



The Peach State Caravanner

Fall Edition



Property Managers,
Rick Sibly and Tom Baker



Dave Adams



Lovely



Jocelyn Peace working hard

In This Issue:

- Pg 2 President Letter
- Pg 3-5 Park Notices
- Pg 6-8 Volunteer Corner
- Pgs 9-11 What Fun We Had
- Pg 12-13 Upcoming Events
- Pg 14 Around Helen
- Pg 15 From the Park
- Pg 16 Loving Concerns
- Pg 17 Schedule/Contact

President's Letter



As my term as your President comes to an end, I wanted to thank you all for trusting in me to serve as your President. It truly has been an honor and pleasure.

The 2023 board has accomplished many things this year: Some of which follows:

- Our revenue is up this year. More people are visiting the park.
- Sister Rallies have been a big success this year.
- We completed a comprehensive rules review and update.
- Bylaws updated to reflect international required changes.
- Updated Host manual.
- Implemented new monthly-parking-procedures, which includes background checks on our monthly and long term guests. Increased safety for our guests.
- Continued upgrading our internet and Wi-Fi system.
- Performed a comprehensive insurance audit and adjustment.
- Developed new contractor bidding and purchasing procedures. All subcontracted work in the club will now be under a written contract with verified contractor insurance.
- Implementing a new registration system and Text Alert system.
- Park upgrades include ongoing pedestal replacement, upper shelter roof, creek repair from floods, new ice cream machine, new golf cart, new fans in the main pavilion, pedestal signage and more.

One again, thank you for allowing me to serve as your President and Jaime as your First Lady. I look forward to working as Treasurer on the 2024 Board and to continue to serve our wonderful club.

Thank you,

Doug

From the Park

TOG Takes Steps to Improve Internet / WIFI at the TOP

By Jesse Stone

Internet at the TOG is very good, but improvements scheduled for this winter will make it better and more sustainable. Improvements will particularly be seen in the A, C & D Sections of the park.

With the installation of new power pedestals and waterlines in the A-section, new underground conduit is also being laid to carry communications cable to a new WIFI access point near Site A9. (Access Points connect your iPhone/ TV to the internet through radio signals). The WIFI access point currently on the A-section shelter will be relocated to a power pole near site A17. This will improve WIFI signal to Airstreams by providing two overlapping WIFI access points in the A-Section.

This winter we are also going to extend our Fiber Optic network from the main building to the lower shelter of the park. This will greatly expand the speed, capacity and reliability of the internet traffic coming from the bottom of the park. We hope this will also address the issue with calls dropping that are made from the lower part of the park.

We are planning to install two Automatic Transfer Switches (ATS) into the emergency communication power system. The ATSs will simplify the process the host uses to switch to generator power. This upgrade will also enable us to rapidly maintain WIFI service in the A and B Sections of the park during power outages.

To enhance long-term supportability for the TOG Internet / WIFI System, we are training five volunteer club members on how to troubleshoot and maintain the system. The training session is scheduled to occur in mid-October. Training will include two days of instruction and one day of hands-on adjustments to the current Internet / WIFI system.

The TOG Board understands the value our members place on staying connected while visiting the TOG. The Board is continuing to invest in the Internet / WIFI infrastructure to ensure robust and reliable communications is available to meet our members' needs now and into the future.

NOTICE

ON OCTOBER 16, 2023, WE WILL CONTINUE PARK IMPROVEMENTS TO SITES A-1 THROUGH A-10.

THERE WILL BE INTERRUPTIONS IN WATER THROUGHOUT THE PARK, INCLUDING THE LAUNDRY AND THE PAVILION. THESE INTERRUPTIONS SHOULD LAST NO MORE THAN 24 HOURS.

PLEASE WORK WITH US AND BE PATIENT AS WE MAKE THESE CHANGES TO IMPROVE OUR PARK.

**BRAD SINGLETON
PRESIDENT-ELECT**





Reminder!

Long-term, non-permanent guests are welcome to stay for up to ten months, but it's necessary to take a two-week break before your next stay. To ensure a seamless experience, we recommend planning ahead and noting your departure date.

[TOG Park Rules](#)



Have Questions -Contact the Host Coordinator
at Infotopofgeorgia@gmail.com

We Need You! 2024

BE A HOST AT THE TOP OF GEORGIA AIRSTREAM PARK



With over 300 members, our Georgia Unit offers a beautiful park to enjoy year-round. Swing, hiking, biking, and socializing while taking in the stunning scenery. Come host at the Top of Georgia in 2024!

