

The Peach State Caravanner

Volume 50 • Issue 5 • September 2011



Greetings, Fellow Airstreamers!

I can't believe September is here already. The year has flown by and Beth and I have enjoyed every minute we have been able to spend at rallies, just camping at the

Top, on caravans, and representing you at the Florida State and International Rallies. Enough reflection! We have one more chance to plan and host a rally and we plan to make our last rally a great one!

I would like to share a few thoughts about the Homecoming Rally. We had a tremendous number of folks at the rally and the Birthday Party. We really enjoyed visiting with so many members of the Georgia Unit family who have done so much for the park and the unit over the years. The party was great; the food was wonderful; entertainment was excellent; and the activities were fantastic. Please let Carol Cone, Jack Jones, Al Holcomb, Brenda Sue Holcombe, and Rob Kelly know how much you enjoyed their efforts in September. I have already expressed my thanks to them and would also like to thank Greg Holcombe and Gary Waters for the wonderful BBQ. If you had to leave early, you missed a fantastic Labor Day leftover lunch.

We had 93 occupied rigs and over 120 rigs in the park! The attendance over the last three years has reversed a

nearly twenty-year trend and this year is on pace to be the best of the three! I hope that means you are enjoying the rallies as much as we are. That also means we may be asking folks on some sites to roll in their awning during the upcoming rally to accommodate rally parking!

October brings the Installation Rally. The Ladies Day Out will return and will commence with lunch on Wednesday, so please plan to arrive well before 10:30 AM on Wednesday! Rob has a few other surprises, and we will include a few favorites as well. Of course we will have a wonderful

dinner on Saturday and enjoy the installation of our officers for 2012. Al has entertainment planned for Friday night and we are planning a flea market.

Finally, I want to recognize our award winning Caravanner Editor—Pat King. Pat has done a fantastic job with this newsletter. She works many hours on each issue, has had to put up with late input from your President and last minute changes to the rally program schedules. She and Mike also do a fantastic job on our directory. Though she is stepping down as editor, she has agreed to continue managing our member database and she and Mike will

continue doing the directory. I hope you will join me in thanking Pat for a job *well done*.

Please join us in October. See you at the Top.

Matt and Beth



Above: Matt discusses a caravan with Jane Miller and Judy Martiny

Below: The 50th birthday cake beautifully decorated by Carol Cone.

"Keep your eyes on the stars, and the stars in your eyes...see if you can find out what's over the next hill, and the next one after that." Wally Byam

Special Requests:

You can brighten the day of any of those members of the park who have lost a loved one or are ailing. There are a few who have requested cards and/or calls. One is a long-time member and two are grandchildren: Richard Spruill, Jack Bradshaw's granddaughter and Mary Ann Parks' grandson. Please take a minute and bring a smile to someone's face—everyone wants to know someone is praying for them.

Laney Bradshaw
1207 Cormac Street
Franklin TN 37064

Richard Spruill
Baptist Manor
10095 Hillview Drive
Pensacola FL 32514



*What you do speaks so loud I cannot hear
what you say.* Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Anger is the feeling that makes your mouth
work faster than your mind.* Evan Esar

Loving Concerns

We have a number who are ill or convalescing or who have had a death in the family. Cards were sent to let them know that their Top of Georgia friends are thinking of them. If you know them, send them a card or note to let them that you are thinking of them.

Death of Member: Jack Reynolds

Get Well to: Laney Bradshaw, Creed Campbell (Mary Ann Parks' grandson), Anita Farley, Bob Glancy, Alice and Jesse Lyle, Fred and Joyce Moore, Howard NeSmith, Bo Roberson, Richard Spruill, Sid Watters, and Ben Wilbanks.

Remember our Troops serving in the Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world. Pray for their families as well. It is they who are protecting us and our freedoms.

Accident: Buzz & Carol Wallen of the Treasure Coast Unit, Florida, were in a serious auto accident while they were on the Made in America Caravan.

Cards can only be sent if Mary Holcomb knows about them. You can contact her at 706.348.6060 (home) or 678.231.3355 (cell).

Our Chaplain, Jack Bradshaw, routinely passes on loving concerns by email to around a hundred members of the Georgia Unit. If you would like to pass on a concern, request a prayer, or would like to be added to his distribution list, email Jack at <Jbradshaw9@sc.rr.com>.

