



Officers

President	Pam Pall
1st Vice President	Michael Jackson
2nd Vice President	Barbara Howard-Jones
Treasurer	Don Kuhns
Secretary	Kay Hoevel
Membership	Carol Grisotti
Events	Paula Hammer
Webmaster	Craig Schlecht
Social Media	Lauretta Smith
Newsletter Editor	Lynda Polk

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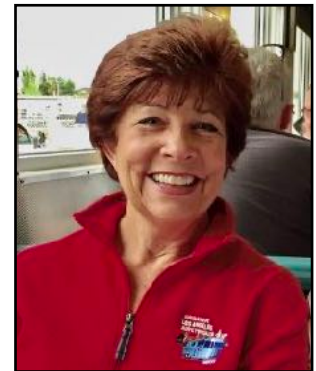
Save the Date

July 23-29 International Rally
Fryeburg, ME

President’s Letter

Happy 2022 and welcome to a New Year of Airstreaming Adventures!

As we’ve wrapped up 2021 and head into 2022, I thought I’d use this month’s president’s letter to showcase some of our members who have volunteered to serve in leadership roles over the past year and in some cases many years.



Being a travel club, the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club would not be what it is today without great events held at new and wonderful locations. Heartfelt appreciation goes to Event Chairperson, Paula Hammer and her event committee - Linda Calderon; Carolyn Tomlinson; Helen Perri; Marion Kuhns; Michael Jackson and Liana Schlecht. Because of their efforts we have an amazing array of unique events planned for 2022. Check out what’s in store for you at: <https://airstreamclub.org/greater-los-angeles/glaac-events>

With the input many of you provided in the survey they developed, the event team is already working on our 2023 schedule. We want to know where you want to camp as a club, so if you have not completed this survey, simply click on this link: <https://form.jotform.com/220307096147>

Our longest standing committee chair deserves special recognition, Membership Chairperson, Nancy Murphy. Nancy has been serving in this role for six years and what a job she’s done in one of the more labor intensive club positions. Nancy welcomes each new member with a hand written card and because she is one of the first individuals that interacts with new members, she is often the welcoming face, voice, email, and answer lady to all things GLA. Nancy will be leaving her position this year for a well deserved break, but we’re confident Carol Grisotti, although having big shoes to fill, is up to the task.

Over two years ago our webmasters, Jim Cahill and his wife Linda Rendleman, thought they would have to make occasional updates to an already well-established website. They soon discovered that a newly created Airstream website was being deployed and all individual clubs were required to transition to the new website; an exponential increase in workload. Linda and Jim readily achieved this goal with a positive attitude and amazing results. Also during the last year they mentored and trained our new webmaster who will be taking their place—Craig Schlecht. He hit the floor running and is already doing an incredible job.

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President's Letter continued...

Jim and Lynda Polk founded our club eight years ago and have been integral to its growth and success. Jim served as 1st vice president over the past year, but now as full timers in their Airstream, he felt it best he step aside and allow someone else take up the VP mantle. We thank Jim and Lynda for all they've done for our club, and albeit sad losing him as vice president and the expertise he'd have brought as President, we are certain that charter member, Michael Jackson, who was elected to the position in December, is up to the task and will easily transition to the role of President in 2023.

The remaining members of our leadership team have been in their positions for the past 1 to 2 years and without their dedication and guidance we wouldn't be where we are today. They include Barb Howard-Jones, 2nd vice president; Don Kuhns, treasurer; Kay Hoevel, secretary; Lynda Polk, newsletter (Urban Update) editor; and Lauretta Smith, social media coordinator. We're glad to have you and thank you for your hard work.

Thank you Carolyn Tomlinson for a job well done in creating our membership photo directory. Carolyn single-handedly undertook this project with the goal of providing an outstanding tool to assist GLA members with name and face recognition similar to a yearbook. If you haven't submitted your photo, please do so by emailing it to cbtomlinson@cox.net

Finally let's recognize our members who stepped up and volunteered to host several of our events in the past year: Maureen & Kevin Wallace (East Fork Event); Helen & Ralph Perri (Kenney Grove Event); Zaynea & Rizwan Niazi along with Andromeda & Glenn Stevens (Bonelli Bluffs Holiday Event); Nancy & Tim Murphy along with Yvonne & Jim Savage (Sun Outdoors Event).

I'm humbled and honored to be volunteering alongside these awesome individuals. I have found that when you volunteer you receive tenfold what you've given.

**With deepest gratitude,
Pam**

Welcome, Membership Chairperson, Carol!

Let me introduce myself. My name is Carol Grisotti. Phil and I joined the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club in 2016 when we purchased our Airstream, affectionately called, the Silver Buffalo. One of the most exciting parts of being an airstream owner is the adventurous and genuine people I have met on this journey. I am looking forward to meeting each one of you in the coming year.

I feel the real silver lining of Airstream ownership is the amazing owners we meet that also enjoy this iconic form of travel.



Phil & Carol

My favorite Wally Byam quote is, "Keep your eyes on the stars, and stars in your eyes."

