



The NorCal News

Volume 58 Number 9

The Poppy

November 2021

President's Column

November is here, and we welcome the fall season's crisp air and turning leaves. Lori and I recently returned home from almost two weeks on the road. We attended the Oakhurst rally, then spent a few wonderful days in Pismo Beach, before heading to the Region 12 rally in Paso Robles.

The first few days in Oakhurst were really nice. Even though this was officially a "no-host" rally, everyone still enjoyed a great potluck dinner on Wednesday, nightly happy hours, and all that nearby Yosemite National Park had to offer. Unfortunately heavy smoke filled the air for the last two days of the rally, prompting many to leave on Saturday morning as a light dusting of ash fell from the sky. The small number of us who stayed over Saturday night were treated to a wonderful evening at Don and Carol Weaver's house in nearby Bass Lake, where we shared a large pot of hearty homemade soup, appetizers, and friendship.

The Region Rally in Paso Robles was full with about 120 rigs. NorCal's Pat Lazzereschi was sworn in for a 2-year term as Region 12 Second Vice President during the Business Meeting. NorCal also donated two gift baskets and a professional corn hole set for the charity silent auction. Region 12 will announce the winning bids at a later date.

We recently sent out a survey on NorCal rally fees and expenses. A big thank you to everyone who took the time to respond. We are looking to improve the way we fund our rallies for the benefit of all members and hosts. Your responses and thoughtful comments will provide excellent input as the Board considers a range of options. Any changes approved by the Board will be documented in the

meeting minutes, distributed to all members via email, and will take affect starting with the next year's rallies.

The electronic voting period for our 2022 slate of Officers has concluded. Another thank you goes out to everyone who voted. The Board will finalize the election results during our annual business meeting at the November rally. The newly-elected Officers will start their terms at the Installation rally in December.

We look forward to seeing those of you who have registered for the dry-camping event at Jessie's Grove Winery. This looks to be another really fun NorCal event.



John Bibby

"Life is better with Airstreams, great adventures, and good friends"

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From The Editor

This is the last Poppy of 2021 and again, I thank everyone who has contributed to it this past year! Plus a SPECIAL thanks go out to my proof readers, who, along with me, may not always get it right, but we try hard to catch the mistakes. It is not easy.



The Poppy happens beyond the rally coupon because **NorCal members** support it by contributing ideas and/or articles and/or photos and/or assistance. If it was just me, the Poppy would get pretty stale. So public thank-yous specifically go to (not in any particular order): **Carmen Ortiz, Carol Echols, Steve Deiwert, John Bibby (he got his message in on time every month!), Lori Bibby, Hedda Smithson, Tom Smithson, Bill Maffei, Marget Williams, Dave Williams, Carrie Bell, Billie Verdegaal, Jim Christie, Janie Salinger, Elain White, Bob Vasser, Polly Krauter,** and anyone else I may have inadvertently missed for which I apologize. You rock!

That said, next year is right around the corner, **so if you have any ideas, stories, photos regarding Airstreams, Airstreaming or wrangling with Airstreams for future editions, please submit them.** We can always use fresh material, and yes, members ARE interested.

This issue focuses on the Oakhurst Rally and the Region 12 Rally, both which occurred last month. I attended both, and they were fun in their own ways. Yosemite was great. The brunch at the Wawona was so worth it. The Paso Robles location allowed for lots of side trips to visit the surrounding areas. Cambria was having its annual Scarecrow festival, with different "scarecrows" on every street corner and park in both East and West Cambria that were fun to discover. Near Paso Robles is an interesting development called "Tin City," a heavily landscaped and designed industrial park full of wineries, cider and beer breweries and restaurants. Do not miss the Negranti Creamery. Best ice cream almost ever!!

Since our last rally of the year is in December and the next does not occur until March, there is no rally summary or coupon in this issue. Rally sign-ups for March will happen in January, commencing with our New Year issue. Also in January will be coverage of the November Rally at Jesse's Grove. Last I heard there were 28 rigs signed up, a great turn out for a dry camping event! (Fingers crossed – no rain that weekend) So it will be very interesting to see how it goes. Also featured in January will be the December Installation rally at Black Oak Casino in December, when our First V.P., Bob Verdegaal, will become our new President. And (hopefully) we will have coverage of the last **Smithson-Stansbury Pasadena Rose Parade Rally**, a terrific event that is soooooo worth attending for numerous reasons.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, and a Merry Christmas and Holidays. Until we meet again, enjoy Airstreaming, "if only in your dreams..."

Your Poppy Editor.

