



LOUISIANA *Airstream Club*

September – October 2026
Newsletter



ROLLING DOWN THE BAYOU
THE PELICAN BRIEFS

The Pelican Briefs



Welcome to another edition of the Louisiana Airstream Club newsletter!

Whether you're just joining us or you've been traveling the highways for years, we're glad you're along for the ride.

Inside this issue you'll find highlights from our recent rallies, welcome our newest members, celebrate our newly installed officers, look ahead to upcoming adventures, and catch up on club news. As always, thank you to everyone who contributes photos, stories, and laughter that make our club such a special family.

Here's to safe travels, happy camping, and making memories one campsite at a time!

See you down the road!

Rebecca Perere

• INSIDE THIS ISSUE •



UPCOMING RALLIES
Where we're headed
next!



CLUB NEWS
Updates and
announcements



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
Getting to know our
Airstream family



A GREAT DAY
AT OUR LUNCHEON
Photos and highlights
from a great day!



ANNOUNCEMENTS
Important info
you need to know

Slate of Officers

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President

****Mark Williams**

1st Vice President

****Jim Russo**

2nd Vice President

****Chris Markerson**

Past President

****Robert Perere**

**Corresponding Sec/Editor
Rebecca Perere**

Treasurer

****Paul Bartel**

Asst, Treasurer

Robert Perere

Membership Chairman

Todd Malmberg

Trustees

John Griffin

****Dale Spillman**

****Dan LaPorte**

Photographer

Dale Spillman

Copy Editor

Kathy Spillman

Safety

Jeffery Theriot

Dan LaPorte

Webmaster

Jim Russo

Co-Webmaster

Dale Spillman

****New Officer**



A Note From Our President

**Greetings Louisiana
Airstream Club Members
and Affiliates**

**As your newly elected
President, I would like to
thank Robert Perere for his**

**tireless efforts (with Rebecca's positive influence)
to successfully lead our club and grow
membership over the past 2 years! I have big shoes
to fill, and will be looking to Robert for guidance as
I step into this esteemed office!**

**The annual membership meeting and installation of
officers was held at the Galvez Seafood Restaurant
in Prairieville August 1st. It was very well attended
and we filled the room to capacity! We have a great
group of officers and we are expanding our abilities
to reach out to our membership through GroupMe.
Zoom meetings will help save on travel for rally
planning and Executive Board meetings.**

**Janelle and I are currently attending the 69th
Airstream Club International Rally in Minot, North
Dakota. Louisiana is well represented with over 20
members enjoying the activities! Educational
opportunities abound while mixing in fun times
with all the Airstream enthusiasts. Chris and
Rachelle Markerson hosted a fabulous Happy Hour
at their Airstream for the Louisiana attendees. I
think he even talked a few non members into
joining up!**

**After exploring the north country a bit more, we will
be attending the Region 6 Rally in Foley, Alabama
September 23-27, 2026. This will be an exciting rally
and I hope to see many of you there!**

(Continued on page 3)

Your Louisiana Airstream Club has some amazing rallies ahead and these will be listed here in the newsletter. Our next one will be the Explore Acadiana Rally hosted by Paul and Rose Fontana, and Curt Fontenot. Palmetto State Park is the campground, and the dates are October 15-18, 2026.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful year getting to know more of our members and enjoying our rallies. Sign up and come have a fun time!

In the words of Wally Byam, "Find out what's at the end of some country road. Go see what's over the next hill, and the one after that, and the one after that."

Safe travels to all and see you down the road!

Mark Williams

President, Louisiana Airstream Club



Explore Acadiana



October 15 - 18
Palmetto State Park
337-893-3930

Hosted by: Paul & Rose Fontana, Co-Host Curt Fontenot

- If you haven't made your reservations for this rally yet and would like to attend, please call the Park for reservations now. There are only two sites remaining.
- Also, if you have not yet called Rose Fontana with your site number please do so as soon as possible. This is going to be a fun filled rally with lots to see and do, and Rose & Paul have a great schedule of activities planned!
- Rose needs a headcount, so please call her at 337-344-6861 with your site number.
- A complete schedule of activities will be emailed to everyone on October 1st.

Pictures from the International Rally in Minot, ND. A more thorough line up of pictures will be on display on our Facebook page. Thanks, Dale for putting this together and thanks to all who contributed photos.





**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
of South Louisiana



2. QUIET, PORTABLE GAMES

Perfect for hospital waiting rooms.

Travel size games: Checkers, Uno, Old Maid, etc.



3. COMFORTING READING MATERIAL

Short, uplifting, and easy to pick up and put down.

