



Airstream Club International

Region X-tra

Traveling the West

Newsletter



Jan. 2026

airstreamclub.org/region10

Winter Issue

Officers & Committee Chairs

President: Susan McPhee
Region10@airstreamclub.org

1st Vice President: Jerry
Kavalieratos airstreamjerry@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President: Lance Zielinski
lancezairstream@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Angela
Schock
angela.m.schock@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bryan Paul Grassi
bgrassi@thewiredcity.net

Membership Chair: Fabian Mills
fabianmills@gmail.com

Caravan Chair: Mark Babcock
MarkBabcock21@icloud.com

Nominating Committee: Terri
Warren twestover@mac.com

Contributing Editor: Florence
Tramoni airstreamregion10@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Carolyn White
airstream355@gmail.com

Webmaster: Brian Welcker brian.welcker@gmail.com

Parliamentarian: Vacant

President's Message



**Hello and Happy New Year,
Region 10!**

Welcome to 2026! Camping season will be here before we know it, and like many of you, I'm already enjoying the return of longer days and looking forward to time on the road with fellow Airstreamers.

In November, I had the pleasure of traveling to Jackson Center for an Airstream Club International Strategy Session, where the entire International Board of Trustees gathered in person.

Airstream, Inc. graciously hosted us in their conference facilities, and it was truly a treat to be back at the factory and spend time with many of our key partners.

Just as we experience when visiting our local clubs, meeting face-to-face made a meaningful difference. Those in-person connections strengthen teamwork, deepen understanding, and remind us why our volunteer community works as well as it does.

While there were many action items and takeaways from the meetings, one message in particular stayed with me. Mollie Hansen, Chief Marketing Officer for Airstream, shared that our partnership is vital to their business because *they deliver the Airstream, and we provide the hug.*

That idea led to many thoughtful conversations about **inclusion**—and how we can continue to widen our reach and welcome more people into our club. This spirit of welcome is deeply rooted in our history. *(continued on page 2)*

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



Above: IBT Strategy Meeting November 2025

Wally Byam, the founder of Airstream and our club, believed strongly in bringing people together through shared experiences, friendship, and a sense of belonging. From the earliest caravans, his vision was that everyone—regardless of background or circumstance—would feel welcome around the campfire. Some of the ideas shared at the international level included:

- Hosting happy hours after work hours so working members can attend
- Avoiding teasing or shaming those who need to work from their trailers
- Including activities that children will enjoy

- Celebrating children at rallies by introducing them and perhaps offering a small goody bag

I brought these conversations to the Region 10 Board Meeting in December, where they were warmly received. Our board added several excellent ideas of our own, including:

- Seeking out inclusive rally venues
- Noting ADA-compliant sites and ease of access for members with mobility considerations in rally information
- Planning activities that appeal to children and younger adults
- Making a point to welcome newcomers—*being the hug* when you see someone new at a rally or event

I love the idea of keeping inclusion top of mind in 2026 and beyond. By doing so, we strengthen our community, grow our membership, and ensure that everyone feels welcome and valued.

Let's be the hug.

Wishing you a wonderful New Year and many happy miles ahead.

Warm regards,
Susan McPhee, President, Region 10
Airstream Club International

Right: Susan McPhee at the Jackson Center Airstream Headquarters



Region 10 Rally ~ June 24-28, 2026 ~ Lottery Registration Details & Dates

To ensure fairness, Region 10 will use a lottery-based registration system for the 2026 Region 10 Rally. Here's the timeline and how it will work:



- **January 5, 2026:** A region-wide email will be sent containing a link to enter the rally lottery.

- **January 12, 2026:** During the Region 10 Board meeting, we will perform a random drawing. All lottery entries will be placed into an Excel spreadsheet and randomized while Club Presidents and Region 10 Board members observe. Each entry will have an equal chance of being selected.

- **January 13, 2026:** Winners will be notified with a registration code and a link to register.

- **Registration window:** Lottery winners will have 3 days from the time they are notified to complete registration using the code we supply. We will give each winner an exact expiration date and time, so please register promptly to avoid losing your spot.

- **January 16, 2026 and beyond:** If any registration codes expire and spots remain available, those places will be offered to people next on the wait list, in random order. This process will continue until all spaces are filled.

If you have questions, please contact your Club President or a Region 10 Board member.



Happier Trails.
The Airstream Adventures Advantage

IT'S A BIG WORLD OUT THERE ON THE ROAD

From Sales to Service, we're committed!

Helping our Guests enjoy every Memory & every Adventure.

