



FTCAC Pirate FYI's July, 2018

November Rally

Plans are in the making for the Installation Rally, November 1-4, 2018, at the Okeechobee KOA. Co-hosts are **Jeanna and Chuck Gorsuch** and **Susan and Eric Arens**. You will receive a registration form, via email, in the next few weeks. Susan Arens is WagonMaster and will collect the camping fee and rally fee. No need to contact the campground to register, as Susan will handle it after receiving your registration. This is the policy of KOA for group registrations. Stay tuned!

Jeanna and Chuck's First Big Airstream Adventure

In April we took our first out-of-state trip with 'Arya' the Airstream. Destination...the Mother Ship in Jackson Center, OH. 'Hound', our F150, performed beautifully in the mountains of West Virginia and Tennessee. Our trip was two weeks total, driving only 250 to 300 miles each day through Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio. We returned through Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia. Since this was our first 'real' trip, we were both excited and nervous at the same time. On most days we split the driving about half so it wasn't too bad.

The very capable service techs at Airstream performed some minor warranty work on Arya and she also got a new bike rack. Everyone was very nice and accommodating. The overall experience was pleasant EXCEPT Jeanna didn't like getting out of bed for a 7:00 am service appointment. The folks at the local hangout, The Hideaway, were very friendly as well.

While we prefer to stay in state parks, we found a nice KOA in Corbin, KY that felt like a park due to its close proximity to the Cumberland Falls State Resort Park. A visit to the waterfall is a must!

After this adventure, we think we are ready for our first caravan!!!!



Chuck at Airstream

'Arya' at the Terraport

A Non-Airstream Adventure

In May, **Eric and Susan Arens** took a 10-day cruise to Iceland, and then spent time touring the UK. Their itinerary included a visit to Dublin, Ireland, where they toured the Guinness Storehouse; Belfast, Ireland, where they visited the site of the Titanic shipyard (note: Susan's great uncle went down on the Titanic); the towns of Reykjavik and Akureyri in Iceland where they drove part of the Golden Circle; saw snow-capped mountains, waterfalls, lava formations and steam vents, and the continental divide; and then visited the town of Lerwick (Shetland Islands, Scotland) where



they saw beautiful wildflowers, lakes, lots of sheep, and of course, Shetland ponies! The nights on the ship were short and the days were long, as they crossed the Arctic Circle. The sun rose in Iceland between 3:30-4:30 am and set between 10:00-11:00 pm.



After the cruise they traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, to visit friends where they toured Edinburgh Castle, the Royal Mile, the Falkirk

Wheel (the only rotating boat lock system of its kind in the world), and saw the towering Kelpies (giant horse heads). From there they traveled to London, England, where they rode the London Eye (giant Ferris wheel on the Thames River); toured the Tower of London; took in the view from the Shard (72-story building); and saw many of the usual icons and landmarks of London. Many of the older buildings were being refurbished, and there were many new skyscrapers being built. They remarked that London is way ahead of its time architecturally.



Susan's favorite part of the trip was spending time with her sister and brother-in-law who traveled with them. They shared many fun-filled days and meals (some good; some not so good), took in quite a few pints of Guinness, and had a lot of laughs. They also all shared a bad cold, which put a damper on things, but spirits remained high.

Eric's favorite part of the trip was the Falkirk Wheel, as well as the stunning skyscrapers in London. He really enjoyed returning home again for a "good" cup of coffee. He said that he likes foam on his Guinness, but not his coffee. After all, there is no place like home!

Photos: Guinness in UK, cold in Iceland, sunny in Edinburgh

North to Alaska

Joe and Tammy Dinneen sent the following comments and many photos from their current travels. We regret we could not publish all the photos sent. We have not received any recent updates. Their notes provide an interesting travelog and a useful campground reference manual.

We departed home May 6th; camped at Top of Georgia for 2 nights. Hiked, biked and met with friends while there. The lower section is usable for camping.

Then stayed at Tennessee Cumberland Park Campground for 3 nights very nice touch with the carport covering their Airstream. Then went to Ohio stayed with friends on their farm on our way to the Airstream Factory. Took the tour while ours was being repaired.

Then visited with family in Springfield, IL; Salina, KS and Elbert, CO with drives on Route 66 a stop to see Harry S Truman's home in Independence, MO and stopping at Denver Intl Airport to pick up Maryann (Joe's sister) to travel with us for the next 3 weeks!



We immediately headed to Rocky Mtn Natl Park! Rocky Mtn NP does not have any hookups. You can use your generator but only in certain camping loops, not all. Excellent hiking in the campground to Sprague Lake easy hike; try to catch sunset views. Drove Trail Ridge Road awesome views at the highest elevation +11,000 ft and it snowed! We saw elk, deer, a marmot and a bear (he was along the road in the woods).

We also hiked Alluvial Falls and at Bear Lake area to Nymph Lake, Dream Lake we skipped Emerald lake since there was too much icy snow. All hikes were

easy treks. This was our 1st month of traveling.

Continuing on our journey; next stop Casper, WY. Stayed at Rivers Edge per great reviews on RVPARKY.com!!

heading to Billings, MT to overnite at Cracker Barrel after sightseeing. Visited the Pictograph Caves showing 4 levels of their living dated as far back as 9,000 yrs. Then visited the Battle of Little Bighorn -Custer's Last Stand also a Memorial National Cemetery.

Next stop Great Falls, MT at Walmart. Visited Lewis and Clark Natl Historical Trail and Giant Springs State Park- 1st recorded by Lewis & Clark in 1805. It's the largest freshwater spring in the country. There are a number of dams along the Rivers Edge Trail - Black Eagle Dam, Rainbow Dam, Ryan Dam on the Missouri River.

Then on to Glacier Natl Park camping in St Mary's. No Hooks but they have hot showers. Also would like to mention the generator rules only allow for 2hr increments we need 3hrs for full battery charging.



More wildlife sightings, in the campground a fox, numerous prairie dogs. Along the road to a trailhead we were able to watch a mama bear and 3 cubs cross the road.

We traveled along Going-to-the-Sun Road East Side. We could not travel the full length nor could we get to Logan's Pass, too early in the season; they were clearing 60-80 ft snow drifts! However, the road was open to Jackson Glacier, on the West side we could travel as far as Trail of the Cedars.

Headed into Canada, we saw bison along the road!

Tidbits

New Name Badges

Thirty-three new name badges were ordered from WBCCI HQ. They were mailed out in June and early July. If you sent your order in to me and have not received your badge(s), please let me know. If you did not yet order your new badge(s), we will be sending in another order in the Fall. Watch for more information to come.

Recycle Opportunity: If you haven't already thrown them out, please save Christmas cards for **Sallie LittleJohn**. Also she'd like to have any greeting cards, not just Christmas ones. She makes tiny, nesting, novelty gift boxes from them.

Remember to save **pop tops** from aluminum cans to be donated at each International Rally.

The editor wishes to thank **Eric and Susan Taylor-Arens**, **Tammy and Joe Dinneen**, and **Chuck and Jeanna Gorsuch** for their contributions to this issue. So what are the rest of **you** doing?

Save The Date

REGION 3



Rally in the Blue Ridge
APRIL 24 - 28, 2019
MARION, NC

"Where Mass Shoot Meets the Mountains"