# The Tattler

#### Airstream Owners of California



## Central Coast California 2016 Officers

President -Pam Lindsay #4585

Co Vice Pres. - Judy & Walt Bremer #3884

Secretary -Carol Cunningham #4895

Treasurer - Bob Minder #4195

Past Pres.- John Thornton #2011

One year Directors Joe Deering #5231 Bruce Yeoman #4917

Two Year Directors Cal Meuser #2727 Paula Poll #8252

Membership Director - Gary Mellinger #2002

Web Master - Walt Bremer

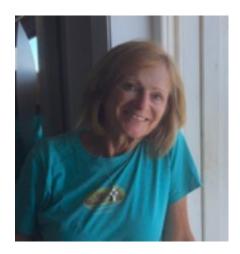
Tattler Editor -John & Carol Taggart

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

## Message from Pam Lindsay, President

Can you believe we are in March??!!! Totally unreal! But I hope you are all enjoying this great weather! (it will likely change tomorrow! Lol!)

We had a great' intimate' rally in Bakersfield in February...after 3 cancelations due to circumstances not expected, we had a total of 12 rigs. The resort went out



of their way to accommodate us and the clubhouse was totally great! The Lawson's new 30' trailer is spectacular! It's got to be seen to believe! You wouldn't necessarily think Bakersfield would be a great place to revisit...but I think it should be! We didn't get a chance to hit the top of the iceberg!

The early attendees went to lunch at the Woolgrowers, a popular Basque restaurant which was absolutely fabulous!! It was an experience not to be missed and only experienced in select locations! Family style dining with fabulous down home/root recipes served family style!

And yes!, there is more to come! We have a rally each month... the next one will be at Yanks, a new resort just outside the Pinnacles and close to the Monterey area. At this time there may still be some hope of joining in, but you will have to check with the host, Bob and Linda Minder!

After that we have a great rally set up for Anza Borrego and then Lopez Lake in Arroyo Grande. (check for the coupons to sign up as they are published/put on the website and in the

newsletter, the Tattler).

Rallying is what we do best and what binds us together. It's what this unit is all about! We are all about having fun camping (or, glamping) together and getting to know each other.. Sharing experiences, knowledge, and maintenance/techie stuff!

I have to admit that at Bakersfield we tested the KIS principle of keeping things simple, and I didn't hear any complaints (if you have any...speak now!) which was having appetizers (substantial) on Friday night rather than a full dinner, and then having pot luck on Saturday evening with continental breakfast on Sat and Sun. It made it much easier on the host(s), and as many of us have already come appreciate, this group is really congenial. (We are sooo lucky to have such great members!) So, I am putting out a pitch for you to step and co-host one of the upcoming rallies! (check out the Tattler and the website for updates on who is doing what...then contact the host or the vps, Walt and Judy Bremer to sign up!)

Like most organizations, we have approximately 15% of members actually volunteer.......I'm sorry, but that sucks! We are friendly! We are warm and fuzzy!! Join in......you'll feel the love!! Volunteer!...we'll help you along......you will never be alone!!! It's YOUR club....only you can make it what you expect/want it to be! If you have any questions/concerns......please don't hesitate to get in touch with me! I was once in your shoes...and now quite comfortable in mine!!!lo!!

Wishing you a great rest of Winter (?) and looking forward to seeing you this Spring!!!!

Cheers,

Pam

# **Contact your Board and other information:**

The Central Coast California Unit encompasses the scenic California coastal counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura but our members come from all around Southern California! We are an active, social group which participates in local, regional and international rallies. We are dedicated to the Creed created long ago by the Airstream founder, Wally Byam. Though Wally has passed, the words and wisdom of his Creed lives on in the many Airstream Clubs which remain active to this day. Established on April 10, 1965, we continue to enjoy "Fun, Friendship & Camping" throughout California.

