



North Texas Roundup

October 2025

"To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home."
Wally Byam Creed

President's Letter

"All I wanna do is go camping!"
- Mike Hooker

I hope everyone is enjoying the Fall camping season. This will be my final newsletter as your president. I am proud to say that the North Texas Airstream Club has continued to grow and flourish during my tenure. I owe a big "thank you" to the current leadership from the bottom of my heart for everything they have done and continue to do for this club. It has been an honor and pleasure being your president.

The election of new officers for 2025-2026 took place this month and I want to thank the slate of volunteers that stepped up to run for the various leadership positions. Without their selfless efforts, we would not have a club and not be able to enjoy all the rallies and events. I encourage all members to consider serving in our club in some fashion.

The "End of Summer - Hello Fall Rally" at Oakdale RV Park in Glen Rose was a resounding success. I believe I can speak for all attendees that we had a great time playing games, relaxing by the pool, participating in the Dutch Oven Cookoff, and eating

delicious food at some of the local restaurants.

The remaining two rallies for the year are:

The "Installation Rally" at The Boulders on Lake Tyler, November 14th - 16th. and

The "Holiday Rally" at The Vineyards Campground on Lake Grapevine, December 5th - 7th.

I look forward to seeing you all at these events. Meanwhile, get out and enjoy your Airstream!

See Ya Down the Road,



Mike Hooker
BRN 05557

What's In This Month's Newsletter?

Meet Our New Members!

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2026 Tentative Rally Schedule

High Profile
Jenny Hughes

Airstream Pet Tails
Meet Jade Dice

Summer Adventures
Calgary Stampede

Travelogue
Co-Editor David
continues his series



Editors' Corner

October: Crisp days, gorgeous Autumn leaves, and jackets. Cooler days are finally here! Head out for some camping, but be sure to be back in time for the Installation Rally in Tyler. It's one of the best rallies of the year in addition to the Holiday Rally. We always save the best for last when it comes to rallies. A new 2026 rally schedule is coming out, new officers, and many new travel opportunities for all.

A big thank you to **Jennifer Dice** for her contribution to this month's Pet Tails, and to **Allana Patterson** for her article on the Jensen's trip to the Calgary Stampede. I know you will enjoy reading these. I'm still waiting (crickets chirping) for more members to step up and share your Pet Tails or stories of your travels on the road. Please share! Send your photos and stories to me (Ann) at aec2you@gmail.com and I'll make sure they get shared here. Co-Editor **David Majkowski** is continuing to share his travels in his Travelogue as well, so find a cozy spot, get something pumpkin-spiced to drink, and please enjoy this month's newsletter!



Ann Clark
BRN 12279



David
Majkowski
BRN 5594

Your 2025 NTxAC Officers & Committee Chairs

All of these folks work very hard to give all of our members a great club experience. In addition to meeting monthly they plan our rallies, secure sites and rally hosts, handle all financial matters, welcome new members, create monthly newsletters, post on social media, send out emails, and a million other duties that keep this club running well and creating an atmosphere of "family." Please join in on the fun at our 2025 rallies and activities!



Front Row: **Edward Wilson, Mike Hooker, Ann Clark, Lynn Clark, Maribeth Pappas, Dan Brockway;**

Back Row: **David Majkowski, Anna Brandon (Region 9 1st VP), Bill Steddum, Nicole Scott, and Patrick Scott.**

Not pictured: **Mike Barr, Diane Dunaway**

President

Mike Hooker

1st Vice-President

Edward Wilson

Past President

Allana Patterson

Secretary

Nicole Scott

Treasurer

Bill Steddum

Social Media

Maribeth Pappas

Parliamentarian

Diane Dunaway

Membership

Patrick Scott

Webmaster

Dan Brockway

Newsletter

Ann Clark
David Majkowski

Trustees

Lynn Clark / Ann Clark
Mike Barr / Rita Barr



November Birthdays

Anita Clemente	11/1	Roscell Peters	11/12	Diane Dunaway	11/25
Doug Malcult	11/1	Alice Barber	11/13	Arnold Terkel	11/25
Roxy Gross	11/2	Brian Johnston	11/17	Dawn Montaner	11/26
Annette Milliken	11/2	Pat Gentry	11/20	Ralf Reisinger	11/26
George Overly	11/2	Debbie Weaver	11/20	Leslie Gentry	11/27
Dawn Rauch	11/3	Connie Oberle	11/21	Rick Elkins	11/28
Camie Cross	11/5	Carrie Terry	11/21	Jeannie Likhite	11/29
Rachel Brown	11/6	Dale Casper	11/22	Dave Normington	11/29
Kim Mitchell	11/7	Michelle Wright	11/22	Scott Swanson	11/29
David Sholkoff	11/8	Vicki Dennis	11/24		
Mary Kohnle	11/12	Malinda Buratti	11/25		

