

# Montana Airstream Club

Summer - 2024



## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT(S)

Welcome Summer Time! Oh! The places we will go!

The Spring Breakout in Miles City was FUN! The Rodeo, the Parade, the Races, the Broncos! This event gets a bad rap. No, it is not all, drunk cowboys. Yes, you can find it if you look, especially if you go to the bars in town and the nightly dance, but daytime, it is a family event.

Rande will be planning the Spring Dust-Off next year. He is open to suggestion.

The Region 10 Rally was a BIG SUCCESS, so much that the same venue is being considered for a rally next year. **Here is a message from the region 10 president.**

**"Hello Region 10 rally goers,**

**I am so sorry to have omitted the results of the silent auction. Your overwhelming generosity raised an astounding \$11,000 for the Union Gospel Mission Women and Children's Crisis Center of Coeur d'Alene. There will be a check presentation, and I will keep you apprised.**

**Thank you Region10. Your donation is going to transform many lives!**

**Florence Tramoni, ACI Region 10 President"**

### Leadership Team

Co-presidents: Sue Smith [suzies\\_myth@hotmail.com](mailto:suzies_myth@hotmail.com); Pam Mann [haroldpam@gmail.com](mailto:haroldpam@gmail.com)

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\*Reminder of this special announcement for our Canadian members. Are you going to come to HAB? Are you going to order something in the near future that cannot be delivered to Canada or is just too costly to have shipped to Canada? We have a solution for you. Have it delivered to Pam and Harold's house and pick it up when you come to Helena for HAB! Problem solved!

\*Registration for HAB is provided in the attachment. As of June 1, we have 18 electric sites registered, plus possibly five more electrized spots if the county decides to string plugs for us. There are plenty of dry sites, a group in the trees and a group on a grassy knoll. Summer rallies are off to a good start. We hope to see you this summer.

\*One of our members asked a really great question. "How do I get a name badge?" In years past, clubs had a gizmo-thingy (official name) and would make members badges at rallies. That is not the case anymore. Airstreamclub.org now makes them for everyone. This is how you get a badge. After you sign in to Airstreamclub.org, click member resources, search for badges. There will be a form, you pay, the badge is mailed to you.

Store.airstreamclub.org.

Yours truly, Pam and Sue

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## DIRECTORY

A temporary membership directory is attached to this newsletter. It was current to June 1, 2024, per the International directory. **IMPORTANT - The membership chairperson position is available,** so if you have artistic talents (or not) and would like to design a directory for the club, contact Sue or Pam or Rande.

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## (Save the Date) RALLY SCHEDULE

**Butte Folk (Music) Festival, July 12-14, Butte, MT. – Butte KOA**

campground; advise you are with the Montana Airstream Club.

**IMPORTANT - Please send an email to Sue or Pam if you will be attending**

[suzies\\_myth@hotmail.com](mailto:suzies_myth@hotmail.com)

[haroldpam@gmail.com](mailto:haroldpam@gmail.com)

**Red Ants Pants, July 25-28, White Sulfur Springs, MT.**

**IMPORTANT - Contact Rande and JoAnn Farrow (wagon masters) if you plan to attend this festival and if you want to dry camp with them at the music venue OR** notify Rande or Joann.

[rande1216@hotmail.com](mailto:rande1216@hotmail.com)

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**Longmire Days** – July 18-21, 2024, Buffalo, WY. If you are a fan of the books, and/or the show, this is a fun event. You can make it intense by attending everything, or laid-back by attending the free events and one or two of the fee-events. You can choose how to play. The event is held in Buffalo, WY also known as Durant, Wy. If you know the Books you will understand what the double meaning is all about. Check out the website [www.longmiredays.com](http://www.longmiredays.com) for more information.

Deer Park Campground in Buffalo is the preferred RV.

**IMPORTANT - Please send an email to Sue or Pam if you will be attending**

[suzies\\_myth@hotmail.com](mailto:suzies_myth@hotmail.com)

[haroldpam@gmail.com](mailto:haroldpam@gmail.com)

**Fiddlers' Picnic Rally, August 5-6, Livingston, MT.** Contact Dal Smilie  
[dalsmilie@aol.com](mailto:dalsmilie@aol.com)

**HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER (HAB)  
– A FUNNY THING HAPPENED AS WE  
PLANNED HAB!**

**It is 60 yrs! We found proof!!  
The first HAB was in 1964.**

**60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, August 29, 2024  
thru September 2, 2024.** Our Canadian friends from the Alberta/Saskatchewan Airstream Club will be joining this Labor Day Weekend rally for a fun time exploring Helena,

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MT and celebrating 60 years of camping together. A reminder to the Canadian club to bring their club flag and Canadian flag. Harold built a great flag stand to display 5 flags. The camping weekend will be at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds in Helena. Five more camping spots have been secured. They are near the Pavilion, on grass, but not in the camping area. They might have electricity if the county completes stringing line together. That makes 27 spots which should be plenty for everyone to electrified. At the time of this newsletter, we have 18 sites registered. More information and the Registration Application is attached.

**WHAT TO DO IN HELENA!** The registration form has a spreadsheet attached that provides more suggestions of "Things to do in Helena."

Reeders Alley is a historical street in downtown Helena. Self-guided tours are available. A guided tour sponsored by The Foundation for Montana History offered Monday through Thursday 11:00 to 1:00 through Labor Day, and \$10 for seniors is available by booking a spot using [montanahistory.org](http://montanahistory.org).

