



Airstream Club International

Region X-tra

 *Traveling the West*

Newsletter



July 2025

airstreamclub.org/region10

Summer Issue

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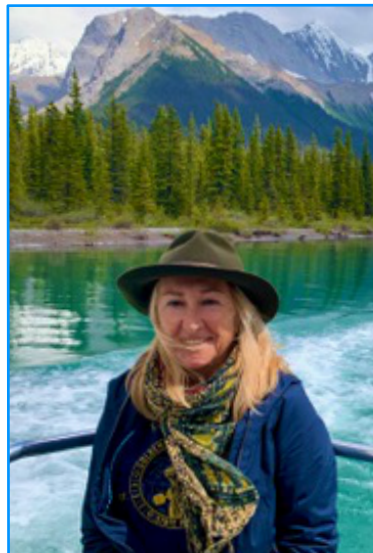
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Parliamentarian: Vacant

President's Message



Summer is here and all our seven local clubs are in full swing enjoying the Airstream life. As I write to you for the last time as Region President, I have had an amazing month, starting with a week at Camp Airstream: Yellowstone in mid-May, and then on the ExplOregon! National Caravan circumnavigating the great state of Oregon for three weeks with 16 trailers. I am feeling blessed and grateful as I reflect on the past two years of service to this great Club.

There have been many great accomplishments both at the Region and at the International level since I entered this volunteer role in 2023. The Region has implemented a brand-new Policy document, which you can find on the refreshed Region 10 website (thank you to our new webmaster Amy Noyes, INWAC club for the new look on the website). We also are on the way to developing a Region caravan program starting with our first Region 10 caravan this September (thank you Caravan chair Mark Babcock, OR club). The speed with which the Beaches to Boats sold out tells us how much this membership wants to share in shorter, more local caravans. We are also proud to have developed a great relationship with the dealerships that serve our Region, Airstream Adventures Northwest. Thank you AANW for your support.

At the International level, we have implemented the creation of the new Finance Director position (thank you to the ACI membership for voting for this [continued on page 2])

President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

constitutional amendment), launched the courtesy parking program using the Harvest Host platform (thank you Kathy Geese), and launched an amazing ACI app for both iOS and Android (thank you Kendall Felder). The member benefits keep growing as we continue to build a stronger and stronger club with great VOLUNTEER governance and staffing at our new headquarters office in Jackson Center, Ohio (thank you Jenny Schnettler and all the VOLUNTEERS). Much of the growth and success of the past few years is owed in part to the strategic vision and energy of our outgoing International President Eric McHenry and the work of our first ever elected Executive Council (EC). Thank you, Eric and outgoing Executive Council members!

On July 17, your IBT (International Board of Trustees) will vote for the new International Officers of President, Vice President and Secretary from the slate of the newly elected EC members from our June election. Thank you to all members who participated in the International election. This club owes its operation and expansion to the hundreds of VOLUNTEERS who make possible all of our camping experiences. We are a camping club, but we are also a business and the VOLUNTEER leadership helps connect all the dots. And speaking of VOLUNTEERS, Region 10 is actively seeking candidates for the 2nd Vice President position. You have recently received an all-call email with a job description of the position. We are all a team, and it really does take a village.

Thank you to all the Region 10 board members, committee chairs and members, rally hosts, caravan leaders, and members that supported and assisted in making this the Region that it is. I look forward to crossing paths with all of you down the road.

Florence Tramoni, Your grateful outgoing Region President, airstreamregion10@gmail.com

Calling All Leaders: Region 10 is Seeking a 2nd Vice President ~ *Lori Grassi, ACI Parliamentarian and WA Club Member*

Are you ready to take the next step in your Airstream journey? Region 10 of the Airstream Club International is now accepting applications for the position of Second Vice President, and we're inviting dedicated, enthusiastic members from our Local Clubs to consider applying for this important leadership role.

As a vibrant community of passionate Airstreamers, Region 10 thrives on the energy and commitment of its members. Now is your chance to make a meaningful impact and help guide our region into the future.

What Does the Second Vice President Do?

The Second Vice President plays a vital role on the Region 10 leadership team. The responsibilities include:

- Being **familiar with all the duties** of the First Vice President to ensure continuity and effective support
- Attending all **appropriate Region meetings** and, when possible, **International Board of Trustees (IBT) meetings**
- **Assisting the Region President and First Vice President** in managing the affairs of Region 10

This role offers a unique opportunity to learn, lead, and contribute to the success of our region while building connections with fellow members throughout Region 10 and beyond. To learn more about the job descriptions for all Region positions go to the [Airstream Club Region 10 policies](#). *(continued on page 3)*

Calling All Leaders: Region 10 is Seeking a 2nd Vice President ~ *(continued from page 2)*

Note: If you currently hold a voting position on the board of a Local Club, you must forfeit your Local Club voting position to serve on the Region 10 board (unless your local club term ends within weeks of the Region 10 appointment).

