



Looking back and looking ahead

Note: This message is a little long, but we have a lot of news to share with you. Please read at your leisure, and save all the future dates.

Looking Back—Oh the memories

Our Region 3 Rally this year was April 26 – 30, 2017 at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds in Hiawassee, GA. Were you there?



Approximately 134 Airstreams and 275 members of the Wally Byam Airstream Club, gathered for our annual Region 3 Rally. For many of us, this once a year Rally is the only opportunity we have to visit with old friends we have made

along the way and most will agree a fine time was had by all. The location was splendid, with mountain views all around and beautiful Lake Chatuge lapping at many of the waterfront campsites. We told everyone to make a trip to the mountain top garden in the fairgrounds. The Rhododendrons were in full bloom and were gorgeous.



The fine folks at Southland RV/Airstream of Georgia provided great support with a display of two new Airstream trailers, parts and accessories, door prizes, and service technicians. They also hosted coffee and doughnuts one morning, and a wine and cheese happy hour one afternoon. But best of all, we found out later, that they were doing the service work for free! Quite a few took them up on this generous offer of help. Many thanks to Southland RV.

Also, thanks to SkyMed, we all enjoyed every Airstreamer's favorite thing—Ice Cream! Their generosity provided us with wonderful chocolate ice cream bars and a chance to socialize after supper. Thank you again SkyMed.

The rally provided a nice variety of meals. The Saw Mill Place in Blairsville catered three of the rally meals, and they were excellent. Airstreamers spent many dollars in the local restaurants and businesses. The people of Towns County welcomed us everywhere we went.



Thanks to the generosity and support of everyone there, we were able to contribute well over \$2,000.00 in cash and pet food to the [Mountain Shelter Humane Society](#). The Mountain Shelter is a flagship organization for the entire state of Georgia, and we made a difference for them. Well done Airstreamers!



The rally's entertainment was excellent. Mike Fuller, the magician, was a big

hit, kept us laughing and amazed us with his tricks. Walt Espelin, the man in the hat, from Hiawassee, also provided an excellent performance.



What was the best part of the rally? Without a doubt, being part of what makes the wheels turn. Working side by side with the dozens of folks that pitched in to help from start to finish. The “bag ladies” who packed 150 rally bags, no small task—thank you, ladies; Jerry and Irene, our “boots on the ground,” the two lovely ladies that greeted everyone with a smile;



the parking team, which had a long day and handled all the parking chores cheerfully; Jake, the original Mr. Coffee; the raffle table crew; our wonderful seminar leaders who went above and beyond with great information and presentations; the wrap-up panel that had representation from International Officers, Region Officers, Unit officers, the National Caravan Chairperson, and the National Membership Chairperson; the registration crew that handled a

difficult job with poise and professionalism, well done Richard; and the very capable hands of our Region Treasurer who took care of all the finances, well done Jerry. And the many units that pitched in to serve meals, clean up, and move things around; all the folks that saw a need and jumped in to help out. It is sometimes easy to forget that our entire club is made up of VOLUNTEERS who give their time and talents for the good of the Club. Thank you all.

It is hard to believe it has been a year since we were in Doswell, Virginia. A year of planning produced the Hiwassee Rally. We hope you had a good time.

One last thought: Even though we had 275 in attendance, we were still 725 of our members missing. Was it you?

Luci Lights

Eileen Frerking, our Region First Lady, gave a presentation at the Region 3 Rally on Luci Lights. Luci Lights are inflatable solar lights that were created by [Mpowerd, Inc.](#) with the goal of making an affordable, clean energy product that people could use in any situation—from outdoor camping adventures to backyard parties to everyday living for people in developing countries without electricity. Did you know that 1.5 billion people are living without electricity in developing countries? Luci Lights provide a light that's clean and safe—pretty much the opposite of the toxic and expensive kerosene lamps so many depend on—because life doesn't stop after the sun goes down.

From now through August 30, 2017, for every light an Airstreamer purchases, Mpowerd will give a Luci Light to the International Medical Corps. Want to participate? Click on the link to the [Mpowerd website](#). Click on Shop. Chose the Give program for \$14.95, or pick any Luci Light at its advertised price. Then at checkout, put Airstream in the code box. You will receive 20% off your purchase, and a Luci Light will be donated by Mpowerd Inc. for each Luci Light purchased.

Congratulations to our Superior Merit Award Winners for 2016

It was announced at the Region 3 Rally that the following units were awarded the Superior Merit Award for 2016:

Unit 153, Big Bend Florida
Unit 161, Piedmont North Carolina
Unit 150, South Carolina Coastal

Support our Nominating Committee

2018 will be an election year for Region 3. At our Region 3 Rally, scheduled for April 25 – 29, 2018 in Myrtle Beach, SC (more on that later), we will elect a new Region President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. At our just completed Region 3 Rally, [Jill Wilson](#) from the Carolinas Unit of North Carolina, [John Becker](#) from the Piedmont North Carolina Unit, and [Jake Butts](#) from the Palmetto State South Carolina Unit volunteered to serve on the nominating committee. We all want to thank them for serving in this vital role, but more than that, we need to help them find well-qualified candidates for the jobs. If you know of someone you think would be a good candidate for Region Officer, click on their names above and send them an email suggestion.

Looking Ahead—So Much to Do, So Little Time

Name Changes Moving Forward Again

Thor, Airstream, and the WBCCI now have an agreement for our club and units to use the Airstream name. Many units have already added Airstream to their name and replaced Unit with Club. If there are any units out there who want to make a name change, adding Airstream, replacing Unit with Club, etc., you must have your motions into club headquarters by June 1, 2017. Motions must include the date and place of the unit membership meeting where the name change was approved by the members and verification that a quorum was present for the vote. Units who have previously applied for a name change, and were awaiting approval from the IBT, do not need to reapply. Contact any Region Officer for help and assistance.

2018 Mid-Winter IBT; January 8 – 12, 2018; Sarasota, FL

Our Region was given the privilege (and the work) of being the host region for the 2018 Mid-Winter IBT Rally. The Mid-Winter IBT Rally will take place January 8 – 12, 2018 at the Sarasota Florida Fairgrounds. We'll need lots of help, and we know the volunteers in our Region will do a great job. The Sarasota Fairgrounds is the same venue where the Florida State Rally was held up through 2013, so If you have any experience putting on those large

rallies there, and would like to help make the 2018 Mid-Winter IBT a success, please contact any of our Region Officers.

Start Making Your Reservations Now for the 2018 Region 3 Rally

Our 2018 Region 3 Rally will be held April 25 – 29, 2018 at the beautiful [Ocean Lakes Family Campground](#); 6001 South Kings Hwy.; Myrtle Beach, SC 29575 (GPS: N33° 37.701, W78° 57.725). We have sites being held in the three oceanfront sections I, H, and HH, so there is plenty of room for everyone.

Call 1-800-722-1451 now to make your reservations and have your name put on one of our sites. Tell them you are with the AIRSTREAM REGION 3 RALLY. They have blocked off the entire week of April 22 – 29 for us, but you do not have to stay the entire week—pick your length of stay. A 50% deposit is required at the time of making your reservation.
