

June/July 2026

NORVA NEWS



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Treasurer: Beverly Bevis

Membership Directors:
Doug and Gail Perkins

Newsletter Editor: Barbara Formoso

Webmaster: Patsy Nagel

Legislative Director: Jeff Tlapa

Parliamentarian: Gerry Nagel

Past President: Bob Nickel

The President's Corner

Summer is finally in full swing, and the Northern Virginia Airstream Club is moving out—and hopefully staying cool along the way!



We just completed a small-group exploratory rally at the Lexington, Virginia Horse Center from July 2–5, thanks to First Vice President Drew Morgan and his wife, Elizabeth. The weather was extremely hot and forced us to shorten or cancel several activities. Let's just say our Airstream air conditioners got a good workout! Despite the heat, we had a great time. We were also able to test our new Airstream Club Epson laser projector, which is officially rally-ready for future gatherings, caravans, Super Bowl parties, and other club events. It passed its first road test!

Speaking of caravans, our NORVA caravan to Minot, North Dakota, led by Second Vice President John Bevis and Treasurer Beverly Bevis, is full, and all plans are locked in. It will be a caravan to remember! The caravan departs on August 7 and concludes with its arrival at the 69th Airstream International Rally at the North Dakota State Fairgrounds, August 22–27.

The summer will close with the 2026 Commonwealth Rally at Endless Caverns Resort in New Market, Virginia, from September 24–27, where we will install next year's slate of officers. Registration is open until August 1, so be sure to sign up soon.

While the summer schedule will end in September, the good news is that we also have some great fall rallies planned. We will highlight those in our upcoming newsletters, so keep an eye on your inbox and

Stay in Touch

For all things NORVA:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/norvairstreamclub>

<https://airstreamclub.org/northern-virginia>

**Newsletter contributions,
corrections and comments are
welcome:**

bformoso@me.com

For all things WBCCI:

<https://airstreamclub.org>



*“Let’s not make
changes, let’s
only make
improvements.”*

Wally Byam

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your Airstream ready to roll.

I also want to highlight two important activities our Board is working on that involve all club members. First, we have completed the required five-year update of our NORVA Bylaws and Constitution, thanks to the stewardship of our Parliamentarian, Jeff Tlapa. The NORVA Board voted unanimously to approve both documents and send them to the club membership for approval. This requires a two-thirds majority vote of our membership, which now includes partner members. **You will soon receive an email** with a link to vote and copies of our updated Bylaws and Constitution. Please vote. We promise it takes less time than backing an Airstream into a tight campsite!

The second important activity is our upcoming election of Board members. We have a fantastic Board and a great slate of candidates. You will also receive an email with a link to vote. Please take a few minutes to participate in both votes. Your involvement helps keep NORVA moving forward and ensures our club remains strong, active, and focused on our members. See you down the road!

James Oxley

President, Northern Virginia Airstream Club

From the 1st Vice President: Drew Morgan

We're already halfway through the year, and I wanted to remind everyone that there are still several great opportunities for NORVA members to get together over the coming months.

Even if you are not participating in the **North to Minot Caravan** in August, you can still register and attend the **69th ACI International Rally**, August 22–27, 2026, at the North Dakota State Fairgrounds in Minot, North Dakota. We'd love to see more NORVA members there. Check out our NORVA Airstream website for more details and for registration. After the **North to Minot Caravan and International Rally**, our next club event will be the **Virginia Commonwealth Rally**, September 24–27, at Endless Caverns Campground in New Market, Virginia.

For those who are new to NORVA, this annual rally typically brings together 50–60 Airstreams from Virginia's four Airstream clubs—NORVA, Spirit of Virginia, Virginia 109, and Tidewater. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow Airstreamers from across the

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Commonwealth, exchange ideas and travel experiences, and simply enjoy great fellowship. The rally fee includes several shared meals and social gatherings. This year, hosted by **Virginia 109**, Friday evening's dinner will be a potluck, Saturday evening's dinner will be catered, and NORVA and Spirit of Virginia will join forces to provide Saturday morning breakfast.

Looking ahead, **NORVA will host the 2027 Virginia Commonwealth Rally** at Madison Vines Campground in Madison, Virginia, September 23–26, 2027. Be sure to mark your calendars—we're looking forward to welcoming Airstream friends from across Virginia. Back by popular demand, **Tom Carmichael** will once again host the **Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally**, October 31–November 3, in Urbanna, Virginia. This has become one of our favorite annual rallies and offers a truly unique experience, especially if you've never attended before. If oysters aren't your thing, you have another great option that same weekend. The **Alumalina Buddy Rally** will be held at Palmetto Cove RV Park in Cleveland, SC. Reservations can be made by calling **(864) 836-6221**. Finally, we're planning to wrap up the year with a **NORVA Holiday Party** in December. We're still finalizing the details, so stay tuned for more information in the coming months. We hope you'll be able to join us for one—or several—of these events. We look forward to seeing you down the road!

