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Save the Date

July 17-24 International Rally
Lebanon, TN

October 6-10 Region 12 Rally
Paso Robles, Cava Robles

President's Letter

Hello, Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club Members! If you haven't already, it's time to start venturing out, camping and exploring California and beyond! Our Airstreams can take us anywhere our heart desires. Some places may already be on our event calendar, but our club is known for finding new places to explore and enjoy, so please share your ideas and suggestions.



The Airstream International Rally is coming up next month, July 17– 24 in Lebanon, Tennessee. This is the largest annual gathering of Airstreams in the world. There are seminars, exhibits, site seeing tours and more! To sign up or learn more about this event click on the following link: <https://airstreamclub.org/node/45470>

I'd like to personally welcome all of our new members to GLAAC! My best advice for you as a "Newbie" is to sign up and attend an event. I can guarantee that you will be glad you did! You will meet fun and interesting people, share exciting adventures and stories, and create life-time memories—all while learning more about camping in your Airstream.

While out on the road, I discovered some inspirational advice cards created by "Your True Nature". Here is one worth sharing! - Pam



Bringing the Silver to Silver Lake

by Carolyn Tomlinson

Despite a late spring storm that made traveling a concern, fifteen people in eight rigs were treated with a lovely location next to Silver Lake at the foot of Carson Peak in the Eastern Sierra. At 7,200 feet and 97 acres in size, Silver Lake is one of four beautiful lakes in the June Lake Loop area. Some of us pulled into the park while the snow was lightly coming down, and were thankful to settle in with full-hookups as the frigid temperatures dipped down into the low twenties Friday night.

In the days to follow, the skies cleared, the temps warmed, and people started exploring the picturesque area. We just had to stroll across the street to the Silver Lake National Forest Campground to stretch our legs (or our four-legged friends' legs) and enjoy the lake and fantastic scenery. There are beautiful hiking trails lined with aspen and willow trees, a nice café and store, trout fishing, and kayak and boat rentals available within walking distance. At the end of the day, we shared our stories and adventures at our lively happy hours sitting around a roaring fire in the resort's picnic area.

Some members took a short drive to the beautiful Double Eagle Resort for a relaxing spa experience or delicious dinner while others ventured over to Bodie State Historical Park, a ghost town that looks pretty much the same as it did during the Gold Rush. At June Lake Brewery, one can dine on the delicious meal-worthy hors d'oeuvres prepared at the adjacent Ohana Food Truck making that a fun outing for beer lovers. Others went a few miles further to the famous Whoa Nellie Deli (in a Mobil Gas Station of all places!) for a delicious lunch with Mono Lake as a backdrop.

Mono Lake is an interesting area to visit as Ken and Kay Hoevel discovered on one of their outings. Kay writes, "Not too far off the beaten path of Highway 395 sits Mono Lake. Mono Lake was at the heart of the water rights grab for the City of Los Angeles in the 1930's, and this gigantic basin feeds the aquifer below. It is a lovely walk through the grass and dunes to the tufa mounds. The tufa mounds are a very interesting feature of the lake. They are remnants of artesian springs that came up through the bottom of the lake. Geologically, the lake sits in an enormous basin and has no outlet; as a result, its waters are very salty."



Carolyn & Coco

Looking for a place to relax and enjoy majestic scenery? Silver Lake is the place! Just seven miles off Hwy 395, the resort was established in 1916, and claims to be the "Oldest trout fishing retreat in California's Eastern Sierra." The eastern gate to Yosemite is only an hour away. The lake gets its name because of the color of the water on overcast days, but we were blessed with beautiful skies for most of the rally. Local wildlife includes bears and mountain lions, but most of us felt fortunate not to have any sightings other than ducks and other feathered friends, mule deer, and squirrels. Although from a safe distance, I have to admit I was hoping to see a bear.

The sites were a bit close together, and for some (or should I say one nameless camper) they could be difficult sites to back into. But never fear. The resort offers a free parking service by an experienced fork-lift driver who was more than happy to help!

It was such special time and for many, the first rally since the beginning of 2020. How refreshing to be able to socialize in a "normal" way...without masks as everyone was vaccinated. The only thing that could have made this rally even better is if more of our GLAAC friends had been able to join us!

