



# Colorful News



April 2023

UNIT #24 REGION 11  
[AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG/COLORADO-AIRSTREAM-CLUB-INFORMATION](http://AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG/COLORADO-AIRSTREAM-CLUB-INFORMATION)



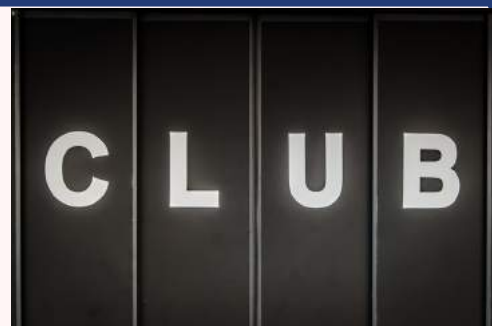
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## President's Message

Greek philosopher Heraclitus is the credited author of one of my favorite truisms. He apparently coined the phrase, "the only constant is change." I used the phrase in our presentation on the history of local broadcasting at the March luncheon in Colorado Springs, and I want to thank all of you who made the drive to join us in March. We had members from Woodland Park, Monument, Denver, Longmont, Boulder, Fort Collins, Pueblo, Castle Rock, and Falcon.

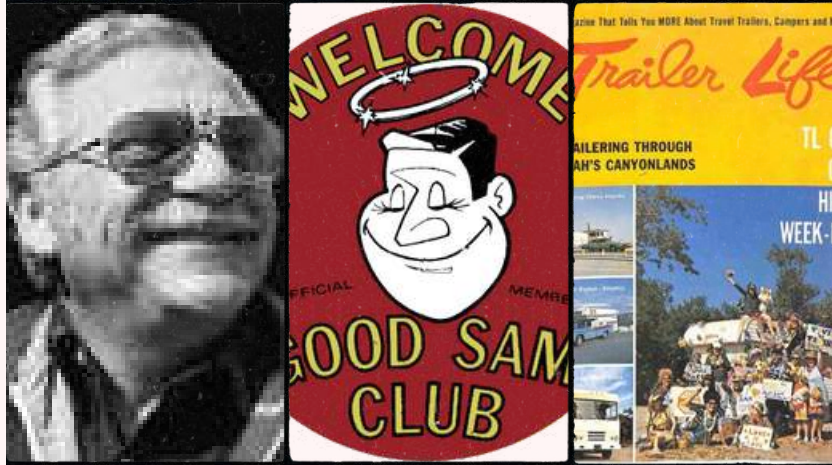
One recent change that caught me by surprise was a decision by Camping World to drop the word "Club" from Good Sam Club and pretty much dismantle the club organization. I'm told Good Sam is still a "thing," but the Good Sam Club is not.



*Continued on page 2*

*President's Message continued from page 1*

*Don't ask me to explain exactly what that means. Maybe it means my Good Sam Lifetime Membership card should be transferred from my wallet to the tin box where I keep my Sears, Montgomery Ward, Mervyn's, Joslins, and Kmart credit cards.*



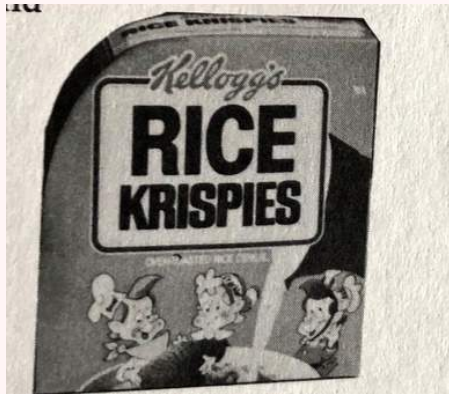
I met Art Rouse in 1987. He was the retired publisher and owner of Trailer Life, a magazine he had bought in the late 1950s, and from it, he grew several other RV publications and the Good Sam Club.

I interviewed him for an hour-long network radio show. He was, as you might expect, an energetic, engaging, and interesting lifelong traveler.

