



Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club

Volume 25 — APRIL 2024 — WBCCI's Utah Affiliate

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Howdy... it's camping season! UWAC just completed the "Get Lucky in Moab" rally courtesy of our hosts, Bonnie & John Ruskauff. We had a blast — everything from potlucks to sit-down dinners to red rock hiking to state and national park visits. One of the fun highlights was the Airstream tours where we got to look inside many of the member's trailers, ranging from vintage to new and limited edition models. Sharing knowledge about all-things-Airstream is always one of the really fun aspects of a club rally. It was truly great to see old friends and meet new members and affiliates. Special thanks to Bonnie & John for hosting yet another great rally!!



Hopefully the Spring weather is sparking everyone's interest in camping. If you are in the Greater Salt Lake area, please consider attending the joint UWAC & Airstream of Utah Tech Talk breakfast on Saturday morning, April 27th — details will be e-mailed to the club once finalized with the dealer. Please check UWAC emails for announcements on rallies and events, and the UWAC website (<https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch>) for the latest schedule and JotForm registrations.

UWAC is prospering but we are always looking for additional help and involvement with rallies and caravans. The club has grown to 66 members and 46 affiliates so you understand why some of our events have been booking up in the first weeks after opening registration. We continue with planning for 2024-25 rallies but the constraint is always having members willing to host or co-host. Please consider co-hosting a rally; it's not hard to do and there's plenty of help available if you do. UWAC thanks everyone who has volunteered to host our 2024-25 events — you're awesome!!

Longer term, like any organization, we need to continue with succession planning for UWAC officers & directors. The fact that the club continues to prosper is testament to all of

the members who have stepped forward and put forth the extra effort to plan events and administer the club. Some of our club positions have been filled by the same member since inception in 2015 (9 years.) We'd love to see newer members with interest step into these roles at a logical time, so please be thinking of how you might best contribute to the club as *part of the leadership team* (current listing of club officials is found at <https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch/uwac-club-officers>.) *Let one of the existing club officials know if you have questions or interest in a specific role.*

This year we need to recruit a new editor for the club newsletter. All would agree that Jeanne Lund has done an incredible job with the newsletter for many years, but it's nearing time to hand-over the reigns to another volunteer; let me know if you are willing to take over the UWAC newsletter that is published four times per year (see <https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch/newsletter>.) This is a great outlet for creative folks!!

We are also actively looking for a volunteer to help organize and manage club SWAG (shirts, hoodies, hats etc.) We have an existing on-line source for SWAG (Axomo) that isn't used frequently and hasn't always been reliable. Peer clubs appear to have some first-rate on-line suppliers, so this role will require some research and set-up with a new vendor. Ideally, this individual will have some graphic design skills to help create some popular items that will appeal to members. **Lastly, we are also looking for an assistant webmaster who can begin to help with ongoing maintenance of the UWAC website, and eventually take-over as webmaster.** The website software is pretty good (with a few oddities) and the process of making updates is straightforward.

That's all for now — safe travels and see you down the road!

Best Regards - Ron Jorgensen

President, Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club

BRN 1218

Stories from the Road

Boondocking with the Buehlers

February, Hurricane Cliffs, Southern Utah

Kevin and Elizabeth Buehler

President's Weekend found the Buehlers camping in Hurricane Cliffs, outside LaVerkin. If you want a weekend to drop your trailer and not move your tow vehicle, this is the place for you.



It started Thursday night with picking which of the designated camping only spots to stay the weekend. Some of the spots are too small for a trailer or vehicle so recommend looking at satellite views before you go. We picked a favorite spot near four bike trails but there are plenty to choose from. Friday was spent riding and some minor canyoneering in the creek canyons leading to the Virgin River. Saturday was more of the same with added trail runs and hikes. The great thing about camping here is all trails are never 100 yards from your campsite. If you haven't been, check this out on the way to Zion.