Dues

Connie Crowe will be taking 2012 dues at the next rally. It will save us a lot of money if the notices don't need to be mailed to everyone. You also get your membership card immediately and it doesn't require a stamp to mail that to you as well.

Continual Reminder:



The Automatic Heart Defibrillator (AED) is located at the Host Trailer. If you or your Airstream neighbor has need of the AED, get to the Host Trailer as soon as you know of the need. There are trained personnel to help you.



Cornbread Ted and the Butterbeans, featuring the Reso-phonic Articularator!

FYI:

Door Prizes

We continue to have a great response for our door prizes. This being my last rally as 1st VP, I am hoping everyone will make this the best door prize event of the year. I would like to ask everyone to bring something, even if it is a small prize, to the Fall Rally.

I am also looking for several big prizes that we can auction at the rally as well. Homemade items and crafts are very valuable and everyone loves to take home a treasure that was handmade by one of our members. As you all know, we have some very talented and creative folks. We are very close to having enough money to order the rest of our chairs. It sure would be nice to have the remainder of the money raised by the end of the Fall Rally.

I have really enjoyed being your 1st VP this year. I hope that you have enjoyed it as much as I have.

Whenever Chris and I are coming up to the TOP, we cannot wait to get there!

See you at the Top!

Steve Rosenthal, 1st Vice President

Christmas Campout

Al and Mary Holcomb have a wonderful Christmas Luncheon planned for December. In the last two years, many of us have chosen to spend the weekend together, enjoying more Fun, Fellowship, and Adventure by camping near the location for the Christmas Luncheon. This year we will be staying at Country Boys RV Park near Madison, Georgia. You can find out more information at <www.countryboysrv.com>.

We also have a fun-filled weekend planned. The park is providing a meeting room for group meals and cards. The schedule is tentative, but we plan on eating out together on Friday night. After dinner, we will be judging Airstream decorations, so make sure you plan on decorating **your** Airstream. On Saturday evening, plan on a small Curbside Café and on Sunday morning, we will have a potluck breakfast. This isn't a rally, so there are no fees or meals provided. Simply call the campground at 706.342.1799 to make a reservation. Please let me know after you have made your reservations, so I can better plan our schedule. Send us an email at <eroney@aol.com> or give us a call at 706.860.8690. We hope to see you there!

Christmas Luncheon

The Christmas Luncheon will be December 3, 2011, 12:00 noon at Rockeagle in Eatonton, Georgia.

Tickets are \$20.00 per person. The sales of tickets are going well, so make your plans to come and we will party, party, party.

Plan to bring your Airstream and camp with us at the Country Boy Campground. See the article on this page for details.

If you can't bring your trailer, drive down for the day, we will see you there.

Al Holcomb



Above: Linda and Duell Robinson, Mike King, and Beth Hackney discuss a scrapbook from the first years of the Georgia Unit.

Left: A good crowd enjoyed the birthday party!

What's Cookin' for the Fall Rally?

We've got several special activities and new favorite ones in the stew that we are working on. Here's what's on the plate.

- **Ladies Outing** for lunch and the Candle Shop. Got word that they have some cute ones.
- **Ping Pong**: remember how to play? We'll give it a try.
- **Motorcycle Drive** to Brass Town Bald Mountain. Bring your bike and join Jack McDonald to travel the famous hills and curves of North Georgia. Yes, several members have bikes.
- **Chattahoochee Forest Mountain Drive**: enjoy the North Georgia fall colors up close.
- **Mt. Yonah Hike**: Stan Lemons may be coming to lead the true hikers up to the top. We'll have some easier hikes on our own park trails, too. Enjoy the cool mountain air.
- **Winery Tour**: North Georgia has become a tourist attraction for its many wineries. This is the grape harvesting season and we are working on a tour, tasting and lunch at a local winery.
- **Garden Club**: Interest and growing attendance attest to the popularity of this new activity. The gardeners are looking forward to Carol Cone's next meeting and special topic.

