



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

In This Issue

- Alaska Review, Part 2
- Fryeburg International Review
- Meet a Member and Our Favorite Campground
- A Day in the Life of a Starlet
- GLA Summer Adventures

Save the Date

- Sept 15-19** Region 12 Rally, San Diego
- Nov 12** Member Appreciation Pizza Feast, Fallbrook

President's Letter

Grateful. Feeling of appreciation, thankful

How do I express how grateful and proud I am of our club; it's leadership team, members and affiliates. I always say that we are one of the best clubs in the entire Airstream Community; you all prove it time and time again. Whether it's helping out on a committee, hosting a rally, teaching a newbie how their Airstream works, helping when there is a vehicle system malfunction or simply sitting around the campfire singing and sharing stories, you do it all and then some.



When I asked for your help with voting on amendments to the Airstream Club International (ACI) by-laws you responded admirably. I was honored to carry your votes to the ACI rally in Fryeburg, Maine and I am proud to tell you that our club had the highest percentage of votes per members out of all the clubs, bar none. Your votes did make a difference, both amendments passed.

I have to brag one more time regarding our member Denny Kennedy, who being Canadian herself, was asked to sing the Canadian National Anthem at the Opening Ceremonies in Fryeburg. If you haven't heard Denny sing, she is amazing and brought tears to the eyes of everyone when she sang their anthem in both English and French. The Canadians who were in attendance have now adopted her and Stuebe and won't ever forget that moment.

One small way that your leadership team and I can show our gratitude for your support of our club is by hosting our annual "Members & Affiliates Appreciation Party". This year's theme is a "Pizza Feast" and will be held on Saturday, November 12th, in Fallbrook, California. Paula and Steve Hammer have graciously offered to open their beautiful home to us for this get together. Our club's November rally will be held at Guajome Regional Park that same weekend - only six miles away. Many of you may be attending this campout and no doubt will be excited about attending the Pizza Feast. But, whether attending the Guajome Rally or not, please note that the "Appreciation Party" at the Hammer's is open and free to ALL members and affiliates, even if you can just come for the day. We will provide food, plates, utensils and water. The time of this event has yet to be determined and there will be more information to follow. Please save the date, November 12th, on your calendar and plan on joining us for great food, fun & friendship.

Adventure in the 49th State - part 2

submitted by Paula Hammer

We crossed the Yukon River by ferry and bright and early on June 14th, one month and one day since we left home, we headed up the Top of The World Highway (TOWH) and into Alaska! There were mountains as far as we could see with a bit of snow as we hit the peak and crossed the border at Poker, Alaska, population 3. Next stop, Chicken, Alaska. The little town was pretty sleepy as the Chicken Stock Music Festival had just wrapped up and the town was still recovering. An impressive 12' metal chicken sculpture, created by high school kids from recycled high school lockers, was the perfect photo backdrop for Finn and me.



We found the Canadian part of TOWH was great, the US side, not so good. It was a relief to finally make it to Tok where we rejoined the Alcan Highway and started our loop through Fairbanks to Denali National Park. Denali was one of our most anticipated stops. Here we jumped on the 9:00 a.m. shuttle with high hopes of seeing the mountain and lots of wildlife. We were pretty much skunked on both. We saw caribou but no grizzly bears, wolves, sheep or moose. The biggest disappointment was that at the end of last season they had a major road slide so the shuttle could go no farther than Mile 43. All the wildlife must be enjoying the peace and quiet past Mile 43! We definitely felt as though we had not thoroughly explored Denali and hope to return someday. We packed up early in the morning to continue our journey and low and behold we saw the very top of Denali! It was way off on the distance but it was there and as we headed towards Talkeetna the clouds cleared and we had a fantastic view of Denali!



Mount Denali at 20,300 feet

The town of Talkeetna is a mecca for every imaginable charter tour service including glacier landing, sightseeing flights, water rafting, jet boats and more. The weather was warm, the campground was full and the locals were enjoying the longest days of summer. We enjoyed the beer, live music and the Spinach Bread. The trailer peaked our interest but the bread kept us coming back.



Continuing south to Anchorage, we stocked up, cleaned up, serviced the truck and made our way to the Kenai Peninsula. Surely we would see some bears! First stop was the Portage Glacier. Pam and Dennis had pictures from their 2016 trip and as the excursion boat got closer to the glacier we could compare and confirm the glacier is definitely retreating.

