

Vintage Airstream Today

The Official Newsletter of the Vintage Airstream Club
Established 1993



May - June

President's Letter

This past year seems like it's been a whirlwind of activity and fun. From getting sworn in as your President by Dale (PeeWee) Schwamborn at the International Rally in Rock Springs, WY back in June of last year, to working with an effective group of your VAC Board Members to bring to you exciting activities and changes to the way we operate in support of the Membership.

As a Board we have:

- Instituted an Annual Budget Review Procedure for Upcoming Years to be scheduled each December
- Implemented an Annual Sustainability Review Procedure to Reduce Costs and Increase Revenue
- Initiated a process to increase "Member-Exclusive" Benefits for our Current Members and promote VAC Membership
- Implemented the VAC Caravan Policy along with establishing Numbering of Past and Future VAC Caravans to encourage Caravan development and participation
- Revised the Concourse d'Elegance scoring system to recognize safety related improvements to help protect our membership
- Developed an exciting VAC 2024 Around the World Caravan to Celebrate the Anniversary of the 1963-64 Around the World Caravan
- Organized a rally at the WBCCI Headquarters and Airstream Inc. at Jackson Center to honor our Club Founder Helen Byam Schwamborn, where we will also conduct our VAC Annual Business Meeting
- Are offering an exclusive one time only rally titled "Retro-Rally at the Gully Collection," as a pre-rally right before the International Rally in Sedalia
- Published informative VAC Newsletters approximately every two months and we are very active on Facebook with our two sites; Vintage Airstream Club and Vintage Airstream Parts and Trailers Swap Meet

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- Have conducted Zoom “Fireside Chats” for our Membership on a quarterly basis, and have scheduled several future Fireside Chats:
 - “How to put on a Regional Caravan or Rally” to encourage more local and regional activity for our membership
 - “Chatting with Dale (PeeWee) Schwamborn” to provide and capture historical information for those who have not had an opportunity to meet and talk with Dale personally at the International Rallies
- Completed our required 5 Year Review and Update to our Constitution & Bylaws, and you are being asked to attend a Zoom Meeting for voting to adopt these revisions in line with WBCCI requirements, which also includes a process for electronic voting of future changes as required and VAC Board voting capabilities.

In summary, it seems like we have been working towards what you elected us to do for you, the membership. I would ask you to individually consider getting involved by recruiting new members, providing us direct feedback on what you would like the VAC Board to work on for you, and involving yourself with your VAC Regional Representative to bring VAC Caravans or Rallies to your local or regional area. Finally, please consider volunteering to one of our elected or appointed positions within the VAC Board. Remember that old saying, “the more you put into something, the more you will get out of it.”

See you down the road,

Steve Blackmer

BRN 1095

Thank you Steve and Linda for your service to the club!!!



Meet Your Board Members



George Watson
2nd VP

DJ Watson
Newsletter
Editor

Shameless Plug: *(from your editor)*

If you have items of interest, photos, or articles for future issues please send them to newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.org.

That's right, this month you get two-for one!

We are accidental air streamers. During 2020, like so many we decided that the safest way to travel would be with our own kitchen and bathroom. We started looking and were all over the board - from a 5th wheel to a trailer. Somewhere along the search we determined that we wanted twin beds so as not to have to climb over each other, but that configuration is rare. A friend who has restored two vintage AS trailers suggested we look for onewe hung up and 10 minutes later we found a 1967 Overlander on Facebook in Kentucky - about a 3-hour drive from us. I texted my friend and said "Something like this?" and his response was: "If you don't buy that one - I will."

Once we got Lucy home we found out that "there's a club for this" and joined WBCCI and the Vintage AS Club. That started a climb down the rabbit hole that is vintage Air-streaming and we have not looked back since. Besides being active in VAC since we went to our first International rally in Lebanon, we have attended every International since, been

to 38 states, rally and caravan with Music City Airstream Club and have attended special events such as The Canopener Rally in Florida and Steaming on the Strand in Galveston.

