

Vintage Airstream TODAY

The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club
January/February 2019



VAC officers for 2019

President - Dave Morrison
1st VP - Rachel Payne
2nd VP - Edward Valentin
3rd VP - Lisa Sly
Recording Secretary -
Joel Ware
Treasurer - Shirley Bolinger
Past Pres. - Victor Blood

www.vintageairstream.com

Special invite: 7th Annual Fiddlers Picnic Vintage Trailer Rally, VAC buddy rally with Tin Can Tourists

August 2-4, 2019, Livingston, MT

Contact dalsmilie@aol.com with questions

Golden Caravan Road Trip

June 11th—July 18th

There will be more information in the March/April VAC newsletter

More information at:

<https://www.vintagecampertrailers.com/gold-airstream.html>

Newsletter Editors:

Joyce and Lee Cantrell

Email us newsletter items at

cantrellnewslettervac@gmail.com

Get ready for your next camping season with some of the great items from our VAC store. Contact Christine Kirk our Quartermaster at quartermaster@vintageairstreamclub.com or go to the VAC web site <https://vintageairstreamclub.com/shop/> to order.

Show off your your love of Vintage Airstreams. The small flags are 2x3 for use on posts and poles. The larger 3x5 flags are used for flag poles especially at rallies.



This versatile tote is good for shopping or carrying stuff back and forth to the shower. Nice canvas with a fun navy bandana trim and rope handles.

Show your support of the VAC even in cooler weather with these awesome blue men's vests. Sizes L to XXXL



Magnetic Logo for Tow Vehicle



Decorate everything from windows to water bottles with these fun stickers

These folding, collapsible coolers are wonderful for carrying to a picnic, keeping snacks and drinks cold in your tow vehicle during your road trip or even bringing to happy hour during rallies. With a handy pocket in front for your wine opener.



Show your Airstream pride with this hundred percent cotton T-shirt. Men's sizes medium to XXXL. Various colors Navy, light blue, gray.

Show your Airstream pride with one of these great women's cut v-neck and shorter sleeves. Chose white, Navy or gray. Sizes M to XXL



Represent your Airstream pride and keep warm with these amazing fleece >> vests which are a lady's cut. In Gray. Sizes M to XXL

INSIDER NEWS

Joyce and I seem to do quite a bit of reading during the colder winter months since we aren't traveling as much. As we travel, just like you, different topics of discussion come up. Books seem to be a big part of discussions. As avid Airstreamer's we know of many books centered around Vintage Airstreams and Vintage Trailers of SOB's. The first time I heard SOB was not in context of "Some other brand".

Several years ago Joyce and I were at a rally in Texas and that is where we first met Rich Luhr the publisher of "Airstream Life" magazine. I remember sitting around talking with him: and he was working on the book that he and others felt would assist new trailer owners: and hence he eventually published the book titled "The (nearly) Complete Guide to Airstream Maintenance". I don't know about you but when Joyce and I started trailer camping we were at a loss as to maintenance of a trailer. We did learn quickly sometimes by default and mistakes. Rich's book would have come in handy. When we travel, we try to take his book along as a reference.

Here is a partial description of the book from:

<https://store.airstreamlife.com/collections/books-and-cds/products/airstream-maintenance>

"Finally, a trustworthy and complete book about Airstream maintenance!"

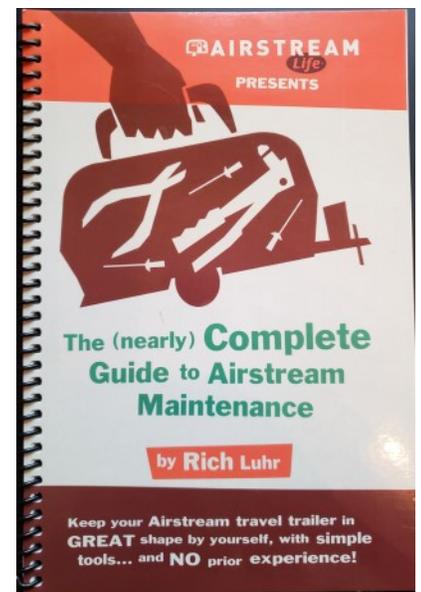
This book covers everything you need to know to keep your Airstream travel trailer in great running condition for decades, by yourself, with simple tools and no prior experience.

