



Region 11 News

WBCCI Airstream Club International



Circle the Wagons Rally in Creede, Colorado!

Photo courtesy of CAC President Dave Rose

President's Corner

Region 11 Members - Hope You're Having a Great Summer

By Steven Parr, Region 11 President

For the Third Quarter, your President and First Lady have been visiting our Region Clubs/Units. Starting in June, we attended the Arizona Airstream Club's Dolores River Rally in Dolores, CO.

Next, we were off to the 66th International Rally in Rock Springs, WY. From there, we attended the Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club 2023 Grand Buffalo Après International Rally, Rally in Edna, WY. Finally, ending in August, we attended the

Colorado Airstream Club's Granby Rally in Granby, CO.

The 2023 2nd quarter (June 10) Region 11 Leadership Zoom call Highlights:

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Colorado Airstream Club

Colorado Airstream Club Wraps up Record Rally Season

By Dave Rose, Colorado Airstream Club President

Colorado Airstream Club (CAC) just wrapped up a “Circle the Wagons Rally” on beautiful Dabney Ranch a few miles outside of historic Creede, Colorado. Several of our friends from New Mexico managed to sign up for this wonderful rally before it filled. Our days were filled with hiking, sightseeing, good food, and great camaraderie. Creede is Colorado’s last silver mining boom town, growing from fewer than a hundred residents to more than ten thousand in less than three years. And just as quickly came the bust when a change in laws took away the price



All Aboard! The bus in Chama taking us to our train ride from Antonito CO back to Chama. It's the longest and highest elevation tourist train in the U.S.

support for silver.

Earlier CAC hosted two “sold out” rallies at the same time. Carter Lake in the foothills west of Denver is a favorite by members looking to hike, bring out the

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kayaks, boats and fishing poles. While other CAC members traveled to Meeker in the northwest corner of Colorado for the annual Meeker Sheepdog Trials.

The Colorado Airstream Rally at Meeker filled the area's largest campground this year and there was a long waitlist for this popular rally so the club is working to secure more spaces for next year.

This has been a record setting rally season for the Colorado Airstream Club. In addition to those already mentioned, CAC rallies members gathered for rallies this year in Casa Grande, AZ, Carlsbad and Chama NM, Fort Collins, Granby, Carbondale, Estes Park, and Rambler Ranch in Colorado. CAC wrapped up this season in October with a celebration of fall colors in Ouray, Colorado. Activities for this sold-out end of the regular season rally included fly fishing, Jeep tours, hot springs pool and more.

Plans are still pending for a fall luncheon to preview the new facility for Airstream of Colorado. CAC will announce luncheon plans when construction work is completed for the new dealership which will continue under the Windish family of RV's but will be exclusive to the Airstream brand.

Colorado Airstream Club will soon elect its new slate of officers and trustees who will be installed at the December 2 holiday luncheon at the Ptarmigan Country club in Windsor.



Colorado is home to beautiful mountain landscapes, plateaus, and rivers and thrilling outdoor adventures.



Vicki Ottoson and Rob Hughey CAC Members talking while riding on an open observation car on the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad.

All CAC events can be found at www.airstreamclub.org/colorado/colorado-airstream-club-information

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- Region Officers and Club Presidents attended.
- Approval of the 2nd Quarter 2023 Meeting minutes.
- Review of the 2nd Quarter 2023 Region 11 Financial statement. Jerry Nelson gave a Q4 financial report, through May 31, 2023 (a detailed summary was sent to Region and Club/Unit Officers, prior to the meeting).
- The Region Breakfast and Mini Rally had been posted as events on Grupio.
- Reminder to Vote for the Executive Council.
- There was an unanimous vote to have Region Vice Presidents attend the QTR meetings, as observers, only.
- WBCCI International Rally Questions. It was clarified that the Mini Rally is the same thing as the Meet & Greet. Dave Rose (CAC President) informed the CO attendees to download the Grupio App, which listed all of the Rally activities days/times, etc. The International Rally Organizing Committee has not done a good job of informing the club membership about the Grupio App, but it has been used previously at International Rallies. Like Dave, it would be great if Region Club/Unit Presidents could inform their Club/Unit attendees of this handy App.

The 2023 Third quarter Highlights:

The 66th WBCCI International Rally, which was held in Rock Springs, Wyoming was a huge success. We had 220 Region 11 Airstreamers attend our breakfast and a whopping 307 attend our Mini-Rally. Pee Wee attended our Breakfast and enjoyed the company of our Region members!

If you are interested in buying a Region 11 Flag the cost is \$125.00 plus tax. Please contact Steven Parr.



Whoops! There Goes a Tire!

By Kimberley Hash, AZ Airstream Club

There are some risks worth taking in life - tasting Oaxacan fried crickets, exploring off the beaten path, and zip-lining across the rainforest. But driving on bad tires is just a bad idea. You might be thinking, “duh” but a surprising number of people do it, including me! I want to share a couple of stories that bring this point home. And I’d like to share some wisdom from a woman’s perspective. But guys, you can read this too! Here are some things I’ve learned firsthand.

