

The NorCal News



2025

Happy New Year

Volume 62 Number 1

The Poppy

January 2025

President's Message

It's hard to believe that just a little over four years ago, neither Janie nor I had ever set foot in an Airstream, yet here we are heading up arguably one of the best and largest Airstream clubs in the US. The past years have not only flown by, but they have also changed our lives. To put it simply, we're hooked!! We've made great friends in the NorCal club and visited some of the most beautiful areas of California - experiencing and making great memories. I am also so grateful and blessed to have the best wife, friend and travel companion to share these great memories with.

In the beginning, the concept of having an Airstream for us was a bunch of photos on one of Janie's Pinterest Board and suddenly, it literally jumped off her board and into our driveway. Our typical Airstream story, that many of you have already heard, we started out by buying a rig that was too small for us, a 22' Bambi that we took out on our maiden voyage to Clio. We met a host of future friends (and Nor Cal members) at the Clio Resort and those new friends recruited us into joining our NorCal club. The rest is history. Of course, to stick with what seems to be an Airstream tradition, we did buy a larger Airstream (and truck) soon thereafter.

This latest Christmas Rally, Installation and auction were a great way to end a successful year, as well as pay tribute to Carmen and Jose Ortiz for their wonderful contributions to our NorCal Club. The auction, benefiting the Interfaith Food Bank, was highlighted by a raffle featuring a wine vault with the winner collecting over \$4000 worth of high quality wines (see the write up for more details). Hint...See Barry and Claudia for a glass of wine at the next Rally. We have such a fantastic group of members, many of whom put in an inordinate amount of

volunteer hours to ensure that our club is running well. This next year, and beyond, we'll be looking to our membership for increased and broadened participation in our rallies and running the club. We're extremely excited with our new board – full of ideas and energy.

Coupled with the growth that we're experiencing in new members; we'll also be looking for everyone to step out of their comfort zones and help make our new members feel included and welcome.

We feel that we have a great line up of Rally's scheduled for 2025 – starting out with Paso Robles in March. Look for the sign up in the Poppy in the February issue. Paso Robles is such a great area with many things to do. Aside from the Wine Country, hiking and biking opportunities, the towns within striking distance are great to visit. Even the coastal towns are close by. In the meantime, as we look forward to a fantastic 2025, please feel free to reach out to us via phone, text or email if you have any concerns, feedback or ideas. Our door and minds are always open and we welcome input. See you down the road!



Tary Sallinger, NorCal President & Janie

What's Inside

Editor's Column	2	April Rally Jotform Link & Promo	7
2025 Rally Schedule	2	International Rally Review	8
Message from Registrar	2	November Rally Afterward	9
Birthdays & Anniversaries	3	December Rally Recap	11
NorCal Info	4	Results of Charity Auction	13
March Rally Summary	5	Wiining Cookie Recipes	13
March Rally Info & Jotform Link	6		

From the Editor



Unfortunately, Ed's hand surgery and us getting sick the first week and a half in December kept us from the Christmas Rally, which, by all accounts, was very fun, ending the 2024 NorCal Rally Season on a high note for our incoming President Tary Salinger.

In this issue, we look back at the International Rally in Missouri (thanks to Kathy Warren), November's Rally at Dumbarton Oaks in Fremont and the Christmas Rally in Plymouth, while also looking forward, with the summary and Jotform information for the March 2025 Rally

in Paso Robles and the V6 Ranch Valley in April. That is a lot of Rally information in one issue! But it is what we do.

Please be sure to check out the promotion for the April V6 rally which will be held on a private ranch in the rolling hills near Paso Robles. As the promo states, it is a lovely location, built for events such as ours. But unlike other rallies, if we do not secure a minimum of 20 trailers, it must be cancelled. We need you to read the promo. consider attending, and if you decide you can, to complete the Jotform that can be accessed from the Jotform link on page __ so we can gauge potential interest in the rally and cancel in time if necessary. If you have thought you can't get into a Norcal rally, this may be the one for you. Photo is of Ed and I at a rally at the V6 in the location of our planned rally. We hope you will make it!

Elisa Ungerman, Poppy Editor

A Brief Message from your Incoming Rally Registrar

Greetings Airstreamers and Happy New Year!

