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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)

### Are you a VAC Charter Member?

Herbert P Richter recently sent a copy of his VAC Charter Member certificate, dated July 4, 1993. Two other charter members include Diane Bailey of Texas and George D James, Region 3 VAC representative.

### Are you a Charter member?

Send us your name or even a short story about your membership. We need to recognize those that have been in the VAC for 20 years!

### 2012-2013 Officers

President, Chris Hildenbrand  
1st V. P., Tim Kendziorski  
2nd V.P., Paul Mayeux  
3rd V.P., Kimber Moore  
Recording Secretary, Patti Reed  
Treasurer, Pamela Peak  
Past President, Jim Cooper

## **“TO ENCOURAGE CLUBS AND RALLIES THAT PROVIDE AN ENDLESS SOURCE OF FRIENDSHIP, TRAVEL FUN AND PERSONAL EXPRESSION.”**

**Wally Byam Creed**

### Message from Chris, VAC President

I hope everybody survived the holiday season and the New Year is treating you well. It has been a little while since our last newsletter and a lot has happened with the holidays and everything. For me, winter seems to last forever, and the last time I checked it is still winter in Colorado. Albeit, a mild, dry one, it's still winter. This is the time of year I cannot wait for the warm days of summer and then, when summer finally gets here it just flashes by.

The New Year has been very hectic for us so far. Between work, the restoration of one of the surviving Around the World Caravan trailers and other things, the one project consuming most of our time has been the final touches on the restoration of our 1959 Ford Country Squire. The main reason for restoring this car now, is we have been asked to participate in a display at the Forney Transportation Museum in Denver starting February 1st. The event is going to be called from "Wood to Vinyl" and it will be a display of Woodies and their Vinyl counter parts. So if you live or are traveling in the Denver area in the next three months and like Woodies, make a point to stop by the Forney and take a look.

Yes, I still work for a living, and yes, we have been able squeeze in some time for caravan and International event planning. At this time, we have about 90% of the planning complete for the **Wagon Wheel Caravan** for this coming June. After a quick trip to South Dakota last week, we were able to drive the planned caravan route and I believe this years Wagon Wheel Caravan will be fun for everybody. We are planning to leave plenty of time to explore the sites in each area. We will start our Caravan in Hot Springs, South Dakota with folks arriving on June 19th. We plan to spend two nights in the Hot Springs area. Things to see in this area are Historic downtown Hot Springs, Custer State Park, and Wind Cave National Park to name a few. Participants will also have an optional tour of the Woolly Mammoth dig site in the Hot Springs area with lunch after the tour. Next we will caravan to Hill City, South Dakota on June 21st, again spending two nights. Hill City, offers the chance to explore most of the major sites in the Black Hills including Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Crazy Horse Memorial, Sylvan Lake, and the Needles Highway. There will also be an optional historic train ride on the 1880 Train from Hill City to Keystone and back to Hill City with wine and cheese being served. On June 23rd, we will travel to Interior, South Dakota just outside of Badlands National Park. Your trip to Interior will be at your own pace. You will need to plan your day wisely because we will only spend one night in Interior, and there is a lot to see. Stop and explore whatever suits your fancy. You will have the opportunity to see places such as Sitting Bull, Crystal Caverns, Bear Country, Reptile Gardens, downtown Rapid City, South Dakota Air and Space Museum, Wall Drug, National Grasslands, Minuteman Missile National Historic Site and of course Badlands National Park. On June 24th, we will travel from Interior to Pierre, South Dakota. This stop will give you the opportunity to explore the capital city of South Dakota. We have again planned an optional tour of one of the Army Corps of Engineers power plants on the Missouri River. June 25th, will be our final day on the caravan and we will make our way to De Smet, "Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little Town on the Prairie". At De smet, we will Rendezvous with the other Vintage members staging for the parade into Huron. Tim Kendziorski has been busy planning this stop and the parade into Huron. Its looking like this will be great event.

The sign up form with complete information regarding the caravan will be available on the VAC web site ([www.vintageairstreamclub.com](http://www.vintageairstreamclub.com)) on February 15th. Please keep in mind, we are limiting the Wagon Wheel Caravan to 25 trailers and our cut off date will be May 1, 2013 no exceptions.

Don't forget that this year is the 20th Anniversary of VAC and the 50th Anniversary of the departure of the Around the World Caravan and both will be celebrated at the 56th Annual WBCCI International in Huron, South Dakota.

