

# Greater Bay Area Airstream Club Newsletter March 2026



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President's Message  
Jill Impink

In February, Region 12 President, Shawn Blom, held an informal Zoom call to “check in” with all area presidents. It was nice to be on the call, meeting other club presidents and discussing current club events and issues. Most clubs are doing great, but many share the same concerns.

The first one is building their future executive boards. The GBAAC has a tiered board, with 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-VP positions, which makes learning gradual so that by the time you reach the presidential position, you know the job. There are many perks to being on the board, and of course, the club wouldn't exist without our volunteers! We have a wonderfully knowledgeable and respectful board that works well together. Most importantly, we are friends through our shared love for our Airstreams and the club!

And secondly, how to attract more or new members to attend rallies. The topic of how to reach club members who don't attend rallies comes up often in our club and in others. Rallies are the lifeblood of our club; it's how we interact with each other, out in our airstreams, sharing stories around the campfire, taking meals together, and making lifelong friends. As a club, this is what we do! We have tried many ways to learn what “YOU” want from your club and from rallies, including surveys. Based on the surveys, we learned that some of you are willing to travel great distances, while others prefer to stay closer to home; some are working full-time jobs, and are busy raising families, others are busy with grandchildren, or are managing aging parents, you know, the sandwich generation. This is life. One challenge our club faces is meeting campground requirements to book a year in advance; this isn't helpful, as a lot can change in a year.

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### **President's Message continued**

We recommend that you sign up for the rally you want to attend and, if you missed the registration, add your name to the waitlist. I personally have attended rallies from the waitlist. Also, thanks to the survey, we were able to implement a pre-rally release email to ensure you have plenty of notice before a rally is released. This is something you asked for, and the feedback has been positive.

In short, we are here for you, and our goal is to listen to you when you have something to say. Please let us know if there is anything you would like us to know, and I encourage you to get involved to keep our club alive with new energy and ideas!

**Jill Impink**

**President GBAAC**

## **2026 Rallies**

Check out the Rallies below. Remember if you volunteer to host / co-host, you will be given the ability to sign up for the rally in advance of the event being released to the general membership. Hosting lets you go to a location you want and no waitlist!

<b>2026 GBAAC Rally Schedule</b>					
<b>Club</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Campground &amp; Location</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Co-Host</b>	<b>Notes</b>
GBAAC	Mar 12 - 16	Harbor Village RV Park, Half Moon Bay	Dennis Shakespeare	Maria Deguzman	30 sites held - released
Region 12	April 16 - 19	Cali Rally - V6 Ranch, Parkfield	Region 12		Released - full, sign up for waitlist
GBAAC	April 23 - 26	Lake Camanche	Chris Martindill	Joann & Marc Godoy	Released
GBAAC	April 29 - May 3	Rober Ferguson Observatory, Kenwood	Mike & Shawn Blom	Eric & LaVerne McHenry	Off-grid, full with waitlist
GBAAC	May 21 - 26	Calistoga Fairgrounds	Mike Blom - GBAAC	Jason Grendahl - Grapes & Grains	Joint GBAAC/Grapes & Grains - Released, full
GBAAC	June 4 - 7	Six Sigma Ranch, Lower Lake	Mike Blom	Tony Eichers	Off-grid, wagon wheel! Released, still open
GBAAC	June 18-22	Village Camp Truckee (formerly Coachland)	Shelley Denyer	Simon Yen	Released
GBAAC	July 9 -13	Santa Cruz Redwoods RV Resort	Ken Lalanne & Linda Weissman	TBD	Released, spots available
ACI National	July 15 - 22	Silver on the River - Cruise	Jason Grendahl	Melisa Richardson	Released, spots open - sign up via ACI
ACI	Aug 22 - 27	International Rally - Minot, ND			Released - sign up va ACI
GBAAC	Sept 24 - 27	Grass Valley	Jill Impink	Anita Cushing	Released - full, sign up for waitlist
GBAAC	Oct 15 - 19	Newbie Rally - Napa Valley Expo RV Park	TBD	TBD	29 sites reserved
Region 12	Oct 28 - 1	Oasis Las Vegas RV Park	Region 12		April release

## Rally Anxiety

This is a follow up to the Rally Anxiety note that was posted in the Region 12 Newsletter recently. Your R12 President has received several emails and calls regarding the points brought up in the article and we want to expand on how best to cope with any anxiety you may have.

It does not matter if you are a new Airstream owner or not, sometimes going to rallies can be worrisome. Below are some things that may be concerning and a few strategies to manage.

