



Airstream Club International

Region X-tra

 *Traveling the West*

Newsletter



Oct. 2026

airstreamclub.org/region10

Fall 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

Why Not Minot!



I hope all of you had
as much fun at rallies as
I did!

Maybe work got in the way, maybe other travel, maybe I wasn't quite sure what to expect from an extra-large rally.

Whatever the reason, although we've been members of the club since 2018, this year was the first time we made it to an International Rally—and we had fun! We're already signed up to attend the Rock Springs Rally in 2027.

What did we enjoy about the International Rally? My favorite was seeing people I've had a chance to spend time with and get to know from all corners of the country. Everyone was having a

great time—lots of smiles, good conversations, and plenty of laughs.

I enjoyed the extra-large rally traditions, seeing so many vendors and business partners in person, the classes and seminars, and the entertainment. I now appreciate that sometimes bigger really is better. But mostly, it's just different, and that has its own advantages.

A highlight for me was our clubs being represented in the flag ceremony. Six of our 7 clubs were there, looking sharp with those beautiful flags! (Pictured on page 2)

(continued on page 2)

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



Flag Ceremony Participants - L - R, Lesa Welcker, President WA Club, Sandra Johnson, Treasurer OR Club, Stephanie Shelley, President INWAC Club, Tony Wilson, President Idaho Club, Rick Mattson, President BC Club, Garry Goudie, AB/SK Club]

Region 10 also held two events in Minot. The first was a social for the International Board of Trustees. It was our turn to host, as this happens every 12 years. We also hosted a breakfast for Region 10 members attending the rally.



Pictured Right: L-R, Lori Grassi, Parliamentarian; Shawn Blom, Region 12 President; Susan McPhee, Region 10 President, at the Officers Social.

Pictured Left: Heidi Vale, AZ Club, who catered the event.

We had 168 Region 10 members attend the rally, and 106 joined us for breakfast (pictured below.)

Both events were well attended and, judging by the smiles and conversations, enjoyed by all.



Thank you to everyone who came to Minot and helped make the International Rally such a memorable experience for Region 10. Whether you love the energy of a large rally or prefer the intimacy of a smaller gathering, there is something pretty special about being part of this Airstream community.

I'm already looking forward to where the road takes us next!

Happy Airstreaming,

Susan McPhee, President, Region 10



Calgary Stampede National Event Rally 2026 - Not Our First Rodeo

~ Jane & Garry Goudie BRN 3757



From July 4 - 9, the Calgary Stampede National Event Rally (NER) 2026 exceeded expectations as it was full of entertainment and fun. This is the second year that this has successfully been hosted by the Alberta Saskatchewan Airstream Club of Canada and co-chaired by Mary Culshaw and Susan Huntley along with an experienced and talented local committee.

We stayed at the Aspen Crossing Campground, and they put on a hearty BBQ spread for our welcome dinner. At the suggestion of the Stampede Princess in attendance, the rally charity of choice was the Golden Circle of Champions which is a non-profit initiative partnered with the rodeo community to support local children and families

battling pediatric cancer and life-threatening illnesses. We were proud to donate.

Sunday was a special treat as we rode the train for a most entertaining and delicious champagne brunch train excursion as well as being part of a staged train robbery! It was a great time riding the rails and being able to mingle with fellow Airstreamers in addition to enjoying the beautiful prairie scenery.

For the main event, our group traveled by coach (no horses involved) to the Calgary Stampede whose official slogan is "The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth" and it did not disappoint! On the first day, we were treated as VIPs enjoying lunch and excellent grandstand seats for the rodeo. The bareback and saddle bronc riders were amazing along with the beautiful livestock showcased in these events. It was fun to witness the skill of the barrel racers and calf ropers.

I especially loved the Wild Pony Races. We cheered for the teams of 3 young cowboys and cowgirls (ages 8-12) trying to tame a wild pony long enough to get a rider aboard. Many were dragged behind the pony hanging on tight to the rope!



