

The Tattler

Airstream Owners of California



Central Coast California 2015 Officers

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For more information,
including rally coupons,
please check out our website:
www.centralcoastairstream.org

Message from Roger Siminoff, President

I hope you are all out there Airstreamin' somewhere, or at the very least planning your summer trips. Rosemary and I are currently scheduling several great trips, and we hope to see you down the road, somewhere.

In case you didn't read it, I sent out an email to all members on March 14 that when we were at the Wine Country RV Rally we learned that Janie and Chuck Alberti's grandson was critically ill and, unfortunately, they had to leave the rally early. Sadly, we later learned that their grandson was found to have intestinal cancer, and we put out the request for all of you to send your best thoughts or prayers to their grandson, Janie, Chuck, and their family.

In my article last month about AlumaFiesta I stated that Melissa wasn't able to get into the Palms RV Resort in Yuma because she had a non-Airstream. I meant to say an "older" Airstream. The Palms is a great place to stop but their rules require that trailers be on the "newer" side. The funny thing is most of the Airstreams look the same so it's difficult to know if they are "old" or "new." And, some of the restored polished ones – like Paula and Ed's – look newer than the new ones!

Buddy rallies are part of the WBCCI Constitution in which it is suggested that we have at least one rally a year where non-Airstream members can attend. The intention of this plan was two part: 1) to open our events to non-Airstream owners – fondly referred to as SOBs (some other brands); and 2) to excite folks about the idea of owning an Airstream and sharing in our joy (and, hopefully, buying an Airstream). Pam said that the rally committee is scheduled to meet on April 11th to (cont'd)



discuss the rallies for 2016. If you have any favorite places/suggestions please be sure to contact her (or Gary Mellinger, Bruce Yeoman, or Bob Minder) a.s.a.p. and let them know!

Rosemary and I just got back from a week-long event in Phoenix where we dry camped. While we've dry camped a lot before, we've not done six nights until this event. We were quite pleased and surprised that with quick showers and careful back-filling of the toilet (after flushes) that we went the six nights with flying colors. We might have even been able to do seven or eight nights (we have a 27' Flying Cloud). We did have our generator for battery charging. I'd be interested to know your longest dry camping experiences and what you did to extend them – please drop me a note to siminoff@siminoff.net

Years back, when I was doing *The Tattler*, I enlisted Erlend Coffin to be our staff photographer. At our last Board meeting, we were talking about again including photographs in our membership roster (which is currently in the works, sans photos) and the idea was sparked to again ask Erlend to assume the role of photo-master. So, if Erlend stops you at a rally and asks to take a picture of you and your significant other, SMILE - it's for a good cause!

The board also discussed having brief, meaningful meetings at our rallies so that we can keep you all up to date on the goings on of your unit. The meeting we held at Wine Country is an example of what we have in mind, and I think it was effective. There are some rallies that neither Pam nor I will be able to attend, so one of the Board members in attendance will conduct the meeting in our absence.

I am excited to announce that we have a new Board position: Membership Chair. As I mentioned last month, the Board believes that our most valuable asset is you, our members, and it is our desire to have the person responsible for membership to be a part of the Board. So, please join me in welcoming our Membership Director supreme – Gary Mellinger – to the Board!

The Rally Committee, under the guidance of your Vice President, Pam Lindsay, has recommended that our rallies are driven by three hosts rather than two (lead host and assistant host) that we've had in the past. I think this an excellent idea, and it will greatly reduce the workload for hosting our rallies.

Gary and Paula have advised me that we now 81 member families including affiliates! It is both amazing and wonderful!

Are you going to AlumaPalooza this year? It will be held at the Airstream factory in Jackson Center, Ohio from May 26-31. As with other Aluma events (AlumaFiesta and AlumaFlamingo) it promises to be a wonderful mix of great content, fun things to see, and wonderful people to meet. We're going, and we know David & Mary Lawson are going – please let me know if you are planning to go.

Have safe and fun travels, and if I don't see you at a rally soon, we'll see you down the road.

