



# The Online Trillium



## Presidents Message



As I sit to write this presidents' page, it has come to my attention that I have no room left on my computer to type my thoughts. Even my computer has become cluttered up with long forgotten leftovers. It's become a digital attic of sorts, and I have yet more de-cluttering to do.

Now, where ever will I find time to do that!

I hope everyone is staying safe, and staying at home, while we are in this state of lockdown. I hope you have all have a side project to keep you busy and focused. I've been active keeping my woodworking skills, and tools sharp with some minor renovations to the house and home. I really should sit and spend more time on my computer learning how to use it, but I'm just not built that way.

Catharine has kept herself busy

Catharine also purchased a [Lyre](#) and is learning to play. So I ask, what are you doing to keep busy?

Being a Canuck, I wouldn't normally sit to watch the inauguration of a US President, but I did yesterday. Maybe it was a little like watching a hockey game waiting for the gloves to come off. I'm happy to say the gloves stayed on. Now let us hope there is some healing. I do miss going across the border, even when it is such a huge relief to come back.

Speaking of which, the organizing committee for Region 2 were attempting to schedule a Rally in York, PA. My thanks to John for sitting in on the Zoom meeting in my absence. John posted two questions on our club Facebook page per interest in attending in June (or a later date if need be) and of the 44 comments I read, I'd hazard it would be a resounding no. I'm comforted by this, knowing everyone is more concerned with staying safe and healthy rather than getting together with a large group of like minded individuals from far and wide.

For 2021 the Ontario club will be offering something different to help address our current realities. We will be offering "CampOuts".

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*Jim says "Olive us are locked down and staying home". (In case you don't know 'Olive' is the name of Jim and Catharines airstream). Hope you chuckled.*

with a new found interest in leatherwork. She has already made some beautiful bags and purses and as I write this Catharine is attempting her first pair of shoes.

"CampOuts" will run simultaneously in different locations and will be smaller in size. The goal being to reduce travel and minimize risk. Our first CampOut (not a Rendezvous) is scheduled for May 27 - 31 at Richmond Fair Ground and Wellington Sports Complex in Fergus. We will have more details to come (if we are able to gather) so you won't find a registration form until closer to the date. (Please refer to the 2021 Calendar of Events found later in this issue.) The only expense will be the camping fee itself as there will be no planned activities or shared meals.

The Summer Rendezvous is still on schedule for the Civic holiday weekend (July 30 - Aug. 2) so long as we are out of lockdown or other constraints. Stay tuned for further announcements.

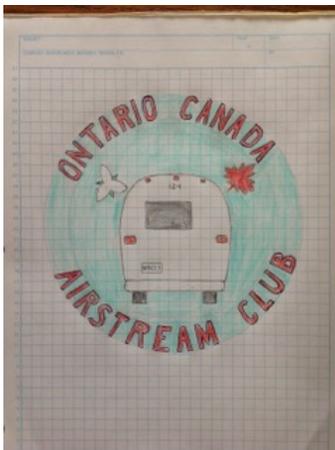
Lastly a huge shout out to all those who took the time to make a submission for our new Ontario Canada Airstream Club logo. As you will remember, we need to update our logo so as to reflect the new International Airstream Club guidelines. As you can see below we have had several submissions. Thank you again to everyone who made a submission. Have a look, and stay tuned, as we need to decide how to select an image and move on from there.

Let's all continue to do our part in getting past this test of our sanity and stamina, stay safe and stay well. In the mean while I'd better get back to cleaning out my attic.

Your President Jim F.

# Logo Submissions

For your viewing pleasure. Have a look and enjoy! No action required at this time. As Jim says, "stay tuned for more info on how we will choose our new Ontario Canada Club logo".



# Member News

## Wishing John a Happy 80th Birthday

Past President John celebrated birthday number 80 on December 31st, 2020, with a surprise 'Zoom' party organized by daughter Julie. Typically, as full-timers, John and Evie would be in Arizona about now. COVID kept them in Ontario, much to the delight of family and friends who'd otherwise miss the chance to spend a little time - albeit remotely - celebrating with John on this very special birthday. Enjoy a few pictures of the festivities below.