Elisa Ungerman

2021 Rallies/Gatherings

~~4/7-11 Gilroy Garlic RV Park Gilroy
Hosts: Carole & Bob Echols
Steve & Yoshi Deiwert~~

~~4/22-25 Cali Rally-V6 Ranch Parkfield
POSTPONED TO NEXT YEAR~~

~~5/5-9 Lassen RV Resort McArthur
Hosts: Billie & Bob Verdegaal~~

~~6/9-13 McCloud RV Resort McCloud
Hosts: Dan & Gail Crutchfield,
Marget & Dave Williams~~

~~7/17-24 International Rally Lebanon, TN
<https://airstreamclub.org/lebanon-2021-international-rally/lebanon-2021-registration>~~

~~8/4-8 Pioneer RV Park Quincy
CANCELLED~~

~~9/8-12 Angels Camp RV Resort Angels Camp
Hosts: Deb & Jim Christie
Gathy and Bill Maffei~~

~~9/29-10/3 High Sierra RV Park Oakhurst
UNHOSTED~~

~~10/6-10 Cava Robles Resort Paso Robles
<https://airstreamclub.org/2021-region-12-rally>~~

~~11/3-7 Jessie's Grove Winery Lodi
Hosts: Pat Lazzereschi, Mike & Jane Malone, Tary & Janie Salinger
DRY CAMPING~~

~~12/8-12 Black Oak Casino RV Park Sonora
Claudia & Barry Marson. Tom & Hedda Smithson, Cam & Marcia Murray~~

The Fine Print

New info shown in green. Dates are arrival and departure, although you can often request early arrival or Monday departure. Sign-ups are accomplished by submitting a completed Registration form by the due date to the club Registrar. "Buddy" events allow you to invite a non-member even if they don't own an Airstream. Events lacking hosts or the minimum number of campers may be cancelled. Rallies are subject to COVID restrictions and protocols.



Nor Cal Officers

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| President | John Bibby |
| 1 st Vice President | Bob Verdegaal |
| 2 nd Vice President | Jim Christie |
| Secretary | Carrie Bell |
| Treasurer | Janet Motta |
| Senior Trustee | Dean Davison |
| Senior Trustee | Billie Verdegaal |
| Trustee | Carmen Ortiz |
| Trustee | Carole Echols |
| Imm. Past President | Ray Bell |
| Parliamentarian | Hedda Smithson |
| Constitution & Bylaws | Hedda Smithson |
| Membership | Marget Williams |
| Newsletter Editor | Elisa Ungerman |
| Directory/Audio Visual | Tom Smithson |
| Webmaster | Carmen Ortiz |
| Registrar | Lori Bibby |
| Rally Chair | Pat Lazzereschi |
| Caravan Chair | Bob Vasser |
| Sunshine | Lori Bibby |

New Members

Steven & Marty/Martha Bacus

Steven Coontz & Karen Kreitzer

Charles & Elizabeth Duff

Debbie Casteel

John Schnick & Josie Jurczenia

Mike & Suki Johnson

Brett & Annette Mickelson

Airstream Club International on the Web

<https://airstreamclub.org>

Region 12 on the Web

<https://airstreamclub.org/region12>

NorCal on the Web

<https://airstreamclub.org/northern-california>

New Affiliates

Dennis & Deanna
"Dee Dee" Byrne

Ed & Barbara
Mathias

David & Margaret
Broad

NorCal Membership Snapshot

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| 179 | Unit/Life Members |
| 25 | Affiliate Members |
| 204 | Total Members |



High Sierra RV Park is tucked in behind an urban hillside in Oakhurst, CA, overlooking the Fresno River. Without a map, you would not know it was there. The park proved to be a nice camping spot, very convenient to Yosemite National Park, Bass Lake, downtown Oakhurst (with a terrific craft brewery), and other points of interest and restaurants.

Thirteen rigs made the trip, and despite the lack of a designated host, all the NorCalers knew how to cope. It was as though each NorCaler became the host for an evening, including Don and Carol Weaver who live close by at Bass Lake and visited frequently.

Happy Hours occurred daily, with people meeting in a different site each night.



Enjoying Happy Hour at High Sierra

The Wednesday Welcome Dinner was a potluck, with picnic tables pulled from sites and centered in one of the larger sites, which campers circled with their chairs. In true Airstreamer style, the tables were groaning with food due to the generosity of the participants, and leftovers were served as horsdevours during the following days. The Saturday Final Night dinner was hosted by Don and Carol Weaver at their home in Bass Lake.



Glacier Point Vista of Half Dome



Tunnel View vista of El Capitan and the tree choked valley.

