



Greater Bay Area Airstream Club Newsletter September 2026



2026 GBAAC Officers

Jill Impink
President

Club018@AirstreamClub.org

650-867-5234

Linda Weissman
1st Vice President

Lindajweissman@hotmail.com

Rebecca Schapp
2nd Vice President

rebecca.schapp@gmail.com

Darrin Lopez
3rd Vice President

uncled323@sbcglobal.net

Serena Lopez
Treasurer

SerenalopezGBAAC@gmail.com

Jason Grendahl
Secretary

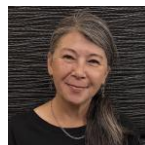
JasonGrendahl@gmail.com

Andrea Grendahl
Webmaster

AndreaGrendahl@gmail.com

Eleanor McFarlin
Membership Chairperson
Eleanormcf28@gmail.com

Mike Blom
Past President
Mike@grapecounter.com



President's Message
Jill Impink

What a memorable time we had at the International Rally in August! Wayne and I (and Lulu, of course!) had the pleasure of traveling to Minot, North Dakota, with a few club members in a rolling caravan. We made one-night stops in Nevada, Idaho, and Montana before spending three nights in Medora, North Dakota. While in Medora, we enjoyed the famous Medora Musical, explored Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and visited the brand-new library. All were incredible, and I highly recommend adding Medora to your list if you ever find yourself in this part of the country. Our mighty little caravan group bonded over happy hours, shared meals, and seeing parts of our beautiful country together.

We arrived at the International Rally in Minot on August 21, where we spent the week with about 1,000 enthusiastic Airstreamers from across the U.S. and Canada. The International Rally planning team and the City of Minot, along with hundreds of club volunteers, truly knocked it out of the ballpark, putting on a monumental event for all of us to enjoy.

There were countless opportunities to learn something new, meet the companies that repair, maintain, and “upfix” our Airstreams, and enjoy music, food, and plenty of social events. I also attended sessions on a variety of club-related topics, including the ACI leadership town hall, which was very informative.

But my biggest takeaway was a simple reminder of why we joined the club in the first place: **friendship, camaraderie, and adventure**. It's the people we meet, the places we discover, and the experiences we share that make being part of this club so special.

Next year's 70th International Rally will return to Rock Springs, Wyoming, June 26–July 1, 2027. Registration is currently open! You can find more information and register on the ACI website [here](#).

Jill's message continued

A reminder that nominations are open for all GBAAC positions. If you or someone you know is interested in running, please email John McFarlin at johngawlf@yahoo.com. Serving on our board is a rewarding way to support our club, contribute to its future, and be part of the continued growth of our membership.

As summer winds down, the cooler days of fall are a wonderful time to get out and enjoy our Airstreams. We still have three rallies left this year, so be sure to check our website for sign-up information.

I hope you can join us—and I look forward to seeing you down the road!

Jill Impink
GBAAC President
BRN #6494



Caravaning with friends



Rally smiles



Sea of Silver

2026 – 2027 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!