**Check us out!** If you own an Airstream and are curious about what being a member of the Ontario Canada Unit and the [Airstream Club International](http://www.airstreamclubinternational.com) (WBCCI) would be like, think about checking us out in person! We invite you to attend one of our events. Of course, event fees apply. See our calendar of events on page 10, and watch for further postings on the Events page of the Airstream Club International website [airstreamclub.org](http://airstreamclub.org)



Thanks Can-Am for all your support!

# Region 2 News

Richard Short, President Region 2



The Mid-Winter IBT meeting held in Sarasota, FL January 18-22 has concluded, and it was a successful blend of in-person and Zoom attendees. This hybrid model of meeting has proven to be excellent and continues to be improved upon by our staff at Headquarters and the

team of on-site club member volunteers. It was reported that 58 rigs were camped at the Sarasota Fairgrounds where the meetings, Club Officers and members were hosted by Region 3. Our travel plans changed, and I attended and participated in the meetings via Zoom. I want to thank our R2 1<sup>st</sup> VP RJ Marquette and R2 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Gary Russo for participating by Zoom as well.

There will be several Constitutional Amendments up for approval at the International Rally Delegates Meeting in July, to include continued efforts to simplify the Constitution and move some sections to Bylaws and Policy where they belong. There will be one to simplify the Amendment process and one to allow for electronic or mail ballots for electing International Officers. That motion will eliminate the need for Delegate Meetings at the International Rally unless there are Constitutional Amendments proposed. One of the results of our push to increase Member Benefits was the approval of a motion to add an additional paid staff person at Headquarters, in the position of Marketing and Communications Director. A permanent charter was granted to the new Indie Streamers Intra-club. More info can be found at <https://airstreamclub.org/indie-streamers>. There was one local club name change and several logos and flags approved. Due to the recent membership dues increase and persistent low interest rates, the Lifetime Membership fund was re-analyzed and an increase in the one-time fee will take effect

August 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have thought about becoming a Lifetime Member of the Airstream Club, now would be an opportune time to do so and save some money.

One of the highlights of the IBT meeting for me is getting to listen to Justin Humphreys, the VP of Sales at Airstream, Inc. give an update on Airstream and the RV industry. His assessment of the sales environment, in one understated word, was BUSY! With no slow down in sight, dealers are literally sold out of product and have hardly any inventory in stock. Airstream is faced with fulfilling thousands of retail sold orders. Although the expansion of the manufacturing plants in 2019 and early 2020 was worrisome when the pandemic hit, it turned out to be perfect timing. The expansion, the largest in the company's history, now includes a 700,000 sq. ft. trailer manufacturing facility, a 230,000 sq. ft. motorhome facility, and a Base Camp shop whose size was increased by 50%. There are now almost 1100 employees in Jackson Center and the company is looking to hire another 200 to 250 people by July! Our Airstream Club is reaping the benefit, with new memberships being added at record pace. Please, take advantage of the efforts of our Membership Chair, Lea Plant. Reach out to those new Airstream owners in your area. Invite them out to a rally, to have some fun and learn about their Airstream and what the Airstream Club can offer them.

It was announced that the 2022 Mid-Winter meeting is now scheduled for 01/17-21/2022 in Savannah, GA at the Creek Fire RV Resort. More info will follow later in the year. The 2021 International Rally to be held this July 17-24 in Lebanon, TN is still a "go", with over 550 rigs registered to date. There is still time to register and reserve your spot. The 2022 International Rally is scheduled for Fryeburg, ME and it was announced the 2023 Rally is now planned for Yakima, WA. I love how our Int'l Rally moves around the country, providing more

opportunities to travel and see this great land. Get out the maps and start planning a trip!