The Pismo Vintage Trailer Rally is Back! submitted by Nancy Jackson



After postponement in 2020 due to COVID, on May 13 we were back participating in the Pismo Vintage Trailer Rally at Pismo Coast Village RV Resort. Once again this exciting event put a smile on my face and great joy in my heart. Along with our ‘big’ Airstreams, Susan Barrett and I have vintage rigs and have become ‘vintage pals’ over the years, in addition to being members of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club.

With nearly 300 trailers of all makes and models, there is so much to see including vintage automobiles and elaborate staging, both inside and out, using camping decor from years past. Many trailers are so lovingly restored that when you step inside you would often hear, “Oh my, this is so incredible!” The Pismo Vintage Trailer Show is a very nostalgic turn back in time and one that I never tire of!

Other members of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club participating in this annual event with their vintage rigs were Gregg & Catherine Landaker, Jim Stuebe & Denny Kennedy and Barry & Liz Marks.

North Beach On My Mind submitted by Nancy Murphy

Love vintage rigs and don’t want to be left out of the Pismo Vintage Trailer Show? You can still attend the show by staying right next door at the Pismo State Beach/North Beach Campground with its spacious sites. Whether for the Vintage Trailer Rally or a weekend away, the town of Pismo Beach is a short stroll/bike ride away.

Every year club members reserve these sites (six months ahead of the date!) where we gather with friends around the campfire. At this annual, loosely organized event we had a great gathering while braving gray, damp and cloudy weather, however, that didn’t stop Happy Hour! Hosted one evening by Don and Marion Kuhns and one evening at the Murphy’s, both were casual and members had a good time.

Our Favorite Campground Lynda & Jim Polk

We have a Top Ten list of favorites but the one that stands out from all the others, due to its Alaska location, was our dry camp site in Hope. On the Kenai Peninsula, just a couple hours south of Anchorage, we pulled in and had a stunning view overlooking the Cook Inlet. We toured the town, population about 100, and were invited to dinner by locals in their turn-of-the-20th-century cabin.

All campground reservations are made through the Seaview Cafe which serves up pretty darn good fish & chips and live music is enjoyed Thursday-Sunday eves.



Meet a Member!

After growing up tent camping with our families, we continued this form of camping for many years after we were married. As the years went on, a bigger tent and cots came into the picture along with the portable, folding potty, but those self-contained rigs looked so comfortable with a shower and a bathroom. At one point, we considered a tent trailer, but after watching people set theirs up, we decided to look at a “real” trailer.

Unbeknownst to Tim, I had been checking out those iconic Airstreams on Craigslist so I had some idea of the cost. On a trip home from the mountains one weekend, we passed a dealership that had several of those beautiful Airstreams lined up in the front on their lot. We decided we’d just go in and look to see what the big deal with these lovely aluminum pods might be.

We didn’t buy that day, however, I think you might be able to guess the rest of the story. Just a few days later, we learned there was a new dealership near us. We went to “look” but we came away the proud owners of a used 2008 19’ International. We enjoyed this rig for over a year before we purchased a 25’ Flying Cloud—the “Annie B”.

She has been to Alaska, the Airstream Factory, Mount Rushmore, numerous National Parks, to our daughter’s wedding in South Carolina, and many more wonderful places in the USA and Canada. Traveling this way was our freedom during COVID. We never tire of packing up and taking off. We love meeting up with our Airstream friends and enjoy meeting new people along the way.



Nancy & Tim with Finley and Tucker

We continue to enjoy the Airstream lifestyle and hope to remain on the road for many years to come. Being part of a club has given us the opportunity to meet wonderful lifelong friends and share places we might never have discovered on our own. Additionally, we have YEARS of combined experience at our disposal and Airstream owners are always ready and willing to help. We highly encourage you to get out there and enjoy the freedom and comfort your Airstream will afford you.

Meet a Member!

Way back in time, 2008 was another year of uncertainty with the housing bubble collapse and Great Recession, but an opportune time to purchase an Airstream!

At the time, I was fortunate enough to work for a company that sent me traveling to different parts of the world, staying in beautiful cities and hotels. My territory was California, and driving around in my Camry and living out of a suitcase was beginning to wear thin. The perfect answer to this situation, a much larger suitcase with wheels that could handle the highway.