We made several stops on the Kenai Peninsula over the next two weeks. It's hard to pick a favorite because there is something different and special about each location. We counted 17 Bald Eagles on the beach at Anchor Point and were able to get up close and personal with a Bald Eagle on the beach in Homer. We hiked to the Exit Glacier in Seward and found two Airstreams boondocking in the river bed. We were in between the salmon runs so we missed seeing the bears fishing in the river. In fact, the only grizzly that we saw during the entire trip was in the wild life sanctuary near Portage Glacier.



Next stop was the Kennecott Copper Mine in Wrangell St. Elias. We opted to take a shuttle to save our truck the 100+ mile round-trip on an unpaved, narrow road. When I made the reservation, they assured me they were 'dog friendly' and there was no problem with us taking Finn. You can imagine my surprise when the van pulled up and we were greeted by Miska, a 9-month-old 80-pound Husky. Finn didn't know what to think of her, especially when she very excitedly announced that we were almost to our destination.

Finn and I hung out on the porch of the gift shop while Steve took a tour of the mine. It's a very interesting piece of Alaskan history and well worth the visit. The next morning we made the drive into Valdez which was breathtaking. Waterfalls, beautiful vista views and glaciers. Steve and I booked a glacier wildlife cruise with Captain Fred on the Lu-Lu Belle. The cruise starts early and comes back whenever Captain Fred has thoroughly explored the Prince William Sound. The trip through the ice bergs was amazing as he navigated within 100 yards of the Columbia Glacier. Steve talked the crew into two chunks of glacier ice. Happy Hour is extra special when he chips a few pieces off of his prized souvenir.



Steve, Dennis, Paula and Pam

Our last two stops were Haines and Skagway where the weather was gloomy and pretty rainy. The mountains peaked out every once in a while. We ended up shortening our stay in both locations but we still had a chance to explore and found another Airstream that hadn't fared well.



We took the 1:20 a.m. ferry from Haines to Skagway. Unfortunately, it was dark and foggy so we couldn't see a thing but it saved us 300+ miles. The train ride was the highlight in Skagway and the history of the Gold Rush and the White Pass and Yukon Railroad is really interesting. I was reading James Michener's *Alaska* so it was intriguing to actually get a glimpse of the prospectors overland route.

The one thing you quickly realize about Alaska is that it's BIG and the distance between cities/towns are often significant. We had several all day travel days in part due to the miles and the road conditions. Our little road warrior, Finn, never let out a peep and full focus driving was required. Our Airstream performed really well in large part due to Steve's great driving and generous applications of blue painters tape. We survived with only four popped rivets and two hinges that needed to be repaired. By the time we reached the US border we had logged over 9,700 miles. Once there, call us crazy, but we made a left turn and headed to New Hampshire to visit kids and grandkids. Our journey continues!

WBCCI's 65th International in Review

Fryeburg, Maine

Tucked away in the tiny hamlet of Fryeburg, population 3,400, is where 935 Airstreams (final count!) gathered for a week of camaraderie, informative seminars, fun workshops, club meetings and the ability to discover Maine, our most northeastern state.

Here, at the largest International since 2007, we wildly cheered as our new International President, Eric McHenry of the Greater Bay Area Airstream Club, was inducted into office; we welcomed 336 First Timers to an International Rally and soundly passed Amendments 1 and 2 which will positively modify our club's leadership structure.

As always the presentation by Justin Humphreys, Vice President of Sales for Airstream Inc., on the state of the RV industry is always a well-attended event. Even as supply chain issues continue throughout the industry, Airstream sales are up and first-time buyers are getting younger!

As a club we participated, we volunteered, we donated, we attended and presented seminars, we toured, made new friends, we ate, we gathered, rode bikes, hosted and enjoyed impromptu gigs around the fairgrounds. Some Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club members traveled a short distance (from Minnesota) while others traveled long distances (California, Texas) and even further (from Alaska!).



LaVerne & Eric McHenry



Fryeburg Fairgrounds with 935 Airstreams



GLAAC Represents at 65th International Rally

submitted by Stuebe

Phone rings..."Hello Denny, this is Mona. Would you and Stuebe like to carry the American and Canadian flags representing your countries in the Opening Ceremonies?"

"Mona, we would be honored".

"Oh, by the way Denny, how about singing the Canadian National Anthem?"

(pause)

"Sure, Mona, although I haven't sung it in 25 years".

"Great, I'll tell John Holly and he will probably call you".

"Hello, Denny, this is John Holly. I hear you are going to sing the Canadian National Anthem".

"Sure, John. Do you want the English or bilingual version?"

"Denny, we've always sung the English version so that should be fine".