Get Lucky in Moab Rally, March 14-17, 2023

John and Bonnie Ruskauff hosted UWAC's first rally of the 2023 rally season at the Sun Outdoors Moab Downtown RV resort. A total of 14 Airstreams fought the rain, sleet, hail, snow and salt on the roads to get to Moab. Of the 14, there were 12 UWAC members and two affiliates. Seven of the rigs arrived a day early on Wednesday. This was the club's fourth rally in Moab.



After the rest of the folks arrived on Thursday, the rally officially kicked-off with a happy hour which included delicious hors d'oeuvres, "Moab Mai-Tais", other beverages and deserts including a few pies for "Pi-Day", 3/14. The atmosphere was awesome! You could feel the built-up energy and excitement from a long winter, as most participants were getting their rigs out for the first time this year. Even

though it was a bit cold, the weather cooperated-the rain didn't start until everyone had retired to their Airstreams for the evening.



Friday started with a change of plans due to the threat of rain and possible slick trails.

Instead of the planned hike to Fisher Towers, we decided on a group sight-seeing car ride up the Potash Road (Lower Colorado River Scenic Byway U-279). With the Colorado river on one side and 1,000 plus foot sandstone cliffs on the other, this amazing road follows the river for approximately 17 miles. Near the climbing section known as Wall Street the group stopped to examine several panels of Indian rock art. The next stop was at the Corona Arch trailhead. Again, the weather cooperated, and the rain held off long enough to accommodate our plans. Some of the group, and their canine companions, hiked about two-thirds of the trail to

get a distant view of the Corona Arch. A few made it to the arch!



After the impromptu hike, the group was a bit split up. Some went back to the Moab area to shop and visit other sites including the Moab Museum of Film and Western Heritage. Others continued to the end of the pavement, to the potash mines and the beginning of the Shafer trail. The Schofields actually braved the drive up the infamous Shafer trail to Canyonlands National Park!



Friday evening was the St. Paddy's pot(luck) of gold dinner. The hosts/club provided Irish bangers and corned beef burgers. As always, others brought many tasty appetizers, salads, sides and desserts. Delicious!





Following dinner we held an Airstream open house. Most of the ralliers were willing to open the door of their rigs for others to tour. It was great seeing the various models, layouts and decorating ideas. Everyone really seemed to enjoy seeing the other amazing Airstreams as well as maybe a little showing off of their own!

Saturday began with a caravan to Dead Horse Point State Park which is undoubtedly one of the best state parks in the country! The angry, stormy skies added more drama to the jaw-dropping views of the red rock cliffs and winding, horseshoe-shaped bend of the Colorado river, 2,000 feet below. Amazingly, the rain again held off long enough for everyone to hike around the edge and enjoy the views. After the Dead Horse stop, some continued on to visit the Island in the Sky area of Canyonlands National Park.



Saturday concluded with a group dinner at Antica Forma. Even though Moab is somewhat isolated, Antica Forma has some remarkably good Italian dishes, pizza and a decent wine list! In addition to the good food, they did an awesome job of accommodating our group of 30.



The rally concluded Sunday morning with a St. Paddy's Day Breakfast. The breakfast included coffee and Lucky Charms cereal for the needed caffeine and/or sugar boost for the drive home!



Many thanks to all the participants who braved the weather to get to Moab – we hope you enjoyed your stay!
John and Bonnie

2024 UWAC Rally & Event Schedule:

April 2024 - UWAC Total Eclipse of the (Lone) Star Rally: April 5 to 9 (4 nights) at Arch Ray RV Resort in Fredericksburg, Texas. Details and registration information was previously sent to UWAC members and affiliates, and the initial registration closed 4/17/22 (due to popularity and high demand for campsites.) The club will also be hosting a **Total Eclipse Caravan** for members wanting to travel to Texas together via Blanding, Santa Fe, and Lubbock, TX (caravan dates are 4/1 to 4/4).