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Central Coast California Website

CCC Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/groups/169080673115778/

WBCCI Region 12 Website

**WBCCI** Website

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www.centralcoastairstream.org

ook.com/groups/1090000/3113/76/

http://region12.wbcci.net

http://www.wbcci.org

#### It's A Long Long Trailer...Mary and David Lawson

Our newest Airstream trailer purchase came about from an innocent visit to the new Sky River RV's Buellton facility whilst on a quest for an Airstream-themed gift for the Holiday exchange at last December's CCC Rally in Buellton. Upon getting out of the truck I chanced to look across the lot and had an experience not unlike Lucy's in the iconic Long Long Trailer movie. I was enthralled and

instantly smitten! I asked for a tour from salesperson Janeen and the "hook was set." Here was the luxurious upgrade to what we had dreamed for in what was then our 2011 Flying Cloud 27FB without any remodeling on my part! Plus an extra three feet of space resulting in a separate living room, and loads of luxury upgrades (please see Airstream's website for extensive details and photos).

I'll enumerate the details Mary and I love: Corian counter tops everywhere, an incredible vinyl marine-grade carpet throughout, leatherlike seating, padded window treatments with day/night pull down shades, lots of overhead storage bins with automatic lighting, a 15"x18"



kitchen sink (and a large sink in the bathroom as well, TVs in both living and sleeping areas, two A/C units with whisper-quiet venting, a powered up and down dinette table, a powered bed (allowing one to lounge luxuriously) and whose upright setting allows for easily walking around the queen size bed, a cedar-lined closet, a two-person! sized bathroom with a window and a porcelain potty, accent lighting over the couch and bedroom overhead cabinets, additional dimmer lights scattered around the trailer, a combination LPG/electric hot water heater, a sound system with USB port that allows me to attach my SiriusXM equipped smart phone; and then onward to the outside of the trailer: powered stabilizer jacks (with manual over-ride), an extra large battery well allowing for deep storage 6-volt golf cart batteries, 2-40 gallon aluminum LPG tanks, a lighted strip along the curbside awning (the awning is manual, not electric as they are still working out the kinks), and finally the item that produced the most raves during the trailer's debutante appearance at Pam/Stuart and Carol's February Bakersfield Rally . . . a blue-lit DNA-double helix-designed lexan entry hand hold!

OK, so what were the reasons we--a normally mild-mannered couple, went completely bonkers for all this bling? After all, when we had purchased our first Airstream a little over five years ago, we'd

seen the door-bell equipped 30' Classic at that time, but we felt that the 22' Sport was more than adequate. Well it wasn't: a year later we moved up to the much more spacious 27' Flying Cloud, and then after a few years we started to add upgrades to that unit(in fact my next project was to have involved replacing the Formica surfaces and the kit/bath sinks). Thankfully, the new 30' Classic has saved us all the trouble and more! And when the sales person mentioned a 15-year mortgage we started to see the possibility. But just as the hook was being set, a few fellow club members recommended having us contact David Morse at Toscano RV where we found out that we could order the EXACT trailer configuration we wanted at an INCREDIBLE discount AND a generous consignment sale of our existing Airstream. All it took was two months of waiting like little kids during the holidays waiting for the 'present' to arrive 'under the tree.' And now it's parked in the back yard rv space at home using a 30 amp adapter for the 50 amp cord (while we await an electrician to upgrade our pedestal). Btw, the trailer's electronics are smart enough not to allow us to turn on both A/Cs at the same time while hooked to 30 amps and tripping the switches--smart! We can run both A/Cs when on 50 amp service.

We're signed up for the club's Borrego Springs Rally in April in case you want a personal walk-thru tour. In the evening we'll be the one with the glowing blue pole handle . . .

#### ...Towing with Airsafe a short review by David Lawson

Oh, one more thing that John asked for my review: the Airsafe trailer airbag/shock absorber hitch that we purchased. Yes, it really does smooth out the sharp jolts from potholes and uneven pavement. And it mates perfectly with the reliable and convenient Equal-i-zer 90-00-1000 weight-transfer hitch we bought. The nearly 100# combo hitch assembly extends a foot longer than normal

making it convenient for extra room when dropping the truck's tailgate and accessing all the storage in the truck bed while still hooked up. Incidentally, this longer hitch still gave no hint of sway in strong crosswinds or while passing oncoming semis on two-lane highways. The Airsafe is pricey (at \$1700 for the model XII we bought) but as the person who had one next to us at a Balloon Fiesta Rally in Albuquerque said: "it makes towing oh so much more comfortable!"

And isn't that what Glamping with an Airstream Classic is all about? Thanks for reading and as a noted TV travel personality says: "Keep on traveling!"