Why Apply?

Serving as Second Vice President is not only a way to give back—it's also a chance to:

- Build leadership skills and experience
- Represent your local club at the regional level · Help shape the direction of Region 10
- Strengthen our Airstream community for current and future members

Share your talents with your fellow Airstream community

Whether you've served your local club in leadership roles or are looking to step up for the first time, we encourage you to consider this exciting opportunity. The position is a two-year term, leading to a two-year term as 1st VP and then a two-year term as President.

How to Apply

The application period is **open now through July 10**.

To apply or inquire further, please contact **Region 10 President Florence Tramoni** at airstreamregion10@gmail.com. Please include "**2 VP candidate**" in the subject line of your email. Your interest will be shared with the Region 10 Nominating Committee.

Let's continue to make Region 10 a place where adventure, friendship, and leadership thrive. Apply today and help lead the way!



Right: Florence Tramoni's installation of office with President Eric McHenry at Rock Springs International Rally, June 2023

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times Service Bulletin ~ *Ray Putnam*

Recent notice for all Airstreamers related to the city water inlet on our Airstream Trailers:

Airkrafters.com has available an nLET device that replaces the city water inlet on your Airstream. This is an alternative solution to the failure-prone plastic factory equipped city water inlet. The device is formed from durable cast 304 stainless steel with a polished finish. General dimensions and mounting configuration are identical to the existing OEM part. The device does not require any additional adjustment or modification for installation.

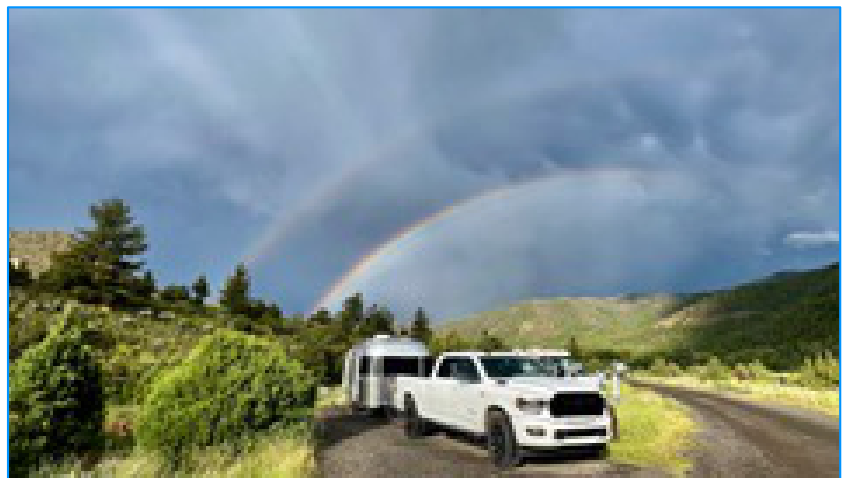
NOTE: This assembly does not contain an integrated/internal water pressure regulator. This is the component that routinely fails and causes water damage within the walls and sub-floor of your trailer. This will require the use of an external inline water pressure regulator on the supply hose of your trailer to protect your plumbing system from excessive water pressure. I just bought a unit. Cost was \$198.00 and \$25.00 shipping. *(continued on page 4)*

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times Service Bulletin ~ (continued from page 3)

Here are pictures comparing the new nLET city water inlet and the original installed by Airstream. It's pretty easy to see the difference.



Right: Double rainbow and Florence Tramoni's Airstream near the east gate of Yellowstone National Park.



Getting to Know . . . Susan McPhee ~Susan McPhee, 1st Vice President, Region 10



Hello! My name is Susan McPhee, and I am currently the 1st Vice President for Region 10. I will be the President for Region 10 in August, and it has been a pleasure serving on the board for the past several years.

My husband, Tim, and I (pictured to the left) live in Wilsonville, OR, with our Australian shepherd, Riley, and our tabby, Chloe. We have belonged to the Oregon Airstream Club since 2018. We joined shortly after purchasing our first Airstream and then promptly got the 2-foot-itis! We bought our 25' International with a hatch in 2021, and we are thinking this is our forever trailer. We have kids and grand-kids in the PNW and Austin, TX. We enjoy traveling, hiking, and a good campfire chat with

friends and family. The Airstream lifestyle is perfect for us!