Maintenance of your Airstream trailer is not nearly as difficult as most people think, and with just a few basic tools and this guide, you can do almost every routine task yourself. No more trips to the service center for every little thing.

No more feeling like you are at the mercy of the mechanic because he recommended changing the air in your tires and replacing the blinker fluid. You might even find that this book saves one of your vacations, if something goes wrong on the road!

This book is unique. **No other book contains so much Airstream-specific maintenance advice."**

Rich Luhr, Author





May 2-5, 2019: 11th Texas Vintage Airstream Round-Up Special Event Rally

Texas Highland Lakes Unit (THLU) of WBCCI is sponsoring its 11th Texas Vintage Airstream Round-Up Special Event Rally, May 2 – May 5, 2019 at Mineola Civic Center & RV Park in Mineola, TX which is some 80 miles east of Dallas, north of I-20. Full hook-ups are provided.

Membership in WBCCI or VAC is **NOT** required—the only requirement is that attendees have some type of an Airstream product—**any year of manufacture**. Every year, we have attendees join WBCCI & VAC for the first time. At our 10th Anniversary Rally in April 2017, we had 1948 model Airstreams to 2017 models of which nearly 60% were Vintage.

This Rally Includes: seminars on vintage topics as well as topics of interest to others, panel discussions, camp fires, door prizes, entertainment, four (4) catered meals, one (1) potluck dinner, and an open house for Airstreams.

The Rally Cost is: \$100 (\$80 for 4 catered meals + \$20 for rally activities) Per Person with children under age 15 free; and the **Parking Cost** is \$27 per night (most of the activities are held on Thursday, Friday, & Saturday.) Pre-shrunk, adult sized Rally Logo Shirts will be available for order at a cost of \$16 for sizes S-XL and \$18 for sizes 2XL & 3XL.

Some of the topics in the past have dealt with: solar panels & installation, frame off restoration, axles & brakes, electrical & batteries, plumbing including holding tanks, cleaning holding tanks, flooring, refrigerator repair and alternatives, air conditioner & heating alternatives, LED lighting, riveting, polishing, custom cabinets, window replacement, general and basic maintenance, insurance, portable generators/invertors, container gardening, cooking in an Airstream, using a convection oven, Dutch-oven cooking, places to camp & visit, caravanning, dry camping, towing for women, Yoga for all, and full-timing in an Airstream.

Help us round-up all Airstreams. Head down to Texas for: good food, good times, good friendships, and good Texas hospitality for our 11th Texas Vintage Airstream Round-Up Special Event Rally, Texas style!

Rally Registration Form and information may be found at the THLU website: www.thlu.org, or click [[here](#)] or contact Jean Beebe at: tj-beebe@hotmail.com or 512/745-4201 (Cell).

Direct any specific questions about the Rally to: Grady Ferry at: pizzacat@sbcglobal.net or (713) 825-9586 (Cell).

Registration Form & Fees are Due PRIOR to April 18, 2019.

Recently I received a message from Jack Henry. Jack is trying to give away (free, free) to a good home two unique items that would go well in a vintage age Airstream trailer. He wants them to be used and not sold or given away which I can understand. If you are interested ,you should quickly call him to finish the deal.