14255 GA-75,
Helen, GA 30545



- Earn Free parking
- Meet New People
- Free Laundry

<https://form.jotform.com/222917908549166>



VOLUNTEER KITCHEN MANAGER NEEDED for 2024 SEASON



- Plan rally meals and purchase ingredients
- Coordinate with other members interested in preparing a rally meal
- Oversee kitchen volunteers (to include food prep, serving and kitchen clean-up)
- Keep tabs on kitchen appliances and arrange maintenance as needed
- Free parking during rally week

Contact Nancy Sibly nancysibly@gmail.com to discuss the position and begin training while she's available!

**ONLY 1 MORE RALLY, PLEASE, COMMUNICATE WITH NANCY AS SHE WILL BE RETIRING
AT THE END OF THE SEASON!**

Editor for Caravanner needed for 2024 season!

The Caravanner has been a long-standing tradition at the Top of Georgia for 62 years! It's a way to inform our members of upcoming events and provide a lasting archive for future members of the Park!



Every editor brings their own unique style. No experience in editing is required....simply a willingness to "play around" and find your own story-telling style.

Editors do not have to contribute to content (unless you want to); only "edit" the articles submitted by board members, committee heads and other volunteer writers.

Only 6 newsletters per season, usually timed a couple of weeks before a Park Rally!

Anyone interested should contact Christee Fontanez at Christee@mediadvine.com so we can discuss the particulars.

**ONLY 1 MORE ISSUE, PLEASE, COMMUNICATE WITH CHRISTEE AS SHE WILL BE RETIRING!
AT THE END OF THE SEASON!**

Welcome your 2024 Board members:

President: Brad Singleton

1st Vice President: Jiji Haque

2nd Vice President: Jessica Bailey

Secretary: Mike Deegan

Treasurer : Doug Ralston

2nd Year Directors: Sam Fontanez & Jess Stone

1st Year Directors: Donn Gray & Rick Sibly

Nomination Committee: Nadine Johnson, Glen Kornahrens & Karen Cardoza



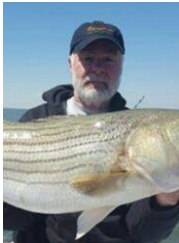
Brad Singleton
President



Mary Haque (Jiji) for
1st Vice President



Jessica Bailey
2nd Vice President



Mike Deegan
Secretary



Doug Ralston
Treasurer



Rick Sibly
1st Year Director



Sam Fontanez
2nd Year Director



Donn C. Gray
1st Year Director



Jesse Stone
2nd Year Director

LABOR DAY 2023 RALLY

by Nancy Sibly



We had a full park for the Labor Day weekend with 80+ participating in the rally and many more enjoying our beautiful mountain setting.

Vanessa Wilkerson treated us to a yummy array of appetizers on Wednesday evening while Robert stayed home in Vidalia to keep an eye on Hurricane Idalia. No problems and he joined us later.

Thanks, Vanessa.

On Thursday some of us explored the quaint little town of Blairsville, then met up with the rest of the group at one of our favorites, Jim's Smokin' Que. (Gotta have 'que in the mountains.)



Nancy Sibly & Clara Ellis



Lane Carpenter & Faye Murrell

Jiji has been busy contacting local businesses to get some awesome bingo prizes and had lots of help calling bingo with candidates for our elections on Saturday helping. That's one way to get our full attention.

Kim Malone put together a Game Night for Friday and I'm proud to have discovered a new talent, getting a cookie from my forehead to my mouth without using my hands. Mumble, mumble, munch, munch. She and her team had goodie bags with treats for all the winners.



Dick Sells

We had a Ladies' Get-together discussing travel as a female and the health benefits of yoga, a craft fair, and, of course, an ice cream social.

We really had a full house for the Business Meeting and Elections on Saturday morning.

We were fortunate to have many people running for Board of Director positions. It's gratifying to see so many interested, especially some of our newer members.



Jessica Bailey teaching yoga with Wally's assistance



Jackson and Kat Elder

The highlight of the weekend was the Bavarian dinner prepared by Jackson and Kat Elder. We didn't lose power this year, but there sure was a lot going on in the kitchen as they turned out brats, red cabbage, sauerkraut and German potato salad. It was all delicious.

Thanks, Jackson and Kat!



Jesse Stone showed up in full Bavarian regalia and several of the women wore dirndls supplied by Nadine. Of course, Nadine would have a closet of dirndls, and even several shirts for the men.



