

NORVA News

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An afternoon of great food, warm friendships and good cheer at the home of Ed & Beth Jones



Above: Hostess Beth Jones.

Left: A marvelous display of figurines is on display at the Jones home at Christmastime.

Below: The assembled NORVA group.

Bottom: Former NORVA couples attended the brunch. (L. to r.) Elaine & Lloyd Ulrich (both past presidents), and Norma & Eric Colby. The Colbys are moving back to Northern Virginia and are looking for another Airstream to purchase so they can rejoin NORVA.

Holiday brunch concludes a year of memorable Club rallies

The chill in the early December air was no match for the warmth of the Jones's home in Alexandria.

On December 7th, Ed and Beth Jones charmingly hosted NORVA's annual holiday party at their lovely home. It

was a great turnout. The two dozen attendees included two couples who are former NORVA members: Lloyd & Elaine Ulrich and Eric & Norma Colby.

All enjoyed a sumptuous spread of food and drink and reminisced about the many exciting events NORVA conducted throughout 2019. NORVA President Tom Carmichael used the gathering to conduct the first Club business meeting of his presidency (Read the minutes on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter).



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2019 ends, new year begins

By NORVA President Tom Carmichael

I know everyone is enjoying this holiday season...a wonderful time of year!

NORVA owes many thanks to Ed and Beth Jones for once again hosting the Club's holiday party last month in their beautifully decorated home. It was a day of great company, good cheer, and terrific food! It went so well that ***Ed and Beth have agreed to do it again in December 2020!***

For the Carmichael family and many NORVA friends, December 2019 also included a solemn day of remembrance...my Dad's funeral was December 19th. With much appreciated support from family and friends, I made it through an emotional day. But throughout, I remembered what my Dad always told me, "Tom we are so lucky." Looking back on my life, I am one lucky guy to have had him as my Father, my coach, and my buddy.

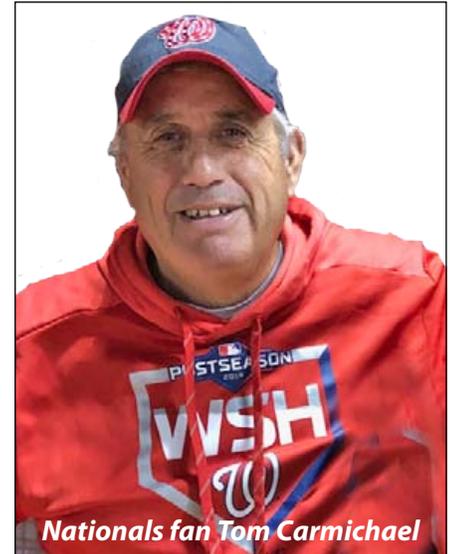
I can't thank everyone enough for the many sympathy cards we received. I know this is a busy time of year...a time for family and friends...and it meant so much to me that so many Airstreamers took the time to support me and my family. It was wonderful to see NORVA faces at the church, at graveside in Arlington National Cemetery, and at the Knights of Columbus. Most of all, I am especially grateful to NORVA's

long-time members for being such good friends to my mom and dad over many, many years. Fred and Christine Carmichael cherished those Club friendships. They are a significant reason my dad believed "we are so lucky."

At his funeral, I cited memorable events in my dad's long and fulfilling life. I especially treasured the way he took such joy in lifting the spirits of all around him, and I quoted lyrics from that famous song by The Hollies, "He ain't heavy; he's my brother." Those words describe exactly the way Fred Carmichael lived his life: faith, family, and friends were of utmost importance. I am so lucky that he passed on to me these values and his zest for life.

In this Year 2020, please join me in moving onward with hearts filled with gladness and love for one another. We know the roads we travel are long, with many winding turns, but it's comforting to know that we in NORVA can depend on each other all along the way. Which brings me back to our theme for 2020: Enjoy life! "Get hooked up." Hook up your Airstream for fun and fellowship, and enjoy every moment of being part of a great club.