On the second day, we arrived at Stampede in the afternoon to enjoy the many venues on the Stampede grounds. I heard from some that they had never seen chuck wagon races or the Indigenous bareback relay races. Cheering louder definitely made the teams ride faster.

Then right before our eyes, a full-on stage appeared and we were treated to an incredible outdoor Grandstand Show with singers, dancers, daredevil performances, and breathtaking acrobatics taking turns on the stage. The drones

and the fireworks filled the sky with moving beauty and we shouted and cheered. It was so much fun!
[continued on page 4]

Calgary Stampede National Event Rally 2026 - Not Our First Rodeo

~ (Continued from page 3)

Among other things, Calgary is known for the hundreds of pancake breakfasts that pop up all around the city. We had our own personalized Stampede pancake breakfast to feed our adventurous friends.

Our time together was short but within the week we met so many kind, friendly and thoughtful people.

Lifelong friendships developed and we will remember this rally as one of the best.

A terrific group of 70 Airstreamers (35 units) enjoyed Western hospitality to its max. Thank you to all the Airstreamers from across North America for coming to the Stampede NER 2026 to experience the hospitality and camaraderie that brought us together. The Stampede is more than just an event; it's a cultural phenomenon that embodies the rugged, pioneering spirit of the Canadian West.



On behalf of ourselves and the entire Stampede NER 2026 organizing committee, it was a pleasure to host y'all.

For more information regarding the rally, go to <https://airstreamclub.org/calgary-stampede-national-event-rally>.

What People Are Saying About the Stampede NER 2026:

Thank you seems inadequate for the wonderful time we had at the Stampede rally. From the welcome dinner to the farewell breakfast.. .top notch all the way. So well-organized and thought out by all the volunteers...oh yeah, we so enjoyed the stampede activities too!

So....thank you a thousand times over and over for a grand ol' time at the Rally. Above and beyond our expectations!

Cindy and Rip BRN 6250

Huge thanks to the organizers for an amazing event, the Airstream crew for making us feel so welcome, and all the Canadians we met for your incredible hospitality. What an unforgettable week, we'll definitely be back!

Gabby and Bob BRN 15147

We've just left Alberta!!! We spent a few days cycling Canmore and thinking about the great time we had at Aspen Crossing & at the Stampede. Thank you Mary & Susan plus the rest of you that made this event possible! So much organizing went into this event. All aspects were TOP NOTCH! Many thanks for the Many AWESOME MEMORIES!! **Brigitte and Tom BRN 5440**

To all the hosts and planners and organizers, thank you so much! This WAS our first rodeo, and it was a once in a lifetime experience! The nighttime show was the greatest outdoor show I've ever seen, and the meal in the VIP tent was so delicious! Thanks for everything, and we'll see ya down the road! **Kelly and Matt BRN 2834**

This was our first airstream rally and it was amazing. The bar has been set very high now for us choosing other rallies to attend. Kudos to the organizers. Thanks for the hospitality. **Carol & Tom BRN 5004**

Huge thanks to the organizers for an amazing event, the Airstream crew for making us feel so welcome, & all the Canadians we met for your incredible hospitality. What an unforgettable week, we'll definitely be back! **Gabby and Bob BRN 15147**

Calgary Stampede National Event Rally 2026 - Not Our First Rodeo

~ (Continued from page 5)

Bonni and I want to add our thanks to the organizers, planning committee volunteers and everyone who made the Calgary Airstream Rally such a success. This was our first Airstream rally, and it exceeded our expectations in every respect. The excellent organization, warm Canadian hospitality, Stampede activities and opportunity to meet so many fellow Airstreamers made it a truly memorable experience. Safe travels to everyone, and we hope to see many of you again down the road.

Irv and Bonni BRN 9549



As I come to the end of my Airstream Rally and Calgary Stampede adventure, I find myself waking up unable to put into words everything I've experienced. It has been beautifully overwhelming - filled with excitement, laughter, generosity, kindness, and unforgettable moments.