In one of his columns, he wrote:

*"My coffin better have wheels, because I'm gonna keep rollin' down the road until they park me permanently in that great trailer park in the sky."*

Art was an Airstreamer for many years. He wrote many articles about his Airstreams and tow vehicles. Airstream was also an important advertiser in Art's magazine. But friendly competition heated up in the 1970s between members of the Airstream Club (WBCCI) and Good Sam members. Pictured is a photo of a box of Rice Krispies, which was modified by a competing RV brand to fit the curved cabinet in Art's Airstream and given to him at a Good Sam rally.



Good Sam Grand PooBah Marcus Lemon reportedly explained that the word club was being dropped because young people just don't want to join a club. I hear that from Rotarians, Lions, and Kiwanians as well. But how can that be when so many are trying to increase their number of "friends" on Facebook and "likes" on their posts?

I'm grateful that our club is still growing, and I hope all of our members feel welcome and are warmly welcomed at each and every one of our events. I'm grateful for the continued support we get from Airstream, from the club's excellent staff in Jackson Center, and especially from the engaged and hard-working members of our board, our camping and luncheon

hosts, and all you who continue to make the Colorado Airstream Club a vibrant, friendly, and engaging community of folks who share similar interests in travel, camping, sightseeing, learning, and adventure.

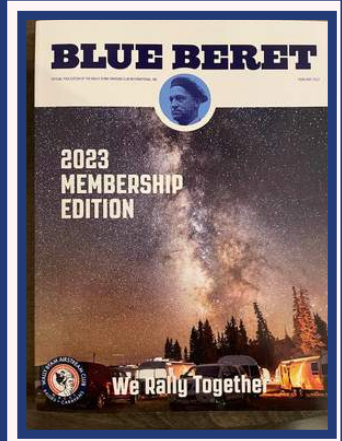
Dave Rose - CAC President  
Lifetime BRN 13495

## CAC On the Cover of the Blue Beret

The 2023 Membership Edition of the Blue Beret features a photo by Rich Howarth. Rich is the 1st Vice President of the Colorado Airstream Club.

The photo captures the Milky Way at the 2022 Wagon Wheel Rally near Creed, Colorado. Registration for the 2023 edition of this rally opens in July. Keep an eye on the [events web page](#) for full details.

You can access [online editions](#) of the Blue Beret, however the membership edition is only available in the print edition.



## Mods to Share

### Bidet in a Silver Bullet

by Chris Freeman BRN 2998

The pandemic showed us that there is such a thing as a toilet paper shortage. Suddenly, the mysterious bidet was a hot commodity in the US.

Many discovered the benefits of the bidet and some of us decided to take those benefits on the road in our Airstreams.

I found a great how-to in [Airforums.com](#) and easily added a bidet to our travel trailer. This mod took less than a half hour to complete and less than \$70 in parts. Your choice of bidet will impact the total price.

#### Parts needed:

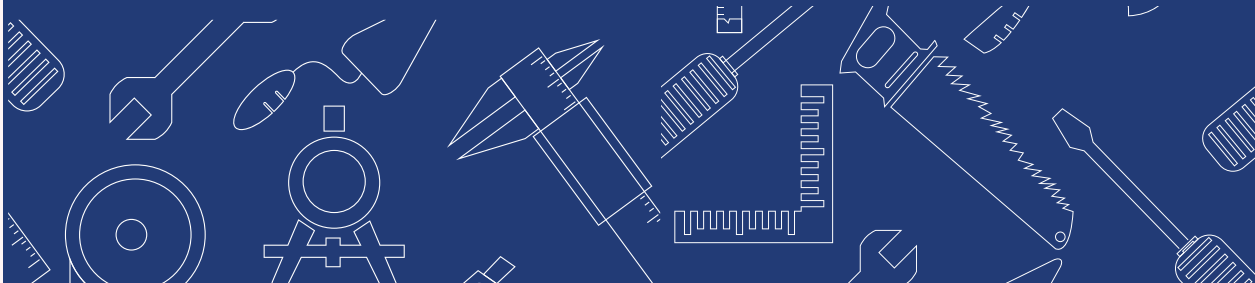
- Bidet (We chose a [Veken Ultra-Slim](#)) \$30
- [SharkBite 1/2 x 1/2 x 3/8 Tee Stop Valve](#) \$25
- [SharkBite Pipe Cutter Tool](#) \$10