This new year comes with a new registrar! As I make the adjustment into my new role, please be patient with me. As Lori Bibby mentioned in the last Poppy Newsletter and at the Christmas Rally, I am still working. My busiest time at work is the first week of each month, which also happens to be when a rally registration happens. Please note: I will not be available **by phone** for the first 5 days of the month. You can email me and /or text me and expect a response within 24 hours. I

prefer email for correspondence. Please add the new registrar email address to your contacts. wbccinorcal.registrar@gmail.com. This email address will stay the same no matter who is in the registrar position.

Additionally, please use Zelle if possible. Zelle is both the safest way to send money and the easiest for all parties. Mail thieves today can turn your check into anything they want. If you need assistance with learning how to use Zelle, I am happy to walk you through it. I know many are resistant and fearful, but Zelle is not like buying online. It is a secure Bank to Bank transaction.

I have big shoes to fill, and it will take some time. Lori was always going above and beyond to help our members and I will try my best to not disappoint you as I learn the job.

Vicky Bartelt

Ed note: Keep in mind we are all volunteers, trying to juggle our lives with whatever Club duties we have taken on. Patience and kindness are ALWAYS appreciated., and especially when new to the job!



2025 Rally Schedule

March 5 - 9

Paso Robles RV Ranch, Paso Robles
Hosts: Fritz/Ames & Websters, apprentices: Team Matteo

April 2 - 6*

V-6 Ranch, Parkfield
Hosts: Ungermans & Fitzgerald/Davvik **(Dry Camping)*
Possible Buddy Rally

May 7 - 11

Lassen RV Park, McCarthur
Hosts: The Hurleys

June 4 - 8

Grass Valley RV Resort, Grass Valley
Hosts: Mottas & Maffeis

Aug. 6 - 10*

Schmooville, Fortuna
Hosts: Scheuers with Salingers as pizza cooks
**(partial dry camping)*

Aug. 23 - 28

York, PA
International Rally - Airstream Club International Rally

Sept. 10 - 14

Clio RV Resort Clio
Camp Counsellors: Salingers & Bartelts

Oct. 8 - 12

Tahoe Valley Campground, S. Lake Tahoe
HOSTS NEEDED - great site & location

Oct. 15 - 19

Bonelli Bluffs RV Park, San Dimas
Hosts: Region 12

Nov. 5 - 9

Boulder Creek Mobile Home & RV Park, Lone Pine
Hosts: Echols & Deiweres, Apprentices Ken & Michele Dauber

Dec. 3 - 7

Black Oak Casino, Tuolumne
Hosts: Team Matteo & the Broads, Apprentices: Roblees

The Fine Print

New info shown in **green**. Dates are arrival and departure for planned rally, although you can often request early arrival or Monday departure. Sign-ups are accomplished by submitting a completed Registration Jotform and payment to the Club Registrar. If a rally is full, there is a wait list. "Buddy" events allow you to invite a non-member even if they don't own an Airstream. Events lacking hosts or the minimum number of campers may be cancelled.



8 Gary Rich
 11 Deanna Bain
 13 John White
 14 Linda Minder
 19 Stuart Lindsay
 19 Juliet Scheuer
 20 Bob Carl
 23 Wayne Yee
 24 Dianne Fisher O'Donnell
 27 Jennifer Edwards
 28 Gail Hutto
 28 Margaret Sharp
 30 Roy Myers

1 Bob Vasser
 1 Flavia Naves
 2 John Bibby
 5 Lora Broad
 5 Elain White
 7 Charlie Wright
 9 Tore Pearson
 14 George Paige
 18 Sunday Pearson
 19 Tom Reed
 23 Steve Holifield
 28 Patti Reed
 28 Kathy Warren



6 Glen/Jane Gold
 10 Mike/Jane Malone

12 Ken/Judy Bechthold
 24 JP and Claudia Sherry

Airstream Club International on the Web <https://airstreamclub.org/>

Region 12 on the Web <https://airstreamclub.org/region12>

NorCal on the Web <https://airstreamclub.org/northern-california>

NorCal would like to recognize the birthdays and anniversaries of **all** our Members and Affiliates. To ensure you are included in the Poppy, please send Marget Williams (NorCal Membership Chair) an email with your Name (First and Last) and your

Birthday and Anniversary (Month and Day only). norcalmembership@comcast.net. We have noted that many attending rallies claim birthdays or anniversaries but are not on the list - so call or email Marget to check if you are!

