
UWAC Club News



Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club News

Volume 19 — OCTOBER 2022 — WBCCI's Utah Affiliate

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello fellow UWAC members,

It's that time of year...we are quickly nearing the end of the traditional Airstreaming season. Boooo. The good news is we are working on finalizing plans for our Annual UWAC Business Meeting and dinner. We have chosen to have the event on **Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Salt Lake City *Cheesecake Factory location-65 Regent Street.** This will be a fun opportunity to get together and reminisce about what I thought was an amazing 2022 UWAC rally/caravan season. One more shout out to this year's hosts and co-hosts: thank you for arranging and hosting such amazing events! We really couldn't do all that we do without you.

We will have a quick business meeting followed by a 3-course dinner. The cost per person will be \$40.00, with a limit of two people per WBCCI membership. The actual cost for the dinner including tax and service fee is \$58.24. The club will cover the \$18.24 difference. The \$40.00 will include your choice of soft drink, iced tea or coffee. There will also be a cash bar available.

Please complete the JotForm registration and payment via the link below by Monday, October 10 so we can finalize the arrangements in a timely manner.

UWAC 2022 Annual Business Meeting dinner registration link:

<https://form.jotform.com/222567715278162>

Please remember to renew your membership if you have not already done so. Bonnie has received quite a few membership and affiliate renewals as well as new memberships. We now have close to 60 members!

I'm sure you have seen the registration notes regarding the 2023 International rally in Rock

Springs, WY. June 24-30. I'd love to have UWAC make a strong showing given it is in our (albeit windy) backyard. You can register via this link: <https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023>
We will be having a UWAC "Apres International rally, rally" July 1-4, in Etna Wyoming at the Grand Buffalo RV resort. Dennis Decker of Airstream of Utah has opened a Wyoming dealership and RV resort. He is being very helpful with this rally. I should be sending a registration e-mail soon.
See you down the road!

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Stories from the Road



UWAC Wyoming Caravan — July 2022

Co-hosted by Jeanne & Keith Lund, Holly & Ron Jorgensen

UWAC held a fun and successful caravan that criss-crossed the beautiful state of Wyoming. The caravan was well attended with ten trailers/motorhomes, 18 people, and 11 canine companions (felines were totally underrepresented at zero.) Our first stop was in Boulder, WY at the Highline Trail RV Park. UWAC members visited Pinedale and the group did a 3-mile hike at scenic Half Moon Lake, as well as visited the wonderful Mountain Man Museum. Our second stop was at Thermopolis at the Eagle RV Park where the group dined at the One Eyed Buffalo and visited various sites, including Hot Springs State Park and the Wyoming State Bath House.

From Thermopolis, the group traveled across the beautiful Big Horn Mountains to the Buffalo KOA where we swam (it was hot!) and visited various sites including the historic Occidental Hotel and Jim Gatchell Museum — great historical exhibits for such a small space. Our fourth stop took us to historic Sundance at the Mountain View RV Park (another great pool!) From Sundance, the group spread-out in all directions and visited Mt. Rushmore, Deadwood, Sturgis, the Badlands, and other sites in the beautiful Black Hills.

Our final leg took us back across the Big Horns into the Big Horn Basin and the Cody KOA. Folks explored the historic downtown, world-class Buffalo Bill Museum (with 5 exhibits!), and traveled into the nearby Absaroka mountains and Yellowstone. Overall, we had a wonderful time with a fun & hardy group of travelers. The experience of holding an 11-night caravan was a good learning experience, and we'll likely make some tweaks to the agenda the next time we venture off as a unit caravan — and yes, we want to do another caravan!!

Here are a few thoughts from attendees — hope you can join us next time!

"The Wyoming Caravan was a great way to sample areas of Wyoming that I hadn't been to. It was fun following Ron and Holly and enjoying the stops along the way. I loved all the areas we went but especially liked the Buffalo Center of the West museum and The Old Trail Town in Cody. I really enjoyed all the people on the caravan. The last night get together at Ron and Holly's Airstream was really fun! I would definitely go on another caravan. 😎" —Lori K.

"I think my favorite part of our Cowboy Caravan into Wyoming was our group hike along the shoreline of Half Moon Lake. The hike was perfect as far as difficulty and length and time. Going to the inlet of the lake really gave you a great taste of how beautiful and wild the Wind River Mountains can be without an arduous trek into the depth of the range. It was just a gorgeous mix of pines, aspen, wildflowers and water. Not only did the hikers seem to have a great time but I think the dogs really had a blast with lots of opportunities for swimming and romping in the waters of the lake. It was really enjoyable to watch them "going for it". Amazingly, very few other people or watercraft. Followed by a great lunch on the patio of The Wind River Brewery and a trip to The Mountain Man Museum, Pinedale was just a wonderful place to enjoy."
—Keith L.