#### Benefits:

- Use less toilet paper
- Encourages using enough water to avoid the dreaded poop pyramid
- A clean heinie

Do you have a modification that improved your Airstream experience?

Share your mod with the [newsletter editor](#).



## CAC Officers

### *President*

Dave Rose

### *1st Vice President*

Rich Howarth

### *2nd Vice President*

Steve Libhart

### *Treasurer*

Dayna Olivas

### *Recording Officer*

Valerie McVay

### *Corresponding Secretary*

Carolyn Beardshear

### *Past President*

Rob Hughey

### *Trustees*

Jim Stahl

Mike Zimmermann

Kirk McVay

Scott Kunze

## Coordinators

### *Membership*

Scott Kunze

### *Newsletter Editor*

Chris Freeman

### *Event Consultant*

Rob Hughey

### *Information Technology*

Von Campbell

### *Webmaster*

Carolyn Beardshear

## New Club Members



Welcome to the newest members of the Colorado Airstream Club!

- Sam & Kathy Brandes BRN 8999
- Corey & Katie Gray BRN 31362
- Curt & Trudy Collar BRN 9719



**"Keep your eyes on the stars, and the stars in your eyes...see if you can find out what's over the next hill, and the next one after that." - Wally Byam**

## Meet Members - Lisa Ralston and Keith Kirchubel

By: Chris Freeman BRN# 2998

Lisa and Keith have been members of the Colorado Airstream Club since 2019 when they moved from a teardrop trailer to a 22ft travel trailer.

Lisa and Keith started their outdoor adventures with backpacking trips, including outings in the Rocky Mountain National Park Wild Basin. They were motivated to purchase a teardrop trailer after reading an article in Sunset Magazine.

They took their Colorado Teardrop on their most memorable trip in 2015. Lisa and Keith are both from California, and they set off on a journey to St. George, UT, then to Carlsbad, CA, and up the California coast. The trip included stops at Pismo Beach, the

Carmel Valley, and Sacramento. Along the way, they learned that they were about to become grandparents.

They found a Teardrop group and continued participating in events, as many members eventually moved to larger RVs. This sense of community likely influenced their decision to join the Airstream Club.

Lisa and Keith camp in the wild with their latest Airstream, now a 23ft unit. The trailer has a 3-inch lift, which helps them confidently travel dirt roads to reach their favorite spots. These include boondocking sites near Salida (Mt Princeton), Buffalo Creek, and others.

They also rally with the Colorado Airstream Club and will be at the 2023 Estes Rally.



Left: Snowy Range in the Medicine Bow Mountains

Right: Colorado Teardrop on the California trip

Lisa, Keith, and their two dogs will travel to Glacier National Park, then into Canada this fall. Stops in Banff, Jasper, and Kelowna will surely create great memories.

Keith praised the Canadian reservation process for campsites. The entire process was organized and civil. Essentially, you get a position in a queue and wait for your turn. He was nearly 20,000 people deep in a queue and simply waited his turn to make a reservation. You don't need to do any frantic web browser refreshing.

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Lisa and Keith both expressed that they enjoy the Airstream Club's community aspect and appreciate the Colorado Club's local engagement.

When they attended the Chatfield Rally in 2022, the sites were broken down into small clusters of four trailers. This setting provided space and promoted a small community for engagement. Lisa and Keith enjoyed the event and preferred camping in more open spaces than a typical RV park offers.

They both look forward to warmer weather and the start of the camping season in Colorado.



