October/November 2026

NORVA NEWS

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NORVA Executive Officers

President: Drew Morgan

1st VP: John Bevis

2nd VP: Al Sweetster

Secretary: Leslie Stevens

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: Jim Oxley

The President's Corner

With the passing of the baton, I would like to thank our outgoing president, Jim Oxley, for all he has done for the NORVA Airstream Club over the past three years. His leadership, commitment, and willingness to serve have contributed greatly to our club, and I sincerely appreciate all he has done. I would also like to thank our officers and directors who served this past year. They have done a terrific job, and I am especially pleased that they have all agreed to continue serving this coming year. Their experience and commitment provide valuable continuity as we begin another year together.



As the club's new president, I am looking forward to what I believe will be a fun and exciting year for NORVA. I have two primary goals. First, I want us to offer a varied and enjoyable schedule of rallies, caravans, and social activities that gives every member opportunity to participate, travel, make new friends, and simply enjoy being part of the club. Second, I want to continue promoting NORVA while expanding opportunities to join with the other three Virginia Airstream clubs for rallies, caravans, and other activities. Some of our best experiences come from meeting and traveling with fellow Airstreamers, both within NORVA and throughout the greater Airstream community.

We already have an exciting schedule. This year we won't have just one caravan, but two! In May 2027, Jeff Tlapa will lead the I**nvasion of Pennsylvania: 1863** caravan, traveling through the northern Shenandoah Valley and ultimately to Gettysburg, with visits to several historic battlefields along the way. Then, in October 2027, Al Sweetser will lead a caravan to New York's beautiful **Finger Lakes** region. These should be two very different—and equally enjoyable—travel experiences.

Stay in Touch

For all things NORVA:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/norvaairstreamclub

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 Bayam

Our schedule of upcoming rallies and events is now posted on the club website. I encourage everyone to take a look and start doing some long-range planning. Having the schedule available early should make it much easier to identify the events you would like to attend and get them on your calendar.

Most recently, we had the **Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally, November 5–8**. See pictures and commentary below.

Next, be sure not to miss our **NORVA Holiday Party on December 5, from noon to 3:00 p.m., at the Electric Palm Restaurant in Woodbridge, Virginia**. This will be a no-host gathering, and we have a private room reserved just for our group. It should be a great opportunity to celebrate the holiday season together. We are intentionally leaving January open, giving everyone a little breathing room after the holidays. In February, however, we're planning a combined **Super Bowl and Valentine's Day gathering** somewhere in Northern Virginia. Details are still being worked out, so stay tuned. For several events where we have not yet settled on a location or specific activities, we'll be asking for your ideas. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome. This is *our* club, and the more our members participate—not only by attending events but also by sharing ideas—the stronger and more enjoyable our club will be.

On a personal note, Elizabeth and I are genuinely looking forward to the year ahead. Of all the activities we have been involved with over the years, being part of the Northern Virginia Airstream Club has been among the most enjoyable and fulfilling. We have traveled to some wonderful places, but more importantly, we have met and become friends with some terrific people. That, to me, is what this club is really about—the places we go, the experiences we share, and especially the friendships we make along the way.

I look forward to serving as your president and to seeing many of you at rallies, caravans, and gatherings throughout the coming year. Here's to another great year of Airstreaming together!

Drew
President
Northern Virginia Airstream Club

Commonwealth Rally 2026

by Drew Morgan



The Virginia Commonwealth Rally kicked off on Thursday, September 24, bringing together Airstreamers from all four Virginia clubs—Northern Virginia (NORVA), Spirit of Virginia, Tidewater, and our hosts, Virginia 109. With 37 rigs attending, the rally offered a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy a beautiful fall weekend in the Shenandoah Valley.



NORVA was well represented with 10 rigs. Our members included Bob Fitzgerald, Al Sweetser & Kim Robson, Leslie & Ron Stevens, John & Bev Bevis, Drew Morgan, Andy Hall, Steve & Shiela Holt, Ron & Cherie Rackey, Bill & Lisa Fisher, and first-timers Chris DiSimone and Steve Schreiner. It was especially nice to welcome some of our newer members and give them an opportunity to experience a Commonwealth Rally for the first time.