After a brief consideration of a TAB trailer, I decided to go all the way around the Monopoly board and commit to my dream trailer, an Airstream. Jim was completely on board. At that time, the Bambi was priced higher than the 25', and the dealers were begging us to get their inventory off the lot. Basically, our new 2008 25' Safari LTD SE FB was still in "bubble wrap" when we picked her up at the dealer.

Since then, it has been a great journey and experience, meeting many lifelong friends, sharing experiences, food, drink, and even meeting each other's families.

The 25' trailer is still in the family, and has come to great use during the pandemic, as we have had a houseful. I named her Sheila, an Aussie name for a girl, and she has proven to be a steady and strong rig. There were also many adventures when we added the Basecamp to our fleet. It was a great ride, an executive tent on wheels. Easy-to-park and tow, but not so easy when making up the bed. So after 2 years and a few tears, the Basecamp was traded in (per Jim's request) to a more "age appropriate" trailer, my 19' Tommy Bahama. We call her the "Bar on Wheels", but Tommy has proven to be a very durable trailer, and we used her for a tour to the Arizona desert.



Yvonne & Jim Savage

Life has us busy with grand babies, and most of the traveling I do solo in the Tommy. Most of the time I am meeting up with a few Airstream buddies or adventuring on my own, parking at an Elks or taking advantage of the Harvest Host membership. Last year, during the pandemic, I took a solo road trip to Williams, Arizona in the 25' trailer. It was a great adventure cruising along Route 66 and off the well traveled roads.

Hope to see you down the road and I'm looking forward to hearing about your Airstream story!

Q&A with Yvonne

What are three things you always keep in your Airstream?

Wine opener, coffee press and a Leatherman Wave. This great, multi-purpose tool has gotten us out of a few jams!

What three things are always in your pantry/refrigerator?

Olives, peanut butter, and tuna. Any of these will cure hunger in a pinch.

....continued on next page

Q&A with Yvonne from previous page, continued

Best camp experience to date?

Tough one, but the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is a stand out. The drive from Murrieta to the desert with a stop over at Arcosante; a few nights in Williams, AZ and Gallup, NM all set the tone for the Fiesta experience. With 740 balloons in the air and the best smoked turkey legs, this event cannot be beat. Plus, sharing the experience with good friends!

Arcosante was another grand experience. It was a very small groups of five GLAAC rigs. This would be hard to duplicate, but would love to try!

Where are you headed next?

We have our compass set on a trip to the Southwest and meeting up with John & Susan Barrett along the way. I booked a touristy trip which includes the train ride from Williams, AZ to the south rim of the Grand Canyon with lunch included. Then its onto Zion National Park and other undetermined locations along the way. Of course, Arcosante on the way home.

Any tips for fellow Airstreamers?

Join the Elks, which is a great cause donating to the needs of children. And when one is weary or cannot locate a campsite, there is usually a lodge to stop and spend the night, have dinner and relax before the next day's journey.

And get a tire monitor as recommended by so many fellow Airstream club members.

Favorite book to read on the road?

John Steinbeck's, *Travels with Charley*. I actually met a couple who duplicated in almost every detail Rosinante they were so obsessed with the novel.

Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club Member Photo Directory

Our club is in the process of assembling its first ever membership photo directory and we need your help! This directory, when completed, will be posted on our Members Only website and will be helpful in putting a face to a name. To date we have about 1/3 of our membership participating, but of course we would like to have a 100% response rate! Please send your photo (jpeg format works best) to Carolyn at [cibtomlinson@cox.net](mailto:cbtomlinson@cox.net).

Silver Lake adventures!



Pismo Vintage Trailer Show, Pismo Coast Village RV Resort



Thank you to our members who submitted photos for this issue!



Editor's Note

While our club newsletter is formatted, edited and delivered to your inbox by the editor, it is truly *your news* which makes it interesting. With this in mind, I am reaching out to all our members for participation.

- 1) With each issue we'll have an opportunity to *Meet a Club Member!* Members will be tapped to find out what you enjoy about Airstreaming; how it all began; any lessons learned on the road; what you did prior to club life. Maybe share something we don't know about you!
- 2) We have also incorporated *My Favorite Campground* where you simply write a few sentences about your favorite site and include a photo taken at the campground. With all the rolling we do, this will certainly inspire club members to try a new location!

Feel free to send one, or both of these items to me at anytime and they will be included in future issues of the Urban Update.

- Lynda

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Our club's fabulous urban logo can be applied to just about anything that Business Lands End stocks!



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