



News & Views

An Informational Newsletter from
The Wally Byam Airstream Club

September 2017

Airstream Club News



Your Voice Matters!

Don't forget to take the **Airstream Club Member Survey** that was emailed directly to all members and included in both the print and online version of the September Blue Beret. *The survey will close in a few days, so don't delay.* Your opinions will help the Club improve its focus on the members. Note: For security reasons the survey link in the Blue Beret on wbcci.org has been deactivated. If you did not receive an email survey link, email ecc@wbcci.net and we'll send you one. The more members who complete the survey, the better our Club will be.

A Message from Wally Byam Airstream Club President Jim Cocke, reprinted from the September issue of the Blue Beret Magazine

What sets our Airstream Club apart from any other is our history, our capable member volunteers and our shared love of our Airstreams. These qualities allow us to offer experiences not available elsewhere. We proudly belong to a Club rich in lore and in volunteers who've done their very best. We all work together to provide EXPERIENCES for our members - those experiences become special memories of fun, friendship and adventure anywhere the roads may take us in our Airstreams. Without volunteers at

every level of the Club helping to create those memories, there is no Club.

The Club's purpose is to serve our members. It might be gathering with friends on the weekend, trekking to Alaska or the Keys, watching balloons lifting over your Airstreams, sitting spellbound by some of the world's best storytellers, listening to Bluegrass music in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains or riding into Bryce Canyon on a mule. Airstreams are the perfect vehicles for getting there and enjoying our stays.

Young, not-as-young, singles, families, weekenders, most-timers and full-timers, the Club offers unparalleled experiences to Airstreamers. The Club is in the business of supporting members in their search for their own best experiences. Our Club provides opportunities for members to explore and exceed their own expectations for experiences on this continent and others. Join me in living the dream with your Airstreams.

How can we continue improving our great Club? I offer you three key areas for our attention this year.

- 1) Members are our Customers. We will work together to think and act like a member service organization and we'll listen to members and act upon their concerns and inspirations.
- 2) Promote our best Image by actively improving the quality, feel, timeliness and consistency of publications and striving to align the club's publications, internet presence and other media to promote One Engaging Club.
- 3) Experiences are Our Product. We'll direct our Club's rally planning committee to increase the appeal and effectiveness of the Club's International Rally, and we'll track and actively support growth of and participation in Events and Caravans like those in enticing pictures on the cover of this magazine. On every level of the Club, we'll support units in any way possible as they work to make life more fun for members.

We have the best RV in the world, AND we belong to the best RV Club in the world. It is a club rich in caring with interesting people, a great heritage and even greater potential. Wally said, *"In the heart of these words is an entire life's dream ... my dream belongs to you."*

Let's:

- Live the dream of placing the great wide world at your doorstep.
- Live the dream by opening a whole world of new experiences... a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions.
- Live the dream by encouraging clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions.

We're all in this together. Members are the strength of our club. We all must help. I pledge to listen and lead. I respectfully ask our International Board of Trustees to join together in making our Club more member-driven and positively imaged, and in conspicuously improving our most important products: fun, adventure and friendship. Together we will make the club better every day. Thank you for honoring me with the office of President of our club as we all LIVE THE DREAM.



2018 Salem International Rally Registration Update

Although the rally site has plenty of capacity remaining the rally committee has suspended sale of registrations for 30amp sites for the 2018 International Rally, At this time you may choose to:

1. Register for a dry camping site (either solar or generator) on wbcci.org.
2. Place your name on the standby list for a 30 amp site AND register for either solar or generator sites on wbcci.org. Be sure to check "Stand By List" on the online registration form.
3. Only place your name on the standby list for a 30 amp site, at no cost, by calling Julie Rethman at 937-596-5211 or email her at jrethman@wbcci.org. You will be notified if a 30 amp site becomes available. This does **not** guarantee you a site unless a 30amp site becomes available.

Cancellations or added capacity will allow transferring members to 30 amp sites in the same order they joined the standby list.

Sneak Peek: Salem! Fast facts about the 2018 International Rally

Top ten need-to-know items to help you plan for next year's WBCCI International Rally.

1. Location: Salem, Oregon

2. Salem—the Oregon state capital—lies in the heart of the green and gorgeous Willamette Valley, only one hour south of Portland (one of the best tourist cities in the country) and about an hour east of the Oregon Coast.

