

NORVA News

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March 2020



Big rally at Small Country

NORVA is hosting the 2020 Breakout & Maintenance Rally in Louisa, Va., April 24-26

It will soon be time to roll out Virginia's Airstreams for the annual Breakout and Maintenance Rally, April 24-26, 2020. A refreshed Small Country Campground will be this year's venue! The Louisa campground has a new owner since the end of October 2019, and the staff is busy making huge improvements. Gerry & Patsy Nagel and Tom Carmichael visited recently and were given a golf cart tour of the grounds, to include the section NORVA will occupy. Workers are in the process of clearing trees to ease site access and provide

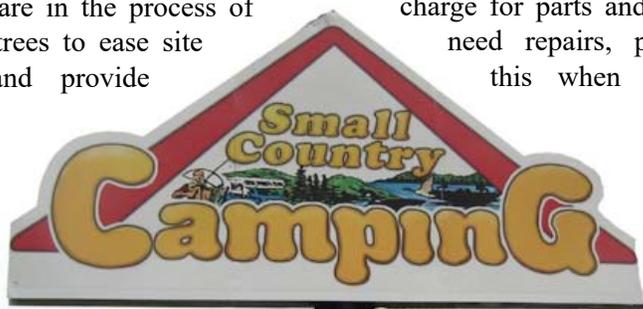
more camping space. An overall clean-up is underway, and sites are being leveled. There will be a pavilion and new restrooms in this section.

DJ Mastin, owner of Broken Rivets RV Service, will again be the expert presenter and savvy technical advisor at the Maintenance Seminar. Mastin and his wife, Jesse, will remain with the group for the entire weekend so, if anybody needs some non-major service, DJ will be available to work on rigs Saturday afternoon at a reasonable charge for parts and labor. (If you need repairs, please indicate this when you complete

the mail-in rally coupon (Page 2). DJ will contact you to schedule work and determine if part[s] are required.)

To participate in this rally, please call Small Country Campground directly to reserve your campsite. Say you are with the "Airstream Club Breakout Rally." Full hookup pull-through sites are \$44.25 plus tax per night; electric and water back-in sites are \$29.25 plus tax per night. These prices reflect a 25 percent discount and will be honored for one day early and/or one day late departure, if desired. **Cut-off date to reserve a site is April 10.** Small Country Campground is located at 4400 Byrd Mill Road, Louisa, VA 23093. Phone: 540-967-2431.

("Breakout 2020" continues on page 2)



Photos:

Small Country Campground renovations are nearing completion. Among the many improvements, the new owner intends to create a lakeside "dog beach" where canine campers are allowed to swim.

In this issue of NORVA News:

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("Breakout 2020" cont. from page 1)

The rally fee is \$15 per person, which covers cost for DJ's seminar (and helps pay for his accommodations), plus two continental breakfasts. Complete the coupon on this page and send it, with your rally fee check, to Tom Carmichael. Or, you can e-mail the requested information to Tom at:

tomc@sportsimageinc.com

Send your check and info to: Tom Carmichael, Rally Co-host, 2203 Turtle Hill Circle, Midlothian, VA 23112. Have questions? Call Tom at 804-245-1710.



Renovated and leveled campsite.

NORVA's 2020 Breakout & Maintenance Rally
 Held at Small Country Campground, Louisa, VA, April 24-26

To make your campground reservation, call 540-967-2431 by **April 10.**

To participate in this rally, please complete and mail this coupon by **April 20,** along with your rally fee check (\$15 per person), payable to:

**Tom Carmichael, Rally Co-host, 2203 Turtle Hill Circle,
 Midlothian, VA 23112**

Name(s) _____

Member of which Airstream club/unit? _____

E-mail _____@_____.

Address (No., street) _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Cell phone: _____ WBCCI# _____

How many participants? _____ X \$15 = \$ _____ enclosed.

Briefly list minor rig repairs requested from DJ Mastin:



Airstream Tech DJ Mastin

Note: You can e-mail the information requested to: tomc@sportsimageinc.com

Tentative Agenda

NORVA Breakout 2020

• Friday, April 24

Rally kicks off at 4:30 p.m. with an "Appetizerama" at the pavilion. Bring a snack to share and your favorite beverage. This welcome session will include self-introductions and a review of the weekend schedule.

