



# "The Mich-i-gram"



4th Quarter (October, November, December) 2026

## 2025-26 Board Members

### President

Sarah Smith

[MACPresident052@gmail.com](mailto:MACPresident052@gmail.com)

### 1st Vice President

Pegeen Smith

[MAC1stVPPresident052@gmail.com](mailto:MAC1stVPPresident052@gmail.com)

### 2nd Vice President

Kevin Mueller

[MAC2ndVPPresident052@gmail.com](mailto:MAC2ndVPPresident052@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Tom Cobb

[MACTreasurer052@gmail.com](mailto:MACTreasurer052@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Karen Routson

[MACSecretary052@gmail.com](mailto:MACSecretary052@gmail.com)

### Immediate Past President

Fred Bryant

[MACPastPresident052@gmail.com](mailto:MACPastPresident052@gmail.com)

## 2026 Committee Chairs

### Membership

Kat Hibbard

[MACMembership052@gmail.com](mailto:MACMembership052@gmail.com)

### Newsletter

Laurie McLean

[MACNewsletter052@gmail.com](mailto:MACNewsletter052@gmail.com)

### Webmaster

Sally Lobaza

[MACWebmaster052@gmail.com](mailto:MACWebmaster052@gmail.com)

### Parliamentarian

Karen Fisher

[MACParliamentarian052@gmail.com](mailto:MACParliamentarian052@gmail.com)

## President's Corner

### A Note from the President

Happy Camping!

As Michigan's camping season winds down, I've been thinking about the miles, campfires, laughs, and good times we packed into five MAC rallies across our mitten state. Each was unique, and all featured what makes this club special: friendly faces, generous hosts, great stories, and a love of hitting the road.

This year was extra special: for the first time, my husband John and I attended every MAC rally! Seeing all firsthand gave me an even greater appreciation for the creativity and care behind each one—and for the members who make every gathering feel like a reunion while welcoming newcomers.

To everyone who hosted or pitched in: a great big thank-you! You chose destinations, handled details, welcomed everyone, rolled with surprises, and created memories that will last long after the awnings come in. Our season happens because our club volunteers step up.

### Help Shape Our 2027 Adventures

Where will the road take us in 2027? If you have a favorite Michigan campground, festival, destination, or hidden gem, consider hosting or co-hosting a rally. You don't need to do it alone—or schedule every minute. A great spot, a warm welcome, and a few chances to simply gather can make a fantastic weekend. Interested in learning more? How about a Rally Hosting 101 session? Join Sarah Smith, MAC President and Pegeen Smith, MAC's 1st Vice President and seasoned rally hosts, via Zoom on Wednesday, October 21st at 7pm, to walk through everything from when and how to start planning, budget guidelines, and what we've learned from hosting our own events. We'll also share the club's rally manual and templates for hosting. To register, please use this link: [Rally Hosting 101](#). Ahead of the meeting, you'll be sent a Zoom meeting invitation and the documents we'll review in the session.

Whether you host, help, or simply pull in and join the fun, I hope you'll be part of our 2027 season. Thanks for making MAC such a great group to travel with. Until we meet down the road—display those BRNs with pride and happy camping!

Sarah Smith  
BRN# 26310  
MAC President  
[MACPresident02@gmail.com](mailto:MACPresident02@gmail.com)

### Stay Connected:



[MAC Website](#) [Region 4 Website](#)  
[Airstream Club International](#)  
[WBAC Caravans](#)



## New Members

The Michigan Airstream Club wishes to welcome:

- ✦ Mary Buikema and Tom Beltman
- ✦ Cindy and Ted DeKam
- ✦ Paul and Sarah Faasse
- ✦ Karlene and Howard Falker
- ✦ Jeffrey Gerkowski
- ✦ Craig and Mary Goff [Affiliate]
- ✦ Matthew and Melissa Jorgensen
- ✦ Elizabeth and David Karczewski
- ✦ Tammy Lynn and Gary Nustad
- ✦ Jodi and Bill Manley
- ✦ John Najeway and Colleen Kipfstuhl [Affiliate]
- ✦ Lynn Peters and Dan Partin
- ✦ Joerg and Mary (Liz) Potthoff
- ✦ Don and Drea Potts
- ✦ Eugene and Juliet Ruiz [Affiliate]
- ✦ Danny Stone
- ✦ Dee and Bernie Webb



New Members: Check out the Airstream International [Welcome Page](#) and [video](#).

