



The NorCal News

Volume 57 Number 3

The Poppy- Viral Edition

April 2020

President's Column



Welcome to the Viral Edition of The Poppy. It is Spring in beautiful northern California, the flowers are blooming and the birds singing, as we confront the many challenges of COVID-19, but we have all heard enough of that topic I am certain. Carrie and I simply wish you all continued best health.

The April Rally in Gilroy was canceled due to current events and advisories, advisories that seem to change every few days. We held off canceling the May Rally at Lassen RV Park until

the advisory that all Californians should stay home. With optimism, we are hopeful the June rally can proceed. If interested, please register BUT DO NOT PAY. We will send out an email blast informing people to pay or not. We continue to watch events unfold. Please contact me if you would like to share thoughts on our club plans and activities amid the current events.

On a related topic, the WBBCI website, <https://airstreamclub.org/events>, has a map guide to all scheduled club and unit rallies. Barry inputs our club rallies for us. You might want to check it out.

Finally, a note on Aluminum: Aluminum is manufactured in two phases: the Bayer process of refining bauxite ore to obtain aluminum oxide, and the Hall-Heroult process of smelting the aluminum oxide to release pure aluminum. Additional metals are added to form the various alloys of aluminum.

Ray

Remember, "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known, so if you haven't you should"

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From the Editor

2020 Rallies and Caravans

I had no idea that April includes California Poppy Day (April 4th) until I started populating this month's Fun Calendar. This discovery led the theme color of this month's issue, especially since it is this publication's namesake and club emblem. Some fun facts about the California Poppy: petals close up at the close



of day and may not open on a cloudy day, so it is sometimes referred to as "the drowsy one," the California Poppy should be considered toxic and has narcotic properties, and it is one of the first plants to repopulate an area that has experienced fire.

Because it was early in the season, I saw few poppies during the Napa Rally, the site of which was Skyline Park, a wonderful rural area so close to Napa's urban core. It is a beautiful place to Airstream. See host Janet Motta's summary and all the photos starting on [page 5](#). While there, Ed and I took the Napa Wine Train for the first time and it was an experience I highly recommend, once the current virus crisis is over.

Although the Gilroy and Lassen Rallies have been canceled, it is hoped that the others can continue. Featured this month is the June Rally to Lone Pine and the Alabama Hills, which sounds so interesting. Check it out on [page 3](#). Deanna Bain's write-up is most enticing. **But note:** DO NOT PAY at this time. Send your registration in without payment. You will be notified later when or if to pay.

On March 17th, our International President Mona Heath sent out an emotional video announcing the cancellation of the 2020 International Rally in Loveland, Colorado. The decision was clearly not easy or desired, but made with the health of WBCCI members and the public in mind, now that certain protocols, while annoying and inconvenient, are proving to slow the virus in other countries. However disappointing, in my view, that showed some real courage and leadership.

Meanwhile, in honor of International Haiku Day (April 17) and the fact we are supposed to be sheltering, The Poppy is having a Haiku Contest. See [page 7](#) for details. So while you are staying home, perhaps you can spend the time to be creative and wow us with your poetry about Airstreams and Airstreaming! See you down the road (once we can get out and about!)
 - Elisa Ungerman

Note: New info shown in green. Dates are arrival and departure, although you can often request a day-early arrival (usually Tues). Sign-ups are by submitting a completed Registration form by the due date. "Buddy" events allow you to invite a non-member even if they don't own an Airstream. Events lacking hosts may be cancelled.

3/4-8	Skyline RV Park	Napa
HOSTS: Dave & Jill Wilson, and Greg & Janet Motta		
4/1-5	Gilroy Garlic RV Park	Gilroy
HOSTS: Bob & Mary Ebberts and Steve & Yoshi Deiwert		
4/16-19	Cali Rally Region 12 Rally	Parkfield
CANCELLED		
5/6-10	Lassen RV Park	McArthur
HOSTS: Tom & Holly Smithson and Cam & Marcia Murray		
6/3-7	Boulder Creek RV Park	Lone Pine
HOSTS: Tom & Deanna Bain, and John & Elaine White		
6/20-27	International Rally WBCCI Rally	Loveland, CO
CANCELLED		
8/5-9	POMO RV Park	Fort Bragg
HOSTS: Brian & Juliet Scheuer and Jodie Lee & Tim Kirk		
9/9-13	Ancient Redwoods RV Park	Red Crest
HOSTS: Marget & Dave Williams, Chris & Dean Davison		
9/13-30	Oregon Coast Caravan	Oregon
LEADERS: Carmen & Jose Ortiz and Bob and Carol Echols		
10/7-11	V-6 Ranch ***	Parkfield
HOST: Pat Lazzereschi,		
10/21-25	Emerald Desert Resort	Palm Desert
Region 12 Rally		
11/4-8	Pismo Coast Village Resort	Pismo Beach
HOSTS: Blake & Dianne Nelson, Carmen and Jose Ortiz		
12/2-6	Black Oak Casino RV Park	Sonora
HOSTS: Billie and Bob Verdegaal, Elisa & Ed Ungerman		