"Stuebe, I think it would be more inclusive to sing the bilingual version because the French speaking provinces will be represented".

Five days later the Opening Ceremonies began with the orchestra, Bruce Morrow (GLA) on cornet, setting the tone for the ceremony. Then came Mona Heath (GLA affiliate) Master of Ceremony for the Rally as she welcomed us all to the 65th Airstream International Rally, followed by Denny & Stuebe (GLAers) presenting each of their country's colors. Jim Polk (GLA) followed up carrying the Region 12 flag and GLA President Pamela Pall, on a vacation from her vacation, presented the GLAAC flag. Then it was time for the national anthems. After John Holly's excellent performance of the American Anthem, it was Denny's turn. Facing the Canadian flag she was overwhelmed with patriotism and sang the performance of a lifetime. An so begins the tale.

Canadians and Americans alike were both moved. The Canadian clubs, including the English and French alike, were overwhelmed and very complimented by the rendition and the fact that it was bilingual, giving them a surprise and respect they never expected. We hear the Canadian Consulate in Fryeburg had temporarily closed its doors because of the overwhelming requests for Canadian Citizenship applications.

As we were saying hi to (fellow GLAers) Chris Cooper, manning his Airboard booth, and Rich Luhr and Cheryl Toth in the Airstream Life booth, we encountered a group of Canadian Airstreamers who invited us over to their campground for their nightly get together. Denny couldn't hide with her pink hair.



Stuebe & Denny

Upon entering the party, Denny was mobbed by her new fan club who insisted she do an encore performance of the Canadian National Anthem. The Canadian's had quite a setup for live music and DJ'ing. Not surprising to find Eric and LaVerne McHenry along with Per Hamnqvist sharing fun times with the Canadians. During Denny's performance, every one of the Canadians stood up and joined in, singing in both English and French. It was quite emotional for everyone.

Compliments continued all week long, right up until the Closing Ceremonies. The final Canadian from Region 2 to approach Denny told her the first item on the agenda, for their next meeting, will be her singing of the Canadian National Anthem.

What a week!

We also heard that there is a new intra club called Junior Streamers, who we know Denise Morrow (GLAer) was a big influence on, thanks to her infinite patience with the children's group.

Great times were had by all.

GLA Members at Work & Play

Fryeburg, Maine International



Meet a Member!

submitted by Laretta Smith

Pierre and I have always admired Airstreams when we spotted one and talked about how it would be so cool to have one. On October 14, 2013, with our really good friends, their son and dog, we decided to live the experience and rent two Airstreams for four nights. We had the 16' Bambi and we LOVED it. When we returned the Airstreams, we made a stop at the Los Angeles Airstream dealership and our friends bought a 23' Airstream on the spot. Pierre and I decided to look for one to remodel instead of purchasing a new one and our search began.

On November 1, 2013, 13 days after we returned the rental, Pierre was visiting his son in Ventura and they spotted one from the top of a hill. Pierre stopped by, knocked on the closed gate, talked to the owner who did not want to sell it as he had just purchased it to remodel it himself. Pierre called him the next day and the next and the next until he finally agreed to sell it to us but I had to approve it first (I personally think the owner did not want to get Pierre's phone calls anymore). We initially wanted a 25' but we are both happy that we got the 1971 27' International Overlander. We brought the Airstream home on December 19, 2013 and we remain friends with the seller to this date.

Fast forward, we gutted the Airstream and did a complete modern remodel on the inside and kept the vintage look on the outside. Many of you have seen our **2329** GSTHOUZ by now which was completed by May 2015.



Laretta Smith & Pierre Bogros

After "glamping" many times with our friends, we joined WBCCI in 2017 and GLAAC in 2018 but we were not active members. When we renewed our membership in 2019, we decided to attend our first rally which was the Region 12 Rally in Bakersfield. On our way there, we had a blow out and arrived just as dinner was about to start. We were warmly greeted and we met so many people so in order for me to remember them, I entered names in my phone's contact with descriptions so that I would remember them. From that rally, we decided to attend many more, time permitting. We have since enjoyed quite a few GLAAC and R12 rallies as well as everyone's company since.

MEET A NEW POTENTIAL MEMBER!