We could not have asked for better weather. The days were beautiful, making it a perfect weekend to enjoy the Shenandoah Valley and everything the area has to offer. Some of our members found time to visit the New Market Battlefield, attend local fall and pumpkin festivals, explore Harrisonburg, and stop by nearby apple orchards, where the views across the valley were spectacular.



One of the highlights of the Commonwealth Rally each year is the installation of new officers for the four Virginia Airstream clubs. Burt Broadway, 1st VP for Region 3, was on hand to conduct the installation ceremonies. For NORVA, Drew Morgan was initiated as President, John Bevis as First Vice President and Al Sweetser as Second Vice President. Bev Bevis was reaffirmed as Treasurer and Leslie Stevens as Secretary. We are grateful to everyone who stepped forward to serve our club, and particularly to those who served this past year and agreed to continue in their positions for another year.

NORVA also had a busy Saturday. Our club hosted breakfast Saturday morning, providing another chance for everyone to gather and enjoy some fellowship before the day's activities began.

Later, we held our annual NORVA business meeting. We added a new dedicated conference-call option, allowing officers and other NORVA

members who were unable to attend the rally to participate remotely. Several of our newer members joined us for the meeting as well.

Much of the discussion centered on NORVA's schedule for the coming year and some of the final planning details for upcoming events. We have an exciting year ahead, with plenty of opportunities to camp, travel, explore, and spend time together. The schedule is now posted on the NORVA website, so be sure to look at the events planned between now and October 2027 and mark your calendars.



Saturday evening began with a wine-tasting happy hour presented by Dogwood & Thistle. Everyone had an opportunity to sample several wines—and, of course, purchase a bottle or two of their favorites. The Spirit of Virginia Club then hosted Saturday night's dinner, which was followed by a presentation from SkyMed for those interested in learning more about the travel services and coverage they offer.

All in all, it was a great Commonwealth Rally and a wonderful way to begin another year of Airstream adventures. Good weather, beautiful scenery, interesting activities, and—most importantly—good friends made for a memorable weekend.

Next year, it's our turn! NORVA will host the 2027 Virginia Commonwealth Rally on September 23–26 at Madison Vines RV Resort & Cottages, the same location where we will hold our Maintenance Rally earlier in the year.

Urbanna Oyster Festival 2026

by Gail Perkins

16 NORVA rigs and 11 Tidewater rigs came together at the Urbanna Oyster Festival annual rally. It was a wonderful gathering of fun, good food and socializing.





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On the first night, we didn't wait for the official opening in Urbanna….the Airstream club had our own oysters! Also, beer kegs with homemade dark beers. Great weather, great fellowship, great time!





Airstream clubs sure know how to have a good time! The Urbanna Oyster Festival started the next day. What better way to start the day than with a mimosa and Bloody Mary bar!







Alas, it did rain the rest of the day….but did we sit in our trailers? No! Doug, Gerry and Tom put up canopies and a tarp between two trailers so we would have a place to hang out and socialize..and we even had a warm fire!

In the evening the skies cleared and we enjoyed a lovely time around the solo stove!

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It was another one of our signature annual rallies with wonderful friends, fun and food. Don't miss it next year!



Welcome New Members

From our Co-Membership Director, Doug Perkins, comes a list of our new members, joined in 2026. Some have attended our North to Minot Caravan and rallies this year. We whole-heartedly welcome them and look forward to getting to know them better in the coming year.

