leaving a legacy that will continue to guide us for years to come.

We are deeply grateful for their service, their friendship, and the example they have set. It is an honor to recognize and celebrate these dear friends who have given so much to our Airstream family.



Welcome New Members and Affiliates



Hope to see you at a rally soon!

Members

Will Andrews
#1410 Orlando, FL

Terry & Patty Brennan
#01903 Dade City, FL
From E. Tennessee club

Jim & Charlette Cooper
#25054 Tavares, FL

Matt & Deni Gorden
#15055 Winter Park, FL

Frank & Heidi Hamilton
#6488 Panama City Beach, FL

Claudia Mader & Patrick Hazard
#1886 Yulee, FL

Karen & Donald Hodgdon
#1459 Celebration, FL

Megan & Cliff Ira
#08677 Jacksonville, FL
From Missouri-Kansas club

Kathy & Gary Knapp
#2020 Oldsmar, FL

Robert & Nadia Lentz
#10695 Bryceville, FL

Nancy & Peter Libby
#15345 Brookline, VT

William & Stephan McIlvaine
#2119 Melbourne, FL

James & Hanne Perrott
#8704 Lake Mary, FL

David & Christine Poulin
#21989 Port Orange, FL

Jaime & Jocie Rivera
#1767 Largo, FL

Michael & Penny Rose
#1746 Davenport, FL

John & Becky Rousch
#18510 Sebring, FL

Andrew & Susan Smith
#07443 Stuart, FL

Anne Marie & Serge St Laurent
#2371 Palm Coast, FL

Al & Missy Waschka
#01322 Fleming Island, FL
From the SE Camping Unit

Clay & Maureen Woods
#17650 Williston, FL

Affiliate Members

Jill Dover & Larry Conway
#08404 Live Oak, FL

Charlie & Megan Cook
#08084 Sewell's Point, FL

Mario & Tamnah
D'Angelo#10277 Odessa, FL

Darryl & Karen Eidman
#28300 Malabar, FL

Kendall Felder & Melanie
Wheeler
#420 & 30906 Oviedo, FL

Michael & Julia Goins
#26117 St Johns, FL

Tami Harris,
#22231 Pensacola, FL

Jarrell & Sandra Johnson
#1848 New Port Richey, FL

Darrel Maloney & Amy Clark
#31913 Livingston, TX

Coleen & John Melvin
#7577 Hernando, FL

Bruce & Michelle Odiome
#19977 Niles, MI

Nancy Schoene
#07445 Urbandale, IA

David & Heidi Heitzler
Thompson
#31526 Sarasota, FL

Tracey Burghy & Charlie
Turgeon
#2178 Lighthouse Point, FL

Mike Zawislak & Laura
Stedronsky
#23388 Clearwater Beach, FL

Did You Know



More money is spent purchasing RVs in California annually than any other state. Texas and Florida are 2nd and 3rd. Hawaii brings up the rear with the lowest dollars spent. When you live on an island there are just not that many places to go camping!

Club Merchandise

Club Clothing



T-shirts, hoodies, hats, bandanas, tote bags, etc. with the Florida Airstream logo (in a variety of materials, sizes and colors) are now available for ordering online. Now is the time to get ready for future rallies with your very own Florida Airstream Club logo apparel.

Check it out at:

florida-airstream-club.myspreadshop.com



Florida Airstream Flags

Flag

Garden Banner



Pricing

2' x 3' Florida Airstream Flag
(200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)

\$60.00 Each

3' x 5' Florida Airstream Flag
(200 Denier Nylon / Tape Heading & Grommets)

\$90.00 Each

12" x 18" Florida Airstream Banner
(200 Denier Nylon / 1" Pole Pocket on Top)

\$38.00 Each

Contact The Flag Loft to Order Today. Shipping Estimate 1-2 Weeks

800-995-FLAG (3524)

If you would like your garden banner personalized with your names, BRN, and/or home city and state, contact Susan Poole who will embroider up to 17 characters per line, up to 3 lines (no charge). susyqmeetup14@gmail.com.

Charitable Projects

The Florida Airstream Club members have worked together in the past at rallies to hold garage sales and auctions of donated items to raise funds for a worthwhile Florida charity that is selected by our membership each year. In recent years we have donated over \$20,000 to the Fisher House that provides temporary housing for family members when a wounded soldier or veteran is hospitalized at a Florida VA hospital (think Ronald McDonald House only for veteran families). This is one of the activities that has made the Florida Airstream Club an exceptional member of the Florida community.

We need a new Charitable Project Chairperson to organize fund raising activities. If you are interested in chairing this important and worthwhile club function, please contact our Club President Gina Fafard at president@floridaairstreamclub.org.

Florida Airstream Club, Region 3, Unit 27



Visit us on the web
<https://airstreamclub.org/florida>

Airstream Club International. (ACI) Inspired by the international caravans of Wally Byam, creator and founder of Airstream, the Wally Byam Caravan Club (WBCC) was initially chartered in 1955. Since then, the name has been amended to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc. (WBCCI), and Wally Byam Airstream Club (WBAC), and now Airstream Club International (ACI).

The Florida Airstream Club was originally chartered as the South-Eastern Unit in 1956 making us and the Ohio unit the first and oldest units. We conduct rallies all over the state. Staying true to Airstream tradition we include lots of great food, activities, and opportunities to get to know one another in relaxed atmospheres.

New member applicants may apply online at the [ACI website](#). Contact the club Membership Chair listed below if you have questions.

Want to be an Affiliate? If you are a member of another ACI club and want to become an affiliate of the Florida Airstream Club, do it online anytime during the year. Just log into the [ACI website](#) and pull down the menu under your name in the upper right corner, select "Manage My Membership" and click on the box to add an affiliate club. You can pay the \$10 annual club fee on-line.

2026 Club Leadership

Executive Board

President:	Gina Fafard	president@floridaairstreamclub.org
1 st Vice President:	Open	first_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
2 nd Vice Present:	Patricia Dovi	second_vp@floridaairstreamclub.org
Treasurer:	Bruce Fafard	treasurer@floridaairstreamclub.org
Secretary:	Gina McGinn	secretary@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee:	Judy Barrett	trustee_1@floridaairstreamclub.org
Trustee:	Brenda Marr	trustee_2@floridaairstreamclub.org
Past President:	Mike McGinn	pastpresident@floridaairstreamclub.org

Appointed Positions

Badge Committee Chair:	Gina McGinn	badge_committee@floridaairstreamclub.org
Charitable Project Chair:	Open	charity@floridaairstreamclub.org
Communications Editor:	Randy Godfrey	communications_editor@floridaairstreamclub.org
Historian:	Jeff Krabel	historian@floridaairstreamclub.org
Membership Chair:	Brenda Marr	membership@floridaairstreamclub.org
Newsletter Editor:	Lyn Masters	newsletter@floridaairstreamclub.org
Social Media Editor:	Judy Barrett	social_media@floridaairstreamclub.org
Sunshine Committee Chair:	Deb Oppel	sunshine@floridaairstreamclub.org
Webmaster:	Steve Oppel	webmaster@floridaairstreamclub.org