2026 GBAAC Rally Schedule					
Club	Dates	Campground & Location	Host	Co-Host	Notes
GBAAC	Sept 7	St Louis Cardinals vs SF Giants @ Oracle Park	Shawn Blom		Released - tickets still available
GBAAC	Sept 24 - 27	Grass Valley	Jill Impink	Anita Cushing	Released - full, sign up for waitlist
Fly Fishing Intra Club	Oct 3 - 10	Sacramento River RV Park, Redding, CA	Joe Glynn		Released - signup here
GBAAC	Oct 15 - 19	Newbie Rally - Napa Valley Expo RV Park	Eric & LaVerne McHenry	Rebecca Schapp	Released - sites available
Region 12	Oct 28 - 1	Oasis Las Vegas RV Park	Region 12		April release
GBAAC	Nov 12 - 16	Bodega Bay RV Park, Bodega Bay	Jill Impink	Kristen Price	Installation Rally - Released 8/29, full
GBAAC	Dec 10 - 14	Jackson Rancheria RV Park, Jackson, CA	Jonathan & Yolanda Daly	Nancy Kenny	White Elephant Rally - Release August
2027					
GBAAC	Feb 4 - 8	SF North/Petaluma KOA	Linda & Ken Lalananne	TBD	25 Sites - Release May 2026
GBAAC	March 25 - 28	Sugarloaf Ridge State Park	Mike Blom	Eric McHenry	12 Sites, off-grid
GBAAC	April 15 - 19	Lake Camanche	TBD	TBD	Release - 2027
GBAAC	May 6 - 10	Grass Valley	TBD	TBD	Release - 2027
GBAAC	May 27 - 31	Six Sigma Ranch & Winery	Tony Eichers	Eric McHenry	Wagon wheel rally
GBAAC	June 10 - 25	Rock Springs Caravan	Jill Impink	Eric McHenry	Caravan to Rock Springs Rally - Release TBD
ACI	June 26 - July 1	International Rally - Rock Springs, WY			Released - sign up va ACI
GBAAC	Sept 17 - 20	Harbor Village Park - Half Moon Bay	TBD	TBD	Release - 2027
Region 12	Oct 6 - 10	Napa Valley Exposition, Napa, CA	Region 12		Release - 2027
GBAAC	Oct 21 - 25	Coyote Lake	TBD	TBD	Individual reservations - 6 mos in advance
GBAAC	Nov 11 - 14	Bodega Bay RV Park, Bodega Bay	Eleanor McFarlin	Chris Martindill	Release - 2027

Bugging Out

As we traveled this summer, especially heading out to Minot, ND for the ACI International Rally, many of us experienced wildfire smoke. Do you think of the smoke as an inconvenience, a health risk or a reminder that being prepared for a disaster is worth consideration? How about all three?

Our Airstream is part of our emergency response. To make any response effective, you need a plan coupled with preparation. Maybe you think you will get to your plan eventually. There is no time like right now. Even if you are currently on the road, building the necessary components for an emergency response is doable.

A fantastic emergency preparedness outline is in the most recent [Blue Beret](#). Click the link and head to page 6. Cole Pirelli, BRN 16125, does an excellent job laying out 5 steps to get you prepared.

Considering the current earthquake activity and the projections that El Nino will potentially provide severe weather this winter, it is never too early to get prepared.

Knowing Ahead

Dovetailing into on being prepared is knowing what you will face on the road. Weather is one of the biggest variables and we have tools to deal with it.

We all have our phone's native weather app available. Today those can give us not only temperatures but also project rain and wind for the next week to 10 days. You can save multiple cities along your route to help you decide if proceeding has any hazards.

Another option is to use a weather app that you can load your route into. ACI has a member benefit with a discount to [RV Weather](#) (you will need to login to your ACI

account to get the details of the link). Within a couple of minutes the app will provide you a weather-safe route. Having the right tools can help relieve some of the trepidation when crossing across the country.



(Looks peaceful but high winds can come out of nowhere)

Lastly, nothing beats being aware of your route and surroundings. Nothing electronic is a substitute for knowing your route and what you can possibly encounter along the way. We experienced high winds coming across I-80 in Wyoming, but found what is called a gust front in South Dakota. A gust front is a sudden, sharp increase in wind speed. It can catch you off guard and you can easily find yourself crossing onto the shoulder or worse, into the oncoming lane.

Be safe out there!

National Event Rallies

A group of us attended the Potlatch Rally in Olympia, Washington recently. A potlatch is a traditional ceremonial feast practiced by Indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast. National Event Rallies are, as defined on the ACI website, “are opportunities to 'stream outside of your local club or region. Scattered across the country and offered at different times of the year it's a chance for members, and several with non-members, to get together and do what Airstreamers do best - friends, fun, and adventure. From urban rallies, to live music, to pets and parades, there's something for everyone and every age.”



Potlatch is held at the Washington Land Yacht Harbor every three years. [WLYH](#) is unique location. It is the only Airstream exclusive campground west of the Rockies. In addition, there are home sites there that only Airstream owners can purchase and live in. Click on the link above to learn more.

National Event Rallies cover a wide array of venues and events. We have written in these

pages before about the Rose Parade Rally. This is a wonderful way to experience a grand tradition each New Years with the other streamers from around the country. Off-grid next to downtown Pasadena offers lots to do.