Portland | Seattle | Spokane | Boise | Bay Area | Reno
503-558-7650 | 253-245-2450 | 509-233-5150 | 208-218-7100 | 707-389-7290 | 775-799-6550

A huge thank-you to Airstream Adventures and Ultimate Airstreams for their generous support of Region 10 and the 2026 Hood River Rally!

Airstream Adventures is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor for the 2026 Region 10 Rally in Hood River, OR. As long-time supporters of Region 10, Airstream Adventures and Ultimate Airstreams continue to enrich our community through their ongoing partnership.

Both teams will be on-site during the rally, hosting clinics, informational sessions, and showcasing display units for attendees to explore.

Airstream Adventures is one of the largest Airstream-only dedicated dealerships with locations in WA, OR, ID, NV, and CA - from Sales to Service to Parts, we are here to guide you toward the inspiration, confidence, and freedom to explore new lands, create Memories, rekindle old Adventures, strengthen relationships, and experience Happier Trails with the Airstream Adventures Advantage. PortlandAirstream.com.

Ultimate Airstreams is one of the only exclusive factory-authorized Airstream custom builders in the nation. We're Airstream people. Our factory-trained staff and dedicated craftspeople know Airstreams inside and out. Learn more about what makes Ultimate the best in Airstream customization. Designed to Inspire, Built to Last. UltimateAirstreams.com

Editor's Desk ~ Carolyn White

Get ready for the Region 10 Rally, June 24-28, 2026 in Hood River OR by ordering logo wear and merchandise from Tee Public! All the products can be ordered [here](#).



Hint: If you sign up for Tee Public's newsletter, you will be the first to know about sales. All proceeds go directly to your Region 10.

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 March 15 for the Spring 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 maintain warmth 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 Winter 2026 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.

LA28 Olympic Games National Event Rally - Region 10 Members Invited!



10 is gearing up for an unforgettable Airstream adventure, and we're excited to share early details about the **LA28 Olympic Games National Event Rally!** This once-in-a-lifetime experience will bring Airstream Club members together at the **2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games**, blending world-class sport, community celebration, and the spirit of the open road.

The rally is planned for **July 13-20, 2028**, perfectly timed with the Olympic Opening Ceremonies on July 14. Our home base will be **Bonelli Bluffs RV Resort & Campground in San Dimas, CA**, a full-service RV resort located about 40 minutes from major Olympic venues.

As planning continues, **Region 10 is looking for enthusiastic caravan hosts** interested in leading groups of Airstreamers to Southern California for this special event. If you enjoy organizing travel, building community, and helping fellow members make memories, we'd love to hear from you.

If you are interested in serving as a caravan host, please contact our Region 10 caravan chair **Mark Babcock** via email MarkBabcock21@icloud.com or phone 559-801-1433.

More details about rally registration, volunteer opportunities, and Olympic ticketing will be shared as they become available. For now, we encourage members to register for official LA28 ticketing updates at la28.org/ticketing.

Let's make Region 10 shine in 2028 – and start the journey toward an Olympic-sized Airstream adventure!



ULTIMATE

AIRSTREAMS

Designed to Inspire, Built to Last.



Ask about our
72 Hour
MAKEOVER SPECIALS!

16250 SE Evelyn St., Clackamas, OR 97015

503-570-9001

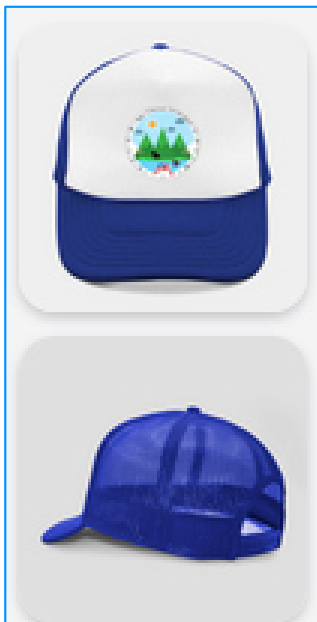
ultimateairstreams.com

Region 10 Logo Wear and More - Great for Rallies - Great for Presents!

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. If you sign up for a newsletter, you will receive updates on sale prices, which are often up to 35% off retail.

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. Three 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.



Check out the new baseball cap hat style, complete with the **2026 Region 10 rally logo**, available [here](#).

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.

Lovefest 2025: Peace, Love & Airstreams! ~ Kathy Geese

The 2025 Joint Oregon/Washington “**Lovefest**” Rally rolled into Bend, Oregon this past September at the beautiful **Sun RV Resort Bend** – and it was far out, man! Nearly 60 happy campers joined in, split evenly between the Oregon and Washington clubs. Our far-out hosts – **Lori Grassi** and **Lesa Welker** from the Washington club, and **Kathy Geese** and **Janet Schober** from the Oregon club– made sure the weekend was packed with fun, laughter, and plenty of good vibes.



