

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Breanna Buhr/Matt Rindone

JMPR, Inc. (818) 992-4353

bbuhr@jmprpublicrelations.com

mrindone@jmprpublicrelations.com



Airstream honors long-tenured associates at Service Awards Banquet

JACKSON CENTER (May 10, 2018) – Every year, [Airstream](#) celebrates its long-tenured associates. Recognition begins with those employees who have worked at Airstream for 20 years, and moves upward through the years in five year increments.

“This event honors the associates who have made Airstream more than just their job,” said Airstream Senior Vice President of Operations, Mark Wahl. “These folks have made Airstream their life’s work.”

The 2018 banquet was held on April 13 at Greystone Castle in Sidney with a dinner and awards ceremony. Twenty-four associates were honored for their combined 835 years of service.

“I have always said Airstream is a family, and this group really exemplifies that,” said Airstream President and CEO Bob Wheeler. “Every year this is a humbling event. We recognize the contribution of these individuals, but you cannot deny there is a camaraderie that links them all together as a group.”

Two of this year’s group – Gene Evans and Bob Sanford – were recognized for their 50-year service.

“It’s obvious,” said Sanford. “You would not stay this long if it wasn’t a fantastic company to work for. They treat their people fairly, and they reward that. It’s nice to see the company grow.”

Russ Armstrong – recognized for 45 years of service – agreed.

“It’s been a privilege to have worked with a first-class company for all these years,” Armstrong said. “The leadership at Airstream has a vision that reaches into the future.”

Working together for multiple decades, Sanford and many of his colleagues have grown together in their adulthood and watched many of their friends retire along the way.

“You grow into a family,” he said. “We’ve watched each other’s kids grow up, graduate, get married. You really evolve together.”

Less than a decade ago, Airstream’s average employment tenure was around 20 years. While recent growth to meet demand has brought that average down, the average tenure is still above five years.

The following associates were recognized:

- 50-year Associates: Gene Evans, Bob Sanford
- 45-year Associates: Russ Armstrong, Gary Shaner, Bob Thomas, Nick York

- 35-year Associates: Mike Brown, Doug Burch, Deb Gates, Joni Leininger, Roger Markley, Judy Powers, Matt Ragland
- 30-year Associates: Tim Burch, Dan Froehlich, Randy Goings, Rick March, Sr., Tim Maxwell, Kathy McVety, Bill Schmidt, Lee Scott, Ed Wilkins
- 20-year Associates: Steve Shortridge, Mark Wahl

About Airstream

Airstream, manufacturer of the iconic “silver bullet” travel trailer, is the longest-tenured recreational vehicle manufacturer in North America. Following founder Wally Byam’s credo, “Let’s not make changes, let’s make only improvements,” Airstream has remained a timeless classic. Byam’s vision for Airstream trailers was to use these design- and quality-driven products to allow people to dream, travel and explore the open road. A subsidiary of Thor Industries, Airstream is based in Jackson Center, Ohio, where a team of craftsmen remains dedicated to preserving the brand’s legendary reputation for quality and innovation. For more information, please visit <http://www.airstream.com/>, call 877-596-6111 or contact Airstream, Inc., 419 West Pike Street, P.O. Box 629, Jackson Center, Ohio 45334.

More news about Airstream, our dealers and current travel trailer and touring coach models can be found at <http://www.airstream.com/>. For the latest news on Airstream, “like” us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on Twitter [@Airstream_Inc](#) and Instagram [@Airstream_Inc](#).