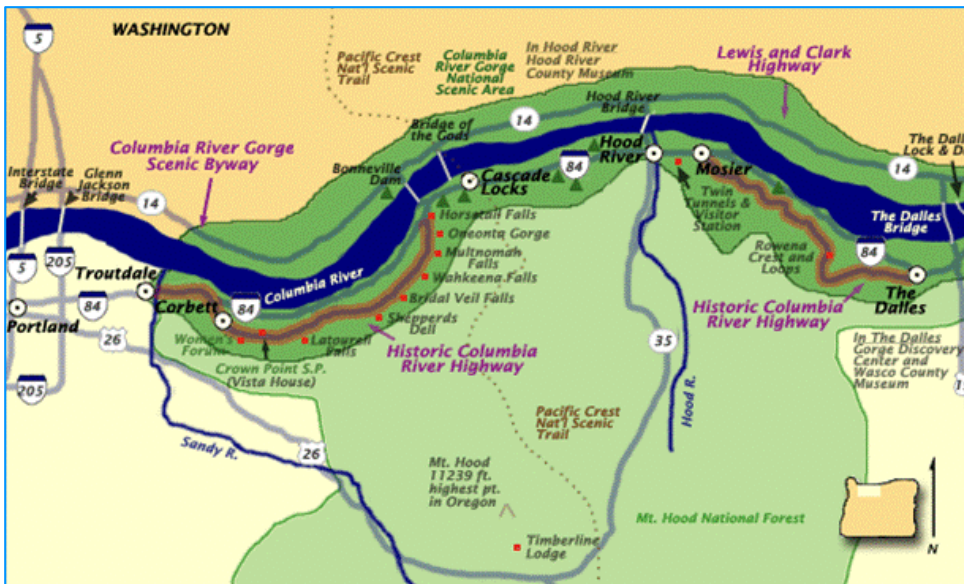
As we look forward to exciting events ahead, I am thrilled to announce our upcoming Region 10 Rally in Hood River, OR, from June 24th to June 28th, 2026. This rally will bring together members from across the region to meet and celebrate our love of camping. It will be an opportunity to gather with friends and meet new ones, share ideas, and foster our community spirit.

Over the next several months, I will be highlighting the Hood River area to provide you with ideas on how to take advantage of this great location.

This month's highlight - The Columbia Gorge and its Scenic Highway.

The Columbia River Gorge has been forming magnificently for millions of years. The most impactful time was during the ice ages and the Missoula Floods. The volcanic soil floated from Montana to Oregon, just like some of our Region 10 campers!

It takes your breath away to see the Columbia River Gorge in person. The massive and rugged canyon



walls on both the Washington and Oregon sides of the mighty Columbia River are stunning. The Columbia River is between 1 and 4 miles wide in the Columbia River Gorge. The river itself is well worth the trip, but what makes this area unique is the gorge. If you like waterfalls, more to come on that!

Did you know that the Columbia Gorge Scenic Highway, US 30, was the first roadway in the US built for the sole purpose of being scenic? It

was built between 1913 and 1922 and is 70 miles in length. Hood River is almost perfectly centered in this amazing highway. I highly recommend taking the time to take this route. If you can, carve out a few hours and enjoy!

Keep an eye out over the coming months for more about Hood River. Happy Trails! Susan

Editor's Desk ~ Carolyn White

Wanted: Your photos and write-ups about a rally you attended, such as your local club rally, any favorite "One Pot Wonders" recipes, your favorite modification, or ????. The deadline for newsletter submission is September 15 for the Fall issue. Email airstream355@gmail.com with your newsletter contributions.



Region 10 is fortunate to count among its member Ray Putnam, who is a great resource for all things Airstream maintenance and repair. This month, Ray tells us how we can keep cool in our Airstream. Up to now, Ray and your editor have been brainstorming topics. Now, it's up to our readers to ask an Airstream-related maintenance question of Ray. If your question is accepted for the Tech Talk Times in the Fall 2025 issue, we will send you a genuine Region 10 sticker! In the case of a duplicate question/topic, the first one asked will receive a sticker. Please submit to airstream355@gmail.com and I'll forward to Ray.

Region 10 Logo Wear and More - Great for Rallies - and Now Hats!

All of our Region 10 products are sold and shipped by TeePublic, with a "Satisfaction Guarantee." TeePublic ships internationally so our Canadian clubs can shop as well.

For each sale, your Region 10 receives a commission. The income from sales of merchandise will be used to support officer travel to attend installation rallies for the seven clubs in Region 10.

When you visit the storefront [here](#), you will see several designs listed with options for different size logos. Scroll down for other product options, such as magnets, stickers, tote bags and travel mugs. Two styles of hats are now available and can be found in the accessories section! The "Trucker" hat (left) has a mesh back and plastic adjustment strap. The "Dad" hat (right) is all fabric with an adjustment buckle.



At this time, we have the Alberta-Saskatchewan Unit's logo for all the products, which you can view [here](#), the Oregon Airstream Club's logo [here](#) and Idaho's [here](#).