3. Circle the dates on your calendar: June 17–30, 2018

4. General Parking starts Wednesday, June 20, 2018 (and concludes Saturday). **The 2018 International Rally will open with a vintage Airstream parade on Saturday, June 23.**

5. 600 to 700 Airstreams are expected to gather at the Oregon State Fairgrounds.

6. Hookups are available (30amp power and water) for 600 Airstreams. A dry camping area will also be open, and all registered rigs will get a pump-out every four days.

7. Big plans are underway for exciting entertainment, food and gear vendors, plus offsite tours!

8. Vintage 'streamers, you'll love this rally! Join in the vibrant community of vintage Airstream owners caravanning to Salem and be a part of all the vintage activities on site and around town.

9. Installation of new WBCCI officers and the closing ceremony will take place June 29; the summer International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting will be held June 30. All are welcome to attend (and you may be present at the IBT meeting even if you missed the rally).

10. Registration is now open! Sign up online at wbcci.org or salem.wbcci.net, or call the Club office at (937) 596-5211, 8am to 4pm weekdays, Eastern Time Zone.

The first International Rally in the far West in over a decade, Salem 2018 is an outstanding opportunity to explore the western USA and make new Airstream friends on the left coast.

Look for more information about Salem, Oregon and details to help you plan to attend the 2018 International Rally in the next issues of your News and Views.



Photo by Maureen Wallace, Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club, in Dawson Creek, BC.



Image by Frank DiBona, with permission from original artist Ed McCarthy. Originally posted to the Airstream Addicts Facebook Page. Frank will do two presentations on Digital Photo Enhancement at the Salem International Rally.

Escanaba International Rally Motions and how they affect YOU



*The following motions were presented and approved at the two International Board of Trustees (IBT) meetings this summer at the International Rally in Escanaba, MI. **The revised WBCCI Bylaws and Policies can be found on the Club's [website](#).***

A motion approves the **2019 62nd International Rally to be held at Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Caroline County, Virginia**. International 2nd VP Barry Bell announced the Rally dates begin with the **Opening Ceremony on July 20, 2019. The rally Closing Ceremony is on July 27, 2019.**

Financial motions from a special committee on Financial Guidelines clarify and **update the requirements for financial accounting, record keeping and reporting for all Club entities using the International Club's tax identification number**. This affects Units, Regions, Intraclubs and Caravans. These changes reflect guidelines within the Standard Accounting Practices of Corporations and the requirements of the IRS and CRA.

A motion from a special committee on Ethics and Grievance provides a replacement Grievance Procedure. The new procedure **clarifies the process for unit and region complaints**. It emphasizes that complaints can and should be handled at the appropriate level. Throughout the document a negotiated agreement is stressed as being the first and best choice for resolution of any complaint. The Ethics & Grievance Committee plans a flowchart diagram to aid members and officers in the process if needed.

A bylaws change updates **requirements for all WBCCI entities to comply with WBCCI's License Agreement with Airstream,**

Inc. Signing of the sublicense allows continued use of the Airstream name as well as graphics of trailers and other products in the Club's names, websites, newsletters and social media sites. The Club's Corporate Manager is following up with all WBCCI entities to complete our Club's compliance with these requirements.

A bylaws change provides that **headquarters will issue the WBCCI standard member badge to new members.** This prompt member badge delivery welcomes new members to the club as well as provides them means to identify themselves as club members at all WBCCI activities. This motion also relieves Units from the expense of having to order and prepare badges for new members.

A bylaws change provides **IBT oversight for approval of any Unit-designed badge.** It also allows **approved unique unit badges for use at all WBCCI functions.** A prior motion had allowed Unit-designed badges but didn't allow their use at International activities (e.g., International Rallies and Caravans).

A motion allows Artie Martin, Region 5 President, to receive a 3-digit number for his Airstream. He's entitled to it for service as Region President. He had deferred his request by one year.

A motion **approved the requested name changes for fifteen local units of the WBCCI. In all cases, the new unit names include "Airstream".** Also, a motion approved five new flags for units.

