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# UWAC Club News

## Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club News

**Volume 17 — JANUARY 2022 — WBCCI's Utah Affiliate**

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WE HAVE NEW, AS WELL AS  
SEASONED MEMBERS, NEW  
PRESIDENT (S) AND MONTHLY  
RALLIES TO ATTEND.  
THIS PROMISES TO BE A GREAT  
AIRSTREAMING YEAR.

### President's Message

Happy New Year UWAC members and affiliates!

I am excited to be the new UWAC president. I am fortunate to have my wonderful wife Bonnie who will be helping with -read doing most of- the work. I have big shoes to fill given what Ben, Julie and Jim have done as previous presidents. Because of their hard work, as well as the contributions from other board members, our club is in great shape. Our membership numbers continue to grow and the club finances look good.

Bonnie and I put our trailer to bed for the winter in early December. We are already making plans for 2022 and looking forward to getting it out for more adventures. With seven UWAC rallies scheduled for this year, it looks like we will have plenty of opportunities to spend time with you, our fellow club members. There are rallies scheduled each month from March through September. The Sun Valley Jazz festival is an option for October. We could also squeeze another rally in for November if someone wants to look at hosting something in Southern Utah, where the weather is a little more accommodating for fall/winter outings.

As most of you have heard me say, "the club's success is dependent on volunteers". Please don't be intimidated or shy about hosting a rally or taking a turn in a leadership role. Trust me, if I can do this anyone can! It is not too early to start thinking of hosting a rally for 2023 – we'd love to discover one of your favorite spots.

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Thanks again for the opportunity to be your president. Please reach out to me or other board members with questions or suggestions for UWAC.

Cheers,

John Ruskauff

Ruskauff@msn.com

(801) 674-0381

## Annual Club Dinner and Officer Installation

### Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club Annual Meeting and Dinner November 11, 2021, Salt Lake City, Utah

Our club held its annual dinner and new officer installation on November 11, 2021 at the Red Iguana's Red Tree Room. We had 26 members attend and it was great to see some new faces. After some socializing and happy hour, we dug into the delicious buffet. As dinner was finishing up, Jim Powell (our former president), having determined we easily had the necessary quorum, discussed changes to our constitution that Airstream asked us to make. We voted (unanimously) to confirm these changes. We had a brief update from our Treasurer and Membership Chairperson. Then Holly Jorgenson announced the tentative Rally Schedule for 2022, which can be found on our club website. Some dates are firmed up so start planning your next camping season! Next came the installation of new officers. We voted and confirmed the following AWAC Board:

John Ruskauff: new President

Ron Jorgenson: new 1 st VP

Vik Gabrenas: new 2 nd VP

Keith Lund: continuing as Treasurer

Jim Powell: Past President

Kevin Buehler: Events Committee Chair

Barb Powell: Recording Secretary

And special mention to Jeannie Lund, though not a board member, does a fabulous job on our newsletter. We have a great board that bring many skills and talents and experience to our club! I hope you'll take the time to introduce yourself to board members at rallies, and get to know them too.. We are still a small club (compared to others in WBCCI) and it's easy to get to know one another.

Looking forward to a fun camping season in 2022.

Jim Powell, Immediate Past President

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## Stories from the Road...

### Boondocking with the Buehlers

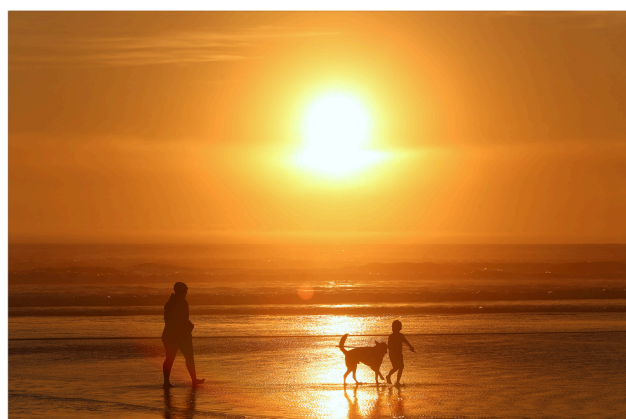
August 2021 - Washington Coast

This August Kevin and Elizabeth Buehler (BRN 12225) finally found time to get their 2019 Basecamp, Gifford, on the road for a full week trip. To avoid the smoky skies of the Intermountain West, they decided to take the family to the Pacific Northwest and camp outside of Westport, Washington. It was a luxury trip for them, instead of boondocking on BLM or National Forest land, they dry camped at Twin Harbors State Park.



