

VAC 2014 Rally Calendar

March 14-16

Region 9 VAC

Lone Star VAC and Heart of Texas Camping Unit Rally
Dublin, TX

Rally planned during Dublin's St. Patrick Celebration

Contact Lance McEwan.,
VAC Region 9 Representative
vacregion9@vintageairstreamclub.com

April 2 - 7

Florida State Rally, WBCCI
Rally with Vintage Parking

New Location: Florida Keys,
Sunshine Key Resort

Contact: Dan Maciejczyk
oldtruckfarm@prodigy.net

June 28- 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.wbccci.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

Calendar continued page 2.

The Vintage Airstream Club Intra-Club of WBCCI Since 1993 January / February 2014 VAC Newsletter



Message from Tim Kendziorski, VAC President

The holidays are finally behind us and quite honestly, I welcome the break in all the excitement. In our house we had one daughter come for a 3 month stay and after she left, daughter #2 has moved in. We have had a flooded basement when a valve developed a leak. We are still cleaning up from that. Oh, and the tree is still up in our living room - last year we waited until almost March to take it down. That's the way our house rolls.

The VAC has seen a recent change as well. Pam Peak has turned in the books and stepped down as the treasurer of the club. She has held this position since 2009 when she took over from Jim Cooper. I have to say that I have really enjoyed working with her these past few years. Her easy mannerisms and subtle humor has always been appreciated. Pam - Thank you for so professionally handling this position over the years. You will be missed!

Taking over the treasurers duties is Shirley Bollinger. She eagerly stepped up to the plate minutes after I made the announcement at International that Pam was stepping down. I have had the pleasure of camping with Shirley on a few occasions and know that she will be doing a great job. Currently the books are being reviewed by an accountant and I will be including the results of that audit in my report at International later this year. Once that review is complete I will be forwarding the materials to Shirley.

At International in Huron, the VAC Board voted to assist Marla Brady, WBCCI Historian, with funding in the amount of \$500 directed towards her archival efforts. I spoke with Marla to get an idea of what her needs were and they are actually greater than what we expected. The club has films, slides, photographs and paperwork that are a part of the club's history that really need to be digitized and then preserved for safekeeping. Digitizing allows us to make these items available to all club members. Archiving of course preserves the originals as best as we can. After talking to Marla I am convinced that, as a club who is dedicated to Airstreaming History, we can help in more ways than one to preserve this material. I will be working with Marla over the next few months to see what we can do to complete this process.

There is lots more work to do this year and I have a list of goals to still accomplish for the VAC with the time I have left. We still have Region Rep vacancies that need to be filled. If you are interested in becoming a region rep please contact me or Iain Cameron, 3rd VP. These positions are so very vital to the VAC's existence. Reps are the front lines of contact in the regions. If you are a positive, energetic and outgoing individual who wants to make a difference in the club, don't be afraid to step up to the plate. Tim

Volunteers Needed—VAC Regional Reps and Appointed Positions

VAC Region Representatives are needed for Regions 2, 7, 8, and 12.

Contact Iain Cameron, 3vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

VAC Parliamentarian Position Available

Contact Kimber Moore, 1vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

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 Kendziorski

president@vintageairstreamclub.com

Date To Be Determined

Forming A VAC Rally

Ideas from *Vintage Advantage Newsletter 2005*

Randy Unter, Region 11 Rep.

Advice from Tom Reed,

VAC President 1999-2000

Reserve a good spot and date

Invite folks to come

Collect the rally and campsite fees

Vintage Airstreamers will come and good things will happen

Randy's Advice After Two

VAC Rallies in Estes Park, Colorado

Form a planning committee once the rally becomes popular and number of attendees increases: registration, parking, campground coordinator, food, happy hour, entertainment.

More Advice After Third RMVAC Rally

1. Choose a nice location, a VAC rally is often a vacation for attendees

2. Park those staying the longest in the core area so short timers don't leave empty spaces

3. Have a centrally located area for VACers to gather and plan for weather issues.

4. Provide information about local sites/tours

5. Have a contract with campground, collect fees up front, and publish cancellation date

6. Obtain a certificate of Insurance from WBCCI and invite new and old trailer owners.

7. Consider polishing demos, an auction of old "junk", give away posters and medallions, and sell or give away T-shirts designed for the rally.