November Anniversaries

David and April Smith	11/1	Jeff and Wendy Cason	11/20
John and Amy Van Artsdalen	11/6	Rick and Lori Smith	11/27
Jeffrey and Jennifer Bell	11/11	Isaac and Elaine Holmes	11/29
Dave and Debi Normington	11/14		



YIPPEE, THEY'RE FREE!!

Hey, new members, you will receive a FREE NTxAC T-shirt when you attend a rally/meeting.

If you would like to buy a T-shirt, order through the link below and pick them up at the next rally you attend.

airstream099leadership@gmail.com

New Members Spotlight

New Members

Jeff and Margaret McCoy

2025 Classic RBT 30'

Weatherford, TX

Jonathan and Cara Loper

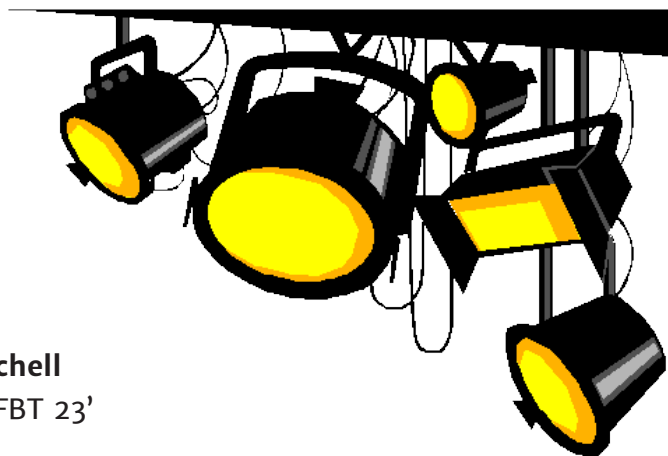
2025 Flying Cloud 27'

Fort Worth, TX

Bruce and Kim Mitchell

2024 International FBT 23'

Denton, TX



New Affiliate Members

Jimmie and Kristin McClain

2025 Globetrotter 25'

Milford, TX

Jeff and Margaret McCoy, BRN 10707

Jeff and Margaret have been married 32 years and have raised kids and horses for most of that time. This is their first Airstream. They've had Class A's, a Class C+ and several horse trailers with living quarters. They've always been intrigued with Airstreams and like having a truck to explore while traveling and glamping. Their two kids are grown with families of their own, so it's just the two of them and their two dogs. Now that they are retired, they look forward to many years of adventures.



2026 NTxAC Officer Election Results

The Results Are In!

*Next month we'll install a new slate of officers for the North Texas Airstream Club during our Installation Rally at The Boulders on Lake Tyler.
Thank you to those who took the time to vote.*

President
Edward Wilson

Vice-President
Greg King

Secretary
Nicole Scott

Treasurer
Bill Steddum

Trustee Position 3
Christine Wayles

Trustee Position 4
Johanna Love

Hey NTxAC Members! Join Us At Camp Margaritaville!

An incredible rally rate has been secured that includes taxes and resort fees, plus the flexibility to reserve additional dates before or after the event at a heavily discounted rate. Members can also enjoy discounted golf cart rentals on-site. It's shaping up to be a paradise-themed extravaganza you won't want to miss!

Several types of sites are available.

If NTxAC Club members want to park together as a group, it's essential they select the same site type and register at the same time. While we can't guarantee exact placements, this approach will greatly increase the chances of being located in the same proximity. Early registration to secure a spot is recommended.

For more information on sites and to register, click the link below.

