



The Peach state

Caravanner

Top of Georgia Airstream park

Volume 65 issue 2

www.topofgeorgia.net

706-878-3590

NEWS

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The TOG Board of Directors announced to the membership via email on June 11, 2026, that Adam Higgins resigned as President. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

In accordance with TOG bylaws, Don Doerr is now serving in the position of President and Bruce Peace is serving in the position of President-Elect. The TOG Board has appointed Christine Dinizio as interim First Vice President.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear TOP of Georgia family,

Our top of Georgia park was a busy place during our spring rally and clean up. Twenty-eight members worked for two days cleaning fixing and improving the grounds and appearance. A kitchen crew of Jocelyn Cindy, Maria, Janice, Judy and others did an amazing job cleaning all the cabinets and appliances as well as pavilion closets. Our treasurer Laurie and husband Wayne completely reorganized the back office where records dating back to the 1990s were stashed. The result was 10 boxes of all records going to certified shredding, some to archives and the rest to trash. Mike and crew installed power to the old TV shed so that the battery-operated mower, leaf blower and weed trimmer can now be charged. Our notable tree expert John, with the help from Floy and a digging crew planted 5 new trees.

The renovation of all the utilities below the bridge was completed and the area opened on April 1st; section C and D are open year-round. All Wi-Fi in this area is fiber optic cable due to Jesse and crew's hard work. A Starlink antenna was installed on the host shed which is a backup to our Windstream Internet fiber coming into the park to enable the host to continue functioning and making phone calls during Internet outages. The big water tank by the tractor barn was also cleaned. This necessitated a welder cutting an access port into the tank to shovel out 20 plus years of well sediment. Several flushes were done followed by sanitization. However there still is some old sediment in all our park water pipes so always open the freeze proof valves for a few seconds before connecting your trailer.

Finally, Christy Halvorsen, a routine contributor to Blue Beret visited the park during the spring rally/clean up and worked side by side with members. She also made a presentation detailing her travels in her Airstream named Coddiwomple. Please check your last edition of the Blue Beret for a complimentary article about Top of Georgia.



Fresh Faces and Heartfelt Thanks

Bruce Peace President Elect

We've had a little shifting of the chairs lately! Following the resignation of our president, our bylaws guided a natural shuffle, with the President-Elect and 1st Vice President moving up the ladder. We are absolutely thrilled to announce that Chris Dinizio has stepped up as our new 1st Vice President for the remainder of the term. We are so excited to have Chris's energy and insight on the board—she is a fantastic addition to our team!

A Little Transition Note

On a personal note, it has been such a pleasure serving as your 1st Vice President. This role gave me a front-row seat to the daily operations of our park, and I've truly enjoyed getting to learn the "ins and outs" of what makes this place tick. I'm now looking forward to finishing out the year in my new role as President-Elect and continuing to work alongside all of you.

Our Volunteers: The Heart of the Club

Now, let's talk about the real MVPs of our club: our volunteers! A massive, heartfelt thank you to everyone who has given their time, elbow grease, and heart over the years. You have built the foundation of this community, and we are so grateful for every hand that has helped us along the way.

If you've been thinking about getting more involved, we'd love to have you join us on one of our committees. Volunteers are the engine that keeps our club and park running smoothly, and we simply couldn't do it without you. Ready to jump in? Please reach out to our President, Don Doerr, or grab any member of the board to chat about how you can lend a hand!

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

Henry Ford

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joeclyn Peace

Membership chair

Welcome to the Club: Rolling Out the Red Carpet for Our Newest Members!

There is nothing quite like the thrill of seeing that iconic silver aluminum gleaming in the sunlight, hitched up and ready for the next great adventure. This week, our community is growing even brighter as we officially welcome a fantastic group of new members to the ****Top of Georgia Airstream Club**** family!

Whether you are seasoned road warriors or just getting a feel for your first towing setup, you have found a community of passionate, helpful, and adventurous spirits. From beautifully preserved classics to brand-new models hitting the highway for the first time, our collective caravan is richer because you're in it.

Please join us in giving a warm, aluminum-sized welcome to our newest members:

****Welcome to the Club****

* ****Jayne & John Dicus**** (Alpharetta, GA)

* ****Joseph & Marianne Dion**** (Sharpsburg, GA)

* ****Jodi & Brent Maddox**** (Helen, GA)

* ****Ilya Rogers**** (Ellijay, GA)

* ****Thomas & Annette Bowman**** (Hiawassee, GA)

* ****Carl & Patricia Bowman**** (Blairsville, GA)

* ****Warren & Sharon Fore**** (Statesville, NC)

* ****Susan & Roy Abney**** (Orange Park, FL)

* ****Tabb & Ruth Adams**** (Gatlinburg, TN)