As incredible as the scenery, events, and experiences have been, it's the people who stand out the most. I never expected to leave feeling like I was saying goodbye to a new family. That realization makes it bittersweet to move on, but instead of feeling sad, I'll carry that energy forward as wonderful memories and lifelong friendships.

Everywhere I traveled throughout Canada, I was met with genuine kindness. It reminded me that when you follow your heart, stay present,

and lead with kindness, life has a beautiful way of reflecting that same energy back to you.

This journey has exceeded every expectation I had. It wasn't just about the Calgary Stampede or seeing new places—it was about discovering, once again, that the greatest adventures are measured by the people we meet, the connections we make, and the moments that leave us forever changed.

Thank you, Canada. I'll carry a piece of you with me wherever the road leads next. **Sunny BRN 4187**

Ya-HOO!!

We had a fantastic stampede, our first rodeo in the books! Thanks to the Alberta/Saskatchewan team for creating a memorable event. See you down the road!

Pam & Reggie BRN 8925



Calgary Stampede National Event Rally 2027



Save the Date for the Calgary Stampede NER 2027, July 10 - 14!

Registration opens the first week of December, so check out our [rally website](#) to sign up for the newsletter.

Each year we get bigger and better, and 2027 is no different. We're looking at adding an exciting tour to explore an important, local attraction...sign up for the newsletter to learn what this will be!

Questions?

email airstreamclub120@gmail.com.



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Region 10 Rally Donations Make a Difference in the Hood River Community

Angela Schock- Region 10 Corresponding Secretary

Thanks to the generous contributions of Region 10 members at the Region 10 Rally in Hood River, Oregon in June, three local nonprofits each received a \$5,000 donation! For all three organizations, these funds arrived at an especially important time. Here's a look at how your generosity is making a meaningful difference in the Hood River community.

Hood River Adopt-a-Dog

Hood River Adopt-a-Dog has been helping dogs find loving homes since 2007 and has successfully placed thousands of dogs with new families.

This year, Region 10's \$5,000 donation was particularly timely. The organization had to cancel an outdoor fundraiser because of wildfire smoke in the Hood River area, creating an unexpected financial gap at a time when support was especially needed. Region 10 members' generosity is helping to fill that gap and provide much-needed resources for the shelter.

At the time of our donation presentation, Hood River Adopt-a-Dog had nine dogs in its care, all waiting for their forever homes.



Hood River Adopt-a-Dog (HRAAD): Angela Schock, Region 10 Secretary, and her husband, Mike (both Hood River residents) with Lorraine Lyons, Executive Director of HRAAD.



FISH Food Bank: Angela Schock, Region 10 Secretary, and her husband, Mike (both Hood River residents) with Jacqueline Carey, Executive Director of FISH Food Bank.

FISH Food Bank

FISH Food Bank has been providing food assistance to residents of Hood River County and Mosier since opening its doors in 1969. The name FISH stands for Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help—a fitting description of the organization's mission.

Your \$5,000 donation will help FISH purchase food and provide essential assistance to local families and individuals. The food bank also distributes fresh produce grown in the garden behind its facility and benefits from generous donations from local orchardists and farmers. Apples, pears, peaches, cherries, walnuts, blueberries, and other fresh foods are regularly donated to help stock the food bank. Local businesses and schools also contribute through food drives.

Region 10's donation is especially valuable during the growing season, when the Hood River Valley's agricultural

workforce grows and the need for food assistance increases. The number of families seeking assistance rises by approximately 30% during the growing months. *(continued on page 8)*

Region 10 Rally Donations Make a Difference in the Hood River Community

(Continued from page 7)

The Next Door, Inc.

The Next Door is a nonprofit social-service organization that has served the Columbia Gorge since 1971. It provides a wide range of resources and support to children, young people, families, and underserved members of the community, helping them access the services, skills, education, and opportunities they need to build healthier, more stable lives.