<https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-2026-rally>





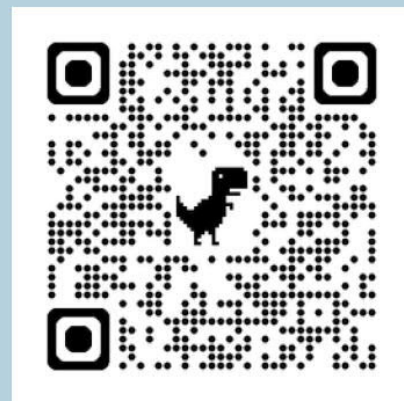
What you can expect:

- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Cruises.
- An Airstream exclusive river cruise sailing from Lyon to Avignon through the Rhone Valley and Provence region of France.
- Inclusions: Gourmet meals, unlimited premium drinks, choice of shore excursions, all gratuities, and all panoramic balcony-window suites with butler service.
- Great pre-cruise group options include additional 3 nights on Ravel, tours to Normandy or Champagne region. Post cruise is an optional group trip to Paris.

July 15-22, 2026

More Info:

JASONGRENDAHL@GMAIL.COM



<https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>

Region 9 News

Howdy Airstream Friends!

Camping in Region 9 is never better than in the Fall! I'm enjoying visiting several of the Club/Unit Rallies and I hope to catch you at one soon. It's a busy time of year for your Region 9 team as well, and we are always looking for help from our members. I hope you'll consider volunteering in the coming days as we ramp into 2026 planning! And a big thank you to two new Region 9 Volunteers: Robert Speer as Assistant Webmaster and Selina Shadd as Caravan Chair!

69th International Rally in Minot

Registration is open now for August 22–27, 2026, and it's sure to be an incredible time. Each year, Airstream Club members gather from all over the world to meet for 6 days of education, entertainment, shopping, socials, and fun at our International Rally! Register to experience the welcoming magic of Minot, North Dakota, and give back through community service initiatives, blood drives, and more. Register Here: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2026/registration>

IBT Strategy Session

Coming up in November is the IBT Strategy Session in Jackson Center, OH. Region 9 1st VP, Anna Brandon, will be representing Region 9 in this annual session focused on the Club's future.

Upcoming Rallies

Region 9 is proud to sponsor several National Event Rallies or Region 9 Rallies:

Texas Country Air 2025, November 6–9, 2025, Fort Concho, San Angelo, TX
Celebrate the 10th Anniversary at this National Historic Landmark with urban boondocking, seminars, tours, and live music. Limited spots!

Register:

<https://airstreamclub.org/texas-country-air-2025-texas-plains-airstream-club-106>

Streamin' on the Strand, February 5–8, 2026, Galveston, TX
Details: Join us for the 5th year during the first week of Mardi Gras!

Register: <https://airstreamclub.org/streamin-strand-region-9>

Wally's Workshop, March 20–23, 2026, NTAC-Hillsboro
It's a great time to get your rig in shape for Spring & Summer rallies.
Registration will open soon.

Region 9 Rally, Airstreams in Paradise, March 25–29, 2026, Camp Margaritaville Resort, Crystal Beach, TX

Register: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-2026-rally>

Call for Candidates: Region 9 2nd Vice-President (2026–2028 Term)

We're still seeking passionate members for the Region 9 2nd Vice-President role, serving from August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2028. This leadership position is a fantastic opportunity to plan rallies, support local clubs, and represent Region 9 at the national level.

Continued on next page

Region 9 News, continued

Responsibilities Include:

- Coordinating regional events and rallies
- Preparing to advance to 1st VP and President
- Promoting the mission of fellowship and adventure
- Providing resources and support to local clubs

Who We're Looking For:

- Enthusiastic members with a passion for our community
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- A collaborative spirit and desire to lead
- Club leadership experience is a plus but not required

Interested or know someone who'd be a great fit?

Contact Nancy Fitzgerald, Region 9 Nominating Committee Chair, at nefitzge6@gmail.com.
Step up and help shape Region 9's future!

Airstreams in Paradise Rally Volunteers Needed – Join the Fun!

Our Region 9 community thrives because of dedicated volunteers! We are looking for help with these Rally Planning Committees:

- Registration (Members Only – Chair: Roseann Young)
- Programs
- Rally Bulletin & Signage
- Tours & Activities (Members Only – Chair: Selina Shadd)
- Sponsors & Vendors
- Door Prizes & Hospitality
- Rally Bags, Ribbons & Plaques
- Logistics & Parking (Members Only – Chair: David Brandon)
- Food & Beverage (catered by the resort except for coffee)

We're currently looking for:

- Committee Members: Join teams for rally planning, membership, or communications to make a meaningful impact
- Rally 2026 Planners: Chairs and Committee Members to plan and execute the 2026 Region 9 Rally at Camp Margaritaville

No matter your skills or experience, there's a place for you. Reach out to me at region9wbcci@gmail.com or call/text at 281-725-1672 to get involved and keep Region 9 rolling strong!



