

October 2025

Inland NW Airstream Club

INSIDER



A VIEW FROM THE HILL

STEPHANIE SHELLEY, PRESIDENT



Stephanie and Betty

I am thrilled and honored to be your President for the INWAC 2025-2026 year.

When my husband and I first joined the club in 2021, we did not know what to expect. We had never been to a rally or an Airstream Club function, but we enthusiastically signed up for all available rallies that year. Our first rally was at the Wine Country RV resort in Prosser, WA. We were warmly welcomed and immediately felt at home with the other members. Needless to say, we were hooked! The following year, we joined the club on a trip to the Albuquerque Balloon Festival and a caravan to the 2022 International Rally in Rock Springs, WY. Friendships were made and cemented on that trip.

In 2023, my husband developed leukemia and passed away in December of that year. My Airstream friends supported and helped me through those difficult times. I realized how special and cherished I was to belong to such a great group of people. I decided to carry on with Airstreaming even though I had no experience pulling a trailer and everything that entailed.

As you might have guessed, members of INWAC, even those I did not know well, educated and helped me in all ways Airstream so that this past year, I participated in the wonderful Caravan to the Oregon Coast along with several other rallies. This club is blessed with kind and generous people some of whom are truly technical geniuses able to troubleshoot just about any problem!

As we look forward to the adventures ahead, I'm excited to share that your brilliant rally and caravan coordinators, in addition to other members of our amazing team, are planning the best rally/caravan season yet for 2026. Please watch for e-mails announcing the rally schedules so that you can arrange your calendars to sign up and join these events. If we do not have a current e-mail for you, please notify Darla DeLarm, our membership chair, at darladelarm@gmail.com.

I am eager to work alongside our dedicated members, listen to your ideas, and continue to foster the spirit of camaraderie and exploration that defines our club. Together, we will build upon our rich history, celebrate our shared passion for the Airstream lifestyle, and create new memories on the open road.

Thank you for your trust and support. I can't wait to hit the road together and see what exciting journeys await us!

Stephanie

Officers 2025-2026

President: Stephanie Shelley

1st VP: Gary Varrella

2nd VP: Michael Lane

Secretary: Becky Amend

Treasurer: Thomas O'Donnell

Trustee: Lee Owen

Trustee: Yvonne Theodor

Past President: Steve Tabacek



Officer installation, Troy, Montana

Here are the dates for the INWAC Board Meetings to add to your calendars.

With a few exceptions, meetings will be scheduled for the

FIRST THURSDAY of the month

from 6:30pm-8pm

on ZOOM

Please note the changes below.

November 6, 2025 Thursday 6:30-8pm

December 3, 2025 Wednesday 6:30-8pm (*NOTE CHANGE*)

January 8, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm (*NOTE CHANGE DUE TO HOLIDAYS*)

February 5, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

March 5, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

April 2, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

May 7, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

June 4, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

July 2, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

August 6, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm

September 3, 2026 Thursday 6:30-8pm



Let's rally



together



As the 2025 Rally Season winds down, we've been busy behind the scenes planning for an exciting 2026! You may have already noticed some Caravans for next year opening up—and filling quickly! If you missed out on those, don't worry—there are plenty of other great opportunities to come together with your Airstream community.

We currently have 11 confirmed rallies for 2026, kicking off with the All INWAC Rally in Prosser, May 1–4. Our goal is to offer members a mix of new adventures and fan-favorite destinations throughout the camping season. We're also working more closely with our Region 10 neighbors to explore the possibility of joint rallies—a fun way to expand our community and experiences.

Here are some key dates to mark on your calendar:

- **Early November** – Announcement of all confirmed 2026 rallies, including locations and schedule
- **November 15** – Sign-ups open for select rallies requiring early reservations
- **January 10** – General sign-ups open for most 2026 rallies (note this is a little later than our traditional January 1 date)
- **March 14** – Sign-ups open for remaining rallies

Have an idea for a rally location? We'd love to hear from you! Contact **Linda Hall** at inwacrallycoordinator@gmail.com.