Future plans include continuing to serve on the board as needed and attending local, regional and International rallies. In addition we are excited about Silver on the Seas in 2025, a possible Airstream venture through Europe and getting to the rest of the lower 48 states.

We treasure all the friends we have made so far and the ones we hope to meet.

See you down the road!

George and DJ



2024 Events At A Glance

- ◇ **Vintage Camper Event at the Gilmore Car Museum in Michigan on May 11th.** This is the 3rd annual and it's so well run. The grounds of the Gilmore are picturesque, complete with cool, re-stored barns, miles of walking paths, a vintage diner with yummy food and live bands. The actual cars on display are breathtaking, the largest collection in North America. The event is one day only but we spend 5 days there because there are other events at the car museum you don't want to miss. Register by calling the Gilmore Car Museum 269-671-5089
- ◇ **VAC-midwest - Region 8 VAC** ,Spring rally **May 16-19**, Waubonsie State Park, Iowa. on Page 6
- ◇ **May 26th – 30th, 2024 - The 2024 VAC “Around the World Caravan”** to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the 1963-64 Around the World Caravan (ATWC). Tour of the RV Hall of Fame and Fort Recovery Historical Museum and caravan through “worldly” places such as Paris, Warsaw, Palestine, Athens, Mexico, Peru, Miami, London, Frankfurt, Alexandria, Dunkirk, Montpelier, Geneva, Ceylon, Berne, Vera Cruz, Fort Recovery, Versailles, Russia, Sidney, Cairo, Lewistown, and end in Jackson Center. Along the way, participants will learn of the importance of some of these locations to Airstream history.
- ◇ **May 30th – June 2nd, 2024 – Helen’s Homecoming Rally at the Club Headquarters in Jackson Center, OH**, to celebrate Helen Byam Schwamborn as the founder of our WBCCI / ACI Club and as the key organizer of the ATWC.
- ◇ **July 18-21** The year was 1966 and the international rally was held in Cadillac Mi. in July....Fast forward to 2024 and the Michigan Airstream Club is holding a rally called ..." **Airstreams return to Cadillac Michigan "** In 1966 there were almost 3000 trailers and 10 thousand people....Additional info will be on the International website <https://airstreamclub.org/july-rally-airstreams-return-cadillac-rally>
- ◇ Region 10, Champoeg State Park in the Willamette, **Thursday, July 18, 2024 through Sunday, July 21, 2024** (3 nights). Details on Page 8
- ◇ Region 7, **September 12 – 19, 2024** Location: Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort. Details on Page 7
- ◇ **Retro-Rally at the Gulley Collection**, Little Rock, Arkansas, **September 30 & October 1, 2024**
- ◇ Registration for the **67th Airstream Club International Rally in Sedalia, MO** is now open!! Rally dates are **October 5-10, 2024**. [Details here](#)

Our [VAC events page](#) is continually updated—be sure to visit often for more rallies and caravans.



Mark Your Calendar



We are hosting a vintage trailer rally in Crystal Beach, Texas, **November 7-10, 2024.**

The Trailerfestaville will be held at the incredible Camp Margarita RV Resort.

We hope to have a strong showing of vintage Air-streams and have created a section for your members.

We will have live music on Friday and Saturday nights and a shrimp boil!

We are taking reservations now.

<https://www.trailerfestally.com/crystal-beach-tx.html>



We have a beautiful campground with over 300 sites and a weekend of live music, car shows, food trucks, and vendors. This event is September 5-8, 2024. We have some full hook-up sites available; We will try to group Vintage Airstreams together so you can hang out with your people

You can visit our website for more details and to reserve your site.

