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Quick Links

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Around the World Caravan

“As with any globe-trotting trip, there was anticipation and high promise. At the end lay the record of one of the most remarkable trips ever completed by a private group—the Wally Byam Around the world Caravan.”
TRAVEL, May 1965

The details of the caravan can be found in the book, [Thank You Marco Polo—The Story of the first Around-the-World Trailer Caravan.](#)

2012-2013 Officers

President, Chris Hildenbrand
1st V. P., Tim Kendzioriski
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

Autumn is my favorite time of year. I love the warm days and cool nights. This can also be a somewhat melancholy time of year for me, reminiscing about the great adventures and fun times meeting up with friends, old and new, from the now gone summer. This is also a time of year when many of us start to focus on the coming holidays and other winter activities such as skiing or the Bahamas. Even though there are some folks that are able to enjoy their Airstreams, and the camaraderie all year, some us from the more snow prone areas of the country have already winterized our Airstreams and put them to bed until spring. Then, there are some of us like myself, who are both restoring a trailer and trying to plan next summer's adventures.

Planning is underway for next year's Vintage Airstream Club's International activities. Although the planning is not complete at the time of writing this message, I plan to hammer out the final details for both a wagon wheel caravan preceding the International Rally, along with some special activities during the International Rally. With a plan to visit South Dakota sometime in the next 3 to 4 weeks, I should be able to nail down the final details. The official announcement of the Wagon Wheel Caravan along with information and a sign-up will take place sometime mid January.

If you do not already know, 2013 is a big year for the Vintage Airstream Club. The Vintage Airstream Club plans to celebrate two big anniversaries. The first anniversary is the 20th anniversary of The Vintage Airstream Club itself. Yes, it's been 20 years since Bud Cooper and others set the wheels in motion to create The Vintage Airstream Intra-Club of the WBCCI. The second anniversary is the 50th anniversary of the departure of 105 men, women, and children along with 47 Airstreams on the "Around the World Caravan". This caravan was the dream of Wally Byam and was the last great caravan that Wally had a hand in planning before his death in 1962. Although, we are not able to recreate this caravan in today's international political climate, we can try to bring together the surviving people and trailers and let them tell their stories. We plan to tell the those stories and many more stories next summer. So watch for the information regarding the Wagon Wheel Caravan and International Rally sometime mid-January and plan on attending the 2013 International rally in Huron South Dakota and to participate in the Wagon Wheel caravan. Cheers and safe travels, Chris

Should the VAC offer a Vendor List? Jim Cooper, Technical Advisor

Members have asked where to find parts or service for their vintage trailer, and sometimes suggested the VAC provide a list of vendors. **IMPORTANT**, the VAC website has a two question survey asking if you want a vendor list, and if you would support it. Click this link: <http://bit.ly/TMLwfy>. It looks strange, but it is the only way there. The value of a list will be in its credibility. I'm suggesting that a vendor be listed if three VAC members provide a recommendation, and be de-listed if two complain. This is why it will need your support.

Please do the survey. If it proves useful, other questions can be asked about the club's services and activities. This is really about you having direct input about what your club provides its members.

Also, if you have a technical question, send it to techadviser@vintageairstreamclub.com. I will do my best to find an answer for you.

**2013
VAC Rallies or Events**

2013

**February 13-18
Florida State Rally
www.floridastaterally.org
Sarasota, Florida**

Invitation to rally on Page 3.

**April 24-28
Region 8
Hutchinson, Kansas
VAC Presentation, Vintage
Parking, and Open House**

**56th International Rally
Huron, South Dakota
June 27- July 4**
*More information in Jan. 2013
VAC Newsletter about Wagon
Wheel Caravan to International
and Around the World Celebration
at International.*

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

What else is happening?

***What rally are you
planning?***

***Can you send a preliminary
date or location and
give us details later?***

***Let's fill the calendar for
the January newsletter!***

**June 2012 Vintage Restoration Rally Highlights
WBCCI Four Corners Unit, Sponsors
Ken Johansen**

For the sixth year, Vintage Airstream enthusiasts gathered from all over the United States at the annual Vintage Restoration Rally held in Albuquerque, NM. It is the only rally in the county whose sole purpose is to teach Airstream restoration skills taught by professionals – folks who do these things for a living.