Roger

Meet a New CCC Member



Jerry and I are both Colorado natives with a background in hiking, camping and enjoying the great out of doors. We are retired and are remarkably compatible to the Airstream life style. In our working days we started with a Chinook, which is great for weekends, then a Lance camper on a one ton dually, four wheel drive which allowed us to camp almost anywhere on BLM (something we love) peace, quite and no light pollution.

When we retired, Alaska was beckoning to us. One week before we were to meet a couple at the Canadian border to start the Alaska adventure, we decided to buy an Airstream. We switched out rigs and two days later we were at the Canadian border.

Jerry is a fire, ready, aim kind of guy.

The next two months was our shake down, and I mean shake down for those who have become Alcan alumni. That trip launched us to the life of the open road and coveting a good adventure. A

snap shot of that trip would include, bear encounters while hiking (I would not recommend it) in Denali, crossing the Arctic Circle (Jerry wanted to drive it!) Luckily I found a small company that did the mail run to the small town of Anaktukvuk Pass and we could leave the Airstream for the day in Fairbanks. Kennicott National Park opting to fly in a bush plane and leave the Airstream behind, our hand was forced thankfully, as the 90 mile dirt road was out or we might still be there dealing with many flat tires and trying to get home.

These last two years we have been circumnavigating the United States in one to two month segments, leaving our rig and returning to pick up the adventure after a stint at home. We have had more down home food, met more wonderful people and know more about our country and its history because of the Airstream lifestyle we love. One of the stops was Alumapalooza in Jackson Center, Ohio and Urbanaire in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.

We store 27' International in Paso Robles.

We look forward to attending some of the events this year and meeting many of you.

Live riveted!

Patty and Jerry Hauptman

Paso Robles Rally March 2015

A blarney stone kissin' good time was had by all Airstream attendees at the recent Wine Country RV Resort rally in Paso Robles! Our illustrious hosts, Mark and Glenda Kiger and Roger and Rosemary Siminoff put on an incredible St. Patty's Day themed bash. A get acquainted "bag of Gold Coins" name game really kicked things off during social hour Fri. nite. It was revealed later that Bob Minder was the winner having collected the most "gold coins" (names) by exchange and he was properly rewarded. Way to go, Bob!



Saturday's highlight for many of us was the "Zoo to You" exotic animal rescue tour. Informative and enlightening our guide introduced us to some magnificent creatures and entertained us with some great stories. The amazing work this organization does to promote and protect wildlife and educate the public, especially kids, is truly commendable. If that alone wasn't enough for one day we were treated that evening, after a sumptuous potluck banquet, to the heartfelt (Blue) "Greengrass" music of "Roger and the Leprechauns." Way to go, Roger!



Some club business was addressed over the weekend, as well. Members at the CCC General Meeting voted to create a new Board position for the Membership Director and the CCC Board itself convened later.



Twenty two units consisting of CCC members and affiliates enjoyed a memorable weekend. Opportunities for golf and world class wine imbibing were enjoyed by some. Others visited the nearby Estrella Warbirds Museum as did my husband and I on Sunday. Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of military vehicles and memorabilia of the past century,

the museum “seeks not to glorify conflict but rather to make a future generation aware of the fact that our way of life does not come without sacrifice.”

As Sunday rolled along far too soon most campers were preparing to head home. So I will conclude this with an Old Irish Blessing to last us until our next great rendezvous:

May love and laughter light your days,
and warm your heart and home.
May good and faithful friends be yours,
wherever you may roam.
May peace and plenty bless your world
with joy that long endures.
May all life's passing seasons
bring the best to you and yours!

Safe travels! Jose and Anne Morales



The Glamour of Going it Alone

by - Christine Hyland



In early 2014, after having spent several months winding down my law practice in Carmel, I received a phone call from a long lost friend. She had spent a few years traveling with an Airstream, alone with her dog. I was mesmerized by her stories about Utah, Colorado, etc., and then saw a picture of a 16' Bambi with a magenta awning, parked in a leafy green setting. That was it. I had to have one. I could do it too. Never mind that I had never towed anything.

