

VAC 2014 Rally Calendar

June 19-22

Region 8 Rally

VAC Graffiti Rally

Onawa's 30th Annual Graffiti
Night, 'Crusin' America's
Wildest Main Street USA
Onawa, Iowa

Contact:

Jeff Peterson jp6896@q.com

Scott or Kathy Allen

kathyallen3534@gmail.com

June 21-23,

VAC Long Long Rendezvous Gathering Before International Buffalo, WY

Contact: Tim Kendziorski or
Kimber Moore

June 24- July 4

WBCCI 57th International Gillette, WY

VAC Events: Parade, VAC Parking,
Officer Election, Seminars ,Happy
Hours, Open House, Fun!
Registration Form in *WBCCI Blue
Beret*

July 17-21

Region 10 Caravan to Coast Warrenton/Astoria, Oregon VAC Members Invited

<http://region10.wbcci.net>

Contact: Iain Cameron

3vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

July 24- 28

Region 11 VAC

RMVAC 12th Rally

Gunnison, CO

Contact Chris Hildenbrand
pastpresident@vintageairstreamclub.com

Registration at rmvac.org

August 1-3

Region 10 VAC

40th Old Time Fiddlers Picnic
Livingston, MT

Contact Dal Smilie

dalsmilie@aol.com

The Vintage Airstream Club Intra-Club of WBCCI Since 1993 May / June 2014 VAC Newsletter



Message from Tim Kendziorski, VAC President

Last month I mentioned at the end of my message that it was time to repack those bearings. I actually completed that last night on our motorhome. We had originally planned to bring our motorhome for this years International Rally, but to get all of the work done on it that it needs required us spending our tax refund money . We haven't yet received that refund so that scrapped that plan. Now we are bringing our trailer. It sure is nice having an Airstream and a spare for situations like this.

This will be my last message as President. And, it will be Rhonda Cooper's last newsletter as she is stepping down as editor. This means that we will have a vacancy that needs to be filled. Rhonda started the e-newsletter back in 2011 and it remains a great way to keep the members informed about VAC activities. We sure have appreciated the work and dedication Rhonda has put into the VAC well beyond her time as First Lady. She has been, and continues to be, a valuable contributor to the VAC. With her departure we need a member to take over as the newsletter editor. We will provide you with the software you need to do the job (Microsoft Publisher or equivalent). If you are interested in taking over this position please contact Rhonda or myself.

I compiled and submitted the annual report to WBCCI HQ - you can read it online [HERE](#). In that message I talked a little about the future of the VAC. Part of that future I believe will be an expansion of the Rendezvous gathering prior to International. The cost of International is high enough that attendance is dropping. We are seeing this year people attending the Rendezvous who will not be going to International. The upcoming group of officers have agreed that the Rendezvous offers the VAC a way to have a great rally instead of just a way to met before parading into International. It may also offer a way to conduct business should there not be enough officers/board members attending International. And it is a great way to engage VAC members all over the country.

I also have an update on the \$500 donation that the VAC offered last year to the WBCCI Historian for archival purposes. I received a catalog of what is in the closets at HQ and it is substantial to say the least. Not all of the materials there need to be archived in my opinion, but there is enough work to be done that it will take a crew of people a few days to do it all. So, in the upcoming year I will be investigating hosting an archival rally where (hopefully) we will have several people involved with scanning, photographing and cataloging what is there. It will be a working rally, but I believe it is so important to the club and to WBCCI as well. As of this date we have not paid out the \$500 because, quite honestly, there is nothing to put the money towards. Its human labor that is needed most.

For those heading out on the road to International I look forward to seeing you. I am looking forward to the International rally and seeing great friends again. Drive safe!

2014 Calendar Continued ...

August 8—11

Region 10 VAC

Wenatchee River County Park
Monitor, WA

Contact: Iain Cameron

3vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 12 VAC

2nd Annual VAC West Round-up

Vacwest.org

Contact: Tim Kendzioriski

president@vintageairstreamclub.com

Date To Be Determined

TATTOO A Trailer?



In 2012 the tattooed trailer and its owners, Don and Debbie Miller and Frank Swanson, participated in the RMVAC rally in Gunnison, Colorado.

It was their first rally since joining the DenCo Unit and everyone was talking about their trailer. Shiny trailers always stand out at a Vintage Rally, but a tattooed trailer was a first for most of us. Since 2012 the images have been refined and more added to both sides. Enjoy the article and if you are lucky to see the trailer at a rally, you must ask to look inside—the theme continues!

Thanks, Frank and Don for sharing your artistic talent, story and pictures.