- **Mike's Rivets**: Mike King will provide some helpful hints to the growing crowd who want to know the options how to "winterize" their RV for the winter. We may get the local upholsterer, Gary Kennedy, to talk about his services, too. He's already done a nice job on two of ToG's RVs.
- **Computer Clinic**: Bring your laptop and questions for some one-on-one answers from the Irene O'Connell team of "computerists." Learn how to email your digital pictures to your friends and family, and anything else.
- **Hobby Show & Flea Market**: Bring your hobby products to display and sell at the Flea Market. Unload those accumulated "treasures" in your storage compartments, too.
- And **finally**, but not least: Our annual, fabulous Banquet and Ceremony for the Installation of our 2012 Officers and Directors.

And, we'll include our all-time favorites of church service, holey board, card tournaments, ice cream, jam sessions, cookouts (with S'Mores), bingo, and door prizes as well as others.

Ideas and helpers welcome.

Rob Kelly, Program Coordinator



Scenes and cast from the "Brenda Holcombe Presents Carol Burnett" skits. The cast included (l to r) Steve Rosenthal, Warren Fore, Lin Thompkins, Pat King, Ben Moon, Debbie Waters, Betty Ivy, Charles Whittington, Jean Gilbert, Ron Roskosh, Jo Roskosh, and Jackie Whittington. Not pictured is Brenda Holcombe, director.

Mike's Rivets

Think about this: you open your battery box to check your battery water and, if you're not careful, next you could be on your way to the Emergency Room with wasp or yellow jacket stings. To help prevent their industrious habit, you can glue a small piece of plastic screening in place on the vent holes of the box on the inside which will help stop the critters. The stinging insects usually build their nests in the battery boxes. Other locations may include your LP tanks and your steps which have open spaces so they can be folded into the body of the trailer. Pierce and Florrie discovered a nest in the underbelly of their trailer at the last rally and suffered several stings. Also the electric pedestal's inside front lid is another favorite spot. To prevent the wasps and other bugs from entering your trailer, putting screens on the furnace vents are a must. You haven't used the furnace since spring; if you don't have screens there is a good chance you won't have heat when you need it. Carefully check those openings.

Check the roof of your RV. If your air conditioner is next to your refrigerator roof vent, you need a baffle between the two, especially if you have a Dometic air conditioner. The baffle blocks air blowing downward from the air conditioner which impedes refrigerator cooling. The photo below illustrates the baffle on the top of my trailer. If you look carefully, you'll see the vent holes on the air conditioner aimed for the refrigerator vent. The baffle deflects this air flow. What should I do if my Airstream doesn't have one? Add one or ask me about how to do this at the next rally.

Safe travels, my friends,

Mike



Left to right: air conditioner, baffle, and the refrigerator vent.

Garden Club

We were so fortunate to have an expert for Smithgall Woods come and speak to the Garden Club at the Homecoming Rally. Johnna Tuttle, Interpretative Ranger, talked to us about poisonous plants. I think we all learned so much. Did you know that parts of Poke Salad and even Hydrangeas are poisonous? If you were not there, you really missed a great time. Come and join us at the next rally.

Like flowers, our Garden Club just continues to grow. At our last rally we had 28 attendees! So many we are moving to a bigger space. At the October Rally we will meet in the Pavilion. Hope to see you there.

Carol Cone
Garden Club President



Johanna Tuttle, Interpretative Ranger at Smithgall Woods, identifies some of the plants found in our region.



Above: Checking out the silk scarves that were dyed using men's silk ties. Everyone had a pleasant surprise when they opened theirs!

Right: Jane Miller shared one of her quilts whose blocks were made by members of the Georgia Unit.



Business Meeting & Board Actions

At the September business meeting 66 of our 342 members attended. That's nearly 20% of our membership and a fantastic showing. At that meeting, you voted to ratify an amendment to the WBCCI Constitution that would give the delegates the power to review and amend bylaw changes and interpretations by the International Board of Trustees. This amendment is going to all units for their action. You also elected officers for 2012 and a Nominating Committee to recommend candidates for 2013.