NorCal Club Contacts 2025

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Vicky Bartelt	Registrar	wbccinorcal.registrar@gmail.com	707-738-3985
Bob Vasser	Caravan Chair	bobelv@earthlink.com	415-517-3651
Cathy Maffei	Sunshine	marymaffei@sbcglobal.net	916-662-1010

Welcome New Members

John & Stacy Murphy
Saint Helena, CA 94574

Terry & Sharon Beaudoin
Valley Springs, CA 95252

Brian Burgess & Amy Donnelly
San Carlos, CA 94070

Welcome New Affiliate Members

Dennis & Sandra Weber P
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96155

Eugene & Tina Spyksma
Yuba City, CA 95991

Mark & Nancy Speros
San Juan Capistrano, CA

Jim & Diane Ellis
Ventura, CA 93004

Chris & Mark Martindill
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Vicki Vallaire & Mike
Hammarstedt Berkeley,
CA

John Webb & Lee Ann
Lambrith
West Sacramento, CA
95691

Eric Parker & Diane Shiner
Portland, OR 97221

Patricia & Brian Poole
La Mesa, CA 91942



NorCal Membership Numbers

187	Unit/Life Memberships
<u>80</u>	Affiliate Memberships
267	Total Memberships



Saddle up and shine up those Airstreams! We're thrilled to invite you to our first NorCal Airstream Rally of 2025 at the Paso Robles RV Ranch.



Taking place in the heart of California Central coast wine country, this Western-themed rally will be full of camaraderie, adventure, and plenty of fun! Kick off will be on Wednesday with our signature "social hour," followed by a hearty baked potato bar to fuel up for the activities.



Thursday morning we will head out to learn all about olive oil. We will head to The Mill at Ranch 43 in San Ardo (roughly 30 miles away). Here we will have the opportunity to tour the mill and participate in an olive oil tasting. There is no fee for

the tasting however a tip or purchase of olive oil would of course be appreciated. For more info on the olive oil tasting, check out: <https://43ranch.com/visit/>



On Friday evening, you are invited to attend the stunning Sensario experience, a magical field of lights. This experience is known to be a mixture of Art, Technology and Nature. Cost is \$63pp. Food and drinks are available to purchase so this is a dinner possibility.

For more information on Sensario please visit: <https://sensoriopaso.com/exhibits>

For those that are interested in the local history there is the fascinating Pioneer Museum where we can learn about Paso Robles past. Depending on the number of those interested we might be able to arrange a guided tour of the museum. Check "I'm interested in the Pioneer Museum" on the Jot Form and we will see what we can arrange.

Join Us for the First NorCal Airstream Rally of 2025 in Paso Robles! March 5-9, 2025

Your Hosts: Doug Fritz & Debbie Ames, Tom & Amy Webster, Apprentices: Team Matteo



Saturday evening promises a feast to remember with a catered BBQ dinner. We are still working out the details with the caterer. More information regarding the menu and price will be sent out later in January but please check "I'm interested in BBQ" on the Jot Form.



Paso Robles offers endless opportunities to explore the great outdoors, so don't forget your hiking boots and bicycles! Discover scenic trails, picturesque vineyards, and the charm of the surrounding area. We can't wait to see you there and celebrate the start of another fantastic year with our NorCal family!

Information and Registration Instructions for the March 2025 Rally @ Paso Robles RV

March Rally Cost Information

- Rally fee per person: \$10
- Parking fee per night: \$87
- Wednesday Potato Bar \$5.50
- Friday Sensorio Experience \$63.00
- Saturday Dinner - TBD

Registration for this rally opens at 9 a.m. on January 1, 2025. At that time, you may access the Jotform registration page via the Club's webpage:

<https://airstreamclub.org/norcal-march-2025-rally>

Or this link:

<https://form.jotform.com/243503710576151>

Attendees are chosen on a first-come, first serve basis based on the time the completed Jotform is sent to the registrar. After completing and sending the Jotform, wait for an email from the registrar confirming that you are registered for the rally, and the amount you owe. At that point, you may either pay for the rally via Zelle to the NorCal Airstream Club (initiate through Zelle App or bank app if your bank participates) or send a check for the full amount directly to the registrar. Zelle is preferred.

