



Rallies for 2024

January 19 - 21
Tecopa Hot Springs Resort
 Tecopa Hot Springs, Calif
Contact: Jo and Lynn

Feb 1- 4
Valley of Fire
 Valley of Fire State Park
Contact: Suzy and Steve

March 1 -3
Lake Havasu Bluegrass Festival
 Lake Havasu, Az
Contact: Sandy

March 7- 10
Cottonwood Cove Resort and Marina
 Searchlight, Nevada
Contact: Jo

April 5 - 8
Pechanga RV Resort
 Temecula, Calif.
Contact: Cheryl

May 16 -19
Kaibab Paiute RV Park
 Fredonia, Az
Contact: Diane

June 13 -16
Williams Circle Pines KOA
 Williams, Az
Contact: Diane

July 17 - 21
Malibu Beach RV Park
 Malibu Beach, Calif.
Contact: Max and Jo

Check the Las Vegas Airstream Club Event Calendar for current and future rallies
<https://airstreamclub.org/las-vegas>

A little review of 2023

By Diane Hancock

In review, 2023 was an adventurous year with lots of traveling and a few rallies. The Las Vegas Airstream Club (LVAC) had fabulous rallies and mini caravans. We ventured to Red Rock Canyon and Valley of Fire at the beginning of the year. We had some Dutch oven cooking in February at the rally. I do need to mention that prospective members Terry and Gus joined LVAC after the rally. Not only did they join our group, but Terry baked some fabulous cakes. March and April took us to Lake Havasu and Zion National Parks.

Many members attended the International rally in Wyoming in June. We started with five trailers in the caravan to Wyoming and pulled into the International with 13 rigs. The caravans were a first for some of our members.

The summer months tend to be traveling, and the club was quiet. However, we picked up the travel bug for the Region 12 and Morro Bay rallies in October. We ended the year back at home with our Holiday rally.

The Holiday party and installation of new officers and chairpersons was held at the Oasis RV Resort. The holiday party had the Rat Pack theme, with members dressing to impress. After all, "It's Vegas Baby." We played the dice game left, right, center. Such a fun game.

We were fortunate to have our Region 12 1st VP, Shawn Blom, install our current officers. Additionally, LVAC donated three boxes of toys for The Toys for Tots program. Plus, we now have an event committee to plan and schedule rallies.

Follow the Wally Byam dream, hook up your AIRSTREAMS, and venture into the new year.

On the road again to capture the newest National Parks

by Jo Salzer

The problem about announcing to the world that you have done EVERY National Park is that it sets you up for a never-ending journey.

Our last article on the national Parks was in 2018 after we completed the 60 NP's. We had saved the remote, not easily accessible Alaskan parks as the pinnacle of our quest. Yay-All Done! Well not quite.

The good news/bad news for we "collectors" is that Congress keeps adding more. The good news is that there are now 425 entities that are part of the National Park system. 362 are National Rivers, memorials, monuments, historic, battlefields, reserves, preserves, seashores, or lakeshores. Only sixty-three are true National Parks. The National Park designation is the highest honor in the system and brings much needed funds to preserve and protect these gems.

The bad news is that we mature collectors had to drive the 2500+ miles to claim the newest National Park in West Virginia. Ah, but bucket lists are a wonderful way to keep us motivated.

It took a few more years but we are current again. Covid delayed our travels some. Added in 2019 was NP #61 – Indiana Dunes. Ironically, and true of all the added parks is that we were right there back in our boating days. We came off an extensive exploration of gorgeous Lake Michigan on Wandering Star, our trawler, back in 2000 and moored near this beautiful National Lakeshore. But we did not go into the park or visitor center. Close does not count. So, off we went in 2021 to see what it was about.

Lake Michigan is our favorite Great Lake. It is massive, has interesting ports along its shore and at the very south end, it runs along the northwestern border of Indiana. This is where Indiana Dunes State and National Park are located. You can see Chicago in the distance. The dunes dominate the landscape, some are white and high, others covered with dune grass, some pine forested. The wildlife is abundant, experts have confirmed over 350 bird species in the park, making it one of the top five National Parks for birding.

A developer bought lakefront property and moved the Art Deco/Futuristic homes featured at the Chicago 1933 World's Fair to the Indiana shore. He hoped to create an upmarket lakeside resort to attract wealthy Chicagoans. "Beverly Shores" failed. The houses have been restored by private investors, and while the houses are only open to visitors once a year, you can walk the streets and enjoy the exterior and grounds anytime.

Also added in 2019 was NP#62 – White Sands National Park. In 1933, President Herbert Hoover designated it a National Monument. The white sands are Gypsum – the largest gypsum dune field in the world. We had never stopped but had driven by it several times as it is near I-10 and I-25 and the town of Alamogordo, New Mexico. It is also known for the White Sands Missile Base which has a rich history of its own.



Our visit was mid-winter 2021 when the snow on the ground mixed with the white-white gypsum sand. The dunes are high, not dissimilar to the dunes we found at other sandy National Parks. Great Sand Dunes NP, Colorado; Kobuk Valley NP, Alaska; Indiana Dunes NP; and our nearby Death Valley NP, all have cool areas of sand dunes. At White Sands they encourage you to hike the trails and climb up the dunes with a sled or disc and ride down. It is a blast. A 16-mile drive through the park gives you a good overview. You can stop anywhere and play along the way.

