

# IDAHO AIRSTREAM CLUB



## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**Calvin Huit**  
President

chuit.idaho@gmail.com

And Boom... Just like that it's the middle of January! I'm listening to the wind howl through my slightly opened window, looking out at stormy gray clouds as I write. My little Reilly Jo is perched on an elevated bed next to me, where she can look out the window while snuggled in her blankets while I sip a hot cup of coffee and snuggle with my keyboard; it's the thing that defines winter for me.

Though it seems like not much is going on this wintery day, there are several things happening that will sculpture the upcoming summer months as it relates to our Idaho Airstream club.

Reservations for the International Rally are sold out, meaning anyone now wanting to join the rally will need to register and be placed on a waiting list with no guarantees of being able to attend. I'm told Region 10 is well represented with 118 units registered. If you did register and want to caravan with others from the Idaho Airstream Club, please contact Mim Davidson. Mim reported at the breakfast this month that the caravan to International will leave on June 21<sup>st</sup> and arrive there on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

You will find this year's rally schedule in this newsletter. Though there may be some changes, this year's rallies are for the most part, solidified. One exception is the Jordan Valley rally that I and my wife will be hosting. The fun of this rally is to tour Silver City. Access to Silver City is dependent on back road conditions and the related snowpack. If the road is not open, we are considering Copperfield Campground in Oxbow, OR.

Tony Wilson (our webmaster) and I had a meeting with our Region Webmaster recently and Tony will be working hard to get our new website created and made accessible. We are planning to enable online web payments. Once this work is complete, you will be able to pay club fees online via PayPal, regular credit card, or check, based on your desired method. We will also make newsletters, meeting minutes, agendas, by-laws, our Welcome Packet, and a rally host how-to document available online.

Lorrie Bauer has been working hard on a membership directory. This directory will be available to Idaho Airstream Club members by request through Lorrie. She has created a process for you to obtain this directory. We respect members need for privacy and maintaining that is part of her process. However, the directory is only good if members participate. The directory becomes a more valuable tool as membership grows. I for one have a hard time remembering names-to-faces and will use this membership list! In an effort to avoid identity theft, given the limitations of protecting this document, it will **NOT** be made available online.

Our Region 10 has a rally every other year. The next regional rally will be held in Coeur d'Alene May 8th – 11th, 2024 at Blackwell Island RV Resort. This resort is accessible from highway 95 just before you cross the Spokane River coming into Coeur d'Alene. Region 10 provides registration to this event online. I understand it fills up fast, so once available, you will need to act quickly to register. I will do my best to keep you updated.

Well, the sun is out for a brief period, and it's time to wrap this up and take advantage of it ... a walk is calling me!

Calvin Huit  
President, Idaho Airstream Club

## Welcome New Members and Affiliate Members

*by Mim Davidson, Membership*

### Susie and Bob Ladenburger

Boise, ID BRN 16174

Bob and I are both retired and love it. We are avid hikers, love to raft, camp, travel. We are learning to play both golf and pickleball. We have a 25' Globetrotter FB, Twin. This is our 1<sup>st</sup> trailer, but 2<sup>nd</sup> RV. Our first was a Class B motorhome

### Kit Bryant

Boise, ID BRN 1067

Hi Idaho Unit!

I am excited to join and looking forward to meeting you all. I currently have a 2019 Basecamp, but have had a 2010 International Bambi which my husband and I took to Europe for nine months back in 2012. An incredible trip, I highly recommend it. Widowed now, I find the Basecamp much easier for myself and Opus, my Parson's Terrier.

I have been camping alone (35% of my nights each year-- yes, I do keep a spreadsheet) for four years and am looking forward to more trips that involve other 'Streamers.

While camping, I enjoy hiking (as does Opus) and swimming in mountain lakes as much as possible. When home in Boise, I play tennis, pickleball, hike, paint, play the piano and generally enjoy my (very very very) early retirement. :-)) See you at breakfast!