[UWAC Caravan to the Total Eclipse Rally](#) - April 1 to 5 . See UWAC email sent to club members and affiliates registered for the UWAC Total Eclipse Rally. Caravan registration closes 12-31-23



April 27 - Tech Talk Breakfast

Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club is co-hosting a free "Tech Talk" breakfast with Airstream of Utah at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at the dealership (3131 West, 2210 South - West Valley City). We will be serving pancakes, fruit, juice, coffee as we talk about Airstream trailers & motorhomes.

The event is free and presents a great opportunity to network and learn more about your Airstream RV and the club. It should last about 90 minutes or more depending on interest. If you plan to attend, please RSVP so we have an idea on the number of participants from UWAC:

<https://form.jotform.com/240876343059159>

Agenda details are provided in the linked JotForm, but here's a brief overview:

- Pancake breakfast
- Brief welcome & introductions (Airstream of Utah & UWAC)
- We Rally Together (ACI & UWAC overview)
- An Owners Perspective on Airstream Upkeep
- Expert Technician Perspectives - Airstream of Utah
- Ask the Expert - Q&A with Airstream of Utah Tech
- Dealership "Show & Tell" - parts, upgrades, latest models & trends

May 2024 - Escalante (May 9-13): details have been shared with UWAC members and affiliates via e-mail and registration has opened and runs through 3/1 or when fully booked. We have a group block of 15 sites for 4 nights at the Escalante Cabins and RV Park in Escalante Utah. Rally is being hosted by Laurel Black & Peter Grogan.

June 2024 - Willamette Dammit Caravan, 11 nights, 6/1-12/24; stops are planned in Homedale, ID (1-night), Bend, OR (3-nights), McMinnville (4-nights), Cannon Beach (3-nights); various tours/activities are planned; registration for the caravan was held in 2023 and was fully subscribed (initially 12 trailers, extended to 15 trailers.) For more info: [Just Sayin' - ChatGPT and the Oregon Caravan](#). Caravan is being co-hosted by Chris & Vic Gabrenas, and Holly & Ron Jorgensen. *SOLD-OUT*

July 7, 2024 - Pinedale Rendezvous 7/11-15/24); rally will be held in conjunction with the Green River Rendezvous celebration in Pinedale, WY; rally is planned as a joint event with the Wyoming club; registration details have been shared with UWAC members and affiliates via e-mail. Rally is being hosted by Kelli & Ron Araujo. We have a group block of 20 sites at the Yellowstone Trail RV Park in Pinedale, WY. *SOLD-OUT*

August 12, 2024 - Bryce Canyon Details will be shared with UWAC members and affiliates via e-mail once registration is opened.

September 9, 2024 - Ouray, CO (9/24-29); details will be shared with UWAC members and affiliates via e-mail once registrations opened.

October 10, 2024 - Mini-caravan to International Mini-caravan to International (finalized, 10/1-4/2024) - UWAC members and affiliates plan to arrive at the International rally on Friday 10/4; International rally being held in Sedalia, Missouri from 10/5-10/2024. Caravan is being hosted by Holly & Ron Jorgensen. **St. George or Zion Area** (late October, dates & location TBD).

UWAC Caravan to Sedalia - October 1 to 4, 2024 (UWAC arrives 1-day early in Sedalia). See UWAC email sent to club members and affiliates. Caravan registration closed 1-19-24.

[2024 ACI/WBCCI International Rally](#) - October 5 to 10 in Sedalia, MO. Registration can be done online through the club website (click link above) Book soon as this rally will sell-out early.

November 2024 - UWAC Annual Meeting and Dinner: TBD

TECH CORNER

TRAVELING WITH FIDO

by Keith Lund, D.V.M.

Reprint with changes from UWAC Newsletter 2017

The dog has really under gone quite an amazing evolution in its role as the family pet over the past 60 years.