“Hi Clyde...here are the pictures of the items that are looking for a new home. free.”
Jack Henry Jackson Ca. 305-772-5471



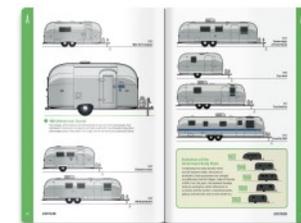
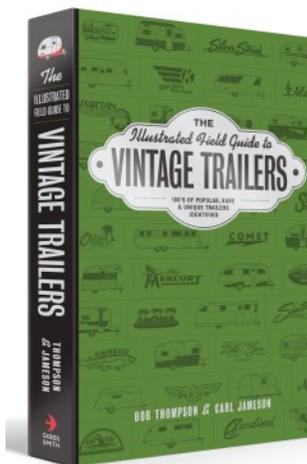
VAC member, Dal Smilie, brought the book *The Illustrated Field Guide to Vintage Trailers* written by Bob Thompson and Carl Jameson to our attention. One of Dal's vintage trailers is pictured in the book. Congratulations, Dal! I believe Joyce and I will add this to our collection.

This book is a complete, illustrated A-to-Z resource for vintage trailer enthusiasts.

A comprehensive guide to vintage trailers made by hundreds of manufacturers, from Airstream to Zipper, including brief histories of the manufacturers, and illustrations of the trailer models by year showing how to identify them. A generous selection of full-color photos of vintage trailers is also included. Entries include **authentic logos, identifying features, historical briefs, key models**, and more. Also included are **spotting notes** about rare and unique trailers, events, and trivia, a **map of manufacturers**, a **glossary**, and a **vintage trailer checklist** to fill out while you're on the road.

Bob Thompson is the owner of Bobland in Portland, Oregon, which produces custom woodwork. **Carl Jameson** is a writer, director, and producer at Craftmaster Productions in Portland, Oregon, creating specialized sales and marketing videos for business. The pair worked together to restore a 1958 Cardinal canned ham trailer, and in the process became both expert and enthusiastic about the world of vintage trailers. Our site: <https://vintagetrailerfieldguide.com/>

You can purchase the book at the following locations:
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-illustrated-field-guide-to-vintage-trailers-robert-thompson/1129186472?ean=9781423648888#/>
<https://www.indiebound.org/book/9781423648888>
https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=the+illustrated+field+guide+to+vintage+trailers



The Illustrated Field Guide to Vintage Trailers will be released in mid-February but can be pre-ordered now.



Notes from VAC Membership Chair—*Rhonda Cooper*

The Vintage Airstream Club, Intra-Club of the WBCCI, began 2019 with 513 members, an 11% increase over January 2018. Our membership is sustained by enthusiastic Members that own Airstream and Argosy RV's that are 25 years or older and Associates that love the vintage lifestyle.

My membership goal for 2018, 500 memberships, was met on October 29. This goal was supported by 108 WBCCI members joining the VAC for the first time! All current members of the VAC should have received the VAC Digital Directory in December. I encourage everyone to reach out to our newest members.

My first goal for 2019 is to communicate with individual members that need to update trailer information in the VAC database. I want to include more trailer data in articles I submit for the VAC Newsletter. The second goal is to distribute the VAC Digital Directory at least three times in 2019 and send to new members when they join.

Jim and I live in Loveland, Colorado, known as the “Sweet Heart City” in February. One February tradition is giant red hearts with love notes on lamp posts and another is the very popular Valentine re-mailing program which hand-stamps valentines with a special message. The website visitloveland.org features all the history and events.



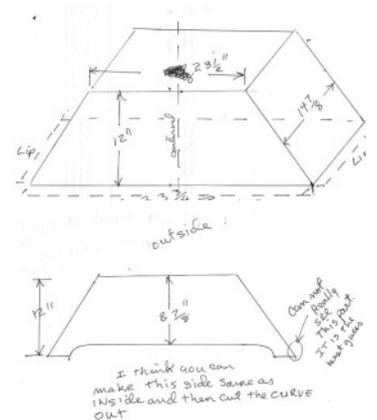
The WBCCI 2020 International will be held in Loveland, Colorado.

Rhonda Cooper, Membership Chair



Continuation of the article appearing in the Nov/Dec 2018 issue of the VAC Newsletter on the installation of a new wheel well into Tim and Paula Timmons' 24' 1963 Tradewind.