**Amy Goodman**, Eagle, ID BRN 26921

**Carl and Karen Rodenburg**, (Affiliate)

Kuna, ID BRN 3027

**Angela LaTulippe**, (Affiliate)

Frankfort, KY BRN 7508

**Greg and Elizabeth Garner**, (Affiliate)

Denver, CO BRN 9567

## Member Celebrations

*by Mim Davidson, Membership*

### January Birthdays

Michael McClure, Angela McClure,  
Maureen Ostyn, Faith Sim

### January Anniversaries

Kim and Kerry Kelley

### February Birthdays

Jon Brougher, Charlie Burke, Audrey Cole,  
Trent Schoessler, Tony Wilson, Rich Doering,  
George Mitchell, Leah Firth, Lorrie Bauer,  
Darlene Caldwell, Linda Dixon,  
Kelvin Schoessler, Marion Davis

### February Anniversaries

Earl & Barbara Brace  
Jerry & Marilyn Collins  
Roger & Tracy Staats

Apologies if we missed your birthday or anniversary.  
Please share your dates with Membership at

[035membershipchair@wbcci.net](mailto:035membershipchair@wbcci.net)

## Membership Thoughts

*by Mim Davidson, Membership*

Matthew McConaughey, who happens to be an Airstream owner, shared a reason his son wanted to go to camp: Meet new people and do cool stuff. This applies to Airstreaming, too!

Fonny and I have been members since 2005. We barely got signed up in time for our first rally. Fonny wanted to explore on his own, so I joined the group activities. Over the weekend, we met new people and did cool stuff! We quickly learned that rallies open many doors. They give us the chance to explore new areas – and find cool stuff in places we thought we knew. Meeting people and becoming better acquainted means a lot to us.

We look forward to meeting you. Join us for breakfasts or rallies. If you have questions, give us a call or send an email. We'll help as best we can. Meet new people and do cool stuff!

Take a look at the Rally Schedule for 2023. We have a camping opportunity nearly every month April – October. We'll have many adventures!

Please take a moment to **renew your club dues**.

## 2023 Rally Schedule

*by Sherry Hoem, Rally Coordinator*

I hope everyone is well and recuperated from the holiday indulgences. We have some changes to our rally schedule, and we still need Co-hosts. Co-hosts assist in planning and organizing rallies. You have an opportunity to give input into new activities and places to have future rallies. It's a good way to get to know other members and learn how to "run" a rally. It is always fun to share in the planning with the hosts.

Planning for the August rally will include a Variety Show on Saturday night. So practice up on your entertainment skills and become part of the show. So far, Betty Crocker is demonstrating cake baking and an exercise class for Seniors led by "Richy" Simmons is on the program. Contact Sherry if you have suggestions or want to participate.

[\(goodshepherd1@gmail.com\)](mailto:goodshepherd1@gmail.com)

DATE	EVENT	HOSTS
April 20-23	Trinity View Resort, Mountain Home	Davidsons and Robinsons
May 19-21	Jordan Valley, OR	Huits
June 21-23	Caravan to International Rally	Davidsons
June 24-30	International Rally, Rock Springs, WY	
July 21-24	Arrowhead Resort, Cascade	Smith & Ekblad and Pinkmans
August 17-20	Picabo Angler RV Park, Picabo	Hoems
September 21-24	Lake Walcott and Minidoka NWR	Hoems
October 5-9	Bruneau Dunes State Park	Davidsons
October 18-22	Jazz Festival National Rally, Ketchum	
November 11	Harvest Dinner	

## 2023 International Rally

### Caravan to Rock Springs.

Are you signed up for the International Rally in Wyoming this summer? It is June 24-30 at Rock Springs, WY. This will be one of the biggest events for the Airstream Club in many years. The Idaho Unit is planning a 2 night caravan. We'll leave Boise on Wednesday, June 21 and arrive in Rock Springs on Friday, June 23.

Please let Fonny & Mim Davidson (208-336-8325 voice) know ASAP if you are interested. We may encounter other Region 10 caravans as we travel.



