

The VAC Newsletter will be published monthly in 2012 until July.

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## Quick Links

[vintageairstreamclub.com](http://vintageairstreamclub.com)

[wbcci.org](http://wbcci.org)

[Newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com](mailto:Newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com)

[president@vintageairstreamclub.com](mailto:president@vintageairstreamclub.com)

## Did You Know?

In July 2003, Wayne A Moore, 3rd Vice President and Membership Chairman presented his Membership report to the VAC at the International in Essex Junction, Vermont.

"Looking at member statistics, there is no clear pattern to the decline. There was proportionally as many short time as long time members that did not renew. We had a 40% turnover and only 12% increase in new Memberships / Subscriptions. When declines like this occur, many ask, 'What are we doing wrong?' It is significant that out of the 450 e-mails sent out, not one member returned a negative response or was complaining about the club. Our successful open house and general enthusiasm this year would also seem to contradict the idea we haven't got the right formula. We may never find a reason for the drop in membership. So let's concentrate on selling our best products -- Fun and Travel!"

## Message from Jim, VAC President

I received an email this month from Todd & Diane Kempf in Dubois, IN. They have a '77 Overlander and '70 Trade Wind. Two paragraphs from their letter are quoted here. Don't you think their experience reflects the value and reward of VAC and WBCCI membership?

*"I am a artist/designer and my husband races stock cars so together we have the knowledge we need for the restorations. We will be selling the Trade Wind when it is completed. We have gotten so many problems solved by attending the rallies and talking with veterans of the airstream, and by talking with past airstream dealers who have been around since the early 60s. I am so glad there is a separate club for the older ones."*

*"We are beginning to plan for this year of camping. The thought puts a bright light on my day. I don't think I have found nicer or more hospitable people than in the Airstream club."*

This time of year most of our VAC and trailer activity is behind the scenes. I've about finished the current Globe Trotter projects and look forward to getting out of the unheated barn and on the road. The Constitution is being worked on, we have established a new goal of a VAC rally in every region, and the Around The World trailer owners are busy, as are the VAC International planners. Rhonda and I are involved in planning for the Colorado VAC rally in July. Let us know what you are planning?

## Three Year VAC Goal, Jim

Remember the surveys last year? You said there needs to be more VAC activities closer to home. The VAC officers are announcing a three year goal – A VAC RALLY IN EVERY REGION. I currently know of three VAC rallies within two regions, but by the end of 2014 we hope to see a VAC rally in each of the twelve regions. Paul Mayeux, 3rd Vice President and I are forming the team to include Region Reps and others. Our first challenge will be to create a Goal Statement, define a VAC rally, and develop an action plan. The VAC will put funds on the table to support new rallies. Beyond that, we need groups of members who want to gather together in their vintage trailers and motor homes. There will be many opportunities for you to contribute suggestions and be involved, so start dreaming.

## Designer Challenges, Jim

I can name three VAC members who are artist/designers. Come to think of it, I can name five, and there must be more – you know who you are. I have a challenge for you. We all know about rivets, polishing, and axle changing, but what really knocks your socks off? It that first view of a well done interior. So the challenge is; contribute a little of your designer knowledge and experience to help others achieve that striking interior. A full restoration, upgrade, or modification; how do we start, what pitfalls do we avoid?

Send your ideas to the editor [newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com](mailto:newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com). We will consolidate and get back to you as a group. Kimber, the Vintage Advantage editor, will focus a future issue on interior design if you contribute the content. We can do separate contributor articles, or themed articles with multiple contributors. Enough of aluminitus and unobtainium, let's talk themes, colors, and textures.

And it's not over yet, send me your design for a logo that represents the VAC RALLY IN EVERY REGION goal. The team will use it on all communication, rally posters, and who knows what else.