* **Scott & Lynda Christensen** (Oakfield, GA)
* **Paul & Margaret Holman** (Waleska, GA)
* **Lynn & Jim Soltys** (Hiawassee, GA)
* **Eddie & Debbie Correa** (Flowery Branch, GA)
* **Mark & Kim Saporito** (Oxford,AL)
* **David Brandi & Sandy Grant** (Alpharetta, GA)
* **Stephen Butler** (Bayfield, WI)
* **Julie & Dean Stevens** (Suwanee, GA)
* **Sandra & Rebecca Conde** (Salt Lake City, UT)
* **John Meyer** (Tampa, FL)
* **Geoffrey Harper** (Moab, UT)
* **Sharon & David Easto** (Ranson, WV)
* **Denise & Mark Riordan** (St Petersburg, FL)
* **Jeffrey & Jana Bruski** (Sarasota, FL)
* **Nicolas & Mary Villaume** (Decatur, GA)
* **Julie LaMothe & Brad Kotch** (Fayetteville, GA)
* **Donnie & Jackie Thomas** (Jefferson, GA)
* **Dave & Rosemary Plum** (Virginia Beach, VA)
* **Thomas & Connie Sheriff** (Macon, GA)
* **William & Linda Gail Blackwell** (Hanahan, SC)
* **Peter & Clemencia Lipka** (Dade City, FL)
* **David & Tara Crace** (Kennesaw, GA)
* **Nicolle & Joe Shalley** (Chiefland, FL)
* **Michael & Debbie Webb** (Alpharetta, GA)
* **Jeff & Maureen Akers** (Midland, GA)
* **Dennis & S(Woodstock, GA)

What's Next?

We can't wait to swap stories around the campfire, share favorite rally spots, and hear about your upcoming travels. If you see any of these new faces or rigs at our next gathering, make sure to stop by, say hello, and pass along your favorite road tips!

****To our new members:**** Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions about upcoming club events, technical maintenance, or just want to know where the best local boondocking spots are. We're so glad to have you on the journey with us.
See you down the road!

LOVING CONCERNS

Praises and Sympathy

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Claudia Linton Litton as she deals with the loss of mobility related to her ALS diagnosis.

Ron cannon and Ann as they hope for the progression of the blood cancer and kidney issues to stop or be very slow.

Lane Carpenter as she adjusts to life after the death of her beloved husband Bob in January.

Justin Gaines for peace and strength after the death of his young wife Amy in April.

Donald and Patty Hughes as they care for their parents

Praise and thanks from Clara Ellis Ellis;

Joe and I faced a cancer diagnosis this year. After the initial shock of learning I had lung cancer, we felt God's grace and mercy leading us through this valley. Our friends at the top who knew about it offered their prayers and support. We will know the final results of the radiation treatments in June. Of the many assurances I found in God's word, this one is always a part of my morning Jesus time." For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all." 2nd Corinthians 4:17

Betsy Deegan has had great news!

The renal tumor recently removed was benign. She and Mike are truly blessed and thankful for the prayers on their behalf. " Let everything that has breath praise the Lord" Psalm 150:6

To submit loving concerns

Barbara Jumper

770-241-3793

Toglovingconcerns@gmail.com

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

Top of Georgia Airstream 2026 Elections

The electronic ballot will be sent out to your email on file with ACI. Voting begins on August 1, 2026. All candidate bios are contained in this edition.

List of candidates:

PRESIDENT ELECT – Bruce Peace

1st VICE PRESIDENT –Christine Dinizio/Nadine Johnson

TREASURER – Laurie Murphy

SECRETARY – Sydney Ryanczak

DIRECTOR – Wayne Murphy/Janice Systre/Nonie Ravenberg/John Colbert

NOMINATING COMMITTEE- Becky Hopcraft/Nate Williamson/Matt Henderson



Bruce Peace – Candidate for President-elect

I am honored to share my background and my continued commitment to the Top of Georgia Airstream Club. My wife, Jocelyn—who currently serves the club as Membership Chair—and I reside in Rome, Georgia, and since I retired from a 47-year career in banking in 2020, we have embraced the Airstream lifestyle in our 2019 Classic.

My commitment to our community deepened significantly during my tenure as First Vice President. In this role, I worked directly with the Park Management Committee to streamline our operations and proactively address the management needs of the park. When the Park Manager resigned, I stepped in to serve as Interim Park Manager, gaining hands-on experience in the daily administration and maintenance of our shared facility.

Furthermore, following the resignation of our President, I assumed the role of President-elect to ensure continuity for the remainder of the term. I am now running for President-elect for the upcoming year to continue this important work.