Remember, "Good Things Will Happen"

Quick Tech, Jim Cooper

Converter to Inverter Connections

An inverter to generate 110VAC from the 12VDC in our trailers is a common addition, but it requires planning. Proper wire size and connection to the 12VDC system is very important. Installing inverters in the 200 to 600 watt category is easy for the electrically adventurous. Bigger inverters for coffee pots (2000 watt) is for the electrically skilled. The same theory applies, but the details become extremely important. I will go through the process starting with the converter that charges your battery and ending with applying 120VAC to your trailer's wiring.

① The converter (battery charger) recharges the battery. If yours is still the original Univolt, replace it. A bad charger can ruin the best battery. The AC input of the converter can plug into an existing receptacle with 16 GA or larger wire, but the DC output wire size is critical. The table shows maximum distance in feet between the converter and battery for wire gauge size and 30 or 40 amp converter output. This also applies to distance between the battery and fuse box.

Wire GA	30 Amp	40 Amp
10	4'	3'
8	6.5'	5'
6	10'	7.5'
4	16'	12.5'
2	25'	20'

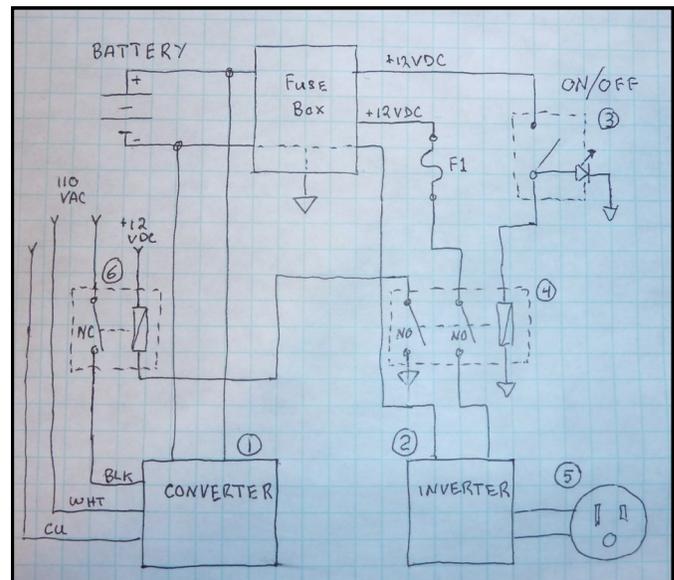
② Locating the inverter is equally important. It should be closer to the battery than its AC receptacle. The 12VDC input carries ten times the current as the 110VAC output. The wire size table applies to distance from the battery to the inverter. Note, a 200 watt inverter requires 15 amps, 400 watt - 30 amps, and 600 watt - 50 amps at full load. Fuse (F1) the connection in or outside the fuse box with a 20, 40, or 50 amp fuse respectively.



The inverter should not be on unless it is in use, otherwise it is wasting battery power. Use a lighted toggle switch ③ (Ace Hardware) to drive the coil of an automotive relay ④ with 60 amp contacts. Connect power to the inverter through a normally open contact so that the inverter is off unless the switch is on. Wires through the switch and to the relay coil can be as small as 22 GA. I used a gray receptacle ⑤ next to the inverter switch for the 110VAC output.

Finally, the optional step is connecting the inverter 110VAC output to the trailer internal 110VAC wiring. If you do this, the converter must be disconnected when the inverter is running. If not an inefficient power wasting loop will be created. The converter can be disconnected by unplugging it, if you remember, or disconnecting it with a relay ⑥ as shown in the diagram. If you wire the inverter output into the trailer wiring, use the relay. Remember this, if you leave the inverter on, the battery charger is off and the battery is not being charged, even when your trailer is connected to shore power.