MaryAnne Meeks



Clara Ellis



On Sunday, Brother Donn (Gray) led a lovely Worship service focusing on kindness, we had a potluck in the afternoon, and at 5:00 everyone circled their chairs for an outside concert by our favorite Helen musician, Christian Jones.

In between all of this, we caught up on each other's travels, news, and just enjoyed ourselves.
Hope you'll join us the next time.





Top of Georgia Airstream Park

October Rally and Installation, October 11-15, 2023

Country Roads

Wednesday, October 11

6:30 P Rally Registration, Dick and Judi Sells
Adults \$25; Kids 8-18 \$10; < 8 free
Snacks and drinks
Welcome, Doug Ralston

7:00 P Bingo & Popcorn, Jiji Haque

Thursday, October 12

8:30 A Breakfast: Eggs, bacon, grits (Bring set-ups –
Plates, utensils, cups, napkins)

10:15 A Visit Duke's Creek Falls, Helen
Easy hike, beautiful falls*

6 – 9 P Road trip: Music & Bingo at
Jumpin' Goat Coffee, Cleveland*

Friday, October 13

8:30 A Breakfast: Pancakes + sausage (Bring set-
ups)

10:00 A Line Dancing at the Pavilion with Nadine

2:00 P Board Meeting @ Pavilion

6:30 P Rally Registration

Saturday, October 14

10:30 A Seminar: Locks (no bagels),
Mike Deegan
Don't get locked out. Know your AS
locks.

1:00 P Ice Cream Social,
Floy and Barbara Jumper

6:00 P Dinner @ Pavilion*

7:00 P Installation

Sunday, October 15

10:00 A Worship Service

(Please do not move your trailer during service.)

*Oktoberfest at the Festhalle in Helen is free on
Sunday afternoons and is lots of fun. German food
and oompah music. They MAY have beer as well.*

NOTES:

** Please sign up for these activities if planning to attend.*

Membership dues: pay by 10/15 to get name in Directory.

October 6 – 8, 2023

Low County Carolinas Airstream Club will be having a sister rally at the Top!

They have invited our members to participate. The rally fee is \$10 and they would like to know in advance if anyone from our club wants to participate so that they have a final headcount.

So far planned events are:

- Friday evening: Visit to Helen for Oktoberfest (participants responsible for their own costs)
- Saturday morning coffee
- Saturday evening dinner

AED & CPR TRAINING

Learn Livesaving
Skills

Top of Georgia
Airstream Park
Helen, Ga
9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.



Saturday
October

28

Upcoming CPR/First Aid training. The BLS training fee is \$30 and HeartSaver is \$55.



What's happening around Helen!

**Sautee Nacoochee Center Campus
Monday, October 31st**



The annual Trunk or Treat will be held Monday, October 31 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on our outdoor stage and lawn RAIN or SHINE.

This event is a wonderful, fun filled, family event and includes trunk or treating & costume contest.

The Great Helen Duck Race

A purple poster for the 'GREAT HELEN DUCK RACE'. It features a cartoon duck wearing a hat and a life preserver. The text on the poster includes: 'GREAT HELEN DUCK RACE', 'OCTOBER 21, 2023 • 4PM PAUL'S MARGARITA DECK', 'FAMILY FUN TO BENEFIT HOMELESS CHILDREN AND A CHANCE TO WIN \$5,000', and 'For duck tickets & information, call 706-865-7725 or visit the FPWH Facebook Page'. A price box on the right says '1 for \$10' and '5 for \$40'.

The 8th Annual GREAT HELEN DUCK RACE benefiting Family Promise will be held during Oktoberfest in Helen on October 21.

Race begins at 4pm.

Location:
Paul's Margarita Deck
8537 S Main St Helen, GA 30545

Helen Oktoberfest

**Helen Festhalle
1074 Edelweiss Strasse
Helen, GA 30545**



Join us at the Helen Festhalle for the OFFICIAL Helen Oktoberfest celebration!
The Helen Oktoberfest is the longest running Oktoberfest in the United States.

Admission

Adults

Monday - Thursday: \$10.00

Friday/Saturday: \$12.00

Friday/Saturday pass: \$20.00

Sunday: Free!

Active & Retired Military: Free with a military ID!

Kids

Under 6: Free

Age 6 - 12: Half Price

From the Park

ATTENTION!!

** Do you have a photo and story for "The Archives" you would like to share?

Please, email Christee Fontanez at Christee@mediadvine.com so that our new members can appreciate the 60 years of fun and fellowship and work that has made the Top of Georgia what it is today!

