



WBCCI Airstream Club International

Five Reasons to Attend the Region 11 Rally in Granby, Colorado

July 23 - 27, 2025 • Sun Outdoors Rocky Mountain RV Resort, Granby, CO

by Ron Jorgensen, UWAC President 2024

Please join us as we rally in Granby, Colorado with Region 11 members from all across the West. This will be the first such rally since Casa Grande, Arizona in 2022.

Region 11 encompasses Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Mexico, and the portions of Texas in the Mountain Time zone. These are bigger rallies with lots to do including meeting fellow Airstreamers from all these great places.

Special thanks to Region 11 President, John Holly (pictured right at a recent UWAC rally) for getting this big event all planned & organized!

Reason #1 - Location, Location, Location: Granby, Colorado is situated along U.S. Highway 40 in the Middle Park basin, about 14 miles southwest of Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP). If you've never been to RMNP, now you have one darn good reason! Granby sits at near 8000' elevation with pleasant temperatures during the summer months. The town is home to many boutiques, gear stores, restaurants, specialty shops, and galleries — something fun for all interests. Granby offers great Western hospitality and

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UWAC rally) for



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a small-town vibe with plenty of options for adventure like fishing the Fraser River. The rally is being held at Sun Outdoors Rocky Mountain RV Park which receives great ratings and reviews on various websites (e.g. 4.5 stars on RV Parky, 4.2 on TripAdvisor, 8.9 out of 10 on booking.com etc.) The resort has a pool, hot tub, ice cream station, bowling alley, arcade, and all the other amenities needed for a big Airstream rally! The facility has a ton of things to do, as well as plenty of space to relax and play.

Reason #2 - Visit Beautiful Rocky Mountain National

Park: RMNP offers a range of experience for all visitors, from wildlife viewing to scenic drives, fishing, and more. According to one guide (destinationgranby.com): "Visitors from Granby can access Trail Ridge Road via the Grand Lake entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park, which is a 20 minute drive from Granby. Within minutes, travelers ascend through Aspen and pine trees that then quickly yield to forests of fir and spruce. The road continues to weave and climb through the mountains, achieving altitudes of 12,000 feet. Here, visitors find themselves in a magical alpine tundra surrounded by snow-

capped mountains, where tiny plants and wildflowers thrive. The drive takes about two hours, though you might want more time to take in all the sights." There are so many ways to see RMNP; please see www.nps.gov/romo for more information to help plan your visit.



Reason #3 - Good Old Airstream Camaraderie: If you've ever attended a Region 11 rally (like the 2022 one held in Casa Grande, AZ - pictured above), you know that these are truly a don't-miss event. They are much larger than a

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President's Corner

By John Holly, Region 11 President

Hi Everyone! Where to begin? I worked my way up as an officer of Region 11 to finally become your President. It was a long but productive haul. I also reached the spectacular age of 80, and my body started to fall apart! This picture shows me in the hospital immediately following the emergency surgery to remove my persnickety infected gallbladder. I'm not sure what I was thinking about with this sh#t eating grin other than I was glad to be alive and happy to have the drugs.



These little “life episodes” quickly bring you to reality. Some of the lessons learned are: Slow down, recover completely, eat healthy, keep loved ones close, and open up to appreciate and embrace the many friends you have made over the years who are there for you!

I am so grateful for the outpouring of love and support from so many of you who have made my recovery possible. Thank you!!

Now, in reflection on my seven years as an Airstream Club member, I figure it's time for paying back as well as paying forward in my new leadership position. In recent years I have rallied, dined, and drank with all of

our fabulous Region 11 Clubs, getting back to the purpose of why we bought an Airstream and joined the Club—to camp and have fun! During these visits, strictly avoiding politics and religion, discussions have been constructive and creative, leading me to realize that each of our six clubs/units have distinctive personalities. Each bring unique perspectives to our region as a whole. For instance, we all love camping, and some organize their rallies within an inch of their lives, while others approach a more free-spirit attitude incorporating more boondocking and free time. It all works! It's all good!

I have encouraged club/unit to have joint rallies. This has worked out beautifully, not only to combine different approaches, but also to expand the camaraderie and friendship across state lines.



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I have discovered that members have many hidden talents and useful skills that can be shared among our clubs.

A while back I was in a discussion about the Airstream Club structure and why we would need regional officers when the International Officers could communicate directly with the hundred plus clubs. Huh??

Can you imagine ACI trying to keep everything straight and up to date with a limited staff? I feel the regions are extremely important in handling their own clubs. And I intend to increase our region communication, updates, and information to not only keep everyone informed, but also to put everyone on a first name basis.