## Volunteers Needed - Secretary and Membership Chair

The VAC still needs a Secretary and a Membership Chair. Job descriptions from the VAC By-Laws and a summary appeared in the January newsletter. **Please Consider Volunteering or Encouraging a Fellow VAC'ers to Volunteer.**

## Calendar

**WBCCI Region Presidents and VAC Region Representatives provided information on VAC sponsored rallies or rallies of**

March 26-31, 2012  
Region 9, 43rd Annual Rally  
Mineola, TX

April 24-28, 2012  
Region 3 Rally,  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

**April 26-29**  
**Lone Star Vintage Airstream Club 3rd Annual Campout**  
**LBJ Grasslands, Decatur, TX**

May 30—June 3, 2012  
Region 2 Rally  
Frankford, NY

**June 6-11, 2012**  
**Vintage Restoration Rally**  
**Albuquerque, NM**

WBCCI 55th International  
VAC Pre Rally Events  
Starting June 22

**July 26-30, 2012**  
**11th Rocky Mountain Vintage Airstream Club Rally**  
**Gunnison, Colorado**

August 8—12, 2012  
Region 7 VAC Rally  
Spicer, MN

**August 9-13, 2012**  
**Region 10 VAC Rally**  
**Monitor, WA**

September 12-16, 2012  
Pennsylvania State Rally  
Centre Hall, PA

Sept 22-30, 2012  
50th Annual Swiss Festival  
National Rally  
Sugarcreek, OH

October 5-9, 2012  
Balloon Fiesta Rally  
Albuquerque, NM

October 17-22, 2012  
Region 12 Rally  
Bakersfield, CA

## Editor's Thoughts, Rhonda



When the city is Loveland, Colorado, you can be certain that the month of February is full of celebrations. Since joining the Denver Unit we have hosted two February luncheons in Loveland and each time we purchased a heart to be hung along with hundreds of others along the main streets.

The Denver Unit is active and maintains a strong membership. Our VAC friends in the DenCo unit are officers, sponsor luncheons and plan rallies. Many members of the Denver Unit are associate members of the VAC, often wishing they still had their vintage trailer or others on the outlook for one.

Did you read the Community Service article by Janet Kendig on page 9 of the February issue of the Blue Beret? It reminded me of the article written in the 4 Corners September Newsletter by Jan Girard. *Jan wrote, "I was really surprised and impressed to learn about all the good that the WBCCI brings to the cities where the International Rally is held each year. It made me realize that my dues for the club also indirectly support community service projects that help out a lot of people across our country."* Jan challenged her 4 Corners Unit to make donations and fill her truck for the rally in Sedalia. What do you plan to donate?

Jim and I are constantly referring to the WBCCI directory. Jim just happened to look at the list of WBCCI numbers and noticed that 1967 was not being used. He immediately contacted headquarters and we were allowed to change our number from 3056 to 1967. This is significant to us because we own two trailers built in 1967, a Tradewind and a Globetrotter. If you see 1967 Airstream on the road, give us a wave.



## 55th International Convention / Rally Sedalia, Missouri

### Have you signed up for International and requested Vintage Parking?

Registration information and forms are available in the Blue Beret.

### Do you have an idea for a VAC Seminar at International?

Now is the time to suggest ideas or begin to work on your presentation. Seminars can be technical or historical and will appear in the schedule for all WBCCI members, not just VAC attendees.

### VAC Rendezvous Before International in Sedalia

The Vintage Airstream Club will be rendezvousing at the Cottonwood RV Park in Columbia, Missouri starting the afternoon June 22, 2012. Starting early on June 23rd, we will caravan to California, Missouri for a tour of the Eitzen Historic Mansion and a brunch provided by Region 12. Immediately following the brunch and tour, we will continue our caravan to Sedalia and parade to the VAC parking area.

A limited amount of spaces are available for the rendezvous and caravan so make your reservations early. The total cost for one night's stay and a picnic dinner is \$33.00 per trailer. Use the form published in the January newsletter or register and pay with Pay Pal on the front page of the VAC website [vintageairstreamclub.com](http://vintageairstreamclub.com). Registration is due no later than May 15, 2012. If you need more information, contact Chris Hildenbrand, 1st Vice President, at [vice-president@vintageairstreamclub.org](mailto:vice-president@vintageairstreamclub.org) or call 303.405.1441.

## Region Reps

Region Representatives should be your first contact for VAC information in your area.

Full contact information including addresses and phone numbers can be found on the VAC website or in the most recent Vintage Advantage magazine.