This years rally featured Uwe Salwender, President of Area 63 Productions from Orange, CA; Kip Eagan, an aircraft sheet metal mechanic; Lew Farber, owner Master Tech RV in Hood River, OR; and Luke Bernander who owns an Airstream restoration shop in Fort Collins, CO. These folks are masters at what they do and we are very fortunate to have them demonstrate the proper ways to repair Airstreams.

The rally is non-stop from Thursday night to mid day on Sunday – with back to back seminars on skin replacement, riveting, electric basics, polishing, window rebuilding and replacement, upholstery, and cabinet making. Not only do participants get to see the proper way to handle various projects, we actually put tools in your hands to practice these skills.

A very popular session is Vintage Airstream Valuation taught by Jim Polk. Mr. Polk is one of the few in the country certified to do valuations for insurance companies and the Internal Revenue Service. Jim talks about insurance for our vintage units as well as the current market for vintage Airstreams – a very interesting and informative talk.

By the time noon Sunday rolls around, most attendees are in information overload, there is so much to absorb – which is why we have folks who come back year after year. I've heard many say, if nothing else, they walk away with skills they know they can tackle and what skills should be hired out to the professionals. Sunday afternoon is reserved for our presenters to walk around to various units, inspect restoration progress and give first hand advise on how to proceed on an individual basis – a much appreciated time as owners can have these pros look at their individual projects. Also during that time Mr. Polk is available for valuations of vintage units at a very reasonable fee.

Another event which we were the first to do is our tech hour – the entire panel of experts answer specific questions, give advice or clarify what was taught in the various classes. The rally is becoming a conference, seminar or university of Vintage restoration. You do not need to have an Airstream with you, several attendees fly in and stay in local hotels.

This rally is a winner! Year after year we get incredible feedback on the amount of learning attendees receive, we improve it a bit and always have something new to teach, so that anyone who has attended before can expect something new. This is a serious event for anyone who owns a vintage Airstream, is serious about restoring a Vintage Airstream the proper way, or just wants to know how their coach is put together.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Albuquerque this spring !



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

VAC Membership Meet Glenn and Teresa Taylor Renewal Procedures

Hi everyone, Glenn and Teresa Taylor here, your new VAC membership chairpersons. We have taken over the reins from Lee Cantrell who has been doing a great job for the last three years. Thank you Lee for all the work you have done keeping our membership up to date. Also on our team are Joyce Cantrell, recruitment and Rachael Hughey, new membership. Thank you Lee, Joyce, Rachael, Tim and Jim for helping us get on board with membership.

We live in Seaside, Oregon and have been active in the WBCCI Oregon unit serving as Director, VP and President since we joined in 2005. *At the 2006 International in Salem, Oregon we were guests and made a point of attending the Vintage Open House.* We met many of you at the Gillette International where we parked in Vintage and enjoy the VAC activities and entered the concourse with our 1968 Ambassador. In 2011 we hosted the Vintage rally in Baker City, Oregon for the opening of the Wally Byam exhibit at the Baker Heritage Museum. We have that disease called Aluminitus that many VAC members have and along with our 1968 Ambassador we have a 1981 Excella 11 which we are finishing for the 2013 International. Our co-pilots are Lucy & Ruby (yorkies) who love meeting people and traveling. We all look forward to meeting you down the road at a future Vintage Rally.

At the 2012 International in Sedalia the VAC voted to change membership to an Anniversary month renewal. What this means is your renewal date is the date you joined the VAC or the month you paid your last dues. Don't worry, we are putting in place a renewal notice/letter that you will receive at the beginning of your renewal month. You will be able to either pay at www.vintageairstreamclub.com by Pay Pal or fill out the renewal notice with your check and drop in the mail to VAC membership: PO Box 7066 Loveland, CO 80537-7066. Either way we will make sure you get all the benefits of being a current VAC member. Just be looking in your in box for an e-mail from ttdesign@ymail.com that's just me, Teresa Taylor, with your renewal notice.