Simply put, I will continue to seek your advice and support to help make Region 11 the best and most productive in ACI. I along with your vice presidents, Sam Brandes and Ron Jorgensen, will be attending your rallies and functions to have worthwhile discussions, and learn how we can continue to make our region and clubs better. We welcome your input!





1st Vice President's Thoughts

By Sam Brandes, Region 11 1st Vice President

Let's get this party started! Hello, Region 11. First, thanks for electing me as your vice president. This position has a great job description. I am required to attend rallies throughout the region and to make sure that everyone is having fun. Sign me up!!

My wife, Kathy, and I love to travel, meet new people, visit new places, and enjoy all that life can offer. We have been members of the Airstream club since 2018, primarily with the Arizona Club, where I have just finished my term as club president.

During this time, we have met so many amazing people with such varied backgrounds and points of view. I love the diversity of ideas and life experiences that come out of the many conversations that I have had with members. We are all an adventurous, lively, group who love good food and good friends. It is all here for our taking with the Airstream Club.

The real key to getting the most out of your membership is attending rallies and getting involved. The level of your involvement depends on your personal situation and your superpower. It could be anything from helping to serve beans at the rally dinner to being involved in club leadership. All help is needed and all help is appreciated.

But the best benefits are the friends that you make along the way. I look forward to seeing you at future rallies throughout the region and the Region 11 Rally at Sun Outdoors in Granby, CO on July 23-37, 2025.

Happy Camping,

Sam Brandes

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typical unit rally but more intimate than the annual ACI/WBCCI International Rally. While all are fun to attend, the Region 11 rallies offer a great chance to meet folks from all over the West & Southwest, compare notes on club level activities, plan joint events, and do all the other fantastic things that magically happen at



Airstream rallies — making new friends, renewing old acquaintances, sharing information and best practices, and seeing all the latest-and greatest in Airstream and vendor gadgetry. And... what's more fun than sitting around the campfire at an extended happy hour visiting with Airstream friends?

Reason #4 - Great Rally Agenda: If you know John Holly (Region 11 President), you also know that he is a fantastic planner and entertainer with experience on some of the biggest ACI/WBCCI rallies including recent Internationals. Be prepared to be entertained!! Although the final agenda won't be available until closer to the event, John indicates there will be a mix of social events, technical sessions, some meals and entertainment.

There is also thought about having a couple of open sessions where we get together to discuss some of the issues we have with our trailers and motor homes, and suggestions for improvements we can send to Airstream, Inc. That type of direct user-input would be very valuable to Airstream. Various vendors, Airstream dealers, and VIPs are being invited, so chances are you will have a great opportunity to talk to the experts about your unique needs and experiences. But of course, there will be plenty of free time so everyone can do things on their own and explore Granby, RMNP and surrounding area — maybe cast a fly line in a beautiful mountain setting.

Reason #5 - Wonderful, Wonderful People: Like many other members, when we joined WBCCI back in 2016 and attended our first rally, we weren't quite sure what to expect. You know what we found?



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Past President's Notes

By Steven Parr, Region 11 Past President

As the "Past" President - what a seven years it's been - which started as Region 11 2nd Vice President, then 1st Vice President, and then President. I would like to thank all of our WBCCI Region 11 staff and local Clubs/Units for your engagement and support. As I hand over the leadership to the new president, John Holly, I would like to highlight the initiatives that were implemented during my presidency, along with the team that worked under me.



The Regional staff under my presidency:

John Holly - 1st Vice President

Julie Cook - 2nd Vice President

Jerry Nelson - Treasurer & Webmaster

Lisa Parr - Recording Secretary

Sherri Ewing - Corresponding Secretary

Kimberley Hash - Newsletter Editor

Bob Doster - Region Blue Beret Editor

During my tenure, we developed new Region Constitution and By-Laws. We created a region logo and flag. We updated and kept current the WBCCI Region 11 websites. We aligned our region's bank with WBCCI International bank. We created Jot Forms for the region polls and events. We initiated a region quarterly Zoom meeting with our local Clubs/Units with meeting minutes to foster better communication. We created a straw poll for local Club/Unit membership via email and WBCCI Region 11 website for input on how the region should vote on WBCCI International motions. We Shared via email important and informational WBCCI headquarter emails to region membership. We assisted local Club/Unit leadership. And we initiated and published a quarterly region newsletter.

In closing, our three Clubs and three Units are growing stronger! Thank you ALL for your assistance in making Region 11 shine.

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The club is full of friendly and interesting people, of whom many have become lifelong friends. Our club (Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club) held its first rally in 2016, and we've attended most of the clubs events since then — rallies, caravans, business meetings and dinners. You know what we found? More and more friendly and interesting people, and an ever-expanding circle of friends. We've also met many wonderful people from across Region 11 as affiliates attending at our events, as well as our attending International and the events of other clubs in surrounding states. The common denominator: wonderful, friendly, interesting people who love Airstreaming!