I have completed this installation in both of our trailers for the purpose running and charging electronic gadgets. I didn't use the AC relay and didn't connect the inverter output to the trailer 110VAC wiring.



APPRECIATION

To: **Duane Hedahl**

Dear Duane;

It is with many thanks and great appreciation that we acknowledge your services and dedication as treasurer, membership chairman and Vintage Advantage Editor over the past two years -- our start up and infant years of organization. Your ingenuity in developing our financial process, membership procedures and the development and publication of the Vintage Advantage is sincerely recognized herewith by our officers and our 260 membership.

The enclosed plaque, we hope, will ever remind you of our gratitude.

Sincerely,

Signed/ Bob Brubaker
President
Vintage Airstream Club

If you are the owner of a vintage airstream, (25 or more years old) and a member of the WBCCI you are eligible to join the fun. The Vintage airstream Club will offer you a chance to meet and have fun with other owners of these fine senior trailers. Vintage owners share pride, prestige and privileges.

Some of us bought these trailers new and never saw a reason to change. Some bought an older trailer just for the fun of restoring it. Others, with young families chose this economical way to enter Airstreaming, and still others wanted to down-size to one of the easy-to-tow oldies. Whatever your reason, the club will offer support through:

Parking together at International with social hour, cook-out and other activities including annual election of officers.

A library of how-to information both written and video. Newsletter with buy and sell.

Seminars

A judging (Concours D'elegance) of best vintage trailers at International. Awards will be given for best restoration, most innovative, reconstruction, oldest in show, and oldest on-owner, best gadget, best fix.

Open-house so guests can see how good life was in the old days before electronic water heaters.

Starting as just an ideas in May of '92, the club is now an official intra-club of WBCCI with officers and over 100 members. The activities are unique, the need is now established, so the sky is the limit. There are 5000 vintage Airstreams out there somewhere.

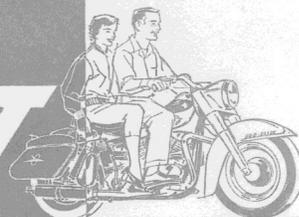
What is believed to be the first vintage caravan in U.S. history arrived in Bismarck with 30 trailers, some as old as 57 years. Watch your next region rally. It may have a vintage section with open house, judging, bull session and seminar.

Vintage owners love to get together and swap stories. But, there is serious work to be done collecting and publishing data on these old models. If this is your interest we can use your help. We are already making plans for Brandon, Man. In 94.

Interested in joining? Pick up an application and send your \$7 to the treasurer. You will be getting the newsletter so you can follow all future activities. We make serious talk, but we all know the main objective is to have fun

Mr. Duane C. Hedahl, VAC Treasurer

the motorcycle
ENTHUSIAST
in action



THE MAGAZINE FOR MORE MOTORCYCLING PLEASURE

OCTOBER
1960

THE CARAVANNERS MEET THE TOPPER!

by RUPERT LEUCH

Composed of over 4,000 Airstream trailer owners from all over the United States, the Wally Byam Caravanners are a group of people who enjoy traveling together and operating as a mobile democracy. These trailer caravans make annual trips to Mexico and Canada. One caravan is at present touring Europe and another recently returned from an African trip from Cape Town to Cairo. The Caravan Club held its third International Rally at Colorado Springs, Colorado, in July. Rupert Leuch, president of the Wisconsin Unit decided to take a motor scooter along to the rally. Here is his story:



Elected Miss National Teen Queen was lovely Linda Nicholson of the Missouri-Kansas unit.



Mrs. Leuch poses with the Topper and some of the props used in the Caravanners parade.

Below—The Wisconsin unit used a "Dairyland" theme for their part in the 4th of July Parade.



For the last three years the Wally Byam Caravanners have held an International Rally on the first week in July. This year, 1,100 shining aluminum trailers congregated on the shores of Prospect Lake in Colorado Springs. The sun shining on those polished roofs could be seen from as far away as Pike's Peak and gave the hordes of tourists to this region another attraction to sight-see! The trailers came from all parts of the United States including Alaska, from Mexico, and Canada.