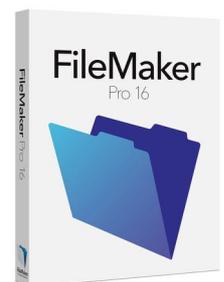
A motion from the Historical Standing Committee amended bylaws for membership numbers. **Those numbers in use on Airstreams while participating in historically significant events (e.g., Around the World Caravan) may be designated as Heritage Numbers.** Heritage Numbers also are reserved from re-assignment.

Do You Have Technical Questions about your Airstream?



The Airstream Technical Help Group has been established to provide assistance to members experiencing technical problems. We will respond directly, in response to your email describing a problem. Examples of questions, modifications or upgrades that might be of interest to members will be published in the Blue Beret. We hope you will find this service of value in the care and feeding of your Airstream. You may contact us at techhelp@wbcci.org

WBCCI is searching for a member with experience in Filemaker Pro database software to help with the Club's main and International Rally databases. Please respond to as4822@gmail.com.



What's so important about a unit web site?

Recently the International Membership Chairperson, Teresa Taylor, and the Electronic Communications Committee teamed up to examine all unit and region websites with a goal of helping units attract new members by improving their presence on the Internet. Why is this important? Corporate Manager Lori Plummer reports that an amazing 79% of new members join the club and choose a unit on line.



New Airstream owners research options for their Airstreaming lifestyle online, visiting wbcci.org for an overview of the Wally Byam Airstream Club, its regions and their units to decide which unit to join. Since each Unit Section contains a link to the Unit Website, that link offers the first chance to make a positive impression about the culture and personality of a unit. A website that is welcoming, easy to navigate, and offers information about its members, their activities, geographic area and number of families will benefit the growth of that club. New members will click "Join On Line" right away.

Your web site should be current and tell the story of who you are and all you do with your Airstreams, so your rally descriptions should ideally be more than a date and location. Let your description motivate members to attend. You "Do More, See More, and Live More/Live Riveted" with your Airstream, right? Tell the world what that looks like in your unit. You might be surprised how many new members want to join you in the adventure.

Should your web site need some updating or reformatting, advice and guidance is available by contacting ecc@wbcci.net. It's what we do and we love to help.

The Not-Annual Oregon Blackout Rally was Total(ity) Incredible!



We **roamed** the Northwest, **explored** Oregon and **arrived** in Madras for the spectacle of the decade.



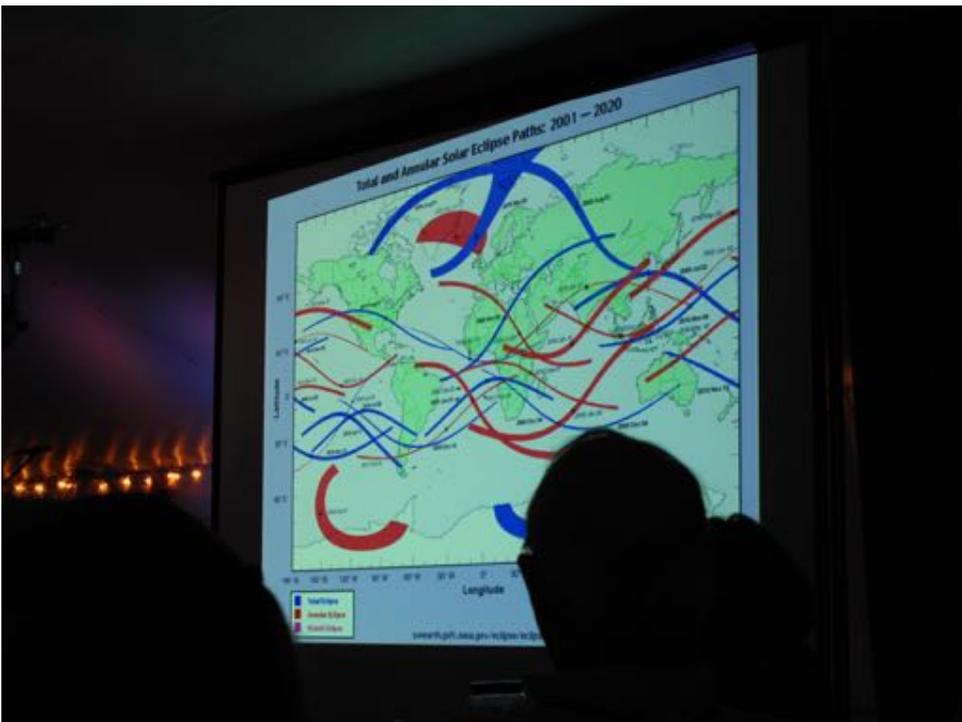
With 124 Airstreams, 324 Airstreamers and the main entertainment provided by the sun and the moon, excitement built with each day. We were told to expect strange behaviors just prior to Totality and we weren't disappointed.