**2013  
VAC Rallies or Events**

**2013**

February 13-18  
Florida State Rally  
[www.floridastaterally.org](http://www.floridastaterally.org)  
Sarasota, Florida

April 24-28  
Region 8  
Hutchinson, Kansas  
"Let the Games Begin"  
VAC Presentation, Vintage  
Parking, and Open House

May 16-18  
Region 9  
4th Lone Star VAC Rally  
Central Texas Location

June 19-25  
VAC Wagon Wheel Caravan  
Hot Springs to DeSmet, SD

June 25-26  
VAC Rendezvous at International  
"Little Airstreams on the Prairie"  
Laura Ingalls Wilder Homestead  
DeSmet, South Dakota

June 27-July 4  
56th International Rally  
Huron, South Dakota

July 24-30  
Region 7 and VAC Region 7  
"Tall Ship Festival"  
Duluth, Minnesota

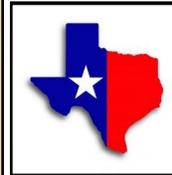
August 2-4  
39th Old Time Fiddlers Picnic  
TCT and Montana WBCCI  
Livingston, Montana

August 9 - 12  
Region 10 VAC Rally  
Wenatchee River Vintage Rally  
Monitor, WA

October 3 - 7  
Texas Highland Lakes Unit  
Vintage Airstream "Cradle of  
History" Rally  
Gonzales, Texas

Late October  
Region 12  
VAC Rustlers' Roundup  
Lone Pine, California

**2013 Upcoming Rally Highlights**



Read more about the February **Florida State Rally in Sarasota, Florida** including the theme, "Salute Our Armed Forces," the latest news and schedules on the web site [www.floridastaterally.org](http://www.floridastaterally.org) Vintage trailers will be parked just inside the entrance to the fairgrounds and featured in the VAC Open House. **Contact Vic Smith, Director**

"Let the Games Begin" is the theme for **Region 8 Rally in Hutchinson, Kansas, April 24-28** at the Kansas State Fairgrounds. In addition to VAC presentations, Vintage parking and Open House, bring your thinking caps for popular games like Name-that-Tune and don't miss "Airstreamers Have Talent." Hosts: Dottie and Fred Steurer  
**Contact Scott Allen, VAC Region 8 Representative**

Plan to join the **VAC International Rendezvous June 25-26** and circle-of-wagons in DeSmet, South Dakota at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Homestead prior to the WBCCI International in Huron, South Dakota. Read more details in the Fall 2012 issue of the [Vintage Advantage](#) magazine. Attendees must be registered for the WBCCI International Rally.  
**Contact Tim Kendzierski, VAC Vice President**

The VAC is planning for two celebrations during the **56th International WBCCI Rally June 27-July 4**: 20th Year of the VAC Intra-Club and the 50th Anniversary of the "Around the World Caravan." Copies of the registration form can be found in the November issue of the Blue Beret or go to [wbcci.org](http://wbcci.org)

The Tall Ships are coming to Lake Superior, Duluth, Minnesota. Region 7 and Region 7 VAC are hosting the rally during the **Tall Ship Festival July 24-30**, at Buffalo Campground just 10 minutes from downtown Duluth. Tours of Duluth and Superior, Split Rock Lighthouse, and Glensheen Mansion, plus time for golf, biking and a night at the casino can all be enjoyed in the area. This is a once in a lifetime rally, so pack up your Airstream, come early, and stay late. Region 7 promises you a fun vacation. Registration form for the rally can be found on the website <http://region7.wbcci.net> Camping is not included in the fee, Airstreamers must make their own reservation at the campground. Questions: Linda Agre 320.295.1117

**Contact Curtis Gunderson. VAC Region 7 Representative** Curtis Gunderson is also offering courtesy parking at home about 25 miles south of Duluth on Highway 23 if you wish to come before or stay after the Tall Ship Rally.

The **4th Annual Lone Star VAC Rally** will be held **May 16-19** —a true vintage Airstream Club rally in Texas. As with the past rallies this is anticipated to be a boondocking style rally. As of this time we are looking at a couple of locations in Central Texas possibly near Llano, TX or Mason, TX. Vintage Airstream Club membership will be required to attend.

**Contact Lance McEwan at [lonestarcvac@gmail.com](mailto:lonestarcvac@gmail.com)**

## 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# @vintageairstreamclub.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  
Region 8: Scott Allen  
Region 9: Pat McDowell  
Region 10: Iain Cameron  
Region 11: Ken Johansen  
Region 12: Jim Polk

## Reminders

The VAC newsletter is only sent to one e-mail address per membership, so please share with your spouse, partner, significant other, even a potential member.

Articles, suggestions and questions are always welcome.

Bob Herman, VAC Contributing Editor publishes VAC rallies in the Blue Beret. rb8556@mac.com  
407-810-5579

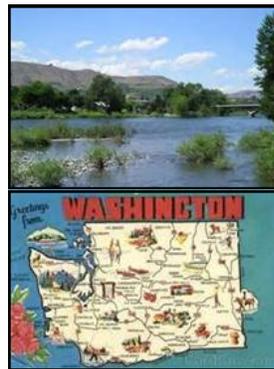
## 2013 Upcoming Rally Highlights continued...