Those who had pre-planned their visit(s) to Yosemite before Friday October 1st were able to enjoy their visit(s). The vistas at Glacier Point and the Tunnel View were lovely. (See above)

However, those that waited until Friday to visit the Park were sadly met with no views and much smoke due to shifting winds that pushed smoke from the fires burning in the Sequoia National Forest southeast of Fresno into the valley. The same was true of anyone visiting the surrounding areas,

including Bass Lake, barely visible from the shoreline due to the smoke and drought, which has shrunk the lake considerably. Many sought their sightseeing inside the various local restaurants, with the Southgate Brewing Company and a local BBQ place receiving high praise.



The Ungermans and Verdegaaals sip craft beers at Southgate Brewing

E-bikes are becoming “the thing” at NorCal rallies, and an impromptu clinic was held by several members who now own E-bikes. They were extolling the virtues of the bikes, providing instruction and letting others sample riding them around the area. No E-bikes were harmed during the course of the clinic. There were lots of smiles though as people powered up and down the hills.



Lori Bibby instructs Jill Wilson on the details of E-bikes

Hanging Out @ High Sierra continued

Unfortunately, by Saturday, the smoke from the southern forest fires became unbearable for some, and several NorCalers departed early to home or

elsewhere to escape the smoke. This meant those that stayed could enjoy being indoors at the Weaver's place on the lake. Sadly, the Salingers were not

“de-greened” at this rally due to the smoke, but should be at the next one, which they are hosting.

- Editor



1st VP Bob Verdegaal confabbing with President John Bibby



Marget Williams introduces Cooper to the Club



The Williams & Crutchfields enjoy an al fresco dinner



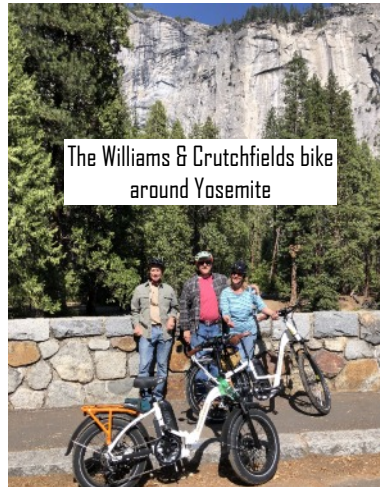
Jill & Dave Wilson, Janet Motta & Lori Bibby enjoy another Happy Hour



Tom Bain, John & Elaine White & Don Weaver hang out



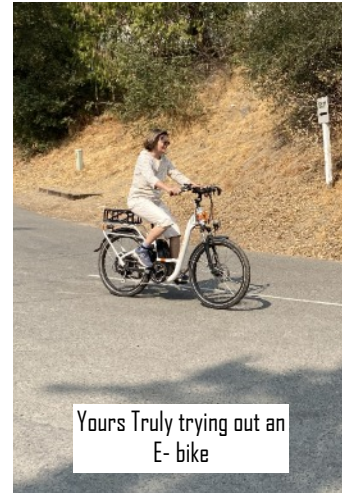
Relaxing at the Wawona, Yosemite



The Williams & Crutchfields bike around Yosemite



Hiking up to Glacier Point



Yours Truly trying out an E- bike



Hostess with the Mastest



At home with Carol & Don Weaver



Region 12 Rally - Paso Robles



The star of the most recent Region 12 Rally, held at Cava Robles RV Resort in Paso Robles, was the resort itself, along with its stunning countryside. Built in 2018, the Resort is beautiful, with large spacious sites situated on a rise, most with views of rolling golden hillsides dotted with black oaks. The clean resort buildings and pools, of which there are several, the outdoor furniture, communal fire pits, and the Mediterranean landscaping are all reminiscent of an upscale luxury resort in Napa or Sonoma, and complimented the aluminium admirably. There is a nature trail that follows a dry creek meandering through the property, and several large dog parks. Since we were *not* there in the blast furnace of summer, it was a very enjoyable location despite the fierce wind that made its appearance several times during the rally.

120 Airstreams, all glinting in the sun, filled one-third of the park.



The entire rally was held outside to be as COVID safe as possible, while still allowing for some social

interaction. On Wednesday, a Welcome Dinner of loaded potatoes was served by a food truck and was tasty. While you could eat outside, Ed and I retreated to our trailer to get out of the wind. They also provided shaved ice in various flavors that seemed to be popular.



The following morning, breakfast burritos were delivered to each trailer by the San Diego Airstream Club. What an undertaking to serve 120 trailers! Various seminars were held in different locations and Ed played golf in the Regional Golf Tournament. His team came in second and missed receiving the prized Airstream Golf Balls although they did win a bottle of local wine.



