



Colorful News



March 2024

UNIT #24 REGION 11
AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG/COLORADO-AIRSTREAM-CLUB-INFORMATION



Inside This Issue

- From the President
- [New Members](#)
- [Quiz Question](#)
- [Portrait of a Member](#)
- [Behind the Curtain](#)
- [2024 Rally Schedule](#)
- [Airstream For Sale](#)

President's Message

Dear Colorado Airstream Club Members,

Spring is approaching, and we have published the final list of 15 rallies. Since last month, we've added three additional rallies: a weekend rally at Boyd Lake in Loveland, Longmire Days in Buffalo, Wyoming, and the Bluegrass Rally in Westcliff, Colorado. We really appreciate how many members have volunteered to host a rally this year.

We hosted two luncheons at the new Airstream of Colorado facility, with more than 110 members attending over two weekends. Dave Delano, the new General Manager, brought in a nice lunch, and we listened to the leadership team describe their new facility and vision for building a world-class maintenance facility. We then toured this new facility, which has ten service bays and room for 15 Airstreams.



Continued on page 2



Photos - Top Left CAC members enjoying lunch - Top Right -GM Dave Delano sharing his vision for the facility. - Bottom - They have space for a large number of new trailers

Our next luncheon is on March 23rd at Cinzetti's in Northglenn. Cinzetti's is a club favorite for luncheons – they have a private room for us and a tremendous buffet. There is still time to register for this one!

Spring is almost here, and that means our camping season is about to start. I look forward to seeing everyone at an upcoming rally.

Rich

CAC Officers

President

Rich Howarth

1st Vice President

Steve Libhart

2nd Vice President

Jeff Cross

Treasurer

Linda Shisler

Recording Officer

Valerie McVay

Corresponding Secretary

Carolyn Beardshear

Past President

Dave Rose

Trustees

Jim Stahl

Kirk McVay

Karen Meyer

Ursula Hermacinski

Richard Nummi

Michael Carmichael

Coordinators

Membership

Scott Kunze

Newsletter Editor

Chris Freeman

Financial Support

Dayna Olives

Events Coordinator

Vacant

Webmaster

Carolyn Beardshear

New Club Members



Welcome new members!

Laurel Benson - BRN 23740

Andy & Cheryl Edwards - BRN 20724

Patrick & Sarah Harrison - BRN 3232

Judy Heiderscheidt - BRN 2240

Jill & Mike Hesser - BRN 2365

Becky & Mike Hoeck - BRN 2428

Bill Marquardt - BRN 2240

Troy Pegg & Scott Perrin - BRN 2326

Sandy & Jeremy Robinson - BRN 5704

Larry & Lisa Wilson - BRN 2915

Jessica & Bradley Wojcicki - BRN 7563



Facebook Group

You can find the group on Facebook and request access. This is a private group for CAC members only.

The group is not a formal communication channel.

FB Group membership is not required. All CAC members receive formal email communications.

However, it is a great place to interact with fellow club members.

Visit: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/colorado.wbccj>

Or search for "Colorado Airstream Club" on Facebook.



Pop Quiz!

What kind of experiment is NASA asking to public to help with during the April 8th solar eclipse?



Bookmark Your One Stop Resource for All CAC Events

<https://airstreamclub.org/colorado-airstream-club-information>



Portrait of a Member: Michael Carmichael BRN: 31735

The Colorado Airstream Club has many interesting and remarkable members, and Michael Carmichael is one of them.

Michael and his wife, Becki, have been Colorado Airstream Club Members since 2020. They split their time throughout the year between Florida and Colorado. In 2022 and 2023, they graciously hosted a wagon-wheel rally at their ranch in Creede. This amazing property, located above Creede and surrounded by National Forest, made for one of the club's most popular rallies.



Evolution of Cardiac Surgery in China

Becki and I first went to China in 1987 as the Co-Director of an International Cardiovascular Symposium in Beijing, while I was the Chief of Adult Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Florida. It was then I learned that coronary artery disease was the number one cause of death of the Chinese male, just as it is in our country. However, Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery was not done in that country. That sparked the desire to introduce Bypass Surgery to Chinese doctors in a medical mission capacity.

