

GREATER BAY AREA



Greater Bay Area Airstream Club Newsletter October 2024



UPCOMING RALLIES

Nov 14 – 18 SVAC

Officer Installations
Bodega Bay RV Park

Dec 12 – 15 GBAAC

Black Oak Casino RV Park
Tuolumne, CA

Jan 2025 16 – 19 SVAC

Marina Dunes RV Park
Marina, CA

Feb 2025 20 – 24 SVAC

Petaluma KOA

Mar 2025 13 – 17 GBAAC

St Patrick's Day Rally
Half Moon Bay, CA

Apr 2025 9 – 7 GBAAC

Grass Valley, CA

Apr 2025 24 – 28 GBAAC

Coyote Lake
Gilroy, CA

May 2025 15 – 18 SVAC

Olema Campground
Olema, CA

June 2025 12 – 15 GBAAC

Sant Cruz Redwoods RV
Felton, CA

July 2025 7 – 11 GBAAC

Silver on the Seas

July 2025 17 – 20 SVAC

Clio's Rivers Edge
Clio, CA



President's Message
Eleanor McFarlin

Greetings to all Greater Bay Area Airstream Club Members and Affiliates Fall is now officially here and I am pleased to see the change in seasons. I'm greeting you from the road in Fredericksburg, Texas as part of a loop back to the Bay Area following the International Rally in Sedalia, Missouri. This International Rally was well-attended with over 1200 Airstreams and representation from almost every state in the U.S. It's always an incredible experience to connect with other Airstreamers from all over the country and enjoy a week of shared sessions, meals, music and great conversations. My husband John and I got the pleasure of serving on the Rally Arrival Team and had a great time meeting many incoming travelers.

As we welcome the cooler temperatures we looking at our upcoming rallies for the remainder of 2024, which brings us to the Oct 24-27 Newbie Rally at the Napa Valley Expo which will be hosted by Mike and Shawn Blom and will allow new Airstreamers the opportunity to get questions answered, learn new tricks and tips and build community. In November, on the 14th-18th, the annual Installation of Officers Rally in Bodega Bay will be hosted by the Sacramento Valley Airstream Club, a joint gathering that welcomes our new executive board officers for 2025. And finally on Dec 12-16 Jason and Andrea Grendahl will host the Black Oak Rally which promises a great time with its much-anticipated White Elephant gift exchange.

As we shift in January 2025 to our new board members entering their roles, I will complete my term as President. It's been an absolute honor to serve in this role for the past year and I look forward to remaining on the board in my ongoing role as Membership Chair. Thank you to those who voted in our recent election. We have an excellent slate of new and continuing officers to guide the club's direction for the next year. We welcome, as always, any ideas for gathering, rally location options, thoughts in general, anything you'd like to contribute to our club and of course we also welcome hosts and co-hosts for our rallies.

Warmest fall wishes,
Eleanor McFarlin, GBAAC President

Signing Up For A Rally

Does the rally sign up process have you confused? We have people that have expressed some consternation with the rally enrollment process. Below are a couple things to think about when signing up.

Given the size of our reservations, usually 25 – 40 trailer sites needed, our 1st VP needs to arrange rallies a year in advance. Only State and County Parks have a 6-month time window to make the necessary reservations. Not only do many campgrounds require the year advanced reservation, but the park may also require that GBAAC provide a roster of attendees within 30 days of making the reservation. This 30-day roster requirement means GBAAC needs to send out a sign-up notice a year in advance.

The challenge for all of us is the ability to predict what we are doing a year in advance. Because of this, if you do not manage to get into a rally at the first announcement, please get on the waitlist. Every rally has cancellations as the rally date gets closer and it is generally not too late to sign up for the waitlist.

Ask questions. Contact the 1st VP, or if there is a Rally Host listed, ask them how long the waitlist is. Many people initially on the waitlist drop off although the rally host may not know that. Just be persistent and in many cases you will be successful attending a rally you want to go to.

Sign up to be a host! Hosts are allowed to sign up before the rally is announced to the rest of the group. It would be bad if the host could not attend their own rally. Peruse the rally schedule on this newsletter and see if there is one that you would like to host. There are many other members willing to co-host and show you the ropes. The club board is here to support you as a host so give hosting a try.

Lastly, sign up for other rallies. NorCal, Central Coast, Region 12 and ACI all have rallies. As you attend the larger rallies, Region 12 for instance, those are rallies that have 150 Airstreams from

multiple states. Annual International Rallies may take time getting to, but sharing ideas and experiences are the best part of those rallies. Not lastly, there are National Rallies such as the Rose Parade Rally. We know from experience this rally is fantastic. Look at the ACI website and you will see a wide variety of rally opportunities.

Being an ACI member you automatically get a Harvest Hosts membership. Harvest Hosts are farms, dairies, wineries, etc... that allow members camp at their facilities. It is usually boondocking but generally very inexpensive. There may not be a camping fee, but you will be expected to buy some of the host's products in exchange for staying there. Some do offer water or electricity, but those can be a nominal fee.

Target getting on a waitlist if a rally is "sold out". Try attending other clubs' rallies. Expand your horizons to the opportunities from ACI to Harvest Hosts and you will end up with a rich camping experience.

Welcome New Officers

The election results are in! Some officers move up and new officers will join the GBAAC Executive Board in January. Please welcome the new members and others that have pledged to help your GBAAC for another year.

President – Mike Blom

1st Vice President – Jill Impink

2nd Vice President – Linda Wiessman

3rd Vice President – Erica Evans

Treasurer – Serena Lopes

Secretary – Jason Grendahl

A huge thank you to Eleanor McFarlin as she moves to Past President position and will stay on as Membership Chairperson. Kudos to Mark Leonard for his efforts as 3rd VP and as rally host. A big round of applause to all! Thank you to all who ran for office and those who voted.

Starlink Comparison

See the companion article attached to this email.

Photos From Recent Rallies – Come Join The Fun!



Italian Wine Tasting Costanoa



Campfire gathering, Costanoa



Burney Falls – NorCal/SVAC/GBAAC Rally, McCloud



Ice Cream Social – Region 12 Rally, So. Lake Tahoe



Vintage Club Dance – International Rally, Sedalia, MO



Airstream Friendship – Region 12 Rally, So> Lake Tahoe

2024 GBAAC Club Officers

- Eleanor McFarlin – President, eleanormcf28@gmail.com
- Mike Blom – 1st VP, mike@grapecounter.com
- Jill Impink – 2nd VP, jillimpink@yahoo.com
- Mark Leonard – 3rd VP, planuc21@gmail.com
- Serena Lopez – Treasurer, serenalopezgbaac@gmail.com
- Jason Grendahl – Secretary, jasongrendahl@gmail.com
- Andrea Grendahl – Webmaster, andregrendahl@gmail.com
- Chris Martindill – Past President, cmartindill16@gmail.com

Social Media – Join & Post!

- Facebook [Greater Bay Area Airstream Club \(GBAAC\)](#)
- Instagram - [GBAAC \(@gbaairstreamclub\)](#)
- Web - [Greater Bay Area Airstream Club | ACI](#)

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