**Jerry & Marilyn Collins**  
**SkyMed Ambassadors**  
**(208) 867-8739**

### Learn How SkyMed Could Save Your Life and Your Money

Be prepared! SkyMed, Inc., Number One in medical evacuation services, provides emergency medical transport from wherever you are (at home and globally) or however you travel. Services include air, ground, & helicopter transport; return of RV, auto, pets, physical remains; visitor transport; primary driver disability; free travel arrangements, plus more.. When a member suffers a critical illness or injury sending you to hospital, SkyMed *TAKES YOU HOME* to your own doctor, hospital, and family, saving you thousands of dollars and possibly your life.

Membership fees are now locked for life — same price when you renew. Also, through Dec. 31, 2022, the SkyMed 22 Stimulus Program offers free bonuses, including up to 22 weeks to new members, up to 5 months for referring a member, and a one-time offer of up to 6 months for Thank You for Your Service for military, law enforcement, medical, or fire experience.



**Breakout Rally**  
**April 20 – 23, 2023**  
**Trinity View RV Park,**  
**Mountain Home, ID**

Hosts: Fonny & Mim Davidson, Danny & Dorthea Robinson

Warm weather is springing out! It's time to take your Airstream out of hibernation and get it ready for summer fun! This 3-night rally is the first one of our 2023 rally season.

Start the weekend early. We'll build (& install) bluebird houses, hike, bike and explore! We'll also have business meetings Saturday morning. Participate in round-table safety discussions and camping tips. Sign up and watch the newsletters for more information.

We'll have good food and good times! Our deadline is April 8. Sure hope you can join us!

**Breakout Rally Registration, 4/20 - 23, 2023**  
**Trinity View RV Park, Mountain Home, ID**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ WBCCI #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrive date: \_\_\_\_\_ Depart date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Text phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Party: \_\_\_\_\_ # of pets: \_\_\_\_\_ Trailer \_\_\_ MH \_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

50 amp service: Require \_\_\_ Prefer \_\_\_ No need \_\_\_

Please send this registration form and rally

deposit payable to **Idaho Airstream Club** to:

Initial Rally Deposit: No. \_\_\_ x \$5 pp = \_\_\_\_\_

Fonny & Mim Davidson

3422 N Tamarack Dr.

Boise, ID 83703

208.336.8325

mimad.gk@gmail.com

A \*final rally fee\* will be collected before the rally ends.

It will include host-provided meals, etc.

**Registration due by April 8.**

- Send us your completed registration form with the initial rally deposit (\$5 per person). Specify your arrival and departure dates, and 50 amp service preference.
- We'll send you your campsite #, and provide the phone number to complete your reservation.
  - You must call the RV Park to complete your reservation and pay for your site.
  - Idaho Airstream Club special rate is \$48/night.
  - Sunday late check-out is available at no charge.

A \*final rally fee\* will be calculated and collected before the rally ends. This per person fee covers expenses not known at the time of the Initial Rally Deposit. It will include shared expenses such as host-provided meals, etc. (The initial rally deposit is not refundable.)

Trinity View sites are full hookup – 30 amp unless noted. A dump station is also available.



Get the scoop on the Water Fun July Rally!

## Arrowhead RV Park on the Payette River in Cascade

<https://arrowheadpark.com/>

### DATES:

The official Rally is Friday July 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday morning July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Club has reserved the dates from Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup> to Monday July 24<sup>th</sup> – so stay an extra day or two, as other members will probably do so, too.

### RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW:

The resort can potentially accommodate everyone in the club – subject to availability. They are guaranteeing us 16 sites of which 14 are on or near the river, **until April 1<sup>st</sup>**. If more than 16 club members want to participate, great, but the sooner you call the resort and reserve, the better your chances!

To reserve a spot, you must personally call resort manager Kylie (208) 382-4534. You will pay in full at that time.

IMPORTANT: Be sure to mention Karen Ekblad or Idaho Airstream Club.



NOTE: The cancellation policy is very strict. You lose one full day of payment if you cancel, no matter how far ahead. They will let you keep the 1 day as a credit to use at another time or give it to another person.