Staying in the campground had its perks. Antonio had a chance to roam with other campground kids and race countless laps on the loop. Instead of bringing an extra 24 gallons of water there

was a tap 100 feet from the campsite. The black tank could be emptied at the community dump station. We didn't make our neighbors happy



though when we had to run our generator to boost the batteries as the site was almost completely in shade.

Besides clear skies and beautiful sunsets over the ocean, the Washington coast was a great respite from the Utah summer heat. Westport is at the head of North Bay just west of Aberdeen. It was a great location to hike in Olympic National Park

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one day and visit Cape Disappointment the next. Local seafood was plentiful at both restaurants and markets. Grilling oysters on the last night was the perfect ending to a wonderful trip.

Kevin Buehler

## *Tentative UWAC 2022 Rally and Event Schedule*

**March 2022 – Region 11 Rally in Casa Grande, AZ (confirmed):** March 9-13, 2022 (4 nights) at Pinal County Fairgrounds and Event Center. See below for details.

**April 2022 – "No Host" Rally in Jackpot, NV, Cactus Pete's RV Park April 21 - 24** (Lunds are coordinating, including a planned golf "scramble") Cactus Pete's (Saguaro) doesn't accept reservations for their RV Park so this will be a first come, first served event. The RV park can accommodate 91 units of various size. We will be sending out a Jot Form for the golf so we have a head count for that event and will have a better idea of who may be coming.

**Cactus Pete's** is also called the Saguaro RV Park and is separated into an upper and lower park. The upper park is located just off Highway 93 to the south of the casino. The lower park is home to the park office and is located just off Keno Dr. behind the casino. Be sure to fill your water tanks as water may or may not be available. Water at the park is typically shut off from mid-October to May due to cold temperatures. When you arrive at the RV park, there may not be anyone to check you in so you pick your spot and then go into the casino desk to register. Spots have full hookups with 30 amp electricity. There is a water spigot for refills if there isn't water at the sights.

Cactus Petes is located on Highway 93 at the Idaho Border in Jackpot, Nevada.

**May 2022 – Armed Forces Day Rally at St. George Airport:** Planning is underway for 3-night rally from May 19-22 (Galloway/Buehler are coordinating this "Don't Miss" event); rally will be held on airport property near the airshow featuring "Warbirds" aircraft.

The Warbirds Rally is an event in conjunction with the Warbirds Air Museum located at the St. George Airport. Each Armed Forces Day the Warbirds Organization and Museum hosts a three-day event at their location featuring vintage aircraft, the museum and a Saturday night 1940's swing band hangar dance. There are usually a number of featured attractions involving vintage aircraft and the opportunity to book a ride in vintage military aircraft (depending on availability). We are also working on a group dinner one evening. Parking for our Airstreams will be arranged across the road from the Warbirds hangar. It is to be noted that this will be a dry camping event – no utilities/hookups. Parking in squadron formation will be arranged.

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**June 2022 – Flaming Gorge Reservoir (tentative):** Tentative dates are June 16-19 (3 nights); planning underway by Simmons.

**July 2022 – Wyoming Caravan:** Tentative dates are July 13-24 or 25 at various campgrounds across Wyoming (Lund/Jorgensen are coordinating this unit caravan); Stops are planned in Pinedale, Thermopolis, Buffalo, Sundance (Devil's Tower), and Cody -- subject to change depending on campground availability. More information to come.

**July 2022 - 65th Wally Byam Airstream Club International Rally** July 23-29, 2022 Fryeburg, ME. For more information: <https://airstreamclub.org/Fryeburg>

**August 2022 – Dinosaur National Monument Rally:** Tentative dates are Aug. 18-21 (3 nights) at Vernal/Dinosaurland KOA (Paz's are coordinating).

Dinosaurland Rally in Vernal, Utah, will be held August 18-21. We will be visiting the quarry at Dinosaur Monument. The campground will be available for reservations after April 1 when they open for the season. More details to come.

**September 2022 – Crater Lake, OR (confirmed):** September 9-13 (4 nights) at Crater Lake RV Park in Prospect, OR (20 spots reserved); rally hosts are Chris & Vic Gabrenas.

**\*\*If you are interested in this great rally, book before March as our slots may be opened to the general public in early spring.** More information will be coming as soon as it is available.

**October 2022 – Sun Valley Jazz Festival, Idaho (tentative):** October 12-16, 2022. This may or may not be a rally organized by the unit, depending on whether or not Region 10 sponsors an Airstream rally as they have in the pre-COVID years. Several UWAC members are expected to attend the festival.