2026 River Rally Fun!

by Gail Perkins

Hosted by: Doug & Gail Perkins and Bob & Wendy Nickels, the annual River Rally was held at Spacious Skies Campground in Luray, VA. It's a beautiful setting of an open grassy area surrounded by mountains. The weather was perfect this year. Doug Perkins and Bob Nickel, along with help from other members, put up the huge tarp for shade. The rally officially started Friday evening with a happy hour and pizza delivered at 6:00. As usual, there was plenty of pizza and bread sticks for everyone. After pizza, Bob called out Bingo and gave away prizes. The evening was spent enjoying Wendy Nickels best selection of smore ingredients. There was any type of smore you could imagine, and you couldn't stop with just one!



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Saturday was a “Do your own thing day” until 4:00 PM. Some members walked the Hawksbill Trail downtown along the river, others did short hikes, some went to Cooters for lunch and live music, and some just chilled and socialized at the campground.

At 4:00 PM on Saturday, we gathered together and walked down to the dog park with our fur babies. The dogs got to run around and play, and treats were handed out for each pup...specially hand made with lots of love by Gail.

5:00 PM was the potluck dinner and wine tasting. A variety of delicious food was spread across the tables, and wine was placed in coolers on tables for tasters to enjoy. No one left hungry or thirsty!

After some food and wine, the corn hole tournament started.

Teams were chosen, and Bob organized the players into team brackets. Spectators cheered their favorite teams, and players tried their best. You didn't have to be an expert corn hole player to play, and many had never played before, which made it even more fun to watch. It finally came down to the last two teams: Doug Perkins & Chris Braney against Gail Perkins and Gerry Nagel. It

was a battle, but the Doug and Chris beat Gail and Gerry.....this year!! After the corn hole tournament, Wendy brought out the smore's set up and more smore's were enjoyed by everyone! Raffle prizes were drawn and given out including the big raffle prize donated by Torklift..an \$800.00 gift certificate, which was won by Don Eckerman... congratulations Don!



Sunday morning was the pancake breakfast...cooked by the famous chefs: Doug Perkins, Bob Nickel, and Gerry Nagel. Toppings consisted of homemade blueberries, homemade strawberries, chocolate chips, syrup, butter, whipped cream, and some left over smore's toppings. Full bellies makes happy campers!



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For those who opted to stay an extra day, there was a rafting trip down the Shenandoah River was scheduled for Sunday afternoon. 19 people went on the trip and we used 5 rafts to enjoy a nice relaxing float down the river. There was some sneaking up to rafts and splashing other rafters going on...and cannon balls in the river next to other rafters to get them wet, and other shenanigans which made the trip fun.



Doug & Gail, and Bob & Wendy would like to thank all who helped with the River Rally. It was a fun weekend with great memories made.



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Horses and Balloons: NORVA's First 4th of July Rally

Photos by Lew Brodsky, Doug, Perkins, Tom Carmichael and Joe Formoso

Some club members went on a shake-down trip of sorts to see if this event at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington might be a good one to offer to many more members next year. Club 109 (Spirit of Virginia) has been coming for several years, so our 2nd VP proposed that we check it out this year. Sites were limited and had water and electricity with a dump station very nearby. So do we want to do this again? The consensus at the end of the weekend was Yes!

In spite of the blisteringly hot temperatures, we had a good time. The balloons showed up early in the morning or late in the evening, so during the day most of us spent at least some time in the arena which was hosting the Virginia Arabian Championships. As you can imagine, the horses were magnificent. There were judging all through the day with different classes and categories. The ones we saw were mostly English and Western style riders on gorgeous horses. The English riders wore classic riding attire, while the Western riders were decked out with very fancy and sometimes sparkly outfits. There was one class, that some of us caught, with riders dressed in elaborate Middle Eastern robes and blankets. It was a great way to pass the time indoors on those hot, hot couple of days.



The balloons were lovely when they appeared. Not knowing what to expect, the “balloon festival” part was a little underwhelming. Partly due to the heat, fewer balloons were sent aloft, and the evening show was delayed due to a passing but intense thunderstorm. Nonetheless, they were delightful, both up close and high up in the sky. Oh, and there were fireworks, it being the 4th of July!