<https://www.trailerfestally.com/s-lake-tahoe-ca.html>



Upcoming Virtual Chats:

All chats are via Zoom at 8 PM EST

June 12, 2024

Tires

Details to come via Email and Facebook





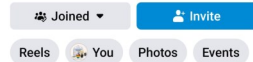
Check out
our
Facebook
Pages:

The Main Club [Page](#)



Vintage Airstream Club --
The VAC / Intra-Club of the
WBCCI >

Public group · 3.7K members

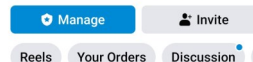


Vintage Airstream Parts &
Trailers Swap Meet - Buy/
Sell/[Wanted](#)



Vintage Airstream Parts &
Trailers Swap Meet - Buy/
Sell/[Wanted](#) >

Private group · 5.3K members



Upcoming Region Rallies

Region 8

Reserve Campsite Today! Limited Sites
(Hosts are in sites 4-5-6)

VAC Rally (Vintage Airstream Club)

May 16 – 19, 2024

WAUBONSIE STATE PARK

2585 Waubonsie Park Rd, Hamburg, IA 51640



LIMITED NUMBER OF SITES:

Booking window opens February 16th, 2024

[Campground MAP \(pdf\)](#)

Some things planned below

Tour: [Kregel Windmill Factory Museum](#)

Visit: [Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Visitor Center](#)

Dinner: [Whiskey Springs](#)

Food option: Runza – Nebraska City

Arboretum: [Arbor Lodge State Historical Park](#)

(Park & Arboretum FREE / Tour of Mansion \$)

OPEN HOUSE (optional) – it is always fun to
peak & see what all has been done to trailers

VAC presentation/demonstration



Hosts Scott & Jodi Jensen 515-321-0703 (let us know what site you book)

Co-Hosts: Scott & Kathy Allen

AGENDA to be sent at a later date



Upcoming Region Rallies continued

Region 7

Dates: September 12 – 19, 2024

Location: Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort

20189 US Hwy 85

Spearfish, SD 57783

Phone: (605) 722-1800

Website: <https://elkhornridgeresort.com>

Host: Chris Olsson (cwolsson@comcast.net)

We have 45 sites reserved for the rally. All are pull-through sites with full hookups in one area of the campground. We are working on the planning for the rally.



Some of the things we're looking at are:

Buffalo feeding tours ,Golf outing, Bus tour to Crazy Horse and Mount Rushmore, 1880 Steam Train Excursion, A potluck dinner, Happy Hours and campfires, a catered dinner on the last night

You can call and reserve a campsite anytime (do not reserve online). The sites are being held until 2 months before the rally. 2023 costs are ~\$70 per night. There is a weekly rate plus they offer Good Sam, AAA, Military/Veteran, First Responder/Nurse discounts. If you call to reserve a site, let them know you are with the Region 7 Airstream Rally.



Region 10

We've had a rainy (and sometimes icy) winter here in Oregon so far, so it's hard to imagine the weather being nice enough to get out and camp, but we've made reservations for the Region 10 VAC rally. We have reserved almost a whole loop (25 sites) at Champoeg State Park in the Willamette Valley for **Thursday, July 18, 2024 through Sunday, July 21, 2024 (3 nights)**. If you haven't been to this campground before, you're in for a treat. It's a beautiful park located on the Willamette River. There are biking and walking trails, kayaking, a disc golf course and historical attractions in the park. Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum is less than 30 minutes away and houses the Spruce Goose now. You'll also be minutes away from some wonderful wineries in the north Willamette Valley, if you're interested in wine tasting.

Cost for 3 nights is \$101 for water/electric site and \$107 for full hookups (there are 3 available). These prices include the non-refundable \$8 reservation fee. If you need to cancel you must let us know by July 13th to get your campsite cost refunded!

Meals will be potluck at this point. More information to come as we get closer to the date.

If you want to come we need to get payment from you to hold your spot as soon as you can. We appreciate that since we pay for every site when we make the reservations.

You can send a check made out to Rob or Diane Nicol to:

31364 Peterson Rd.
Philomath, OR 97370

If it's easier to pay through PayPal or Zelle, we can do that, too. Email address for those is:

diane.k.nicol@gmail.com.

We hope you can join us this summer!

