

Southeastern Camping Times

Volume 25, March 2018

Nancy's Notes

Spring has finally arrived, which means it's time to ready the trailer for upcoming SECU rallies. We have a bunch of rallies scheduled over the next several months, and hopefully there will be at least one or two that you will want to join. From now until December we have rallies scheduled in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and Florida.

The Georgia Mountain Air Saint Pattie's Day Edition was held at Georgia Mountain Fairground in Hiawassee March 16-17. Although the weather had turned cold, it didn't prevent anyone from having fun. There was the usual more-delicious-food-that-one-could-possibly-eat, with pot luck breakfasts and dinners. To work off those meals, campers enjoyed hiking and biking at various parks in the area such as High Shoals Falls, Bell Mountain and Anna Ruby Falls. Open house was held Saturday, showing off some beautiful vintage and custom trailers. Ron Kaes brought his band and played a host of classic tunes for all to enjoy on Saturday night after potluck dinner. Although I was unable to go, Mike went and said he thinks he met everyone in the park.

And that's what it's all about - meeting as many members as we can. That's why Mike and I joined WBCCI and that's why we love our unit. SECU has members from all parts of the country and all walks of life. Engineers, pilots, teachers, machinists, and retirees - we are all Airstreamers who share a love of travel and adventure. We share stories of places we've been and places we want to go, and with that we pick up tips from each other of where to stay and what to do. While I love any and all road trips, it's the ones with our SECU that I know I will meet a new friend and where I know I can look forward to catching up with "old" friends.

In April, Region 3 will be held at Myrtle Beach. The first weekend in May will be the Derby Rally at Stone Mountain where there are lots of fun activities planned such as flamingo races and Derby hat contests. May 18-20th we will have our first rally in Alabama at Noccalula Falls Park. The end of September, join me for the Senior Discount Rally, where we will celebrate my 60th birthday, and hence the ability to officially qualify for most senior discounts. Then in November, grab your apron and join us for the Big Pig Jig Rally at Georgia Veterans State Park. We'll wrap up the year back in Land-o-Lakes Florida and the Jingle Farm Rally.

While Mike and I will be traveling to and from the International Rally in June and July, I encourage you to come up with more rallies to enjoy this summer. As I've said before, it's not

hard to do. Just pick a park, pick a date, and post it on Facebook or let me know and I'll get the word out if you're not on Facebook. You can always email me at nancygore@bellsouth.net.

Meanwhile, have a wonderful Spring, and we'll see you down the road!



Reflections in
Hiawassee, GA



Nourishment

GA Mountain Air - St.
Patrick's Day Edition



Experiencing Nature

Silver In The City, Urban Rally, York, SC Recap

Though this was not a SECU rally, we had a great showing at the event - 7 SECU members and a number of affiliates. Here is a summary by John Leake (edited by Carol Stephens)

"Airstreamers have long been known for their outreach into the communities they visit, it is a large part of who we are. We care, we strive to make a positive difference wherever we go, and we always leave it better than we found it. March 9-11 we did just that...."

On behalf of Terry (Montgomery), Annie, Susan (Leake), myself, and the entire City of York...THANK YOU for making Silver in the City a phenomenal success. 22 rigs paraded into York on Friday afternoon.... My favorite part....I had goose bumps the size of golf balls.

29 rigs parked downtown. Never been done before on the entire eastern seaboard. Trailers represented by NC, SC, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Kentucky.

In lieu of a rally fee, we had suggested a donation of \$20 per rig to P.A.T.H. So.... 30 rigs x \$20 = \$600. We challenged our friends to \$1000. Not only did we meet the challenge, we exceeded it by another \$600!. So in reality, we donated \$1000 more than we originally planned! Absolutely incredible....Thanks so much. We are still gathering the economic impact figures but indications are they are wonderful.

York is a better place because you came. Thank you all for coming, caring, sharing, loving, and giving to our town. You make me proud. See you somewhere down the road.

The last photo in this newsletter was taken by Karen Fritz, Assistant to Director of Public Works at City of York.





Pictured here are Terry Montgomery and John Leake, members of the Palmetto State Airstream Club and co hosts for the Silver in the City Rally held in downtown York, SC., presenting a check for \$1610 to P.A.T.H.....People Attempting To Help. PATH is a multi church sponsored out reach program in York.

Upcoming Rallys

April 25th to April 29th

Sun, Sand, Surf and Silver - Region 3 Rally - Ocean Lakes Campground Myrtle Beach, SC

Contact John Frerking ejfrerking@yahoo.com

May 3rd to May 6th

KY Derby Rally at Stone Mountain - Stone Mountain, GA

Contact Robin Harrison

May 18th to May 20th

We're Going Camping In Alabama Rally - Noccalula Falls in Gadsden, AL

Contact Robin Harrison

June 11th to June 23

Caravan to International - various states

Contact Nancy Gore

September 27th to September 30th

Senior Discount Rally - F.D. Roosevelt State Park Pine Mountain, GA

Contact Nancy Gore



Derby Hat Time, Are You Ready?

Spring Maintenance - Craig Stephens

Ahh, Springtime, warmer temperatures. No need to winterize when we finish a weekend of camping. The trees and shrubs are in bloom, and achoo! Spring pollen!

There are several things we should do to our trailers to ready them for the busier summer season. I say busier because in the SECU we do camp throughout the year. In a couple of weeks, the yellow pollen snow we experience will dissipate, and that is a good time to wash your trailer well, then perform a couple of easy tasks. Let's start from the top.

While you still have out the step ladder from washing your rig, undo the four screws holding the shroud on your A/C rooftop unit and check around inside for dirt, leaves, and insect nests/remnants. Once clean, you can re-install the shroud. Also while you are up there, take a look at the caulk beads around all of the skylight/fans/vent/antenna and make sure it is in good condition (you don't want water getting in). If all is in good shape, you are done up there and can put away the ladder. If you see any problems; remove the old caulk, clean the area with isopropyl alcohol, then apply new caulk.

Next, check all of the Venturi on your water heater and furnace to make sure the spiders haven't filled them with mini webs. Now, take a look at your tires. How old are they? For ST tires (trailer tires) the rule of thumb is to replace them every 3-5 years. (Seriously consider a Tire Pressure Monitor System they are cheap compared to the cost of repair due to a blowout and the subsequent damage that can happen). It is time to head inside.

The often forgotten inside item is to clean or replace (depending on type) the filter for your A/C. In our rigs, the screens are pull out types with washable plastic screen elements. They may not look dirty, but clean ones are essential for good A/C cooling efficiency. Next, take a look at the screens for your ceiling vents and clean them as well if necessary. We always manage to get the stray bug or two laying in there and Carol can't stand seeing them.

If you are still feeling motivated repack the wheel bearings. This needs to be done once a year at a minimum. Those are the big items, so now that the rig is in tip top shape, lets get out and do more camping.