The Chinese are very pragmatic, and though missionaries are not allowed in China, they are very open to learning new techniques and skills. We first went in a medical mission capacity in 1992 when open heart surgery in China had a fifty percent mortality. To say the conditions were primitive is an understatement. Windows open to the outside in the operating rooms and a scarcity of instruments and meds were some of the early challenges. But the doctors and nurses were enthusiastic to learn.

Though very uncomfortable with the early conditions, the Lord blessed our efforts, and there were no mortalities in multiple visits over several decades of surgery. We have been back yearly except for the Covid years of 2020-2022. Now, their facilities are as modern as the finest hospitals in our country. In fact, the first heart program I operated in 1992 did only about a dozen heart operations a year. In 2023, that same hospital did nearly 3,000 heart operations with a 0.7% mortality.

If you want to know more about the evolution of Cardiac Surgery, please feel free to grab me at a Rally or some other event, and I will be happy to share. In fact, we will just be returning from China on May 12 and look forward to seeing everyone at the Maintenance Rally.



Behind the Curtain of the CAC

by Jeff Cross BRN: 3590

Nearly five years ago, my wife and I joined Airstream Club International and the Colorado Airstream Club by proxy. We knew very little about the people, rallies, or events that were held. We attended our first Colorado Maintenance Rally and were overwhelmed by the generosity of people and how they helped us and invited us to be a part of the group. We knew we had found just the right spot.



Over the years, we attended more rallies, received emails, attended luncheons, and enjoyed it so much that I wanted to help somehow. I was excited about the opportunity when Rich Howarth asked me if I was interested in being Second Vice President. I didn't ask him what was involved, but I wanted to contribute and give back to an organization that had helped me learn about my trailer.

After being in this role for two months, I've learned that the Board and teams are full of highly dedicated, intelligent, passionate people who genuinely care about our Club, ensuring we have many activities and rallies. I've learned that behind the scenes, many tasks are done "Behind the Curtain," things that the average member, like I used to, never see. I wanted to write this article so that our members would see that this Club is in great hands, that we are doing innovative and creative things, and that we are putting things in place to make the future of the Club even brighter.

The behind-the-scenes starts with Rich Howarth, the president, and Steve Libhart, the vice president. They have taken what used to be "Board Functions and Decisions" and delegated them to a new set of teams. By doing this, they have freed up the Board to make more strategic and oversight decisions than trying to make every operational decision.

These teams are new, just under two months old, but are now beginning to function together. The teams make recommendations, work through issues, and report to the Board.

As of now, there are 5 teams: Membership, headed by Scott Kunze; Communications, led by Carolyn Beardshear; Finance, run by our Treasurer Linda Shisler; Rules and Regs, directed by Dave Rose; and Events, headed by Jeff Cross.

Each one of these new teams is tasked with enhancing the experience of club members and providing members an opportunity to contribute.

Scott's Membership Team is specifically tasked with ensuring our member's voices are heard. You may have received a survey from Scott asking you about your likes and dislikes, what kind of camping you prefer, and if you have something you would like to contribute to a Rally. The team takes that very seriously; it helps us decide what kind of rallies we offer or presentations made at various rallies. But more importantly, it helps us find people who can offer something to other members of the Club.

The Membership team wants to find things of interest to our members and find ways to make the Club more responsive to your needs and wants. Scott and his questionnaire are great ways for you to introduce yourself. Not only does Scott's team help us with knowing more about you and your needs, but with his database background, he keeps track of the comings and goings of all members. Each new member gets added to his database, along with email changes, and then he keeps track of how many rallies you've attended. With nearly 350 trailers in our Club and almost 700 members, this job keeps getting bigger.

Behind the Scenes of the CAC

Continued from page 6

Carolyn's Communications Team is the face of the Colorado Airstream Club. Her team creates emails, web posts, and most of the Facebook posts and coordinates with the national Club to ensure our rallies are posted on its site.

In addition, she creates and manages all of the "Jotform" registration forms we fill out to register for a Rally. The communications team has the difficult task of gathering all of the information from various rally hosts as to when they want to open or advertise their rallies, how many and what size of campsites are available, reminding us when we can start signing up, closing the Rally if and when it fills up and a myriad of other communication responsibilities.