The Next Door operates more than 30 programs throughout Oregon and Washington, including:

- Youth and family services that support children, parents, and families.
 - Mental and behavioral health services, including counseling and therapy for children, teens, young adults, and families.
 - Treatment and foster care for youth with significant emotional or behavioral needs.
 - Health promotion and outreach that connect underserved communities with important resources and services.
 - Economic development programs that provide assistance and support to Latino entrepreneurs.
- The \$5,000 donation from Region 10 will help The Next Door continue providing these vital services throughout the Columbia Gorge.

Your Generosity Makes a Difference

Together, Region 10 members donated \$15,000 to three organizations doing important work in the Hood River community. Your generosity is helping provide shelter and care for dogs, food for local families, and essential services for children, families, and individuals throughout the Gorge.

On behalf of these three nonprofits and the people and animals they serve, thank you for making a difference!



The Next Door, Inc.: Angela Schock, Region 10 Secretary, and her husband, Mike (both Hood River residents) with Janet Hamada, Executive Director of The Next Door, Inc.

Editor's Desk - Contributions Wanted! ~ Carolyn White

Our Region 10 Newsletter is all about you, our members. Here are several suggestions for you, the reader, to contribute to our Region 10's newsletter:

- ★ **Top Tips for My Town** ★ **Potluck/Social Hour** ★ **Recipes** ★ **Intra-Club Activities** ★ **Rally Reports**
- *Traveled to International in Fargo? Tell us about your journey there and your rally experience!*
- ★ **Caravans** ★ **Adventures Along the Road** ★ **Best upgrade to your Airstream** ★ **Maintenance and Repair Questions**

The deadline for newsletter submission is *December 15* for the Winter issue. Email airstream355@gmail.com with your newsletter contributions. Thank you!

Montana Airstream Club Summer Rallies ~Rande Farrow, Past President Montana Airstream Club

Dust Off Rally - June 10-13, 2026 - Flathead Lake, Polson MT KOA



Rande and JoAnn Farrow



Red Ants Pants Music Festival - July 23-26, 2026 - White Sulphur Springs MT

~Rande Farrow, Past President Montana Airstream Club



The Montana Airstream Club sponsored a pop-up rally at The Red Ants Pants Music Festival in White Sulphur Springs Montana held in late July. Dry camping in a cow pasture (yes, you need to remove the dried-up cow patties from your selected camp spot!) with 4000 other campers is an experience you'll never forget. Three days and evenings of bluegrass, country and rock music, this event generally sees 10,000 attend, with food, beer and lemonade vendors galore. Come and join us next year!



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Hands Across the Border Rally - Sept. 2-7, 2026 - Butte, MT ~Rande Farrow,

Past President Montana Airstream Club



The first week of September the Montana Airstream Club along with the Alberta/Saskatchewan Airstream Club hosted the 62nd annual Hands Across Border Rally (HAB) in Butte, Montana. Attendance was great with our good friends from Canada.



We all enjoyed many events, tours, restaurants, breweries and scenery unique to the Mining City. from dropping 835

feet to the bottom of one of the largest active copper mines (MRI) in the country, to climbing 3300 feet to the top of the Continental Divide to view Our Lady of the Rockies with loads of fun in between!



Region 10 President Susan McPhee (pictured left) was on hand to swear in our new officers.

The Alberta/ Saskatchewan Club announced that the 2027 HAB RALLY will take place in East End, SASKATCHEWAN, dates TBA.



Left and Above - HAB attendees touring the copper mine in Butte MT

Three Days, One River, and a Stonehenge ~Kathy Geese

A Maryhill weekend worth repeating

Don't get me wrong—I love a good Airstream rally. But sometimes the best weekends are the unscripted ones: grab a friend with an Airstream, point toward the river, and go.



That's how David and I ended up at Maryhill State Park in mid-September with our friend Janet Schober, who'd never been.

Maryhill is one of Washington's most popular state parks, so we set our alarms and were online the minute reservations opened—and it paid off.