Rallying around “The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth”

by Linda Hall

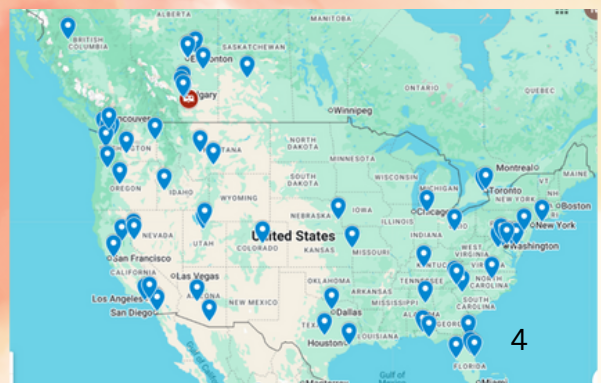
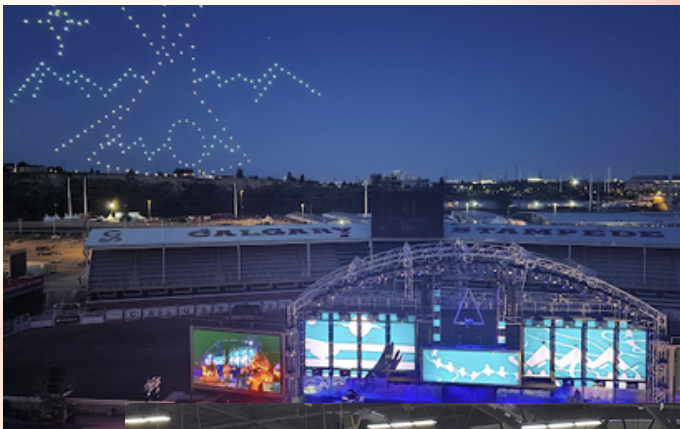
Michael and I recently joined the very first Calgary Stampede National Rally—and what an unforgettable adventure it turned out to be! From the moment we arrived, our Canadian neighbors rolled out the red carpet with warm hospitality, seamless coordination, and plenty of fun.

The weekend kicked off with a Grapes & Grains “Sip of Diamond Valley” pre-rally, where we spent a day exploring the scenic valley southeast of Calgary. Highlights included a fascinating tour of a historic ranch and a stop at a modern speakeasy—an experience that blended old and new in the best way.

By the time the rally officially got underway, the Aspen Crossing campground was buzzing with 64 Airstreams from across the U.S. and Canada. With time for local sightseeing and a bit of relaxation, we were perfectly primed for two jam-packed days at the Stampede. Thanks to the rally, we enjoyed first-class transportation, excellent seats, and plenty of time to soak in the energy and excitement of the “Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.”

True to ACI tradition, we arrived not knowing a soul, reconnected with people we met from International last October, and left with a circle of new Airstream friends from both sides of the border.

A quick side note: We had originally planned to pair the Stampede Rally with a trip to Banff and Jasper National Parks. Many attendees did just that, but we decided to dodge the peak-season crowds and made a separate Rockies trip in late May with INWAC members Julie and Jeff Becker. That choice proved wise—it was an incredible adventure on its own! Inspired by both journeys, we’re already dreaming up ideas for a 2027 Rolling Rally through the Canadian Rockies.



Attendees came from all over North America



Save The date



December 7, 2025

Mark your calendars to save the date for our annual Holiday get together

**Outlaw Barbecue Spokane Valley
at 12:30pm Dec. 7th**

Watch your email for an official invite! Hope you'll join us!

Looking Ahead: 2026 International Rally in Minot, ND

Minot, North Dakota may not be on your bucket list—but it's the site of the Airstream Club International's 2026 Rally, and that makes it worth considering!

Since joining the Airstream community nearly two years ago, I've learned a couple of important things about travel:

1. You'll find surprising and fun things in places you least expect.
2. Airstream rallies are fun—even for us introverts.
3. So far, 8 rigs and 15 members from INWAC are already registered, with more considering the trip. Some plan to arrive a day early, while others will roll in on August 22.

Travel Plans in the Works

We'll coordinate meet-up spots for those who want to arrive and camp together at the rally. In the meantime, members are already mapping potential routes.

Draft Rolling Rally: The Tabaceks and Hall/Lanes have outlined a plan for a fast trip out to Minot, followed by a more relaxed return through the Black Hills, Yellowstone, and surrounding areas. Expected to take about 20 nights / 21 days --returning to Spokane around September 8 (subject to adjustments).

What's a Rolling Rally?

It's simple: the hosts share their route and reservations so others can book along the way and join in for all—or just part—of the trip. Hosts also help coordinate travel between stops as needed.

Stay in the Loop

Want updates on our club's plans for the 2026 Minot International Rally?
Email Linda at: inwacallycoordinator@gmail.com

Excerpt from [ACI's web page dedicated to the International Rally:](#)

Why Minot? Why not Minot?!