Small storybooks for kids.



1.

Individually wrapped snacks to share at the house and the hospital



- ♥ Cookies
- ♥ Chips
- ♥ Snack cakes
- ♥ Snack crackers
- ♥ Fruit snacks
- ♥ Granola bars
- ♥ And more!



Comfort food
On the go. Quick
and easy.

Christmas Giving for Ronald McDonald House Charities

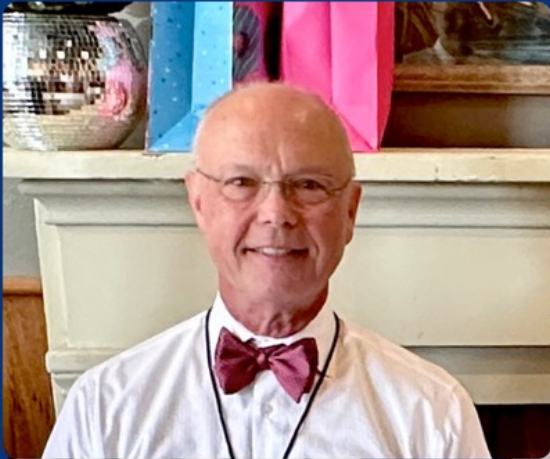
Last year, our Louisiana Airstream club family came together and generously collected toiletries for Ronald McDonald house charities. This year, they have shared a few things they need most: portable games, story books, and snacks!

Snacks are especially helpful because they go through them at a rapid rate, and individually wrapped snacks have a long shelf life.

Let's pull together again this Christmas and show these families a little extra love! Every donation can make a difference.

We will be collecting these items at our Christmas rally. Let's fill our Airstreams with Christmas cheer - and a whole lot of giving!

2026-27 PRESIDENT: Mark Williams



PAST PRES. JUDI RUIMERMAN Installs Officers



*2026-2027 Louisiana Airstream Club Officers
Installation Luncheon: Galvez Seafood, August 1, 2026*



New and Past Presidents & 1st Ladies



NEW TREASURER: PAUL BARTEL



Pictures by: Dale Spillman & Will Schexnayder



Sept. 23-27
2026

Region 6 Rally, Foley, Alabama. Unhitched RV Park. Sites still available. Call now for reservations. 251-970-3773.

Oct. 15-18
2026

Explore Acadiana. Hosted by: Paul & Rose Fontana, Co-Host Curt Fontenot. Call Palmetto Island State Park 337-893-3930, and mention you're with the Louisiana Airstream Club. Sites #69-96 are blocked off. Senior rates \$17/night. Reserve now as sites fill up fast. This will be a weekend of fun, and food. Hike the parks well - maintained trails, bike, canoe/kayak and fish in the park, enjoy some of the best of Cajun Country just a short drive away in Lafayette, downtown Abbeville, Delcambre, Erath, and more. Tour the Joseph Jefferson Island Home and Rip Van Winkle Gardens. (terrific lunch cafe). Visit the Delcambre Fish Market, tour Lafayette's Vermilionville Museum and cafe, spend time at the Lafayette Science Museum and join us for a buffet supper at Shuck's Restaurant in Abbeville. For more information on this rally please call Rose Fontana at: 337-344-6861

Nov. 1-10
2026

November Club Informal Caravan: FULL, A waiting list is available. Please contact Dale Spillman at: lau15880@yahoo.com or text at: 225-405-4057 ***Informal Caravan: All participants pay own expenses.**

Dec. 3-6
2026

Christmas Rally hosted by: Dale & Kathy Spillman, Mark & Janelle Williams and Curt Fontenot. Please make your reservations now. Bay Palms RV Resort, 15440 Dauphin Island Parkway, Coden, AL. 251-873-4700 ask for Lisa Whotten and tell her you're with the Louisiana Airstream Club. Sites 1-25 are blocked off; they're all paved and offer both 30/50 amp-service. \$140.00 3 nights. The park also has an enclosed room for our happy hours and party. We will visit Bellingrath Gardens beautiful Christmas light display. The USS Alabama Battleship will have a WWII re-enactment, which truly is amazing. Cancellations with refunds will be accepted up to 30 days prior. More information to come! If you have any questions please call Dale Spillman at: 225-405-4057

(Continued on page 9)

Feb. 11-14
2027

“Dutch Oven Cooking in the Woods” Rally Hosted by: Mark & Janelle Williams and Robert and Rebecca Perere. at Fontainebleau State Park, 62883 Hwy.1089 Mandeville LA 70448. Reserve your site as sites fill up fast during this time of year. Use 62PLUS for a senior discount. If you have any questions please call Mark at: 337-263-2718 or Robert at 225-315-3825,