I contacted my friend Steve who owns a heating and cooling shop hoping his sheet metal repairman could make a wheel well for us. Steve said that would be possible so I presented him with a sketch of the dimensions needed and the damaged original wheel well/tub. Steve's employee completed the task in a timely manner. The finished product was well done, and all we had to do was put it together in the trailer. (Page 8 shows dry fitted wheel well pieces)



When the trailer was originally constructed in the factory, it appears the wheel wells were put in place first; and then the subfloor was installed. Our challenge would be how to install a new wheel well without removing the subfloor. We had to attach 2 of the 3 flanges separately. Below is a sequence of the steps we followed:

1. A&B are photographs of the original wheel well being removed.



Wheel well removal A and B



2. Connecting the outer panel of the new wheel well to the front, top and back panel.

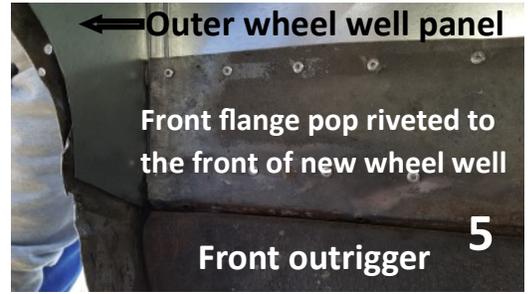


3. Front flange being installed between subfloor and outrigger.



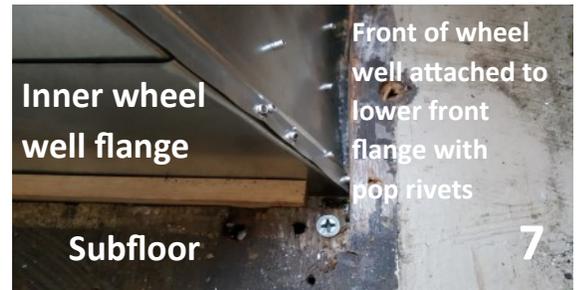
4. Inner wheel well flange attached to rear wheel well and set in place.

5. Front corner street view of wheel well parts installed.



6. Street side view of outer wheel well panel and upper panel installed.

7. Front floor view of flanges and wheel well riveted together. Notice flanges (not visible) installed between subfloor and front outrigger.



8. Completed interior view of installed metal wheel well with interior wheel well panel pop riveted.

9. Inner wheel well cover (fiberglass repair) installed



10. View of metal interior sidewall trim to be installed.



11. Interior sidewall trim installed.



12. Freshwater tank installed and ready for closing up with bed platform on top



The next VAC Newsletter issue (March/April) will conclude the installation of the wheel well article with exterior views.

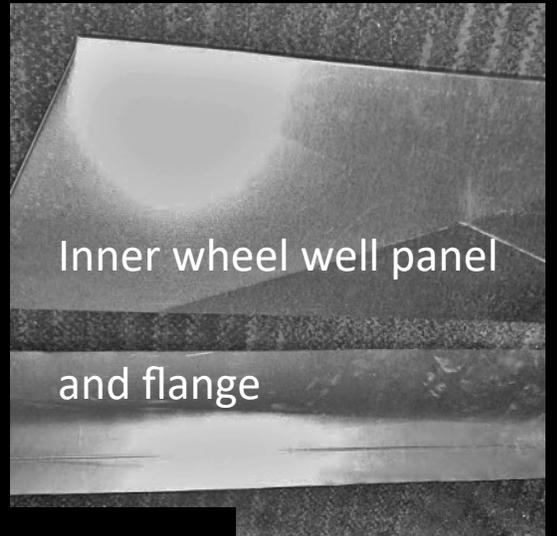


Outer wheel well panel

This page shows photos as we dry fitted the individual galvanized sheet metal pieces together.

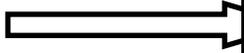


Wheel well top



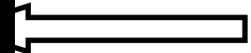
Inner wheel well panel and flange

This end fits towards rear of trailer, flange is part of top sheet



Dry fitting wheel well showing inner panel and flange

This end will be fitted towards front of trailer with addition of another flange (not shown)



Dry fitting wheel well showing outer panel



Upright view of dry fitted wheel well