The Bibbys, Crutchfields & Ortizs are ready to ride to San Miguel Mission.

Meanwhile, NorCal E-bikers embarked on a 26 mile bike ride to Mission San Miguel and back, led by the intrepid Carmen Ortiz. That afternoon there was a Bocce tournament on the resort's very nice Bocce courts.

Friday began with a "back your butt up" seminar for those ladies looking to improve their skills in backing their trailers, followed by a private beer tasting at the Firestone Brewery located nearby.



Dan & Gail Crutchfield, John Bibby, Bill & Cathy Maffei enjoy beer tasting.

Later, everyone was treated to a shaved ice cocktail, during which the participants in the Pet Parade paraded by in the general gathering area. While this was billed as a "pet parade," in truth it was a parade of mainly costumed people, each with a dog whose costume was the least of it. We were rooting for Tom and Lora Broad as Raggedy Ann and Andy, with their dogs Gabby and Kimberly, but alas, they did not win.

Region 12 Rally Continued



Tom & Lora Broad with their two dogs
Gabby and Kimberly

Judging for the Best Decorated Trailer Contest occurred that evening, unfortunately during another bout of serious wind.

On Saturday, breakfast was again delivered to each trailer, after which the Region officers and Club presidents assembled on the veranda of the Resort's Welcome Center, while members brought their chairs to the adjacent Bocce courts.



Pat L. and Tom S.

NorCal's Pat Lazzereschi was installed as the Region's 2nd Vice President, with NorCal's Tom Smithson presenting her with the flag of office. Abe Hernandez of El Cajon, CA, became 1st Vice President for Region 12.

During the ensuing Business Meeting, each Club president was allowed a few words about their Club, which John Bibby ably handled.



John Bibby said a few words about NorCal and invited anyone to join "since Club dues are only \$5.00."

Pertinent information regarding the Airstream Club was provided by Airstream Club International Corporate Manager, Lori Plummer, who came from Jackson Center, Ohio, to attend the rally.



Eric McHenry and Lori Plummer

The announcement was made that Region 12's Eric McHenry would be installed as the next Airstream Club International President during the 2022 International Rally in Fryeburg Maine, and would oversee the 2023 International Rally set for June 24-30, 2023, at the Event Center in Rock Springs, Wyoming. Abe Hernandez announced that next year's Region 12 Rally would be held in San Diego the second week in

September, a departure from the usual October date.

Various awards were handed out, including second place in the trailer decorating contest to NorCal's Bill & Cathy Maffei. (The judges freely admitted they were bribed with delicious Bloody Marys by the first place winners in a vintage Argosy.) Since they won Pottery Barn accoutrements, Cathy was heard to say she was rethinking her trailer's decorating scheme.



The Maffei's with their winnings

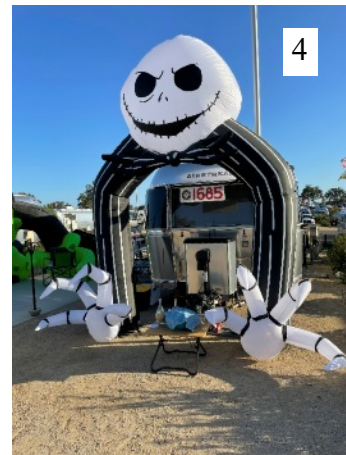
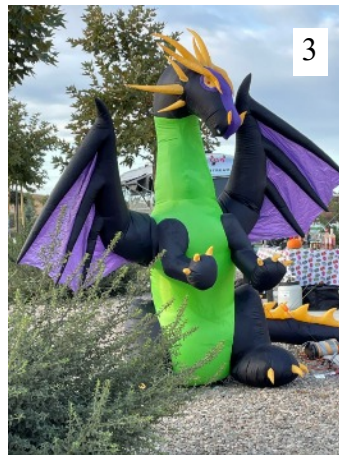
A silent auction for charity of Club-donated gift baskets was held throughout the rally, Inland Empire Airstream brought a brand new 25 ft Flying Cloud with hatch for people to traipse through (Ocean Breeze décor) and there was a "flea market" where, among other sellers, Yoshi Deiwert sold prints of her fine artwork (lovely cats and fishes), Lori Bibby sold her famous pot holders and quilts, while John Bibby and Steve Deiwert unloaded some unused or gently used items.

Dinner was once again provided by a food truck. Allegedly there was an outdoor movie held in the general gathering area afterwards, but I did not see it.

