

ARIZONA AIRSTREAM CLUB

AAC Loses Cherished Member

The Arizona Airstream Club recently lost cherished member, good friend, and devoted longtime officer, Jerry Nelson, who passed away last month.

Jerry's dedication to our club was truly unmatched. As Treasurer, Webmaster, Membership Coordinator, Host, and Rally Planner, he poured his heart into every role, shaping the club into a place where friendships flourished and memories were made. Candace, Jerry's wife, was always at his side supporting him and adding her touch to make the club special to all members.

Jerry's incredible organizational skills, knowledge, and tireless work behind the scenes helped create a club where Airstream enthusiasts could come together and thrive. His commitment and dedication to every event was evident, always ensuring everything ran smoothly.

Jerry also helped several other Airstream Clubs/Units, including Region 11, maintain their websites and put together their JotForms to ensure rally registrations were smooth and streamlined.

More than just a colleague, Jerry was a wonderful friend whose humor, kindness, and positive spirit left an indelible mark on all who knew him. His presence will

Jerry, continued on page 2



Your Officers:

President

Jim Rumbo

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1st Vice President

Trish Bigler

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2nd Vice President

Heidi Vail

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Treasurer

Jeff Gilbert

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Recording Secretary

Gabi Gilbert

gabig97@me.com

Corresponding Secretary/ Newsletter Editor

Kimberley Hash

tg4jc@mac.com

Webmaster

Gabi Gilbert

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Assistant Webmaster

Kimberley Hash

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Membership Chair

Jeff King

jeff@maverickleadership.com

Jotform Editor

Trish Bigler

aacRally@gmail.com

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be sorely missed, but his legacy of friendship, service, and community will live on in the hearts of all who were lucky enough to know him.



We will all miss you, Jerry. Your gentle demeanor, steadiness, and contributions will never be forgotten, and you will always have a special place in the Arizona Airstream Club and Region 11 family.

Please join us in keeping Candace and her family in your thoughts as they grieve his loss.



President's Notes

by AAC President Jim Rumbo

As all of you know, AAC member Jerry Nelson, who passed away last month, had a huge presence in our club. He was officially our Treasurer, but also contributed in many areas. We really miss him as a friend and an AAC officer.

We have been busy transitioning all his duties to several of our members. I would like to give a special thanks to these members who have stepped up to take on additional duties to keep our club running smoothly.

Sam Brandes and I started with a crash course on our website, Jotforms, and Treasurer duties. Sam was key in this initial transition and helped us determine the breakdown of duties, as well interim webmaster.

Trish Bigler volunteered to handle the rally registration and other Jotforms that can be seen on our website. Trish spent quite a bit of time learning how to update Jotforms for our rallies and other data input.

Gabi Gilbert volunteered to be our webmaster. She also has put in a significant amount of time to create the rally web pages and update other parts of our website.

Kimberley Hash volunteered to be assistant webmaster and will be helping Gabi when needed. She also volunteered to be the newsletter editor for AAC and Region 11.

Jeff King has assumed managing the AAC membership list which includes almost daily changes.



Jeff Gilbert, volunteered to be our AAC Treasurer which includes reimbursements, tracking of costs, and providing financial statements. He was elected by the AAC board into this key role.

The transition has occupied much time for all of these people and they have really done an outstanding job.

In addition, I'd like to give my gratitude to Candace and Alex Nelson for assisting with helping us understand the accounts and data during this difficult time for them.

Finally, because of all of this help, we have been able to keep functioning as a club. We were able to open our first rally registration (Fool Hollow) March 1st. I want to thank you all again for helping us during this time and thank you to the membership for supporting our leadership.





Jerry Nelson Online Tribute

Candace Nelson wanted our club to have this tribute:

“Jerry didn’t want a service, but he would have loved sharing a toast with friends and family. And we would love to hear any memories (and see any photos) you might want to share, so we’ve put together this tribute to him and invite you to add something, and to raise a glass in his honor. Please feel free to share it with others who knew Jerry, **please do not share or post it on social media (given how he felt about online privacy).**

Go to <https://www.online-tribute.com/JerryNelson>

Password: hughes-republic-northwest-delta



ACI Leadership Recruitment Committee

Statement of Candidacy Process Now Open

The Statement of Candidacy submission process for 2025 ACI Executive Council positions is now open. The term of office is August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.*

If you’re passionate about shaping the future of our Club, this is your chance to get involved. Any Club member who wants to contribute their skills and experience can submit a Statement of Candidacy.

Go to the link below and log in to AirstreamClub.org to view the submission details, a statement of candidacy checklist, FAQs and other important information:

<https://airstreamclub.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=714a911e970d9dc3ab428f988&id=afb6cb8089&e=45778b9cc2>

Deadline for submissions: April 1st, 11:59 PM ET

Candidates will be posted on AirstreamClub.org after they have completed the submission process. The election will take place in June 2025, so stay informed and be ready to vote!

Upcoming AAC Rallies and A Call for Hosts

by AAC 1st Vice President Trish Bigler



Rally Hosts play an essential role in the success of our club. The Grand Canyon and White Tank Mountain rallies are scheduled but can't happen without hosts.