An Airstream dealer I had contacted called and told me about a 20' in San Luis Obispo. He told me that was the one I should buy because it was so meticulously maintained. So I called the owners, Judy and Walt Bremer, and asked if I could come down the next day. It, "Ari," was as gorgeous and pristine as described and I could tell from meeting Walt that there was nothing I needed to be concerned about mechanically. I said "I'll take it," and went home and bought a new truck.

Then Walt and Judy drove Ari up to Pacific Grove and spent an afternoon showing me how to hitch and unhitch and how everything worked. Not only did I get the most perfect Airstream out there but I made two wonderful and dear new friends. I was in heaven.

I drove Ari out to a big parking lot and tried to back it into a parking space but it was hopeless. I decided it was better to learn by doing. So I loaded Ari and drove off on May 22, 2014. I spent the first two nights in Paso Robles and Walt and Judy came over for dinner and to give me some last minute pointers and toast my send off. Then I was off . . . Tehachapi, Needles, Flagstaff, Gallup, Santa Fe. It was really hot and sometimes I thought I would have a stroke out there in the blazing sun, hitching and unhitching, but I followed Walt's check list and had no problems at all. The only bummer I can remember was in Needles where, in the 100 degree heat, I unhitched the trailer only to find I was not in the RV park I had

reserved in, it was down the road a ways. I tried to tell myself it was good practice to re-hitch and unhitch again.

From Santa Fe I went to Colorado. In the 8,500 miles I drove before returning home on October 22nd I stayed on secondary and dirt roads from Santa Fe on, as much as possible. I had only a few minor mishaps and whenever I got into a pickle someone always miraculously materialized and helped me out. I found out how kind most people are. The most memorable almost-disaster was in a little RV park in a canyon at Manitou Springs. There had been a fire in the area so there was always the danger of flash floods. All three nights I was there I had to evacuate in the night. The first two times I only had time to get into the truck. The third time I managed to get Ari hitched in pouring rain and pounding hail. I just made it across a little bridge before it washed out and ended up in a river of high and fast-moving water that I thought would kill my engine before I got to high ground. I was soaking wet, cold and exhausted and spent the night on someone's driveway.

I traveled all the way to the Waterton Lakes, visiting all the parks and sights along the way. In late September I decided it was getting too cold and it was time to turn around. This lovely picture of me in my glamorous cold weather hitching up attire was taken at the Pebble Creek campground in Yellowstone where I boondocked for a week. It was 30 degrees that morning.

I am planning to set off again next month and return in November. I can't wait.



My travel companions.

Rally Schedule - April to December 2015

April 16-19 (Thursday-Sunday): Camatta Ranch, Santa Margarita

Hosts: Although a Region 12 Rally, a CCC host would be helpful. This 35,000 acre working ranch is an incredible place to camp and features a secluded campsite with lots of wildlife, aquatic fossils, and more. [Coupon on website](#)

May 14-17 (Thursday-Sunday): Moss Landing **7 spots remaining**

Hosts: Bob & Linda Minder and Steve & Tammy Wark. Moss Landing KOA, Now we're heading north to this great little campground on the inland-side of Moss Landing harbor, just a stone's throw from the ocean (about 20 miles south of Santa Cruz). Great exploring, walks around the harbor, beach walks, visits to the nearby estuary, and more. [Coupon page 9](#)

June 12-14 (Friday-Sunday): Emma Wood State Beach (No-Host).

Here's another ocean-side opportunity for a great summer weekend break.. Make your reservations through 'Reserve America' reserveamerica@reserveamerica.com for the California State Parks. The organization to list would be the Central Coast Airstream. The loop sites 32-60 are where the CCC'ers are looking to camp. Any questions contact Bruce (805) 933-3635 cyeoman4@yahoo.com

July 9-13 (Thursday-Monday): 49er Village RV, Plymouth (No Host, Buddy Rally).

Our extended rally takes us to the Gold Country for our first return trip since 2010. A wonderful RV site with nearby wineries, cavern and gold mine tours, and the old town of Jackson with a lot of interesting shops. It's a buddy rally, so your non-Airstream friends can camp with us. (Make your own reservations.)