My professional background includes extensive experience in information technology management, policy development, facility management, and regulatory compliance. Prior to my time at the Top, I served on the Board of the TigerFlight Foundation and as Governor for the Optimist International Organization, where I led a non-profit with 1,600 members and 70 individual clubs. This background has been instrumental in navigating my recent leadership challenges, reinforcing my commitment to transparent, membership-focused governance.

I believe the Top of Georgia Airstream Park is a vital asset, but I am equally dedicated to fostering our broader community through increased member engagement, virtual education, and rallies beyond the park. I remain guided by the philosophy of Wally Byam: “Let’s not make change, let’s make only improvements”.

I am eager to continue this work as your next President-elect and welcome your ongoing input as we keep our club vibrant and relevant. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have questions or suggestions regarding our shared future.



Hi, I'm Christine Dinizio! My husband Mike and I have been members at the Top of Georgia since 2024 when we purchased our first Airstream. We quickly recognized what makes the Top such a special place through visits, rallies, and hosting! After retiring from a career in education, with 18 years in school leadership, I am looking for an opportunity to contribute to the Top of Georgia community by seeking the 1st VP position. In this position, I would support the maintenance of the Park and Club by working collaboratively with the Board and members to ensure the continued success of TOG!



Nadine I. Johnson, BRN 6683 4701 16th Ave N.

St. Petersburg, FL. 33713 727-418-1333 Deanie.martyn@yahoo.com

OBJECTIVE

I love the Top of Georgia Airstream Club and I want it to flourish.

EXPERIENCE

Twenty-five year Top of Georgia Member & Volunteer

My experience includes hosting for over ten years and proficiency in the use of Bonfire software.

I have assisted the Rally Chair and committee with rallies for the past four years.

I recently organized our 2026 Youth Rally.

I have organized our Patriotic Celebration for five years.

Servant Leadership is my philosophy, where a leader's primary goal is to serve and empower others, rather than exert control.

I worked 20 years in public schools as a teacher and am intimately familiar with the importance of privacy, confidentiality, and respectful treatment of all.

As an employee of an electronic company who provided communication equipment for our military, I worked as a statistical analyst and used Excel spreadsheets, databases, and word processing software.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Music from the University of South Florida, 1995



Hello fellow Top of Georgia members!

My name is Laurie Murphy and I am a candidate for the Treasurer role for the Top of Georgia Airstream Club. As many of you know, I served in this role for the current year and would like your support to continue working with the board and the club for the next year.

My husband, Wayne, and I have been members of the Top of Georgia Airstream Club since 2020 and have met so many wonderful people in the park - not to mention having a great time enjoying activities such as croquet, bingo and, of course, lots of good food and company!

I retired in 2020 from The Walt Disney Company as a Senior Manager of Financial Accounting for Disney Financial Services. I worked for several other companies during my career including Darden Restaurants and Universal Studios. My education consists of a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Master's of Business Administration degree as well as a Project Management Professional certification.

Outside of traveling in our Airstream and taking cruises, I also am an avid Pickleball player and an ambassador for USA Pickleball for our county. I play in a few tournaments a year and enjoy teaching new players about the game! I also enjoy walking, hiking, and a good book!

Thank you for your consideration!



My family and I have loved being part of Top of Georgia since 2019 - enjoying camping, hiking, fishing, and Jeeping in the mountains. Professionally, I'm a Software Development Leader, where I lead teams, facilitate workshops, and manage complex programs. I'm proud to have served as Secretary of the TOG during the last year, running our online board meetings, organizing agendas and minutes, and sending communication to our members. I'm excited to continue to bring my organizational expertise and passion for the TOG to this position and help make it a better place for everyone. Thank you for your consideration!



Janice Sastre

Hello my name is Janice Sastre and would like to be considered for the position of Director in the upcoming Top of Georgia Airstream Club election. My professional experience includes skills in information technology management, Project Management. Specifically in the implementation of new systems and changes to existing systems.

I have two sons, a lovely daughter in law and a wonderful granddaughter. I have been a member of Top of Georgia since 2023 and an active participant helping with various club rallies such as the Fall installation and Spring cleanup. I have also enjoyed hosting.

Top of Georgia is a special club and I have met so many wonderful people since joining.

As director. I will concentrate on being your voice/advocate and bring any suggestions, ideas or concerns to the board. Looking forward to making Top of Georgia an even better club than it already is.

Thank you for your consideration.

Janice Sastre



Hi, I'm Nonie Ravenberg and I am asking for your support for my candidacy as a 1st year Director to represent you in management and direction of the club's affairs.

I retired from the event management business on March 1, 2018, and my husband and I became owners of our 2005 Safari 28 the next day. We named her Girasole and joined the club under BRN 30030, our Decatur GA zip code. We travel with our entertaining blue-eyed monster cat, Wolfgang, who is famous since being published in the January 2022 issue of the Blue Beret.