We were very well-informed about the solar eclipse experience by astronomer Brian Bellis and amateur umbraphile Rhonda Coleman,



but there was no way we could have predicted the awe-inspiring moment when the partial eclipse became total. The skies were dark, the world was still, and then came the audible, "Wow!" as the "diamond ring" flashed and the sun's corona exploded into view from behind the moon. No one who saw it will ever forget that moment.





Photo by Memphis Barbree

Kudos to Rhonda Coleman, Brad and Susan Taylor, and the organizing crew for a flawless Airstream experience. In typical Airstream fashion while the million+ eclipse watchers in the Madras area dry camped in farm fields with 6" of dust and only port-o-lets, enduring insane traffic jams and congestion, we were on a deep-canyon lake, kayaking, fishing, and playing with water toys, with most of us enjoying full-hookups, showers, no bugs and silence. Warm days and cool nights kept the windows open and a light breeze blowing, perfect for outdoor meals, happy hours and lots of camaraderie.





The three days leading up to the eclipse were filled with opportunities to interact and meet new Airstreamers at the fishing derby, water toy relay race, "dock-diving dogs", geology talks, and nightly star parties under cloudless skies. By Eclipse Day we were all fully informed, fully fed and fully relaxed.





Thanks to the generosity of local dealer Airstream Adventures Northwest, we were treated to free pontoon boats to cruise miles of spectacular lakes and an evening of simultaneously thought-provoking and hilarious entertainment by Airstreamers' favorite entertainer Antsy McClain.



We are grateful to a host of members for making the Blackout Rally possible, but mostly we want to say:

Thank You, Sun
Thank You, Moon
Thank You, Airstreamers. Every One.



Photo by Bob Crummett, Oregon Unit

The List of WBAC Airstream Dealer Corporate Sponsors is growing.
Please thank these dealers for supporting our Club.



[Click the map to visit the Airstream Dealers interactive map on wbcci.org.](http://wbcci.org)

Dealer Sponsors:

Airstream Los Angeles – San Gabriel, CA

www.airstreamlosangeles.com

Airstream Orange County - Westminster, CA

www.airstreamorangecounty.com

Bill Thomas Camper Sales – Wentzville, MO

www.btcamper.com

Chilhowee RV Center - Louisville, TN

www.chilhoweerv.com

Crain RV - Little Rock, AR

www.crainrv.com

Ewalds Airstream of Wisconsin - Franklin, WI

www.ewald airstream.com

Foley RV Center – Gulfport, MS

www.foleyrvcenter.com

Haydocy Airstream & RV - Columbus, OH

www.haydocy airstream.com

Lazydays RV - Tampa, FL

www.lazydays.com

Southland RV, Norcross GA

www.southlandrv.com

And please welcome our newest Dealer Sponsors:

Airstream of Northern Michigan (October 2017) – Traverse City, MI

www.airstreamofnorthernmichigan.com

Airstream of Chicago (November 2017) – Naperville, IL

www.airstreamofchicago.com/

Airstream Views



Photo of the Silver Palace by Lynda Beringer at the Norseman Campground, Atlin, British Columbia.

THE ADVENTURES OF TRAIL AND HITCH

[THE 10 BEST WEBSITES FOR AIRSTREAM FANS](#)

A personal blog by self-proclaimed "Two Geeks, Two Cats in an Airstream"



REFLECTIONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA
submitted for your enjoyment, by an unknown source

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passersby what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later, and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog, of me gardening, taking apart things in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day.

I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up," and tell them I like them.

And it works just like Facebook! I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator, and a psychiatrist.