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report

By Pegeen Smith, BRN #8039



Your Michigan Airstream Club executive board frequently look for ways to encourage our members to join us at rallies. We know once you experience a MAC rally, you will understand how special this community is and will want to join us again.

In prior years, the board voted to cover the rally costs on your first rally. Last October, the board voted to present all MAC members a Michigan Airstream Club garden flag to welcome them at their first rally. But I will admit, that we made a mistake by limiting it to only MAC members, not our affiliates. The policy has since been updated to give garden flags to first time rally goers who are either MAC OR affiliates. So, in 2026, if you did not receive a garden flag as an affiliate first-time rally goer, please reach out to me. We will correct the matter.

To be clear, if you are a member or an affiliate and have never joined us at any of our MAC rallies, please consider joining us and you will be welcomed. You will find a warm group that are generous in heart and knowledge. The members of the Michigan Airstream Club aspire to fulfill one of Wally Byam's creed: To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expression.

If you are member who has been enjoying MAC rallies as a participant and would like to help the club by hosting or co-hosting an event, this is your time to step forward. We desperately need help planning our 2027 calendar of events and beyond. Rallies come in all shapes and sizes and can be truly whatever you want it to be. The MAC board is here to support your efforts with planning guides and templates to make it easy.

A BIG thank you to those who have hosted events this past year. From winter luncheons to spring, summer, and fall rallies, we are all incredibly lucky to have members who have volunteered their time and talent so that all of us can have fun camping. Let's keep the legacy going.

See you down the road.

Pegeen Smith  
BRN #8039  
MAC 1st Vice President  
[MAC1stVPresident052@gmail.com](mailto:MAC1stVPresident052@gmail.com)

## Membership & Club News

### MAC Executive Board Meetings

Did you know that the Executive Board meets every other month on behalf of the club? And did you know that members are welcome to attend the meeting as non-voting observers? In accordance with the [Michigan Airstream Club ByLaws](#), the Executive Board must give the membership at least 10 days notice prior to a business meeting. So we are sharing the meeting dates for 2026 so you can mark your calendar and join us. The Board meets on a Tuesday of every other month from January - November @ 7 p.m. EST via Zoom. To join, click [here](#) unless otherwise noted.

#### 2026 Meeting Dates

January 20

May 19

September 1

March 10

July 14

November 10

Mark Your  
Calendar and Listen In!



If a meeting date changes for any reason, the board will send out a change notice to the membership via email with at least a 10 days notice.

### Reminder: Michigan Airstream Club has a Facebook Page

If you are looking for an additional way to keep in touch with MAC friends, consider joining us on [Facebook](#).



## Membership & Club News

### Rally Hosting 101

## Everything to know about hosting a MAC rally!

Join Sarah Smith, MAC President and Pegeen Smith, MAC's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and seasoned rally hosts, via Zoom on **Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm**

We'll cover:

- ◆ When and how to start planning
- ◆ Budget guidelines
- ◆ Tips and tricks from seasoned rally hosts



We'll also share the club's rally manual and templates for hosting.

Register here: [Rally Hosting 101](#), to receive a Zoom meeting invitation and all the documents we'll review.



## Membership & Club News

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### October

Jen & Dave Koomler, October 1, 2016  
Wally Kimmel & Karen Fisher: October 9, 1982  
Randy & KathyAnn Blunck: October 17, 1970  
Mike & Char Henry: October 18, 1969  
Jim & MaryAnn Stimpson: October 31, 1959



#### November

03: Laurie McLean  
05: Mike Henry  
26: Kelli Ray-Fry  
27: Char Henry

Sandy and Andy Lovelien: November 26, 1977

#### December

10: Cynthia Adkison  
19: Janet Pinkham  
20: John Smith  
24: Thomas Smith  
30: Mary Ann Borton

Stephen and Janet Pinkham: December 29

**Please Note:** If you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary listed in the newsletter, it's because we don't know it! In the old days that information was collected each year on your renewal slip. The ACI database doesn't collect that information, but we'd still like to include these celebrations in the newsletter. Please e-mail [Laurie McLean, Newsletter Editor](#) and she will make certain to include your information in the upcoming issues.