On one of the earlier caravans, a member from Ohio took a motor scooter along to use for short sight-seeing trips. Because of washed out roads, etc., the scooter proved invaluable as a means of communication with Caravanners who were unaware of the reason for the delay and traffic congestion. On later trips, other travelers soon had scooters attached to the bumpers of their trailers. When in Europe in 1956, the tourers found they could do their sight-seeing more conveniently by scooter than by car.

Almost all of the scooters used up 'til now were foreign models. This disturbed us because we knew that Harley-Davidson builds the TOPPER and we felt that the Caravanners should be introduced to this fine product.

On arrival in Colorado Springs we picked up a brand new TOPPER at Vern McMullen's Harley-Davidson shop on Pueblo Avenue and took it to the Rally site. It is hard to explain the ease of handling this machine in traffic with its Scootaway transmission. The ride is very soft, yet two 200 pound men can ride it without fear of bottoming. The stretch-out type of seating makes it comfortable for even a six footer to ride.

There were very few moments of rest for the TOPPER once on the Rally grounds. It was used to convey messages, convoy people from headquarters to their trailers, locate people, deliver material and lead the Wisconsin Unit in the Fourth of July parade. We placed a "Made in Wisconsin" sign on each side of the TOPPER and this really woke people up. They knew of the high quality of Harley-Davidson motorcycles and examined the scooter with great interest. Several of the owners of other scooters were impressed with the automatic transmission after they had taken it for a spin. Riding double, two men could maneuver on the grounds at 1 or 2 mph, in and out of the ruts, or could scoot along the paved roads with ease. The 12 inch wheels were a great aid in rough terrain. A rancher's wife, after seeing how well the TOPPER performed on rough ground, suggested that her husband buy one to use when checking irrigation ditches.

From the interest and enthusiasm shown at this year's rally, I'm sure the 1961 Rally at Hershey, Penn., will find quite a few more Topper riders among the Caravanners!

In 2014 Airstreams are featured in commercials, TV network programs, and all types of magazine advertising. Enjoy this article shared by Candy and Bill Fisher, VAC and motorcycle enthusiasts from Colleyville, TX and members of the Heart of Texas Camping Unit in Region 9.

Newsletter

6200 Choke Cherry Dr.
Loveland, CO 80537



Vintage Airstream Club Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club

January / February 2014

The Vintage Airstream Club

2013- 2014 VAC Officers

President, Tim Kendziorski
1st VP, Kimber Moore
2nd VP, Paul Mayeux
3rd VP, Iain Cameron
Recording Secretary, Patti Reed
Treasurer, Pamela Peak
Past President, Chris Hildenbrand

Quick Links

vintageairstreamclub.org
newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com
president@vintageairstreamclub.com

Editor's Thoughts, Rhonda Cooper

Jim and I have been members of the WBCCI since 2002 and our first connection to Airstreaming was an Air Forums rally in New Mexico, followed by membership in the WBCCI Denver Unit and VAC. My first memories were seeing an Airstream without a rear bath floor, lost on the highway to the Air Forum rally. Our first Denco event was a luncheon and I recall thinking I should be home grading papers. Finally we connected with the VAC for the 3rd RMVAC Colorado rally and the reason for owning an Airstream became much clearer, but I still had a lot to comprehend. How can someone pull just an Airstream shell to the rally, sleep on a mattress on the floor and still have fun? How and maybe why do members get a special type chair embroidered with their name and number? Do Airstreamers actually pull old trailers thousands of miles just for a VAC rally? Does everyone need to offer fresh bake goodies for the Open House?

Yes, the VAC hooked me on Airstreaming, but I have to give a SHOUT OUT to our Denver Unit too. It is an active and diverse group of Airstreamers, now over 150 memberships strong. Jim and I do all we can to support the unit and will be hosting the February Luncheon in Loveland, Colorado. The DenCo Unit is great! I hope you are supporting your local unit too.



Please stay in touch and send your ideas and articles for the VAC Newsletter.

Rhonda Cooper

newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com

6200 Choke Cherry Drive Loveland, CO 80537