**November 2022 – Club dinner (tentative):** time, date and location TBD.

**Additional UWAC Rallies in 2022 - TBD** (club members are encouraged to bring forward additional ideas for any month during "camping season" including camping-only, aka "No Host" events at a personal camping favorite; contact our Events Coordinator, [kevinbbuehler@gmail.com](mailto:kevinbbuehler@gmail.com), or any club officer with your suggestions.

## **REGION 11 – BEST IN THE WEST!**

Events Committee Chair

from the Region XI, October 2021 Newsletter

Kenneth E. Johansen, President

Hello all – I'm hoping everyone is doing well and staying safe.



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The big news is: **The Region 11 Rally is BACK !**

Covid put the brakes on this year's annual region rally, but things seem to be opening up a bit and we are looking forward to putting together a really great event for all of us in Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico Region and beyond.

March 9-13 are the dates; please mark your calendars for a wonderful event in **Casa Grande AZ** at the Pima Fairgrounds and Event Center. The weather that time of year is about as perfect as you can get. We are expecting a great turnout. The event center offers twelve 50-amp sites, twenty-six 30-amp sites and as many 15-amp sites as we need. Water hookup is available as well. We should not need AC that time of year as the temps are very mild.

What do we have planned? Glad you asked: we are in the process of hiring some excellent entertainment, starting with a Mariachi band to stroll among us while we meet and greet and chow down on provided tacos, then ending with an exciting 50's 60's and 70's band. Food? Yes, we plan to have at least 2 catered meals, one opening night with tacos and a very nice full meal at the end. More information to follow. [r11info@wbcci.net](mailto:r11info@wbcci.net)



## TECH CORNER

### *Link2Home Space Saver Outlet Station*

Tired of climbing under the table to plug in your devices? Here's a great solution you might like. Small in size, big on power. Here are two of several choices that offer different ways to connect.



Unlike most retractable sockets, which require quite a lot of space beneath the surface, this one fits three grounded outlets and two USB ports into an ultra-compact design – a clever way of saving space both over and under your counters. Save more space, while getting easier access to the power outlet with the new Link2Home Space Saver Pop Up

Outlet with USB. A pop-up solution to the messy cables and inconvenient when trying to connect your devices. Power and charge up to 5 devices (3 AC Outlets 15A with 2 USB Port 2.4A Fast Charge) simultaneously right from your kitchen table or draining board.

(click on either picture for a short video)

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There's no neater way of ensuring you have enough sockets around you when you're working or cooking. Featuring 2 grounded outlets, 2 USB ports, and a sleek stainless-steel finish, Link2Home's Pop-Up Socket is the only one of its kind that lets you choose between pulling up the entire socket or just the USB ports, according to your needs. Save more space, while getting easier access to the power outlet with the new Link2Home Pop Up Power Socket. A pop-up solution to the messy cables and inconvenient when trying to connect your devices. Power and charge up to 4 devices (2 AC Outlets, 2 USB Ports 2.4A fast charge) simultaneously right from your kitchen counter table.



We chose the Popup Power Socket and found it easy to install and great for quick and easy access to power. We ordered it from Amazon although it is available at many home improvement stores.

## *5 Awful Mistakes Airstreamers Can Easily Avoid*

Rich LuhrJan 03, 2022, Airstream Life Store

You've got a new Airstream and now you're paranoid about "something bad" happening because you don't really have a lot of experience at RV'ing. We understand. We were new to Airstreaming once. Every Airstreamer was.

That's why we enjoy providing people with information for using and enjoying their Airstreams with less hassle. We've made many of the same mistakes you're about to! Occasionally, you'll have a mishap that's unique to you. But usually, RV'ing mistakes are common to all. And the good news is that most can easily be avoided if you are prepared.



Photo by Mahdi Bafandi on Unsplash

Here are the top 5 most easily-avoided errors I see over and over again—along with ways to avoid them.

### 1. LOST KEYS AND LOCKOUTS

Airstream gives you two sets of keys when you take delivery. That's great until you lose a set. And in my conversations with hundreds of Airstreamers, it seems many people often do. I've talked to those who've owned their Airstreams for less than a year and they're already down to one set of keys. That's a risky proposition, because if you lose the second set you'll

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be out of luck. Why? If you lose all your keys and you don't know the original key codes, you're *screwed*.

Unlike a modern car, you can't just go to the dealership and have the service department make you a new set from the VIN. You'll have to break into the trailer, as well as replace the deadbolt at some point (that is, if you ever want to lock it again).

I've always recommended having at least one set of keys for every adult in the Airstream, plus a set hidden somewhere in your tow vehicle or on your Airstream, where you can get to it from the outside.