## We Rally Together

### MAC 2026 Rally Highlights

2026 was a great year for catching up with good friends and making new ones at MAC Rallies.

**May: Spring Maintenance Rally, Wabasis Lake Campground, Greenville, MI —** Gorgeous weather, a new-to-MAC campground, and breakfast at Woodland Airstream helped us shake off the winter cobwebs!

**June: Silver on Silver, Traverse City, MI —** First-time Airstreamers and MAC hosts Karen and Kim knocked it out of the park—literally—with a Pit Spitters baseball outing and so much more.

**July: Airstreams Return to Cadillac, Cadillac, MI —** We volunteered at Veterans Serving Veterans Park, enjoyed food and art-festival music featuring host *Tuba Tom*, and picked up a few boondocking lessons.

**September: 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel Rally, Gaylord, MI —** We rocked out to a band, won scavenger-hunt prizes, and relaxed at another new campground. First-time hosts John and Marcia showed us how it's done!

**October: Whispering Surf Rally, Pentwater, MI —** Our fifth year at Whispering Surf drew 39 Airstreams—our largest MAC rally in years! Fall colors, football, and friends make for a fabulous finale.



## We Rally Together

### Airstreams Return to Cadillac: 60th Anniversary Celebration Recap by Pegeen Smith, BRN #8039

High temperatures and the Canadian fire smoke did not dampen the enthusiasm of those who attended the 3rd annual rally in Cadillac on July 15th - 19th. The rally kicked off on Wednesday evening with a rotisserie chicken dinner. On Thursday, we had the privilege of listening to two presenters. Mike Harkness presented on one of his passions, HAM radio. He set up his antenna during the rally for some hands-on experience. Thursday afternoon, Stan Schwenke shared his childhood career as a child member of a family acrobat act. His family traveled the US in an Airstream and was featured on several Ed Sullivan shows. We thank them both for sharing their time and talent with us.

Another highlight of this boondocking rally is the time spent giving back to the Veterans Serving Veterans Park. Our camping fees along with a generous donation by the Michigan Airstream Club

raised \$4210.00 for this non-profit organization. These monies paid for all the materials needed for the service projects. Attendees provided valuable man hours. A

group installed 100' of split-rail fence railing, another group prepared the footings for granite obelisks which mark the major battles of the Vietnam war within the Vietnam War Memorial and still another large group of attendees weeded, planted perennials, and mulched the new 100' boulevard at the front of the park. Another enthusiastic group started off on Saturday to build two rock walls but ended up building FIVE! In past years, service projects were done on Friday. This year, volunteers worked Thursday, Friday and Saturday on various projects.

The work was hard

but rewarding and everyone involved had their cups filled with gratitude. Dr. Roger Bandeen, the park's director is thankful for all the hard work and looks forward to working with Airstreamers in the future. Rally members also donated money and supplies for the Backpack Buddies program for the International Rally in Minot.

During our group gatherings and throughout the rally, the hosts shared snippets of newspaper articles, post cards and the 1966 International Rally program to celebrate our history and have a



little chuckle. The hosts also shared a video of fellow Airstreamer, Bard Fuller who attended the 1966 rally as a 16 year old. Bard shared what it was like to attend this historic event and we all enjoyed taking a walk down memory lane.

The Airstreams Return to Cadillac Rally at the Veterans Serving Veterans Park is less than a mile away from the location of the 9th International Rally of 1966 which hosted 2828 rigs and increased the populations of our small town by nearly 10,000. While rallies today do not boast thousands of rigs arranged in concentric circles, some things haven't changed. What hasn't changed is the camaraderie of Airstreamers who join forces to help one another and their community. **Thank you for all who attended and a thank you to my co-hosts, Dale Schneider, Kat Hibbard, Karen Fisher and Wally Kimmel. As well as a special thanks to Steve Lee who was our rally parking engineer.**

Are you interested in joining this service project rally next year? Kat & Dale wish to step down as hosts and we will need someone to step up to assist with welcoming and parking if we schedule this rally again next year.



## We Rally Together

45<sup>th</sup> Parallel Rally in Gaylord MI, September 10 - 13

Big Thank You, John and Marsha Taylor!



---

## Pentwater Fall Rally, Whispering Surf, October 1 - 4

---

Thank you again, Sarah!



