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July 2021

Summer of Fun

Vol. 1 Issue 3

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The next installment of "Summer of Fun" for the Colorado Airstream Club took place in Durango. We want to thank our hosts: MJ Wylie, Natalie Balchak and Janelle Prussman for putting on a very good show. The campground was one of the best we've stayed at which made everything so nice.

—Ernie Nitka



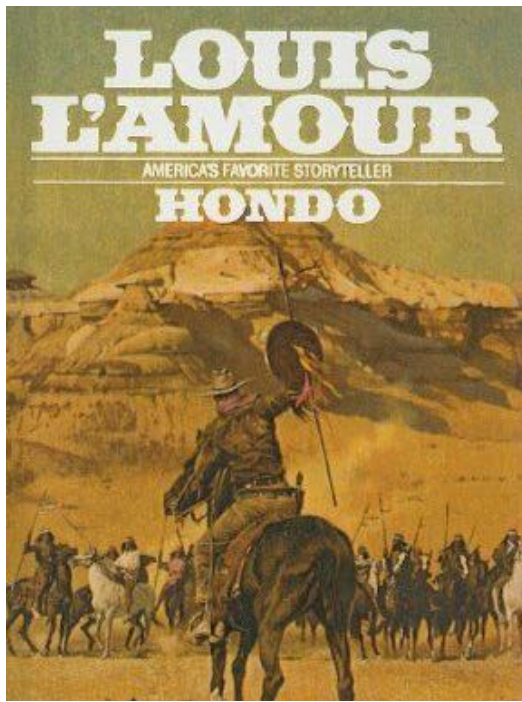
Found in Creede, CO



## The Main Event : Just Campin' in Durango

The stay at Alpen Rose RV park north of Durango was a great choice. I haven't been to such a well appointed RV park. Got spoiled with the breakfast and dinner on-site options.

As a Just Campin' event one could lay around the rig or go hiking, kayaking UTV'ing, 4x 4 ing. Let's not forget the Book Club and movie combo featuring Louis L'Amour's HONDO. There was also Christmas in July featuring Santa Claus (Tom Balchak) visits to our rigs ..... which might explain the lump of coal on my LP tanks. :(



*An embittered Indian scout attempts to escort a homesteader's wife and her son back to safety after her cowardly husband deserts her during an Apache attack. When she refuses to go, the scout stays on to help for a while and, over time, forms a strong bond with both her and her son*

[Click here for a look at a movie trailer](#)







Tom and Peggy Silvers...anyone know where their deposit went?





Ole St. Nick with Rob and Brenda Hughey by Tom Silvers



4CU'ers Steve & Cathy Verhines



Barb and Elliot Actor





Nina & Scott Kunze at Potato Lake –

Hiked with Barbara & ,Eliott Actor, Jack & Karen Meyer and Vicki Ottoson.