If you pay by check, make your checks payable to "WBCCI/NorCal" and mail directly to Vicky Bartelt, 1111 Olive Hill Ln, Napa, CA 94558. If you want to pay via Zelle but do not know how or if your bank participates, check out: <https://www.zellepay.com/>.

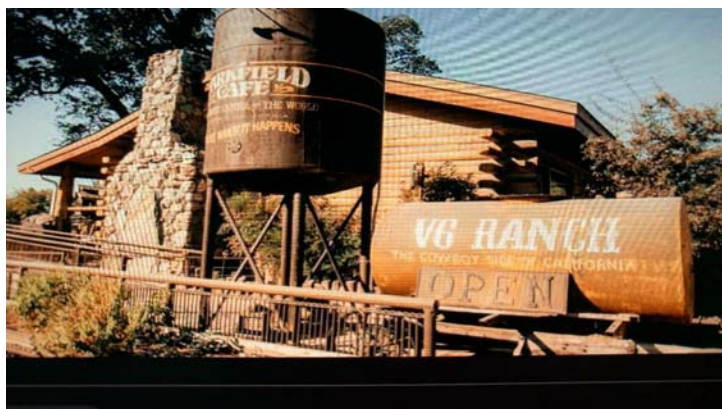
If you do not hear back from the registrar on the day you register, contact her within 48 hours via: wbccinorcal.registrar@gmail.com. If you are placed on the waitlist, do not pay until you hear from the registrar that you are confirmed for the rally. She will let you know your status via email. Your registration is incomplete and not fully confirmed until we receive BOTH your registration and payment. Typically, Zelle payments will confirm your registration quicker than sending in a check. Do not wait until the last minute

to pay or you may not have a site regardless of when you initially apply. If using Zelle, make sure to add your name, rally location, and how you accessed Zelle in the "memo" or "message" area before sending payment. If you need to contact the Registrar for any reason during the first week of the month, for best results please do so ONLY via text or email.

Refund Policy: The park has a 48 hour cancellation policy. However, if you cancel and there is someone on the wait list to take your spot within the 48 hour period, a refund for the site will be issued. **Deadline for cancelling meals is two weeks prior to the start of the rally, that is February 18, 2024.** After that date, meal payments will not be refunded. Contact the registrar to cancel meals or if you have ANY changes to your registration or wish to register after the deadline. Best to email at: wbccinorcal.registrar@gmail.com. She will contact you as soon as she can. **Under no circumstances are members to contact the RV Park with changes or cancellations.**

The Park's Pet Policy is as follows: "They are friendly, they won't bite," Is not part of our Ranch policy; Clean up the Poo folks. There are bags available at the Poo Pen and the office; Take an extra to have on hand; No Pitbulls, Fighting or Aggressive Breeds. (sorry, those are the rules.); Absolutely no pets in the pool area; and barking dogs left in camper alone are grounds for ejection." Please adhere to this policy. Finally, If you are ill or not feeling well, please stay home and get better. Thank you for your courtesy in this regard.

Rally Registration is only via internet Jotform - accessible via the Link above or directly from the Club's Website.



April 2025 Rally Vibin' at the V6 Ranch April 2 - 4 2025

We need your Help!
(See below)

The April NorCal Rally is scheduled to be held at the 20-acre V6 Ranch located in the middle of the Cholame Valley on April 2 – 6, 2025.



The Varian Family that owns the V6 Ranch has built a lovely and magical western-style campsite in a beautiful grove of Blue Oaks amidst the rolling hills that includes: 4 bathrooms, 4 showers, a large gathering room/open barn, a kitchen with 2 refrigerators, sink and storage room, a water station, and plenty of outdoor tables in a central gathering area (including a fire pit and a BBQ pit) that is lit up at night via Edison string lights.



What it does not have is any sewer or electric service to the RVs, so it is a boondocking experience. However, those with generators or solar will be fine, and with the external bathrooms, use of your gray tanks and sewer facilities can be limited.

