

# NORVA News

Published by Northern Virginia Club #3-110, W.B.C.C.I., The Airstream Club International

Volume XLVIII, Issue 4

January 2019



## We begin a significant year for NORVA

President Dick Arnold recounts that the W.B.C.C.I. Northern Virginia club was chartered 50 years ago

I enjoyed the 30 years I spent teaching American History to eighth-graders. In retirement, Jane and I have visited most of the places I taught about. We especially enjoyed Ed and Beth Jones' American Revolution National Caravans. That said, permit me to share a brief history lesson.

In 1968 (a year of many changes within WBCCI), a group of over 50 members met in the fall to discuss forming a "unit," aptly to be called the Northern Virginia Unit. The paperwork was submitted to International, voted upon, and approved in July 1969. Thus, the Northern Virginia Unit (NORVA) was formed. So, this year, 2019, marks NORVA's 50<sup>th</sup>



Anniversary. We've seen many changes over the years. For example, these days Airstreamers joining W.B.C.C.I. have an easier time becoming Club members. Back in the 70s, 80s and

into the 90s, a team was sent out to interview you to see if you were "acceptable" to the Club. Thank goodness that practice ended!

It was good to hear that our Christmas rally at Ed and Beth's was so successful. We regret we could not attend. Happily, we were enjoying Florida weather at the Land

Yacht Harbor Airstream Park in Melbourne and not shoveling snow in December like many of you.

We hope you have signed up for the Riverside Center Dinner Theater Rally on January 13th which Larry and Sun Riley are hosting, and also the Super Bowl Rally at Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom's home on February 3rd. Tom Carmichael is working on our Break-out Rally in March at Fort A.P. Hill. This first rally of the camping season is always important because trailer maintenance is the topic. BRING QUESTIONS. Gary and Sue Shepard have a West Virginia Rally planned for us in May. And Lew Brodsky and Tom Carmichael confirm there will be an October "Urban Rally" in Farmville, Va., for which planning is underway. Don't forget the 16-day NORVA Caravan Gerry and Patsy Nagel will lead in June! Thanks to all these members for stepping up to help. That's what makes our club so successful.

Jane and I plan to be at the March Break-out Rally and hope to meet some of our newer members there. What we hope NOT to meet is a late March snowfall, which would cause us to wonder why we left Florida so early! The short answer is that we feel it is important to support NORVA.

Rain, shine, or snow, we wish everyone a most Happy 50th Anniversary New Year!

*At left: The Arnolds. Photo taken during the American Revolution Caravan - Southern Campaign in 2017.*

*Below: Dick & Jane's winter camp in Melbourne, Fla.*

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## A great turnout at the Holiday Rally

About three dozen people attended NORVA's Holiday Rally on Dec. 8, held at the Alexandria home of Ed and Beth Jones. The party hosts, assisted by their daughter, Jenny, made sure the guests did not leave hungry. Delicious food and drink included bountiful hors d'oeuvres, baked ham, sweet potatoes, slaw, salads, moussaka, and a choice of beverages. This was all followed by Beth's homemade berry pies with ice cream. Then, at the end, each couple received a take-home "goodie bag." As the photos demonstrate, this was another great NORVA event. Many thanks to Ed and Beth for a terrific party.



Clockwise from top left:

- Gathering 'round the beverages.
- (L. to r.) Ed Jones, Peter West, and Beth Jones prepare the food.
- Host and hostess, Ed and Beth.
- Come and get it! The food is served!
- Cathy Brodsky greets NORVA's 1st VP Edgar Simmons.
- Festive carolling dolls.





More photos from the Holiday Rally at the Jones home (clockwise from top left):  
- Jones daughter, Jenny Martz, helps Mom and Dad with preparations.  
- Cynthia Pearce (l.) chats with Jane Quinn.  
- Socializing (l. to r.) are Doug Anderson, Lloyd Ulrich, Ed Matricardi.  
- Sun Riley tries the tasty Greek moussaka.  
- Ann Newman (l.) shares a moment with Elaine Ulrich.  
- Gerry Nagel (r.) explains his June 2019 caravan plans to Paul Pearce.  
- NORVA Treasurer, Kevin Quinn enjoys a Yuengling beer and holiday cheer.



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Google Earth photo: New showroom for Airstream of Virginia along I-95 near Ashland.

## Airstream of Virginia moves south

If you are looking for **Airstream of Virginia** along I-95 in Thornburg, Va., you may see the building and a sign, but the staff and iconic silver trailers are absent. That's because the only Airstream dealership in the state has moved. The new location is 30 miles south in Ashland, and it can be seen just a few yards west of I-95, alongside the southbound travel lanes. You can get to it using I-95, Exit 89.