Rally agendas can be kept very simple — for many campers, less is more. Rallies can range from camping-only events to something with a few get-togethers, to a themed event with a more elaborate agenda. There's no right or wrong — just what the host wants to do!

Please consider hosting; if you are unsure how to plan a rally, you can ask to be paired with an experienced host mentor. Contact aacRally@gmail.com for more information.

2025 Upcoming Rallies

Date	Rally	Location	Hosts
April 10 - 13	Homolovi State Park	Winslow, AZ	Sam & Kathy Brandes
April 24 - 27	Women of AAC Rally	Cottonwood, AZ	Kathy Brandes, Heidi Vail, and Kimberley Hash
May 8 - 11	Fool Hollow Lake Registration closes April 17	Show Low, AZ	Gabi Gilbert and Trish Bigler
June 5 - 8	Apache Trout * Registration opens March 15	Greer, AZ	Kimberley & Ed Hash
Sept 18 - 21	Grand Canyon Tusayan Montane *	Grand Canyon, AZ	HOST NEEDED
Oct 16 - 19	Dead Horse Ranch State Park	Cottonwood, AZ	Heidi and Troy Vail
Oct 23 - 26	New Mexico Unit/ 4CU/Arizona Club Joint Annual Halloween Rally	Caballo Lake State Park, Caballo Lake, NM	AZ CO-HOST NEEDED
Nov 13 - 16	White Tank Mountain *	Waddell, AZ	Bill & Mary Voorhaar
Dec 5 - 7	Annual Meeting & Holiday Rally at Birds & Barrel Vineyard *	Wilcox, AZ	Jim & Diane Rumbo

* Dry Camping

A Look Back at AAC Rallies

December 2024 through February 2025

Passing the Torch Rally

December 6 - 8, 2025

Birds and Barrels Vineyard, Wilcox, AZ

The Passing the Torch Rally at Birds and Barrels Vineyard in Wilcox was, as always, so much fun. There were 31 trailers and about 56 people.

There was, of course, wine tasting and lots of wine drinking as we all thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful offerings of the vineyard.

Our 2nd annual corn hole tournament was won by... hmmm...none of us seem to remember who won the tournament because we might have had a little too much wine. Just sayin... But congratulations to who ever won it!

Heidi worked her culinary magic and prepared a wonderful Italian meal. And, the officers cooked up a great bacon, eggs, and pancake breakfast.

Our new officers were sworn in by Region 11 President John Holly. They are: Jim Rumbo, President; Trish Bigler, 1st VP; Heidi Vail, 2nd VP; Gabi Gilbert Recording Secretary; and Kimberley Hash, Corresponding Secretary.

Birds and Barrels Vineyard has become a favorite annual end-of-year rally that is a wonderful place to dry camp and enjoy the hospitality of the owners, Chad



and Monica Preston, who we are trying to get to join our club! Hopefully they will purchase an Airstream and become members. Thank you Chad and Monica for your wonderful hospitality.



Left: Sam Brandes was part of the cooking crew for the Officer's Breakfast.

Right: Kimberley Hash and Gabi Gilbert also helped with the Officer's Breakfast. Not pictured, but who also helped were Steve Smith, Jim Rumbo, and hosts in training Sandy and Channon Balkan.

Below: Everyone enjoying the wonderful Italian Dinner catered by Heidi Vail and all of her helpers. Thank you to everyone who cooked, served, and cleaned up. It was so appreciated!



Cattail Cove Rally

January 16 - 19, 2025

Cattail Cove State Park, Lake Havasu, AZ

Cattail Cove, on Lake Havasu, is a wonderful State park and a great place for a rally! Our hosts, Chris and Mark Kvidera, along with Steve and Kristen Smith put on a wonderful rally with an interesting and delicious London Bridge British food theme. Bangers and Mash, which consisted of sausages, mash potatoes and onion gravy; Scotch Eggs, which were hardboiled eggs encased in ground beef, breaded and baked. Jammy Dodger cookies were dessert.



Jammy Dodger cookies were dessert.

Lake Havasu has beautiful trails to hike on around the lake, which many did.

There was also a competitive game of corn hole.

We also had a

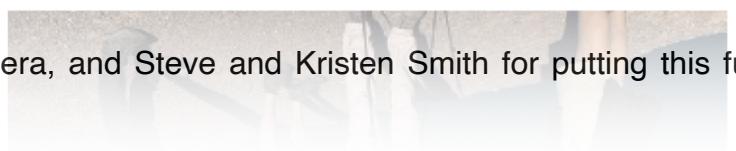


nice group meal in town by the London Bridge.

Finally we were treated to a wonderful concert by Mark Kvidera.

Thank you so much to Mark and Chris Kvidera, and Steve and Kristen Smith for putting this fun rally together. We had such a wonderful time!

If you've never been to Cattail Cove or Lake Havasu, you definitely need to take a trip there. It's well worth it!