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Rob and Diane Nicol
541-990-4441



From Our Friends Overseas

South England Rally - Cowdray Heritage Ruins, Midhurst, West Sussex - 23rd - 26th May 2024

Following on the success of the 2023 rally, this will again be held on the field next to the Cowdray Ruins. They make an amazing backdrop to all the silver trailers camping right up to the walls.



All types of American trailers are welcome (Argosys, Avions, Silverstreaks, etc.).

The Cowdray Ruins are located in the middle of polo fields and a sports field and are very picturesque with the South Downs in the distance. The sports club bar will be open for our use on Saturday night. Midhurst is just a very short walk along the causeway and is a lovely Sussex town which is often nominated for the best town in England. It offers pubs, restaurants and shops.

Location: Cowdray Heritage Ruins, West Sussex, England. Close to the Dover and Folkstone ferry ports and the Channel Tunnel.

Leader: Andrew Newell

Booking: Write an [email to Andrew](#) giving the nights you want to stay and your trailer model. You can arrive and leave on any days. Andrew's mobile number: +44 (0) 7884 232118.

Cost: It will be only £15.00 per night with all profit going to the sports clubs. There will be access to the sports pavilion, toilets, and water. Activities will be on a pay-as-you-go basis.

<https://www.airstreamclubeuropa.org/rallies-en>



THE INTRA-CLUB FOR AIRSTREAMING FAMILIES

Future Streamers



Future Streamers are members who may travel with children. Our goal is to develop memories with our youth that excite them about Airstreaming, provide life-skill opportunities, and build friendships through family friendly engagements and experiences. More details can be found at:

<https://airstreamclub.org/future-streamers-intra-club>

Upcoming events:

July 11-14, 2024 Fun In The Sun Rally

Minnesota Airstream Park! We are getting together for a fun-filled weekend of swimming, golfing, and bonfires. To book your spot, please visit the Minnesota Airstream Park website and make a reservation using the code FUTURE24. The Fun In The Sun Rally fee is \$60, which includes a pizza night, taco potluck, flamingo putting contest, glow golf, and many other exciting activities with prizes [Rally registration](#) ends June 27th. Please reserve your campsite first and then register for the rally.

Host: Misti & Mark Roach (BRN 6912) futurestreamersairstream@gmail.com

JUN 10 - 20 2025 2025 Kids On The Blue Ridge Caravan

<https://airstreamclub.org/2025-kids-blue-ridge-caravan>



Attention All Airstreamers! Future Streamers Intra-Club are collecting pop tabs to help raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities in Kansas City, MO. Please start collecting as many pop tabs as you can from rallies, home, work and even your neighbors. You can bring them to the International Rally in Sedalia, MO. Let's show our love for aluminum and make a difference together!

See You In Sedalia.

If you have any questions please contact Misti Roach @

futurestreamersairsteam@gmail.com



Membership News

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The VAC Board has convened a Special Meeting to be conducted via zoom videoconferencing on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm eastern time. This is an important meeting because voting members will be asked to

- Approve the Club's updated Constitution & Bylaws; and
- Receive formal nominations for the vacant position of Third Vice President.

Only those who are eligible to vote in relation to VAC business (i.e., you and your spouse/partner who are Regular Members in good standing) will be invited to attend. Notice and back up materials have been emailed to all qualifying voting members.

The Annual Election of Officers/Directors will be conducted this year via electronic ballot voting during the period May 15 through May 30, 2024 at 5 pm eastern time.

Note: In order to cast an electronic vote in this year's Annual Election, both you and your spouse/partner must have provided a unique email address to the Membership Chair. If you have not done so, please email Judi Moran, VAC Membership Chair, at membership@VintageAirstreamClub.com, with a unique email addresses for your spouse/partner.

The Annual Business Meeting of the VAC will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024 during the period 12 noon through 3 pm at the Helen's Homecoming Rally in Jackson Center, Ohio. All VAC Members are encouraged to participate either in person or via zoom conferencing. An agenda and zoom link details to follow.

Make the most of your VAC Membership

Have you attended a VAC Rally? Have you parked with the VAC group at an Airstream Club International Rally?