The communications team also often acts as a go-between with various teams, ensuring we are all on track with the rally calendar, the presentations we are working on, the newsletter, and communicating back and forth with individual members with questions.

The Finance Team, headed by Linda Shisler, has more responsibilities than I ever knew. I was aware that we paid money for Rallies, and the Club received some small amount of money from the International for our local membership, but other than that, I needed to be made aware of all that was involved.

Due to COVID and campgrounds being more restrictive, the Club can't reserve 20-30 sites as a courtesy from the campground. As of over a year ago, campgrounds were requiring the Club to pay upfront for all sites or make a significant down payment. Often, the down payment was 6-9 months before our standard opening date for a rally. With 15-16 rallies scheduled for the upcoming year, a creative solution was needed so that the Club could pay for these deposits upfront.

The solution was to open up rallies significantly more before the actual date. That's why you saw the Maintenance Rally open so soon. In addition, Linda and her team are responsible for reconciling all of the Rally attendance, making sure your payment came through PayPal if you signed up for the Rally. That reconciliation had always been manual. It was quite doable in previous times when the Club had only a handful of rallies or luncheons. But now, with 18 separate events and hundreds of trailers attending rallies, this manual reconciliation process has become too cumbersome.

Over the past period, the finance team and others have been working on a much more automated solution that will streamline the registration process and ultimately allow for an automated reconciliation on the back end. In the next period, you will hear much more about this as we continue testing and working through this solution.

The International Airstream Club has changed some of its bylaws and recommended that all clubs make changes to their bylaws and rules. Dave Rose has accepted the role of reviewing all of our Club's bylaws to ensure we comply with the International's set of rules. This task requires him to go word by word through various documents, ensuring we comply.

More than likely, you will see emails in the future asking you to approve changes to our bylaws. Dave will continue to work through these changes, but the changes will be insignificant at first glance.

The last team that was created in January is the Events Team. I currently lead that team, working closely with Scott and Carolyn. The objective of the Events team is to work with our event hosts and other teams, making sure that the Rally would make sense financially, was pleasing to our members, and that the Communications team had all of the information they needed to properly

Behind the Scenes of the CAC

Continued from page 7

promote and open the Rally to members. In the past, this had often been a Board function.

Having a dedicated group to work with hosts will allow us to mentor new hosts better and expand the number and kind of rallies we have. The first job the Event team was asked to work on was preparing an agenda for the Maintenance Rally.

This year, we are excited to present a multi-track event with concurrent sessions, including 12-14 hands-on sessions. If you are a new Airstream owner, we will have several sessions dedicated to the fundamentals of owning a trailer. We are introducing several more advanced topics. If you have attended some Maintenance Rallies and perceive it to be the same, we will have vendors at the Rally talking about their products and have some wine and cooking demonstrations.

The more significant task of the Events team is to streamline and formalize the rally process for the Board. We will be working with all of the rally hosts to assist them in any way that we can, working with the various teams to, for example, negotiate the campground deals, find new hosts and cohosts, and gather all of the information we need for Carolyn and her team to advertise and promote rallies. This mentoring approach will transform what some might consider a daunting task to organize and promote a rally into a fun experience.

In January, most of the 2024 rallies were set, but we got to test our mentoring concept with two rallies for which members proposed ideas. The Longmire Days rally and the new Westcliffe Bluegrass Rally were two ideas that members had that the Events team helped to facilitate, happening in a very short period.

As we look to 2025, we are looking for members to come up with creative ideas for Rallies. The Events team has created a form that any member can fill out with an idea about a new rally. This form is posted at airstreamclub.org/colorado. We feel that rallies don't need to be just about going to a special place like a National Park, even though there are some places we haven't been to in some time. We don't need to go to places in Colorado; this year, we have rallies in South Dakota and New Mexico.

We encourage you to consider rallies around events: music festivals, car shows, wildflower festivals, hot air balloon events, art fairs, and Wild West days. Think about a Rally around a hobby or activity: fly fishing rally, crafts rally, beer and winemaking, mountain biking, golf, hiking, or photography. I've considered a winter rally where we go downhill or cross-country skiing together for three days. And don't think a Rally has to be one with 25-30 trailers. The Events team is happy to work and promote a Rally where 8-10 trailers attend.