Never drive on a tire that has lost significant air, unless you have absolutely no choice. And then get it changed as soon as you can. But let’s face it, we usually have a choice. If you notice your tire has lost a significant amount of pressure causing you to have to blow it back up before heading out on your trip, don’t drive on it. There is usually a good reason for losing air. It is a lot less costly to repair a tire than to repair the damage caused by a blowout. And the best way to know if your tire is losing air is to check tire pressure each time you head out on a trip.

Taking the time to change a tire leaking air may save your life and your pocketbook.

Here is my recent experience. I was getting ready to leave for a rally by myself. My husband got the trailer out of storage for me the day before and noticed one of the tires was down 50 percent. He added air and told me that night to be aware. That was mistake #1. The next morning it had lost about 3 pounds of pressure. We decided it was likely safe because the leak was slow. He cautioned me to check the tire pressure and air up before returning home. That was mistake #2. Had he mentioned it early after picking the trailer up, I would have insisted we pull the tire and get it checked. I was nervous but after loading the trailer for my

trip, I didn’t feel like I had the time to get it looked at. That was mistake #3.

Thankfully, I made it to the rally without incident. However, after mentioning to a friend that I would need to add air before returning home, he asked to look at it. It had lost significant pressure just from the drive. He found a screw and recommended we pull



Jeff King helping me fix my damaged tire! I could not be more grateful.

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Luckily it didn't blowout on the road, and I found the screw stuck in the tire. Also luckily, we had a great tire changing kit that I had purchased from Air Gear as a birthday gift for my husband. We put it to great use, and we were really relieved we had it. You can find it at www.airgear.store. It comes with a premium torque wrench, a long breaker bar, extension bar, 3/4" and 13/16" sockets, tire pressure gauge, and a safety vest to make you visible to motorists. And it comes in a durable bag. Now if you already have all these items, I recommend you get a good bag to keep it all together so you have everything you need in one place when you need it. There is nothing worse than being stuck and you can't find the breaker bar or torque wrench.

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the tire and take it into town to get it repaired. Yes, it was inconvenient, but I am so grateful for his advice and help, and it made my drive home a lot less stressful!

Ladies, changing tires is not just man's work, and you should learn to do it. Roadside assistance can take hours to reach you. I don't know about you, but I would feel vulnerable stranded alone on the roadside. Recently a friend had to change her tire on the shoulder of the highway and knowing how to do it and having the right tools saved her. She had it changed before AAA ever responded. And while yes, she is a beautiful badass woman, so are you! Also, you could breakdown in an area of spotty or no cell coverage. So, know how to change your tire, how to lower and release the spare, where to safely place the jack, and have a quality tire changing kit. If you're traveling as a couple, two knowledgeable people get the job done faster and more safely.

Blowouts happen, even on the newest and best tires. And to the most vigilant people. Be prepared. You just never know when you'll pick up a nail or screw while traveling. This happened to us on the way to Fryeburg, Maine for the 2022 International Rally. We pulled into a campsite and noticed a very low tire.

Also, don't risk driving on bald or old tires. Get them replaced! Your safety and security is well worth the price of tires, peace of mind, and the cost of trailer damage is so much more than new tires!

Here is what I have learned through my two experiences:

1. Changing a tire isn't complicated.
2. Having the right tools makes it way less complicated.
3. I am capable of doing it! I don't have to feel helpless or be at the mercy of any passing stranger.
4. I am in charge of my own safety, and I should have chosen to be a little late to the rally and had the tire looked at. I won't do that again!

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5. It pays to have great friends! 😊 Thanks Jeff!
6. Always check the tire pressure and tread of your tires before leaving on a trip.
7. Never be in too great a hurry to do the right thing.

Want to read a great article by a real expert? *Tire Care Made Easy* by Rich Luhr: <https://www.airgear.store/blogs/airstream/tire-care-made-easy>.

Looking for Great Stories

By Kimberley Hash, Region 11 Newsletter Editor

I would love to add some wonderful stories to the Region 11 Newsletter told by some of the best storytellers...YOU! I can't tell you how many times I've sat around the fire pit listening to great stories, and thought to myself, "Gosh, self, I wish that person would write that up for the newsletter!"

You don't have to be a great writer or have perfect grammar, spelling and punctuation skills. That's where I come in. You just get your story, thoughts, etc typed up, and I'll make you look good!

Here are some ideas on possible content:

- Awesome places to camp (either hooked up or not).
- Great advice/ideas that could help fellow Airstreamers.
- Clever storage ideas for inside your Airstream.
- Unique camp recipes.
- Big mistakes you've made and don't want others to.
- Neat and unique camp setups - do you bring out the plants, flamingo lights, garden flags, themed decorations, etc.
- Got any thrifty solution for those pain-in-the-neck problems, like keeping overhead cabinet sliding doors closed?
- Solutions for traveling with pets.
- Whatever you want!



Then just text them to me at 928-205-5202 or email at tg4jc@mac.com