The campsite's location is wonderful, but what in part makes it so wonderful is its isolation as you are on a working Western

Ranch but with upgraded amenities. Within 5 miles is the "town" of Parkfield, consisting primarily of a restaurant (that is very good) and a hotel. Many a wrangler has easily ventured from the campsite to the restaurant for lunch on bikes or via truck. I-41 is about a 20 minute drive from the campsite and there are a few establishments there, but the closest town, Paso Robles, is about 30-45 minutes farther down the freeway. Consequently, we are envisioning this rally being low key and self-contained, with hiking, biking, sitting, visiting, relaxing, hanging out, playing games and cards, reading, and similar activities being the name of the game. We are in the planning process for rally activities so any suggestions are encouraged.



The Central Campfire



NorCalers playing dice games at the V6.



Plenty of trails to hike or bike.

Unfortunately, there is a cattle drive that weekend so all their horses will be otherwise occupied and unavailable for trail rides. On the plus side, we should have good weather, with temps about 71 for the high and 40 for the low. Average rainfall that time of year is close to 0, so it should be clear and dry before and during our rally.

The rally is four nights only: arrive on Wednesday afternoon and leave on Sunday before noon, at a set price of \$300 per trailer. We will probably have three catered dinners by the Ranch, at different price points, that will total roughly \$110 per person, or more if we throw in a breakfast or two. The final food offerings are still under discussion however.

The help? We need at least 20 trailers to participate in the rally or it cannot go forward. Consequently, if you interested in attending this rally April 2 – 6, 2025, please click on the Jotform link below and complete this short Jotform so we can gauge the level of interest in this rally and know if it can go forward or be cancelled. If you are strongly interested/are planning to attend the V6 rally in April – please complete the V6 Jotform by January 15th. Thank you!

Your hosts & Tari Salinger

<https://form.jotform.com/243506291216149>



Fun in the Fall!

(At the 2024 International Rally Oct 5-10, 2024)

Kathy Warren



The 67th International Airstream Rally in Sedalia, Missouri, is over and the Warrens #3995 have left the grounds. In long-ago previous years we would always radio "Wally Byam Control" to let them know we were going, but how things have changed! By my calculations, this was our 22nd int'l rally, beginning with the Bozeman rally in 1989. We had a fairly large NorCal caravan to that rally and our daughters were not quite 12 and 14.

Our parking date was Saturday, October 5 and we were lucky enough to get handicapped parking due to Larry's leg issue, but there were no more golf carts to be rented. We managed with our truck, but there were bicycles and golf carts everywhere.

That evening was Opening Ceremony and we sat in the upper tier. I'm quite sure the large hall has been renovated since we were there in 2012, although I noticed there were no railings to hold onto as we climbed the steps. That would never pass inspection in California!



The Missouri State Fairgrounds is a beautiful place to have a rally. There are many large brick buildings which look to be quite historic and we had access to many of them. There were several larger golf carts

that were used to shuttle people around, but those members with room to spare would usually offer rides to those walking. It was a good way to meet new people, too.

Several buildings were used for the vendors and there were many to visit - and buy from. The new trailer area was a popular place. Bill Thomas brought quite a few with him and they were being purchased.

Judy and Ken Bechthold came to the rally via train. She taught the line dancing classes each morning at 8:00. Somehow I never got up and ready in time, but we visited with them several times.

I went to the quilting/ needlework building several times and met a lot of ladies and one gentleman who share my hobby/ obsession. The day before we parked, a bus took a large group to Hamilton, Missouri, about 2 hours North so they could visit and shop at Missouri Star Quilt Company.



No worries; Larry kindly took me there on our way home since it was only a little out of our way and allowed us to bypass the Kansas City traffic. He almost had as good an experience as I did, as there is a Manland for quilt husbands so they can relax and visit with others while their wives shopped. After shopping we went to the museum that contains many, many antique treasures in an old school house.

One afternoon the Grapes and Grains club had its wine tasting. Each couple or individual brought a bottle and there was a giant tasting with appetizers. It was quite an event! We brought a bottle from Convergence, which is located about three miles from Plymouth. They also had a lunch on an earlier day, but we didn't get tickets in time.

A caravan reunion of all previous caravans

was held one afternoon so we could all get together without having to choose. It was also to promote new caravans and leaders for the future. Larry and I attended quite a few international rallies before we retired and were able to go on our first caravan, Polar Bear Safari. It wasn't until our first rally after that we realized the International Rally's best feature is reuniting all those who've been on caravans together. This Sedalia rally was no exception. We had a wonderful time reconnecting with each other.