• Friday evening

Dinner "on your own." Visit a restaurant in Louisa or share a grill at the campground.

• Saturday, April 25

Continental breakfast with coffee provided. Maintenance Seminar will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch is on your own. Saturday dinner will be a catered barbeque dinner at 6 p.m. from **Eddie's BBQ** in Louisa, provided courtesy of Airstream of Virginia.

• Saturday afternoon/
 evening entertainment

"Battle of the Bands," a live musical event held just outside the campground to benefit the Kidney Foundation.

• Sunday, April 26

Continental breakfast with coffee and informal discussion of future rallies planned for Virginia's four Airstream clubs. Depart for home.



Louisa County Courthouse

I hope your team won Super Bowl LIV this year. Many thanks to Cecil and Della for hosting NORVA's Annual Super Bowl rally at their home in Amissville. The Chiefs certainly made it interesting with a big second half to win the game. Cathy and I missed being at the rally, but we heard from many NORVA members who said the Sunday evening at the Hoosier's home was well-attended and wonderful. We were in Duck, N.C., that week, enjoying our traditional Carmichael Family Winter Vacation. We marveled at the ocean sunrises, celebrated Cathy's birthday, and enjoyed watching our grandson, Tomlin, who was a busy little guy.

In March, NORVA takes a month-long break from organized Club activities to get ready for an event-filled spring. It starts with WBAC's Region 3 Rally at Ocean Lakes Family Campground, Myrtle Beach, S.C, April 1 to 5. Members of all four Virginia clubs will be hooking up and heading south for this big, first camping rally of 2020. Airstreamers from Virginia to Florida will assemble at the beautiful beachside campground, spending a week together, reconnecting, sharing the joys of Airstreaming, and making new friends. Will you be there?

I thank Gerry & Patsy Nagel for co-hosting February's "New Member Lunch" and joining me in preparing the upcoming NORVA Annual Breakout & Maintenance Rally. This year's Breakout will be held at Small Country Campground in Louisa, Va., April 24-26. We recently visited the campground, met the new owner, and planned activities for the event.

You can read about it in this newsletter. Airstream Master Technician DJ Mastin will be with us for the entire weekend. There's no better way to check out your rig and get ready for the camping season. Please attend.

Other exciting Airstream things are happening in Virginia. NORVA started 2020 by adding seven new families to the roster. We now have 67 member households, making us by far Virginia's largest Airstream club. Also, the Shenandoah Valley Airstream Unit's new name is official. They are now the "Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club." We've planned several joint rallies this year with them and the other Virginia clubs, so check out the schedule on the last page.

In this issue of *NORVA News*, you will read about our Spring Rally in mid-May, hosted by Peter & Elizabeth West. It will be held in Winchester, Va., at the northern end of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. On the heels of that weekend, Jackson & Mary Ann McBroom will launch NORVA's 16-day Club Caravan on May 28. Their itinerary includes visiting the homes of U.S. presidents and other points of interest in Ohio. See the related article and coupon on pages 7 & 8 to sign up.

Let's raise a mug. Here's hoping that March "goes out like a lamb," spring weather comes early, and we are soon happily rolling down the road with our "silver bullets." I can't wait to hook up with everyone. Dust off your aluminum, get those batteries charged up, and be ready for good times!

A winter dawn at Duck, N.C.

Photo by Tom Carmichael

Sunrise for a 2020 camping season

NORVA President Tom Carmichael is excited about upcoming, adventuresome, Club activities



Since January 1, 2020, proud owners of seven Airstream travel trailers have joined NORVA Club #3-110 and WBAC. NORVA's roster now lists 67 households. Here are the newest members:

Paul Chlebo & Tracy Gifford

Home in Lorton, Va.

Airstream: 2016 22-foot Bambi



Eric & Norma Colby

Home in Sterling, Va.

Airstream: 1997 34-foot Excella



Tom & June Park

Home in White Post, Va.

Airstream: 2016 25-foot Flying Cloud



Allysa Kropp

Home in Annapolis, Md.