The Fort Harrison Museum, which is only open on Thursday, has an entire room dedicated to the joint Canadian/American Special Forces from WWII. And The Bray, which is a ceramic sculpting studio. Who are on are on fellowships. They offer tours of each room the artist occupies, plus the grounds are full of unique sculptures. See their websites for information.

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**IMPORTANT - Volunteers are needed for several tasks at HAB such as: help erect the tent, plant a tree, lead a bicycle ride, carry the airstream flag on the hike to Mount Helena** (I am just kidding on this one), and lead the morning yoga group. If these tasks are one of your skills, talk to Pam. She likes helpers with talents.

**IMPORTANT - Volunteers are especially needed to provide the continental breakfasts on Friday and Saturday.** One couple for each day would be perfect. Expenses will be reimbursed on Saturday afternoon. Experience has proven that if it is kept simple, the easier it is for all. Suggestion #1, cereals or oatmeal with ice cream and generous toppings. Suggestion #2 Sweets and

fruit. Suggestion #3 boiled eggs (Costco sells them by the dozen) and fruit. Suggestion #4 anything you want that is easy. The club always supplies the coffee and Tea. **IMPORTANT - Please contact Pam if you are interested in hosting.**

## OTHER RALLIES

Region 10 Rallies can be viewed on the Airstreamclub.org website by going to the Events tab and input "from" and "to" dates, and then click on Region 10 from the drop down list and then you can see all the events scheduled in Region 10.

## WEBSITE ACCESS

Airstreamclub.org has a public view and a member's view. Even if you have not set up your members ac-

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count, public information is available on the website.

We have been asked how to get to the Montana website. There are two ways. Here is the web address: [Airstreamclub.org/Montana](http://Airstreamclub.org/Montana) or go to [Airstreamclub.org](http://Airstreamclub.org). At the three horizontal lines also known as a hamburger, hit explore, then scroll down to Montana Club.'

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MONTANA AIRSTREAM CLUB

This is notice that the annual meeting of the Montana Airstream Club will be held on Sunday, September 1, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pavilion, Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds, 98 W Custer Ave,

Helena, Mt. Time subject to change, with 24-hour notice.

Regular business of the club will be discussed as well as rally and event updates. Rande Farrow will be sworn in as president for a two-year term. ***Nominations and voting will take place for officer positions of Vice-President(s) (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>), Trustee, and Membership Chair. A volunteer(s) for the position(s) of Newsletter editor and historian is/are needed.***

If any member would like to have an item of discussion added to the meeting agenda, please contact either Sue or Pam, or the Club Secretary, Paul Lindstrom.

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## DON'T GET TAKEN IN BY SCAMMERS

Our leadership and members have been targeted by scammers. The Montana Airstream Club will not ask our members to purchase anything on behalf of its officers such as gift cards, etc. If you receive such a request report it the Club Presidents. These email requests are from scammers and should be deleted.

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***The last word***, this newsletter needs an editor. ***Please volunteer to be the newsletter editor.***

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## The real last word:

This will be the last newsletter from Pam and Sue. We both leave the office in September and Rande takes over. Each of us has something to tell you:

From Pam: Working with Sue has genuinely been an easy and smooth endeavor. Each of us worked to our strengths, which made a great team. Thank you, Sue, not only for your hard work but your kind soul as well. Regarding our membership, we have a great club, not too big, not too small. We are the perfect group. I have enjoyed getting to know you and working for you. I look forward to seeing each of you at future rallies.

From Sue: I've always said . . .in this team, Pam's the brains and I'm the blond (silver really)! We do compli-

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ment each other with our talents and we do have fun! Thanks Pam and Harold, our time together has been precious and dear!!!

Attendance at rallies surpassed our expectations with a diverse mix of members taking advantage of the gatherings. I had a great time camping with so many new and old friends.

## IN MEMORIAM

Ron Schmidt, past president and membership chair, died May 25, 2024. A private memorial service will be held to honor Ray's life. The Airstream Club will be dedicating a tree planted at HAB in his memory.

Region 10 is honoring him in their newsletter with the following tribute:

## Ray Schmitt Passing

The board members of Region 10 announce the peaceful passing on May 25th of Ray Schmitt, longtime treasurer of Region 10 and past president of the Montana club. He was 81 years old.

Ray and his wife Eglina's involvement in the Airstream community has been a long one. They bought their first Airstream from an acquaintance shortly after they moved to Florida while their two children (Ryan and Kay) were young. Their goal was to expose the children to the adventures of outdoor living while exploring Florida and the surrounding states. Years later when Ray's parents retired, Ray and Eglina sold the Airstream to them and his parents used it to travel around the country, mostly full time. His parents were the first to discover the Wally Byam Caravan club and became avid members. The stories they told Ray and Eglina about WBCCI and travel brought them back to Airstream when

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they retired and they decided to travel themselves. They purchased a 2010 27ft Classic Limited and joined the Montana unit in 2011. Over the years, they camped/traveled over 100,000 miles. Eventually, Ray and Eglina split their residence time between Marion, Montana and Hillsboro, TX where they resided in the North Texas Airstream Community. This, of course, was when they were not traveling in their rig.

Ray's career in accounting prompted him to use those skills to support various organizations to which he belonged, including the Airstream Club. Ray liked to pretend he was a serious guy but, in our experience, he wasn't so serious as he loved both receiving and sending jokes. He loved his family and spoke highly of his wife, children, and grandchildren. He will be missed in the Airstream community.

He is survived by his wife, Eglina, his son, Ryan (Jill) and their three daugh-

ters, and his daughter, Kay Hawkins (Dan) and their two sons.

Thank you, Ray, for all the years. See you on down the road!

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