TeePublic has excellent "fitting review" information and great customer support. Check out all the design options. Apparently the women's classic Tee shirts are now more true to size.

We now have an official Region 10 flag. The 3' x 5' flag is two sided and is available through Amazon for about \$24 plus shipping. If you would like a custom Region 10 flag, please contact me at airstream355@gmail.com and I will send you the artwork, the Amazon link and instructions for uploading and ordering. I would love to have more pictures of our Region 10 flag flying at a rally.

Safe travels!

PNW Airstreamers Rally 29 May to 1 June, 2025 ~Trenor & Barbara Tilley, British Columbia Unit Co-Presidents



Two clubs, Washington and British Columbia, got together this spring to enjoy each others' company and Airstream Together. The organizers were J and Mona Kinder, and Lori and Bryan Grassi from the Washington club, and Trenor and Barbara Tilley from the B.C. club. We met at The Lakeside Resort in Oliver, B.C., a lovely campground with full hookups and lovely lake views. Members attended from the Washington and B.C. clubs, but the event also attracted members from the Alberta/Saskatchewan, Oregon, Inland NW, and California clubs, including our special guest, the International President Eric McHenry and his wife, Laverne from California (and additional "bigwigs" including Executive Committee member Kathy Geese and International Parliamentarian Lori Grassi).

On the first evening, we gathered to enjoy a delicious hamburger/hot dog dinner with potluck sides after Happy Hour.

The next day, we had a big choice of possible activities – about half the group chose to visit the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre



Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre



Presenting the donation for \$1200

where we learned about the First Nations people of the Osoyoos area, and we got to see displays and a re-created village interpreted by a young woman from the local First Nations. Others participated in winery tours, walks, bike rides, and other activities in the unseasonably warm weather. We had a silent auction of donated items that afternoon, and along with some leftover funds from the participants we were able to support the local First Nations youth initiatives with a donation of \$1200. We followed our activities with a chicken and salmon barbecue, also accompanied by delicious potluck sides. In the evening, we met with Jenna Bower, General Manager, Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, to present the cheque. It was wonderful to hear from her about the initiatives that the Nk'Mip peoples are doing to reinstate their language and culture with youth (and some adults) following the difficult years of the residential schools. *(continued on page 8)*



Fund-raising Silent Auction

PNW Airstreamers Rally 29 May to 1 June, 2025 ~{continued from page 7}

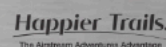
Saturday was a free day, and we undertook some wine tasting at our favourite wineries on the Naramata Bench with Bob and Darlene Caldwell from Edmonton, folks we had only met online previously. After a delicious lunch with Bob and Darlene, we had dinner with J and Mona before joining a campfire circle at the windy campsite.

We finished the weekend with a B.C. club tradition, "Bun on the Run", prepared by Barbara and Trenor Tilley and J Kinder with help by Eric McHenry. Overall, a wonderful weekend was had by all!



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Camp Airstream: Yellowstone ~Kathy Geese, ACI Executive Council

As an ACI/WBCCI member, you may have seen mention of Camp Airstream in the Blue Beret Blog or on social media. David and I were invited to the pilot week at Red Rock RV Resort, just outside of Yellowstone. Airstream, Inc. has been exploring offering “curated experiences” for Airstream owners, and as the household travel planner, I was delighted to be part of something I didn’t have to research and plan! We caravanned to Island Park, ID (just outside the West Gate of Yellowstone) with Lori and Bryan Grassi. Lori is the Parliamentarian for the club, and they are both Washington members. We stopped at two Harvest Host locations on the way and arrived at Red Rock on Tuesday, May 20th.



Red Rock RV is an Open Road brand campground, and they rolled out the red carpet for our Airstream group. Airstream has committed to 10 full hookup sites for the summer of 2025. Our host was an employee of Airstream, Inc. in Jackson, OH, and his wife. His 8- and 11-year-olds were so excited to see us all roll in. The RV office provided us with bagged ice, firewood, an Airstream bag filled with goodies, and led us to the “Airstream” section. Spectacular views in the valley of the mountains surrounding the RV park and we unhooked just in time for a snowstorm to blow through!

Airstream, Inc. built a beautiful meeting area at Red Rock close to where Airstreamers participating in the

experience were parked, called “The Hub”, that was complete with lounge chairs, sofas, tables, and fire pits. In addition, they brought in one Airstream customized with a massage table,



another designated as an office or lounging area in case of inclement weather

“The Hub” had metal containers with herbs for the taking, flowers, and a bar for the evening social hours, which quickly became a favorite hangout area when we weren’t out exploring the area. *(continued on page 10)*



Camp Airstream: Yellowstone ~*(continued from page 9)*

The week was filled with activities, meals, and experiences. We toured one of the historical cabins in the area, followed by a hike to Big Springs and a drive to Mesa Falls. One day, a local tour company picked us up at 6:00 am for a private, 8-hour Yellowstone tour.