If not, you are missing out on a great opportunity to network with like-minded Airstreamers who appreciate and love to showcase their vintage units. It's not only a learning experience, but it's always a GREAT time. If you are hesitant to go because you don't know anyone, be assured that you WILL make friends (lifelong friends). But, if you aren't comfortable coming by yourself, why not ask one of your Airstream friends who don't belong to the Vintage Airstream Club to join? Even Airstream owners who don't own a vintage trailer (i.e., 25 years or older) can join as "Affiliate" members.

It's as simple as logging on to the ACI website and clicking on the "Clubs" menu item at the top of the screen, select "Intra-Clubs" and then "Click Here to Join any ACI Intra-Club" and fill out the form.

Either with a friend or by yourself, join the fun by attending a VAC rally and really make the most of your VAC membership.



How to Contact Your VAC Officers

2023-2024 Executive Board

Steve Blackmer, **President**
president@vintageairstreamclub.com

James Schaal, **1st Vice President**
1vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

George Watson, **2nd Vice President**
2vp@vintageairstreamclub.com

John Schnettler, **3rd Vice President**
3rd@vintageairstreamclub.com

Joel Ware, **Recording Secretary**
secretary@vintageairstreamclub.com

Tom Kirk, **Treasurer**
treasurer@vintageairstreamclub.com

Lynn Talsma, **Past President**
pastpresident@vintageairstreamclub.com

Appointed Board Positions

Judi Moran (#4405) – **Membership Chair**
membership@vintageairstreamclub.com

DJ Watson (#9309) – **Newsletter Editor**
newsletter@vintageairstreamclub.com

Damon Beals (#4827) – **Webmaster**
webmaster@vintageairstreamclub.com

Joe Peplinski (#6768) – **Historian**
historian@vintageairstreamclub.com

David Gulley (#12540) – **Librarian**
librarian@vintageairstreamclub.com

Open Position – **Blue Beret Editor**
bbeditor@vintageairstreamclub.com

Christine Lyrek (#23588) – **Quartermaster**
quartermaster@vintageairstreamclub.com

Hollie Bart (#4597) – **Parliamentarian**

Established in 1993, the Vintage Airstream Club is an intra-club of our parent organization: Airstream Club International. Members who own vintage trailers (25 years or older) have the opportunity to learn more and receive advice about their vintage beauties while meeting other owners of these classy and historic RV's and possibly learn from their experiences and mistakes.

Anyone may join as an affiliate member and enjoy the benefits of being up-to-date on VAC events and gatherings.

VAC REGION REPRESENTATIVES

These individuals are your best source of VAC information in your Region.

Region 1: ME-NH-VT-MA-RI-CT-NB-NS-NF-PEI-PQ

William Campbell (#3363) vacregion1@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 2: NY-NJ-PA-MD-DE-DC-ON

Edward Valentin (#22531) vacregion2@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 3: VA-NC-SC-GA-FL (exp. CT zone portion)

Dick Martin (#2753): vacregion3@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 4: OH-WV-MI (except UP)

Marc Cram (#3373): vacregion4@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 5: IL-IN-KY

Christopher Seplak (#246) vacregion5@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 6: TN-AL-MS-AR-LA-FL (CT zone portion)

Judy Hardwick (#14000) vacregion6@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 7: WI-MN-ND-SD-MB-MI (UP)

Patrick Johns - (#3113) vacregion7@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 8: IA-MO-NE-KS

Scott Allen (#3534) vacregion8@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 9: OK-TX (except MT zone)

Richard Espinosa (#8049) vacregion9@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 10: MT-ID-WA-AK-OR-BC-AB-SK-YK

Rob and Diane Nicol (#1816) vacregion10@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 11: WY-CO-UT-AZ-NM-TX (MT zone portion) – MEX

Lisa Sly (#4354) vacregion11@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 12: CA-NV

Steve Doster (#4583): vacregion12@vintageairstreamclub.com

Region 00: Europe