## Pentwater Fall Rally (continued)

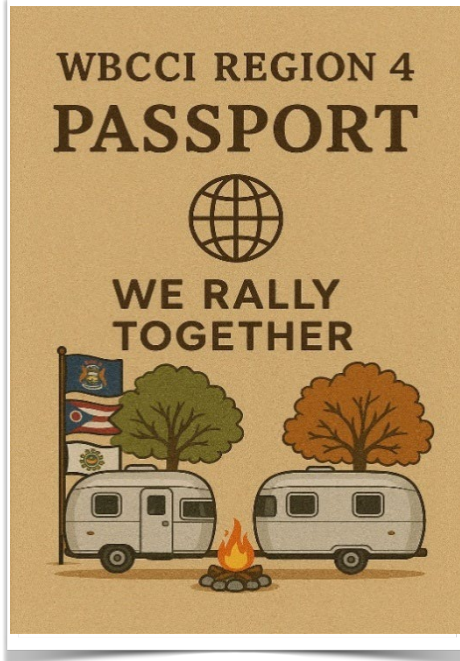


---

## Have you heard that Region 4's "Passport" challenge has officially begun?

---

Your mission, should you accept it, is to attend a Region 4 sponsored Rally/Caravan and a local



Rally/Caravan from each of the 7 local clubs in Region 4 and collect a sticker on the corresponding club page before the International Rally in Celina, Ohio, June 24-29, 2028. (Note that you can collect two stickers at jointly sponsored rallies, but luncheons don't count for this challenge).

The first 10 members to complete the mission, will receive a Solo Stove Mesa. Everyone who completes the challenge will receive a commemorative keepsake.

Only one passport per BRN and you only need one sticker from each club (no extra credit given for additional rallies with the same club ;-)). You can obtain a passport from the hosts at any of our Region 4 local club rallies to get started, if you think you have what it takes! The rally hosts will have a supply of stickers from their club that they will award to participants, and they will initial your passport.

We truly hope this is just one more way for members to connect and have fun Airstreaming!

Let's Go Camping!



## MAC Shares

### Food for the Road

We have lots of reasons for traveling with our Airstreams. One of ours is the ability to make our own meals. Here are three tips for traveling with food.

#### Road-Worthy Recipes by Pegeen Smith, BRN #8039

Several years ago, I came across a post on the Facebook group, Airstream Eats. I took a snapshot and saved it into my iPhone Notes app and forgot about it. I found the saved post and suddenly realized I know the author. She is the author of one of my well-loved cookbooks, "Super Natural Every Day". Unbeknownst to me, she owns an Airstream and has published easy travel-friendly recipes in a PDF called "Recipes for the Road". Below is the recipe she posted on Facebook and I pack these cute packages up for a simple and easy breakfast. If you are interested in more of her pre-packaged recipes, click [here](#).

#### Homemade Instant Oatmeal Packets by Heidi Swanson Makes 12 packets

1 pound/5 cups of quick-cooking oats  
1 teaspoon fine grain sea salt  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
2/3 cup buttermilk powder  
1-1/2 cups toasted walnuts, chopped  
1/4 cup chia seeds  
1 T cinnamon



Use a food processor to blend 1-1/2 cups of the oats into dusty mini-flakes. Transfer all the oats to a large bowl. Stir in the salt, sugar, buttermilk powder, walnuts, chia seeds and cinnamon. Mix very well. You should end up with about 6 cups of the combined mix.

Spoon 1/2 cup of the oats into dusty mix into 12 different air-tight packets or containers. Refrigerate the packets if not using right away because of the seeds and nuts.

To make the oatmeal, empty the contents of a packet into a mug or bowl. Pour 3/4 cup of boiled water over the oat mix and stir well. Allow to sit for a few minutes until it thickens. Serve topped with berries and more toasted nuts. Each packet is one serving.

(Continued on the next page.....)

Continued.....

---

### "Five-Hour Stew" - Not Anymore by Kat Hibbard BRN #6664

---

On our way back from Minot, ND we stayed at the Lakehead Boat Basin in Duluth, MN. We were parked on a strip alongside the marina filled with sail and power boats. It was cold and raining with a 30mph+ wind blowing off Lake Superior. Not a day to dress up and walk across the bridge to find a fine dining restaurant downtown. Earlier in the day I took inventory and we made a quick stop for groceries. Dinner would be hot and hardy that night. I got this recipe from a co-worker in the 1980's. My mother's stew always tasted like paste because she thickened it with white flour. This one has a secret ingredient and was oven-baked all afternoon back then. A few years later I owned a crock pot to cook it all day while we were at work. Now it takes minutes in the 3 qt. Instant Pot that travels in the Airstream!