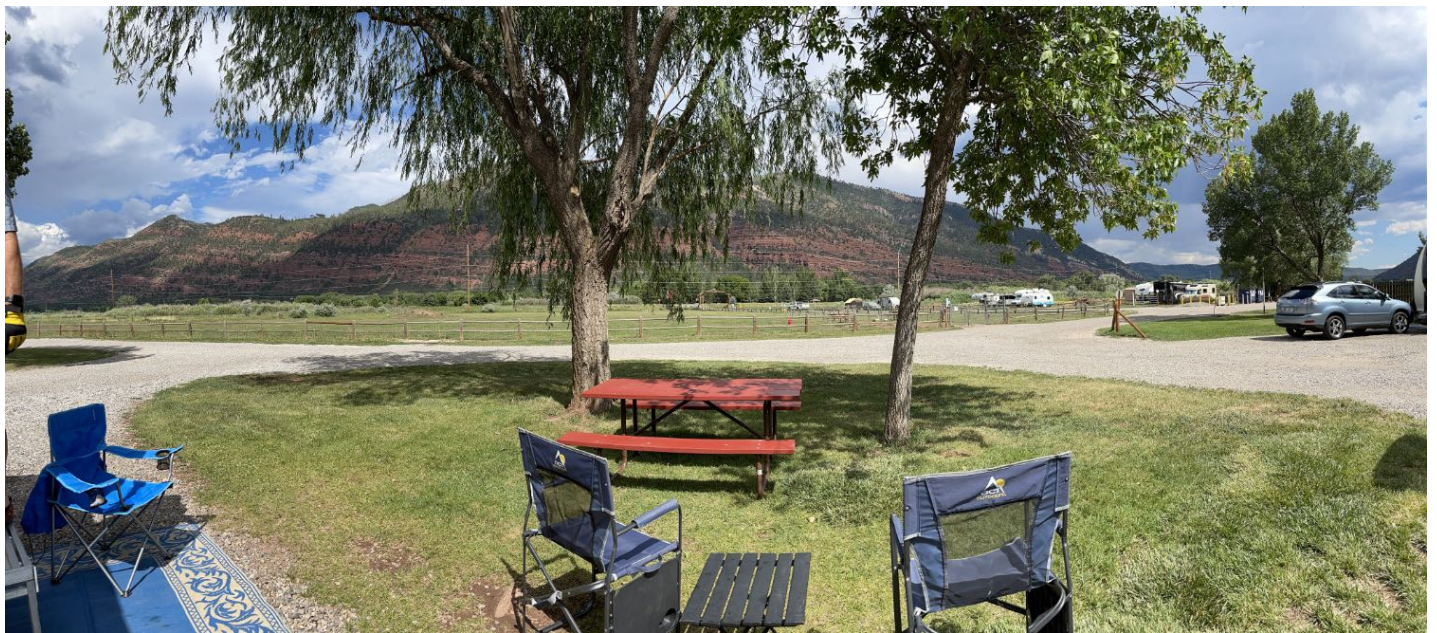




By MJ Wylie



Who else but Barb & Elliot Actor by Nina Kunze



The wide expanse of Alpen Rose RV park by Nina Kunze



## Proof of People Having Fun



CAC at the Wild Horse Saloon by Natalie Balchak



Janelle and Kathy getting ready for a round of golf by Tom Silvers



# Prelude – Creede

As is often the case, our wide ranging membership will come to the get togethers from somewhere other than home and leave for parts unknown after the rally. This was the case for us in Creede, CO, before Durango. We had a great time with Brenda and Rob Hughey visiting Michael Carmichael, one of our newer members at his family compound, potential site of a 2022 rally.



Mike Carmichael, Brenda & Rob Hughey and Vicki Ottoson





Seen at Blue Creek Lodge



Bachelor Mine Loop







## A word of compassion

As a true native of Colorado it's been easy in the past to turn up my nose at tourists, especially those from Texas. As the years have mellowed me AND I've spent time in Texas in the HOT summer I've come to realize that Texans are humans just like us. So be like the new Ernie and welcome them to our great state.







Cottonwood Cove RV Park – Creede



# Photo Didact

A semi regular column about photographic topics of interest to those trying to improve their travel photography. Comment, critiques, arguments send to [charcot@comcast.net](mailto:charcot@comcast.net).

HEIC, TIFF, JPG and RAW

What do all these terms mean and how do I decide which to use? These signify different image file formats each with their pros and cons.

The latest file format in the MAC world is **HEIC** which stands for High Efficiency Image Container and is an Apple format that delivers very high quality images in a very small size. The down side is that this format has yet to be accepted by other platforms though it is said that Windows and Android will be incorporating the ability to open these files.

**TIFF** or Tag Information File Format is a well established image format that is lossless meaning that no matter how many times you open, save and close an image it will never lose resolution. As such it will take up more space on your computer than say JPG. You can save an image as a compressed TIFF but you can't match the compression of the JPG format.

**JPG or JPEG** stands for Joint Photographic Experts Group and is one the oldest formats available. It allows variable degrees of compression and variable amount of resolution loss. The compression algorithm is 'lossy' meaning if you open, recompress and save a file many times the final image will be compromised and not look very good.

**RAW** format is just as it implies – this is the raw data from the digital sensor in a non-compressed format. This format has not been manipulated before becoming output to your screen. JPG on the other hand has had some tweaking done as well as compression before it's on the screen and in memory. Many professional photographers prefer RAW because it's their first chance at altering things like lighting, contrast, white balance, etc. There are programs for your desktop that allow you to manipulate the RAW image and then 'develop' them to JPG or TIFF. There are even some free programs out there.

Well then Mr. Smarty Pants – which one should I use?

If you're using a modern iPhone you can shoot HEIC right out of the box and that is not a bad option given the quality and size consideration. Staying with the iPhone you can touch the screen to select RAW and then the file will be labeled *image.DNG* with the DNG denoting a format called Digital Negative RAW. This is ideal for shooting high quality, high value pictures.

If using a digital camera the manufacturer is likely to have it's own RAW format – Nikon has NEF. Many of the cameras let you save both JPG and RAW so you get the best of both worlds though at the expense of increased space demands on your memory card. You can also save in plain JPG format.

If shooting in just JPG you can import the file into your desktop, manipulate it and then consider saving in a lossless format like TIFF. This way you save on space for the camera ( smart phone or digital camera) and for the desktop you can save in the lossless format. Storage space for your desktop being very cheap these days. I just purchased an external hard drive of 6 Terabytes for only \$139.