



Colorful News



July 2023

UNIT #24 REGION 11
AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG/COLORADO-AIRSTREAM-CLUB-INFORMATION



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President's Message

A daylong excursion on the Cumbres and Toltec scenic railroad was the highlight of the Chama Rally, hosted by Rob and Brenda Hughey and Chris and Amy Freeman. The Rally was well attended, and good camaraderie seasoned by sounds and smells of the old steam engine made for another fine Airstream club adventure, not to mention memories brought back for me.

In 1974 I was an eager young TV news reporter interested in anything that might make a good plan by State Senator Bud Edmonds from Manitou Springs that would create a new quasi-governmental agency to save a historic train between Antonito, Colorado and Chama, New Mexico. It sounded like a great TV story to me. So, I talked my boss into letting me go, film, and report.

There was no budget for a photographer. TV film cameras and accessories were heavy, bulky, and terribly unwieldy, so I talked Mary into coming along to help.



President's Message continued from page 1

Colorado State Senator Bud Edmonds was known as “Tinker Bell.” It was a name given to him by political adversaries and adopted by the Denver media because of his never-ending fights to limit the powers of the Mountain Bell telephone company. But breaking up the phone company wasn't Edmonds's only passion. He was also fascinated by trains and determined to save the Cumbres and Toltec..



I loaded film gear into my AMC Gremlin after the five-thirty newscast, and it was really late when we reached the Shamrock Hotel in Chama. It was an 1800's style hotel with a bathroom down the hall and a Royal Gorge style valley running down the center of the mattress. Senator Edmonds pounded on the door at 5:30 in the morning. “Rose, Edmonds,” he shouted. “You need to get up and get pictures of them putting coal in the tinder.” We didn't get much sleep, but we brought back some beautiful pictures. Denver TV picked up the resulting news stories, and Senator Edmonds' legislation passed, creating the Colorado-New Mexico Railroad Authority to save the Cumbres and Toltec.

The train still runs. Mountain Bell was split up into smaller pieces, and it's really hard to find someone who still rents a telephone from the telephone company.

It felt pretty weird leaving our trailer to avoid getting it, and the TV stuck in the muddy meadow after the Rambler Ranch Rally. But we went home and hastily booked a room at the Chama Hotel so we wouldn't miss out altogether on the Chama Rally, which was starting the next day. The Chama Hotel looked okay online, but when we got to Chama, we discovered that it was just the renamed Shamrock Hotel, the same ancient facility we had slept in briefly in 1974, only now it's nearly fifty years older. There was a bathroom in our room this time, but I still expected to run into Marshall Dillon and Miss Kitty at the front desk, and I have no immediate plans to leave town without our Airstream anytime soon.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to an outstanding Maintenance and New Member Rally. We got many compliments and great suggestions for ways to make 2024 even better.

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Also, many thanks to hosts Will and Lori Sander and Luke and Donna Bernander for the Rambler Ranch Rally. Rambler Ranch owner Terry Gale gave us a beautiful meadow in which to circle the wagons and then opened up the 1950s Diner display inside the museum for our hosts to serve burgers and hotdogs at lunch on Saturday as the heavens opened up, and the rain came down in sheets. The Rambler Ranch collection of AMC cars and Kelvinator appliances dating back to the early 1900s is meticulously displayed with period-dressed mannequins, and historic signage is a hidden treasure just down the road in a rural area just outside of Elizabeth, Colorado.

If you haven't already done it, please bookmark [Colorado Airstream Club | ACI](#) All of our event information is posted and updated at that site.

The latest count I got from Region 11 indicates that we will have 142 CAC members in attendance at Rock Springs for the International Rally. Many of us will be gathering in Rawlins Thursday night and then heading into Rock Springs the next day. Others will be coming in from Flaming Gorge and the Vintage Rally. It'll be a busy week. We'll share some highlights next month.

Dave Rose - CAC President
Lifetime BRN 13495



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Scott Kunze

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Chris Freeman

Event Consultant

Rob Hughey

Information Technology

Von Campbell

Webmaster

Carolyn Beardshear

New Club Members



Welcome new members!