6-quart Instant Pot (quantities for 3-quart Instant Pot in parenthesis)  
Adjust quantities and vegetable selection as desired

1-1.5 lbs. lean cubed beef (3/4 lb. lean cubed beef) - no need to brown it first

1 lb. carrots cut in chunks (1/2 lb.)

1 lb. potatoes cut in chunks (1/2 lb.)

1.5 c. celery cut in chunks (1 c. celery)

1.5 c. onion 1-inch pieces (1 c. onion)

1.5 c. red or green pepper cut in chunks (1 c. pepper)

2 cans fire-roasted diced tomatoes (1 can)

Salt and pepper to taste, garlic clove if you like that

3-4 Tbsp. tapioca - add last and stir everything in the pot (2 Tbsp.)

This is the secret ingredient that thickens and enhances the flavors.



Secure the lid on the pot, pressure cook for 20 minutes, then release.

(Continued on the next page.....)

Continued.....

### Souper Cubes to the Rescue by Laurie McLean BRN #5792 with Denise Rusinowski BRN #10591

Denise Rusinowski says "I grew up in a large family and then had one of my own. I know how to cook in large batches. Now that it's just the two of us at home and traveling, I use [Souper Cubes](#) to freeze individual meal portions of soups, pasta, sauces, and stews. The small frozen portions are easy to pack in our Airstream freezer for quick easy meals."

Earl and I use Souper Cubes at home also, and we pack the frozen portions in zip lock bags to take with us when we're traveling. I also have one tray in the trailer to freeze leftovers. It came in very handy on our most recent trip to the UP.

We saw an ad for [Frozen Farms Co](#), a beautiful local market selling local meats and curated kitchen products. It's located at 320 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Calumet. Owner Jean McParlan has a family farm, St John's Creek Farm, nearby and raises grass fed beef and lamb. The store sells pork from other trusted small farms in the area. The meat is processed at the nearest USDA-inspected facility in Escanaba where it is aged, cut and flash frozen for sale.



I was interested in a cut of London Broil, which I found, weighing in at 5.5 pounds. I decided to bar-b-q the whole roast from frozen; seasoned and basted with beef broth, honey, and balsamic vinegar. It took all afternoon and I pulled it off the grill when the center temperature measured a rare 112 degrees. After feeding everyone we knew at the campground with the medium rare ends (cut thin on the bias), sweet potatoes, corn on the cob, and green beans, we still had enough left over to freeze individual meal portions. We made Souper Cubes with all the ingredients and extra broth. The meals were perfect over the next few weeks after thawing and heating up slowly, covered in a 250-degree oven.



## We Rally Together in 2027 (at-a-glance)

| Dates                    | Event - Location                                                                                                         | Host/Organizer               | Links/Contact                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>October 21</b>        | Rally Hosting 101<br>Zoom Meeting: 7:00 pm                                                                               | Sarah Smith and Pegeen Smith | Register here: <a href="#">Rally Hosting 101</a> |
| <b>May 12 - 16</b>       | Region 4 Happy 60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Rally<br>Seneca County Fairgrounds<br>100 Hopewell Ave<br>Tiffin, OH, 44883     | Mike Pastva                  | <a href="#">Region 4 Happy Birthday Rally</a>    |
| <b>Weekend of May 22</b> | MAC Spring Rally<br>Wabasis County Park                                                                                  | Sarah Smith                  | TBD                                              |
| <b>Jun 26 - Jul 1</b>    | WBCCI International Rally in Rock Springs<br>Sweetwater Events Complex 3320<br>Yellowstone RD<br>Rock Springs, WY, 82901 | WBCCI                        | <a href="#">Register here</a>                    |
| <b>Jun 24 - 29 2028</b>  | WBCCI International Rally, 2028<br>Mercer County Fairgrounds<br>1001 W Market St<br>Celina, OH, 45822                    | WBCCI                        | <a href="#">Rally Planning Team</a>              |

Be sure to keep an eye out for announcements about winter luncheons!