Rhonda Cooper, Editor

Safety, Jim Cooper Tech Advisor



"Safety", reading that gets old doesn't it? I teach a beginning fly fishing class and always start with safety. After all, you are around water, and once out of reach of your partner, you are on your own. If you are old enough to own an Airstream, isn't it always safety first?

You have a full fire extinguisher in a convenient location and in the back of your mind you wonder, "What's going to cause a fire in my trailer? But I will have one just because I should." That's a good start. Additionally you and those who spend time in your RV must know how to get it off the wall, pull the pin, and shoot the fire. Accidents do happen.

We recently parked at a Denver Unit rally, I started the water heater, and put away the igniter. While I was outside, Rhonda entered the trailer and announced, "Something smells in here." I responded, "It's OK, I filled a lighter before I used it." Then Rhonda shouted, "There's smoke and a fire!"

I went to the door, and saw smoke and flame pouring over the back of the cabinet above the sink, they can do that in '67 trailers. Stepping in, I took the extinguisher from the wall, pulled the pin, opened the cabinet door, and shot the fire. The white burst of stuff stopped the flame immediately. It also left a surprisingly large quantity of white powder (Baking Soda mostly).

Ceiling fans pulled the smoke out of the trailer, soap and water cleaned the soot from the ceiling, Rhonda drove 15 miles home (calm down time) to get the shop vac, and I purchased a replacement extinguisher that afternoon.



How did this happen? The tip of the Red lighter was hot enough to melt into one of the blue lighters and the gas ignited. Gas and plastic were the only sources of flame. By the way, the torch lighter lights every time, at all altitudes, and works well in the wind. It will always be cool before being put away in the trailer that we are very pleased to still have.

Trailer Information in Database, Jim Cooper, Tech Advisor

The VAC Membership database contains information about member's RVs. There are 565 listed, the oldest being 1946 and the newest 2014. "So what?" you could ask. Well, I will give you an example of its usefulness.

In 1966 through 1968 Airstream windows were manufactured by Corning, and were curved to match the trailer body. Some say these were the sleekest looking models ever produced. Others have found that a broken Corning window was made of "unobtainium", though replacements are available. Many of us who own one of these trailers believe that it represents the peak of Airstream design except for the lack of a gray water tank. So, here is the member data on the '60 Corning series trailers in the VAC database:

Year	Number
1966	25
1967	25
1968	15

In addition to knowing what is recorded, we know who owns these trailers and how to contact them. If you have a question about your Corning series trailer, we could put you in contact with someone who has probably been there and done that.

Model	Number
Globe Trotter	14
Caravel	11
Overlander	11
Trade Wind	9
Safari	7
Ambassador	4
Sovereign	4

The data can be selected and sorted just about any way you can imagine, including by location. Would you like to invite Globe Trotter owners to your blog - not a problem. Or you could form a 1960's Trade Wind group on Face Book - equally easy. This ability to select the data and find the owners is not available elsewhere.

If your trailer information was in the database it would benefit all VAC members, and help you find members with trailers like yours.. Fill in the RV information on the form [HERE](#) and send it to membership@VintageAirstreamClub.com, or use the mail address. While you are at it, update any membership information that has changed recently.

"Tattooing Our Trailer"

Frank Swanson and Don Miller, owners

Members of the Denver Colorado Unit and Vintage Airstream Club

The howling winds and white sand beaches of Lake McConoughy, Nebraska make it a sailor's paradise. But those same winds can be a tent-camper's nightmare. After years of sleepless nights, snapped tent-poles, and collapsed tents, as well as our aging bones, we desperately needed a change.

Our solution?



A 31 ft. 1976 Sovereign Airstream in need of restoration.

So we PIRATED up and got to work.

It was our boat named "**The Jolly Codgers**" that inspired the design theme of pirates of the high seas. Using the line drawings from our Airstream manual and making copies we invited our families to submit designs for the outside of the trailer. The final design was a scene worthy of any tall tale from the high-seas -- a giant octopus ensnarling a shark on the star-board side, with another shark taking a hefty bite out of the same octopus on the port side.



**Giant Octopus
Ensnarling a Shark!**



**Shark Taking a Hefty Bite
out of the same Octopus!**

We started the physical part of the project by removing all of the moldings and nameplates that interfered with the design, which was laid out using three eights inch wide artists tape and three quarter inch blue masking tape. We used the narrower widths for tighter curves and the blue tape for straighter lines. Because we laid the design out with tape, it was easily changed just by repositioning it. We did a lot of repositioning! The door, windows, vents and wheels were used as reference points and the tape adjusted to replicate the drawings.

The polished surfaces became the water in our design, which was done before the etching. After all of the polishing was done, the tape was then repositioned to the polished side so that the etching could be started.