Janet & Richard Nummi - BRN 31159

Rory Carmichael - BRN 7857

Tim Gibson - BRN 14335

Marchelle Williams - BRN 3594



"It was impossible, so it took a little longer to accomplish." - Wally Byam

Options to Reduce Anxiety When Fueling Up

by Chris Freeman BRN 2998

Fueling up while hitched up can be stressful, especially for those with rigs exceeding 50 feet. Have you ever pulled into a teeny, tiny gas station and immediately regretted your decision?

Today, we discuss options that can help you reduce stress when you refill your tow vehicle.

Filling up without your trailer attached removes all of the anxieties associated with towing a trailer through a gas station. Of course, this isn't always an option. However, you can do a few things to improve your odds of approaching a gas station without your trailer.

- Follow the 330 Rule. The rule is meant to slow travel and help you enjoy your travels. Drive no more than 330 miles per day and arrive by 3:30 pm. Many diesel trucks have fuel tanks large enough to provide the range for a full travel day using this rule. You can refuel while exploring the area after arriving mid-afternoon.
- Buy an aftermarket fuel tank. Several companies sell drop-in replacement tanks for gas and diesel vehicles, which can significantly increase your range. Combine a larger tank with the 330 rule, and you may never need to refuel with your trailer attached again. These tanks are not cheap, but they may be a worthwhile investment if you feel better not towing your trailer to a gas station.

Some of us have to travel faster and will have to refuel with a trailer attached. Here are a few tips to help reduce the stresses of navigating a gas station with your trailer.

- Look for fuel stations with RV lanes. Maverik stations often have dedicated RV lanes, and even when dedicated lanes are not available, the stations have plenty of room to accommodate RVs at the pumps. Some larger truck stops also have dedicated RV lanes. Use Google Maps to research the fuel station before arrival. Research reduces surprises and anxiety.
- Join the [OpenRoads](#) fuel program (diesel vehicles only). This fuel card program provides a discount at many truck stops across the US and Canada. Discounts are not available at all truck stops, but the OpenRoads app is an excellent resource for researching locations and discounts. You fill up in the Truck Lanes with the big rigs. There is plenty of room, and never a worry about getting in and out in these lanes. Most of these lanes also have DEF available. The process at the pumps is different than you may be used to, but OpenRoads provides excellent instructions. The payment card has to be linked to a bank account and cannot be linked to a credit card. The OpenRoads program can significantly reduce refueling anxiety if you can live with that requirement.

Do you have a refueling tip that helps reduce anxiety in your travels? Let us know [here](#).



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! Revisiting June's Quiz

As a member of ACI, you can register to attend any rally, even if you are not a member of the club or region hosting the rally.

This is a great benefit, especially if you are traveling and would like to attend a rally on the other side of the country to meet more Airstreamers.

Joining a club as an affiliate is a great way to ensure you get member communications, including newsletters, e-blasts, etc. An affiliate membership also helps support that local club. However, you are not required to be a member or affiliate member to attend a rally.



Bookmark Your One Stop Resource for All CAC Events

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



Rally Recipe

[Tiktok Viral Big Mac Smash Burger Tacos](#)

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

[Copycat Big Mac Sauce](#)

1/2 cup mayonnaise
 2 tbsp ketchup
 1 tbsp yellow mustard
 2 tbsp sweet pickle relish
 2 tsp white vinegar, or apple cider vinegar
 1/2 tsp garlic powder
 1/2 tsp onion powder
 1/2 tsp paprika



In a small bowl, mix together all ingredients.

Burgers

1 lb lean ground beef
 Salt and black pepper, to taste
 8 small flour tortillas
 1 cup shredded iceberg lettuce
 24 sliced pickles
 1/2 small white onion, chopped
 8 light cheese singles

1. Divide the ground beef into equal portions. Press each portion onto the tortilla shells in a thin layer, then season with salt and black pepper. Cook beef side down for 2-3 minutes in a medium skillet or on a Blackstone type grill.
2. Flip each tortilla over and top with a slice of cheese. Cook for 1-2 more minutes covered on high heat until cheese melts.
3. Top the tacos with shredded lettuce, sliced pickles, chopped onions, and a thin layer of the delicious Big Mac sauce.
4. Serve the Big Mac Smash Burger Tacos immediately and enjoy the explosion of flavors in every bite. You can serve along with other favorite toppings of choice if desired, such as chopped tomatoes.