I'll see you at the next event down the road!

California's Largest State Park, Anza Borrego!

submitted by Jo Salzer

Anza Borrego Desert State Park is a gem. We all arrived from different directions and descended into this vast desert floor surrounded by beautiful, jagged mountains. This desert takes her time to reveal her beauty. It was hot. For mid-February the high 80's was unexpected, but not unwelcome. Most of us camped at the state park, Borrego Palm Canyon Campground. A strict 2:00 p.m. check-in made sure that we spent a little time in the Visitors Center just .25 mile from camp.

The Hoevel's, Hammer's and Calderon's arrived early and were sweetly set up on boondocking hill just at the foot of the mountain where sunset came early. Paula and Steve had a rustic pergola for shade, rock walls, a fireplace and BBQ and two picnic tables. A perfect gathering spot. Linda and Rudy were camped just across from the Hammers, and they discovered they had a low rock-walled, open air single flush toilet onsite. It was dubbed "Linda's Loo."

Kay and Ken were steps away and had their telescopes set up quickly. What a treat to have our resident astronomer(s) share incredible views of the almost full moon, the sun, and endless stars. Kay and Ken are so generous with their time and knowledge, and we all come away richer for the experience. The final morning there was even a 4:30 a.m. call to see Venus on Valentine's Day.

We enjoyed social gatherings every sunset. The Boondocking crew hosted Wednesday's Opening Ceremonies for early arrivals. President Pam & Dennis were unable to attend, but we got them on the phone to all sing Happy Big Birthday to Dennis. The official welcome evening on Thursday featured Haystacks where everyone brought something to add to these delicious tostada-like creations.

There was much exploration during the day. Many of us took hikes. The Borrego Palm Canyon Trail from our campground led to a cool shady Palm Oasis which was gorgeous and less than a 3-mile round trip hike. Ever on the alert for the Peninsular Big Horn Sheep, I doubt any of us saw them on the hikes, but they put on quite a show in the campground. A small herd descended onto the rocky outcroppings of the camp and posed majestically for our cameras. They made several different appearances over the weekend. Craig Schlecht and other photographers were up early on the hunt, but the contrary sheep all showed up during the midday heat.

Another popular hike is a narrow siltstone canyon simply called 'The Slot'. It's narrow and twisting, with a few "limbo" moves necessary to explore it. Very cool! It was easy to get down and into but for some, not so easy to get back. In our defense, the trail is not well marked once you descend into the deep, narrow wash and a few of us had to take interesting, cross-country paths to get back to the parking lot. The 1.5-mile round trip hike ended up being more like three miles. The "Lost Souls Hiking Club" has great "Cheated Death Again" stories.



Borrego Springs village is just a short drive or bike ride away. A Friday's farmers market, two grocery stores, a pharmacy, galleries, and good restaurants were a delightful surprise. This little desert oasis is set up quite well for locals and travelers alike. Charming Julian is just 30 miles from Anza and a perfect lunch, pie and shopping destination. Members happily shared their other "finds" during our gatherings.

Marion and Don hosted the Friday night Happy Hour, which of course turned into supper with Marion's eggplant parmigiana and lots of other contributions. Saturday found Beth, Greg, and young Drew hosting a well-attended impromptu sunset gathering at their camp site.

Super Bowl Sunday was a blast. The Landakers pulled out all the stops with a satellite dish feed for flawless TV coverage, fresh lime margaritas ala Gregg, and Catherine's special chili. Everyone brought their favorite Super Bowl yummys, and the three long tables were laden with delicious food. They set up a GLAAC Super Bowl Betting Board and gamblers were all over their site with money in hand ready to pick their squares.

We GLA folks were all in for the RAMS and with the frequent siting's of the Big Horn Rams we knew we were in it to win it. And we did. Nothing like a hometown crowd, outside, under a brilliant moon, balmy evening air full tummies, and flushed Margarita cheeks to cheer on the victorious RAMS. A Fabulous party! Steve Hammer won three out of four squares! Really. Cheers for the first, Wows for the second, and groans and jeers for the third. Ironically, his brother-in-law Mark Bill was the one who picked the squares. Our dear Carolyn Tomlinson won the only remaining \$100!

So many of our GLAAC Events are incredible and vie for 'the best'. I think we can add this one to the list.

Meet a Member!

by Jeff Ingersoll & Sandra Parker

We started our RV lifestyle in 2012 with a 19' SOB (Some Other Brand) and soon switched to a more spacious 25' SOB. In 2014 after deciding we liked traveling in our trailers we started looking at Airstreams. When a used 2007 Safari 25' came up for sale nearby we went to look at it and were, of course, smitten. The owner was none other than Tye Mott, an active member of WBCCI and now the current International president.

**Jeff & Sandra**

We soon retired as Jeff sold his contracting business and Sandy retired from the Benjamin Moore Paint Company. As all our kids live in California we started traveling west from our home in the Finger Lakes Region of New York for the winter to our son's house near Pasadena where we have an RV site in his yard. We are the bi-coastal members of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club and in 2020 we bought a second home on top of the mountain in Bear Valley Springs near Tehachapi, California.

