

Vintage



Advantage

SUNDAY AUGUST 23, 2026

News Items for Vintage Airstream Owners and Admirers

Good morning campers, here is the first edition of this year's Vintage Advantage with all the news that you may need today ...and more.

We hope you enjoyed yesterday's VAC Parade and Opening Ceremony and Concert that kicked off the 69th Airstream Club International Rally. What a great start to this magical week in Minot.

Follow along with other important not-to-be missed events in these daily newspapers.

Just a little note in case the unexpected happens: If we need to communicate with you (VAC Attendees) for any reason it will be via email or the Cvent app.

VAC Events Today



It is a busy day in VAC world

—and one of my favorite days ...we get to show off our campers.

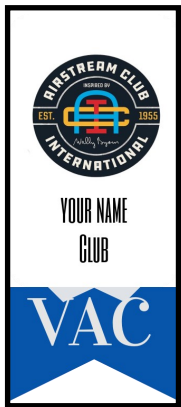
- **7:00 AM – 9:00 AM: Coffee in the VAC tent**
- **11:00 AM: Concours d'Elegance Judging**—if you signed up ahead of time to have your vintage trailer judged—judges will be by within the hour.
- **12:00 PM – 4:00 PM: VAC Open House and People's Choice Voting** – VAC Parking Area—if you would like folks to be able to see your camper then have your doors open and and/or use an OPEN/ CLOSED sign. If you don't have one you should find extras in the VAC tent.
- Also during Open House we will be selling tickets in the VAC area to the general public for the People's Choice Award with funds to benefit the WBCCI charities.

Other events of interest:

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM First Timers Get Acquainted Meeting

5:00 PM-7:00 PM: Rally Welcome: Rally Welcome Dinner & Concert, Art Exhibit, Hobby Showcase & Fundraiser – Use your Rally bucks at the food trucks, browse member artwork, handcrafted items and hobbies with 5x5 artwork pieces available for purchase (proceeds benefiting the community service project) and come hear The Lost Lugnuts band featuring VAC members Artie Martin and Denny Kennedy.

7:00 PM: The Teddy Roosevelt Show



Do you have your VAC name tag ribbon yet?

If not, no worries, your trusty membership chair Judi Moran has some and will be at all the VAC events.

Just a fun way to display your VAC membership this week.



VAC Merchandise

Chris Lyrek, our trusty Quartermaster and her team will be set up in the VAC area during Open House for all your VAC merchandise needs including:

Hats and shirts Handmade logo items Decals, magnets and pins And more!!!!!!



Why Not Minot

The "Magic City" Origins: Founded in 1886 during the construction of the Great Northern Railway, Minot was originally a temporary tent town. Within just five months, the population surged to nearly 5,000, earning it the nickname "Magic City" because it seemed to appear overnight.

People who live in Minot, North Dakota, are officially called Minotans. However, locals are also commonly referred to as Minotites, and you may even hear a playful, localized nickname like "Mindrot" bandied about the area.

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VAC Concours d'Elegance

What is the “Concours d'Elegance”? Wikipedia states: “A Concours d'Elegance (competition of elegance) refers to an event where prestigious vehicles are displayed and judged.” It dates back to 17th century French aristocracy who paraded horse-drawn carriages in the parks of Paris during summer weekends and holidays. Over time, carriages became horseless and the gatherings became a competition among automobile owners to be judged on the appearance of their vehicles. The Vintage Airstream Club has taken it one step farther....we substitute the automobile with vintage Airstream and Argosy travel trailers and motorhomes.

There are different schools of thought as to the expected condition of a trailer or motorhome. One thought is that the unit should be preserved in the original “designed and manufactured” condition, while others feel that judging should be based on general condition with either new and modern materials and components, original equipment, or a combination of both. Keeping with Wally's lasting creed, “Let's not make changes – let's make only improvements!”, the VAC has opted to judge all units in two different categories. The two categories are “Original/Improved Condition” and Modified Condition.” The Owner of the trailer or motorhome is responsible for selecting the appropriate category to enter.

What is the difference between Original/Improved Condition and Modified you might ask? A rule of thumb example to be considered Modified might be; 1) if the original floor plan and/or cabinetry is changed by more than 50%, 2) if all the windows and frames were all changed to a newer style, 3) if the trailer was converted to all electric, etc., the Owner should consider listing it as Modified.

The Concours d'Elegance has been a part of the VAC gathering at the WBCCI International since the beginning of the Vintage Club in 1993. The Concours is a judged event, much like a car show, open to all Airstreams or Argosys 25 years or older that are registered for the WBCCI International Rally and are being used during the rally. The Concours occurs during the VAC Open House. Participation in the open house and/or the Concours is optional, of course, but all participants must be current members of the VAC and in good standing with the club. The goal of this article is to describe what the Concours is and to encourage participation.

Finally, there are three additional categories:

Best Engineered Feature. The Best Engineered Feature recognizes significant engineering improvements to your rig in honor of Wally's lasting creed, “Let's not make changes – let's make only improvements!” For this award, be prepared to do a “show and tell” presentation to the judges.

Best Tow Combo Package. If you pull your trailer with a vintage vehicle, you may enter under the Best Tow Combo Package category. Your tow vehicle will be judged under the same criteria as your trailer: Exterior, Undercarriage, and Interior.

People's Choice. This category is a “Special Judging event” and will not be judged by the selected judges, but instead will be voted on during the Open House by attendees. Participants, will vote for their favorite trailer or motorhome where the winner will be awarded the coveted “People's Choice Award.”