Upcoming events: Bill and Sylvia Worrall have an awesome dinner theater rally planned January 12th to



Nationals fan Tom Carmichael

see, "Grease." I loved the movie and I got to see the show on Broadway back in 1979. On February 2nd, Della and Cecil Hoosier are hosting the Super Bowl Rally at their beautiful home in Amissville. On Saturday, February 29th, Gerry Nagel is planning to host a "new member lunch" at a Northern Virginia restaurant. You'll get to meet others who are new to NORVA and learn about Airstreams, WBAC, and our Club. Your RV is a big investment, with so many things to learn and get comfortable with. This rally will give you a chance to discuss and get answered the many questions you have. It will better prepare you to get hooked up and hit the road.

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope it's a blessed and wonderful year for you and your families.



Arlington, Va., Dec. 19 – Fred Carmichael, long-time NORVA member and WWII veteran, is laid to rest with honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Fred passed away on Sept. 14, 2019, at age 96.

Minutes of the NORVA Business Meeting

Alexandria, Va.
Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019

- President Tom Carmichael called the meeting to order after all attendees agreed that a quorum was present. The meeting began at approximately 2:30 p.m. at the home of Ed and Beth Jones in Alexandria, VA, where members had gathered for the NORVA Christmas Party. Tom thanked Ed and Beth for a very well done party and recognized distinguished guests Eric and Norma Colby, former and future Airstreamers, and Lloyd and Elaine Ulrich former Airstreamers. New members Tom and Susie Hedges, Haymarket, VA, who are waiting for their 27-foot Globetrotter to be built at Airstream, Jackson Center, Ohio, were also introduced.

- The following 21 eligible voting NORVA members present were: Kevin and Jane Quinn, Doug and Susan Anderson, Larry and Sun Riley, Jackson and Mary Ann McBroom, Pete and Elizabeth West, Kathy and Edgar Simmons, Cathy and Lew Brodsky, Tom and Susie Hedges, Tom Carmichael, Ed and Beth Jones, and Gerry and Patsy Nagel.

- President Carmichael presented new badges to Gerry Nagel, 1st Vice President; Jackson McBroom, 2d Vice President; Patsy Nagel, Recording Secretary; Kevin Quinn Treasurer; Gary Shepard (not present), Membership; and Lew Brodsky, Newsletter Editor. Tom stated that badges are needed for Beth Jones, Legislative Director; and Ed Jones, Parliamentarian and will follow-up.

Old Business

- There was a motion to dispense with reading the minutes of the last business meeting; they were published in September 2019 *NORVA News*. This motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

Officer Reports

- Kevin Quinn, Treasurer, presented a chart showing the cash flow and budget summary for 2019.



Above: Business meeting at the holiday brunch rally.

Below: President Carmichael (l.) confers with 1st V.P. Gerry Nagel about the 2020 Rally Schedule.



Gerry Nagel, 1st Vice President, discussed the upcoming rally schedule. A “Meet and Greet,” geared for new members is planned for Feb. 29 at a restaurant to be determined (later in December, space was reserved at Golden Corral in Manassas, Va.). Tom noted that NORVA gained 15 new member

households in 2019 and that we want to get the new members active in the club. The Breakout and Maintenance rally will be April 24-26, 2020, at the Small Country Campground in Louisa, VA. Tom stated that plans are to rent a cabin for DJ Mastin, RV Maintenance Technician, who will be the speaker for the weekend. Pete West spoke about the Spring Rally that he is hosting May 7-10, 2020. Rally campsite is Candy Hill Campground, Winchester, VA. Planned events include the men viewing an antique fire truck restoration shop, a ladies shopping trip to Purcellville culminating with dinner at the West residence on Friday. A Winchester Walking Tour and visit to the Patsy Cline house, wine tasting, and evening excursion to a Drive-In theater is planned for Saturday. Because of limited space, it was proposed that the rally initially be promoted first to NORVA members, before attendance from other Virginia clubs is encouraged. Gerry Nagel updated us that the Tidewater Club was originally hosting the July rally but their plans changed and now the July rally is TBD. Gerry also noted that the “Old Fiddlers Convention” rally in August will be the last one with Betty and Junior Patton as hosts in Galax. Gary Shepard is looking at locations to park the Airstreams in Shepherdstown, W.Va., for the October “Silver in the City” rally. In November 2020, the Tidewater club will probably be hosting the Urbanna Oyster Festival Rally. Tom