Our sites sat right on the Columbia, with barges and even a cruise ship gliding past. The website warns about train noise; the three of us slept like rocks.

ROAD NOTE: Highway 14's hills and tunnels on the Washington side of the river posed no problem for our Airstream, but traffic, growth, and construction turned a four-hour drive from Olympia into five and a half. Lesson learned.

Friday: Settling In

We relaxed, caught up, and took a scouting bike ride through the Peach Beach campground next door. Janet and I are both Oregon Airstream Club rally managers, always hunting for future rally sites. Consider that one filed away for a potential 2028 rally.

Saturday: Art, History, and an Unexpected Celebration

While checking hours, I discovered our weekend coincided with the Maryhill Museum's Centennial Celebration—tickets secured online. They pulled out all the stops: staff in period costume, live Romanian music, food, and wine.



My favorite exhibit remains the Théâtre de la Mode (left), a permanent exhibit that's equal parts art and fashion. Plan at least two hours, don't miss the film, wander the sculpture garden, and know that picnics on the grounds are welcome.

[Maryhill Museum](https://www.maryhillmuseum.org/)

(continued on page 13)



Maryhill Museum's Centennial Celebration - all photos courtesy Kathy Geese and Janet Schober

Three Days, One River, and a Stonehenge ~*(continued from page 12)*

Lunch with the Nuns—and Sam Hill's Remarkable Legacy

Next stop: St. John Bakery at the St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox monastery, a community of nuns whose bakery and gift shop support their mission. [St John Bakery](#) After gyros and baklava (worth every calorie), on to the Stonehenge replica (pictured below), built by Sam Hill as a memorial to those who died in World War I.



Hill was the force behind so much of what we saw that weekend: over 100 years ago, he built the mansion that became the Maryhill Museum, commissioned the Stonehenge memorial, and drove the development of the Columbia River Gorge and Scenic Highway.



Exploring Stonehenge replica

Sunday: Wine and Winding down

[Maryhill Winery](#), just up the road, (pictured below) gave us wine tasting, lunch, and live music on a vine-covered patio overlooking the vineyards and the river. Two produce stands near the campground supplied the rest: fresh-cut flowers, tomatoes, peaches, and pumpkins by the ton. We closed the day around the campfire with a bottle from our winery haul.



Afterthoughts

I neglected to mention the observatory visitor center. The observatory programs are closed due to staffing issues. I walked around the property and beautiful facility, so hopefully they will reopen in the near future.

I also found out something interesting this trip. Washington residents with a numbered handicap vehicle placard and/or disability card can make state park reservations for half price.

Sadly, the weekend flew. But Maryhill has a way of pulling you back - we'll be saying 'until next time' for years to come.

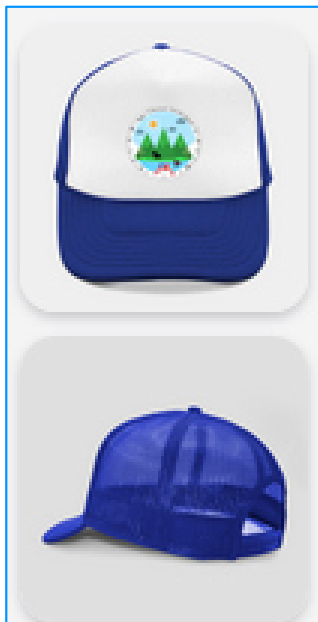
Region 10 Logo Wear and More - Great for Rallies - Great for Presents!

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**, which is still 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](#).

Now, we also have the **Washington Airstream Club's** logo on Region 10 merchandise. You can purchase these items [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.



The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ Ray Putnam



Cleaning the Exterior - Tips and Advice

Trailer Outside Care

I use a mild, on your hands, dishwasher liquid like Dove or Joy. Just use a few drops in a bucket of water. You should rinse first and then always wipe with the grain.

Thoroughly rinse the soap and use two buckets (a soap bucket and a clear water bucket) to keep the sand and dirt from being picked up by the wash mitt or soft brush. Rinse in the clear water bucket.