WBCCI and VAC members are invited to the **39th Annual Old Timers Fiddlers Picnic August 2-4**, one mile south of Livingston, Montana on the Old Mercier Ranch. It is a good deal more than a picnic and welcomes any players of roots music. While there are spectators there are a good deal more musicians. Combined with Tin Can Tourists gathering, everyone will dry camp and sleep under the Montana sky being serenaded by bluegrass, old timey, mountain, Celtic, gospel, cowboy singers and the like. Camping is free, but participants are expected to contribute for an event button to the tune of \$25. US 89 is the Northern Gateway to the Yellowstone National Park and at the head of Paradise Valley which pretty much says it all. If you fly fish, hike, mountain bike or whatever, this is the event for you. **Contact Dal Smilie at dalsmilie@aol.com**

Wenatchee River County Park in Monitor, Washington is the setting for the **Wenatchee River Vintage Rally, August 9 –12**. The park is located along the river with back-in campsites arranged in loops providing plenty of space, grass and trees. A total of 35 sites are available for the rally. Most are full hookups at about \$30 per night and a few water/electric at about \$25 per night. Rally fee will be \$10 per adult. There's plenty of activities to do in the surrounding area of Wenatchee to Leavenworth, including antique and thrift stores, hands-on cheese making, wineries, orchards and gardens, river tubing, golfing, mountain biking and dam tours. Rally activities will run from Friday late afternoon through Sunday evening. Many of us will be arriving early on Thursday and staying through the weekend, leaving on Monday morning. **Contact Iain Cameron, Region 10 VAC Representative**

Prepare for a historical weekend in Gonzales, Texas, the Cradle of Texas Independence, where the 8th Texas Vintage Airstream Rally will be coupled with the City of Gonzales "Come and Take It" festival to celebrate the first shot fired for Texas Independence. **Texas Highland Lakes Unit of the WBCCI, is sponsoring the National Texas Vintage Airstream Rally and Historical Festival weekend on October 3-7**. Located between Houston and San Antonio, Gonzales is the site of the firing of the first shot for Texas Independence on October 2, 1835. The town celebrates the event with a giant parade, carnival, street dances, food booths, biergarten, special music, battle reenactment, arts and crafts booth, photography and art shows. The Texas Vintage Airstream Rally will be held in the city-owned J.B. Wells Park Arena facility with 486 full hook-up sites. New and vintage Airstreams will be parked on the floor of the arena for seminar workshops, open house, potluck supper and catered dinners. All owners of Airstreams— both vintage and newer models— are invited to celebrate the history of Airstream and history of Texas. The planning team is also looking for a vintage tow vehicle and Airstream trailer to participate in the parade. Rally fee information and reservation coupon will be posted on : [www.THLU.org](http://www.THLU.org) **Contact Fred /Judy Hazen at [jfhazen@earthlink.net](mailto:jfhazen@earthlink.net) or 512-261-0122**

More information will be available in the next newsletter and on the VAC website about **Wally Byam's Rustlers' Roundup in Lone Pine, California**. This is a Region 12 VAC rally happening in late October. **Contacts: Tim Kendziorski, Kimber Moore, Jim and Lynda Polk**



What other VAC rallies are happening in 2013?

**Newsletter**  
**6200 Choke Cherry Dr**  
**Loveland, CO 80537**



**Vintage Airstream Club Newsletter**  
The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club

**JANUARY 2013**

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

**Vendor List, Winter ITB Motion and 12 X 14 Update — Jim Cooper**

My thanks to those of you who answered the website questions about creating a list of part and service suppliers for our vintage trailers. There were no negative responses and enough positive to give it a go. I will follow up with an email explaining the details: when three VAC members have recommended a vendor, we will list them; if two complain about the vendor, we will remove them. I will want to accumulate ten recommended vendors before publishing the list. I will maintain the list, but you have to make the recommendations. Be thinking about who has gotten you the part needed, or done the work you required.

It's exciting to see the rallies scheduled for 2013. We want to build flexibility into rally planning, and have a motion before the Winter IBT asking for approval to conduct a buddy rally in any number of the twelve regions in a given year (Richard Girard just called to say it passed). This will mean that you will be able to host a rally and your VAC participants can invite a buddy who owns a non-Airstream vintage trailer. Bring your neighbor with their Shasta, Scotty, or Spartan. They all have the same restoration issues, pride, and sense of stewardship that we do. The 12x14 Team has other irons in the fire, and you can expect a full report in the next Newsletter.

**Editor's Thoughts — Rhonda Cooper**

Our friends, Mike and Clare Scott have been camping in Rocky Mountain National Park, approximately 8000 feet, for New Years since 2004. Their tradition has continued with more Colorado Airstreamers and friends joining the fun each year. In 2013 eight trailers participated and a first timer described our group as, "undaunted, intrepid, headstrong, stalwart and tenacious."

Jim and I get very interesting e-mail from VAC members. Most mail is about renewing or technical help and once in a while we catch a story happening. In an upcoming newsletter we need to tell you about a VAC member, Mickey Mont-Colombi who lives in England and owns several vintage trailers.

The Rocky Mountain Vintage Airstream group of Colorado has decided to again skip a year, the next Colorado rally will be in 2014.

Check out the new look of the VAC website. Tim Kendziorski is upgrading the software for the site so it will be more user friendly and easier to maintain. Thanks Tim for your dedicated work for the VAC.

The next newsletter is scheduled for March. If we receive information about additional rallies or more updates for International, we will get the news out to everyone in a timely manner. Watch the VAC website too!