We attended our Region 12 Dinner on Wednesday night and sat with Eric and LaVerne and Ken and Judy plus another couple (I met Lynn at the quilters' group and they live in Santa Barbara). Right after the dinner we headed over to the main building for the band and choir concert. They were wonderful, as usual, and we found more friends to visit with.



There were also some evening events, such as the Halloween costume dance and a night parade of decorated and lit golf carts and bicycles. One night there were two hot-air balloons that were available for rides. They were all lit up as well and tethered to the ground, so no one went very far, but it was an exciting experience for those who participated.

The flea market was well-attended. It's held on the final day and there are many, many sellers as well as buyers. I try to sell a few things so I can get in early and scope out the good stuff! Unfortunately, this year I was assigned a very poor location - in a corner in front of the men's room. Plus, I should have asked for a bigger table. But, it's always a fun experience.

And, now we are heading West again, taking with us many fond memories. We have more caravans and International Rallies to look forward to in our future.



After “Streamin’ by the Bay”

November 6-10, 2024
Dumbarton Quarry RV Park
Fremont, CA

Mike Minadeo, Carrie Bell

The colors of Fall seasoned the crisp November air as the Dumbarton Quarry Rally kicked off with a welcoming happy hour. As the light faded, a delicious potluck dinner was served in the amphitheater nestled in the Coyote Hills, its romantic glow enhanced by the soft glow of lanterns. It was truly wonderful to be surrounded by a group of folks you can count on -- resourceful and always willing to roll with changing conditions.



Thursday morning, the group journeyed across the bay to the beautiful Filoli Estate in Woodside. The estate's first owner and builder, whose motto was: Fight for a just cause; Love your fellow man; Live a good life inspired the name Fi Lo Li -- wise words to live by. We enjoyed an informative talk before exploring the “house” and its superb gardens. Despite the redecorating in preparation for the coming holiday season, the house and gardens were incredibly impressive.

Friday's itinerary featured two fun-filled outings, starting in the historic town of Niles with a tour of the first “Hollywood” and a cross-town bike ride.



Our first stop was The Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, where we watched two short silent films, introduced with a brief history of Niles and its role in movie history. The first film, “The Claim Jumpers” starring “Bronco Billy” Anderson (America's first cowboy movie star) featured scenes from/around Niles and its environs, which were the impetus for Niles being selected as a movie production locale.

The second film, “The Champion,” starred Charlie Chaplin, whose obvious talent and charisma made his rise to stardom seem inevitable. Afterward, we enjoyed a walking tour of downtown Niles and several of us stopped for delicious pizza at Bronco Billy's Pizza restaurant.

After the tour of Niles, Carmen and Jose led a brave group of bikers on a formidable 22-mile bike ride along the Alameda Creek Regional Trail, which stretches from Niles Canyon to our camp and back!

Saturday morning was devoted to our annual Business Meeting, allowing a free afternoon to visit some of the area's other attractions. Several visited the Computer History Museum, which houses an extensive collection that chronicles the history of computing from ancient times to modern day, while also speculating on the future of technology. Others explored the museums and grounds of the Stanford campus and took a peek at the Golden Spike, which ties back to Niles being the terminus of the Trans Continental Railway.

Saturday evening, the hosts put on a “home-cooked” German dinner, featuring Kasekrainer and Bratwurst sausages, sauerkraut, potato salad, cabbage salad, and special cupcakes for dessert. All items were either vegan or had a vegan version.



As many attendees discovered, Dumbarton Quarry RV Park has many features to be recommended itself. In addition to its lovely hiking trails through wetlands and hills, many of the trails are also bike-friendly. These byways lead to scenic trails along the bay, offering stunning views of the peninsula to the

Continued on next page



Scenes from Streamin' by the Bay

west and extending all the way to San Francisco. Birdlife is abundant, with white pelicans fishing and flying in formation, as well as various species of egrets, herons, ducks, marine birds, eagles, and hawks.



A rafter of turkeys also made a daily pilgrimage foraging through the campground. All these allurments, in addition to the RV park's rare proximity to the entire Bay Area, made it a remarkable location to rally or visit on your own.