2012 Board of Directors

Al Holcomb, President
Steve Rosenthal, President-Elect
Roy Beavers, 1st Vice President
Cindy Carr, Treasurer
Jo Roskosh, Secretary
Willa Davis, Director/Membership Chairman
Craig Stephens, Director
Jack Cooper, Director (2nd year)
Lisa Roberts, Director (2nd year)

Nominating Committee

Herb Crowe, Chairman
Ray Tarpley, Appointed by Board
Jack Jones, elected by membership
Barbara Jones, elected by membership
Jerry O'Connell, elected by membership

The Board of Directors authorized Jack Cooper to complete the purchase of 60 additional chairs to complete the chair replacement project. In addition, they voted to revise the designated officer parking sites, by including the site currently occupied by the Host Coordinator. The Host Coordinator has been quite successful in filling the host slot. Accordingly, they have agreed to move to a different site for next year. The president will occupy the first spot below the Host Shed and the other officers will occupy the adjacent sites.



The response to Curbside Café was so great, we had to move to the Upper Pavilion!

Region 3 Rally, April 22-29, 2012

The Region Rally will be held at Ocean Lakes Campground in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, April 24-29. Early parking is available for April 22-23. It has been the National RV Park of the Year four (4) times in recent years. Site fees will be approximately \$45/day for 5-point hookups and a large concrete pad at every site. The prices for next year will be set soon. Our reserved locations are short walks to both the ocean and our meeting hall. Martha Kerns will assign your site number when you register for the rally. Rally fees are \$85 per person, \$50 for Friday and Saturday only, and \$35 for persons choosing to attend Saturday only. This is a family resort park. Registration forms will be available at the Installation Rally and in the next newsletter.

Dick and Judy Martiny will share brochures and area literature at our Unit Rally October 5-9. The sites will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you desire to park with another friend, please send your rally registration requests in the same envelope.

There are great events planned—everything from seminars, a flea market, a craft show, open house for all Airstreams regardless of age, a cook-out, entertainment, and all of Myrtle Beach to enjoy!

Top and bottom: The rain storm may have put out the fire and chased us inside, but BBQ, sides, tea, and dessert were enjoyed by all. The line ice cream never seems to get short!





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 Chairman's Conference
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Game Winners

The game winners for the Homecoming Rally were:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Back Alley Bridge | Marge Burnett and Jean Gilbert |
| Joker | Carol Davis and Billy Wallace |
| Manipulation | Faye Wallace |
| Ladies' Holeyboard | Cindy Woodell |
| Men's Holeyboard | Ken Topham |
| Men's Horseshoes | Don Fathauer |
| Golf | Mike King |



Game Winners: (l to r) Jean Gilbert, Marge Burnett, Don Fathauer, Billy Wallace, Faye Wallace, Darol Davis, Betty Ivy (chair), Cindy Woodell, and Ken Topham. Mike King not pictured.

Rob Kelly helps during a visit to the Clydesdale Farm.



Charles Williams, Rob Kelly, Fran Williams, Ben Moon, Alicia & Mike Rafter, Ben Roach, Wilson Stephens, and Barbara Hill hiked along part of the Appalachian Trail.



The Peach State Caravanner
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 Cleveland GA 30528

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 Telephone 706.878.3590
 www.topofgeorgia.net

2011 Rally Schedule

(All rallies start Wednesday evening)

| Date | Event | Location |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| December 11, 2010 | Christmas Luncheon | Lake Pines, Midland |
| April 11-12 | Volunteer Work Days | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |
| April 13-17 | Spring Rally/Welcome Back | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |
| May 18-22 | Memorial/Buddy Rally | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |
| June 28-July 4 | WBCCI International Rally | Du Quoin, Illinois |
| July 13-17 | Summer/Youth Rally | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |
| Aug. 31-Sep. 5 | Anniversary/Homecoming Rally | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |
| October 5-9 | Fall Rally (Officers' Installation) | Top of Georgia Airstream Park |

Officers:

President—Matt Hackney • President Elect—Al Holcomb • 1st VP—Steve Rosenthal
 Secretary—Beth Hackney • Treasurer—Cindy Carr
 Directors: Connie Crowe • Ed Bledsoe • Lisa Roberts • Jack Cooper
 President Emeritus: Warren Fore

You are invited to enjoy our
 Top of Georgia
 located in the mountains north of Helen and
 Robertstown on State Highway 75.

Parking is restricted to WBCCI members.
 Complete hook-ups, including cable TV.
 No washers/dryers allowed.

Park is open all year.
 No reservations—first come, first served.

This facility is provided for your use and
 pleasure by The Georgia Unit, WBCCI, Inc.
 Matt Hackney, President