Airstream: 1998 25-foot Safari



Sara Davidson & Brad Wilkof

Homes in D.C. area & N. Augusta, S.C.

Airstream: 2016 27-foot International



Doug & Gail Perkins

Home in Fredericksburg, Va.

Airstream: 2019 28-foot International



Steve & Stacie Plante

Home in Winchester, Va.

Airstream: 2017 25-foot Flying Cloud

Mexico sees a new Airstream caravan

After an 11-year absence, “Three Mexican Gems” revives WBAC travel South of the Border

Airstreamer Laural Veloz is touring Mexico and she’s not alone. Traveling with her dog, “Dixie,” and more than two dozen other club members, she is on the inaugural run of WBAC’s “Three Mexican Gems National Caravan.”

Laural joined NORVA two years ago. A D.C. resident at the time, she quit her job, sold her house, and launched herself into full-time travel adventures in her new Airstream Basecamp trailer. Last year, Laural and Dixie began crisscrossing America and they haven’t looked back. When the opportunity to join WBAC’s new caravan to Mexico came up, Laural grabbed it.

The “Three Mexican Gems” caravan began in Nogales, Arizona, on Feb. 7, 2020, led by WBAC member Michel Bourassa of Saturna Island, B.C., Canada. Laural joined the group of 15 participating Airstreams. They crossed the southern border and began their exploration of Mexico. The ambitious itinerary included Copper Canyon, Mexico City, and Mazatlán (thus, the “Three Gems” moniker). All told, the caravanners will log about 3,000 miles over two months and end up back in Arizona on April 7.

Laural has agreed to write an article about her Mexican caravan experience for a future issue of *NORVA News*. Until then, we can’t help but share some of the terrific photographs she is uploading to her Facebook page almost daily. They show all the color and excitement of her journey...beautiful architecture and spectacular scenery, human

interest portraiture, memorable moments, and Airstream group camaraderie. Her pictures effectively capture what makes this WBAC caravan so special.

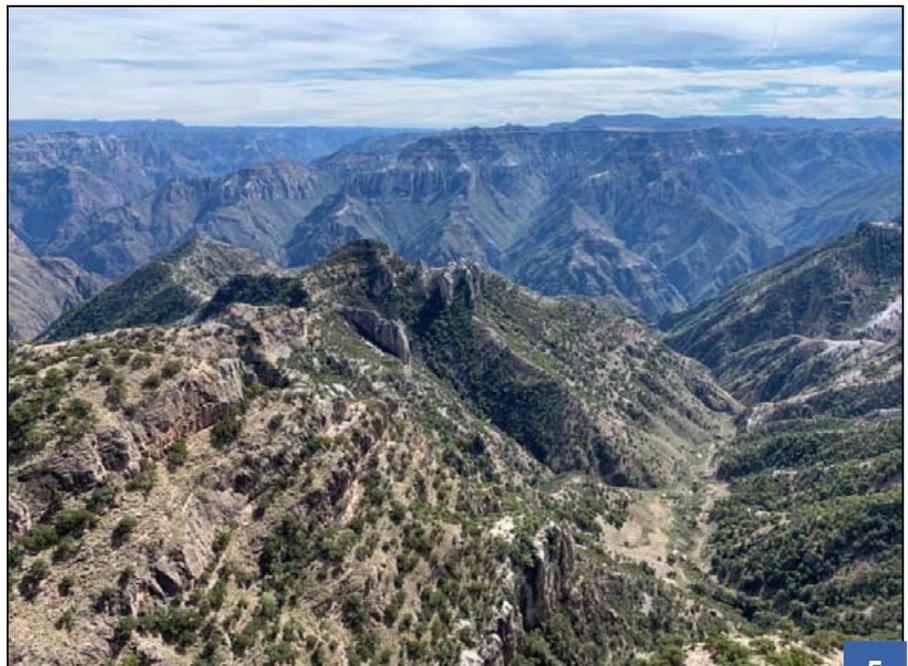
(“Mexico” continues on p.6)

Photos (top to bottom):

“Dixie” guards trailers at the rendezvous site in Nogales, Arizona.

The wet nose against Laural’s cheek does not belong to her canine traveling companion’s, but she’s obviously earned a “seal” of approval.