Speaking of planning, your Region Officers are still working on a plan to hold our Region 2 Rally at the York Expo Center in York, PA June 10-13. Concerns regarding the pandemic persist and we are hopeful the release of the vaccines will allow more of our members to feel comfortable to come out and attend. To that end, your local club Presidents joined a Region 2 Zoom meeting I conducted on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the R2Rally and get some feedback. To successfully plan and hold a safe, enjoyable Rally will take a commitment for participation and cooperation by our local clubs. The expense cannot be borne by only 40 or 50 rigs. We will need about 75 rigs in attendance for it to be feasible, with a reasonable Rally fee to cover expenses. Your local club President will be polling you shortly and looking for an indication of your interest in attending. This Rally will be designed with an eye on current local health protocols and best practices to provide a safe environment, with an emphasis on outdoor activities, meetings, and gatherings. Instead of a rock & roll dance band in the building on Saturday night, think about a 4-piece Bluegrass band under a large, open tent in the late afternoon, a delicious, individually boxed Food Truck meal, and an Ice Cream truck! How about a Corn Hole Tournament, with each local club fielding a team? How about a walk around Flea Market, where you post your items outside your own trailer? Group bicycle rides and

small group walks or hikes at outdoor attractions in the area are great ways to have fun and stay healthy, regardless of current health concerns. The health and safety of our members is paramount. As I said at the meeting...this is not something we have to do but it is something we want to do. But we need to know if we plan it, you will come! Please give your honest assessment to your local club President when given the opportunity. **Our next R2 Zoom meeting will be held Feb 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.** Invites to local club Presidents will go out soon.

As I reminded everyone at the Zoom meeting, Region 2 will need a 2<sup>nd</sup> VP to step up and join the leadership team, as my term as your President ends this Spring. Please consider volunteering to continue the efforts of these past few years to Renew Region 2. We have made great strides, have able leaders in RJ, Gary, and others on the Executive Committee but we need a full slate by Spring. With so many talented and enthusiastic members, I am confident someone will step forward. Please feel free to call me anytime to discuss what you can do for the Region. Thank you.

Kathi joins me in sending our best regards to all the members of our 15 local clubs in Region 2.

Rich Short #1512

#### HAVE YOU HEARD OF iOVERLANDER ?

[iOverlander.com](https://www.iOverlander.com) is a free website and app created to help overlanders on the road find their next destination. It is a tool, by and for overlanders, which enables its users to submit, amend and find information and opinions, primarily about places that are essential for the act of over-landing, and secondarily non-essential places that are of interest to a significant group of overlanders.

And what is an overlander? Over-landing is self-reliant travel to remote destinations where the journey is the principal goal. Typically, but not exclusively, it is accomplished with mechanized off-road capable transport, where the principal form of lodging is camping, often lasting for extended lengths of time (months to years), and spanning international borders.

Tips Reprinted from [rvtravel.com](https://www.rvtravel.com)

# Caravan Corner

By Kerry M.

The year 2020 turned out to be a disaster for the Airstream Club's caravan program as Covid-19 restrictions caused wholesale cancellations at the National and the Local Club levels. 2021 is also proving to be a challenge as uncertainties persist about border closures, vaccinations and efforts to control spread of the virus. We all long to get back on the road, traveling with our friends both old and new while exploring the many sights of North America.

To date, it looks like any caravan that crosses an international border will not be proceeding this year. This includes the Lake Superior Caravan planned by Ray Barrick. Knowing that we have a lot of members who are getting "itchy" to enjoy some safe, local travels, Ray is looking at an alternative plan for an Ontario only caravan this Fall. The idea is a 2 week caravan starting mid-September in southern Ontario and making its way north to Lake Superior. The caravan would then tour some of the areas of Northern Ontario that we have all heard about but seldom visit, hopefully with fall colours at their best. If this sounds like a caravan that would tweak your interest, drop an email to Ray [ray@adventure.as](mailto:ray@adventure.as) so that he can assess the potential. Thanks Ray, for taking the initiative to come up with an alternative plan!