Sunday, most were off to new destinations, leaving the park mostly empty. We headed home, with "see you down the road" ringing in our ears.

- Elisa Ungerman

Scenes from the Region 12 Rally



1-2. The Maffeis pose by their winning decorations
3-4. The competition
5. Paula Krauter wrangles her two dragons, Gus and Jack during the Pet Parade
6. First place winners in Pet Parade
7. Flo - a long story
8. NorCalers around the campfire
9. Carmen and Friends at San Miguel Mission
10-12. Scenes at the park
13. The Deiwerts, Broads and Krauters visit during a sunset

2022 NorCal Rally Schedule 2.0

The first tentative 2022 Norcal rally schedule has been revised, Dates have also been confirmed, although any rally is subject to change for a variety of possible reasons.

The next step is to secure hosts for the rallies. If you are interested in hosting a rally, please contact Pat Lazzereschi at plazzereschi@gmail.com to express your interest.

Don't know what to do? Contact any member who has hosted a rally (note the rally schedule on page 2) for the how-tos. Typically hosting is done in pairs so no one does it alone. The January 2021 Poppy has a full article on "normal" rally hosting, and a manual can be found on the Norcal website, along with the January Poppy. It is fun to host, so don't be shy!

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| March 2 - 6 | Bass Lake @ Yosemite RV Resort |
| April 6 - 10 | Gold Country RV Park (Pine Grove) |
| May 11 - 15 | Red Bluff KOA Journey (Red Bluff) |
| June 8 - 12 | Emerald Forest RV Park (Trinidad) |
| July 27 - 31 | Olema Campground (Olema) |
| Sept, 7 - 11 | Paso Robles RV Ranch (Paso Robles) |
| Oct. 5 - 9 | Berry Creek Rancheria (Oroville) |
| Nov. 2 - 6 | Skyline RV Park (Napa) |
| Dec, 7-11 | Black Oak Casino RV Park (Tuolumne) |

Affiliated:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| April 21-24 (full) | Region 12 Cali Rally at Parkfield Ranch |
| July 23-29 | International Rally at Fryeburg, Maine |
| Sept. TBA | Region 12 Rally - San Diego |

Amie's Cherry Jello Salad

Elain White prepared this dish for the Oakhurst potluck and reports that participants asked for the recipe. Ask and you shall receive!

Into a 9 by 13" pan pour:

- 1 large package of cherry Jello
 - 1 small package of cherry Jello
 - 2 cups boiling water
- Stir until Jello is dissolved

Stir into Jello:

- 1 can pitted sweet cherries and liquid in can
 - 1 can cherry pie filling
- Let cool in refrigerator for several hours

Mix together:

- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 8 oz block of cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla

Spread on top of cooled Jello

I'm betting you can probably use a large bundt cake pan and get fancy with this.

- Editor















- 5 Paul/Rosalie McKay
- 10 Rick/Margaret Sharp
- 16 Jim/Deborah Christie
- 20 Dave/Marget Williams
- 22 Mike & Phyllis Minadeo
- 26 Gregg/Janet Motta
- 27 Ray/Carrie Bell



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Grover Sandy
- 7 Jane Wright
- 10 Ken Bechthold
- 11 Karen Richardson
- 15 John Diamond
- 17 Yoshiko Deiwert
- 17 Gus Shubel
- 19 Carole Echols
- 21 Lynn Foster
- 22 Gail Crutchfield
- 28 John Roll

Source: <http://holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/index.htm>

|  | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | 1  Day of the Dead | 2  | 3 | 4  | 5 | 6 |
| | | | | Jesse's Grove Rally | | |
| 7  | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11  | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15  | 16 | 17  | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23  National Espresso Day | 24 | 25  Happy Thanksgiving | 26  | 27 |
| 28 | 29  | 30 | | | | |

Garden Flag Information

You can order your NorCal Garden Flag directly from Flagology. Complete instructions are in the January Poppy issue. For any questions, the NorCal contact is John Bibby (707) 592-4891. The Flagology contact is Connor Young (855) 347-4922. Click here to order, or copy and paste in your browser: <https://www.flagology.com/product/personalized-norcal-airstream-club-garden-flag-12-5-x-18/>



Badge and Logo Sticker Info

You can obtain your colorful NorCal Membership Badge whenever you attend a rally. Contact Marget Williams to get yours for free, a perk of membership. Also, now available is the NEW five inch club logo sticker for your Airstream or Tow Vehicle when you attend rally. It has the same design shown on the masthead of The Poppy. Be sure to request one from Marget.