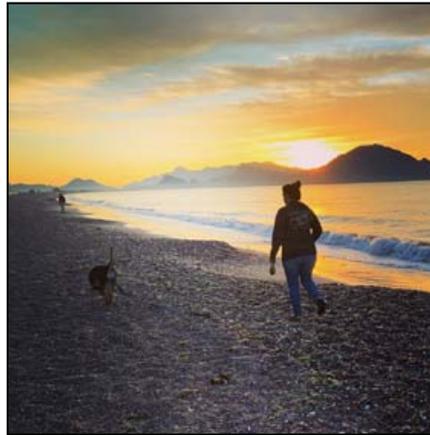
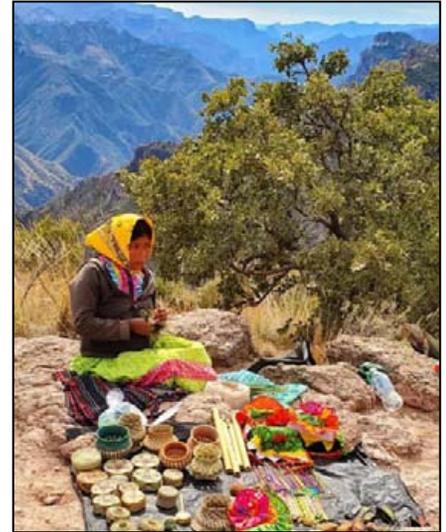
Magnificent Copper Canyon, in Mexico’s Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains, is one of the “Three Gems” on this caravan. It is often compared to Arizona’s Grand Canyon.



(“Mexico, continues from p. 5)

Although “Three Mexican Gems” is a newly organized WBAC national caravan (based on a unit caravan the British Columbia Airstream Club conducted last year), it’s not the first time Airstreamers have engaged in group travel to Mexico. In 1997, 1998, 2003, and 2005, the Airstream Company ran caravans to Copper Canyon, loading trailers onto rail cars for a portion of the trip. Also, for several years, the WBCCI ran an annual national caravan called “Baja California Adventure,” touring the large western peninsula of Mexico. The last of these was in 2009.

According to Jay Thompson, WBAC’s International Caravan Committee Chair, “Three Mexican Gems” will be repeated next year, Jan 29 to March 31, 2021. You can check out its listing in the “National Caravans” pages of *Blue Beret Magazine*.



Above (top to bottom):
Hotel courtyard architecture in Álamos.
Laural and Dixie jog on the beach in Celestino.
The Basecamp boondocks in a Sonora hotel parking lot.
At left:
Tarahumaras children in Chihuahua and a colorful display of maracas.

This column (top to bottom):
An indigenous Raramuri woman sells her crafts in Copper Canyon
Plaza de Álamos, in the State of Sonora, is in northwestern Mexico. It features classic Andalusian architecture from Mexico’s colonial period.
Laural’s Basecamp and tow vehicle adorn the front yard of a Mexican mission .

Sign up for NORVA's Ohio Caravan

Presidential homes and other iconic attractions to be explored May 28 to June 13, 2020

The 2019 NORVA Club Caravan will be a 16-day adventure (May 28 to June 13, 2020) featuring a voyage of discovery that highlights Ohio's U.S. presidents—their birthplaces, museums, and legacies that dominated America's political and historical landscape in the 19th and early 20th Centuries. Although they were not as prominent as Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln, their challenges were clearly formidable during a period of unprecedented American growth. The remarkable talents of Ohio's eight U.S. presidents were tested in much the same manner as their more famous predecessors.

Ohio is also the birthplace of several famous American pioneers and boasts a plethora of cultural icons of national significance. This caravan offers participants an interesting mix of venues, shedding light on history and cultural memory. It combines planned tours with time and options for individual exploration.

NORVA's Mary Ann & Jackson McBroom are the experienced leaders of this caravan. They've built the adventure around multi-night stays in Ohio's three major metropolitan areas (Cincinnati/Dayton, Columbus/Delaware, and Cleveland/Canton). In each of these areas they selected a campground with relatively easy access to nearby national and regional points of interest. These camping locations include Lebanon (KOA), Delaware (Cross Creek RV Resort), and Streetsboro (Woodside Lake Park).

