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## **Some thoughts from Bill...**

*There have been a lot of rallies going on the past few months. The Carolina Balloon Festival, Alumalina, Big Pig Jig and Jingle Farm. I hope everyone had the opportunity to attend one or more of these events to experience the fun and camaraderie of the Southeastern Camping Unit.*

*And now, It appears the New Year will continue right where this year is leaving off. There's the Pre-Canopener New Years Rally, Ring in the New Year at Noccalula Falls and Canopener all in the next few weeks. Then soon after we have the St. Patrick's Rally at [Edisto Beach](#) and the GA Mountain Air Spring Edition in Hiawassee both in March, the Region 3 Rally in April followed by the Scottish Games Rally in May.*

*Even with all of these events we could always use more to allow greater opportunities for all of our members to attend. If there's somewhere you would like to go camping but unsure of planning or hosting, feel free to reach out to myself or other board members. It doesn't have to be an "official" rally. It can just be a few friends getting together for a weekend and letting other members join you.*

*I hope everyone has a great holiday season and Robin and I look forward to catching up with old friends and making new friends at the upcoming rallies.*

*Until next time, let's go camping and have some fun.*

*Bill Harrison  
WBCCI #1558  
President  
Southeastern Camping Unit  
Cell # 678-779-2251  
[BillH723@yahoo.com](mailto:BillH723@yahoo.com)*

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## **Upcoming Rallies**

### **2018**

#### **December 28 - January 1**

Ring in the New Year at Noccalula Falls, Gadsden, AL . For reservations call (256) 549-4663, tell them you're with the Southeastern Camping Unit. At \$25 a night the price is already great but the campground also offers these discounts: AARP, Good Sam, Military, and Seniors (55 & over)

#### **Whenever you arrive - Jan 2nd**

CanOpening - For you early arrivals, we have a 'few' things scheduled - The Arkansas Razorback Unit will be providing a good ol' fish fry for dinner on New Year's Eve - and will be followed by fun & merriment until the Flamingo drops! For a full **pre-Canopener schedule** - [download here](#).

### **2019**

#### **January 3 - 6th**

Canopener 2019, [Topsail Hill Preserve State Park, FL](#). Can you believe we are just a week or so away from our annual freeze-out? For a **full schedule**, [please download here](#).

**March 15 - 17**

St. Patrick's Rally, Make your reservations for [Edisto Beach State Park, SC](#)

**March 22 - 24**

Hiawassee, GA Reservations can be made by calling the [Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds](#), (706) 896-4191.

**April 4 - 7**

[Airstreams on Maintstreet](#)

Sponsored by the Big Bend FL Unit will be held in [Havanna FL](#) (near Tallahassee). [Please click here for a full description](#).

The 70 spots have filled, but a stand-by list is available. To register for the rally, copy and paste the following URL to your browser. Complete the registration form and click "Submit" to send it to Jay Thompson, rally registrar. <https://form.jotform.com/81989177648176>

**April 24 - 28**

[Region 3 Rally](#), Tom Johnson Rally Park Marion, NC. For more information, [click here](#).

**May 16 - 19**

Scottish Festival Rally,  
[Yarberry Campground](#), Lenoir City, TN

Reservations can be made [starting midnight Jan 1 online](#) or [Jan 2nd by phone 865-986-3993](#) Ticket sales for the Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival and Games will go on sale in February - so stay tuned for more information!

**July 20 - 27**

[62nd WBCCI International Rally](#), [Meadow Event Park](#), Doswell VA  
Click Logo for more information.



**August 4 - 10**, [Region 3](#)

[Galax Old Time Fiddler's Rally](#), [Galax, VA](#)

Reservations at [Coolbreeze Campground](#) or by phone (276) 236-0300

**September 5 - 8**, Airstreams on the Square

Our friends in the Razorback Airstream Club cordially invite SECU members to the 2nd urban rally in downtown El Dorado, AR. Coincides with the SouthArk Outdoor Expo on Saturday - a day of live bands, car show, photo contest, dog show, and hands-on activities and exhibits for outdoor enthusiasts. Water is available for fresh water tanks at the courthouse and a dump station is nearby when leaving. Reserve a site through Jan Heavener at [bassnjan@gmail.com](mailto:bassnjan@gmail.com) Rally fee to be determined.

**November 8 - 10** Hiawassee, GA Reservations can be made by calling the [Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds](#), (706) 896-4191, on or after December 4th!

### **Other WBAC Rallies**

[Check here for something happening near you!](#)



Facebook



Website



Instagram



WBAC



Airstream

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## **A Brief But Enlightening History of SECU**

The SECU was founded by a group of 12 couples who met in Jackson Center, Ohio (at Alumapalooza) in June of 2013. The next weekend, we met with a group at an Air Forums event at Cloudland Canyon State Park and added a number of additional folks. We requested and were granted a provisional Charter in July of 2013. We held our first Unit Rally in September of 2013 with 8 rigs in attendance. We held our first organizational meeting and elected Roy Beavers as our First President in October, 2013 at a meeting in Hiawassee, GA. In January of 2014, we were granted a Unit Charter with 35 Charter Members. Many of our members celebrated the formation with a Happy Hour gathering at the Canopener.



Our philosophy is very simple. We like the phrase “We have never tried this before, we may like it!” Those who gathered at Alumapalooza were tired of doing the same thing at every rally. They wanted to experience new things, in new locations.