The Rally Hosts

Upon arrival, each groovy guest received a themed SWAG bag stuffed with retro goodies like coasters, stickers, and more. Attendees were encouraged to channel their inner flower child – think **bell bottoms, tie-dye, and headbands galore**. Several of the guys even managed to “grow” full heads of hair for the occasion (see photos for

proof)!

proof)!

Sun RV Resort Bend turned out to be the perfect venue – complete with fire pits, a giant hot tub, pickle ball courts, and a cozy clubhouse. Our shiny rigs surrounded a big, grassy gathering spot where we met up each evening for **social hour**. The final night was the ultimate throwback party: 70s costumes, themed potluck dishes, and tunes curated by DJ Lori Grassi had everyone **dancing on the lawn like it was 1975**.



The potluck was pure nostalgia: **Twinkie bites on flamingo toothpicks**, a **Pringles blind taste test**, and of course, **little Smokies in crescent rolls** (gone in minutes!). My personal favorite? A neon green Jell-O salad that somehow turned even the skeptics into believers.

Right: Channeling their inner flower child (and growing hair!)

Left: There goes those Twinkie Bites on flamingo toothpicks!



Lovefest 2025: Peace, Love & Airstreams! ~ Kathy Geese



Pot luck - Green Jell-O Salad

When not partying like it was the disco era, attendees explored Bend's endless attractions – biking, hiking, shopping, wineries, farmers' markets, and perfect weather all weekend long.



More Miraculous Hair!

We wrapped up the rally with a spontaneous open house, where members showed off their trailers – from lovingly restored vintage beauties to creatively personalized modern rigs. It was the perfect way to end a weekend full of laughter, peace, and Airstream love.

We're already thinking about the next **Joint OR/WA Rally in 2026 – this time in Washington!** Until then, keep the good vibes rolling!



Above: Rally Attendees. Right: More hair and Good vibes!



The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ Ray Putnam



Propane Furnace Considerations

Fundamental to any propane operated equipment are the following items:

1. Uses the heat from burning gas.
2. An electrically operated valve which turns on the gas.
3. A method of automatically lighting the gas jet.
4. The ability to turn off the gas valve if the flame goes out.
5. A means of setting and/or changing the operating temperature.
6. A turn off protective device if it gets too hot.
7. Several protective circuits involving timing of turn-on and turn-off cycles.
8. A good source of 12VDC power to run the circuitry.
9. A source of propane that provides the correct gas pressure (11" of water).

Terms:

Thermometer	Sensor that measures temperature and usually provides a visual reading
Thermocouple	Generates a voltage as a function of temperature (millivolt levels)
Thermostat	Opens or closes a switch as a function of temperature
Thermistor	Changes resistance as a function of temperature
eco or E.C.O.	Temperature activated electrical cut-off switch.

Old style manually lighted pilot flame. Hold a spring-loaded switch till the flame stays on. A wall mounted thermostat can now close a switch when the ambient temperature reaches the level you have set. This provides the final voltage to the relay controlled, gas valve that turns on the furnace. If the flame goes out the gas valve turns off and you must re-light by resetting the spring-loaded switch.

New style furnaces use a direct-spark ignition that effectively turns on the main gas valve and lights it, using an electrical spark. Once the preset temperature has been reached, the thermostat opens and shuts off the gas supply. It has several electric circuit boards that control the turn-on and turn-off cycles. RV furnaces use 12 VDC to operate the gas valve and electronic circuits.

Troubleshooting.

Good trouble shooters are worth their weight in gold to any service shop. You usually find two basic types; (1) Those who learn how a system works and understand the different functions which must occur and (2) those who have fixed so many systems over the years and learned what usually goes wrong.

The technician who has fixed a hundred refrigerators can look at a problem, check the Model number and go right to the defective component. He may not know how the furnace or fridge actually works or the operating principles. He quickly finds the bad component, has it in stock (because he knows what usually fails) and makes the repair. This fixes the problem (replacing a bad component, tightening a wire, fixing a ground lead, etc.) takes a minimal amount of time and effort. Determining the problem (troubleshooting) is what is most difficult and takes the longest. *(Continued on page 10)*

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ (continued from page 9)

Since it is not likely that one will be spending enough time to gain years of experience in fixing our RV appliances our best approach is (1) learn how it works, (2) learn how to isolate the problem, (3) learn how to make some simple safe tests and (4) learn when to stop and get an expert.