- Hard to sign up on time
- Worried you won't know anyone
- Concerned there are cliques, and you won't be accepted
- People will laugh at:
  - parking/backup skills
  - camp setup
  - how you dump tanks
  - everything

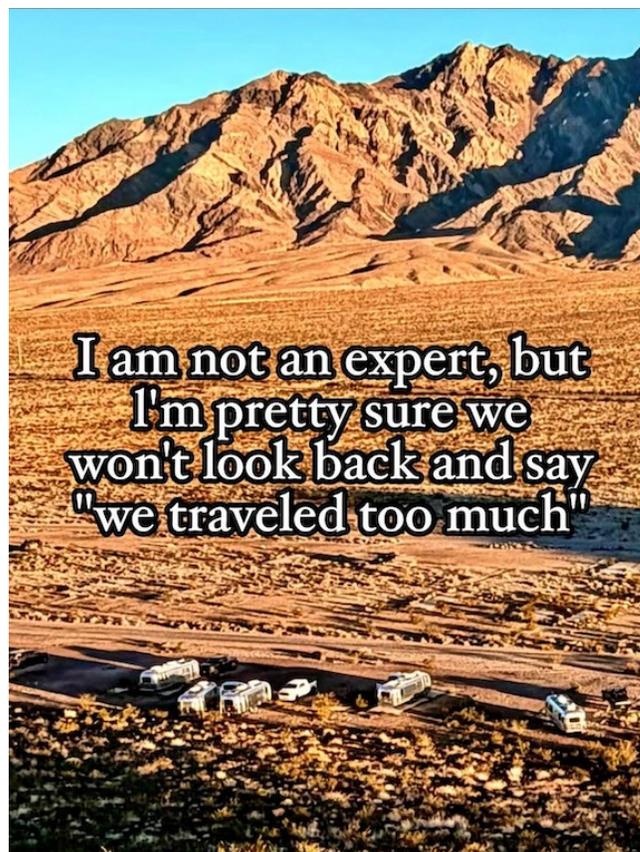
How to combat the above concerns.

- Note the release dates in this newsletter and if unsure, contact club leadership. Be persistent for those locations you want to go to.
- Don't be afraid to get onto a waitlist. Some campgrounds require the club to book a year in advance and attendee plans constantly change.
- If you are on a waitlist, do not be afraid to ask the rally host how far down the list you are. All hosts are friendly!
- Don't be afraid to look beyond your local club. Checking the Airstream Club website will show you a world of possibilities.

- Everyone remembers going to their first rally and understands that being a Newbie can be intimidating. Most rallies have a happy hour where campers introduce themselves. Talk to the host before going to the rally. If it would make you feel more comfortable have the host pair you with an experienced camper that can take you under their wing and help you with everything from parking to hooking up your utilities to introducing you to other campers.
- You will find a diverse group of people at rallies. No matter what your interests, you will find like-minded individuals.

We all rally to share new experiences and meet new people. Do not be afraid to reach out and you will benefit in countless ways!

## Beyond Rallies



The above photo of Airstreams set against rugged mountain backdrop was taken

recently. The participants were not from one local area but from as far away as Texas. While this newsletter tends to focus on rallies and how we can attend or tips for camping, the broader goal is for all of us to knit together a cloth of new friends and experiences.

Many of you still work or have children that need attention. There are windows of time, however, that you can use to explore new locations. The group camping above met Airstreamers from Vancouver, WA and Salem, OR. Just getting out and not being afraid to extend a handshake to an Airstream stranger can yield amazing results. Do not be afraid if the Airstream does not have a BRN. Our new friends from Salem had just received their trailer and had not had time to put on their Big Red Numbers, but they appreciated a welcome smile and an invite to sit and visit. We now have new friends and share the same bond that holds all of us together, Airstreams and the love of exploration.

## Membership Engagement

Your club has two groups that meet every month. Your Executive Board and our Rally Committee. Other than the day-to-day details of running the club, managing expenses and communications, both groups are focused on making our club the best it can be for our members. As much as leadership is focused on our members there is a part missing, you!

Jill talks about the survey we did last year. That information is invaluable to help guide the EB and Rally Committee. As a club, we do not want to solely rely on a year-old document. Essentially, we would like to invite you to participate more frequently.



There are many ways you can interact with your club leadership. Email or call us! Our contact information is on the first page of this newsletter. Maybe you just had a great time camping at a new campground, or you have a favorite campground you go to frequently. Would your campground be a great location for a rally? Or do you have a location that is a perfect location for a flash rally. A place that we can advertise last minute for a simple trailer gathering. Let your leadership know.

Have you found a great hack or tip that can save campers time? Did you just come back from a “bucket list” trip that thrilled you? Drop your leadership a note. Recipes or cooking techniques for off-grid camping. New technology that makes staying in touch is always a timely topic. We would love to showcase your ideas and experiences on these pages. Please let us know!



**Photos From Rallies & More – Come Join The Fun!**



Upcoming Calistoga Rally – Sterling Vineyards



Beautiful morning at Coyote Lake Rally



Wildrose Charcoal kilns



Campfires are the bedrock of Airstreaming



Petaluma KOA



Manzanar Internment Camp



Airstreamer falling into a crater

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