We seek to hold our events with a minimum of formalities, an absence of customs, and no established protocol. We seek new locations at public parks and public venues, where folks are sure to find new experiences in their Airstream.

We want new members and long time members to feel they are experiencing our rallies for “the first time”. We don’t want to repeat or establish any real “traditions” other than finding new and different experiences.

*Contributed by Matt Hackney*

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## Show Your Airstream Pride!

These vintage-inspired decals of the Southeastern Camping Unit are available for \$2 to cover printing costs. It can be used anywhere except as a replacement for the WBCCI decal on your Airstream.

Email Beth Hackney at [eroney@aol.com](mailto:eroney@aol.com) or catch her at a rally.



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## The Best Thing I Ever Bought

Up until last year's cold nights at Canopener, we never used more than one 30lb tank of propane a year. So each spring, I would take that tank to my local propane filling site and have it topped off and we were good for the season. However, during the cold nights and even some days when our heat pump was not usable we had to fire up the propane sucking furnace to keep warm. So every morning I would check the propain and I do mean Pain, to see if the regulator had switched to the second tank. But this only let me know that one tank was empty and my only way to know how much propane remained in the second tank was to lift it up and guesstimate the weight. Not very accurate and so several times I just punted and took both tanks to the filling site. This wasn't to much trouble when the filling site a couple of miles from the Sate Park was open. Unfortunately as we got closer to New Years they closed and the next place open was not that close. So my mission when we returned from Canopener was to find a propane gauge that would give me an accurate reading on the level in both tanks. Over the years I've used temperature strips, gauges that you put between the regulator and tank and a tank scale. None of these worked any better than my un-calibrated arms lifting each tank.

Enter AP Products Mopeka ultrasonic LP tank sensor. This system works with your smart phone or if your still using a flip phone, you can buy their monitor. The system is easy to install and only takes about 5 min. The tank sensors attach to the bottom of the tank with a built in magnet and you press on 3 smart spacers along the bottom ring of the tank. My testing has shown the system to be accurate to within +/- .5lbs. One advantage of using the smart phone app is the readings are in



percentages and the monitor only gives you readings in 5 increments from E to F. I don't know why you would need more granularity than that, but the anal Engineer in me just wants to know percentages in 1% increments!

At the time of this newsletter a 2 sensor system is going for \$79.98 on the company's website. <https://mopeka.com>

*Contributed by Gordon Fleming*

Do you have an item you'd like to recommend? Please send a write up to:  
[twopeas5778@gmail.com](mailto:twopeas5778@gmail.com)

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### Did you know...



Airstreams built funeral coaches during the 1980s. There were only 32 units made with a motorhome chassis and shell. Today they are rare and very collectible. The concept was to carry the deceased along with the immediate family and the flowers. The Airstream could seat up to 12 people.

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### 2018 Jingle Farm Rally

Lisa & Brett were, once again, outstanding hosts for the 2018 Jingle Farm Rally. About 20 Airstreams were in attendance at the Land O'Lakes farmstead - recently remodeled with an amazing pavilion and a fireplace to boot!

A little rain didn't deter hiking, biking, skeet shooting - and the occasional meal or drink (LOL). Thanks also to Millie, Beth & Matt for getting us all settled in and cozy - and to everyone for pitching in on cooking - and eating - duties.





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## Membership/Treasurer's Report

We currently have 138 regular members and 59 affiliate members; the treasury stands at \$754.01.

These numbers will drop at the end of the year when final renewals are due.



If you are a Regular Member and have not renewed for SECU, Region 3, Unit 012, please go to [WBCCI.org](http://WBCCI.org) and select Region 3, Unit 012, Southeastern Camping Unit - it only costs \$1 to join SECU.

If you'd like to join or renew as an Affiliate Member, catch one of the Board Members at a rally or send your contact information (name, email, & WBCCI#) plus One Crisp \$Dollar Bill to Beth Hackney, 3519 Stevens Way, Martinez, Ga 30907

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## SECU SWAG

1. **3'x5' Flags** – Roy Beavers.
2. **T-shirts** – **check with Roy Beavers for availability. Since these can only be ordered in bulk, any extras are available each time shirts are ordered.**
3. **Caps, Jackets, polos, etc.** – **contact Allison Hurner at A&W Designs Allison Hurner. Wes and Allison can embroider many**



items, whether they are supplied by you or ordered from them.

4. **Metal signs, banners, stickers and car tags** [Build A Sign](#) Use this file for your artwork. Click on the picture and save it to your device. It is a 2.03MB JPEG file. This image is copyrighted and may not be altered. By copying this picture, you acknowledge you will not change the design in any manner.

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## Got an idea for the newsletter?

Want to share a photo, a great item you've purchased, maintenance or technology tip? Or maybe you have a great idea for a rally? What about a question that you have?

Please drop a note to: [twopeas5778@gmail.com](mailto:twopeas5778@gmail.com) and we'll get it to the right place!

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## 2018-2019 Board

Bill Harrison, President  
Carol Stephens, Vice President  
Kate Coast, Secretary  
Beth Hackney, Membership/Treasurer

Trustee (2 Year Term) Denise McMullin Fleming,  
Trustee (1 Year Term) Debbie Landers

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