12 by 14 Committee Goal: Rally in Each Region in 2014

The committee feels that a VAC rally can be very simple: pick a time, a location, and announce it. Airstreamers always find ways to make their own fun, and always make do when things don't go quite right. Don't hesitate to host a rally out of concern for participants not having fun, or because you don't think enough will attend. You and one other is enough. All repetitive rallies got big after starting small. Promotion is an area where the VAC can contribute. Your rally can be promoted in this newsletter, and email invites can be sent to members in the local area.

You are the host, pick the time. It won't be perfect, but it is good to avoid conflict with other VAC or WBCCI activities in the area. Location attracts people. It either has its own attraction, or it is close to an event or activity of interest to VAC members. Very broad interest like the state fair, or narrow interest like the vintage lawn mower museum will work. The important thing is to facilitate camaraderie and bring people together.

We are looking at suggesting buddy rallies throughout the regions. Invite your buddy with a non-airstream vintage RV. Vintage interest is not confined to Airstream, and we all share the same struggle to repair, restore, and maintain. We will have more information on this idea in the future.

Invite to Florida State Rally, February 13-18 Vic Smith, Director Florida State Rally

Next year's Florida State Rally is shaping up to be great. The Vintage Airstream Club has been an integral part of the rally for many years and next year will be no different. Vintage Airstreams will be parked, as at the last rally, just inside the entrance to the fairgrounds. The VAC Open House will be on Saturday, February 16. Our star entertainment attraction is Antsy McClain of the Trailer Park Troubadours on Sunday night, the final night of the rally. We are looking forward to a great time in Sarasota next year. Check out our web site at www.floridastaterally.org

Newsletter
6200 Choke Cherry Dr
Loveland, CO 80537



Vintage Airstream Club Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club

November 2012

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

VAC Nominating Committee

The process of nominating candidates for 2013-14 officers is under way. The nominating committee is Jim Cooper, Past President; Bob Novak, Parliamentarian; and Teresa Taylor, Membership Chair. Current officers have agreed to move up the sequence if elected, 3rd Vice President to 2nd Vice President and so on. The position of 3rd Vice President is open.

Iain Cameron (#5418), Region 10 Representative and resident of British Columbia has accepted nomination, but nominations are not closed. If you are interested in the position or would like to propose someone, contact a committee member. Nominations from the floor at the time of election will also be accepted. Short biographies of 3rd VP candidates will be published in the March newsletter.

Editor's Thoughts, Rhonda Cooper

As Chris mentioned in his message, we also have our trailers tucked away in the barn for winter. Weather permitting we will venture to Rocky Mountain National Park for New Years along with other brave Airstreamers. The park keeps one campground open year round - reservations are not necessary in winter.

I recall reading two recent Facebook posts on Vintage Airstream Club that also reflected the end of the season. Mary Culshaw wrote, "Last day on holidays with the trailer and then back home... to snow. We had to winterize it as soon as we came back home or else everything would freeze! Nothing like blowing lines after a six hour drive." Jay Guerin posted, "Finishing the season today with 61 nights in the refurbished '64 Bambi II. All systems are go. The beds as uncomfortable today as the first night, but the trailer is a keeper."

At International in Sedalia, Missouri, the VAC was asked by the WBCCI to accommodate a German Journalist interested in writing an article about Vintage Airstreams. Bernard Schmit interviewed and photographed many Airstreams and owners, plus he enjoyed our Happy Hour gatherings. Recently we received a copy of the November issue [Auto Bild Klassik](#) with our trailer featured in downtown Sedalia. Jan Girard, Paul Fancy, Patricia Munt, Martin Hughey, and Dr. Holman's assistant, Ernest, were also photographed for the article. In a recent email exchange with Bernard, he was traveling on the Old US Highway 50, known as the Lincoln Highway, in a Vintage Lincoln.