***Note: THE V6 RANCH IS A DRY CAMPING EXPERIENCE



Blazing Airstreams Rally

Boulder Creek RV Park Lone Pine June 3-7, 2020

Hosted By: Tom & Deanna Bain, John & Elain White



Please come and join us for a rootin' tootin' good time in Lone Pine. We have a fun rally planned in the heart of Alabama Hills, which was Hollywood's go-to location for great Cowboy films.

Want scenery? Many believe the Owens Valley is the most scenic mountain valley in the world. Try the drive to the Whitney Portal; it was featured in the Lucille Ball Classic movie "The Long, Long Trailer." (Hint, leave your trailer at the rally site, you will enjoy the scenery more.) Care to see some of the oldest rocks in California? Try Convict Lake where 200 million year old rocks, amongst the oldest in California, lie high atop the recent and still rising Sierra Nevada mountain range. Just to the east is the White Mountain range where Methusela resides. It is a bristlecone pine and the oldest nonclonal organism on earth.

Like extremes? Nearby Mt. Whitney at 14,500+ is just 85 miles from lowest point, -282', on the North America continent in Death Valley. Interested in volcanism? The Long Valley Caldera is the site of one of the largest explosive caldera eruption in world history. It spewed pyroclastics as large as houses over 100 miles, some have been

covered with petroglyphs. Recent earthquake swarms, volcanic domes and craters are evidence there is still an active magma chamber close to the surface here. There is a lot to see from earthquake fault lines to the tufa formations at Mono Lake.

A film fan? The Alabama Hills are filled with yesteryear film information of the early westerns



Gene Autry & "Smiley" Burnett
Bents and Saddles.

(think Tom Mix and Hopalong Cassidy and the singing cowboys Gene Autry and Roy Rodgers), the classic westerns by John Wayne, up to and including modern westerns and space thrillers.

Are people more your thing? There is a Shoshone Indian Reservation close by as well as the historic courthouse in nearby Independence. Laws Railroad Museum in Bishop has steam engines and rolling stock dating from the narrow gage railroads of the logging and mining era.



We will be visiting Manzanar, the World War 2 Japanese internment camp. Information will be provided on other excursions so



you may enjoy the ones you prefer on your own.

Our planned activities include: a Wednesday welcome dinner of Elain's world famous Potato Soup with Shepherders bread from Schat's Bakery in Bishop. Saturday there will be a Chili Cook off, a long time Nor Cal tradition, so bring your "fave" recipe to cook and share for the evening dinner. We will supply the salad, bread, and dessert. Prizes will be awarded.

John will be putting together presentations on repairing refrigerator drain hoses, something with which Dometic and Airstream have favored us all (it is only a question of time), and replacing fluorescent lights with LED strings.

Let's dress the part. Bring your favorite Cowboy hat and gear. We will judge and prizes will be awarded.

If you have other interest and activities in mind, please share them. We will be willing to research and provide information for the group. **NOTE: REGISTER BUT DO NOT PAY AT THIS TIME.**

The Bains and the Whites

Blazing Airstreams Coupon

June 3-7, 2020

Boulder Creek RV Park, Lone Pine CA



Name:

Cell phone:

Email:

WBCCI#

Arrival Day: Departure Day:

RV length T or MH

Rally Nights @ \$45 per night

Parking Fee \$

Number attending @ \$5 person

Rally Fee \$

Wednesday Welcome Dinner @ \$6/person

Wed. Dinner \$

Saturday Dinner @ \$5 per person

Sat. Dinner \$

TOTAL RALLY FEE:

TOTAL DUE \$

- Either register on line at northerncalifornia.airstreamclub.net or send this form/information to the registrar to Norcalreg22@gmail.com.
- **DO NOT PAY AT THIS TIME.** You will be informed later when/if payment is due.
- Alternative: Mail or arrange to be mailed to Gail Crutchfield - NorCal Registrar, 12431 Alta Mesa Drive, Auburn, CA 95603
- Note: This page can be filled out on most computer platforms and emailed to the registrar.**
- Refunds are available depending on funds recovered in all categories. Contact the Rally Chair if you wish to change your reservation **after April 30**. Contact the Rally Chair if you wish to register **after April 30**.
- Supply the information below if this is your **FIRST** NorCal rally OR there are updates since your last event.