### FUN at CASCADE:

- Boating and fishing: You can bring small boats and kayaks or possibly rent a kayak from them. There is a small boat launch.
- The Park offers wood-carving, shuffleboard, horse shoes, volleyball...
- The Rally will have social (cocktail) hours and a hosted dinner. Karen and Gary will lead an optional hike or two or provide information on nearby hikes for all abilities.
- There is a lot to do nearby, including Gold Fork Hot Springs, Lake Cascade, McCall, and more.

**THE SIGNUP COUPON is in this Newsletter: Please fill it out and mail it in.**

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact Karen Ekblad with any questions.

206-617-3333

# Water Fun Rally 2023

## Friday July 21 thru Sunday July 22\*\*

### Arrowhead RV Park on the Payette River

955 S. Main Street (HWY 55) Cascade, Idaho 83611

(\*\*Want to stay longer? You can also reserve your site Thursday July 20 and Monday July 23)

**Hosts:** Karen Ekblad & Gary Smith      **Co-hosts:** Jeannie and Mark Pinkman

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ WBCCI #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Depart: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number in Party: \_\_\_\_\_ Trailer Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Motorhome Length: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Initial Rally Deposit</b> <b>\$5 per person over 10 yrs old</b>	# Persons _____	x \$5.00 ea.	= \$ _____ <b>Total Initial Rally Deposit</b>
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**NOTE: Final Rally Fee** for Hosted Food will be collected at Rally

Please send this form and the Initial Rally Deposit payable to "Idaho Airstream Club"  
by April 1<sup>st</sup> to:

Karen Ekblad  
 1923 S. Ridge Point Way  
 Boise, ID 83712

Questions? Please contact Karen at (206) 617-3333 or [ekblad@smithandstark.com](mailto:ekblad@smithandstark.com)

**IMPORTANT:** To be guaranteed a site with the Club near the Payette River, you must make your site reservations by April 1<sup>st</sup> directly with Arrowhead RV Park. Call Park Manager Kylie at (208) 382-4534, and remember to tell her you are with the Idaho Airstream Club.

**RV Park Cancellation Policy:** The cancellation policy is very strict.

- The Park will hold back one full day of payment if you cancel, no matter how far ahead. However, they let you keep the 1 day as a credit to use at another time or give to another person.
- If you cancel with less than 72 hours' notice, you will lose the full deposit.
- Please carefully review the RV Park policies at: <https://www.arrowheadpark.com/>

## Idaho Airstream Club Website Initiative Update

*by Calvin Huit, President*

When I agreed to become President of the Club, I did so because I wanted to create stability, instantiate growth, and enjoy the outdoors with others. We weathered through Covid, but hit a wall as Covid and Unit rallies simply did not co-exist. The patriarchs of our Club were aging and seemed most susceptible to the pandemic.

From the beginning of Covid through the end, our membership dropped about 50 percent.

After our second post-Covid rally, we suffered a huge loss when one of our beloved and long-term members caught Covid and passed away three weeks later!

Like all clubs, we need growth to survive. We need a mechanism to let the world know we exist. We need to understand and utilize modern tools to reach and interact with potential new members! Because of this understanding, modernizing our website has been one of my top priorities.

Region 10 and International also see the website as a critical part of growth and is encouraging all Clubs to update their website and post rally schedules online (in addition to publishing the schedule in newsletters and elsewhere) and also provide the ability for those wanting to attend to be able to pay online.

Tony Wilson is our Webmaster and has been working diligently on our Club website. Tony and I have contacted International (and Region 10) to learn about the web framework they created. Interestingly, their research indicates that very few folks under the age of 53 use checks! So, if we want these folks to become Idaho Club members, we will need to provide the ability for them to make online payments.

We also became aware of a contract between International

(WBCCI) and Airstream Inc. that requires WBCCI and all Clubs' web presence to be contained within the airstreamclub.org domain. This means that individual Clubs are not allowed to register their own web domain to host their website. And if they already have an outside web domain (like we do), they need to migrate to airstreamclub.org and eliminate whatever domain they have that is outside of airstreamclub.org.