There are microfiber wash mops available that work very well. Lots of washing will help keep the finish in good condition. A waxing once a year with a good quality nonabrasive automotive product should help preserve the finish. Make sure you wax around all of the areas where dissimilar metals touch to prevent corrosion (stainless steel rails, battery box frames, covers etc.). Just keep the white coating on the roof clean and wash and wax it whenever you do the RV.

How often do you check out the top of your Airstream?

One area that I believe gets the least attention on an RV is the roof; about the only time we look at the roof is when we wash and wax it or when we have a leak. It does not matter whether you have a trailer or a motorized product, you need to keep the roof clean and inspect all seams, cables and vents on a regular basis.

Be careful If you are thinking about getting up on the roof of your trailer or motorhome, be safe. If you do not feel comfortable getting up on a ladder or don't like heights, please take your Airstream to a Dealership to have the roof inspected. We certainly don't want anyone to fall and be injured. Most Airstream motorhomes (Classics do not) have a ladder to access the roof and the roof should be able to easily support the weight of someone inspecting the roof. The Interstate Van and Westphalia do not have a ladder and there is a weight limit for the roof; but the roof can be easily inspected using a ladder and moving it around the sides of vehicle.

Airstream trailer roofs should only be accessed from the sides of the trailer (never try to get on the roof of an Airstream trailer over the front or rear ends) using a ladder. You can walk on the roof if you are careful to walk on the roof bows (you will be able to see rivets going from side to side, this is where the roof bows run). If you will be working in one area for a while you may want to use a 3ft.x 3ft. piece of plywood to help support your weight and some soft towels to put under plywood to keep from scratching the finish. What should I check for?

1. You would want to make sure the roof is clean, so you can get a good look at all areas of the roof. Also keeping the roof clean can reduce the black streaks that we frequently see running down the side walls of RVs.

2. You would also want to check the roof surface whether it is aluminum (trailers and Classic motorhomes) metal (Interstate Vans) or fiberglass (Motorhomes and the Base Camp) for dents, cracks or holes.

3. Check AC shrouds, vent caps and skylights for damage or cracks. *(continued on page 16)*

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ *(continued from page 15)*

4. Inspect TV antenna, radio antenna and solar panel cables and connections.
5. Inspect the sealant around all vents, skylights, refrigerator vents, tank vent covers, roof racks, awning rails or any cables where they go through the roof for any cracking or separation.
6. You may also want to make sure that no critters have taken up residence in any vents or covers.

Cleaning Your Solar Panel

Cleaning is certainly not the first thing on people's mind when it comes to solar panels, but it is extremely important for your solar system's operation. Anything exposed to the elements will over time become dirty and in the case of solar panels, where the external surface is dependent on sunlight, ensuring they are clean will have a direct impact on your energy output.

A cloudy day will provide sufficient diffused light by which your solar panel will produce electricity. The maximum electrical production occurs with bright and sunny weather conditions. Under a light overcast day, the panels might produce about half as much as under full sun, ranging down to as little as five to ten percent under a dark overcast day. Dirty panels can affect your energy output the same way as an overcast day.

Many of the companies in the solar panel maintenance business indicate dirt and debris build up can reduce a panel's energy output by 15 to 25 percent. Inspect the solar panels on a periodic basis (frequency depends on your environment or the manufacturer's recommendations) to remove any debris and dirt and ensure all connections are tight. Panels installed and used in dusty areas may require more frequent inspection.

Clean the surface of a solar panel with warm water and dishwashing soap to remove any accumulation of dirt and grime. (Don't let soapy water dry on panel as it can leave a film). Wash the glass face of the panels during either the early morning or in the evening. Avoid spraying cold water onto hot panels or you could risk cracking them. Be sure panel is completely clean, even a leaf, bird droppings or tree sap can severely reduce the panel's energy-producing capacity.