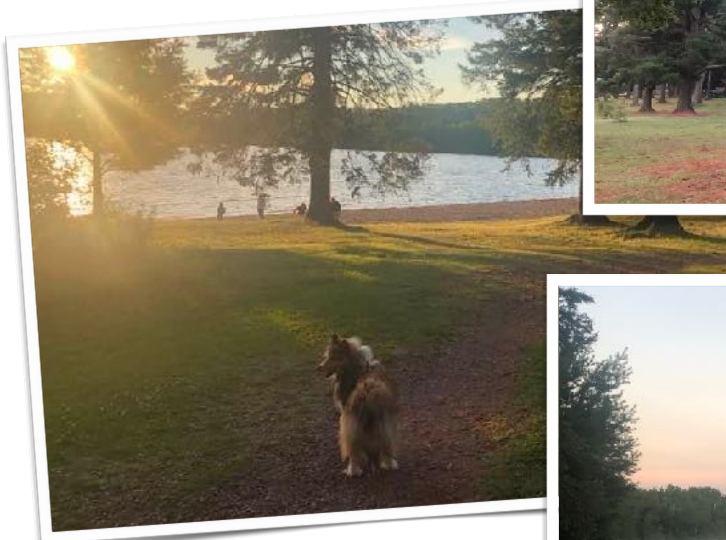
On August 1, 2022, we received a call from a talent agency who knew we had a tow vehicle. They reserved an Airstream for a commercial shoot but the owner could not drop it off at the location as he was with his 11-year-old daughter's baseball tournament in Irvine where she is the #1 pitcher in California in her category. With her busy schedule, although he owns three other trailers, he bought the 2020 23' Flying Cloud Airstream for them to enjoy instead of many hotels rooms. We met Van when we returned his Airstream, and before we parted ways, I mentioned our club which he might join again as he lives about three miles from us.

Our Favorite Campground!

submitted by Paula & Steve Hammer

The Upper Peninsula (UP) of Michigan is a beautiful place with lots of lakes, rivers, green trees and blue sky. We were passing through the area without a definite destination and stopped at Van Riper State Park where we were able to get a site and had a choice of electric or rustic.

Our site backed up to a big grassy area and was long enough that we didn't even have to unhook. The campground had pretty much everything a kid (or adult!) could want including skate park, basketball, volley ball, jungle gym, fishing, boat ramp, beach and hiking trails. Everything was so well maintained and the dump station was even equipped with a hose to flush the black tank. All this for only \$35/night!



A Day in the Life of a ‘Starlet’

submitted by Laretta Smith

Our 1971 Overlander Airstream named GSTHOUZ, and 1968 Cadillac convertible are listed for use in commercials, films and photo shoots, however, in late July, we received an inquiry for only a tow vehicle to transport an Airstream to a photo shoot in Lancaster.

We hitched up the Airstream located three miles from our house and delivered it to the location. When we asked the producer why they did not use our Airstream as it would have been an easier task, he said he was unaware we had one and asked to see photos. Our services were needed to stay on the set and return the Airstream to its owner at the end of the shoot.

Fast forward and the producer wanted our Airstream for all drone shots and booked August 11 to shoot. We headed to the first location in Lancaster where we booked a night at Saddleback Butte State Park Campground, a mile away from our 7:00 a.m. rendezvous site. The day brought us to four more locations, wrapping up in Zuma/Malibu for sunset shots.



With such a late wrap, we called Leo Carillo State Park Campground and were able to book one night.

Pierre and I had a fun time driving our Airstream to the shoot and it gave us an unexpected, but welcomed, mini-vacation staying in two state parks!

Note: Commercial for Anker 757 PowerHouse 1229Wh/1500W battery, a portable power station.

Summer adventures, our club members get around!



Pam & Dennis enjoy Alaska while Bruce & Denise arrive in Fryeburg, Maine





Linda & Rudy at Katmai NP



Pierre enjoying an Airstream lunch



Paula & Steve in Alaska



Marion and Eddie at Hearst Winery



Gregg & Catherine near Estes Park, CO



Barretts in Ventura



Tim & Mona in Alaska



Stuebe & Denny at Fryeburg, ME



Michael, Nancy, Jim, Susan and Yvonne at Lake Casitas



Mona, Pam, Dennis and Jim at Fryeburg, ME



Susan at Tres Hermanas Winery



Liz & Barry with great-granddaughter, Lyla; and with Frazier at Teton Dam



Gregg in CO and a summer feast in a cup





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

Get Your GLA Swag Here!

To order:

- Go to business.landsend.com and set up an account
- Once established, order online using these codes:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LIGHT COLOR APPAREL (colors may not be changed) Logo code 1360294 DARK COLOR APPAREL (colors may not be changed) Logo code 1389360 OK to change colors use logo code 1684885 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
--	---

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!