Happy Camping,

Tracy Elkins

Region 9 President

region9wbcci@gmail.com

281-725-1672

NTxAC 2025 Rally Schedule

November 14-16, 2025

Installation Rally, The Boulders at Lake Tyler, Whitehouse, TX

16822 McElroy Rd, Whitehouse, TX 75791

Hosts: Jeff and Maribeth Pappas, Sam and Bret Bieghler, Greg and Jill Fearing, and Tanner and Carrie Terry

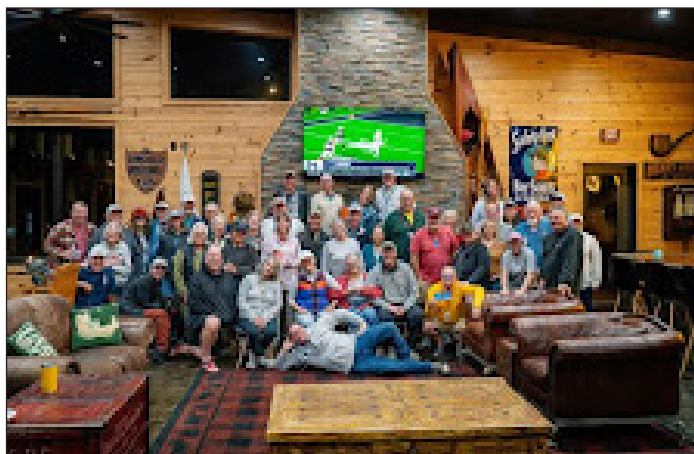
This is our 3rd Annual Joint Rally with the North Texas Airstream Club and the East Texas Lakes Unit.

DO NOT call the main campground office number and do not book online. To schedule, call or email Jessica Dunnam with The Boulders 430-280-6571 / eventsatboulderslaketyler@gmail.com
RESERVATIONS OPEN on Thursday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m. Please do not call or email before this date. Please note: Many members will arrive early on Thursday, November 13, so feel free to come early for pre-rally fun.

All our rally sites MUST BE BOOKED by September 15, 2025 or they will be released back into public inventory.

We have the entire campground reserved, so plenty of room for everyone and all sites have beautiful water views! We have the fantastic event center booked for our rally weekend, so plan on lots of fun and fellowship. The schedule will be sent out closer to the date.

Questions? Call or text Maribeth Pappas, Rally Host at 214-566-1210



NTxAC 2025 Rally Schedule

December 5-7, 2025

Holiday Rally, The Vineyards on Lake Grapevine, Grapevine, TX

1501 N. Dooley Street, Grapevine, TX 76051

thevineyards@grapevinetexas.gov

Hosts: Jo Love, Rita Barr, Karen King, and Debbie Hooker

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear" –Buddy the Elf

Join us for an Elf-themed Christmas Rally at the Vineyards Campground in Grapevine. Perfect for families!

The weekend includes:

Friday, December 5

Join us for a "Meat and Greet" and then gather around the campfire for a beverage of your choice and S'mores.

Saturday, December 6

Start the day with coffee, hot chocolate, Mimosas, and breakfast. Our grilling elves will be cooking pancakes, sausage, and eggs on the Blackstones.

The rest of the day is "Play Your Way" in Grapevine!

Grapevine, the Christmas Capital of Texas, offers festive events at www.grapevinetexasusa.com. Relax at the campground while the kids enjoy the playground, board games, or arts and crafts.

Later, we'll have a Happy Hour to enjoy while we await pizza. Get ready to channel your inner elf. Prizes will be given for the best Buddy the Elf costume!

After dinner, the kids get a gift exchange and an outdoor showing of ELF! Adult elves will have their own "Silly Santa Exchange." To cap off the night, we'll gather by the campfire with our favorite Christmas toddies.

Sunday, December 7

We'll send you off with a convenient breakfast to-go.