"We loved this rally through Wyoming. We saw many interesting places. We really enjoyed camping in Sundance, Wyoming, because we were able to drive to Devil's Tower and to Mount Rushmore, both places we have never been to before. Every day was full. We chose to go to as many places as we could every day. We were tired every night, but loved every minute." —Mary and Marcelo P.



August 2022 – Dinosaur National Monument Rally:

Hosted by Mary and Marcelo Paz

A roaring good time was had by all at our Dinosaurland Rally in August.



Meeting new friends is one of many benefits of rallying with the Club. Raegan Lund and Quinn Clayton.

On Friday we went to the Dinosaur National Monument which has a quarry exhibit hall where we were able to get up close to the dinosaur fossils that are exposed in the rock. There were over 1500 dinosaur fossils exposed on the cliff face inside the Quarry Exhibit Hall. Later that evening we had a yummy homestyle dinner at the 7-11 Ranch Restaurant, where everyone who registered for the rally was in attendance.



On Saturday morning we hiked to Moonshine Arch. It's a 1.5 mile in and out trail, so even some of the young kids in our group were able to make it. Dinner on Saturday was a potluck with shredded beef sandwiches. After the dinner we had a couple of paleontologists from Vernal, Evan Hall and Sue Ann Bilby, who were both very excited to share some of their knowledge with us about the dinosaur history, and some of their personal experiences in the area.



The rally included time for relaxing in a beautiful campground with plenty of green grassy space,

eating good food, and ended on Sunday morning with a delicious pancake bar. Fluffy buttermilk pancakes with so many toppings to choose from. No one was disappointed. And everyone took home a replica of the famous pink brontosaurus in town. *Mary and Marcelo Paz*

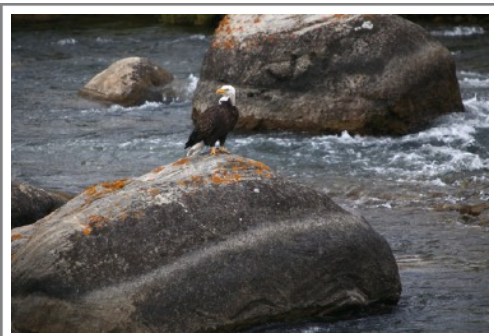


Boondocking with the Buehlers

By Kevin Buehler

August 2022 - Green River Lakes, Wyoming

In August, Kevin and Elizabeth Buehler (BRN 12225) drove up to the Wind River Range to visit the Green River Lakes, headwaters of the Green. Camping off the forest road 20 feet



from the river was a truly wild experience. There is a lot to do in this area of the Bridger-Teton National Forest with hiking, SUPing, fishing, wildlife viewing, or just relaxing water time. The birds were amazing, with falcons, hawks and ducks.

The highlight was a pair of eagles and their juvenile that fished and hunted twice a day, mornings and evenings. It's amazing when eagle sightings become commonplace. The Hike around Green River Lakes was nice, with a view of Tabletop Mountain the whole time. Besides the lakes, you float the river or ponds in the area. We prefer an inflatable SUP because you can pack it down and store it in your Airstream for travel.



This section north of Cora was moderately busy but easy to find an ideal spot along a moving section of the river. The road after the pavement is rough though, we picked a spot sooner than planned because of the road. Later on, we saw two other Airstreams further up the road. They must have had great faith in their rock guards. Be warned cows do roam the open grazing land with everything that entails, including an early morning visit from a herd. This is Another hidden gem in the Wind River Range.



Crater Lake, OR : September 9-13 **Crater Lake Rally, Prospect, Oregon** *Hosted by Chris and Vic Gabrenas*

Members from California, Utah & Vancouver BC all met together with a common love of air streaming. It was really fun getting to know how other clubs work and how everyone came

about to the Airstream way.

On Saturday - twelve of us accomplished the Ride the Rim Bike Ride around Crater Lake at the National Park. Most of us completed the 23 mile ride while a few adventurous people completed the 33 miles. The park closes the east rim drive twice a year for bikers to ride - with no cars. Beautiful views - and the smoke kept itself at bay until we were done. A few of us had some pedal assist and others were powered by pure leg power.



Sunday we all gathered for a potluck and great conversation.

Monday was a day of exploring, Rabbit Ears, Hershberger Mountain Lookout, The Rogue River Gorge, Natural Bridges, Crater Lake National Park, Lost Lake, and Barr Creek Falls, Mill Creek Falls, Pearsony Falls, and Tokatee Falls. This area of Oregon has so much to see. If you get a chance head out to Prospect, Oregon and the Rogue River Valley. We could have spent several more days here exploring -

but that will be next time. Sunny days and cool nights made for a great 4 days.