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As always, just being together was the best part. Lots of patriotic outfits among us all weekend long. Drew scheduled us for dinner at Devil's Backbone Brewery on Friday. We were on our own for lunches and Saturday dinner. A highlight was an excellent early group breakfast, replacing the traditional happy hour due to how quickly hot the day became. Jim, our fearless leader, manned the grill for bacon and eggs, while the potluck produced plenty of muffins, Freedom Scones (see for the recipe further down in the newsletter), and lots of delicious fruit. Afterwards we even conducted a little business. And here is Tom's dog Winston demonstrating how he beat the heat...in the trailer with AC!

All in all, it turned out to be a splendid way to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of our country's founding.



Kris and Jeff Tlapa, showing their July 4th spirit.

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Club Business: Preview

This from our Legislative Director, Jeff Tlapa: **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:**

There will be an upcoming vote within the NORVA Airstream Club to approve the updated versions of our Club's Constitution and Bylaws. This is a process that is done at least every five years and was last completed in 2021. The new version has been reviewed by the Club's Executive Board as well as by the WBCCI Constitution & Bylaw Committee. Essential changes included aligning our documents with those of WBCCI, updating specifics of how new members join and pay dues, changes to the duties of the Treasurer and use of US Bank (per WBCCI guidelines), and providing additional detail about the duties of each club officer.

This update and review started in January and is now ready for the Club to review and vote. For these new documents to be adopted, NORVA needs at least 2/3 of the members (not including affiliate members) to affirm the Club Constitution and Bylaws as now updated. We need every member (including their partners) to participate in this special election. You will be receiving an email reminder about this vote in late July and another email in early August with a jotform to execute your vote. Again, it's critical that we get maximum participation to ensure that everyone has read the documents and voted on them so that we can remain in good standing with WBCCI.

Recipes for the Road

We are hoping to make this a regular feature of our newsletter. This inaugural offering is from Kris Tlapa who brought them to our super-successful group breakfast at the July 4 rally. Needless to say they were a hit. Thanks, Kris!

4th of July Freedom Scones

2 3/4 cup flour
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 tsp salt
1 Tbsp baking powder
1/2 cup very cold or **frozen** butter
2 eggs
1 tsp vanilla
1 tsp almond extract
1/2 cup milk
2/3 cup dried blueberries
2/3 cup maraschino cherries, drained well and chopped
1/2 cup white chocolate chips
1 Tbsp milk and 2 Tbsp sugar for tops of scones (optional)



Freedom Scones



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Directions:

1. Whisk together flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder in a large mixing bowl. Grate in the butter. Stir till coated.
2. In a small bowl, whisk together the eggs, vanilla, almond extract, and milk. Add to dry ingredients and lightly stir till ingredients are barely mixed. Fold in the berries and chocolate chips.
3. Divide dough in half. Press each half into a 5" circle on a lightly floured surface. Cut into 6 wedges. Place each wedge on a lightly greased cookie sheet. Place in freezer while oven is preheating to 425 degrees.
4. Brush tops of scones with milk and sprinkle with sugar. Bake for about 18 minutes at 425°. Makes 12 scones.

Upcoming Events

August 2-8

Old Fiddlers Convention, Galax, VA This is a National Event Rally.

Information and waiting list can be found here: <https://airstreamclub.org/galax-old-fiddlers-rally>

August 22-27 (You can register for this event even if you are not signed up for the caravan.)

69th Airstream Club International Rally, North Dakota State Fairgrounds, Minot, ND

Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/northern-virginia/norva-calendar>

September 24-27

Virginia Commonwealth Rally

Dates: September 24-27, 2026 Endless Caverns Resort, New Market, VA

Hosted by Virginia Airstream Club

Registration: <https://airstreamclub.org/northern-virginia/norva-calendar>

October 31-November 3

Urbanna Oyster Festival: Hosted by Tom Carmichael

Look for information here: <https://airstreamclub.org/110-urbanna-oyster-festival>

November 5-8, 2026

Alumalina Buddy Rally

Palmetto Cove RV Park, 521 Table Rock Road, Cleveland, SC 29635

Call (864) 836-6221 to make reservations and inform you are part of Alumalina Rally.

\$35 per night FH

\$20 per night water (You can come as early as November 1, 2026)

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December Date TBD

NORVA Holiday Party

More Info to Follow!

Other Regional Events

For tons of upcoming events with other clubs in our region, click here:

<https://airstreamclub.org/events?from=&to=&type=736&state=-1&club=-1>



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**Airstream of Virginia:
5921 Mallard Road
Woodford, VA 22580**

Blue Compass RV
has a brand new Airstream location!