The newest National Park, New River Gorge in West Virginia was the last jewel in our crown on this go-around. It was designated as a National River in 1978. It is beautiful and worthy of a long visit to take advantage of the many recreational activities. Our near-miss story for this park was in 2016. We had driven across the country to attend our first ever Airstream International Rally in Lewisburg, West Virginia. It was exciting for us Airstream newbies, not only the cool events going on at the rally, but the fact that the area was experiencing the Epic flood of 2016. We were prevented from sightseeing in the area, and one place that we had wanted to see was then known as New River Gorge National River.

It is not a new river, in fact it is the oldest river on the North American continent, estimated to be the second oldest river on earth - between 10- 360 million years old. The New River Gorge park has been known for decades by West Virginians for its stunning natural beauty and recreational opportunities, including river rafting, fishing, hunting, hiking, and camping.



New River Gorge

We stay inside National Parks when it is practical and available, but often find that state parks about the national parks and are easier to book and more RV accessible. So, we stayed at Little Beaver State Park, which is just a few miles from one of the Visitor Centers. The park does not offer a simple circle drive, but rather four entrances with four Visitor Centers that each highlight different points of interest in that section of the park

Do not miss Canyon Rim Visitors center for spectacular views of the Gorge and Bridge. Boardwalks and trails make it easy to explore, along with its particularly good Visitors Center. Grandview is in the south near our campsite and has magnificent views. Thurmond Depot Visitor Center highlights the more recent history of the railroad, coal mining and life in the Appalachian Mountains.

So, when you are out and about in this beautiful country, be sure to stop at some of the smaller, lesser-known places. Have you added the National Parks to your bucket list? Two of our LVAC members, Walter and Ariel, are doing just that, checking national parks off of their bucket list. Follow them and their Airstream, Wandering Wanda, on Ariel's Instagram page.

There is something of interest in ALL of them – and who knows, someday they may grow up to be a true NATIONAL PARK.

Event Committee

It has been a goal for LVAC to have a rally on the calendar for each month. It is with enthusiasm that we now have an Events Committee (EC) to help facilitate rally bookings. An EC member will call and book 10 sites together, possibly obtaining a group booking discount.

The EC will send out an email with information about the rally. Members must visit the LVAC website under events to register for the rally. The flyer and registration form will contain information about what you are paying for, i.e., campsite fees, food if provided, or if you need to call to pay and book your own site in the reserved group spots. Additionally, there will be information about activities and things to do.

The EC welcomes feedback as we work together on our new adventure. The Las Vegas Airstream Club hopes to see you at our next rally.

Be sure to check the event calendar for updates and or Email Diane at Discotties@yahoo.com

Officers and chairpersons for LVAC

President - Jo Salzer jojios.mail@hotmail.com

Vice President - Lynn Mate lynnmate@aol.com

Treasurer - Suzy Mellington - suzanne.mellington@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary / Webmaster - Jamie Peterson - jamie2scuba@gmail.com

Sandy Levan as Recording Secretary - sanlevan86@gmail.com

Membership Chair - Neil Peterson - petersonscuba@gmail.com

Newsletter - Diane Hancock - Discotties@yahoo.com

Social Media - Cheryl Musser - musserfly@cox.net

Event Committee Chair - Diane Hancock - Discotties@yahoo.com

Event Committee members - Max and Micelle, Jamie and Neil, Terry and Gus, Diane and Bob H., Jody and Ed, Jo and Ade, Melissa, Patricia K.



Membership Badges

The cost for your new badge, if you choose to purchase one is \$8.00. A steal of a price to display our new look. Contact Neil at petersonscuba@gmail.com to purchase your badge.



Holiday Party 2024 Pictures



Region 12 2023 Rally
Roaming Happy Hour
Including cadaver food
wine and laughs



Social Media Pages



Instagram

The Las Vegas Airstream Club has an Instagram account which fills you in on the rally excitement. You can follow us on Instagram at [lasvegasairstreamclub](https://www.instagram.com/lasvegasairstreamclub).



Airstream Club International

Check out the club's rally schedule, read our newsletters and find countless resources on the main airstreamclub.org website, as well.



Facebook

Check out The Las Vegas Airstream Club's Facebook page. It is private and for members only. No posts are seen by the general public. The purpose of this group is to share photos, Airstream tips, travel ideas, communication, and information. Here is a link to access the group site- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lvacmembersonly> or you can search under "Las Vegas Airstream Club Members Group".

Lands' End

Is your wardrobe in need of some fun Airstream clothing? Why not fix that by purchasing a shirt, jacket or fleece with the Las Vegas Airstream Club logo through Lands' End? You can do this by going to the Club's website, <https://airstreamclub.org/las-vegas>.



There you will find information with a link to the Club's storefront and a "How To" guide to help you through the simple process.

Our club logo is a great way to identify yourself as a Las Vegas Airstream Club member or to just show your love of Airstreams.