So, what will be seen during the 16 days? Of course the caravanners will visit several Ohio presidential museums and birthplaces, but many other venues are included on the schedule. For example, the group will unearth the origins of flight (Wright Brothers bicycle shop and the authentic 1905 Wright flyer), explore the unique Cincinnati Museum Center (at the restored art deco Cincinnati Union [Train] Terminal),

illuminate vital linchpins of the Civil War's "Underground Railroad" (John Rankin and John Walker homes), examine the indispensable and unique lives of the spouses of America's Presidents (First Ladies National Historic Site), and revive memories of pro football's singular position in America's cultural sports heritage (NFL Hall of Fame). Plus, any Airstream caravan in Ohio would not be complete without including a tour of the newly completed Airstream Factory in Jackson Center.

There will be a FREE DAY at each camping location, coupled with SHORT TRAVEL DAYS. This options exploration of other attractions, such as the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force (Dayton), the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame (Cleveland), Harriet Beecher Stowe's home (Cincinnati), the internationally famous Zoo and the noted Center for Science & Industry (Columbus), and the Western Reserve Fire Museum (Cleveland).

("Ohio" continues on p. 8.)



Above: Gowns at the First Ladies National Historic Site is a National Park Service property in Canton, Ohio. It occupies the Saxton-McKinley House, built in the mid 1800s and home to President & Mrs. McKinley.

Top right: The Cincinnati Museum Center is a one-of-a-kind, multi-museum complex housed in historic Union Terminal. Once a train station, it is noted for its spectacular Art Deco design.

Right: The 1905 Wright Flyer III is on display at Dayton's Carillon Historical Park, along with the nation's largest collection of Wright Brothers memorabilia.



RESERVATION COUPON

OHIO PRESIDENTS & HISTORIC ICONS

NORVA CLUB CARAVAN, May 28 to June 13, 2020



See the story and photos on page 7.

To participate, please complete and mail this coupon **before April 11, 2020**, along with a \$325 deposit check, payable to: Jackson McBroom, Caravan Leader, 1661 River Ridge, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Total cost to participate is \$840 per trailer/MH (camping fees), plus \$240 per person (tours/meals).

Name(s): _____ WBCCI# _____

Address: _____

Member of which Airstream club/unit? _____ E-mail: _____ @ _____

Phones: (H) _____ (C) _____ RV length: _____ ft.

How many participants? _____. **Deposit enclosed: \$325.00.** (Balance of caravan fee is due May 15, 2020.)

Note: You can also e-mail the requested information to: jtmcbm@aol.com.

For more information or answers to questions, call Jackson: 757-345-0060 (H), or 757-746-6535 (C).

("Ohio" cont. from p. 7.)

Top off this busy itinerary with an elegant dinner at the (1803) Golden Lamb Hotel in Lebanon (which has hosted presidents from John Quincy Adams to George W. Bush), plus a tour of the American Whistle Company (Columbus) founded in 1956—the only manufacturer of brass whistles in America—and you have the makings of an eclectic and poignant journey.

The McBrooms invite you to join them on this Club caravan. Participation will be limited to a maximum of 15 rigs, so all interested Airstreamers are urged to mail a deposit check to Jackson as early as possible. Use the *Reservation Coupon* on this page.

A winter rally in Amissville

Two dozen gathered to watch Super Bowl LIV at the Hoosier home



Photo: All eyes were glued to the live telecast of Super Bowl LIV. The well-attended NORVA rally on Feb. 2 was held in the Amissville, Va., home of NORVA members Della & Cecil Hoosier. Unfortunately for the San Francisco Forty-niners, the victorious Kansas City Chiefs had a great second half in Miami. All the while, the assembled Aistreamers in Virginia shared fun, good food and friendship in the comfort of the Hoosier's living room. Final score: KC 31, SF 20.

NORVA News is published periodically for members of NORVA—Northern Virginia Airstream Club, #3-110 of the 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>



Come what May?

Rally!
Thursday, May 7
to Sunday, May 10

A delightful Spring Rally in the northern Shenandoah Valley...that's what! NORVA hosts Peter & Elizabeth West have lined up a long weekend of grand activities for members of NORVA and the neighboring Washington D.C. Unit.