"It's a Wonderful Rally" Recap

December 4 - 8, 2024
49er Village, Plymouth

By: Host Brian Scheuer Photos: Club Members

"It's a Wonderful Rally" kicked off on December 4th in Plymouth, CA, (at the 49er Village Community) with a full schedule of Christmas-movie-themed fun and activities! The hosts were Sharon and Tony Paz, Juliet and Brian Scheuer, with Team Matteo as apprentices. This location features a rustic club room with a giant wood burning fireplace to enhance the winter-ambience. The club room was decorated, with each table celebrating a different Christmas movie theme.



Wednesday festivities began with social hour featuring a fun presentation by the Biggest Little Kitchen Store in Jackson, featuring their raffle game to spin the wheel and guess the value of each batch of kitchen tools! Many members were accurate enough to take home numerous gifts of kitchen items.



Thursday morning started with a well-attended coffee hour in the morning hosted by Team Bell (Ray and Carrie) at their campsite.

Then we quickly moved on to the Christmas Cookie Exchange and the opening of Silent Auction Bidding!

At 2:00 p.m., the group met at Drytown Cellars for wine tasting with an abundance of offerings that accompanied the beautiful weather out on the patio.



Social hour featured a slide presentation by outgoing President Carmen Ortiz showcasing a great year of rally activities. We recognized and thanked the outgoing leadership and rally hosts. Then the Chili Cook-off began with plenty of delicious options! Voting took place – with winners to be announced on Friday.

Friday again started early with hot coffee at the Bell's campsite. Members then dispersed to various locations, including Bella Grace winery (with free-tasting coupons provided). Social hour kicked off with Birthdays, Anniversaries and of course, the occasional dad joke.

Then a frantic scramble for the closing of the Silent Auction. An Ugly Sweater contest featured voting by audience participation and lots of laughs. A Dean-Look-Alike made an appearance!



We then met back at 8:00 p.m. for a boisterous game of Left-Right-Center, with the winner taking home a basket full of one-dollar bills!

Saturday wake-up included hot caffeine at the Bell's, followed by a 9:00 a.m. Board Meeting and 10:00 a.m. General Meeting. Auction winners picked

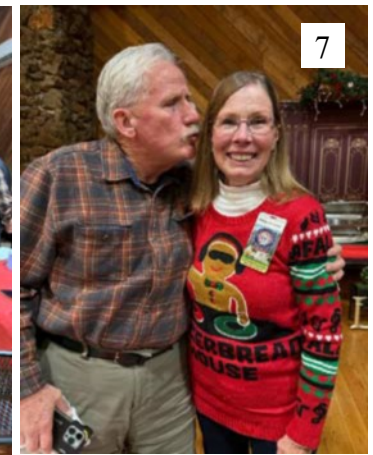


up their loot throughout the day. Many members visited the Christmas Fair in Plymouth (an easy walk from the campground). Social Hour at 5:00 was followed by the installation of our 2025 officers and a catered Mexican Dinner with leftovers available to go.



Continued next page

This year, the results of the auction had been tallied by Saturday, so a special presentation was made in person to the Director of the Interfaith Food Bank of Amador County, Katie Dunn, the beneficiary of our generous auction fund raiser. Thanks to the efforts of our Auction Chairs, the auction/raffle raised almost \$12,000 for the Interfaith Food Bank, an amazing record for our club. Ms. Dunn, as seen below, was stunned when told the amount. She said it was almost a quarter of the Food Bank's budget for the year.



This was a well-attended and very fun rally. Awards were given for various categories of Best Chili, Best Cookies, Favorite "Ugly Sweaters," and Best Trailer Decorations (Day and Night categories). Congratulations go to Tary Salinger for his Best Chili, Lynn Hurley for both sets of winning cookies (see story next page with recipes), Gordon Krauter for winning Best Ugly Sweater, beating out Grover Sandy, Cam and Marcia Murray for best night-decorated trailer and the Riggs for best decorated trailer by day. Merry Christmas and see you next year - at Paso Robles in March!