What a day to remember. After we toured the lodge and watched Old Faithful erupt, the focus for the day was seeing wildlife, and the tour company delivered! Bison traffic jams are part of the Yellowstone experience, but we also saw elk, moose, pelicans, and a mother grizzly with her two cubs, who were loving rolling in the snow, still lingering in the hillside crevices.

Back at the campground and after a quick nap, we enjoyed social hour and a live music performance by talented local music artists,

joined by the Camp Yellowstone host! Temps were still chilly, and the hot toddies were much appreciated.

Other experiences included a wildlife photography class and a private massage in the "Massage Trailer" which attendees appreciated after days filled with fly fishing, bicycle and horseback riding, and hiking.

We all agreed that the six days flew by. New friends were made and we all agreed Camp Airstream: Yellowstone was a wonderful, fun experience that we hope Airstream, Inc. continues in 2026 and beyond.

As I write this article there are a few spaces still left in 2025 and if you are interested in learning more, visit [Camp Airstream: Yellowstone](#).



Belknap Hot Springs Rally Wrap-up, April 24-27, 2025 ~ Scott Lewis, BRN 8001

Nearly 30 Oregon Airstream Club members found themselves in hot water at the inaugural "Belknap Hot Springs/Waterfalls/Onesie Rally." We were 15 shiny trailers with many styles and lengths gathered together, and 30 campers total.



On Friday, people went exploring local waterfalls (Sahalie, Koosah and Tamolitch among others,) nearby lakes, and various hikes. Oregon's famous 'Blue Pool' surprised and delighted those who made the trek.



Our initial evening was a casual mingle outside by the beautiful and clear McKenzie River with some simple 'Tech Talk and Tips' sharing.



Friday evening Scott and Cherie poured wines donated by several generous Southern Oregon wineries.



Saturday was filled with more hiking and exploring of the VERY many beautiful outdoor places nearby, including Belknap Hot Springs Resort's own 'Secret Garden.' (continued on page 12)



Belknap Hot Springs Rally Wrap-up, April 24-27, 2025 ~ *(continued from page 11)*



Saturday night arrived with six campers showing up wearing onesies, and two more sporting very festive hats. Members brought munchables to share, and there was an abundance of delicious desserts.



More donated wine was poured, and a whole lot of laughter ensued (even among those just drinking water.) The mood was festive, the location quite wonderful, and campers said they look forward to returning next year. Based upon camper feedback, it also sounds likely there will be many more onesies on display next time!


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The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ Ray Putnam



Air Conditioner Maintenance and Soft Start Info Recommendations for ducted air conditioner maintenance

To maintain the ducted air conditioning system on your Airstream trailer, focus on cleaning filters regularly, inspecting the unit for debris and damage, and ensuring proper airflow. A professional service should be scheduled every 1-2 years, depending on usage.

Detailed Maintenance Steps:

1. Clean or Replace Filters:
 - Locate and Remove Filters: Find the return air vents in the ceiling and remove the vent covers to access the filters.
 - Clean or Replace: Most filters are washable, but you can vacuum them if they are heavily soiled. Replace the filter if it's damaged or uncleanable.
 - Replace Regularly: Clean or replace filters every 1-2 months, depending on use and environmental conditions.
2. Inspect the AC Unit:
 - Examine for Debris: Check the exterior of the unit for dirt, debris, and bugs that may have accumulated.
 - Check Condenser Coil Fins: Use a fin comb to straighten any smashed fins, which can reduce airflow.
 - Inspect the Drain Tube: Verify that moisture is coming out of the drain tube and clear any blockages.
 - Look for Damage: Inspect the shroud and mounting screws for damage or cracks.
3. Ensure Proper Airflow:
 - Check Vents: Ensure all vents are unobstructed and clear of any debris or obstructions.
 - Monitor Airflow: If you notice reduced airflow or increased strain on the AC, it may be time to clean or replace filters.
4. Professional Service:
 - Schedule Regular Checks: Schedule a professional service every 1-2 years to ensure the system is functioning optimally.
 - Look for Signs of Issues: Pay attention to signs like decreased cooling capacity, strange sounds, foul odors, insufficient airflow, or leaks.

Recommendations for non-ducted air conditioner maintenance

To maintain your Airstream's air conditioner, regularly replace filters, clean the unit's exterior and interior, and inspect the condensate drain. Some go down inside the wall and some dump directly onto the roof. Be mindful of humidity levels and consider using a dehumidifier when needed.