Street Address:

City:

State Zip

Handicap Accommodation

Rally in the Valley Recap

Skyline Park, Napa, CA. March 4-8, 2020



NorCal's first rally of the 2020 year, co-hosted by Dave and Jill Wilson, along with Gregg and Janet Motta, was a pleasurable time in the popular Wine Country of Napa and surrounding areas. This was a large Rally with 35 Airstreams and 66 attendees. Summer-like temperatures graced the first few days, with a cool down later into the week. Regardless, the weather was perfect for outside activities.



On Wednesday night, the group enjoyed Taco Salad, handmade by Dave and Jill with some help by Gregg and Janet. It was a large group and many stayed after the meal to visit and play games.



Norcalers playing Joker



Thursday was an adventure at Nichelini Historic Winery, the oldest winery still family owned in St Helena. The server Scott was quite the story teller, recapping a time with Robert Mondavi in Chicago. Most stayed for a picnic, sharing their after tasting favorite.



Hosts Gregg and Janet Motta, Dave Wilson

On Friday, a large group of 40+ Air streamers traveled to nearby Fairfield, attending a private meeting with the Bay Area Airstream Parts Manager, then touring the numerous Airstreams on the sales floor. The 2020 Classic 33 has heated towel warmers plus projection TV at a cool \$170k msrp. There were plenty of oohs and ahhs as we saw all the



bright and shiny new models. Several followed up the trip with a stop at the Jelly Belly factory. The tasting of Wine and Chocolate



pairing was fabulous. Saturday began with the monthly Board and General Meeting, followed by a free day. Although it rained, people were having a good time visiting the surrounding areas. The day ended with appetizers and "a lot of pizza" night.



Our Officers at the Board Mtng.

It was a great rally with a lot of great friends!
Janet Motta



More photos of Napa Rally on next pages





At the Napa Rally, NorCal honored those who turned 80 this year with a humorous grilling by Deanna Bain and chocolate cake! Congratulations to Barry Williams, Larry Jones, Steve Deiwert, Tom Smithson, Hedda Smithson, John White and Tom Bain. Happy Airstreaming to You. And Many More!





Greetings From the Napa Ralliers

Photo taken March 6, 2020 at Bay Area Airstream, Fairfield, CA

(before the memo on social distancing)



REQUEST FOR HELP



Even though our rallies have been canceled for the time being and we have been directed to generally stay home, us Norcalers can remain connected through The Poppy with a bit of help from the Membership. We would like to know what our members, i.e. YOU, are doing during this “shelter in place” period. Can be mundane or creative. Maybe about celebrating one or more of the days on the Fun Calendar. Whatever it is, please submit any photos, blogs, blurbs, short stories, or whatever about what you are doing during this period to The Poppy, via ungerman72@gmail.com for possible publication in The Poppy. Obviously, such photos and stories need not be related to Airstreaming. Maybe it will give the rest of us some ideas. The publication deadline for the May Poppy is April 15th.

– Editor

Photo credits this issue: Steve Irey, Jill Wilson, Bob Vasser, Elisa Ungerman, & Bob Echols

俳句 haiku

Attention!

NorCal's First Haiku Contest



In honor of International Haiku Day, April 17th, The Poppy is having a Haiku Poetry Writing Contest. The Haiku is a simple, non-rhyming poem. It consists of short and simple, 3 line stanzas consisting of 5-7-5 syllables. For our purposes, all entries must relate in some way to Airstreaming or Airstreams. The winners will have their entries published in the Poppy and First Place will receive a gift card. There may be other prizes. Rules are posted below. **Entries must be post-marked or emailed no later than April 30, 2020**, to be entered into the contest. Good Luck and Have Fun!

Examples:

Airstream Rallying
Silver Tushes Glinting Bright
Good friends, food, and fun.

Courtesy Parking
Wonderful when on the road.
A new Friend? Bonus!