E-mail your representative:

Vacregion# @vintageairtreacclub.com

(insert region number in place of #)

Region 1: Gary Campbell  
Region 2: Bob Novak  
Region 3: George D. James  
Region 4: Ken Faber  
Region 5: Dwight Dixon  
Region 6: Herb Spies  
Region 7: Curt Gunderson;  
Dick Parins, Assistant  
Region 8: Scott Allen  
Region 9: Pat McDowell  
Region 10: Iain Cameron  
Region 11: Ken Johansen  
Region 12: Jim Polk

## VAC Website

**It is time to look at the  
VAC website at  
vintageairstreamclub.org**

The front page has a tentative schedule for the VAC at International and the on-line registration for the VAC Rendezvous in Columbia, Missouri.

Under the heading "Rally Home" is a current calendar of VAC recommended rallies and great tips for Hosting A Rally.

## Constitution Change, Jim

Bob Novak, VAC Parliamentarian, and I are working to streamline and update the Constitution and Bylaws. All of the proposed changes will be published on the Website, and voted on at International in Sedalia. We will conduct votes on individual topics of change as opposed to one vote on all proposed changes.

You will have the opportunity to comment on the Website forum or directly to Bob or me. This change process will eliminate redundancy and inconsistency between and within the two documents. It will allow the VAC greater flexibility in when, where, and how it conducts business.

## Custom Renovation Gone Wild, Dr Joseph Webb

Recently, we have been hearing much about the eighty-year history of Airstreams. The iconic image has never been more present than today. The "Vintage Advantage" magazine (or VAC) is devoted to those of us enjoying not only the original crafting of the Airstream, but the re-crafting, renovation, restoration and enjoyment process. Here is a brief story of our 1970 TradeWind 25', brought back to the Airstream Service Center in Jackson Center, Ohio on a flat-bed trailer, and now enjoyed again in its custom renovated state. If only it could tell us the stories of past camping trips, the laughter, food & drinks shared, campfires enjoyed by friends!

Rick March, Service Center Coordinator for Airstream was the design craftsman for this complete custom renovation and re-envisioning of the 1970 TradeWind. The process from being unloaded from the flat-bed in its state of disrepair to the new owners taking that first adventure trip took about eighteen months; working between scheduled service appointments. It has new skin, electrical, plumbing, and running gear. The cabinetry was largely crafted by Roettger Hardwood Inc., Kettlersville, OH, and installed by Airstream Service Center technicians.

That Americans have always relished domestic travel is a fact recognized worldwide, and Airstreams have always played a leading role as an iconic vehicle to make domestic travel available and accessible. Since 1932, Airstreams have been making history in the field of American domestic RV travel, not to mention the international adventures Wally organized. We love to 'rough it easy', and our Airstreams certainly provide us the means to do this with available space in a relative small area. This 1970 Trade Wind is both practical and a work of industrial art, combining hickory and aluminum gracefully. Renovation also is Green! It recycles the Airstream in the original functional form! It has ample storage to support us in our full-time volunteer work with the National Park Service in our spirit of adventure. It has that balance of form and function many strive for. Visit us at Cape Hatteras Light Station or Alumapalooza and see our home on wheels! Safe Travels.

\* \* \*

Joseph Webb & Victoria Summy are Volunteers in Parks, National Park Service. They live in their Airstream while doing volunteering, and spend summers at the Minnesota Airstream Park. This Spring they are at Cape Hatteras Light Station, NC. Contact Info: <jbwvsshome@yahoo.com> WBCCI #1070



Newsletter  
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Loveland, CO 80537



## Vintage Airstream Club Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club

### February 2012

The Vintage Airstream Club  
Is an Intra-club of the  
**WBCCI**  
Wally Byam Caravan Club International

### Quick Tech Idea, Jim



Anyone with a late '60's trailer is familiar with the strap button used to hold the screen door to the main trailer door.



The first picture shows the screen being held with a strap. The strap is replaced often because the button fails. It also shows a sliding latch used to hold the screen door closed when the main door is open.



A single roller catch that holds the screen door closed is shown in the second picture. The flapper door, held by rollers, often rattles in the open or closed position.



To solve the problem I used rare earth magnets and a fabricated angle bracket.

The slide latch was moved to the main door, and slides over the bracket to hold the two doors together as shown in the third picture.

In the lower picture you see a double nut that is held by the magnet to keep the flapper closed. The back side of the bolt is a double nut also and rests on a second magnet to hold the flapper open.

The screen door in use is held closed by the existing roller, and held to the door by the slide when not in use. The flapper door is held open or closed by magnets. The strap and rattles are gone.