

Community Update

AirstreamForums.com is busy! Last month (September 2005) we had more than 72,000 visitors from over 25 countries... simply amazing! Currently we have 9,400 registered members. Interestingly, at any onetime, guests outnumber members online almost 4 to 1.

To meet the needs of our growing international membership we have added a "Global 'Streaming" forum. This forum deals with issues unique to international Airstream ownership and is the first of it's kind on the web. Other new forums include a "Dollars and Cents" forum dedicated to money matters and insurance issues for Airstream owners and a "Winterizing" forum - just in time!

Help wanted: Forums Newsletter Editor
We need a willing volunteer to publish a regular newsletter about once a month. Interested? Please PM any forum moderator and we'll put you to work ASAP.

New Features!

Recently, the forums have undergone a facelift. One of the coolest new features is an integrated rally calendar that enables members to sign up to attend rallies online. This substantially helps rally planning. Other upgrades include larger file sizes for photo uploads, improved chat room functions, a campground reviews section, and the hottest classified section on the web. Best of all it's still FREE!

Many of our policies have been tweaked as well. We are a member friendly, primarily non-commercial forum. Our members are free to discuss issues without concerns of offending or being pressured by vendors, or being bombarded by advertising. We do however, recognize the value of participation by commercial vendors with an Airstream focus. Vendors are now badged as commercial entities and there is a vendor forum set up for commercial content. Vendors may not solicit business in threads or quote prices but now that you know who they are, you may contact them with your questions about their products.

Member of the month.....

3Ms75Argosy Join date: August 6, 2002. Post count: 488 Current project: 1975 Argosy 26'

Marc, wife Mona and kids live in Seattle Washington. Marc is a registered nurse and Mona is a kick boxing instructor, don't mess with Mona. They are in the middle of rehabbing a 26 foot Argosy including stripping off all the paint and polishing the exterior - very ambitious.

Trailer chatter: I had been trolling ebay for quite some time looking for a trailer. Mona wanted to camp, and I needed "creature comforts." Mona was the one who suggested we get a trailer. After looking at SOB's, and getting discouraged at their construction and looks, we started looking at Airstreams. I found the trailer on a local online ad - we fell in love with it, and the cheap price.

Favorite section of the forum? I like to look at the "new posts" section. I'm addicted! I probably check into the forums four times a day. I think if I added up the time reading, I'd be surprised - and scared! I love reading about people's efforts to restore their trailers - Pictures speak a thousand words. There are so many great ideas out there - I just wish I had more money and time to do them.

Most challenging/interesting ownership issue? Well..., many. I learned how to sew to make the cushions myself. I've basically had to rebuild all the systems; the longest has been stripping the paint and polishing it. In retrospect, if I had the money for a cyclo, I'd buy one, but I'm happy with the skin so far. The paint was so faded and peeling on the endcaps, I was slightly embarrassed to be seen with it. Now, I get lots of compliments and "ohhs, and ahhs." Little known fact about you? Well, not so much of a secret to those with aluminitis... I stay up (WAY TO LATE) dreaming of new ways to redo the interior of the Argosy. I just may gut the trailer this winter!

What's a VAP? VAPcast is a podcast that discusses vintage Airstream topics. Each episode hosts a lively discussion from the nets top Airstream hobbyists. Discussion topics are widely varying and include: Purchasing, restoration, rallies, travel and much more. The VAPcast relies on user participation and many forum members have participated. Listen while you surf or download and listen while you polish! Check it out. www.thevap.com

www.airstreamforums.com

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Lets rally! Forum rallies are rapidly developing a reputation as the coolest camping trips around. They are usually laid back get togethers with casual schedules - anyone may attend - no membership required. The rallies are growing in number and popularity. They cater to folks with day jobs, and are often weekend-only bashes. Organize a rally today!

Meet the staff.....

jcanavera Join date: March 4, 2002 Post count 3,097
Current trailer: Airstream Classic 30' w/slide out.

Jack & Patty Canavera live in a suburb of St. Louis Missouri. Jack works as the Telecommunications Manger for America's Center (St. Louis Convention Center and the Edward Jones Dome) and has owned an Airstream for almost 5 years. He is the web master for the Greater St. Louis Mo. WBCCI unit.

Trailer chatter: My first Airstream was a 2001 27' Safari. I traded in at Bill Thomas Camper Sales in Wentzville MO. in November 2003 for a new '04 Classic SO.

Most challenging/interesting ownership issue? Didn't know that it needed Walbernizing, nor did I realize the sick feeling I would get in my stomach every time the weather forecast includes hail. I've become a compulsive weather radar watcher.

Favorite section of forum? No particular section although I like working with the new bee's or users looking to buy. I am a graduate of the school of hard knocks. I take special pride if I can pass on knowledge about those missteps I've made along the way and save folks some of the grief I've experienced.

Strangest forum moment (that you can talk about)? Maybe not strange but early in my moderation duties where I was attempting to join some threads together and made a wrong choice and sent the thread to cyberspace. Thankfully I was able to email a few of the posters and we recreated the thread. A very sick feeling when you realize that you have no undo button.

Little known fact about you? My wife notes that I take better care of our Airstream than I do of our house....(she's right!) Our first camper was a 1966 VW bus (not a camper).

Dream trailer? 34' Limited SO and a small custom painted Argosy