Our official website is now <https://airstreamclub.org/idaho> and Tony is already making changes to it. Please visit it often to see his progress.

Website support, both short and long term, is critical for us. Others within Region 10 and the Region itself can help us in the future if we use the same framework and software tools they use and recommend.

Working within International's established website framework, we are being directed to use JotForm software to manage web payments (the e-commerce part of the website). There are several valid reasons for this, one being that it removes the liability of an e-commerce data breach from our Club.

However, JotForm is not free. It costs \$20/month. I don't like to spend money, particularly when it's not mine. I also have no desire to make financial decisions without transparency. For reasons already stated, I think we need to move forward with the purchase of the JotForm software so that Tony can proceed with the development of our website. The Board has voted unanimously to make this purchase and agreed that JotForm is really our only option for online payments.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this decision, please reach out to me.



## An Unforgettable Day in the World of the Great Wapiti

*by Calvin Huit (Part 1 of 2)*

It was our favorite time of year to vacation. Our work had been demanding, and this was our first and only chance to get out of town for a few days and use our Airstream. The time was when there's frost in the morning and beautiful warm sun in the afternoon; the smell of rich autumn leaves and pines permeate the crisp cool air. And how can I forget the sound of rippling water from the Great Madison ... ah, it still fills my senses!

It's also a magical time: when the great wapiti is in rut (breeding season), and like many men in pursuit, this is when the majestic bull loses his self-preservation and ignores his instinct to avoid predators, making him much easier prey.



You can hear their majestic bugle in the early morning and in the evening as it starts to get dark. It's truly the game of life!

The thought of finally getting to pursue our hobby of photography was invigorating – we were, after all, going to spend the day in Yellowstone!

On this particular day, however, excitement wasn't able to overcome our year-long exhaustion. We slept in and even had breakfast.

Have you ever slept in, only to feel groggy all day long? It was like that ...

We violated: this is a no-no if you want the best chance to get great wildlife pictures.

We entered the park more than two hours late!

After driving several miles into the park, I suddenly spotted movement on the other side of the Great Madison River, and it triggered my predator instincts: I quickly pulled into the adjacent parking area trying not to lock up my brakes! No one else was anywhere to be seen ...

I whipped out my camera and frantically started to adjust its settings while my wife was busy getting the tri-pod setup for me (am I blessed?!) ... then it began to happen! First it was a cow elk with a calf, and then another! Oh baby, here they come - the entire heard, from across the river, straight at us!

If you study the species, you know the bull stays behind the heard. This enables him to push or heard the cows where he wants them to go ... I knew the best was yet to come!





## An Unforgettable Day in the World of the Great Wapiti (*cont.*)

*by Calvin Huit (Part 1 of 2)*

Then, out from the trees, there he was ... beautiful, rich in full color and in all his glory!

You could tell he was fraught, torn emotionally with his heard going where he didn't want them to go, yet preserved because there I was in his way.

He started to cross the river but stopped.



He watched his heard move around, some past me down river, some above me upriver.

Then he returned to the bank, hooked up a branch crown (you can see it in the picture), and crossed the river above me!

We were maybe 40 minutes into an awesome day in a great place!



Later that morning, while re-familiarizing myself with my camera settings, I was able to get an awesome shot of this grizzly ... Don't worry, I was never in harms way (he's in rehab and there was a fence between us) – I shot this with a 400 mm lens !

Have you ever had a day where everything seems to be out-of-time, and as a result everything seems to go wrong? Well, that's how this day felt, but miraculously everything was going really well. And it just got better as the day progressed! Yellowstone is still one of our favorite places to vacation and on this particular day, great things were yet to come!

**... to be continued!**

**NOTE.** If you have a great story you would like to share, please contact our newsletter editor, Gary Betts! [gsbetts@msn.com](mailto:gsbetts@msn.com)