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- Newsletter Editor Lynda Polk

**In This Issue**

- Crazy Horse Memorial, Up Close!
- Favorite Campground & Meet a Member
- Malibu Event & 2024 Events!

**Save the Date**

**April 18-21** Cali Rally, V6 Ranch, Parkfield, CA (Wait List)

**Sept 11-15** Region 12 Rally, Lake Tahoe, CA

**October 5-10** 67th WBCCI International Rally, Sedalia, MO

**President’s Letter**

Hello GLAAC’ers. Here’s hoping everyone survived the recent atmospheric event that landed right here in our backyard. But then rain never dampened GLAAC’s thirst for adventure. In January, our club ventured to Malibu Beach RV Park. Located on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the weekend was filled with walks on the beach, great bike rides and a plethora of great dining options. Mix in our legendary happy hours and you have a recipe for great rally. Our hosts, Stewart Bagg & Myra Zimet, with help from Steve & Paula Hammer and Marion & Don Kuhns, provided breakfast for dinner. Omelettes in a baggie was a great hit for dinner with a twist. Thank you!

Our February rally at Pala Casino RV Park was cancelled due to light registrations brought on by the possibility of bad weather. The event has been rescheduled to October 17 and we hope to see you there.

March is a great time to visit the desert where we have Lost Dutchman State Park, just east of Phoenix, Arizona coming up! Held in conjunction with MLB Spring Training, this is definitely a unique opportunity. In addition to baseball there are local tours, hikes and great camaraderie, as always. We have space available and as a buddy rally, invite your friends who have other brands of travel trailers to join us!

The Eclipse Rally is right around the corner on April 5-10 at Lake Tawakoni in Texas followed by the always special Cali Rally on April 18-21 at the spectacular V6 Ranch. It is sold out but you can still get on the wait list.

The upcoming Region 12 Rally to be held September 11-15 at Tahoe Valley Campground is sure to be a big hit.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce our first grandchild born on January 22



when my daughter, Stephanie, and her husband, Mattias, welcomed baby boy Kasper Jack Sullivan into the world at 5 lbs. 7 oz. Mom and baby are doing excellent. Needless to say, Nancy and I are over joyed.



I would personally like to thank our club for its donation to the National Search Dog Foundation in Santa Paula. A letter of thanks from Debra Roets, Director of Philanthropy, spells out the foundation’s gratitude for our donation and is included in this Urban Update.

In closing, I would like to thank our leadership team and all our members for their tireless energy to make our club what it is....the BEST! We’ll see you all soon at an upcoming rally, and as always, flash those headlights!

- Michael

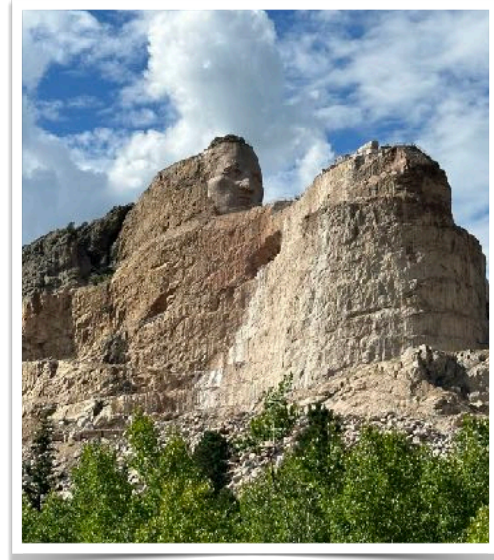
**Crazy Horse Memorial, Up Close!**

submitted by Lynda Polk

'Don't look up because all you'll see is a big nostril.'

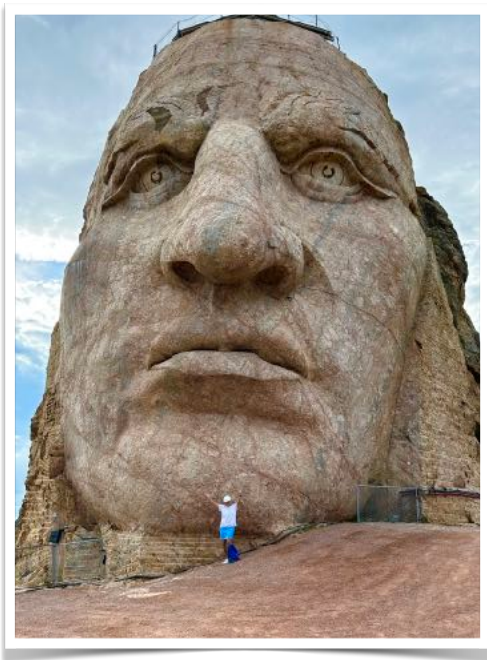
These words were definitely a first for me, and most likely the only time I'll ever hear these words was in the Black Hills of South Dakota at a magnificent dream carved into a granite mountain to honor the Oglala Sioux warrior chief, Crazy Horse.