Airstream of Virginia is owned by Camping World and is in the process of setting up right next to the massive **McGeorge's Rolling Hills RV**, also a Camping World property. The building shown in the photo above, clearly visible from the Interstate, will be the new Airstream of Virginia facility. It is located on Northlake Park Drive but, until it is renovated, sales, service and parts are operating out of neighboring McGeorge's. The dealership's inventory, which includes Airstream

trailers, B-vans, Basecamps, and Nest trailers, can be seen on a lot next to the new building. The Airstreams are parked together alongside many "SOB" (some other brand) RVs sold by McGeorge's.

Tammi Hopkins, Airstream of Virginia's general manager, said the new location is easily accessible and customer friendly.

"Work to complete this move is ongoing, but our customers are already enjoying refined surroundings, a better buying experience, and improved service," Hopkins noted. She believes the new Airstream showroom, service, and parts areas will be fully functional by the end of March.

In the meantime, the dealership can be visited at McGeorge's Rolling Hills RV, 11525 Sunshade Lane, Ashland, VA, where Airstream of Virginia has its interim home until construction is finished. Phone: 804-550-7323.

NORVA News is published periodically for members of NORVA—  
 Northern Virginia Airstream Club, #3-110  
 Wally Byam Caravan Club International  
 Editor: Lew Brodsky  
 Please send articles and photos to:  
[NORVAnews@cox.net](mailto:NORVAnews@cox.net)  
 Visit NORVA's website: <https://northva.wbcc.net>

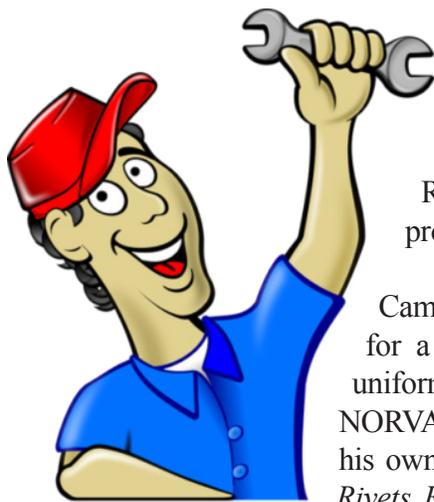


## “Broken Rivet” offers advice & service

By Jackson McBroom

Whether you’re a seasoned “Silver Bullet” veteran or a new Airstream owner, it is essential to understand most maintenance issues that occur with your rig. Which problems should you address yourself and which work should be done by a professional? As we all learn quickly, all things that move and vibrate eventually break and thus our Airstreams need to be inspected for areas where potential problems may occur, whether cosmetic or functionally serious.

With this reality in mind, let me introduce you to David (“DJ”) Mastin, an experienced Airstream trained and certified technician. Many of NORVA’s more active members have already met DJ at several of the Club’s Maintenance Rallies typically held each spring. In fact, DJ will attend the upcoming March Breakout Rally at Fort A.P. Hill on March 30 to provide advice and repair services.



Mastin worked for Safford RV (now Camping World’s “Airstream of Virginia”) for a number of years, where he earned uniformly high credibility with each of his NORVA clients. More recently, he established his own RV repair service company, *Broken Rivets RV Service, Inc.*, in Caroline County, Va. He performs maintenance and repairs on all Airstream models, either at his business location just off U.S. Highway 1 near I-95 Exit 104, or he will travel to his client’s location. DJ can perform all required maintenance on your Airstream rig, from routine annual maintenance, to testing, repair, and replacement of vital systems. My personal experience with DJ’s exceptional skill set includes replacing a shower door and frame, changing gray and black water tank valves (which required dropping the tanks), repairing a damaged rear bumper drawer, changing a black water spray valve, and eliminating a floor creak over the water tank with shims. Needless to say, I recommend him highly and without reservation. DJ’s only limitation at present is that he is unable to perform official Airstream warranty work, if your rig is still under its original warranty.