Picacho Peak Rally

February 10 - 13, 2025

Picacho Peak State Park, Eloy, AZ

Picacho Peak State Park in Eloy (near Tucson) is truly a beautiful place to camp. The stunning peak beckoning you to hike it, the beautiful trails around and up the mountain, some quite challenging with cables to pull yourself up rock faces, the lovely campground, and the gorgeous starry night sky make it a favorite. And Channon and Sandy Balkan did an outstanding job putting together this wonderful rally.



Rally bags included beautiful mosaic tiles showcasing Channon's remarkable artistic skills. I hung mine in my trailer.

Carol Wieser came up with a trivia game about the history of the Airstream Club. Well researched and fun.



We welcomed first-time Arizona Airstream ralliers, Bob and Cheryl Casavant, Greg and Kathy Dahl, and Joanne Shen, and celebrated our February birthdays with yummy cupcakes baked by Kristen Smith.

Several of us hiked Picacho Peak, some to the top and some halfway up - both challenging and fun. We even met up with YouTube celebrities, Irene Iron Travels, Christine and Aaron. Joanne met up with them while hiking, and Ed and I met them at their trailer.

Channon and Sandy outdid themselves by providing a delicious pulled pork dinner one night, and grilled chicken the next night, both baked on site. They also served bacon, eggs, and pancakes Tuesday morning, and breakfast burritos Wednesday using up leftover pork and chicken.



Some enjoyed nearby attractions, such as Rooster Cogburn Ostrich Ranch or watched skydivers land at Skydive Arizona, while others enjoyed local restaurants and breweries. Some learned how to play Mahjong.

A big thank you to our hosts, Channon and Sandy

Balkan, Trish Bigler, and all who helped cook, serve, make burritos, and help clean up. It takes many hands.



AAC First Time Ralliers:



Bob and Cheryl Casavant



Joanne Shen

Top Row left: Birthday kids

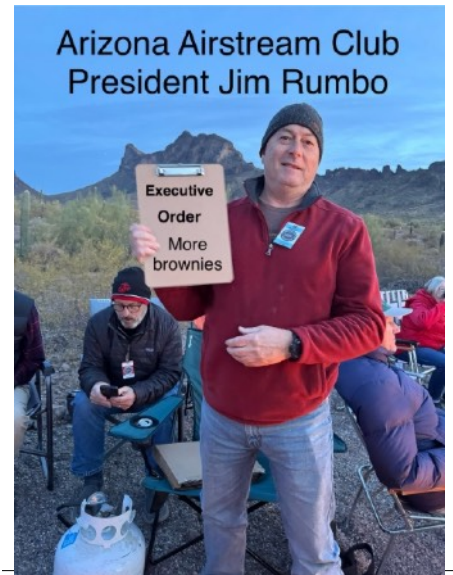
Top Row Center: Pam Rawn

Top Row Right: Sherry Ewing and Steve Smith pulling the pork

2nd Row Right: Ralliers enjoying dinner



Greg and Kathy Dahl



Above: AAC President Jim Rumbo takes his first executive action at Picacho Peak.

Left: Kathy Brandes and Jeff King enjoy dinner

Sign Up for Granby - Region 11 Rally - Don't Miss Out!

by Region 11 President John Holly



Only less than 19 weeks before our fabulous Region 11 Rally, July 23-27, 2025! What are you waiting for? Thank you if you've already signed up. But if you haven't, you're going to be missing out on the camping event of the year!

Registration is in two steps:

1. Call Sun Outdoors Rocky Mountains RV Resort in Granby, CO at 970-557-0200. Tell them you're registering for the Airstream Region 11 Rally, and you'll get the special rate of \$99 per night (including all taxes and fees).
2. Soon after you register you will receive the rally registration jotform which is \$70 per person, plus an optional catered lunch for \$35 per person.

We're working hard to make our Region 11 Rally fun, educational and entertaining. This rally location is unbelievably beautiful and has everything you need including full hook ups, level sites, restaurants and bars, swimming pool and spa, pickle ball and corn hole and a wonderful part of the country to boat, fish, swim, bike, hike and explore. We are at the entrance to the Rocky Mountains for more adventure!

You'll receive the rally itinerary when you arrive. The gift bag will also include some special surprises from Airstream dealers and Granby Merchants. Many of you are coming in early and departing later to give you more time to check everything out.

In a nutshell, Wednesday the 23rd we'll have a meet and greet Happy Hour for everyone for introductions and summary of exciting things we're doing. Clubs will choose teams and be challenged with a Corn Hole tournament. We'll have seminars and workshops all day

Thursday, conducted by experienced, well known qualified professionals, with a special luncheon and remarkable entertainment scheduled for Friday evening.

Saturday will be a complete day off, when you can visit and catch up with friends, swim and eat and drink at the resort, play pickle ball or corn hole, bike ride or hike the trails, or travel to Granby or the Rockies to explore the beautiful area. We will also have several vendors present who have special items of interest for you and your Airstream.

Please don't miss out! Call Sun Outdoors today and expect the time of your life!

Register for the Region 11 Granby Rally at <https://airstreamclub.org/region-11-rally-2025-detail-page>