Since many members have commented on the new Airstream video, here's a little background on the creators of ["The Creed."](#)



Colorado Proud: The All-New Basecamp

recopied from the Colorado Airstream Club (DenCO) Newsletter

Hello fellow "Colorado Airstream Club" members, I am a loyal Airstream owner and so excited to be a part of the group. This relationship has been both professional and personal for me and I am grateful to explain a little bit about how we fit into this world. I will try to keep this somewhat long story, short:

I am co-founder and co-owner of a Denver based creative agency called, The Public Works. We constantly get requests for unique creative projects that, also, often involve fabrication and or multimedia. Many of these calls involved companies wanting to do custom projects with Airstreams. So several years ago, I picked up the phone and called the front desk at Airstream. An hour-and-a-half later I was still on the phone with the director of marketing; two weeks later, I went to Jackson Center and we met in person.

This trip changed everything for me. I knew about Airstream, but what I knew barely scratched the surface. Once I met the people and toured the factory, I was in love. In all the years since, it has been an evolution of this relationship. We acquired a 27-foot 2012 Eddie Bauer trailer that has been on numerous work and family trips with us. We also have been able to involve

Airstream with other clients to extend the love affair.

Two years ago we were honored to be asked to lead the launch of the all-new Basecamp model. If you have seen any of the marketing materials, they are all Colorado proud! We got the first prototype in May of 2016 and, of course, found ourselves shooting the first day in the sun and the second day in snow. We have that lucky advantage of being able to shoot four seasons in a day or two in Colorado. (I felt that again when I saw all the photos from the Maintenance Rally!) We have one of the first three prototype Basecamps made and are continually running it through its paces. Maybe the biggest test was strapping it to snowboards and towing it behind a vintage Snowcat in the Steamboat back country.

About a year ago, the director of marketing came up with the idea that "Airstreams are almost like people and they have a voice." This kicked off a year of work that went public on the 4th of July (Wally's birthday, of course!), part one of a series of videos that will be told through the voice of Old Grand Dad, an actual 1937 vintage Airstream trailer. On that first trip to Airstream, I met Old Grand Dad. He was parked out front and I walked right over and shot a photo into his "eyes." With this series, we knew it did not make sense to try to have Wally tell the story. Wally is bigger than life and I just didn't think it could be done to the level he deserves. When we walk the halls of Airstream, you'd think Wally is in the next room the way he is talked about. We needed a voice that knew Wally and spent time with Wally but was not trying to be Wally. I hope you feel this connection throughout the piece.

The history of Airstream never ceases to amaze me. Whenever we go to Jackson Center, we always seek out Gene right away. He looks like Santa Claus and drives the forklift. He's been at Airstream over 50 years along with his brother who recently retired. His son works there, too, and so did his dad. Such an amazing story and human! On our recent visit, I asked Gene if he ever got to meet Wally. His reply: "Wally passed away before I started here." How impressive is that. You'd think Wally was still running the place, yet he was gone more than 50 years ago.

What were the highlights of this project? There were so many:

- Learning more about Gene
- Meeting Randy Miller, whose dad shot all of the caravans with Wally
- Meeting 'Streamers all over the place including at Alumapalooza
- Walking the factory of Airstream when it is jamming
- Seeing an entirely new building and new line producing Basecamps.
- Walking the factory at night when no one is in there and it is so peaceful and impressive.
- Getting to spend time with Bob who is the president and such a humble and caring person.

As a small business owner, parent, Coloradan and so many other things, I think the spirit of Airstream impacts me every day and in so many different ways. Maybe I have drunk the Airstream Kool-Aid, but it sure tastes great and I can't wait for another serving. It is special and it brings us all together in ways we never expected.

I can't believe I haven't made it to a luncheon or rally yet, but I travel a lot. I am always down to bounce ideas around, talk about photography, business and 'Streaming!

My company, The Public Works, has been around for over a decade now. I live in Evergreen with my wife, 12 year-old daughter and 9 year-old son and our yard looks better because there is shiny aluminum in it. Thank you everyone for enabling me to be part of the Colorado Airstream family.

Enjoy "AIRSTREAM - Anthem Creed" linked above.

Cheers!

Mike Artz, #5489



Thank you, Frank DiBona, for giving us another perspective on MC Escher's work.

[10 Favorite National Parks](#), from Airstream, Inc.





Photo by Tommy Lauer at 2015 International Rally in Farmington, NM



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