If you have a special maintenance need or routine seasonal work that you want addressed professionally in real time versus a dealer’s schedule, DJ’s contact information is:

Mr. David (DJ) Mastin  
 Email: [brokenrivetllc@gmail.com](mailto:brokenrivetllc@gmail.com)  
 Broken Rivet RV Service, Inc.  
 10041 Buzzards Bottom Road  
 Ruther Glen, VA 22546  
 Telephone: 804-994-1405



DJ Mastin

## New Directory coming in February

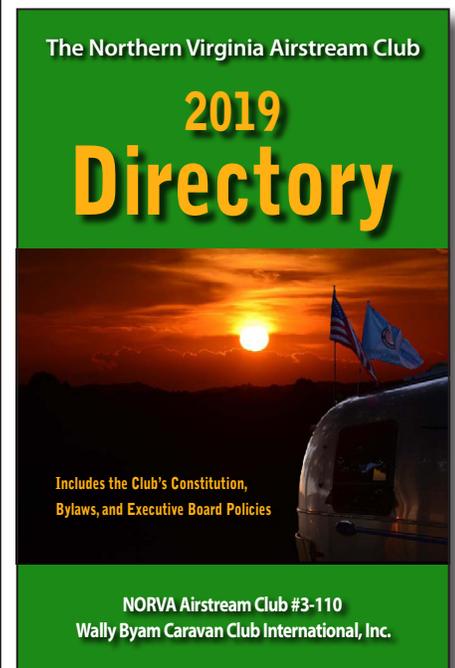
The 2019 NORVA Club Directory will be assembled and printed shortly. The finished booklet will be sent by USPS mail to all NORVA Club members. Like past editions, the new Directory contains contact information and photos of Club members, listed alphabetically and by W.B.C.C.I. membership number.

*Important note: If you have moved, have a new e-mail address, or changed any of your phone numbers since last January, please e-mail the new information ASAP to:*

[norvanews@cox.net](mailto:norvanews@cox.net)

In 2018, amendments were made to NORVA’s Bylaws and Executive Board Policies. The revised documents and the Club’s Constitution, are included in the new Directory.

Members can expect the 2019 edition to arrive in their home mailboxes around Feb. 15.



2019 Directory cover design.

# Coupon for the February 2019 Super Bowl Party

*Please join Mary Ann and Jackson for delectable nourishment and unbeatable camaraderie with fellow NORVA Airstreamers.*

**Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Location: McBroom Home, 1661 River Ridge, Williamsburg, VA 23185**

**Phone: 757-345-0060 E-mail: [jtmcbm@aol.com](mailto:jtmcbm@aol.com)**

**RSVP by Jan. 15. Mail this coupon, or call / e-mail Jackson.**

**Cost: \$5.00 per person, to be collected at the party.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

No. attending \_\_\_\_\_ Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Rally dates for 2019 are firming up

NORVA's 1st VP Edgar Simmons and several Club members have been working diligently to lock in dates and venues for NORVA rallies in 2019. For the latest information about where and when events will occur, be sure to consult the rally schedule appearing in every issue of *NORVA News* (see Page 8).

The February rally will be indoors, as usual. So leave your Airstream in storage and join your fellow Club members at the home of Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom in Williamsburg on Feb. 3, where good food and drink will be paired with watching the LXIII Super Bowl game. If you haven't already told the McBrooms you will be coming, contact information is shown on the coupon printed on this page.

NORVA's Tom Carmichael confirms that plans for two other important rallies have firmed up.

The Maintenance and Breakout Rally, **open to all four Virginia clubs**, will be held in March at the Champs Campground, located at the Army's Fort A.P. Hill, in Bowling Green, Va. Participants should arrive Friday afternoon, March 29 and can depart for home on Sunday morning, March 31. The campground is currently undergoing complete renovation and will be a

brand new facility with full hookups for this rally. The fee for a campsite is \$35 per night. The rally fee has yet to be determined so members will be sent an e-mail with sign-up and cost information later in January.

Carmichael is particularly excited about a rally now planned for Oct. 10-13, 2019. **With participation by all four Virginia Clubs**, but limited to 20 rigs, NORVA will organize and host the state's first "Urban" rally in Farmville, Va. Tentatively called, "Silver in the Streets," the town's lead-

ership and merchants are onboard, enthusiastic, and have pledged full support of the event. The rally will feature a parade of Airstreams through town, followed by dry camping for three nights along N. Main Street in the business heart of Farmville. For those members so inclined, the event will include an "Open House," where the public can visit the trailers and see the interiors. The rally will also benefit a local charity in the town. More details and sign-up info will be forthcoming in future issues of *NORVA News*.



*Above: The snow covered campground at Fort A.P. Hill is undergoing total renovation.*

*Below: Main Street, Farmville, which will host 20 dry-camped Airstreams in October.*



# Experiencing a national caravan for the first time

Doug & Susan Anderson enjoy a month of travel and rediscover early American history

Here it is, Oct. 27, and I am trying to put together some thoughts about this fabulous experience. My wife Susan and I had just finished our first W.B.C.C.I. “national” caravan: “The American Revolution in the Northern Colonies.” Only one problem...there were too many great moments. I mean, think of traveling over 2,200 miles in 35-plus days, pulling a 25-foot Flying Cloud Airstream with my 17-year-old Toyota Sequoia SUV. Just to make it home was a miracle! Luckily, there were no accidents.