More details to follow, but plan on bringing a protein and side to share for Friday's dinner, drinks for Happy Hour, a wrapped gift for your child/children to open, a gift for the adult exchange, and a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies to share at Saturday's dinner. We will also ask for contributions for meals.



NTxAC 2026 Tentative Rally Schedule

January 22-25, 2026

Reason for Freezin' Rally, NTAC, Hillsboro, TX (Joint Rally with HOTC)

February 6-8, 2026

Streamin' on the Strand Rally, Galveston, TX (Region 9 Rally)

March 20-23, 2026

Wally's Workshop, NTAC, Hillsboro, TX (Region 9 Event)

March 23-24, 2026

Caravan to Region 9 Rally, Location TBD (Region 9 Caravan)

March 25-29, 2026

Region 9 Rally: Camp Margaritaville Resort, Crystal Beach, TX

Registration is now open! Register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-2026-rally>

April 10-12, 2026

NTxAC and OK Club Joint Rally, Lake Murray State Park, Oklahoma

May, 2026

Date and Event details coming soon

June, 2026

Date and Event details coming soon

August 22-27, 2026

ACI International Rally, North Dakota State Fairgrounds, Minot ND

September, 2026

Date and Event details coming soon

October, 2026

Date and Event details coming soon

November 13-15, 2026

Installation Rally, The Boulders at Lake Tyler, Tyler, TX

December 4-6, 2026

Holiday Rally at The Vineyards, Grapevine, TX

High Profile: *Jenny Hughes*

Current Hometown: Granbury, TX

I Grew Up In: Albuquerque, NM and Stephenville, TX.

Fun Fact About Me: I like black jellybeans.

Current and/or Former Occupation: Microbiologist,
stay-at-home mom and goat dairy owner/operator
and now a high school science teacher

Airstream Model/Year: 1975 Excella 500

Your Airstream's Name: Trixie

Favorite Thing About My Airstream: It's silver. Everything original in it works.

Hobbies: I play bassoon in band/orchestra and sing at church.

I Drive A: Ford Bronco and a Subaru Outback.

Favorite TV Shows: Various Sci-Fi and Midsommer Murders

Favorite Music/Bands: Movie soundtracks, The Eagles, Enya

My Fantasy Dinner Party Guests (Living or Deceased) Would Be: C.S. Lewis, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and JRR Tolkien.

My Last Meal Would Be: an entire loaf of hot French bread fresh out of the oven smothered in whipped butter and a plate of New Mexico enchiladas smothered in red chile sauce.

I'm Known For: encouraging students to believe they can succeed.

Behind My Back They Say: I'm a scatterbrain (truth) and I'm a nerd (also true.)

Nobody Knows That I: grew up around the turquoise jewelry business in Albuquerque.

Favorite Airstream Destinations: the Desert Southwest.

My Dream Destination In My Airstream Would Be: a New Hampshire Fall Leaves trip.

Best Travel Advice: 1. Whimsical: research and plan ahead and then don't be afraid to wing it and go off track. 2. Practical: make sure to have Benadryl, Ibuprofen, and a vomit bag in every glove box LOL.



Airstream Pet Tails

Many of us travel with our pets, and quite a number of Airstream owners chose to live the Airstream life because it gives them the option to travel with them. If you have a pet or pets and want to share their travel stories with us, send your info and photos to aec2you@gmail.com



Pet Story #3: A Day in the Life of an Airstream Adventure Dog: Great Lakes Edition

My day usually starts when I hear the 'rents (what I call my guardians – **Dan and Jen Dice**) stir in the front part of the cabin. I slowly rise from my bed in the living room (I like my own space) and get in a good downward dog stretch before sauntering to the bedroom. I tap, tap, tap my wagging tail on the hall walls and the sides of the bed to let them know I'm awake and usually Mawm invites me up to cuddle. This is my favorite way to start the day.

This summer we have been chasing waterfalls, swimming, and hiking as we cross the top part of the nation. In June we headed out and met up with our good friend and NTxAC member **Jack Clyne**, his girlfriend **Karla**, and their new pup – Maggie. Maggie is a doodle doll and very shy but we were good camping companions. We stayed at a HipCamp spot in Traverse City, Michigan and the humans had fun walking around to the shops downtown and attending the Cherry Festival.