I want to thank Lisa and Keith for volunteering to sit down with me for this series. Their camping journey and mine share similarities, and like Lisa and Keith, I prefer camping in the wild.

Lisa and Keith had some great ideas to increase engagement in the club. Their experience planning a trip to Canada inspired some of their suggestions. Trip planning is a skill that wasn't as necessary before 2020.

Look for some new club activities in the future, including trip planning and knowledge sharing.

If you are attending the Estes Rally, make sure to meet Lisa and Keith.

We seek more volunteers for the Meet Members newsletter segment.

The process is painless. We chat for 40 - 60 minutes and learn more about each other. These sessions can be completed via a web meeting or in person. Rally interview opportunities are available at Carlsbad Caverns, Chama, and Meeker.

Please reach out to the [newsletter editor](#) to volunteer for the series. I am excited to meet more members. Your stories are inspiring, and I hope to share them with our group.



## Facebook Group

You can find the group on Facebook and request access. This is a private group for CAC members only. The group is not a formal communication channel.

FB Group membership is not required. All CAC members receive formal email communications.

However, it is a great place to interact with fellow club members.

Visit: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/colorado.wbccj>

Or search for "Colorado Airstream Club" on Facebook.



## Pop Quiz!

What was the first Airstream travel trailer to include a rear hatch?

- A) Eddie Bauer Special Edition
- B) Pendleton Special Edition
- C) PanAmerica Toy Hauler
- D) Tommy Bahama Special Edition

(Answer Below)



Bookmark Your One Stop Resource for All CAC Events

<https://airstreamclub.org/colorado-airstream-club-information>



## Rally Recipe

Flourless Zucchini Chocolate Brownies via Brenda Hughey by [The Comfort of Cooking](#).

You can find this and other great recipes from rallies [here](#).

1 cup creamy almond butter  
2 medium zucchini, shredded (unpeeled)  
1/3 cup honey  
1 large egg  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips, melted



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9 x 9-inch baking pan; set aside.
2. In a large bowl, combine all ingredients and mix thoroughly until smooth. Pour into prepared pan.
3. Bake for 35-40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
4. Let cool completely before cutting into squares.
5. Enjoy!

Do you have a recipe to share with the club? Reach out to the [newsletter editor](#) and submit your great recipe!

## AI Artist

A member of the Airstream Addicts Facebook Group asked an Artificial Intelligence art engine to draw an Airstream, and this was the result.

Apparently we are not in jeopardy of being overrun by AI yet :)

Link to the [original post](#)

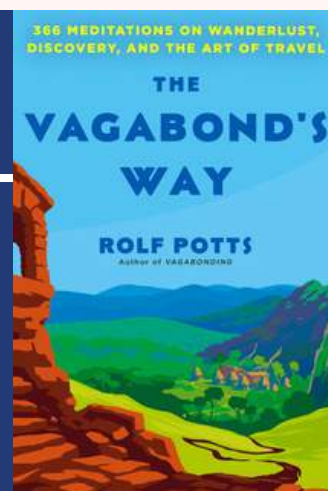




## Book Recommendation

The Vagabond's Way  
by Rolf Potts

For readers who dream of travel, yearn to get back out on the road, or want to enrich a journey they're currently on, *The Vagabond's Way* explores and celebrates the life-altering essence of travel. Each day of the year features a one-page meditation on an aspect of the journey, anchored by words of wisdom from a variety of thinkers--from Stoic philosopher Seneca and poet Maya Angelou to Trappist monk Thomas Merton and Grover from Sesame Street.



Do you have a great book to share with the club?  
Reach out to the [newsletter editor](#) with a recommendation.

## Quiz Answer

The 2009 34' PanAmerica Toy Hauler was the first production Airstream travel trailer with a hatch. This edition was short-lived, but the hatch lived on appearing in special editions for Eddie Bauer, Pendleton, and Tommy Bahama, before arriving as an option in standard product lines for model year 2021.