The future for the Colorado Airstream Club is quite bright. Our membership continues to grow, and with new events and rallies, we hope that participation in events will grow with new members being hosts or cohosts.

If you want to participate more in the Club, being on one of the teams is the best first step to adding your skills and expertise to this great organization.

2024 Rally Schedule

Date	Event	Description
March 23	Luncheon	Cinzetti's, Northglenn
April 22-25	Wine and Hike at Palisade, Robb State Park, Island Acres	Come out of the cold and join us at Palisade to start the 2024 camping season. Weather averages 46 degrees at night and 67 during the day. Drive the Colorado National Monument, hike the Palisade Rim trail, take the wine tour at Red Fox Cellars or just relax next to the Colorado River.
May 9-13	Great Sand Dunes Rally	Oasis RV Park
May 16-19	Maintenance and New Member Rally	Jellystone RV Park, Larkspur
May 30 - June 2	Boyd Lake Rally	Boyd Lake State Park
June 10-14	Ghost Ranch Rally	Abiquiu NM
June 24-28	Steamboat Rally	Steamboat Springs KOA

Always visit the [CAC Events Page](#) for registration dates and all the latest updates, including the tentative 2024 Rally schedule.

2024 Rally Schedule

10

Date	Event	Description
July 11-15	July in Salida Rally	Salida RV Resort
July 11-15	Westcliff Bluegrass Festival	High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival Campground
July 18 - 21	Lomg mire Days Rally	Buffalo, WY
July 22-26	Black Hills Rally	Heartland RV Park, Hermosa SD
August 7-11	Estes Park Rally	Manor RV Park
August 21-26	Palisade Peach Rally	Palisade Basecamp RV Park
September 4-8	Meeker Sheep Dog Trials Rally	River Camp RV Park, Meeker
September 5-8	Carter Lake Rally	Carter Lake

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2024 Rally Schedule

Date	Event	Description
September 16-20	Ouray Rally	Ouray KOA
October 1-4	Caravan to Sedalia	Caravan to the International Rally
October 5-11	<u>International Rally</u>	Sedalia, MO

Is the CAC Rally you wanted full?
Check out the many surrounding events in Region 11.

Do you need to cancel a registration for a Rally?
Fill out the cancellation form.

Always visit the CAC Events Page for registration dates and all the latest updates, including the tentative 2024 Rally schedule.

Airstream, 2019 28RB International Signature

\$85,000



2019 International Signature model with modern style. 28RB (28ft in length) has a queen bed (60"x75") in the rear aspects of the Airstream, with 2 additional sleeping accommodations for a total of 6 occupants.

2 LED Smart TVs with a Winegard Roadstar omidirectional antenna and Samsung Blu-Ray Player.

Full kitchenette with Corian countertops, a 7 cubic ft. refrigerator and freezer (runs on LP or electric), 3 burner gas stove top, microwave/convection oven, a large food pantry and a dinette that seats 4.

Large 72" ultraleather sofa in the lounge area as you enter, plenty of windows offering passive outdoor lighting and a panoramic view from the front of the trailer. Electric ZipZee awning on the entry side with manual pull-out awnings in the rear and streetside.

Dometic thermostat that controls a 30 AMP AC with 15,000 BTU heat pump, ducted furnace (30,000 BTU).

2 Fantastic fans, one in lounge area and another in the bedroom. A 1,000 watt inverter converting 12-volt electricity from the batteries into 120-volt power and an exterior junction to connect solar panels.

*Included is the Blue Ox (BXW1000) Swaypro, anti-sway/weight distribution hitch – merely requires a 2" hitch receiver to the vehicle.

Gross load weight of 7600lbs, with a UBW of 5900lbs. The unit includes a 39 gallon fresh water container, a "gray" storage tank of 37 gallons and "black" storage tank of 35 gallons.

This particular unit has had one owner, is in perfect condition with a clear title (non-smoker), less than 12,000 miles traveled. Purchased new 3/2019 and has been meticulously maintained and serviced.

For more information contact Randall randallamacci@gmail.com



Pop Quiz! **Answer**

The NASA-funded [Eclipse Soundscapes Project](#) is asking for help from the public, to record the sounds observed during the upcoming eclipse.

Read more about the project and how you may be able to help, [here](#).



Editorial Review

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