(Continued on page 14)

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ Ray Putnam *(continued from page 13)*

Maintenance Steps:

1. Filter Replacement:
 - Replace the pleated filters every three months to prevent dust buildup and maintain optimal airflow.
 - Vacuum the carbon pre-filter in between filter changes to extend its life.
2. Exterior Cleaning:
 - Inspect the AC unit for debris and damage.
 - Remove the shroud to access the condenser fins and compressor coils.
 - Clean the fins using a water hose or compressed air, ensuring the air flows from the inside out.
 - Use a fin comb to straighten bent fins.
 - Check for mold, wasp nests, and dirt, and clean them thoroughly.
3. Interior Cleaning:
 - Clean the inner coils by washing them.
 - Use a vacuum or compressed air to remove dust from hard-to-reach areas.
 - Wipe down components with shop rags and a damp cloth.
4. Condensate Drain:
 - Clean the condensate drain to prevent backups.
 - Ensure the condensation track is clear.
5. Humidity Control:
 - Monitor relative humidity levels using a hygrometer.
 - Aim for relative humidity at 60% or less, and consider using exhaust fans, the air conditioner, or a portable dehumidifier to manage moisture.
 - Check and empty the condensation collection bucket of a dehumidifier regularly.
6. Other Checks:
 - Inspect the roof pan and mounting bolts.
 - Check the fan motor for proper lubrication.
 - Consider performing an amp-draw test.
7. Professional Help:
 - If you suspect any problems, consult with an RV technician for a more thorough inspection and diagnosis.

Troubleshooting:

- Warm air:

If your Airstream's AC is blowing warm air, check for airflow issues like frozen evaporator coils, dirty coils, or dirty filters.

- Low cooling:

If the AC isn't cooling properly, it could be low on refrigerant. A technician can check and recharge the refrigerant if needed.

- Icing:

If the evaporator coil freezes up, especially when the outside temperature is low, turn off the AC and allow the coil to defrost. Operating on a higher speed can be helpful.

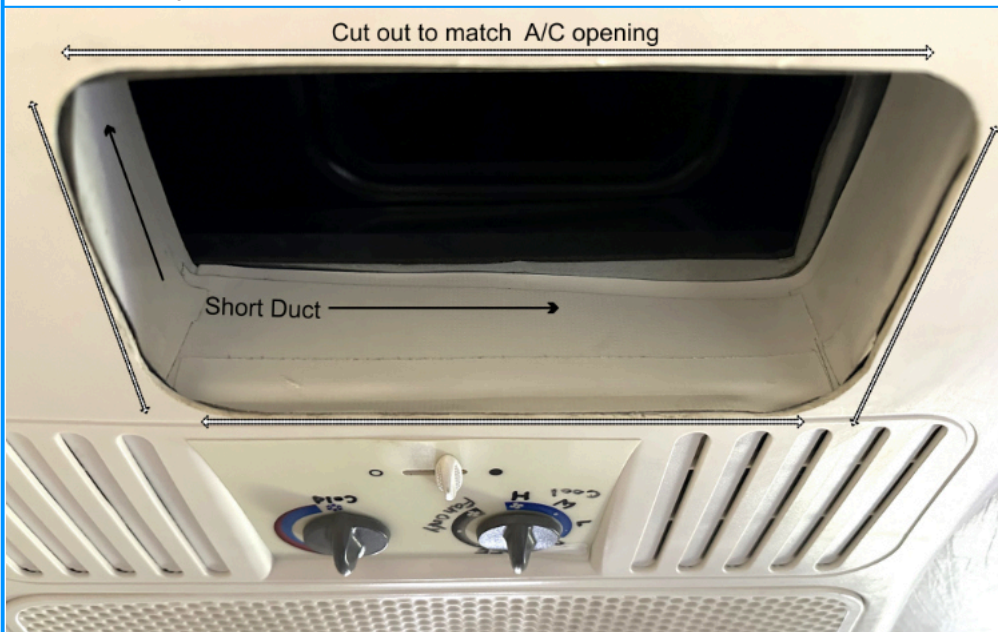
(Continued on page 15)

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ Ray Putnam (continued from page 14)

Tips:

- Park in the shade to minimize solar heat gain.
- Close windows in the morning to trap cool air.
- Use reflective insulation to block solar heat.

The non-ducted air conditioner typically has four vents, one on each side of the inside ceiling portion of the unit. You can control the air by adjusting the vents to direct the air as needed for operation. I have found that the air space in the ceiling portion of the unit is quite shallow. This causes the non-ducted air to be noisy. I have modified my ceiling unit to allow the air to come directly through the ceiling portion of the unit. This gets the air into the trailer with much less noise. I don't use the four vents at all. If you decide to do this, the trick is to make a hole in the ceiling portion that exactly matches the duct from the rooftop A/C unit. I made a short extension of the rooftop duct to fit to the ceiling unit. Close all the vents and voila, quiet airflow. Here is what it looks like:



Soft Start A/C control modification.