I got some time swimming at Sleeping Bear Bay in Uncle Jack's favorite city – Glen Arbor. The water was clear and perfect at 68 degrees with a pebble rock shoreline and a quick drop into deep water. It's a really cute town with a wonderful coffee shop and a place called "Cherry Republic." They allow dogs so I wandered around the store smelling all the yummy things. The best part was when Pawp took me outside and I got my very own cup of their famed cherry ice cream! I may or may not have also taken an uninvited lick of Uncle Jack's cone when he wasn't looking and I finished off Mawm's cone when she said she got full (but we all know it was my exceptional lovey dog eyes that did it). I highly recommend the cherry ice cream!



After Traverse City we crossed the Mighty Mac – a giant famous bridge – and headed to St. Ignace, Michigan so the 'rents could check out Mackinac Island. I was so excited to go to this renowned little island and pictured myself posing at Arch Rock and swimming off the shores of Lake Huron. Would you believe they had the nerve to go without me?! I tried to convince them I could run next to the bike for 8 miles but Mawm said not this time. Instead, she promised to take me swimming in Lake Huron if I stayed home and took a sleep and recovery day. DEAL!!

You see, for the past few years I've had a low-key goal of swimming in all of the Great Lakes. Lake Erie and Lake Ontario were my first of the Greats on our way to the International Rally in Fryeburg, Maine. Last year Pawp and I camped at Indiana Dunes, and I had a great time swimming with him in Lake Michigan. I knew I only had two more lakes to go, Huron and Superior, to meet my goal so I took one for the team and stayed home.

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Airstream Pet Tails, continued

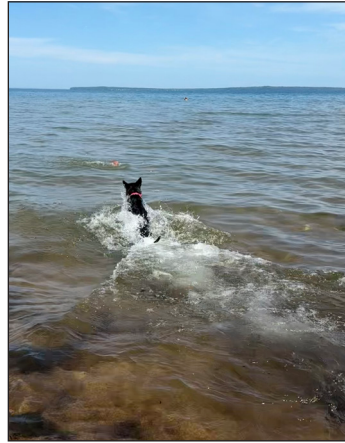
When they returned, the 'rents found a beautiful sandy beach off of Lake Huron for me to play ball and swim in. It was great exercise, and the water was nice and cool on the warm day. After I got my fill, we took off and headed to Tahquamenon Falls State Park where we visited the lower and upper falls. They were magnificent and I could feel the power of the rushing water with every stop I took on the trail to the falls. I was so excited when Pawp found a place for me to play in the river below it.



Me at Lake Erie



Me at Lake Michigan



Me at Lake Superior



Me at Lake Ontario



Me at Lake Huron

After a couple of days, we headed west and stopped at the Apostle Islands in Wisconsin. The 'rents wanted to see the islands and kayak to sea caves. They again left me home because the company didn't allow any first time doggos on the tour. You better believe I gave Mawm the side-eye for not teaching me to kayak sooner! I could have been out there exploring while Pawp manually motored us around! Upon their return I reminded them that Superior was the last of the Greats I needed to meet my goal; so off we went to find a good swim spot. Let me tell you – that water was COLD at 66.5 degrees but the day was hot and

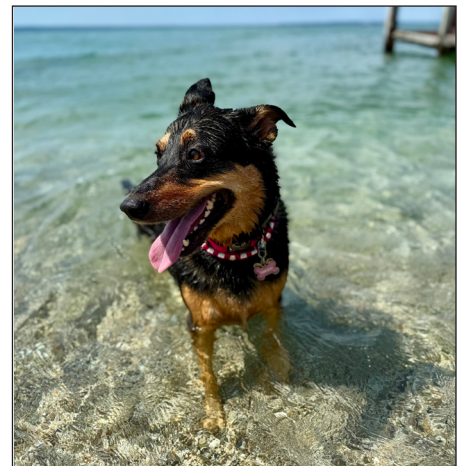
sunny so it worked out great! I even got both the 'rents in there with me! I loved every chilly second of it and swam my little heart out!

Having met my goal of swimming in each of the Great Lakes, I have to say that the Glen Arbor area of Lake Michigan was by far my favorite. Lake Ontario may be my least favorite due to the high waves and rocky shores.

Now I'm contemplating a new goal and have been thinking about asking the 'rents to make sure I get to swim in all of the major waterways in the contiguous United States. What do you think? Do you have any goals for your Airstream travels?