After occupying campsites at Candy Hill Campground in Winchester, Va., participants will converge on the West's home in Philomont for a kick-off potluck dinner, Thursday evening, May 7.

Friday's activities will include a visit to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, a tour of a restoration shop for antique fire engines, a winery visit, and a catered dinner at the historic (1790s) Benjamin Walker House.

On Saturday, May 9, rally goes will get some exercise on a morning walking tour of Historic Winchester, adding an optional visit to the Patsy Cline House. Staying in a mood for good country/mountain music and food, there will be entertainment Saturday afternoon by the Lonesome Fiddle Ramblers Bluegrass Band, followed by a pork roast dinner at the campground. A little nostalgia is always a good thing, so be prepared to relive youthful memories by going

as a group to the Winchester Drive-in Movie Theater on Saturday night! The theater has been in business for 64 years. They will be screening a double feature to view from the comfort(?) of your tow vehicle or camp chairs.

Hopefully, you've made your campsite reservation directly with Candy Hill by now (540-662-8010). They are holding sites for the group, but you must reserve by March 5. Sites are \$45/night. A 10 percent Good Sam reduction is available.

To participate in NORVA's exciting Spring Rally, complete the coupon on Page 8 and mail it with your rally fee check, payable to Peter West, at the address shown on the coupon. The fee of \$53 per person covers two dinners, tours, and other rally expenses.



Photos, top to bottom:

The Winchester home of country music legend, the late Patsy Cline.

Family Drive-in Theater has been a Valley institution for 64 years.

The collections at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley are unique and impressive.



NORVA Officers

Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020

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Coupon for the May 2020 Spring Rally

Please join hosts Peter & Elizabeth West for a fun-filled weekend in Winchester and the northern Shenandoah Valley, May 7-10. See the story on Page 9.

Have questions? Call Peter: 540-270-0020.

Reserve a campsite by calling Candy Hill Campground directly ASAP at 540-662-8010.

To participate in this rally, complete this coupon and mail it with your rally fee check by April 13, 2020.

Mail to: Peter West, Rally Host, P.O. Box 186, Philomont, VA 20131. E-mail: pwest8@comcast.net.

Name(s): _____

WBCCI # _____ Member of which Airstream club? _____

Contact phone: _____ E-mail: _____

No. participating _____ x \$53 rally fee per person = \$ _____, total enclosed.

I (we) plan to arrive at Candy Hill Campground on (circle one): Thu, May 7 Fri, May 8



Jan. 12, 2020 Sun. 1.00 p.m.	“Grease” the smash hit musical Riverside Center Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, Va. Hosts: Bill & Sylvia Worrall	July 17-19 Fri.-Sun.	Riverside Rally Shenandoah River State Park Hosts: Doug & Susan Anderson
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 Golden Corral, Manassas, Va.	Sept. 11-13 Fri.-Sun.	Virginia Commonwealth Rally Small Country Campground Louisa, Va. Hosts: Tidewater Airstream Club
April 1-5 Wed. to Sun.	Region 3 Rally Ocean Lakes Family Campground Myrtle Beach, S.C. Host: John Leake	Oct. 22-25 Thurs.-Sun.	“Silver in the Street” Urban Rally Shepherdstown, W.Va. Hosts: Gary & Sue Shepard
April 24-26 Fri.-Sun.	Breakout & Maintenance Rally Small Country Campground Louisa, Va. Host: Tom Carmichael	Nov. 13-15 Fri.-Sun.	Exploring the National Museum of the U.S. Army Fort Belvoir Campground, Va. Hosts: Ed Jones & Gerry Nagel
May 7-10 Thurs.-Sun.	Spring Rally Philomont and Winchester, Va. Hosts: Peter & Elizabeth West	Dec. 5, 2020 Sat., 12 noon	Holiday Brunch Home of Ed & Beth Jones Alexandria, Va.
May 28-June 13 16 days.	NORVA Airstream Club Caravan In Ohio. Leader: Jackson McBroom		
June 20-27 Sat.-Sat.	WBAC International Rally Loveland, Colorado		