Huge thanks to Pam @ Crater Lake RV Park - she took great care of us - and it was really nice to be able to support a private business. The trees here and walking trail right in the park are second to none. *Chris and Vic Gabrenas*

Nearing the end of 2022:

October 2022 - Sun Valley Jazz Festival, Idaho: October 12-16, 2022.

<https://jazz.ticketspice.com/sun-valley-jazz-music-festival-2022/>

Several UWAC members are planning to attend the festival.

November 2022 - Club dinner

<https://form.jotform.com/222567715278162>

And Planning 2023

Already? Yes indeed. The following are tentative plans and ideas for our 2023 season. If you have a place where you'd like to rally, hosted or no-hosted, please let Kevin or any board member know so the planning can begin. Our 2022 rally season has been great. Let's make 2023 even better.

March - Open

April - Kanab (Or maybe Moab), Utah - Currently, this is a rally without a host. If either of these areas are on your "have to go" list, please think about hosting a rally. Contact one of the board members to get the planning started.

May - Lava Hot Springs, Idaho - (Lunds are hosting) Portneuf Bend RV Park. Tentatively scheduled for May 18, 19, 20. More information will follow soon.

June - International Rally in Rock Spring, Wyo. June 24 - 30 Registration link: <https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023>

July - Grand Buffalo après International Rally July 1 -5 Grand Buffalo RV Resort, Etna, WY. (Ruskauffs) - Airstream of Wyoming Rally, Star Valley, Wyo.

July - Montana Caravan July 19 - 30 Kelly and Ronaldo Araujo

August - Flagstaff, Ariz. (Buehlers) August 9 - 13

September - Palisade, Colo. (Jorgensens and Spradlins)

October - Open

November - Formula 1 Race Las Vegas (Ruskauffs and Buehlers) Formula 1 Race Las Vegas (Ruskauffs and Buehlers) - Nov. 18 at 10 p.m. PT, dates might be Nov. 15 to 19 (Hoping for a late checkout on the 19th)

November - UWAC annual meeting and Dinner - TBD

New Members!

We're excited to welcome the following members who have recently joined UWAC

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| • <i>Jim and Diane Rumbo</i> | <i>Mark & Lisa Sloan</i> |
| • <i>Jeffrey & Karen King</i> | <i>Charles Wright III & Rena Skeen</i> |
| • <i>Steve & Cindy McKenzie</i> | <i>James and Leigh Ann Peterson</i> |
| • <i>Christopher & Renee Maron</i> | <i>Kirk & Robin Lang</i> |
| • <i>Casey & Paula McMullen</i> | <i>Michael & Pamela Grimme</i> |
| • <i>PerOle & Cassie Danfors</i> | <i>Lars & Janet Bergeson</i> |
| • <i>Cary & Karen Piotrowski</i> | <i>Bob & Becky Ford</i> |
| • <i>Tom & Rennie Scranton</i> | <i>Ed & Kimberly Hash</i> |
| • <i>Peter Grogan & Laurel Black</i> | <i>Steve & Lisa Parr</i> |
| | <i>Michael & Annie Vasquez</i> |

TECH CORNER

Power conservation tips and tricks

Airstream Life Rich Luhr May 24, 2022



If you like to camp in places where electrical hookups aren't available, you may have run into one of the big limitations of most RVs (not just Airstreams): It's easy to run out of battery power in a night or two.

There are several reasons that this happens, but it boils down to this:

- there are a lot of things in the Airstream that need power
- there's not a lot of power in a pair of batteries

Before you rush off to solve this problem with an expensive generator, or live like hermits by candlelight, take a moment to learn a little about the electrical system. You may find that you are perfectly content to boondock a couple of nights on the batteries, once you have a few strategies for conserving power.

Beware the inverter and laptops

Many times we've heard from new owners wondering why their batteries didn't last, and the first question we ask is, "Are you using laptops?" Usually the answer is yes. And often it's a case of using two laptops for several hours a day—because using laptops requires the use of an inverter if you need to plug them in.

An inverter is an electrical appliance that uses the energy in the batteries to power the household outlets, so you can plug things in. (For details on [what the inverter does, and how best to use it, read this blog.](#))

When you turn on the inverter you can power your laptop computer, which is great. The problem is that the total power consumption can be much larger than you think. Without getting into numbers, a pair of laptops, plus the power needed by the inverter itself, will eat up more than half of a typical Airstream factory-supplied battery bank in just four hours!