### The First Airstream Hatch

The first rear entrance appeared in the [Funeral Coach](#) in 1981. The vehicle was built from an Excella Motor Home and the hatch provided access to flowers for funerals.



## Perk for Event Hosts

As an event host, you have the option to register for one rally of your choice (other than your own) before the form opens to all members.

Hosting/co-hosting more than one event entitles hosts to only one (1) early registration per year, not multiple.

Your name will remain on the "early registration" list for each Rally until you exercise that option. Please note the opening dates of rallies and watch your mailbox for early access 2 days before. You will receive an email notification of the registration window for hosts.

Reach out to [Dave Rose](#) or any other member of the board to get started.



Date	Event	Description
April 24-29	<u>Carlsbad Caverns Rally</u>	It's time to put on your comfortable walking shoes and join us at Whites City RV Campground in Carlsbad, NM, in the spectacular Chihuahuan Desert. This is the closest campground to the Carlsbad Caverns National Park which offers both group Ranger-guided tours and self-guided tours daily.
May 18-21	<u>Maintenance and New Member Rally</u>	This rally is to welcome new members and learn more about your Airstream! Seminars will be presented on a variety of topics around your trailer as well as helpful hints for making camping trips fun, safe, and comfortable. This rally is also focused on welcoming new members!
June 2-4	<u>Airstream Amblin' at Rambler Ranch</u>	This is a dry-camping, no-host rally in beautiful Elizabeth, Colorado at the 160+ acre ranch of an internationally known private collector of over 250 AMC, Nash, Hudson, Jeep, other automobiles, plus Kelvinator appliances & more.



Always visit the [CAC Events Page](#) for registration dates and all the latest updates.

## 2023 Rally Schedule (2 of 3)

Date	Event	Description
June 5-9	<a href="#"><u>Chama New Mexico Rally</u></a>	The historic Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad steam trains leave the Chama depot daily from Memorial Day weekend to mid-October. Riding the railroad is a day trip of exhilarating rugged mountain views.
June 23 - 30	<a href="#"><u>Rolling to Rock Springs 66th International Rally</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Rock Springs, Wyoming</u></a>	 <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle; margin-left: 20px;"> <p>International Rally Dry Camping Available Waitlist Registration for Full Hookup Sites Available</p> </div>
July 13 - 15	<a href="#"><u>Estes Park Rally</u></a>	Mid-July in Estes Park is teeming with fun things to do! We have 30 sites at Manor RV Park, in the heart of Estes Park.
July 31-Aug 4	<a href="#"><u>Granby Rally at Sun Outdoors Rocky Mtn Resort</u></a>	Get out of the heat of the summer ! Discover the ultimate vacation experience at Sun Outdoors Rocky Mountains, in Granby, Colorado. Escape to where the sky meets the mountain.
August 27-31	<a href="#"><u>Biking the Roaring Fork Valley at Carbondale</u></a>	Gateway RV Park sits next to the Roaring Fork River and the Rio Grande Bike Trail, We will organize some bike rides on the paved 40 mile bike trail that leads all the way to Aspen. Bring your water toys and fishing poles, and enjoy the gorgeous scenery and all the Roaring Fork Valley has to offer.
September 7-11	<a href="#"><u>Meeker Classic Sheepdog Trials Rally</u></a>	Join us in the beautiful and peaceful valley in Meeker Colorado for the 2023 Meeker Classic Sheep Dog Trials. These trials are the culmination of several competitions and the winner takes the grand prize.

Always visit the [CAC Events Page](#) for registration dates and all the latest updates.

Date	Event	Description
September 7-10	<a href="#">Carter Lake Rally</a>	Join us at beautiful Carter Lake. Carter Lake is easily accessible from the Front Range, about 1 hour north of Denver. There are great hiking trails around the lake which also offers bathing, boating and fishing. Campsites are situated along the lake and pull-throughs are plentiful.
September 18 -22	<a href="#">Wagon Wheel Rally</a>	Registration Opens July 15 Registration Deadline: Sept. 15 Wait list to follow when rally fills Hosts: Carolyn Beardshear, Mike Zimmermann, Michael and Becki Carmichael
October 2 - 6	<a href="#">Ouray for Fall Colors</a>	Registration Opens February 15 Prior campground reservations are required before registering with CAC. Registration Deadline: April 15 Wait list posted 9/11 Host: Carolyn Beardshear, Mike Zimmermann. ISO "new" hosts to co-host.