#### Sweet Pea...New Life for a 1982 24 Foot Airstream Motorhome by Paula Poll



The story of my 1982 24' Airstream Motorhome named (Sweet Pea).....starting the end of October, 2011.

The story begins with a posting of a "Garaged 1982 24' Airstream Motorhome" on ebay. The listing was from a pawn broker in Hollywood, Florida. He bought the motorhome through an estate sale and said it was garaged along with some Porsches. He told me he would hold it if I gave

him my plane reservation....it was a buy it now price with no bidding....I had a plan to go to Chicago with a girl friend and planned to fly to Florida upon my return the following week. My thought was that if I liked it, I would have my husband fly to Florida and we would drive it home. I arranged for a mechanic to inspect it upon my arrival in Florida.

I had been looking at Bvans both Airstream and other brands to use for girl friend getaways when my husband was not available to tow our 28' fully rebuilt Airstream Ambassador. I wanted something small that I could drive to dinner and not have to tow a toad (small vehicle). Prices were all over the map and I was tempted to buy a Pleasureway or Winnebago Rialta but none of these had a screen door.....now that may sound picky but to go camping where there are bugs and have to retreat inside, it is nice to have a screen door.....and, of course, a bathroom is essential.

We had spent 3 months last summer traveling across the US with our vintage Airstream and we hit some high temperatures in the mid west and some mosquitoes there as well. I was also used to a lot of attention the vintage aluminum Airstream attracts.....we met the nicest people all over the country and it was fun.

Back to Florida, I arrived on October 25 and met David, the pawn broker, at his used car lot in Hollywood, Florida the next day. I took photos and drove the motorhome which was not all that easy but I felt I was up to it. I then waited around for the mechanic to arrive......when he did, he gave me a list of things.....radiator leak, needed tires, had no muffler, no smog equipment (we live in California), rear air bags, cracked manifold but the engine seemed to have good compression and it was relatively clean on the inside considering its age. So after consulting with my Airstream friends and our mechanic, I gave him a lower offer and he refused My friends encouraged me to go for it and my mechanic said don't touch it. So I decided to pass and planned on going to a flea market not too far away the next day.

I mulled it over the next day and tried to find comps on line....even called the Airstream factory and it seemed that it was the only 1982 24' Airstream motorhome that exists so if that is the size I wanted. I needed to pick this one up (I have since seen 2) others on ebay so I am assuming they were all special orders because they did make 28' and 31' motorhomes that year)....so I texted the pawn broker a higher offer, he countered and we agreed.....now I had spent much of my time at the flea market (buying flamingos), I had to hustle to figure out how to get her home.....the number of repairs seemed daunting and having no familiar shops-tire, radiator, muffler, repair shops that even if I could get it repaired there was no guarantee that we could make it 3000 miles across the country home to California. That was when I got the idea to have her trailered home.....so I went to Uship and got some bids.....On Friday morning before I caught my flight home. I went to the used car lot and attempted to fax a wire request to my bank. It was 11 AM in Florida but only 7 AM in California and my bank was not open. Oh, yes, and the pawn broker wanted some cash to hold the vehicle. I opened my wallet and had \$60 to my name.....he looked at me incredulously and said he had never held a vehicle for \$60....but he did....so they gave me a bill of sale and I flew home leaving the vehicle and the faxed wire instructions......



The car shipper was on his way from Indio to Florida to pick up the motorhome....I hoped it would be there when he got there, it was and he picked it up for the return trip home. I received a title in the mail in about two weeks. I posted on Airforums that she was on her way home and offered to buy dinner for anyone who could spot it. About an hour later, I heard from friends we met in Oklahoma City on our cross country trip that they saw it in Weatherford, Texas. They asked if it was being

towed by a white truck....I texted the driver and he said yes.....so they saw Sweet Pea being trailered across the country behind two jet skis.

I held my breath while all the transportation was taking place because I had only a bill of sale in my hands....but everything worked out okay....she arrived in November 2011 all in one piece.