Being able to succinctly state the problem as well as any applicable environmental factors is needed regardless of whether you tackle the problem yourself or take it to a repair shop. The better you define the problem the less trouble shooting time that will be required. If you can, you should try to isolate the problem to a subsystem. For propane appliances the subsystems could include:

- (a) Gas components (Valve, sparker, gas connectors, combustion chamber, jet)
- (b) Electronic section (Circuit Boards, fuses, High voltage source, switches)
- (c) Electrical parts (heating elements, thermostats, motors, connectors, wiring)
- (d) Mechanical components (motors, fans, ducts, covers)

Instead of just wading in and testing components one after the other get the instruction manual out and read how the sequence of operation is supposed to occur. Observe each step and try to verify that each operation is correct.

Keep in mind that you should have two sources of heat for your Airstream. The unit comes with a furnace with one design or another. Consider having an electrical heater that will back-up your operation when necessary.

Safety is number one! See you SAFELY down the road. Happy trails to you! - WBAC #7007.

SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Airstream Adventures' 5-Rivet Service Centers



Our Factory-Trained Service Technicians are some of the best in the business. And, if your trip is ever threatened by a mechanical issue, we snap into full emergency mode to find answers that get you back to adventuring ASAP. Just one more reason to choose Airstream Adventures. Find out for yourself - schedule today and be ready for YOUR next adventure.

Portland	Seattle	Spokane	Boise	Bay Area	Reno
503-558-7650	253-245-2450	509-233-5150	208-218-7100	707-389-7290	775-799-6550

Cooking Under Pressure ~ Carolyn White

Since its appearance on the market in 2010, the Instant Pot® has become a staple kitchen appliance for fast and efficient pressure cooking. RVers have embraced this handy cooking tool because of the aforementioned features.

But . . . what if you don't have access to electricity? Depending on the model, an Instant Pot® draws 700 to 1200 watts while running, which may strain a battery/inverter system.

Unless your rig is set up to be all electric, you probably have a propane stove or cooktop for cooking. What if I told you that you could achieve the magical cooking properties of the Instant Pot® without electricity?

The pressure cooker was invented in 1679 by French physicist Denis Papin. Over the years, advancements in materials and safety features transformed Papin's "steam digester" into the modern appliances we use today. Until the advent of the Instant Pot®, the pressure cooker relied on an external power/heat source. (More on that later.) These "stand alone" pressure cookers often had a bad reputation for failure, mostly due to the relatively inexpensive "jiggle top" cookers and improper ingredient preparation.

I know this from my experience 50 years ago after cleaning split pea soup off a twelve-foot-high kitchen ceiling! At the time, I used a Presto jiggle top cooker, which was prone to issues with split peas, especially without the proper amount of oil to prevent frothing.

I persevered in my pressure cooking adventures, trying out several brands along the way. My motivation for this faster, more efficient way of cooking came from boondocking and boating where I had a limited supply of propane and no electrical source.

At a boat show in 1995, I watched a demo for a Swiss-made, Kuhn-Rikon Duromatic® 4-quart, special edition, risotto pressure cooker. I was in love! I appreciated the safety features lacking in my old jiggle top, the ear-shaped handles on each side (no long handle on this model for ease of storage in tight spaces), and the magic pressure indicator red rings (see below). I was impressed by the 10-year warranty and availability of replacement gaskets and valves.



FIVE SAFETY FEATURES OF THE DUOMATIC® PRESSURE COOKER



CLOSING FIXTURE

1. Safety pin prevents pressure build-up when the lid is not fully closed. In addition, any residual steam is ejected automatically when the lid is opened.

2. Automatic lid lock

The bayonet lock ensures that the cover cannot be turned or opened under pressure.

RELIEF MECHANISMS IN CASE OF OVERPRESSURE

3. Main valve ensures that steam automatically escapes at an overpressure of 12 bar.

4. The safety valve under the valve cover is an additional pressure relief valve and automatically discharges steam at an overpressure of 15 bar.

5. The safety window The rubber gasket is automatically pressed out of the safety window at an overpressure of 2.4 bar so that the steam can escape.