Add that to the power needed for an electric refrigerator and a few other things, and you're looking at dead batteries tomorrow.

This is just one example. A modern Airstream has many items that all need power, and some of them consume power all day and night even when you think they are turned off. So even if you don't use laptop computers or have an inverter installed, you can still run into power shortages within a day or two, if you're not careful.

Conserve power with these strategies

Fortunately there are lots of ways to get more out of your batteries. Here are our top conservation tips:

1. Use your laptop computer on its own battery power as much as possible (don't plug in).
2. Turn on the inverter only when needed to charge laptops or power other appliances that need it, like the TV. Always turn the inverter off when done, because it consumes power even if nothing is plugged in.
3. Set the temperature lower on cold nights, so the furnace blower runs less. Even though the furnace uses propane, the blower fan is a big consumer of power.
4. Keep water pump usage to a minimum. The water pump doesn't usually get run for long periods of time but when it is running it eats up a lot of power.
5. If your refrigerator has a propane mode (generally trailers made 2020 and earlier), use it. Make sure it's not in 12 volt electric mode when you're boondocking.

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6. Don't leave lights on at night. Even a single LED light will consume a noticeable amount of your battery capacity when left on for hours.
 7. If you have solar panels, try to coordinate your power needs with the sunniest part of the day, so that the Airstream's batteries can absorb as much power as the panels can produce.
 8. Be mindful of appliances and devices that run for long periods of time. The Fantastic Vent fans, for example, doesn't draw a lot of power, but the cumulative effective of running them all day long adds up faster than you think.

Beyond conservation, you can upgrade your Airstream for boondocking situations:

- [Get portable solar](#) if you don't already have it. Portable solar works in tandem with a rooftop solar installation to give you even more power.
- [Consider a CarGenerator](#) for those times when the sun isn't shining, or when you need a rapid re-charge.
- Install larger-capacity batteries. Lithium batteries are a powerful, albeit expensive option. [Read our lithium battery upgrade story here.](#)
- [Install an amp-hour meter](#), so you can truly understand how much power you are using, and how much you have left. This is essential if you have lithium batteries.

RECIPES

Cast Iron Chicken Fajitas (All Recipes - Recipe by Bibi)

Use a cast iron skillet on your stove top or grill to create great-tasting chicken fajitas. You'll need a fairly large skillet, at least 12 inches or larger, to handle the chicken and all the vegetables. Just don't forget that last squeeze of lime juice over everything. It adds just the right touch! Serve fajitas with toppings like salsa, pico de gallo, shredded cheese, sour cream, and guacamole.

2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast

- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon chipotle chili powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika



- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- ½ teaspoon ground coriander
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon dried Mexican oregano
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper, or to taste
- 2 medium bell peppers, sliced
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 medium lime, juiced
- 16 (8 inch) flour tortillas, warmed

Directions

- Dry chicken with paper towels and pound to a uniform thickness of 1/2 to 3/4-inch thickness.
- Combine cumin, chipotle chili powder, chili powder, smoked paprika, salt, coriander, garlic, Mexican oregano, and pepper in a bowl. Divide spice mixture in half. Sprinkle chicken with 1/2 of the spice mixture and rub on both sides of the chicken. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour, or up to 8 hours.
- Combine bell pepper slices, onion slices, and 1 tablespoon olive oil in a bowl. Stir vegetables until coated in oil, then sprinkle reserved spice mix over the vegetables. Stir until evenly coated; set aside.
- Heat a dry 12-inch cast iron skillet over medium-high heat. Pour remaining 2 tablespoons oil into the hot skillet. Add chicken breasts to the skillet and cook until the chicken is nicely browned, 4 to 5 minutes per side. Transfer chicken to a cutting board.
- Add seasoned vegetables to the same skillet and cook, stirring occasionally, about 5 minutes.
- While vegetables are cooking, slice the chicken breasts into 1/2-inch slices, and add back to the skillet to continue cooking. Continue stirring and cooking until the chicken is no longer pink in the center and the juices run clear. An instant-read thermometer should read at least 165 degrees F (74 degrees C). Remove skillet from heat and drizzle lime juice over all. Serve in warm flour tortillas.

OR, Buy a package of Ortega Skillet sauce and follow the recipe on the back using what ever chicken you have in the fridge. It works great for camping and cuts out a lot of work. For a quick snack, we use the small soft flour street taco shells made by Mission. *Keith and Jeanne*



WORTH NOTING:

UWAC Website - The legacy UWAC website will no longer be updated as the club has transitioned 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.

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 since it's a custom item. <https://www.flagology.com/product/personalized-utahs-wasatch-airstream-club-garden-flag-12-5-x-18/>