Be sure to get extra sets of *at least* the entry door keys before you need them, and/or write down the key codes for the two door keys in case of emergency.

We offer a unique [custom key-cutting service](#) which gets you a new set of keys without physically sending your keys to us. All we need is the original key code numbers that are printed on the keys and we custom-cut and ship them to you in 7-10 days.

## 2. THE DREADED "CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN"

In [my guidebooks](#) I stress the importance of arriving before dark and using checklists so that you don't make an expensive mistake. This is particularly important when you're new to Airstreaming.

Nearly every year at Alumapalooza, I've witnessed or heard about the horrifying "chocolate fountain"—a literal river of sh\*t coming out of the rooftop plumbing vent and spilling down the side of the Airstream.

Here's how it happens:

1. New owners arrive after dark
2. Fumbling around to hook up the water, they accidentally connect to the "Black Tank Flush" just above the water connection
3. The black tank fills with water
4. A few minutes later, the water pressure forces its way out of the black tank, either by overflowing the toilet or going up and out the rooftop plumbing vent (along with everything you recently flushed down the toilet)

And now you know where the name comes from.

Don't make this mistake. Arrive before dark. Study the locations of the Water Fill and the Black Tank Flush.



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### 3. BENT POWER HITCH JACK

At one time replacing a power hitch jack was the most common repair the Airstream Service Center did (it probably still is). These days it'll cost you about \$1,000. Ouch.

Avoiding the problem is dead simple. *Use a checklist.* Checklists keep you from forgetting things, especially when you're in a hurry or under stress. In this case, "Raise power hitch jack" should be one of the final items in your Pre-Departure Checklist. You can find sample checklists in [The Newbies Guide to Airstreaming](#) (a free copy of this book comes with every new Airstream so if you're awaiting delivery, you'll get one automatically).

By the way, the second most-common repair is bent entry steps. (Airstreamer forgets to put up the entry steps and said steps get creamed when they contact a speed bump or something.) Make sure "Raise entry steps" is also on your checklist.

### 4. BODY DAMAGE FROM TIRE BLOW OUT

I've harped on this subject a lot, so I won't re-hash it here. Suffice to say, you can't tell that the pressure in trailer tires is low by just looking at them, and eventually a tire with low pressure will fail. You won't feel it from the driver's seat, either.

When it fails, the shreds of blown tire will almost always damage the body of the Airstream, so a simple flat tire turns into a multi-thousand dollar repair job. And it's so easy to avoid!

[Get a Tire Pressure Monitoring System.](#)

[You can read this blog if you want to know more about tire pressure monitoring.](#)

### 5. DAMAGED PLUMBING FROM FREEZING

I ran into new owners who had towed their 2019 Airstream to Rhode Island and left it there for the winter. They had never heard of winterizing. When they took the trailer out to camp the following summer, it flooded on the first night. Frozen water had cracked some plumbing fittings in the bathroom over the winter, and about 40 gallons of water flowed into the bedroom while they were out for the day.

They came to me for advice, and I had to give them the bad news that the leak in the bathroom wasn't the worst part. The worst part was the other leaks they didn't yet know about. They had to cancel their big trip and haul off to a service center to have the entire plumbing system pressure-tested.

"Winterizing" is one of the topics that seems to baffle new owners the most. It seems like such a technical and complicated thing, but it's really not. Basically, all you are doing is removing all water from the water system and replacing it with air or RV antifreeze so the parts of the plumbing don't crack in the cold.

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You can easily winterize your own Airstream. Instructions are in [both of my guidebooks](#) as well as online. You can also pay a service center to do it for you. But either way, don't forget to winterize!

By the way, another common problem stemming from failure to winterize is a dead water pump. If you find you need a new water pump every spring, it's probably because it's not being winterized correctly.

## ***RECIPES FOR AIRSTREAM COOKING***

### **The ART of Airstream Cooking by Gina Eggers, BRN 3732 Blue Beret 2022**

#### **Greek Orzo Soup**

Everywhere I go, I collect recipes. From other Airstreamers, from friends and family, from cookbooks, blogs and magazines. I'm not reticent to ask for a recipe for a meal I've eaten at someone's home. I do the same in restaurants. Often, I'll get a "no," but sometimes the chef will come out and ask what I liked about the dish. One of the best was a chef in Petoskey, MI who, when he heard I raved about his beet salad, came out to tell me the secret to cooking beets (boil them whole and peel them by hand with plastic gloves on). The best thing about writing this column is that I can pass along to others all the wonderful things I've learned.