A note from Rick and Tom

Property Management Team would like to thank David Cardoza, Mike Deegan, Don Doerr, Donn Gray, Mark Malone, and Rod Wilson for all their hard work in the park. 4 big air fans, cart batteries installed, and water pipe repairs in the pavilion.

All of Section B and Section A-11 through A-20 are complete.

Section A-1 through A-11 will be under construction, October 16, and complete by December 20, 2023. This will provide new electrical pedestals, 30/50 amp for A Section, the laundry, shop, pavilion and water hydrants. With this work we will remove the 3 utility poles behind the Host building and provide power underground to this part of the Park.

With these 3 utility poles we will be able to build the pedestrian bridge over Andrews Creek that was damaged and removed last year.

Airstream for Sale!



FOR SALE: 1991 Airstream Classic Limited 60th Anniversary Edition.

This "Gold" model was built to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Airstream Company. Only 60 of these rigs were built. It was to be the biggest and most expensive Airstream Travel Trailer to date when it was sold, retailing for \$60k brand new in 1991 and measuring 35' 1". It still holds the record as the longest standard production Airstream Trailer ever built. I think it has every luxurious feature that you can get in a '91.

Water heater and refrigerator use AC or gas.

Two furnaces - LR and BR.

I have all hub caps for it in storage.

Includes two mounted TVs, 250 watts solar panels, hitch, rear stabilizer jacks

Overhead AC unit also heats.

Needs some DIY repairs or take to dealer. Located in North Augusta, SC. \$20,000. (A \$5,000 reduction)

Email me for more info or to make appointment to see it - jeflanders@comcast.net or tel 803 278 0984 - you MUST leave msg.



2020 19' Caravel \$63,900

Stone Mountain, Georgia



2020 19CB Caravel. Only used 7 times. Still smells new. Single owner, no pets, no smokers. Located in Stone Mountain, GA. Road ready and includes: Airstream bike rack, Hitch with sway bars, back up camera, 30 amp power cord, 30-50 amp adapter, surge protector, fresh water hose, black water hose, new outdoor rug 9x12. Potential delivery available.



Find contact information:

[HERE](#)

Or call/text 404-771-9920

Our Continued Prayers

Mike King - Please be in prayer for our long-time friends and fellow Top of Georgia members, Mike and Pat King. September 24th, Mike had a successful quadruple bypass surgery. The Dr. expects Mike to be back on his feet shortly. Pray for Mike, Pat and those who will care for them.

Their address is:
126 Trent Trail
Cleveland GA 30528

A special update from Pat:

“He is still sleepy. He is in a room and doing better. Walking seems to be the word for today.”

Claudia Litton - Thank you for continuing prayers for Claudia as she works to regain her strength.

If you are experiencing a difficult time or know of someone who is, please, let me know.

Barbara Jumper
bwjumper13@gmail.com
770-241-3793

The Peach State Caravanner
Top of Georgia Airstream Park
14255 Hwy 75 N.
Helen, Georgia 30545

The *Peach State Caravanner* is the official publication of the Georgia Unit, ACI, published six times a year.

Membership address changes to:

Jaime Collins, email tog airstream@gmail.com or call (404) 433-7268

Georgia Unit, ACI
 Top of Georgia Airstream Park
 14255 Hwy. 75 N, Helen, GA 30545
 Telephone 706-878-3590
 Web site: www.topofgeorgia.net

Editor, Christee Fontanez
 Telephone 407-276-1593
 Email christee@mediadvine.com

2023 Top of Georgia Airstream Club Rally / Events

Rallies held at Top of Georgia Airstream Park unless otherwise noted

Date	Event
3/28 – 4/02	Region 3 Rally – Ocean Lakes in Myrtle Beach
4/10 – 4/16	Spring Rally / Volunteer Days
5/25 – 5/29	Memorial Rally / Buddy Rally
6/24 – 7/01	International Rally, Rock Spring, WY
7/04	Patriotic Day
7/19 – 7/23	Youth Rally
8/30 – 9-04	Labor Day Rally / Elections / Buddy Rally
10/11 – 10/15	Fall Rally / Installation
11/23	Thanksgiving Potluck
12/09	Christmas Luncheon

2023 Officers:

President – Doug Ralston

President Elect – Brad Singleton

Vice President – Jiji Haque

Secretary – Kat Elder

Treasurer – John Meeks

Directors Year Two – Nadine Johnson and Rod Wilson

Directors Year One – Sam Fontanez and Jesse Stone

Past President – MaryAnne Meeks