August 13-16 (Thursday-Sunday): San Simeon State Park (No Host). This is a beautiful campground in a serene setting, with an underpass leading to the ocean. Since this is a no-host rally each member reserves their own site in the lower campground – sites S43 to S115, which provides some tree cover and protection from the wind. It's fun to visit nearby Cambria.

August 16 (Sunday): Roger & Rosemary's Backyard Bluegrass Jam, Atascadero.

Each year, Roger and Rosemary host a backyard bluegrass jam for local musicians and those friends who enjoy music. The event features a band scramble (where musicians throw their name in a hat and bands are assembled ad hoc for a band contest). Good food. Good fun. Good music. And it's a great stopping place on your way back from San Simeon.

September 18-20 (Friday-Sunday): To be Determined **Hosts needed**

October 16-18 (Friday-Sunday): El Chorro County Regional Park, San Luis

Obispo. Roger and Rosemary Siminoff and Mark and Glenda Kiger. This park is a beautiful site just north of San Luis Obispo. A wooded setting, El Chorro offers a public campground with privacy and beautiful surroundings.

November 13-15 (Friday-Sunday): Ocean Mesa (Meeting).

Hosts needed. We're back to Ocean Mesa for our last business meeting of the year. Just north of Santa Barbara, this campsite is rustic while neat and tidy, and offers a yurt meeting room.

December 11-13 (Friday-Sunday): Flying Flags (Installation dinner).

Hosts: Bruce & Carol Yeoman and Jeanne & Jim Wade. Flying Flags received some of the highest votes in our member survey. A very well kept campground, with a clubhouse just 10 miles from Solvang – a great Danish town to explore – and the historic La Purisima Mission in Lompoc.

Central Coast California Unit WBCCI**Moss Landing KOA Express**

7905 Sandholdt Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039

May 14-17, 2015

Hosts: Bob and Linda Minder/Steve and Tamara Wark

(805) 258-3901 or (805) 647-0495



Tentative Schedule

Friday, May 15

1:00 Check in
 5:00 Social hour
 6:00 Clam Chowder Dinner provided by Hosts

Saturday, May 16

8:30 Breakfast provided
 Group tour-National Steinbeck Center in Salinas. *
 5:00 Social hour
 6:00 Potluck Dinner

Sunday, May 17

8:30 Breakfast provided
 11:00 Clean up and depart for home OR
 Stay Sunday Night for a no host dinner at the Whole Enchilada Restaurant.

Rally Information

General Information: Moss Landing is a quaint, historic fishing village located in the middle of California's Monterey Bay coastline. A truly hidden treasure loaded with enjoyable activities. (<http://www.mosslandingchamber.com>)

We currently have 20 sites reserved and encourage you to sign up early!

Meals Included in Fee: Friday dinner, Saturday and Sunday breakfasts.

What to Bring: Table service and utensils for all meals. Nibbles to share and your own drinks for the social hours, and a dish for the potluck dinner on Saturday.

Directions: US-101 N to San Miguel Canyon Rd Exit in Prunedale. Continue on San Miguel Canyon Road. Turn left on Castroville Blvd., continue straight onto Dolan Rd. Turn left on CA 1 S. Take first right on Moss Landing Rd, first right on Sandholdt Rd. Campground is on your right.

GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 36.799306, Longitude: 121.786167.

Moss Landing Rally Coupon

Name _____ WBCCI No. _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ Rig length _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone: _____

Rally Nights Present: Friday ☐ Saturday ☐ @ \$ 54.80/night \$ _____Additional Nights: Thursday ☐ Sunday ☐ @ \$ 54.80/night \$ _____

Rally Fee: \$30/rig, \$15/single \$ _____

*Steinbeck Center Tour (Optional): _____ @ \$14.95 per person

Seniors _____ @ 8.95 per person 62+ \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____Please mail coupon and check (payable to Central Coast CA Unit WBCCI) by **April 30** to:**Bob and Linda Minder, 7170 Impala Drive, Ventura, CA93003**Questions: Contact Bob or Linda at (805) 258-3901 or rkminder@msn.com