Back in the 1950s, a dog's role was considered as a working companion or pet that lived in the barn or



“out back” in a dog house full of straw, commonly at the end of some sort of tether. Now days, dogs are considered family members that will often share the bed with their owners, have special meals cooked for them, and ride in the car with a head out the window. They sit on the couch and watch movies with the family sharing in the bowl of popcorn, help shop at Home Depot and PetSmart and share the cabin space on airline trips. Where once Lassie never made it past the back porch mudroom, now Buddy has his own-monogramed bed in the living room surrounded by toys and special dog treats.

So, with this dramatic social transformation of the family pet dog, it’s no surprise to see many more people hiking, camping and RVing with their pets. Hitting the road with your furry companion can be a lot of fun and sharing new destinations and adventures can really add to the overall enjoyment of the trip. With that being said, there are a few issues that should be considered and planned for before and during an RV outing.

Travel Maladies: A few dogs, especially younger ones, will sometimes experience motion sickness and/ or travel anxiety. Most dogs will grow out of the motion sickness issue but initially these few pets can be given over the counter Dramamine safely or there is a really excellent, fairly new drug called maropitant that is available by prescription from your veterinarian that works great. Consult your family veterinarian on dosing intervals and amounts of either of these drugs. Have a discussion with your veterinarian and see which one she might recommend to use for a calmer traveling companion.

The Leash and ID: A leash is probably the most important item in your dog’s travel bag. It provides safety, control and helps your pet be a model citizen when coming upon another person or dog. No one wants to be confronted with a barking or over friendly dog especially if they are with their dog that is on his leash. Whenever hiking with your pet near automobile traffic or hazards, such as steep cliffs, a leash is a must.

Some dogs, when away from familiar confines of home, may wander off, become disoriented or plain just get lost. It is important that all dogs have some form of ID on their collar so whoever finds your wayward dog knows how to get him back to you. Obviously your name, your pet’s name, telephone number and maybe email address should be on the tag. Tags are cheap and many stores offer kiosks for do-it-yourself point of sale. Tags and collars can be removed so it might be a good idea to have a permanent form of ID such as a microchip implanted into your pet. Microchips are very common technology now, inexpensive and easy to do. All veterinary clinics and shelters have scanners to read and retrieve information from these microchips.

Diet: It seems that camping, partying and cooking out or barbecuing increases the temptation to share our tasty dinners and leftovers with our pets. Dog’s digestive systems do not do well with spicy or fatty foods. To avoid digestive upsets such as diarrhea, try to keep your dog’s dinner much the same as he would eat while at home.

Health Records: It is a good idea to keep a copy of your dog’s health records or at very least his vaccine records in your trailer. You never know when the need will arise to take your pet to a doggie play day center, go to a groomer or visit a veterinarian while on the road. Most

kennels and groomers, good ones at least, will require certificate of proof for your dog's current vaccination status. These vaccines will include Canine Distemper, Parvovirus, Rabies and Bordatella (commonly referred to as kennel cough). Keep your pet current and be prepared to prove it.

Endemic disease issues: Most dog owners do not realize what a bonus it is to live in Utah. We have almost zero prevalence of fleas, very few ticks and low incidence of heartworm disease. It is a wonderful place to own a dog. However, other areas of the country are not this lucky. Heartworm disease, spread by mosquitos is very prevalent in all the Midwest, Southern and East coast states. Lyme disease, spread by the bite of a tick and also a threat to humans, is rampant in the New England states. Ticks and fleas are common in many areas of our country and they are major vectors of disease for pets as well as their owners.

The key here is "know before you go". Your family veterinarian is the only source to trust to inform you of different endemic disease threats that could be a concern to you and your dog in areas you are planning on traveling. She also is an excellent information source on flea and tick prevention and what to consider to minimize your dog's' exposure to many diseases that could be a problem when traveling to various areas of our country. Also what additional vaccinations might be indicated such as Lyme disease vaccine. Flea and tick control has never been easier and safer. These products are one thousand times less toxic to humans and the environment than they were in the 1970's. Please, please, only use the products prescribed by your veterinarian. Do not use over the counter products sold at pet stores or on-line. Prescription products, although maybe a little more expensive, are so much more effective and safer for you and your dog. If cost is an issue than request your veterinarian send a prescription to an online pet pharmacy. Do not freak over this issue and worry to the point that impacts your fun during the trip. Just do what is needed to safeguard your pet's health, comfort and happiness. It's easy with a little knowledge and planning.