As my guide, Gwen, and I walked out along the crushed dirt walkway/left forearm, I heeded her request and kept my head down for about forty feet when I finally turned, looked up and heard her say, 'Lynda, I would like to introduce you to Chief Crazy Horse'. Words totally escaped me as I experienced the elation, wonder and thrill as I stood so close to this expansive granite tribute. Standing there, in such an incredible spot atop the mountain, my soul was so touched that tears literally filled my eyes and my hands covered my gaping mouth. To stand before, and in awe, of this 86' tall granite face was truly a profound and palpable experience for me.



Crazy Horse Memorial

Unlike nearby federally funded Mount Rushmore, this monument is a non-profit which exists solely on charitable donations, therefore, it is taking much more time to complete. In fact, there is no defined completion date for the monument. American sculptor, Korczak Ziolkowski, did the initial blast in 1948 yet never had the opportunity to see the monument as he passed away in 1982. It was in 1998 when the head of Crazy Horse was unveiled at the 50th anniversary of the monument while the left hand was unveiled at the 75th anniversary, just weeks before my visit in August 2023. To walk these grounds was truly an amazing experience. It is estimated that in five-to-nine years the forearm where I stood will be completed and will no longer be accessible on tours.



As a young child of the 1960s in the Midwest, and very thankful for a gypsy mom who would throw her kids into a small station wagon with 'I Got You Babe' on the radio, I was introduced to canvas tent camping in South Dakota and Colorado. Although we were on our way to Mount Rushmore, I recall this was my first recollection of stories about the (someday) Crazy Horse monument. It wasn't until decades later that I made my first visit as an adult.



Bucket List: Crazy Horse Memorial...continued

submitted by Lynda Polk



Gwen explaining the blasting process

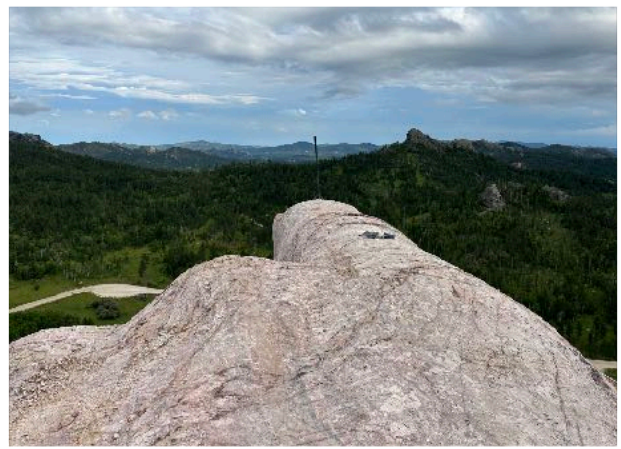
Controversial in nature, I personally found the monument a beautiful tribute to Chief Crazy Horse. The surrounding area today includes the Native American Museum of North America, a Native American Cultural Center and the Indian University of North America.

If you travel to the area, take time to visit this incredible memorial, donate by grabbing the 'up-close' tour which runs you to the mountain top with a knowledgeable guide. My late-in-the-day excursion found me on a private tour with Gwen, who made the mountain come alive with stories.

Filled with gratitude I left the mountain with a couple slightly polished granite rocks showing signs of cutting from the left hand of Crazy Horse. These rocks are now sitting on the desks of my grandkids who hopefully will visit to see more progress than I ever will of this great chief with his finger pointed to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, "My lands are where my people lie buried."



Left fingers, work in progress, not visible from Visitor Center



Left index finger, pointing



Traveling to the Black Hills? Grab a site at one of our most favorite campgrounds, Rafter J Bar Ranch in Hill City, SD. For 15 years we have enjoyed Rafter J and always book the spacious sites in the quiet Lower Ranch Camp section.