- Your Editor

Rules

1. One entrant can submit up to five poems. They must all be in Haiku format.
2. All poems must relate to Airstreams or Airstreaming in some way.
3. All entries must be postmarked or sent electronically to the Poppy Editor by midnight of April 30, 2020.
4. Winners will be chosen by the Poppy Editor. All decisions are final.
5. First Place Winner will receive a gift card and bragging rights. Other prizes may be awarded. All winning entries will be published in the Poppy with attribution.
6. Please submit all entries either via email to Ungerman72@gmail.com or snail mail to The Poppy Editor, 2835 Tourmaline Way, Antelope CA 95843. Identify them by "Haiku entry."
7. Have fun with it. Creativity and Humor will be considered in the judging.
8. Only NorCal Members and Affiliates are eligible for prizes.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

April Birthdays

- 1 Tom Smithson
- 3 Mike Malone
- 6 Harold Higgins
- 7 Fred Lyon
- 11 Bill Maffei
- 11 Peggy Spence
- 11 Terry Totten
- 14 Jim Gallagher
- 16 Dace Roll
- 18 Annie Barlow
- 24 Fran Angerer
- 29 Phil Glassey
- 30 Bob Totten

April Anniversaries

- 6 Greg & JoAnn Kemist
- 11 Bob & Billie Verdegaal
- 25 Roy/Gail Hutto

sudoku

2			5			6
	5	9			2	
3		7			8 9	
5		1 8		4		
		2	4			
	2		3 6			8
	3 5		9			1
		6		2	5	
1			4			9

Meet Your First Vice President John Bibby

John and Lori Bibby reside in Lincoln, California. They joined NorCal in 2013, shortly after purchasing their first Airstream, a 19 ft Sport. Since then, they have enjoyed many Unit and Region rallies, in addition to several other camping trips with family and friends.



Within five years, they up-sized to a 23D Flying Cloud in anticipation of their first WBB CI Caravan, the 2018 North to Alaska Caravan, "A truly incredible experience!" says John. Their travel buddy is Tanner, an 8-year old long haired Dachshund and Jack Russell terrier mix that also attended the Alaska Caravan and has been at all the rallies.

John retired in 2018 after a 41-year career with the Coast Guard (28 years as an active duty electronics technician, and 13 years as a civilian telecommunications manager). Lori retired in 2008 after working various jobs. They love the outdoors and seeing new places. "We always look forward to seeing old and new friends at rallies and caravans" reports John.

– editor

Meet Your Second Vice President Bob Verdegaal

Bob was born and raised in Ripon, CA and has farmed his entire life, growing up on, then owning the family Almond ("Ahmund") farm. He attended Fresno State University, meeting his wife Billie in the process. (At a fraternity dance no less that Billie had no interest in until she met Bob.) He received his B.S. in Plant Science, and married Billie soon thereafter in 1981. They have one son who is taking over the farm and two daughters, leading to six grand kids, four of whom live on the farm next to them. They enjoy taking the grand kids, when each turns four, to Disneyland for their special time.



They bought their Airstream (25FB Flying Cloud that can always be identified by the large star on its side) in October of 2016, joined NorCal that same year, and quickly, says Bob "met a bunch of nice people to RV and travel the state and country with, hopefully for a long time."

– editor

NorCal Club Contacts

President	Ray Bell	deepfringe@me.com 650-644-6650
First VP:	John Bibby	jbibby@value.net 707-592-4891
Second VP:	Bob Verdegaal	jrverd@msn.com 209-380-8884
Secretary:	Carrie Bell	cba@sonic.net 530-644-6650
Treasurer:	Phyllis Minadeo	pminadeo@gmail.com 925-890-9559
Membrshp Chair:	Carmen Ortiz	norcalmembership2802@gmail.com 805-598-9829
Rally Chair:	Pat Lazzereschi	rally.norcal@gmail.com 209-712-5884
Caravan Chair:	Bob Vassar	415-517-3651
Registrar:	Gail Crutchfield	Norcalreg22@gmail.com 530-613-7959
Web Master:	Barry Marson	webmaster.norcal@gmail.com 209-333-0363
Sunshine:	Claudia Marson	cjmarson@comcast.net 209-483-6696
Poppy Editor:	Elisa Ungerman	norcaleditor01@gmail.com 916-833-2484

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dean and Liz Miles #7094

Scott and Patience Beck
#7143

WBCCI on the Web

www.wbcci.org/

Region 12 on the Web

Region12airstreamclub.net

NorCal on the Web

Northerncalifornia.airstreamclub.net/

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS

148 Unit/Life Members
21 Affiliate Members
169 Total Members

Church Bulletin

Wednesday the Ladies' Liturgy Group will meet. Mrs. Johnson will sing, "Put Me in My Little Bed" accompanied by the Pastor.