Always visit the [CAC Events Page](#) for registration dates and all the latest updates.

## Colorful News

Make this newsletter YOURS!

Send your articles to  
[chris.freeman+cacnews@gmail.com](mailto:chris.freeman+cacnews@gmail.com)  
 by the 15th of the month with the  
 subject line:  
**AIRSTREAM NEWSLETTER**

### Suggestions For Topics:

#### Trips and Adventures:

Include itinerary, photos, captions,  
 and websites of any important  
 destinations

#### Technology Tips:

Have a new Starlink setup? Lithium  
 and solar? Tell us about it!

#### Hacks and Upgrades:

Show us something you've done to  
 enhance your travel experience

#### Rally Recipes:

Let us know what's cooking in your  
 Airstream

#### Reading for the Road:

What are you reading that you  
 cannot put down?

#### Exterior Set-up:

Do you have an outside  
 arrangement that works well?

#### ...and more.

If it interests you, share it with the  
 club.

## Spring Maintenance

# HELLO SPRING

### Bathroom Exhaust Foam Gasket Replacement

Does your bathroom or shower exhaust fan make a bunch of racket when it's running? If you haven't replaced the foam gasket in the unit recently, you likely have a problem that is easy to solve.

These foam gaskets notoriously fail and get tangled up in the fan. Thankfully, it only takes a ladder, screwdriver, and \$10 of [M-D weather strip tape](#) to permanently fix your exhaust fan.

Spring time is a great time for this project.

The exhaust covers are connected with two phillips screws.

Once the cover is removed, pull out the old foam gasket.

Install the new weather strip tape and reinstall the cover.

The new gasket will end your struggles with a noisy exhaust fan. The old foam gaskets don't last long, especially if your trailer is out in to the sun often.

Take advantage of the spring to set yourself for success for the season.

Do you have a maintenance tip? Contact the [newsletter editor](#).



## Caravan to Rock Springs

*The Colorado Airstream Club has nearly 70 rigs registered for the 2023 International Rally in Rock Springs, WY.*

If you are attending and have an interest in leading or joining a caravan to the rally, please send an email to [Dave Rose](mailto:Dave.Rose@coloradoairstreamclub.com).

A group our size will need several leaders to keep the caravan sizes manageable.

A caravan is the best way to ensure you park near your Colorado club friends. All caravans MUST register with HQ by May 1, 2023.



## Master Tech RV

Here at Master Tech RV Repair and Storage, we are your one-stop shop to take care of your Airstream. We are RVIA Master Certified and have a Certified Airstream Technician on staff to handle any bodywork needed.

Indoor and outdoor storage available. Our indoor storage is temperature controlled and includes plug-ins.

6590 E. 49th Ave. in Commerce City just north of I-70 and West of Quebec



## Rally2023 Golf Scramble

Are you a golfer and traveling to Rock Springs?

Registration is now open for the Rally2023 Golf Scramble.

**Location:** White Mountain Golf Course, Rock Springs

**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023

**Time:** 8 a.m.

**Contact:** Richard Girard, Golf Scramble Chair

[wb7513@gmail.com](mailto:wb7513@gmail.com)

Register for the event [here](#)



## Editorial Review

*Colorful News* is published monthly by the Colorado Airstream Club, Unit #24.

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Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor, Chris Freeman: [chris.freeman+cacnews@gmail.com](mailto:chris.freeman+cacnews@gmail.com)

Articles submitted for publishing must be sent to the newsletter editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Kindly use **AIRSTREAM NEWSLETTER** in the email subject line.