Must haves for cleaning your panels: Be Safe, have someone with you to hold the ladder and be there in case you have a problem.; Ladder to get to the solar panel Garden hose; Warm water and dish washing soap; Clean soft cloths to wash and dry off.

Cleaning Bugs Off the Outside of the Trailer

The fronts of the trailers were almost solid bugs; segments, tinted window stone guards, and wrap protectors. I knew I had to get to the task of removing them before they became etched in the finish forever. We currently use a product in our shop called SD-20 by Spartan Products, it is an all purpose cleaner degreaser and works on just about any tough job you may have from cleaning tires to removing finger prints. SD-20's clinging foam penetrates and breaks down dirt, grease, and tough soil. SD-20 cleans by "chemical action" rather than physical action and contains no harsh caustics or abrasives to scratch or harm washable surfaces.

I have found that SD-20 in combination with a Micro Fiber towel (the very fine fiber) is a great product for removing bugs from the exterior of trailers as well as Motorhomes. Just make sure your Airstream is in the shade, then wet down the trailer if you have access to some water, apply the SD-20 starting at the top and work your way down. *(continued on page 17)*

The Region 10 Tech Talk Times ~ (continued from page 16)

As soon as you apply the SD-20 you can see the foaming action starting to dissolve and loosen the bugs. It can be used on the tinted window protectors also, you will notice after you finish removing the bugs there will be a slight film or haze that can easily be removed with a dry towel.

On the stainless steel wrap protectors I like to use Spartan stainless steel cleaner and polish to remove bugs and provide a protective film. Even with the use of these products, the removal required some effort on my part. I did receive a lot of encouragement and offers from fellow Airstreamers allowing me to clean their rig when I was finished with the sales display!

The above products can be purchased through the Airstream on line store at www.airstream.com SD-20 and Stainless Steel Cleaner/Polish are products of Spartan Chemical Company, Inc 1110 Spartan Drive Maumee, OH 43537---- Product/Technical Information 1-(800)-537-8990 Medical Emergency 1-(888)-314-6171 (24 hours) Always read and follow directions.

The key to removing bugs from your trailer or motorhome starts with prevention. First only travel in the winter (just kidding). Keep your vehicle clean and keep it waxed. You should at the very least apply a coat of wax (Walbernize) to your entire rig before heading out on any spring or summer trip. It would be advisable to apply a second application if you have the time to the front end of your trailer or motorhome.

Upon arrival at your destination assess the severity of the bug build up and remove as soon as possible; carry a small spray bottle with soap and water or can of SD-20 and cloth so you can remove any smaller groups of the suicide bombers. Bugs have a high acidity level and will start etching themselves into your coating so the earlier (within the first 48 hrs is recommendation by paint specialists) the removal the better. T

here are also products on the market that are designed specifically to repel bugs, bird droppings, brake dust and good old dirt. They are high gloss polymer finishes and are supposed to be far superior to any wax products; one such product is called RejeX manufactured by Corrosion Technologies Corp., Dallas Texas. I have recently started using this on my truck and it seems to be working well.

If you choose to use any degreaser type product on your Airstream, including detergents such as Dawn, you will need to wax the areas you used these products on as they will remove the wax protection. Always be gentle when removing the bugs so not to scratch the finish, on trailers ***always go with the grain of the metal.***

There are many products, home brews and equipment to remove bugs. It is said that cooking oil will soften and remove bugs; some have tried applying PAM non-stick spray to chrome bumpers and mirrors. Panty hose are supposed to be better than a bug sponge in assisting bug removal. Using a wet fabric softener (dryer) sheet is supposed to easily remove bugs from painted surfaces. I am sure there are many more creative ways to attack the bug issue on your Airstream. I would love to hear any of your ideas on this topic!