Watch the heat: Dogs do not perspire! This puts them at tremendous disadvantage with controlling their core temperature. The only way dogs can cool themselves down is to pant heavily and rapidly, which is extremely inefficient. Please be careful when doing extreme activity such as hiking, running, biking whenever temperature outside is 75 degrees or more. Completely avoid strenuous activity whenever temps go over 85 degrees especially on clear and sunny days. Drinking water is important to prevent dehydration but it does absolutely nothing in preventing hyperthermia. Signs of heat stroke in the dog are weakness, heavy panting, dark red gums, and inability to rise and continue moving. If you suspect your pet may have heat stroke then it is important to pour whatever cool water you have or can find, be it in a canteen, a pool or lake or stream over their body, especially trying to concentrate getting water to the major blood vessels found under the neck and on the inside of the upper thighs. Heat stroke is a life- threatening emergency and medical care at a veterinary clinic should be found as soon as possible.

Be kind to your dog's dogs: Be aware of what is happening to your dog's paw pads when running or hiking on rough terrain for long distances and avoid surfaces such as asphalt,

sand, or hard sandstone on especially hot sunny days. Think of you doing the same activity without shoes or socks on. It hurts and can cause some nasty pad ulcers or thermal burns. Get some doggie booties if you are planning on this kind of activity. Also keep your pet's nails trimmed to a normal length. This will really help avoid split and broken nails, which can cause hemorrhage and pain. Learn how to do this yourself. It's easy and needs to be done frequently,

Put together a simple doggie first aid kit for the trailer: This kit should contain things such as telfa pads, gauze bandage, VetWrap which is an elastic self-adhering bandage similar to Coban in humans. Tweezers and adhesive tape should be in the kit. Also some bland over the counter ophthalmic gel such as Refresh or Genteel Tears, a tube of Neosporin, also a tube of Animax ointment or 1% hydrocortisone cream (Neutrogena makes a nice one) is useful for treating skin irritation, rash and red swollen ear canals. Rimadyl is an oral medication that belongs to a family of drugs called non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDS). It's action is similar to Advil in people and is used to treat pain from a variety of causes in many areas of the dog's body. It is a good drug to have on hand especially when you are in remote locations on a weekend. Your family veterinarian would probably be OK with dispensing a few tablets for you to have on hand. Follow your veterinarian's recommendation on dosing this drug. It is based on the weight of your pet and is generally used twice a day. It is a prescription drug. If you do not have access to Rimadyl then either Tylenol or Aleve are OK to use for a couple of days in a pinch. Always try to completely avoid giving your dog aspirin, Advil (ibuprofen) or any narcotic opioid drugs.

2 mg loperamide tablets for diarrhea. Give 1 tablet every 8 hrs for every 30 lbs. of body weight for 2-3 days. Also diphenhydramine tabs 25 mg. for itching skin, rash, hives and insect bites. Give 1 tablet for every 25 lbs. of body weight every 8-12 hrs. Styptic powder or stick to control minor bleeding from a broken nail. If your dog or cat is listless and or not eating well for more than 36 hrs or moderately injured, I would *strongly* recommend finding a nearby veterinary clinic for professional consultation and treatment.

Situational Awareness: Be vigilant when enjoying activities while camping with your dog. Try to anticipate danger, hazards and precarious circumstances. Again, the leash. Dogs are sometimes oblivious to potential trouble much like a 3-year-old child. Be cool but be careful.

The Poop Bag: Do not forget to stock the trailer with poop bags. Always clean up after your dog whether in the campground or on the trail. Nobody likes to see dog poop while hiking especially on the bottom of his or her boot! Scoop that poop, it's the right thing to do.