This hidden gem in the heart of the northern plains is already rolling out the red carpet for Airstreamers. Known as the "Magic City" for its rapid growth and welcoming spirit, Minot blends small-town charm with big-sky adventure. Explore local favorites like the Roosevelt Park Zoo, Scandinavian Heritage Park, and the stunning views at nearby Lake Sakakawea. The downtown is filled with locally-owned shops, breweries, and restaurants that celebrate North Dakota's rich culture and hospitality.

What: The 69th Airstream International Rally

When: August 22–27, 2026

Where: North Dakota State Fair Center in Minot, ND

Activities: The event will include seminars, live music, art exhibits, and shopping.

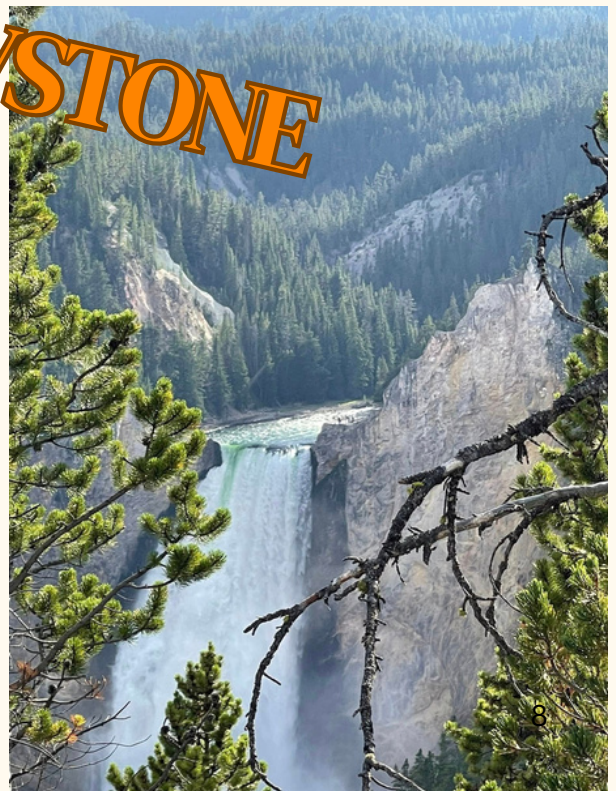
Registration: Registration for the 2026 rally opened in August 2025, and it is reportedly selling out quickly.



Gary Varrella and Linda Muir hosted a beautiful rally in West Yellowstone this summer. A small group of Airstreamers met to camp along Hegben Lake and enjoy fishing, wildlife, amazing scenery, wildlife and time together.

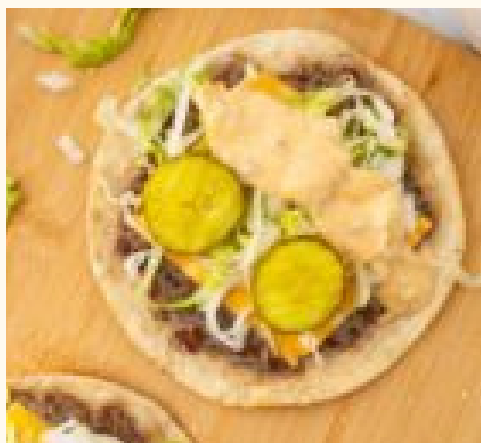


Hosts Gary Varrella and Linda Muir



RECIPE

[Click here to go to the recipe](#)



During this years Caravan to the Coast potluck, members raved about Darla DeLarm's smash burger tacos! She has been kind enough to share the recipe she used and the link [here](#).



Craig and Darla DeLarm

The DeLarm's have a new Blackstone Adventure grill. It's a lighter more portable version due to a Teflon surface.

Craig says he likes the Adventure Blackstone. It's compact and cleans up easily. One downside is that it's non-stick, not cast iron, so you cannot use metal utensils on it. That keeps it light.



Smash Burger Tacos

★★★★★

4.93 from 13 votes

If you haven't heard of the viral sensation smash burger tacos that have been taking social media by storm, then you're in for a treat! This quick-cooking, deliciously-greasy smash burger and taco hybrid is a fantastic "burger" to make on the griddle or in a cast iron skillet!