March 4-7
2027

Joint Seafood Rally, Louisiana/Mississippi Airstream Club, Hosted by: Robert & Rebecca Perere and Blake & Jeri Donald, at Lake End Park, 2300 LA Hwy. 70 Morgan City, LA. For reservations call: 985-380-4623. Lake End Park takes online reservations 6 months in advance **but** are allowing our members to reserve sites by **phone** up to 12 months in advance. Make sure you tell them you're with the Louisiana Airstream Club so they will know you are allowed to book early. They are already booking up very fast. This year we will be boiling shrimp. Much more about this rally at a later date. For more information please call Robert at: 225-315-3825 or Blake at: 210-823-5370.

Apr. 8-11
2027

“Island Time Grand Isle Rally”, hosted by Jeffery and Donna Theriot Where: The Grand Isle State Park (Admiral Craik Drive, Grand Isle, LA 70358. Make your reservations ASAP. Use 62PLUS for a senior discount. Reservations can be made online at www.lastateparks.com or by calling 985-869-7275. For more information about this rally please call Donna Theriot at: 985-696-6250

June 26 - July 1
2027

International Rally - Rock Springs, WY. Sweet Water Events Complex. Registration is now open, <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2027/registration>.



Airstream Witness Protection Program

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

EVERYONE YOU MEET
IS FIGHTING A
BATTLE YOU KNOW
NOTHING ABOUT.
BE KIND ALWAYS!

~ Robin Williams ~



Paul and Tomi Bartel: celebrating nearly 30 years of marriage, are blessed with three children and a third grandchild who's expected to arrive around Thanksgiving. We call Greenwell Springs, just a short drive north of Baton Rouge, home.

Paul, who's been with Exxon Mobil for 33 years, is a Senior Analyzer Expert and is looking forward to retiring in less than three years, fingers crossed!

We've been camping since 2018, when our daughter wanted to explore the Grand Canyon and Yosemite for her high school senior trip. Paul stumbled upon a beautiful Class A motorhome, and just five days into a 2.5-week cross-country adventure, we were limping home on what my Daddy fondly called "the trip from hell." He always cherished hearing about our camping escapades and travels. The best thing that came from buying that motorhome was the Airstream brochure I picked up on our way out of the RV dealership. We spent hours flipping through the pages, studying the floor plans, and dreaming of the day we'd own an American icon.

Just a couple of weeks after my father passed away in 2022, the perfect Airstream appeared for sale, and I felt it was a sign from my Daddy. It was a 2013 International Sterling 25' Christopher C. Deam, an award-winning designer and architect edition, in Arctic Dijon.

When I discovered what Wally Byam Caravan Club International and those big red numbers meant, I knew exactly what I wanted. If you know the meaning of numbers, you'll recognize that 143 means "I love you," and my Daddy's birthday is March 7th, so our BRN is 14337, "I love you, Daddy."

Our first big adventure was bringing our daughter home from the University of Delaware after she completed grad school, with a fun detour to Acadia National Park. On that trip, our little chihuahua, Stella, who will be 14 in October, suddenly stopped eating, so I had to fly back home. The vet said she gave up on life without us, so now she's a permanent travel buddy, along with Piper, our 7-year-old Frenchie who's 2 years post radiation for a brain tumor.

(Continued on page 10)

Our first rally was the International Rally in Sedalia, MO, and we absolutely loved it! We've been to three International Rallies since then, and currently on the way back from Minot, ND. We're already excited about Rock Springs in 2027!

I never thought I'd sell my beloved "Retro-modern" trailer, but we realized we could use a bit more space, especially if I insist on having nine pairs of shoes sometimes. Just before we left for the International Rally, we picked up our forever trailer—a 28' Classic. If you or someone you know might be interested in a 2013 International Sterling 25' fbq, please call Paul at (225-241-0921).

Paul and I have had such a wonderful time with the Louisiana Airstream Club and Rallies. I don't know if I could pick a favorite, from the white elephant exchange and gumbo at the Christmas rally, the mouthwatering feast at the Dutch Oven rally, the best crawfish and chili at the Seafood rally, the beautiful Louisiana parks, sensational foods, and most importantly, the fellowship and friends we've made, which has been an immeasurable joy. We're looking forward to all the future rallies we've booked and those that are still being dreamed up, as well as being able to participate in caravans.

joie de vivre,
Paul & Tomi