The Region 2 'Autumn in the Maritimes' caravan that Betty & I are leading is still a go, but we have our fingers crossed. The caravan is fully subscribed and a substantial standby list is now in existence. If folks can

get vaccinated by August and the Maritime Provinces are re-opened to tourism (all factors out of our control) we should be OK. I suspect that social distancing and masks may still be the order of the day, but we are all learning to live with those restrictions.

Because of the many cancelled caravans across our Airstream Club, there will be a lot of pressure to get on caravans as things open up down the road. Keep your eye on the Blue Beret and the ACI website for caravan announcements and plan to register well in advance for any caravan that you want to join. The waiting lists are expected to be long, so get your place in line as early as possible.

As always, we would welcome new ideas for Ontario Club caravans, and members who want to get in on the fun of planning and leading a caravan. In the 16 years that we have been members of the Ontario Club, I cannot think of a single caravan that had unfilled spaces. If we plan it, you will come! When we can again have an Ontario Rally, we will be sure to plan a seminar on caravanning, especially as we have many new members.

Until we can meet somewhere down the road, stay safe, stay healthy and keep dreaming of those wonderful days of adventure that lie ahead.

Kerry M.

## Hold Those Dates!

Our spring "CampOuts" in Richmond (eastern Ontario) and Fergus (western Ontario) are still on for May 27 - 31, 2021, so continue to hold those dates! We are delaying registration until closer to the dates, just in case COVID throws us a stink bomb. Since no group activities are being planned, the only anticipated cost is for camping at approximately \$37 per night per rig. An update will be included in the April issue of The Trillium.

# Sunshine Corner

By Linda S.

Hello Everyone! 2020 ended very quietly in the Sunshine department and that is a very good thing unless someone was missed. A cheery get well card was sent in December to one of our members, thanks to a friend who sent me a note. So much appreciated! Also, a thank you card was mailed to our Past Treasurer, David P., who faithfully kept us on track for five years. Many, many thanks, David!! Now that would be a life sentence for me! John despairs of me ever being able to keep a set of books but I figure I outshine him in some other department, right?



A few Trilliums back, I told you about a wee squirrel who was prancing back and forth across the ice. Quite entertaining he was! As you can see by the picture on the left, of the Thessalon River, he's not been taking a stroll across the ice unless he has taken up swimming. However, if he has been down the river to Peace Park, and has the ability to read, he'd have been warned.



Apparently he has taken up another task.....making a home out of something or other in our neighbour's boat..... which as you can well imagine is not going over too well with the neighbour! So far, he has avoided our house, not like one of his friends did a couple years back. Perhaps that is because he picked up the scent of a certain feline by the name of Maggy. If he's wise, he'll steer clear! This is her domain.....even her owners know that!

John and I had no visitors over the recent holiday season. It was likely a different Christmas and New Year for many of us. We have done quite well here in the North Covid-wise but low and behold, we are now the colour Orange! I know how hard it is to "stay the blazes" home as one of our Premiers so adequately phrased it! I guess there was some visiting going on here or there. My heart goes out to those whose lives have been irrevocably changed by the loss of loved ones. May we remember to do our part. Perhaps the sign the squirrel read is a good one for us if we change a word or two.

Keep your chin up, check on your Airstream, give her a pat on the side; but most of all, reach for the phone, send a text or email, send a photo.....whatever it takes to stay in touch and encourage one another.

Linda S

# Historians Corner

By Melanie C.

## Looking through the Archives

As I read through the archives of the Ontario Canada Airstream Club I am struck by how helpful and informative everyone is to other Streamers. If you are hoping to travel once this Covid pandemic is under control you might find trips that others have executed of some help as you plan your own getaway.