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concluded the rally discussion by stating we want to focus on “getting hooked up” with NORVA members and get them more involved.

- Jackson McBroom, 2d Vice President, discussed leading a “U.S. Presidents of Ohio” caravan. Other venues to be visited include the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Football Hall of Fame. The duration will be 14 to 16 days. Details will be finalized and a future newsletter article will be prepared to promote it. Proposed caravan title is “Presidents’ Homes of Ohio Plus”.

- Lew Brodsky gave the membership report for Gary Shepard. In 2018 we had 49 member



NORVA's original charter was issued in 1969. The Club celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2019.

households; in 2019 we have 64 member households. He noted that for inclusion in the International Directory, November 15 was the deadline for dues payment to join or continue membership. Of the 64 members we look at a possible loss of 5 members not renewing as their dues have not been received.

- Lew Brodsky gave the newsletter report. All 11 issues were published (two months were combined in the summer, as is the custom). Production costs are down by putting out the Newsletter via email. A hard copy is provided to new members the first month along with a copy to Airstream of Virginia. He anticipates

\$230 budget for both ink and postage costs for the NORVA Newsletter in 2020. He expects printing costs to go up and is budgeting \$670 to print and mail the NORVA Directory. Additionally he said that a binder containing past issues is being placed in the customer lounge at Airstream of Virginia and will include instructions on how to join NORVA.

New Business

- *NORVA News* received some much deserved recognition. WBAC Publications Chair Hedda Smithson receives an electronic copy of NORVA News each month. Hedda has just published a Newsletter Guide for WBAC units and clubs. One of the guide’s features is a list of ten web sites where all WBAC editors should view what she considers the ten best WBAC newsletters being published within the entire Club. She believes that demonstrate best practices in style and content. She called it “Newsletters all WBAC editors should read,” and includes a link to *NORVA News* as one of the ten.

- Lew Brodsky surfaced an issue that a NORVA member who serves as Region 3 President, or as an International Officer, receives the honor of free life membership in NORVA, but there is no provision for extending the privilege to the surviving spouse of the honoree. He proposed amending the Executive Board Policies to correct this problem. He volunteered to draft an amendment and distribute it to the membership for a vote. (See sidebar at right).

- President Tom Carmichael stated that we needed to vote on

Executive Board Policies Amended

At the NORVA Business Meeting on Dec. 7, 2019, a motion passed to amend Paragraph 5 of the Club’s *Executive Board Policies*. The proposed amendment was distributed to the membership for an e-mail vote in mid December. Twenty-two votes were cast and the amendment passed unanimously. The revised paragraph is as follows, with the added words shown in bold typeface:

5. Life Membership: All “Regular” members of the Northern Virginia Airstream Club (“NORVA”) who serve as a Region 3 President or International Executive Board Officer shall be granted honorary “Life” membership in NORVA. This privilege conveys free annual membership in NORVA and all privileges (holding an office, voting) associated with being a regular member. **In the event of the death of the honoree, a surviving spouse will continue to receive the privileges associated with honorary life membership in NORVA until his/her death or remarriage.**

election of Jackson McBroom as 2d Vice President. who was appointed in the absence of a volunteer candidate, and has been acting in that capacity. A vote was taken. Jackson was unanimously voted in as 2d Vice President.