Prep Time 10 mins	Cook Time 5 mins	Total Time 20 mins
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Course: burgers, Main Course Cuisine: American

Keyword: big mac smash burger tacos, cheeseburger tacos, smash burger tacos, smashburger tacos

Servings: 6 burger tacos Author: Neal Williams

Ingredients

- 1 lb ground beef 80/20 or 85/15
- 6 tortillas (about 6" in diameter)
- salt and pepper or burger seasoning of your choice
- 6 slices American cheese
- 2 cups shredded iceberg lettuce
- ¼ onion diced
- 12-18 dill pickle slices

For the Burger Sauce:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup sweet relish
- 1 tablespoon mustard
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon salt

Instructions

1. **Make the burger sauce.** Add all ingredients to a small bowl. Whisk until all ingredients are incorporated. Cover and refrigerate for at least one hour.
2. Preheat griddle or cast iron skillet over medium heat. For griddle cooking, the temperature should be about 450°F.
3. **Make the burger balls.** Divide ground beef into 6 portions that are about 2.5-3 ounces each (about ¾ cup measuring cup loosely packed). Gently roll the beef into balls, being careful to not overwork the meat.
4. Place one burger ball onto the heated griddle or skillet, and place a tortilla on top of the ball. Use a burger press or a stiff spatula to push down firmly until your burger is flat, and cook for 3-4 minutes on the first side.
5. Using a spatula, scrape around the edges of the burger to loosen it from the griddle or skillet and flip. Immediately sprinkle the top of the smash burger with salt and pepper or your favorite burger seasoning, and top with a slice of American cheese. Cover for about 1-2 minutes until cheese melts. Then remove from the griddle or skillet. Repeat for remaining burger balls.
6. Top with lettuce, onion, 2-3 pickle slices, and burger sauce. Serve warm.

Notes

- Be careful and watch the burger tacos while cooking. Since the patties are very thin, they only need a few minutes.
- A hot griddle or skillet works best for making smash burgers and smash burger tacos. If your cooking surface is not hot enough, you won't get that perfectly crispy and browned burger crust.
- As with regular smash burgers, the beef patty will be sticking to the griddle surface when it's time to flip. Just use some force with your spatula to scrape underneath the patty so that the browned burger crust isn't left behind when you flip.

traveling

Have you even considered or attended a National Event Rally like
The Calgary Stampede, The Pendleton RoundUp...?
You can find information on all the ACI National Event Rallies here:
<https://airstreamclub.org/nationalevents>

Here's one to consider! Ever wanted to rally on a river in France?
It's fun to travel together in our Airstreams but traveling with
Airstreamers in Europe?!
On a cruise?!
To learn more, see below!



Silver on the River - ACI National Event Rally

- Custom itinerary in France on the Rhone River with a full boat charter
- for our Airstream Club group
- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Luxury Cruises
- Check the ACI website for complete details
- <https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>
- Airstream Club friends and family welcome!
- Space is limited, sign up today!

Sailing
July 15-22
2026

Registration
Now Open!

National Event Rally, Silver on the River? This is a 7-day river cruise in France next July with opportunities to do some touring as a group in France before and after the cruise; all arranged by a travel agent who is also an ACI member.

Last July's Silver on the Seas cruise to Alaska was a success, but now, after all is over, I'm hearing from many people that they wish they had known about it so they could have signed up.

-Jason Grendahl, Event Host, Silver on the River 2026
jasongrendahl@gmail.com



GIVING BACK



In April our INWAC Rally/Caravan Committee hosted our first ALL INWAC Rally at the Wenatchee County RIVER RV Park. Gary Varrella sold raffle tickets and the Suzanne Caron (and Mike Caron) donated items for the raffle. Together we raised and donated \$355 for/to the Wenatchee County Humane Society. The humane society continues to do great work thanks to donations like ours. So proud of our club for giving back to the communities we spend time in during our Rallies and Caravans. Good stuff everyone!



- ✦ **Want to stay connected with your INWAC friends all year long?**
- ✦ **Curious about what rallies and caravans are coming up?**
- ✦ **Have ideas for how we can make our adventures even better?**

If so, we'd love to have you join the Rally & Caravan Committee!
This friendly group meets just once a month
(typically the 4th Monday 10–11 a.m. on Zoom)
to share updates, brainstorm, and shape the future of our gatherings.

**Reach out to Linda Hall (inwacrallycoordinator@gmail.com)
or
Andrea Lloyd (inwaccaravans@gmail.com) to learn more and get involved.**

P.S. Joining the committee doesn't mean you're signing up to host a rally or caravan.
No hosting experience necessary.