There are quite a number of binders that document trips that have already been taken...where to stay...what to see and even where to eat. The binders have excellent descriptions and very often lots of photos to illustrate the adventure. If anyone would like to borrow one of these I would be happy to send it along. The following are just some of the titles I have found;

- Trilliums West Caravan 94
- Ontario Memories 2004
- Discover Ontario 2007
- Caravan to Gaspé and P.E.I. 2008
- Caravan Memories - Renfrew to Bozeman 2008
- Trip of a Lifetime - My Journey to Panama 2009

There are also records of trips to Mexico in the 1960's. Early on our Ontario unit had regular trips to Miners Bay Lodge and a campground near Wheatley. I called the Miners Bay Lodge to see how many trailers they might be able to handle but sadly the park is 90% full-time trailers with only 8 spots available at any given time for people travelling through.

I know that I am not alone in looking forward to when we can all meet up again down the road. If anyone has something of interest they would like me to find please ask. The next time we are together I will be asking for help identifying people and places in quite a few photos.



### From the Editors Desk. A little about me!

Most of you will know me as Helen Z. married to none other than, Vern Z. I will be your Trillium editor/ publisher for the foreseeable future. I hope I can continue the excellent quality you have become accustomed to with Kathy B. at the helm. You couldn't ask to take over from a more organized and talented individual. You see, I worked with Kathy for years in Public Health and I knew that if I was to take this on, taking over from Kathy, was the best way to do it. This is my first time putting together a 'newsletter' for public consumption, however I did gather much writing experience in my many years in Public Health. We will see how I transition.



Vern and I started our airstream adventure in September 2017 with the pick up of our new to us 2006, 28 foot Airstream Classic from Can Am (little did we know at the time that this airstream had once belonged to fellow Ontario Club members Mary and Jack .

For us, this decision was not the culmination of years of planning but rather the happy coincidence of finding ourselves; unexpectedly retired, relatively newly married, and through bittersweet circumstance, with a small windfall of money from my parents estate. Not enough to set the world on fire, but certainly enough to get us into a 'new to us' airstream. Vern and I had never owned a camper much less camped. Our purchase was to say the least, impulsive, but has led us to a passion to wander, and a group of extraordinary people.

We spent but 4 nights in our airstream before we left on our first adventure, the 2018 "Salem Eh" caravan to International. Here we were introduced to the club, I swear there was at least 400 years of airstream 'know how' between the 15 couples on the trip. We were like sponges in an ocean of knowledge.

Vern and I left the caravan when we hit Salem to begin our first solo adventure. We covered upwards of 7000 km, traveling the coast of Oregon, tip toed into California far enough to see the 'Avenue of the Giants, over to Crater Lake, then Yellowstone, and then the 'Badlands' before heading for home. In total we spent 72 nights in the airstream before we made our way home, and we were definitely hooked!

In January 2019 we tried our first winter south, travelling through Florida, Arizona, and Georgia. In September 2019 we headed east with our clubs' PEI caravan. A trip which has spurred many a conversation about the possibilities of moving that way.

In 2020 we had plans to sell our home and travel full time until "we got tired of it". We even got as far as listing the house. Like most peoples' 2020 plans the universe had other ideas for us. So for today, we are thankful to still be in our home in Burlington. For 2021 we hope to head east again this fall with the 'Autumn in the Maritime Caravan' . I have taken on the role of 'Trillium' publisher as a way to give back. But just like all plans, we will go where we are called, and time will tell.



Helen Z.

## Your 2021 Executive

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## 2021 Calendar of Events.

Date	Event
May 27-31, 2021	Eastern Spring "CampOut" Richmond Fairgrounds Richmond, ON
May 27—31, 2021	Western Spring "CampOut" Centre Wellington Sports Complex Fergus, ON
July 30 - Aug 2, 2021	Summer Rendezvous Norwood Fairgrounds Norwood, ON
Aug 31- Oct 2, 2021	Autumn in the Maritimes Caravan (Full - Wait list only)
Sept 10 -13,2021	Can-Am's "50 Plus 1" Can-Am RV Centre London,ON
Sept 30 -Oct 5, 2021	Fall Rendezvous Summer House Park Miller Lake, ON