BRN	Member Name	Partner Member Name	City	Membership Type
05409	Harrison Daniel	Morgan Pastorfield	Richmond	Affiliate
31913	Darrel Maloney	Amy Clark	Livingston	Affiliate
02763	Samantha Ellis	Ben Ellis	Arlington	Regular
14281	Ray Smith	Patricia Smith	Gainesville	Affiliate
30511	Robert Chenault	Gennifer Chenault	Ashburn	Affiliate
09699	Christine Carlsen	Calvin Carlsen	Fairfax	Regular
11168	Brian Gottlieb	Meghan Donohoe Gottlieb	Lorton	Regular
02811	Larry Crenshaw	Melody Crenshaw	Stafford	Regular
03620	Ned Keegan		Arlington	Regular
04852	Marybeth Haneline	Gary Haneline	Herndon	Regular
05681	Christopher DeSimone	Stephen Schreiner	Alexandria	Regular
04592	Robert Baumgardner	Cheryl Baumgardner	Richmond	Regular
16560	Kathleen Lee		Arlington	Regular
16365	Chris Duke	Kelly Duke	Leesburg	Regular

Upcoming NORVA Events

First, we have **two time-sensitive events,** so look and sign up ASAP so you don't miss out!

December 5, 2026

NORVA Holiday Party, 12-3PM

2026 NORVA Christmas Party
Saturday, December 5, 2026 12 noon to 3 PM
The Electric Palm Restaurant , 12745 Sea Ray Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22192

We have reserved a private room at this waterfront restaurant located on the grounds of the Prince William Marina. It is right off of I-95 . There is plenty of parking. There is no rally fee for this event. We hope that many of our members will come and enjoy meeting and socializing with other Club members. There will be brief remarks by Club officers regarding upcoming plans for 2027, but otherwise no lengthy presentations. We plan just a happy celebration of our successful year. The menu at The Electric Palm is "casual American fare", reasonably priced with appetizers, sandwiches , burgers, etc.

Hope to see everyone there!

May 14-23, 2027

"Invasion of Pennsylvania: 1863"

Join Jeff and Kris Tlapa in our "Invasion of Pennsylvania: 1863" 14-23 May 2027! We will be conducting a caravan that highlights the 1863 Gettysburg campaign from the Civil War.

We will be starting out in Fredericksburg, VA and spend a few days examining the Battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville and how they impacted both the Union and Confederate Armies before the Gettysburg campaign. Then we will trace the routes of both armies as they moved north towards Pennsylvania, stopping in Front Royal, VA. From there we will look at the actions of both armies at the Battle of Winchester and in the Shenandoah Valley. We will continue to trace the army routes and end up in Gettysburg, PA where we will spend the end of the trip and explore the battlefield and the events of 1-3 July 1863.

The estimated kitty fee is $1200 per rig and **we plan to host 10 rigs so sign up soon!**

Other NORVA events for 2027

February 14, 2027 5:PM
Superbowl and Valentine's Day Party
Host: Al Sweetser
7926 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield, VA 22152
More info to follow

March 20, 2027
New Members Rally
More info to follow.

April 7-11, 2027
"Top of Georgia" Rally
Blairsville, GA
Hosted by Spirit of Virginia
More info to follow

April 7-11, 2027
Region 3 Rally 2027: SHINING IN THE SMOKIES
We will be visiting the Great Smoky Mountains! More info to follow.

April 30 - May 2, 2027
NORVA Maintenance Rally
Madison Vines RV Resort
Madison, VA
Host: Tom Carmichael
Featuring DJ Mastin
More info to follow

May 14-23
Invading Pennsylvania: 1863 Caravan LC-446-2027
Caravan Leaders: Jeff & Kris Tlapa
Registration and more Info

June 11-13, 2027
NORVA River Rally
Dates: June 11-13, 2027
(Stay June 14 for rafting trip)
Hosts: Doug & Gail Perkins, Bob & Wendy Nickel
More info to follow.

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June 26 - July 1, 2027
Airstream International Rally: "Rolling Back to Rock Springs, WY"
Link to Registration

August 8-14, 2027
Galax Old Fiddlers Convention
Cool Breeze Campground
Galax, VA
More info to follow

September 23-26, 2027
Virginia Commonwealth Rally
Madison Vines RV Resort
Madison, VA
Hosted by NORVA
More info to follow

October 7-19,
2027 NORVA Caravan to the Finger Lakes, New York
Caravan Leader: Al Sweetser
More info to follow

November 5-6, 2027
Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally
More info to follow

Other Regional Events



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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