<https://www.rafterj.com/>

**Meet a Member!**

submitted by Diane Kipp & Jim Kriss

Seven years ago, Diane finally got her Airstream, a 25' front bed Flying Cloud, the one she wanted. Shortly after the purchase they joined the adventures of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club; got a puppy named Kensi; and became members in the Elks...all set! Diane grew up camping, however, Jim had never RVed or pulled a trailer, but he was a trooper and Diane willed him to learn. GLAAC was so helpful and friendly. Diane and Jim have averaged about three club trips a year and have enjoyed all of them. Their trips are usually extended to include other destinations but always shy away from boondocking as Jim likes his showers. Probably the most memorable club trips were to the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta and the Rock Springs, Wyoming International Rally, rendezvousing and caravanning to each. New place are explored with overnight stays at Elk Lodges found along the way.



Diane & Jim

Diane retired 2-½ years ago with 42 years in the dynamic field of Computer, Software and Technical Services holding various Executive Sales positions. She holds Bachelor and Master of Business degrees from Cal Poly Pomona. Jim's background as a certified General Appraiser and Real Estate Broker have given him valuable knowledge of home values and real estate rules. For the last 35 years he and his brother have owned commercial properties including a 20-unit center in Hesperia.



Kensi

Home is Huntington Beach, Huntington Harbour on Davenport Island. A second home at Lake Havasu, Arizona is also enjoyed meeting up with their families and boating on the lake. Diane and Jim have an active combined family. Diane has three sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren while Jim has one daughter and granddaughter. It is important to them that birthdays and holidays are celebrated together as much as possible. Most of the family live locally, except a granddaughter and great-grandsons who live in Northern Idaho.

Diane and Jim find themselves enjoying life wherever they are, at the beach, the lake and traveling in their Airstream!

THE APRIL 2024 CALI RALLY HAS FILLED. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING, PLEASE PLACE YOUR NAME ON THE WAIT LIST.

<https://form.jotform.com/232105672872052>



**Our Favorite Campground**

submitted by Gigi & Jeffrey Pincus

Have you ever camped at Serrano near the north shore of Big Bear Lake? Among towering pines, you will find a large range of sites, from dry camping to full hook-ups in this well-maintained Forest Service campground. We especially enjoy the easy access to hiking trails, bike paths, and fishing. Appreciating the natural beauty of the area is inescapable but civilization is not far away. Big Bear City has convenient grocery stores, restaurants, and community offerings. This is one of our favorite places to spend a few days or more!



Jeffrey & Gigi

The following websites will help with reservations, information, and local events:

- <https://www.recreation.gov>
- <https://www.alltrails.com>
- <https://www.bigbear.com>

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*Club president Michael Jackson speaks French?!* Check out this film by Echappes Belles as they interview GLAAC members at Crystal Cove State Park. While the entire film is an interesting dive into LA, skip ahead to 28:50 to see what happens when the French film company meets members of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club! ps - you'll appreciate the clip more if you speak French, as our club president now does!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psrv2\\_zuF6U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psrv2_zuF6U)

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**ALUMINATION** is here! This just-released film by director Eric Bricker shares the history of our iconic Airstreams with a spotlight on Wally Byam, creator of Airstreams in the 1930s, right here in Los Angeles; and Helen Byam Schwamborn who spearheaded the club we continue to enjoy today. You'll watch in awe at the genesis of our aluminum adventure pods right up through the 21st century! Narrated by Kate Pierson of the B-52s, grab the popcorn and enjoy!



<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/alumination>

## 2024 GLAAC Events!

submitted by Linda Calderon

### Hello Airstream Campers:

It's already February so be sure to take a look at this great list of events and mark your calendars! Our first event of the year in January was at the Malibu RV Park and was a great start to the new year. Thank you to our hosts Stewart and Mira for making the magic happen.

Our upcoming events include a few new venues and we look forward to seeing you! Many thanks to the GLAAC Events committee: Paula Hammer, Glenn Stevens, Alicia Andrews, Liana Schlecht, Helen Perri, Rudy Calderon, Marion Kuhns.