Below: Cam & Marcia's decor



1 Tary gets the Club flags from Carmen; 2 Auction items; 3 Cathy & Bill Maffei with Juliet Scheuer; 4 Paul & Vicky Bartelt & friend; 5 Laura & Tom Broad; 6 Dwain & Trisha Christensen; 7 Gordon & Polly Krauter; 8 Degreening of Sandra Carr; 9 Rally attendees; 10 Yoshi and Steve Deiwert;

2024 Charity Auction & Wine Raffle was a Boffo Success!



This year's Airstream Christmas Charity Auction was a resounding success, raising an impressive \$11,916 for the Interfaith Food Bank of Amador County! The event brought together our generous Airstream community in the spirit of giving, with festive Airstream decor, exciting auction items, an exciting wine raffle and a shared mission to support local families in need. Every dollar raised will go toward providing food and essential resources to those experiencing hardship during the holiday season. Thanks to the incredible contributions from our Airstreamers, donors, and volunteers, we were able to make a meaningful impact and spread holiday cheer to countless homes in Amador County. Barry & Claudia Marson, Jose Ortiz and Jon Bibby were the lucky Wine Raffle winners but everyone who helped support our cause are winners in our book! Safe travels and Happy Holidays! Your auction team, Chris Davison, Vicky Bartelt, and Janie Salinger



Cathy Maffei poses by the vault of donated wine from Napa, Amador, and Sonoma Counties being offered via a raffle at the December rally.

Cookie Contest Winner Revealed

Janie Sallinger has come clean! In the course of preparing this edition of The Poppy and researching the winners of the various December rally contests, this editor tracked down Janie Sallinger as the avowed winner of the 2024 Christmas Cookie contest. To her credit, Janie was all too willing to fess up without provocation. "It's time," she said, "to set the record straight." Due to her various commitments (those who know her might say over-commitments) Ms. Sallinger was "freaking out" to her friend Lynn Hurley one day on what she had yet to complete prior to attending the December rally, which included baking her planned entry in the Cookie Exchange/Contest. Lynn volunteered to make two sets of cookies, and enter one in Janie's name and on her behalf, which she did. Ironically, "Janie's" entry came in first and Lynn's second, which only goes to show what a stellar cookie baker (and friend) Lynn is. Of course, in Janie's defense, she was planning and executing the grandest auction and wine raffle in the Club's history, so we probably should give her a pass... this time!



2024 First Place Cookie

- Preheat oven to 350
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 egg
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup rolled oats - regular
- 1 cup crushed cornflakes
- ½ cup shredded coconut
- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 3 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsb baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

Cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy; add egg, mixing well, then oil, mixing well, then flour, baking soda, and salt. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Form into balls the size of walnuts. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with fork tines dipped in water. Bake 12 minutes. Allow to cool on cookie sheet for a few minutes before removal.



2024 Second Place Cookie

- Preheat oven to 350
- Place racks in the upper and lower third of the oven
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- Coarse sea salt, for sprinkling

In a medium bowl, mix peanut butter, sugar, vanilla, and egg until well combined. Spoon 1 Tablespoon of the mixture about 1 inch apart onto 2 ungreased cookie sheets. Flatten the mounds with fork tines, making a crosshatch pattern on the cookies. Sprinkle coarse salt on top of the cookies. Place a sheet on each oven rack. Bake until golden around the edges, about 10 minutes, switching the sheets halfway through baking. Transfer cookies to racks to cool. Repeat with remaining dough.

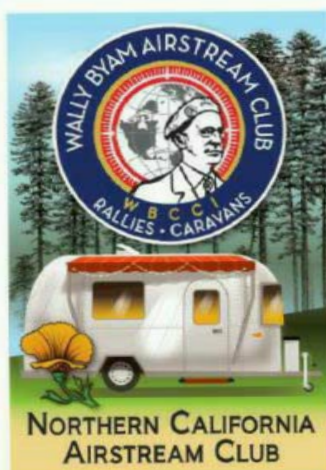
January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 March Rally Registrat ion opens 9 am	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 April Rally Interest Gauge due	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 March Rally Registrat ion closes	

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Rally Registrat ion opens
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Members: You can obtain your own colorful NorCal Membership Badge to replace your dull WBCCI badge after you have attended three Norcal Rallies. After you have been "degreened," you will receive your badge, along with a five inch club logo sticker for your Airstream or Tow Vehicle. It has the same design shown on the masthead of The Poppy. Contact NorCal's Membership Chair or Rally Registrar to get yours for no cost to you when you are eligible. Affiliates are eligible to purchase badges after their third NorCal Rally.



Nothing to do? Check out the Airstream Utube channel. Become a subscriber.

<https://www.youtube.com/@airstreamclub>