In the 30+ years I've owned my Kuhn-Rikon cookers (yes, I own three now) I replaced the main gasket once and one SI valve. I use my pressure cookers almost every day as they provide a quick and easy way to prepare a home-cooked meal. Yes, the Kuhn Rikon pressure cookers are at the high end pricewise and, like any great investment, will give you years of practical service. *(continued on page 12)*

Cooking Under Pressure ~ *(continued from page 11)*

Comparisons

I have used my son's Instant Pot® (IP). It's OK and I prefer the "stand alone" cooker (KR) for the following reasons:

1. The KR base pot can be used as regular pot for boiling water, cooking pasta, etc. This double duty use is handy if you have limited storage in your rig.
2. The IP relies on electronic circuitry and heating elements. If either fails, you are SOL. Parts, if needed, are readily available for the KR.
3. If you need to reduce pressure quickly and cool the contents, the KR can go from stovetop directly into a cool water bath. I use this technique with my risotto recipe. Don't try this with an IP (or a lot of other pots!)
4. The KR develops 15 PSI at high pressure whereas the IP reaches 11.6 PSI. At high pressure, the KR cooks faster. This is also a factor when cooking at higher elevations.

The KR can do everything the IP does. My KR came with trivets and baskets. I've cooked everything from rice, veggies, beans, grains, cranberry sauce, soups, hard-boiled eggs, traditional puddings, cakes, and roasts. One feature that the IP has over the KR is the set and forget programming. Yes, with the KR, you need to watch when the magic red rings signal that it is time to turn down the heat to low and start your timer. When not using propane, I employ the timer function on my induction cooktop and then, in most instances, leave the pot on the stove and let the pressure come down naturally.

Cooking Surfaces

The KR is friends with most cooking surfaces. I do favor an induction cooktop as, when the temperature is turned down to low, the temperature drops immediately. We have an induction cooktop at home and a single "burner" unit for our rig. I have used this unit with an inverter and a half power (setting of 5 out of 10). This draws about 600 - 700 watts and I've managed to get my KR up to full pressure on this setting in a bit more time than at full power.



Propane and natural gas are my next favorite heating source, as, when the flame is reduced to low, the temperature drops quickly. My least favored cooking surface is the coiled electric element. I've found that I need to remove the pot temporarily from the element and either move to a different element already set on low heat or let the element cool down to low and then replace the pot.

[Cooking Under Pressure](#) by Lorna Sass is an excellent resource for all things pressure cooking. Written in 1989, this book, along with her Ecological Cooking book, were my resources for success. Happy Cooking Under Pressure!

Left: My 4 L, 30 year-old Kuhn Rikon in action on my induction cooktop. Once the magic red pressure rings indicated high pressure, I turned the heat level to 2 (low) and set the timer to 5 minutes'

One Pot Wonders - Quinoa and Black Beans~ Carolyn White

This easy and hearty one pot wonder only takes about a half hour to prepare and cook. Some quinoa brands pre-rinse their product. If the package doesn't state this, then do rinse the quinoa. I also use "Better than Bullion" to make the vegetable stock.

Ingredients:

2 T olive or avocado oil	1 C quinoa, rinsed
1 medium onion, finely chopped	2 C vegetable stock
1 medium sweet red pepper, finely chopped	1 C frozen corn
2 t chili powder	1 - 15 oz can black beans, rinsed and drained
¼ t pepper	1/3 C plus 2 T minced fresh cilantro, divided
¼ t salt	

Instructions:

1. In a large skillet or Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add onion, red pepper, celery and seasonings; cook and stir 5-7 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
2. Stir in stock and corn; bring to a boil. Stir in quinoa. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, 12-15 minutes or until liquid is absorbed.
3. Add beans and 1/3 cup cilantro; heat through, stirring occasionally. .
4. Sprinkle with remaining cilantro before serving.

Region 10 Airstream Clubs

[Alberta/Saskatchewan Club #120](#)

[British Colombia Airstream Club #121](#)

[Idaho Airstream Club #035](#)

[Montana Airstream Club #061](#)

[NW Inland Airstream Club #179](#)

[Oregon Airstream Club # 090](#)

[Washington Airstream Club #112](#)

Region 10 Club/Unit Presidents

Mary Culshaw culshawot@gmail.com

Karen Griffin sorrelsky3@yahoo.com

Rick Mattson rickmattson@telus.net

Tony Wilson trons4u@gmail.com

Rande Farrow rande1216@hotmail.com

Stephanie Shelley ponedal3@msn.com

Fabian Mills fabianmills@gmail.com

Lesa Welcker lesawelcker@hotmail.com

Upcoming Region 10 Rallies

Region 10 Rally Hood River, Oregon June 24-28, 2026 (See Page 3 for Registration information)

[Calgary Stampede Rally, Calgary AB July 4-9, 2026](#)

[Potlatch Reunion Rally, Olympia WA July 29-Aug 2, 2026](#)

[Pendleton Round-Up Rally, Pendleton, OR Sept. 14-29, 2026](#)

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