Linda Calderon, Events Chairperson

- Mar - Major League Baseball Spring Training, Lost Dutchman State Park, Apache Junction, AZ Mar 11-15. Registration is open and sites are available!
- Apr — Solar Eclipse Rally, Lake Tawakoni, Wills Point, TX, Apr 5-10.  
A few sites available! Don't miss this event as the next Solar Eclipse will occur in 2045.
- May — Sun Outdoors, Chula Vista, May 16-19. This will be a good time to enjoy the sun and the beach. Registration will open in March. Hosts needed.
- Jun — Canyon RV Park, Anaheim, June 13-18 Enjoy the hiking, biking trails along the Santa Ana River and the many activity options in the Fullerton/Anaheim area.  
Registration to open in April. Hosts needed.
- Jul — Lake Casitas Campground, Ojai, July 11-15 Full hook up sites *(this event is pending)*
- Aug — Serrano Campground, Big Bear, Aug 15-19 This will be a **book you own site on Recreation.gov**. Reservations for Aug 15 opened on Feb 15.  
Hosts, Ade and Jo Salzer
- Sep - Bridgeport Shores Campground, Bridgeport, Sept 6-11 Lakes, hiking, lakes, fishing, hot springs, horseback riding and lakes! Registration will open in July. Hosts needed.  
Note: This is a good stopover point for those going on to the Region 12 Rally in Lake Tahoe Sept 11-15.
- Oct — 67th Airstream Club International Rally, Sedalia, MO 10/05-10/11
- Nov — Sun Outdoors Indian Wells, Indio 11/7-11/11
- Dec — GLAAC Holiday Celebration, San Dimas, Bonelli Bluffs 12/5-12/9

**National Search Dog Foundation**

Santa Paula, California



Dear Michael,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1000.00 on behalf of the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club to the National Search Dog Foundation received on December 12, 2023. Your gift will help ensure our highly-trained teams of search dogs and their first-responder handlers are immediately available to aid communities in need. Since 1996, SDF has provided the nation with over 200 certified search teams that have deployed over 260 disasters and missing person searches. Our National Training Center, the first of its kind in America, is designed specifically for canine disaster search and prepares teams for the critical task of finding survivors in the aftermath of hurricanes, earthquakes, landslides, vehicle crashes and other natural and man-made disasters.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the life-saving work made possible by your investment in SDF. As you'll see, many of our recruits go from being rescued dogs without a home, to being rescuers themselves through our program. The dogs we seek are extremely energetic, which can make them difficult house pets but incredible search dogs!

The nearly year-long training the dogs complete requires our expert staff to provide structured, tailored regimens and plenty of TLC and encouragement, which comes in the form of toy rewards that drive these hard-working dogs to succeed in their life-saving tasks. They love to work and running and searching on large rubble piles is their favorite activity!

Even if a dog cannot complete training, they will never re-enter the shelter system thanks to our Lifetime Care commitment. We will find a new career or family home for each one of them. Last year, we welcomed 46 dogs into our program, providing them a forever family with SDF.

Thank you again for joining with us and becoming Part of the Search! We know there are many organizations asking for your support, and we greatly appreciate your trust and belief in our mission.

Debra Roets  
Director of Philanthropy

January's event in Malibu, CA

Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club members enjoyed the great food and camaraderie at the Malibu RV Park where it appears the views reigned supreme. Kudos to all the photographers at the Malibu event!







### Editor's Note

While our club newsletter is formatted, edited and delivered to your inbox by the editor, it is truly *your news* which makes it interesting. With this in mind, I am reaching out to all our members for participation.

- 1) With each issue we'll have an opportunity to *Meet a Club Member!* Members will be tapped to find out what you enjoy about Airstreaming; how it all began; any lessons learned on the road; what you did prior to club life. Maybe share something we don't know about you!
- 2) We have also incorporated *My Favorite Campground* where you simply write a few sentences about your favorite site and include a photo taken at the campground. With all the rolling we do, this will certainly inspire club members to try a new location!

Feel free to send one, or both of these items to me at anytime and they will be included in future issues of the Urban Update.

- Lynda

### Get Your GLAAC Swag Here!

To order:

- Go to [business.landsend.com](https://business.landsend.com) and set up an account
- Once established, order online using these codes:
  - CUSTOMER NUMBER: 6427863
  - LIGHT COLOR APPAREL (colors may not be changed) Logo code 1360294
  - DARK COLOR APPAREL (colors may not be changed) Logo code 1389360
  - OK to change colors use logo code 1684885



- Call Lands End with questions. They are happy to work with you! 800.587.1541
- Lands End apparel will not be 'blocked' in red as shown in the logo
- Watch for the occasional discount and/or free logo

#### Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club Member Photo Directory

Our membership photo directory is now available online. For help accessing the directory, please reach out to Carolyn Keep via email at: [KeepRLN@icloud.com](mailto:KeepRLN@icloud.com)

Editor's Note: Thank you to our members who submitted photos for this edition and to those photographers whom I pulled photos from Facebook. And a special *Thank You* to those who provided an article, you make the Urban Update the outstanding club newsletter that it is!