While visiting Mark and Mary Glasnap in Grand Marais, MN in September, Mary made us many wonderful meals. I hope to pass along more of her recipes in the future. I can always tell a passionate cook by the notations written on their recipes. More of this, less of that. Optional additions.

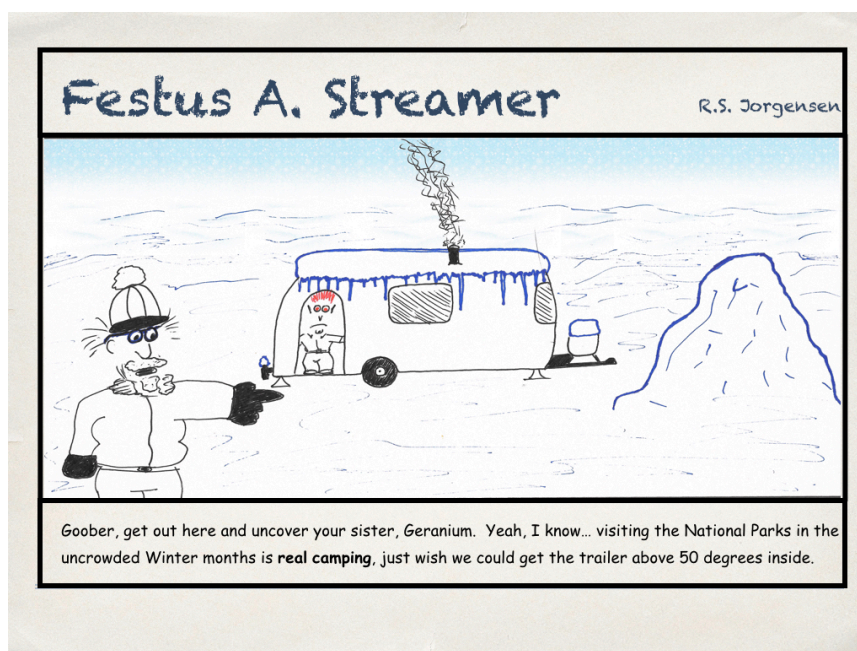
A note at the top of the page saying "good." Yes, this soup is indeed good. I'll rate it very good. The soup has sausage in it, but if you are vegetarian or vegan, and I know a lot of you are based on feedback, you can either leave out the meat or use a meat-free version. Beyond Meat makes Beyond Sausage in three flavors: hot Italian sausage, sweet Italian sausage, and a brat. I used their sweet Italian sausage in this recipe.



- 2-4 Italian sausage links, depending on how much meat you want. I used 2 links. Cut into bite-size slices
- 1 cup chopped onion, about 1 large or a couple small onions
- 3 cloves garlic, minced or chopped
- 28 oz can stewed tomatoes
- 1 1/2 cup dry red wine
- 5 1/2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 tsp dried basil
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 2 small-medium zucchinis, diced
- 1 green pepper, diced
- A few handfuls of chopped fresh spinach. Optional but highly recommended
- 1/2 cup dried orzo (small, rice-shaped pasta)
- 1/2 tsp each of salt and pepper
- Chopped fresh parsley and/or Parmesan cheese for garnish

The best thing about writing this column is that I can pass along to others all the wonderful things I've learned.

1. Sauté sausage until cooked through in a soup pot. Remove sausage from pan and set aside.
2. Add onions and garlic and sauté for a couple of minutes. Add back the sausage, the can of tomatoes, wine, broth, basil, oregano, and salt/pepper. Let simmer on low heat for 15 minutes.
3. Add green pepper, zucchini, spinach, and orzo. Continue to simmer another 10 minutes.
4. Serve with a garnish of chopped parsley and grated Parmesan cheese.



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**MEMBER DIRECTORY:** For instructions on how to add your photo to the member directory, please see the following tutorial:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUICC-howkM>



**CLUB FLAGS** Just a reminder that anyone can order the club flags that you see around, from Flagology. They can be personalized with your names and WBCCI number. Just use this link to their website

<https://www.flagology.com/product/personalized-utahs-wasatch-airstream-club-garden-flag-12-5-x-18/>

## UWAC Website - Up and Running

The legacy UWAC website will be going away in July as the club transitions over to a shared website with the rest of WBCCI. Be sure to bookmark the new site:

<https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch>

You can find the latest UWAC newsletter, rally schedule, registration instructions and other important information on the new website. In addition, as a member you can log-in and see the current directory of UWAC members.



### Airstream of Utah

September 8 at 11:06 AM · 🌐

New location update: Airstream of Utah will be fully operational in our new building starting Monday, October 4. Our new address is 3131 W. 2210 S. West Valley, Utah.