Jade Dice

BRN 30301 (IG @TheBabyLegsMcGee)



NTxAC Members' Summer Adventures

Allana Patterson and Tom Jensen at the Calgary Stampede, by Allana Patterson

The famous Calgary Stampede, affectionately known as “The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth,” is a ten-day annual event that takes place every July in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The event has deep roots, tracing back to 1886, and has grown to attract over a million visitors from around the world each year. It is a vibrant celebration of Western heritage, culture, and community spirit. The Stampede features a renowned rodeo with events such as bull riding, barrel racing, and steer wrestling. The Grandstand Show offers nightly performances with music, dance, and fireworks. Stampede Park, the heart of the event, is home to an array of attractions, including a bustling midway with thrilling rides and games, agricultural exhibits displaying livestock and farming innovations, and a diverse range of food vendors serving up everything from deep-fried delicacies to gourmet delights. The festivities begin with the Stampede Parade, featuring marching bands, floats, and cultural performances.

Tom and I had the pleasure of joining 67 other rigs for the first Calgary Stampede National Event Rally which is scheduled to repeat in 2026 - <https://air-streamclub.org/calgary-stampede-national-event-rally>. The Alberta/Saskatchewan Airstream Club did a wonderful job of organizing, planning, and accepting ideas for future rallies.



The Jensen's campsite at Aspen Crossing

There were members from Washington, Arizona, Idaho, Virginia, Oregon, California, Texas, Georgia, and of course, Canada.

We arrived a day before the rally started on Saturday at Aspen Crossing, a huge RV park in Mossleigh, Alberta, about 45 minutes southeast of Calgary. The park was once a tree farm, so the trees were of every variety, especially Aspens. The owner was also a train fanatic, purchased and restored old train cars, and purchased 14 miles of unused rail track on the property. They run a daily Western Alberta History train trip, Halloween Train of Terror,

and a Holiday Polar Express. It was quite impressive. The place has a restaurant and bar, garden, dining car restaurant, gift shop, pond, playground, wedding venue, cabins, and over 300 campsites.

We picked up our registration and goody bags on Saturday. Our rally gift included a lovely small charcuterie board with “Calgary Stampede” and our BRN carved in it.



Tom at Aspen Crossing's entrance

They set up a welcome barn in one of the family campgrounds for pictures, morning coffee, and gathering. Because our son lives in Edmonton, we had the pleasure of having them join us for

NTxAC Members' Summer Adventures, continued

the weekend. I met them in Calgary for an evening at the stampede and the Shania Twain Concert, some fair food, wine, and mom/son time. I had a wonderful visit while Tom stayed in Mossleigh and joined the rally for dinner.



Sunday was a pancake breakfast in the Greenhouse (event room), and afternoon free. We spent that afternoon on the grounds with our son and wife.



Tom and his son

Monday morning, we left by chartered bus (3 buses) for the Stampede grounds. We enjoyed a VIP lunch in the Rangeland Tent with live entertainment, an afternoon 3-hour rodeo, and a couple of hours exploring the fairgrounds. Back on the buses and arrived at campsite around 8:00 for evening socializing.

Tuesday morning was free time, and we boarded the buses after lunch, spending the afternoon at the fairgrounds and an evening at one of the most fantastic Grandstand shows I have ever seen. Chuckwagon



Allana and her daughter-in-law

racers, Indigenous relays, music dance, drone show, and fireworks that would stand up against any 4th of July in the USA. We got in after 1:00 am and slept late the next morning.



Part of the Calgary Grandstand Show



Fireworks at the Calgary Stampede

NTxAC Members' Summer Adventures, continued

Wednesday, we met for a train ride at the Aspen Crossing Train Station, complete with a robbery and gun fight. Later we had a farewell drink gathering, and I was introduced to the Saskatoon Berry Cream Liquor that was to die for.



On Thursday we said farewell to a great group of people with gratitude for the hard work that the organizers put into this rally. We ran into many of the attendees again in August when we got to York.

There's much to see and do near Calgary, especially Banff National Park. We enjoyed Glacier and Waterton on our way to Calgary, and we also went about eleven miles west of Mossleigh to the town of Vulcan. If you're a Trekkie, you must see how this small town has capitalized on the name "Vulcan."