This is just a brief overview of a few things to consider when traveling and camping with your dog. Being on the road in the great outdoors is somewhat different than life at home. There can be challenges that need to be solved. The fun part is watching your dog, through your patient training, learn how to deal with these as well and become a seasoned camper. Having your best friend along really adds to enjoyment of the adventure.

Remember the Airstream adage:

"It's not where you're going but who you're traveling with".

ADDENDUM:

It has been 7 years since I wrote this article for the UWAC Newsletter in July of 2017. During this time there have been many new developments and new issues that have impacted the practice of veterinary medicine. One of these issues has been the renewed resurgence of a disease called leptospirosis. Leptospirosis, or lepto as it is commonly referred to, is a bacteria and is not a new disease. It commonly afflicts livestock but it can also infect dogs and humans as well. Human leptospirosis occurs primarily in subtropical climates such as Sri Lanka. It is estimated that leptospirosis infects more than 1 million humans a year, and of those, roughly 60,000 are fatal. These statistics are mostly from third world countries with poor access to health care. The number of cases of canine lepto has been rising the past 5-6 years. The distribution in the U.S. is varied. For example, we have not seen many cases of leptospirosis in dogs in Utah, less than 40 cases reported in the last 18 mos. but in Colorado there have been more than 300 cases seen just over the past 12 months. Wyoming, California and Arizona have had recent outbreaks as well.

Leptospirosis lives primarily in water and water soaked soil (mud) and is primarily spread through the urine of rodents such as rats. It can live in the environment for months. Infections in dogs and humans occur when the *Leptospira* bacteria are brought into contact with mucous membranes or skin abrasions. It primarily affects the health of the kidneys and liver. There are blood and urine tests available to diagnosis an infection.

I used to think that leptospirosis was a very rare disease and that mostly large breed rural dogs that were out in the field among livestock were at risk. But no more. All dogs are at risk of leptospirosis, no matter where they live, urban or rural, their breed or their age or their size, or whether they mostly stay indoors. It can occur any time of year.

The good news is that there is a very effective, safe and non-reactive vaccine available. All dogs should be vaccinated for leptospirosis. Every dog should have a yearly booster as well. I feel that a lot of our club members and their dogs travel and camp in many areas geographically, which would logically increase the risk of coming in contact with this bacteria. Therefore, I felt this news would be important and educational to those club members. Please check with your veterinarian to make sure that your dog is current on all their vaccinations, especially rabies and leptospirosis.

WORTH NOTING:

Bookmark the UWAC web site:

<https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch>

You can find the latest UWAC newsletter, rally schedule, registration instructions and other important information on the website.



Proposed Constitutional Amendment: Treasurer Position for WBCCI Leadership

On February 22, 2024, the Wally Byam Caravan Club International Board of Trustees (IBT) moved, and approved, that the IBT propose **amending its Constitution to change the title of Treasurer to Finance Director, and to change the process of how the Finance Director is seated.**

In accordance with WBCCI Policy 18.1.1, Timeline and Method for Handling Proposed Amendments to the International Constitution, subsection C, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee (CBL) has created a **report** regarding the proposed amendment. This report indicates to the membership that **an all-membership vote will occur on, or about, June 20, 2024.**

his **election by the membership** will be the first Constitutional Amendment considered under the new rules that eliminated the delegates meeting in 2022.

Additional materials are coming soon to assist with this proposal. **Mark your calendar for the May 15, 2024 Campfire Chat.**

For more information on **what's happening, why an amendment** is being proposed, **how candidates will be chosen** and **when this will happen**, please click **[here](#)**.

Comment Form

- [ACI Meeting Question & Comment Form \(click to submit\)](#)

Comment via Voicemail

- Call toll free 1-855-675-1955 - Clearly state your name, Big Red Number, local club, agenda item and comment. Record your comment in 3 minutes or less.

Comment via Email

- Email your comments to info@airstreamclub.org. Include your name, Big Red Number, and comment.