

Region One
Blue Beret October 2020
By: Rick Cipot

Region One is starting to see a little light at the end of the tunnel. Possibly a little too little a little too late' possibly too many "littles"! Currently we are seeing travel restrictions getting better each week however they do have a tendency to fluctuate which does make forecasting camping weekends still a bit difficult. Good news, Reserve America is providing full refunds if you need to change plans due to the pandemic. Months ago I stopped feeling down because we have had to cancel trips and rallies and started to focus on the reality of the pandemic. This is real, people are getting sick around the world and many are being lost to this horrible disease. I refuse to get political over this pandemic and focus on what I can do to contribute to the battle. We will not someday wake up and find it gone. This disease will be with us for a very long time and each and every one of us does have the power to slow it down, prevent the spread and help those who are elderly and quarantining in place. Reach out to local services to find out ways you can help.

Historically we would be sharing stories of apple picking, pumpkins and a long list of things we enjoy doing during October and the balance of the fall season while sitting around a campfire with your WBAC family enjoying the crisp autumn evening air. The leaves showing the great colors of a New England fall, treasure hunting in little antique shops, and finding those wonderful roadside farmers stands. Covered bridges and sneaking in a little fly fishing in that Massachusetts river before the season comes to a close with the first snowfall. What I call Norman Rockwell moments. They will return and so will so much more as we all work together to beat this thing.

In the meantime, an interesting item came across my desk the other day which I thought was worth sharing; State Maps applied to Airstream doors. You know, that outlined map of the United States that has individual colored states that you apply to your map as you travel this wonderful country of ours. So what actions are needed to actually fill in a state on your map? The Golden Rule appears to be your "final" destination. That is to say you live in Kentucky and your trip is to California. Under the Golden Rule the only state you can fill in is California. Try explaining to your fellow club members how you got there if you only filled in California. The next best process would be to be able to fill in every state you actually parked your Airstream and spent the night. Some folks fill in a state even if they just drove through it on their way to somewhere else. Others feel you need to get your feet down on solid ground to claim a state. By the way, flying over a state definitely does not count.

I suppose you could have your own special guidelines for filling in your own map. Something like, I used a restroom in Virginia, Fueled up in Georgia, or did a jig on the side of the highway in front of the welcome to Oregon sign. Whatever you decide please be safe, stay healthy and keep the shiny side up!