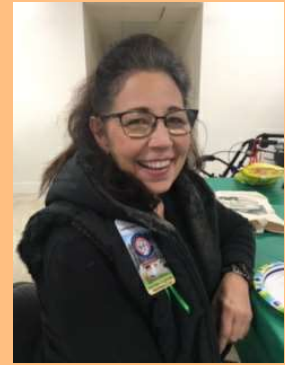


2020 Star Report

Name	WBCCI #	Joined	Last Year	New Stars	Total Stars
Ballard, Judith	3665	1995	4	1	5
Connaughton, Greg & Cris	7531	2015	0	1	1
Grimbleby, Clive & Jean Marie	3705	2015	0	1	1
Jones, Larry & Martha	2403	2000	3	1	4
La Porte, Gordon	5793	2015	0	1	1
Leaman, Scott	1143	2015	0	1	1
Maffei, Bill & Cathy	4225	2015	0	1	1
Moresi, Don & Annette	3166	2014	0	1	1
Murray, Cam & Marcia	3580	2005	2	1	3
Paige, George & Claudette	2698	2010	1	1	2
Thompson / Perryman, Sue &	5788	2015	0	1	1
Wainwright/Sloan, Beverley &	2148	2015	0	1	1
Wilson, Mark & Terri	11641	2015	0	1	1

Membership Stars are awarded annually to WBCCI Club Members to indicate 5 years of membership. You can obtain the actual red stars, to be added to the sides of your Big Red membership number directly from WBCCI. Free to members. They come in pairs for the front and back of your rig.
<https://store.wbcci.org/membership-star-details.html>

Meet the Member



Meet Laurie Ann Weber (#11384) who attended her first NorCal Rally in Napa, as a solo no less!

She resides in Grass Valley and has owned her Airstream, a 25 ft Flying Cloud, for two years. She joined NorCal because as she was joining WBCCI, she saw joining Norcal was just \$5 more, "so why not."

She underwent her first grilling by Deanna Bain during the "Birthdays and Anniversaries" portion of the rally, and was reintroduced by Ray Bell since it was her first rally. She handled it all with style, grace, and humor. Kudos to Laurie Ann!

Plus, for those interested, she offers courtesy parking in Grass Valley and invited members to visit her.

- editor




















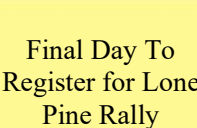
Sunshine

Sending best wishes to Don Weaver. He is home from the hospital recovering from pneumonia. No influenza!

Hoping that all of our members and their families are staying safe and healthy during our current medical crisis.
Claudia Marson

April 2020 Fun Calendar

Source: <http://holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/index.htm>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2  Peanut Butter & Jelly Day	3  World Party Day!	4  California Poppy Day
5  National Dandelion Day	6	7  Cheers National Beer Day	8	9	10  National Golfers Day	11
12  HAPPY EASTER!	13	14	15  TAX DAY Moved to July 15th	16	17  俳句 haiku	18  Happy Husband Appreciation Day!
19  National Garlic Day	20	21	22  Earth Day	23  National Lovers Day	24  Celebrate Arbor Day Plant A Tree	25  World Penguin Day
26  National Pretzel Day	27  Morse Code Day	28  Kiss Your Mate Day!	29	30  Final Day To Register for Lone Pine Rally		

Garden Flag Information



You can order your NorCal Garden Flag directly from Flagology. Complete instructions are in the January Poppy issue. For any questions, the NorCal contact is John Bibby (707) 592-4891. The Flagology contact is Connor Young (855) 347-4922. Click here to order, or copy and paste in your browser: <https://www.flagology.com/product/personalized-norcal-airstream-club-garden-flag-12-5-x-18/>.

From Your Membership Chair



You can obtain your colorful NorCal Membership Badge whenever you attend a rally. See me, Carmen Ortiz, or my designee, to get yours for free, a perk of membership. Also, we will soon be giving out the NEW five inch club logo sticker for your Airstream or Tow Vehicle when you attend a rally. This is the same design shown on the masthead of The Poppy.