Cleaning with Vinegar

There are literally hundreds of recorded uses for vinegar Below I have highlighted a few of my favorite uses for vinegar; **As a cleaner:** To shine chrome sink fixtures that have a lime buildup, use a paste made of two tablespoons salt and one teaspoon white distilled vinegar. **Make your own scouring cleanser** by combining one quarter cup baking soda with one tablespoon liquid detergent. Add just enough white distilled vinegar to give it a thick but creamy texture. Clean counter tops and make them smell sweet again with a cloth soaked in undiluted white distilled vinegar. (continued on page 18)

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Get rid of hard water stains with a rinse made from three parts soft water to one-part white distilled vinegar. **Create an all-purpose window cleaner** with a few ounces of white distilled vinegar in a quart of water. **Rid the windshield wipers of road grime** by wiping them with a white distilled vinegar-soaked cloth. **Remove dirt and stains from carpeting** with a mixture of half white distilled vinegar and half water.

Clean your microwave by mixing one half cup white distilled vinegar and one-half cup water in a microwave-safe bowl. Bring it to a rolling boil inside the microwave. Baked-on food will be loosened, and odors will disappear. Wipe clean. **Clean and deodorize a drain** by pouring in one cup baking soda, then one cup hot white distilled vinegar. Let this sit for five minutes or so then run hot water down the drain. **Freshen air in the bathroom** by spraying into the air a solution of one teaspoon baking soda, one tablespoon white distilled vinegar, and one cup water. **Get rid of mildew, dust, and stale odors** by wiping down walls with undiluted white distilled vinegar on a cloth or a sponge mop. **Remove the smell of a dead mouse or other rodent** (after removing all animal remnants) by wiping down the area with either white distilled vinegar or bleach. Then place a fabric softener sheet in the area to remove any lingering odors. **Remove the smell of spoiled food from a refrigerator** by first rinsing the area with soap and water. Spray surfaces with full-strength white distilled vinegar and wipe them down with a damp cloth or sponge. Fill some containers with baking soda and place inside. Close the door and leave for a few days.

For Maintenance: When doing RV or truck maintenance, soak rusty bolts and screws with white distilled vinegar to make them easier to remove. To remove a label, decal, or price tag, cover with a cloth soaked in white distilled vinegar. Leave the cloth on overnight and the label should slide off. Remove white water rings from wood with a solution of equal parts white distilled vinegar and vegetable oil. Rub with the grain.

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One Pot Wonders - Cranberry Pie~ Carolyn White

Fall is the time of Thanksgiving, both in Canada (October 12) and the United States (November 26). It's also the time of year for the cranberry harvest and the inclusion of this fruit as an accompaniment to the traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

For those of you who are tired of cranberry sauce, here's a way to have your cranberries and eat them, too! Not a one pot wonder as it requires a bowl for mixing, this Cranberry Pie honors this fruit's traditional place at the Thanksgiving table.

If your cranberries are frozen, run under cold water to thaw and remove any ice. Drain well.

Ingredients:

2 cups fresh cranberries	1 cup sugar
½ cup chopped walnuts	1 cup flour
½ cup brown sugar	1 teaspoon almond extract
¾ cup butter, melted	2 eggs, beaten

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. Grease/butter a 10" pie pan. I've used Costco's coconut oil for this step.
3. Arrange cranberries on the bottom of the pan and sprinkle with nuts and the ½ cup brown sugar.
4. In a bowl, combine melted butter, the 1 cup of sugar, flour, almond extract, and eggs.
5. Pour over top of the cranberries.
6. Bake for 50-60 minutes until edges are brown and center is lightly colored.
7. Cool and serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

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Region 10 Club/Unit Presidents

Mary Culshaw culshawot@gmail.com

Karen Griffin sorrelesky3@yahoo.com

Rick Mattson rickmattson@telus.net

Tony Wilson trons4u@gmail.com

Ben Tintinger bpting@bresnan.net

Michael Lane michael_lane@msn.com

Fabian Mills fabianmills@gmail.com

Kelli Zielinski Kelli.lance.z@gmail.com

Upcoming National Event Rallies in Region 10

[Calgary Stampede NER, July 10 - 14, 2027](#)

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