From 2007 to 2019, I volunteered for the Decatur Book Festival, creating the position of Stage Captain Supervisor. The role included defining and documenting operating processes, training 60+ volunteer Stage Captains each year, and supervising them across 19 stages on Labor Day weekend festival days. I was recognized for this work as a City of Decatur [Hometown Hero](#).

We have Airstreamed across a good part of the country and completed several Girasole DIY interior renovation projects. Including: creating a custom shelving and bin system for the upper lounge locker; replacing the galley sink, countertop, and appliances; stripping upholstery off the dinette and lounge structures and recovering them with laminate; sewing new covers for the ten upholstered cushions; and replacing the Ozite wall covering with something way more attractive.

I have also volunteered for our club, planning and leading preparation for Taco Night at the Top, working TOG spring cleanup days, and heading a pouring station at the Grapes & Grains Mega Tasting in Sedalia and York International rallies. Now I find myself ready to give more time in service to the club, with your vote.



Hello! My name Wayne Murphy and I would like to be considered for the position of Director in the upcoming Top of Georgia Airstream Club election. I am a U.S. Navy veteran and retired Deputy Sheriff from Orange County, FL. I also served as a member of the board of the Homeowners Association in our subdivision. Since retiring to Blue Ridge, GA in 2022, I have been active in the Pickleball community and, most recently, was Vice President of the Blue Ridge Pickleball Club. I also serve as the Operations Manager for our charitable tournament, the Fannin County Paddle Battle. My wife, Laurie, and I have been an active Airstreamers since 2019 including three years as full timers. I have been a member of the Top of Georgia since 2020 and an active participant in club rallies including hosting, spring cleanup and kitchen assistant. As a director, my goal is to solicit input from other members and to bring ideas and suggestions to the board for consideration. I would also like to help facilitate infrastructure improvements and upgrades and assist with promoting the park for sister rallies and as a destination for all Airstreamers.



John Colberg

I graduated from Auburn University in 1985, with a BS in Forest Management. Shelley and I have been married 35 years, with two sons, Benjamin (Kaitlin) and Charles, and one grandson, Theodore (Teddy). I am retired, having been employed by the Georgia Forestry Commission for 30 years in various positions, ending my career as the agency's statewide program manager for Forest Water Quality Protection. I spent another five years as the County Arborist for Rockdale County. I have been in elected church leadership in both the United Methodist Church and later in the Presbyterian Church. I was a Cub Scout leader for many years when my sons were growing up, serving as Cub Scout Master for five or more years. Shelley and I bought our Airstream in late 2022 and have thoroughly enjoyed becoming members of Top of Georgia and the greater Airstreaming community



Nate Williamson –

Nate has been with his high school sweetheart, Joanne, for 53 years. Which, if you think about it, means he isn't too afraid of commitment. He retired as a helicopter pilot after 45 years with the first 21 years in the U.S. Army. Management periods at various levels occurred throughout Nate's flying career. A large part of his & Joanne's retirement dream was to own an Airstream and travel around the country, and it has come to be. The Airstream community has been a true joy and the camaraderie is unsurpassed. In retirement Nate has more time to continue genealogical pursuits for both his and Joanne's side of the family, as well some general puttering around the house along with all the other delights of owning a home.



Hello! My name is Becky Hopcraft. You may have seen me at The Top walking with my goofy boxer, JoJo. I am seeking your support for a position on the nominating committee in our organization.

I am a wife (to Ed), a mother, grandmother and friend. I have lived in Texas, Virginia, Puerto Rico, Louisiana and Florida as a child of a naval military father. I have lived in Kansas and Georgia as an adult. I am retired from a career in public education as a principal in Gwinnett Co (a metro Atlanta suburb).

I learned as a school leader that my time was best spent in what I called “management by wandering around.” That style of communication also served me in wandering around my neighborhood, our world, the US and campgrounds; always learning, learning, learning.

We are novice airstreamers; beginning in 2019 with a Bambi and now with a Flying Cloud. We found a welcome at The Top where I began wandering around talking with folks and taking notes on what to do, how to fix “stuff” and where to go...but it wasn’t until we began to volunteer as hosts that we truly connected with the airstream community that is so unique at our campground.

I appreciate your consideration of my request to give back to all the mentors who have influenced my airstream journey by electing me to the nominating committee.



My wife Nancy and I have been members of ACI and TOG since 2017. We live in Dahlonega, GA, and have two children and seven grandchildren, whom we see frequently. We haven't traveled much over the last six years, as my wife's mother came to live with us in 2020. However, I have really enjoyed bringing some of the grandkids to the Youth Rally at TOG for the past several years.

In my free time, I enjoy tinkering with vintage cars, cooking on my Big Green Egg, gardening, traveling in our Airstream, and spending time with family and friends.

Best regards,
Matt Henderson