We were eager to participate in this travel adventure, knowing that it was led by a NORVA couple, Ed & Beth Jones. We drove 520 miles just to get to the Boston launch point on the first day. At the outset, meeting 25 couples and one single Airstreamer was overwhelming. My memory was sorely taxed.

We camped at seven campground in 35 days and just trying to avoid grease stains hitching and unhitching was a challenge. Happily, I deposited only two pieces of clothing in the trash.

Seeing so many battlefields and museums was great, many by car and some by bus. Nights around campfires were fun, but the night we gathered near Ed and Beth’s trailer was best. A squirrel managed to get into their trailer, but soon discovered the error of his ways when several folks chased him out. He took a flying leap over Beth’s shoulder and scooted out the door, scaring her to death (well almost to death). It made for a good laugh. I believe the squirrel is still running.

We had many great meals, some in very historic places like Fraunces Tavern in New York City, where George Washington gave his famous

farewell address to his men. Over the weeks of caravanning, we learned much about our country’s early beginnings, the War for Independence, the Patriots (the original ones, not the football team), the Redcoats, and the Tories, who battled over a period of eight years, ending in 1783.

So many things to remember, but for me, I will not soon forget West Point, and seeing the mighty Hudson River, linking Canada to New York City.

This caravan was great and taxed us all. We old goats were dragging by its end and were glad to get home to normal life...bed, food, bills (many), and grandchildren! But that said, we will cherish our new friends and memories forever.

Thanks, Ed and Beth, for a rich experience and superb leadership.

—Doug Anderson



*Left: The caravan stopped at Fort Ticonderoga on the Hudson River in New York.*



*Below left: Susan Anderson gazes at beautiful Lake George.*

*Below: In Boston, Doug Anderson admires the U.S.S. Constitution, one of the Navy’s earliest naval frigates.*



*Right: Ed & Beth Jones at the Civil War Memorial, West Point, N.Y. This granite column, erected in 1897, honors over 2,300 officer and soldier “regulars” of the U.S. Army killed in the war.*



## NORVA welcomes new members

Joining the Club in recent months are:

**Ed & Roberta Brownfield**, regular members of Virginia Club #109, live in Charlottesville and own a 2015 28-foot Flying Cloud trailer. They join NORVA as affiliate members.

**Laural Veloz**, who lives in the District of Columbia, bought an 2018 Airstream Basecamp. She joined W.B.C.C.I and NORVA in December.

Coming aboard in December were **Amanda and Brian Daly**. The couple lives in Lovettsville, Va. They are proud owners of a 30-foot, 2018 Flying Cloud.

**Steve and Sue Jones** joined the Club in July, but we just obtained this photo of them. They live in Martinsburg, W.Va., and are currently traveling in their 2019 27-foot Globetrotter trailer.



*The Brownfields*



*The Dalys*



*Veloz*



*The Joneses*

# NORVA EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Check this schedule monthly. Dates and venues are subject to change.

Jan. 13, 2019 Sun. afternoon	“La Cage Aux Folles” Rally Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Larry & Sun Riley	July 20-27 Sat.-Sat.	W.B.C.C.I. International Rally Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Va. Hosts: Int’l Pres. Barry Bell & the four Virginia Airstream Clubs
Feb. 3 Sun. evening	Super Bowl Party Williamsburg, Va. Hosts: The McBrooms	Aug. 4-10 Sun.-Sat.	Old Fiddlers Convention Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
March 29-31 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Location: Fort A.P. Hill, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky	Sept. 13-15* Fri.- Sun. *revised dates	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Loop C, Newport News City Park, Va. Hosts: Shenandoah Valley Club
April 24-28 Wed.-Sun.	Region 3 Rally Marion, N.C. Host: R3 Pres. John Leake	Oct. 10-13 Thurs.-Sun.	“Silver in the Street” Urban Rally Main Street, Farmville, Va. Host: Carmichael
May 16-19 Thurs.-Sun.	Almost Heaven Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard	Oct. 30-Nov. 3 Thu.-Sun.	Oyster Festival Rally Urbanna, Va. Hosts: Carmichael/Brodsky
June 1-16 16 days	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan “PA-NY Pot Pourri” Leaders: Gerry & Patsy Nagel	Dec. 7, 2019* Sat. *Tentative	Holiday Get-together Location TBD. Hosts: TBD