This recipe has been all over social media in June 2023. There are many variants, including an amazing vegan version. If you are interested in that version, reach out to the newsletter editor.

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

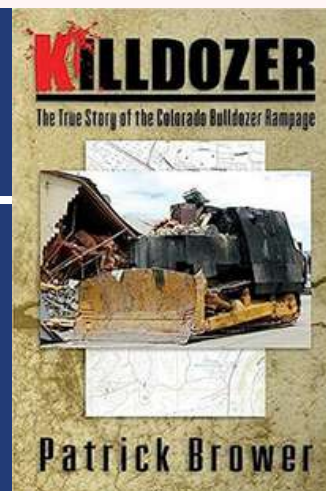


Upcoming Books for Book Club

[KILLDOZER: The True Story of the Colorado Bulldozer Rampage](#)
by Patrick F Brower

The book club will host a discussion on this book in July at the Granby Rally.

This book recounts the June 4, 2004, rampage of Marvin Heemeyer in Granby, Colorado, using an armored bulldozer called the Killdozer. Motivated by revenge from property disputes, Heemeyer unleashed mayhem, overwhelming local police. The book covers the events leading up to the rampage, the devastating aftermath, and explores Heemeyer's motivations and their impact on the community.



[One Girl and Her Dogs: Life, Love and Lambing in the Middle of Nowhere](#)
by Emma Gray

The book club will host a discussion on this book in September at the Meeker Rally.

Emma Gray, a shepherdess, breaks off her engagement and takes over an isolated Northumberland farm for a fresh start. However, challenges like fugitive sheep, blizzards, and a lack of romance test her dreams. With her loyal collies by her side, Emma navigates the triumphs, disasters, and heartbreak of farm life, inspiring those who seek a new beginning.



2024 Rally Planning

The CAC board is already working on Rally plans for 2024.

Do you have an idea for a rally?

Hosting a rally is a great way to meet members in the club and share a favorite destination of yours with your fellow Airstream friends.

Hosting is rewarding and can be a simple or involved as you would like. The CAC team also has lots of people to help you along the way.

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



2023 Rally Schedule

Date	Event	Description
July 13 - 15	<u>Estes Park Rally</u>	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	<u>Granby Rally at Sun Outdoors Rocky Mtn Resort</u>	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	<u>Biking the Roaring Fork Valley at Carbondale</u>	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	<u>Meeker Classic Sheepdog Trials Rally</u>	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.
September 7-10	<u>Carter Lake Rally</u>	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	<u>Wagon Wheel Rally</u>	Hosts: Carolyn Beardshear, Mike Zimmermann, Michael and Becki Carmichael
October 2 - 6	<u>Ouray for Fall Colors</u>	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
 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.

For Sale



Recumbent Bike in Excellent Condition

At my age, I can no longer ride it. It has been sitting in
 the garage for a few years and will need to be oiled
 and possibly tuned.

It has two bottle holders, disc brakes, multi geared,
 heavy duty, saddle bag, no scratches or dents, gel
 seat.

\$900

Contact Steve Libhart at slibhart55@gmail.com



Meeker Food Drive

One of our members, Guillermo "Willie" Delgado is organizing a food drive to benefit the local food bank during the Meeker Sheep Dog Trials rally in September.

Willie is requesting generous donations of grocery items, and the food bank will be providing a list of what they can use very soon. Please help support this worthy cause and let the people of Meeker see that we Airstream folks are open and giving. This is a way to show thanks to their community for hosting us.

On September 7th, our club will have a cocktail party at the rally. It will be at the Airstream of Steve Libhart and Willie Delgado. This will be where you can bring your donations to the food bank.

We also hope to have a representative from the food bank there so we can formally present them with the donations.

And.....there will be a prize (prizes) for best decorated box with food donations in it. So.....get creative and see what you can come up with to win a prize.

If you have any questions, please contact Willie at cyclonedog3@gmail.com



Editorial Review

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Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor, Chris Freeman: 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.