I'm writing about our experience at this rally to encourage you to join them in 2026, maybe before you head to Minot. The weather is ideal, (we never missed being in Texas in July!) I would like to go again since our son is so close; we had so



The train's engineer visits with some of the passengers

much fun...but we are heading to Silver on the River in France next July...look for my article on that one next year!



Tom and Allana



Airstream Sunset

Co-Editor David's Travelogue

October 2025: Nevada, not Vegas

My last two columns have been taking you on a non-linear timeline. I've chosen thematic (Family & Friends and National Parks) rather than chronological destinations. The latter took us from New Mexico to Montana via Arizona, Nevada, California, Nevada (again), and Idaho. This month I'm going back in time up the road to Nevada to highlight a couple desert towns with mining backgrounds — Goldfield and Tonopah.

I've seen Goldfield referred to as a "living ghost town." Growing to become the largest city in Nevada after gold was discovered in 1902, it quickly plateaued as ore was extracted and processed. Population was already in decline when the town was largely destroyed by fire in 1923. From a peak of 20,000 in 1906–1907, the number had dropped more than two-thirds by 1910. Today, only a couple hundred hardy souls are left.

Though there may be more souls inhabiting the town's Pioneer Cemetery than there are living topside, Goldfield isn't a dead town. Several historic buildings survived the 1923 fire and are in various states of restoration.



Wild burros roam Goldfield



The Goldfield subway???

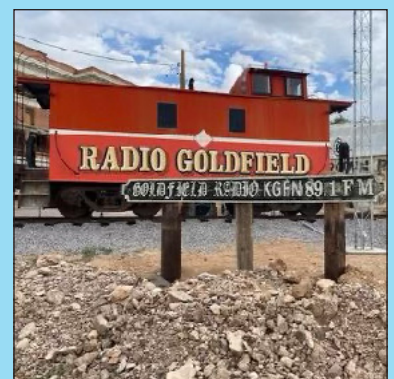
Being the seat of Esmeralda County, the 1907 courthouse is open and worth a quick visit. The 1905 Santa Fe Saloon is still in operation. Kim and I dropped in for a drink and conversation with local patrons while we did laundry at the adjacent motel. Across the street from the saloon is the Historic Bullfrog-Goldfield Railroad Yard. Most notable, perhaps, is the 1908 Goldfield Hotel, luxurious for its time. Still under renovation, and popular amongst ghost hunters, you can arrange with the current owners for a tour.

We stayed several days at the small, well maintained, veteran-owned Goldfield Miner's Camp RV Park, one of at least 3 in town (a sign of Goldfield's ongoing vitality and popularity). There we could easily hear wild burros hee-hawing at night. While we didn't encounter any in the campground,

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A resident of the Pioneer Cemetery who died eating library paste, 1906

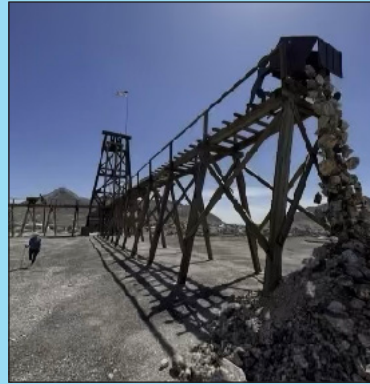


Radio Goldfield sometimes broadcasts from its caboose

Co-Editor David's Travelogue, continued



*Tonopah Mining Park—Mizpah
Mine hoist house and headframe*



*Tonopah Mining Park—
unloading waste ore from the
Silver Top Mine*

we did see some a couple blocks from the saloon. If you're in the area, I'd recommend a stop at the informative Visitor Center, itself a home to many artifacts.

An easy 30-mile drive from Goldfield is Tonopah. Established a couple years before Goldfield, in 1900, it is said the founder, Jim Butler, stumbled upon silver ore while chasing down an errant burro. That discovery led to the second-richest deposit in Nevada's history, after the better-known Comstock Lode in Virginia City.

The larger of the two towns today (pop. about 2,100), Tonopah is known as the "Queen of the Silver Camps." It, too, has an historic hotel (the Mizpah) and is popular among ghost hunters (the Clown Motel is a favorite stop on the paranormal trail). Kim and I spent most of our day there exploring the fascinating 103-acre Tonopah Historic Mining Park, which sits above town on a portion of Jim Butler's original claim.

See you down the road.

David Majkowski,
BRN 5594

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