We now travel between our three "home bases" and have driven across the country 14 times.

For anyone traveling to the Northeast between May and November, let us know as we would love to host you in beautiful Hammondsport, NY.

**Lebanon's Aluminum City 2021**

Want to join the fun - and 960 Airstreams - at an International Rally? Registration remains open for the 2022 Fryeburg, Maine event.

Click the link to register today!

www.airstreamclub.org/fryeburg

Rally Report from a First Timer

submitted by Cheryl (Tothie) Toth

I'm a newbie who's been Airstreaming since fall 2020. My husband is a seasoned expert who has owned several Airstreams over the last 20 years, and full-timed for three of those. He's attended dozens of rallies, both large and small. But for me, the January rally at Sun Outdoors in Chula Vista was my first "real" rally. Although we attended International and Alumapalooza last year, we worked during both, so we did not get to relax or have fun.

The January rally was a long time coming. Rich and I had registered for two GLAAC events last year but had to cancel due to COVID or a scheduling conflict. I'd been looking forward to the trip ever since Sun Outdoors came up on the schedule. After reading so much about "glamping" resorts, I wanted to check one out for myself. A pool with cabanas, views of the bay, on-site bar/restaurant, fire pits—and we can bring the dog and stay in our Airstream? Yes, please!

The positive energy from GLAAC members started the minute we arrived. While backing into our site amidst a sea of other Airstreams, we were immediately greeted by several members who were walking their dogs. My mom had passed away a few days before the trip so I wasn't feeling my usual, cheerful self. This warm hello perked me up and set the tone for the weekend. Over the next few days, we met new friends, enjoyed evening conversations by the fire pit, traded travel stories, and ate delicious food prepared by our fellow GLAAC members. The group meals offered something for everyone (including non meat eaters like me) and were well organized by volunteers.



Tothie & Rich

All we had to do was bring our own chairs, plates, and silverware, and voila: dinner with friends. When we arrived we only knew a few people. After dinner the first night, we knew more than a dozen, all of whom had interesting stories to tell.

The location of the rally was also excellent. Seriously, what's not to love about San Diego? We biked 17 miles on the Bayshore Bikeway, took the tram into San Diego (there is a station just across the street from Sun Outdoors), watched the sunset on the upper deck of the restaurant, and walked the biological preserve path adjacent to the campground with our dog.

The glamping experience? As good as I'd hoped it would be. Finally meeting our fellow GLAAC members in person? Priceless! We've connected with several new friends after the rally, and look forward to seeing them, and all of you, down the road.

Our Favorite Campground

We had to think about this because we have so many campgrounds that we have enjoyed! Our trip to Nashville brought us to New Mexico and Santa Fe Skies RV Resort in Santa Fe. While there we had rain, hail, thunder and lightening all within 20 minutes. Once dry, we enjoyed the art installations throughout the park.

Another favorite was Camp Lakewood in Effington, Illinois where I got to experience fireflies for the first time...it was absolutely magical!

But if we had to choose only one, it would be the Rafter J Bar Ranch in Hill City, South Dakota where we enjoyed the 165 acres of lush, green, tall trees, enormous sites and friendly people. The proximity to both Mt. Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Monument was less than a half hour away.

submitted by Catherine & Gregg Landaker



Penny Pi relaxing at Rafter J Bar Ranch

Our plans are to return to Rafter J Bar when we head to the 2023 International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the event survey which was sent out to all members and affiliates on February 7. We received some great responses and will forward additional information to you soon via email.



Event Chairperson, Paula Hammer

JANUARY IN SAN DIEGO, SUN OUTDOORS NEWEST RESORT



ANZA-BORREGO DESERT'S BEAUTY IN FEBRUARY



LOOKING FOR A FUN, VINTAGE EVENT IN JUNE?

The Murphy Auto Museum will be holding its 8th annual Vintage Trailer Show at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on June 25.

C'mon out and see 50 vintage beauties on display!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/murphy-auto-museum-2022-vintage-trailer-show-tickets-272968475057>

Jim Polk needed a project on the road, right! You know those door latches which tend to weather over time? Want to improve the appearance and safety of your latches. Check these new latches out at:



<https://store.airstreamlife.com/collections/safety-security/products/airstream-compartment-lock-upgrade-kit>

Get Your GLA Swag Here!

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- Go to business.landsend.com and set up an account
- Once established, order online using these codes:
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- Call Lands End with questions. They are happy to work with you! 800.587.1541
- Lands End apparel will not be 'blocked' in red as shown in the logo
- Watch for the occasional discount and/or free logo



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

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 cbtomlinson@cox.net.

Editor's Note: Thank you to our members who submitted photos for this edition and to those photographers whom I pulled photos from Facebook. And a special *Thank You* to those who provided an article, you make the Urban Update the outstanding club newsletter that it is!