- Kathy Simmons had brought the original 1969 NORVA Charter and it was shown to the attendees.

- The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patsy Nagel
Recording Secretary



Happy New Year!

I owe a huge “thank you” to NORVA club members for being my loyal customers and sharing my name with others when you travel. Referrals are the core of my business and I am lucky to have so many of you supporting me.

I am excited to announce I am an authorized dealer for the Micro Air Easy Start product (<https://www.microair.net/collections/easystart-soft-starters>). I was invited by Micro Air to represent them at the Region 3 Alumalina Rally last October where R3 President John Leake and his team put on a great rally in the North Carolina mountains.

In this column, I want to share some thoughts about the season. As winter roars in, you should have some key things in mind, and I don’t mean your travel itinerary for 2020! I’m talking about winter storage. It’s never fun to close up our “home away from home,” but preparedness is key. The first thing—the biggest thing really—is that every rig exposed to outside cold should be winterized. We have all heard the horror stories of busted plumbing. I can assure you: less-than-easy repairs result from the damage. So here are a few tips and tricks that can help you avoid a dents in your wallets and get you back on the road faster next spring.

Batteries

If you have a trailer, remove the batteries and keep them connected to a trickle charger, or make sure they remain



charged if you are going to leave them in the trailer. Dead batteries will freeze and bust the casing. That means you will have to replace them. This goes for AGM batteries too. I recommend checking your batteries every other week,. But be careful...if temperatures dip too low (below 20 degrees) you may need to check them weekly.

With motorhomes, make sure to charge the chassis battery and start up the generator to keep your batteries charged.

If leaving your trailer plugged in for the winter make sure to check water levels monthly if you have flooded batteries.



If you are fortunate enough to have your coach stored at home, remember that it can become a second home if power is lost in the house. As long as your batteries are charged you can run your furnace to stay warm.

Snow

Something else to worry about, especially on older trailers, is snow load. Virginia snow usually doesn’t get very deep, but if winter really shows up, and snow gathers on the roof more than 18 inches, try to brush it off. Do it safely with a snow broom or soft bristle brush.

Be careful if you decide to use a ladder! Let’s not try climbing on a snow-covered roof, okay friends? It is VERY dangerous and you wouldn’t want to crush the roof by stepping where you shouldn’t!

Solar panels do not work when they are snow covered. Consider this if you’re depending on solar to keep your batteries charged. After a snow storm, you can very carefully use a ladder and long-handled floor broom to pull snow off the panels. This will restore their electrical output.

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Newer trailers and motorhomes (built 2012 or later) use a puck-style drain system on the heat pump. When the system condensates and/or shuts down, it will drain off the roof. Don't be alarmed with the run-off while using your heat pump.

I hope that some of these tips will help you feel better while you countdown the days until you de-winterize and get your rig back out on the road.

Thanks again for helping me make 2019 an amazing year, I am looking forward to an even better 2020. I can't say enough about NORVA's members. I am humbled by your support and trust in allowing me to take care of your rigs, big or small.

Heat Pumps

For those lucky enough to be camping during the winter and using your heat pumps, there are several things to consider

The heat pump is only efficient when it's around 40 degrees or above outside. Below that, the system will not work properly and you will have to run the furnace.

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Have you signed up for two big rallies in 2020?—International and Region 3

REGION 3 RALLY – April 1 to 5, 2020 -- Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Held at Ocean Lakes Family Campground - (877) 510-1413

Join fellow Airstreamers from the five east coast states comprising Region 3: VA, NC, SC, GA, & FL. Call now to make your camping reservations directly with the campground. Tell them you are attending the "Region 3 Airstream Rally" to reserve one of the 175 sites they have set aside for this event. More information can be found on Region 3's website:

<https://region3.airstreamclub.net/2019-region-3-rally-preregistration/>



THE WBAC INTERNATIONAL RALLY – June 20 to 27, 2020 – Loveland, Colorado

Held at The Ranch Events Complex, just off Interstate 25.