Check out the NER page after logging in [here](#). You can find something that broadens your horizons. The 2028 Los Angeles Olympics will have a corresponding rally that works to create an Olympic village at Bonelli Bluffs the site of last year's R12 rally. It is not listed on the Airstream NER yet, but you can check out their [website](#) and register your interest now.

Editor's Note

A follow up to the notes about bring prepared, I would like to share a couple of incidents that happened recently. A Washington club member had a tow vehicle develop a flat tire on an Interstate. He had pulled over to the shoulder and had a state DOT truck behind him advising traffic to move over. A driver was not paying attention and hit the DOT truck as well as the Airstreamer and the DOT helper. The Airstreamer died as a result. I know we all travel to places that may not have easy pull over spots. Please do everything you can to get completely off the road if you have a mechanical issue. It is best if you can take an exit to get away from the highway. If you do not have a tire pressure monitor, please install one. I think most of us have roadside assistance. If not, please invest in a service and use it. Can I change a tire, yes. Even if it is an hour+ wait to have the roadside assistance come and help, it is worth the wait.

We have railroads on the west coast. We have a lot more railroads across the

Midwest. An Airstreamer heading into Minot, ND for the International Rally was following a group of trailers into the arrival area. The streamer had to cross a railroad track. As the trailers he was following slowed down this streamer was left in the railroad crossing. The safety arms notifying traffic that there was an oncoming train came down right between their truck and trailer. The safety arms were metal so no easy way to drive through and break the barrier. Luckily the truck passengers were out of harm's way, but the railroad literally blew right through what was once an Airstream trailer.



We all get caught up in wanting to arrive somewhere. With GPS and communications we can figure out where we need to be, but no matter what, we need to be aware of our surroundings.

As mentioned in the last newsletter and Jill's note above, it is time for nominations to our board. Yes, there is a time investment in

participating but there is a benefit as well. One of the most rewarding feelings for me is seeing members enjoy our rallies. It is especially satisfying to see people that may have owned an Airstream for a while but finally discovered GBAAC. Equally, seeing newbies grow in their camping abilities brings me joy.

Beyond the details of how to, is the camaraderie gained through shared experiences. If you ever want to chat about how to participate in the club beyond attending a rally, I would be happy to discuss all the benefits. There are many ways you can contribute even if not directly being on our club's board. Drop me a note!

Mike@grapecounter.com

Teamwork makes dreams work!

Still time...

Joe Glynn, GBAAC member, has become enamored with fly fishing. So much so that he joined the Fly Fishing Intra Club. Joe is also leading a fly-fishing rally up in Redding along the lower Sacramento River and Hat Creek. The rally date is noted in the list of upcoming rallies and there is still time to sign up. You do not need to be an accomplished fly fisher person to participate. There will be many chances to learn more about the sport and be out amongst nature.

To learn more or signup, log into the ACI website and click this [link](#). That or reach out to Joe directly at

abbeyroadstream@gmail.com.

Rock Springs 2027

Get your calendars ready! The ACI 70th International Rally held in Rock Springs, Wyoming will take place June 26 – July 1. You can sign up now. There are already 650+ Airstreams signed up!

Photos From Rallies & More – Come Join The Fun!



Non-rally rally – Cobra Experience Martinez



GBAAC member takes delivery



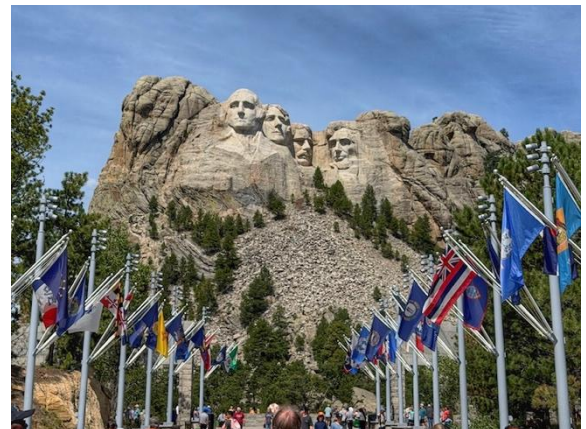
Santa Cruz Rally



Fun in the Santa Cruz Redwoods



Potlatch Salmon Feed



Bucket List – on the way to Minot

Happy Labor Day!

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