This unit should be standard on all RV air conditioners right out of the factory. Installation is very straightforward. Micro-Air provides excellent technical support. This unit will provide A/C operation with reduced electrical requirements. And it will greatly extend the life of your air conditioner. I have listed the typical soft start unit below. There are others based upon the size of your air conditioner.

Micro-Air, Inc., 124 Route 526, Allentown, NJ 08501, 609-259-2636, www.microair.net

EasyStart™ 364 (3-ton) Soft Starter, Part Number: ASY-364-X20-IP

- Run 2 air conditioners on a 30-amp cord.
- Sleep, with less noise, and cool all through the night.
- Run your A/C with more appliances at the same time.
- The RV version supports only 115V/50-60Hz motors.
- Has numerous specialized fault-checks not found in any other soft starter to provide further protection for your compressor.
- The EasyStart 364 will support up to a 36000 BTU (3 ton) compressor. It includes a fully weatherproof (IP65), flameproof, plastic enclosure, with an integrated mounting flange and a 40" (1m) wire harness.

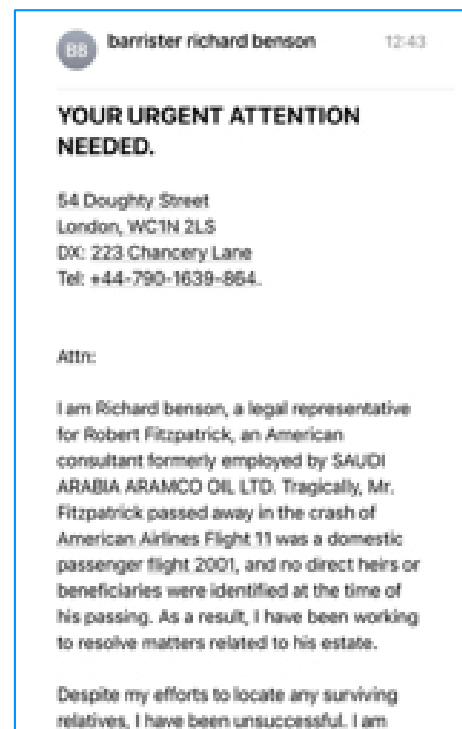
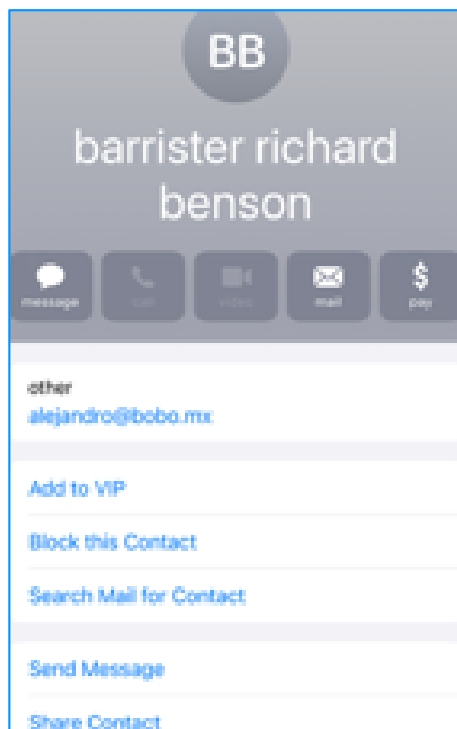
I hope this information is helpful. See you SAFELY down the road. BRN 7007.

💡 Tip of the Day: How to Spot a Scam Email

Have you ever received an urgent email from your Airstream local club president, treasurer, or a fellow member claiming they're traveling and in trouble? Maybe their credit card isn't working, and they just need you to "click a link" or "buy some gift cards" to help them out. Sounds suspicious, right? That's because it probably is.

This is just one of many types of email scams making the rounds. Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated, creating messages that look incredibly real. For example, I recently received an official-looking email from the "State of Florida" claiming there was a warrant out for my arrest due to an unpaid toll. It made me pause—after all, I travel to Florida often to visit family. But then I remembered: I always fly. There's no way I could owe a road toll.

Unfortunately, several Airstream Club members have already fallen victim to similar scams, with some losing thousands of dollars. The fraudsters often access public or semi-public information about club officers and use that to make their emails more convincing.



🛑 So, how can you protect yourself?

There's no guaranteed way to spot every scam, but here's one simple trick that helps:

Check the sender's real email address. On your phone, tap the name of the sender. It should expand to show the full email address. For example, if the message says it's from "Barrister Richard Benson" but the address is something like `alejandrobobo.mx`, it's clearly a scam.