This is the 63rd annual big gathering of Airstreamers from WBAC clubs all over the U.S., Canada, and elsewhere! Due to overwhelming response, remaining campsites may be limited to 20-amp CAT power, or bring your own generator.

To register, call Barb Langston at WBAC headquarters in Ohio at (937) 596-5211.



NORVA had many members (current and former) attending the memorial service for Handley Ward, a past president of NORVA and Region 3, and who also served for several years as WBCCI's International Parliamentarian. The service at Greenspring in Springfield was held Nov. 16. Seated is Handley's wife, Millie Ward. Standing (l.to.r.) are Lew & Cathy Brodsky, Elaine Ulrich, Dick Arnold, Tom Carmichael, Jane Arnold, Cynthia Pearce, Eric Colby, Paul Pearce, and Lloyd Ulrich.



Who is that lady checking on construction progress at the new Airstream trailer factory site in Jackson Center, Ohio? Why, it's none other than NORVA member Janeene Rider, there recently with husband Jim.

NORVA News is published periodically for members of NORVA—
Northern Virginia Airstream Club, #3-110
Wally Byam Airstream Club
Editor: Lew Brodsky

Please send articles and photos to:
NORVAnews@cox.net.

Please note: NORVA's web address is:
<https://NorthernVirginia.airstreamclub.net>



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Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020

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Watch Super Bowl LIV with NORVA friends!

Feb. 2, 2019 - 5 p.m. to "game over"



This rally/party will be at the home of Della & Cecil Hoosier
 3448 Holly Springs Road, Amissville, VA 20106
 Directions to the Hoosier home will be printed in the February *NORVA News*.

There is no rally fee for this special event, but it will include a Pot Luck Dinner, so bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage.

This may look like a coupon to clip and mail, BUT IT'S NOT.
 Instead, simply let Della and Cecil know that you are coming to NORVA's Super Bowl Party:

Please telephone (540) 937-3527 and speak to Della (or leave a message on her machine),
 or

Click this link to R.S.V.P. by e-mail: hoosierw@sprynet.com.

Include your name(s), phone number, how many attending, etc. "Y'all come!" says Della.



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

Jan. 12, 2020 Sun. 1.00 p.m.	"Grease" the smash hit musical Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Bill & Sylvia Worrall	July 18-20 Fri.-Sun. (Tentative)	Riverside Rally Shenandoah River State Park Host: TBD
Feb. 2 Sun. 5:00 p.m.	Super Bowl Party Amissville, Va. Hosts: Hoosiers	Aug. 3-8 Mon.-Sat.	Old Fiddlers Convention Rally, Galax, Va. Host: Julian Clements, Region 3
Feb. 29 Sat. 1:00 p.m.	New Member Lunch. Host: Nagel Place: Golden Corral, Manassas, Va.		
April 1-5 Wed. to Sun.	Region 3 Rally Ocean Lakes Family Campground Myrtle Beach, S.C. Host: John Leake	Sept. 11-13 Fri.-Sun.	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Small Country Campground Louisa, Va. Hosts: Tidewater Airstream Club
April 24-26 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Small Country Campground Louisa, Va. Host: Tom Carmichael	Oct. 22-25 Thurs.-Sun.	"Silver in the Street" Urban Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard
May 7-10 Thurs.-Sun.	Spring Rally Philomont, Va. Hosts: Peter & Elizabeth West	Nov. 13-15 Fri.-Sun.	Exploring the National Museum of the U.S. Army Fort Belvoir Campground, Va. Hosts: Brodsky & Jones
End of May- Early June	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan Leader: Jackson McBroom	Dec. 5, 2020 Sat., 12 noon	Holiday Brunch Home of Ed & Beth Jones Alexandria, Va.
June 20-27	WBAC International Rally Loveland, Colorado		