Okay, hopefully with some encouragement you are now planning on booking and attending this "don't miss" Region 11 rally. For detailed information on registration, please see the Region 11 webpage set-up for this exciting rally: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-11-rally-2025-detail-page>

Safe travels and see you down the road!! — Ron Jorgensen, Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club (BRN 1218)

Around the Region in Quarter 1, 2025

Date	Club	Event
01/16/25 - 01/19/25	Arizona Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/arizona-cattail-cove-state-park-rally-2025	Cattail Cove State Park, Lake Havasu, AZ
01/25/25	Colorado Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/colorado-january-luncheon-2025	January Luncheon at Rock Bottom Brewery, Centennial, CO
02/10/25 - 02/13/25	Arizona Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/arizona-picacho-peak-state-park-rally-2025	Picacho Peak State Park, Picacho, AZ
02/15/25	Colorado Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/airstream-colorado-luncheon	Luncheon at Airstream of Colorado, Denver
02/27/25 - 03/02/25	Las Vegas Airstream Club Utah Wasatch Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/utahs-wasatch/rally-event-schedule	Blue Grass Festival at Lake Havasu, AZ
03/06/25 - 03/09-25	4 Corners Unit (4CU) https://airstreamclub.org/4cu-verde-valley-rally-2025	Dead Horse Ranch State Park, Cottonwood, AZ
03/13/25 - 03/16/25	Arizona Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/arizona-kartchner-caverns-rally-2025	Kartchner Caverns State Park, Benson, AZ
04/10/25 - 04-13-25	4 Corners Unit (4CU) https://airstreamclub.org/4cu-bisbee-rally-2025	Bisbee Rally 2025, Bisbee, AZ
04/10/25 - 04/13/25	Arizona Airstream Club https://airstreamclub.org/arizona-homolovi-state-park-rally-2025	Homolovi State Park 2025, Winslow, AZ

Change in Region Leadership

By John Holly, Region 11 President

Another important message from the President

On January 8th I had a meeting with our Region 11 Vice Presidents, Julie Cook and Sam Brandes, and was informed that Julie had to resign her position as 1st Vice President. We are sorry to lose her, but completely understand her reasons for resigning. We thank Julie for her time serving Region 11.

We have moved our 2nd Vice President, Sam Brandes up to fill the position of 1st Vice President, and through the process of the Nominating Committee and action of the Region 11 Executive Committee, comprised of the Region officers and Club Presidents, it was unanimously voted to approve Ron Jorgensen from the Utah-Wasatch Club as our new 2nd Vice President. Ron has welcomed this opportunity to serve and we are grateful to have him on board.

Please join me in welcoming Ron to his new Region leadership position.

As we move forward with wonderful rallies and travel this year, I want to remind you again about our Region 11 Rally in Granby, CO, July 23-27, 2025. Registration for this grand event will be forthcoming, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you all,

John Holly
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Julie Cook

Dixie Lee Neely Franklin

August 27, 1935 – December 16, 2024

BRN 143

Surrounded by family, Dixie, 89, passed away peacefully at her home in Phoenix AZ on December 16, 2024.

Dixie was born August 27, 1935 in Kerrville TX to Red and Ethel Neely. She grew up in Kerrville, Norwalk CA, and Chandler AZ, graduating from Chandler High School in 1953.

Dixie attended Grand Canyon College, where she met and married the love of her life, Jim Franklin on March 12, 1955. They welcomed three children, Cindy, Judy, and Steve in quick succession. Dixie was a stay-at-home mom until all three were in grade school. She then completed her education degree at Arizona State University in 1968. Dixie taught elementary school for over 23 years. Her favorite grades were 1st and 2nd grades, teaching young ones to love learning.

In retirement, Dixie and Jim enjoyed traveling the world by plane, cruise ship, and RV. They were active members of the Airstream RV Owners Club, ultimately serving as International President and First Lady. Dixie was active in the Southern Baptist church



Dixie Lee Neely Franklin

wherever they lived, teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, and singing duets with Jim. Her favorite duet hymn was “In the Garden”. Dixie was also a longtime member of Gideons International Auxiliary, helping to distribute Bibles around the world.

Dixie was preceded in death by her loving husband of 60 years, Jim. She is survived by her children; Cindy (Paul) Allsing, Judy (James) Van Gorkom, Steve (Dana) Franklin, four grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. Dixie is also survived by her sister Mary (Don) King, and numerous Neely cousins.

A graveside service will be held at Mountain View Cemetery, Mesa AZ, on December 28, 2024 at 10:30 am. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Alzheimer’s Association or Gideons International.