✅ What to do:

- Delete the message immediately.
- Block the sender, if your email service allows it.
- Never click links or download attachments from emails that seem even slightly suspicious.

Scammers rely on urgency and trust. If something feels off—pause, verify, and stay safe.

Kathy Geese

The Tin Man Needed It ~John Richardson, BRN 4682

When Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz first met the Tin Man in the woods he is in desperate need of some lubrication. The Tin Man was caught out in the rain and seized up and he needed Dorothy and the Scarecrow to lubricate his joints to get him going again. What does this have to do with Airstreams? Well Airstreams too can get caught out in the rain from time to time and parts of the Airstream can seize up. That is why we should lubricate certain parts of the Airstream to keep those parts working as designed so we can continue like Dorothy on our adventures. I would suggest at least annually if not semi annually depending on the amount of use your Airstream sees.

Now each area that needs lubricating requires a different type of lubricant. I have narrowed down to three types of lubricant I use to cover nine areas of the Airstream that need lubrication.

The first is **Boeshield T9**, a lubricant developed by Boeing Corporation for lubricating airplane parts. This lubricant is waterproof with rust and corrosion protection that flushes out old lubricant, displaces water and dries to a waxy film that clings to metal for months. A 1 oz bottle can be purchased from Amazon for \$12.95. A little bit goes a long way.



Areas to lubricate

1. Door Hinges
2. Locks, put some Boeshield T9 on the key and run it in and out of the lock to get the pins inside the lock lubricated.
3. The entry step, lubricate all the hinges of the step and you will find it much easier to get those step up and down. Maybe not easier for you to get up and down but the steps will fold up and open much better.
4. The window latches can use some lubrication again to help with ease of movement.



The second lubricant I use is a silicone spray. I personal like **Jig-A-Loo** which you can buy at Canadian Tire for \$7.99 a can or on Amazon and at Big Box stores in the US. This is an oil-free, non-greasy lubricant that waterproofs and protects. No stains, no dripping, no scent. It stops squeaks, un-sticks just about anything, protects against rust and is an exceptional water repellent. Jig-A-Loo is ideal for wood, metal, glass, rubber, leather, fabrics, most plastics.

Areas to lubricate

1. The arms on the manual or power awning. Just spray some silicone spray on the arms where one-part slides into another to help keep them moving freely. Sometimes it is easier to spray the lubricant on an old rag then wipe down the arms.
2. The screw part of your stabilizing jacks. This can be done for either manual or powered jacks. Ensure the screw parts are clean before applying the lubricant.
3. I also use this lubricant for the hitch coupler to keep it freed up. *(continued on page 18)*

The Tin Man Needed It ~[continued from page 17]

The third lubricant I use is a spray can of **white lithium grease**. The 3-In-One Professional White Lithium Grease offers a heat and water-resistant formulation. It sprays on evenly as a liquid and dries to a thick coating, without splattering, melting, running, washing off, or freezing. White lithium grease can be purchased at Canadian Tire for \$13.99 (available in the US at most big box stores or Amazon.).

Areas to grease.

1. If you have a power awning in the top of each arm about halfway down towards the RV when the awning is out there is a small hole which is just slightly larger than the straw from the white lithium grease can. Spray some white lithium grease in this hole to help keep the arm extending mechanism working. I have seen several power awnings where they were not lubricated and ultimately lead to failure of the power awning.
2. The other place white lithium grease is good for is the ball on your hitch. This helps prevent wear on the ball and becoming sloppy in the connector.



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One Pot Wonders - One-Pot Macaroni Cheeseburger Soup ~ Carolyn White

This is truly a yummy one-pot meal that takes about 30 minutes to prepare and serves six. All you need is a medium stockpot.

Ingredients:

1 lb. Ground beef or veggie equivalent	2 cups elbow macaroni
1 medium onion, diced	1 Cup shredded cheese
2 cups vegetable or beef broth	1 Cup milk or unsweetened coconut milk
Salt & pepper to taste	

Instructions:

1. Brown Ground Beef: In a large pot, cook the ground beef and diced onion over medium heat until the beef is fully browned and the onion is soft. Note: If using a veggie equivalent ground product, you may need to add a tablespoon of olive oil to brown with the onion. Drain any excess fat.
2. Add the Broth: Pour in the broth and bring the mixture to a boil.
3. Cook Macaroni: Stir in the elbow macaroni, and cook uncovered for about 7-8 minutes, or until the pasta is just al dente.
4. Add Cheese and Milk: Lower the heat to low and stir in the milk and shredded cheddar cheese. (Note: cheese becomes grainy at higher temperatures, so keep it really low!) Continue stirring until the cheese is completely melted and the soup is creamy.
5. Season and Serve: Season the soup with salt and pepper to taste. Ladle into bowls and enjoy!

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If you made it this far, thank you for reading!