A wide variety of wire wheels, brushes and Scotch Bright pads were attached to various sanders, grinders, and air tools to etch in the design. There was definitely a lot of trial and error, but that became part of the fun. We practiced, a lot, on scrap aluminum, noted the effects, and just went for it. More fun was added to the design when we installed backlit glass sharks eyes, procured from a taxidermy supply house, that keep watch over our plundered booty.

One of the advantages of the etching was the ability to hide certain dings and scratches. After all, this pirate ship has seen its fair share of skirmishes over the decades. One of our encounters resulted in a foot and a half long gash that became part of a fish. The other imperfections were mostly ground out in the etched areas. Care was taken to not grind too deep knowing the thinness of the aluminum.



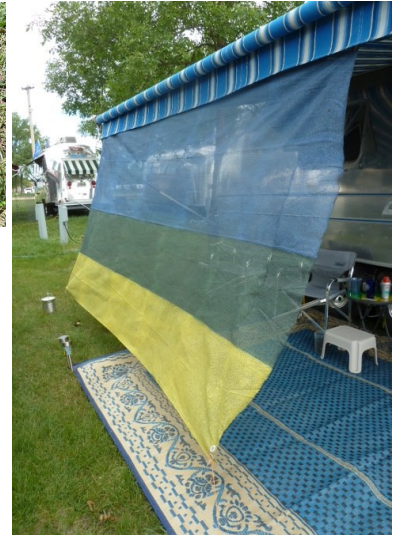
Like a lot of our art projects there always seems to be more that should be done and this one promises to go on for few more years.

We know that tattooing a trailer isn't for everyone, but we have had a lot of fun.

From the reaction that we get as we travel around we know that we have created something special, and besides we are pirates and we don't give a . . .

Frank and Don

Just a Few Great Ideas from Past Rallies



Kimber Moore, VAC 1st V P, arrived at the 2013 International with all the tools to finish a sunscreen that attaches to the trailer awning.



Lois Angerami, DenCo member, used colorful bag clips to wrap up the ends of a tablecloth to keep it from blowing away.



Diane Bailey, Charter Member of the VAC and member of the Heart of TX Camping Unit used a piece of plexi-glass for her Red WBCCI Number, attached to the license plate with flamingo clips.



Janell Prussman, DenCo Unit, provided each trailer with a silver painted jar and flower for the Trailer Open House.

Maintaining Organization in an Airstream or Tow Vehicle can always be a Challenge.



Jim and Rhonda Cooper started out with good intentions, but the end result was very chaotic. We strive to be more like Scott and Nina!



Scott and Nina Kunze, DenCo Unit,, have a great system of crates and everything has a place.

Editor's Thoughts, Rhonda Cooper

My goal for the VAC Newsletter, at the start of Jim's term as VAC President, was to improve VAC communication. Since 2011 I have published twenty-one issues and now it is time to step aside.

In 2013 I spent considerable time researching the history of the VAC, creating the historical June 2013 edition of the Newsletter, celebrating 20 Years of the VAC. I read almost all past newsletters and magazines including the original documents from Bud Cooper, founder of the club. We have been fortunate to have very dedicated volunteers that have kept the club active, supported changes, and know the fun associated with "vintage" trailers on the road.

Thanks to everyone who has submitted calendar and rally information. A special thanks to the VAC members that have taken the time to thank me personally or sent an email commenting about the VAC News.

I will continue to support the newsletter by encouraging VAC 'ers that I meet to share their stories.

Please consider volunteering or maybe think about your VAC friends and encourage someone to step up!

VAC Newsletter Editor Volunteer Needed

Purpose: VAC Newsletter compliments the *Vintage Advantage* magazine and the VAC website with timely information related to the VAC goals, events, club business and technical tips.

Specifics:

VAC provides software for publication and all but a few of the VAC members receive their issue electronically. VAC Officer or Designated Member will assist with the electronic distribution; responsibility for mailing newsletters to those without email address will need to be determined.

Editor works closely with the VAC President for content.

Editor needs to communicate with Officers, Region Representatives, and those in Appointed Positions, encouraging submission of calendar items and articles.

Publication dates are determined by the editor; the past two years, bi-monthly news starting in January fit well with VAC needs.

The Vintage Airstream Club has a new address for membership materials starting April 2014.

Vintage Airstream Club

P O Box 612

Jackson Center, OH 45334

2013- 2014 VAC Officers

President, Tim Kendziorski
1st VP, Kimber Moore
2nd VP, Iain Cameron
3rd VP, Steve Laxton
Recording Secretary, Patti Reed
Treasurer, Shirley Bolinger
Past President, Chris Hildenbrand



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