I needed a mechanic to work on the stuff that needed fixing and found Unique Auto Center near LAX. They had room and were willing to work on a 454 7.4 liter Chevy engine on a P 30 chassis. The mechanics worked on the cracked manifold, muffler, brakes, tires, air conditioner—you name it and it was in need of attention. Meanwhile the owner of the shop started taking things apart....removed the nasty carpeting, had the 2 couch/beds and chair re-upholstered, new galley cabinet with counter, bath sink and counter, shower removed and painted, (one thing led to another) new Fantastik vents, new Marmoleum flooring, new water heater, new door hinges—trying to save what could be reused. We reused the 2 table floor mounts (new table tops) and poles and I am sure there was something else that we reused. We saved the tambour doors on the overhead bins.....not that I love tambour so much.

We had a new entertainment center cabinet built and doors for under the couches in wood instead of upholstery. We re-skinned the wood surfaces on the walls, keeping the same floor plan. New curtains from our friend at 4 Corner Unit, Greg Schmuker are quite nice. Oceanaire blinds in bath and kitchen work nicely.

I forgot to mention that the holding tanks were cracked—Uwe Salwender found a tank repair connection for me.....there was no where to buy new tanks.

When we got around to the mirrors (new remote), side and back cameras, search light on top, air horn, radio and tv, converter, we moved from Unique to Premier RV Storage in Simi Valley and our friend, Rich Welch installed the electronic components....

She was polished while at Premier.

Fast forward to February 2016, we took her to Bakersfield for her maiden voyage after the redo. I had taken her to a rally in Lake Cachuma in early 2012 before doing anything on the interior. She drove okay but the brakes were not great. Also the upholstery smelled (had a dead mouse inside) and I didn't take her out for an adventure until 2016.

She fairly flew over the Grapevine on the trip to Bakersfield (about 6 miles to the gallon) and slowed on the descent.....she was really comfy on the inside....everything worked.....new stove, new water heater, refrigerator & furnace (not new) but still working.

Packing up, we noticed a significant oil leak....so after 4 quarts of oil and re-inflating the tires (major save by Rick) we made the trip home in about 2 hours with only wind gusts as an issue. She received a lot of attention both at the rally and on the road....and I am sure there are other issues (oil leak) that will be on the agenda.....stay tuned.

### Interesting Sites...Fun Travels...Roxanne Gross

We stopped at Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch on Route 66 outside of Victorville on the way back from a girls' trip to Las Vegas. Fascinating! You can look it up on the Internet for directions but well worth the trip. Check out the tops of the bottle trees for antique what-nots.

I also highly recommend Peggy Sue's Dinner outside of Barstow. Great 50's food (loved the onion rings), fun atmosphere and gift shop with lots of memorabilia. Travel Safe, Roxy



#### Note from the Editor.

I would like to apologize for the recent delay and omissions to the Tattler. I was sidelined due to several medical issues. I have spent several stays (weeks) at the hospital and some time with home care. I hope to never see another IV.

I thank my wife Carol for the added care and attention. It has been a demanding ordeal and hope the mend is on its way.

Something I might say to everyone...take care of health. Pay attention to your wellbeing. Good health is priceless. Always keep the shinny side up and keep the wheels rolling. Thanks for the kind wishes.

I hope to "get with it" in days to come.

John Taggart

# Rally Schedule - 2016

We need hosts/co-hosts for most of the 2016 rallies. Pick your location and then have fun with it! If you need help we have a great publication online on hosting rallies....just click: <a href="http://centralcoastairstream.wbcci.net/files/2013/07/Rally-Planning-Guide-2014-v4.pdf">http://centralcoastairstream.wbcci.net/files/2013/07/Rally-Planning-Guide-2014-v4.pdf</a>. To sign up please email any of the following: <a href="mailto:lindsay7043@sbcglobal.net">lindsay7043@sbcglobal.net</a>, <a href="mailto:jbremer@mac.com">jbremer@mac.com</a>, <a href="mailto:wbremer@mac.com">wbremer@mac.com</a>, <a href="mailto:wbremer@mac.com">participation</a> is the key to a successful rally.

#### January 8-11 Valencia Travel Village Cancelled/no host

We didn't have anyone volunteer to be hosts/co-hosts so the group reservation has been cancelled. As it turns out, there is mass construction going on all around the RV park so it may just have been fate!

February 19-21 Bakersfield RV Resort Co hosts: Pam and Stuart Lindsay; Carol Cunningham

Okay......Bakersfield? YES you are going to be blown away with this resort and the activities that are out there that you have never seen or imagined! This is a new venue for the club......make sure you don't miss it!

March 11-13 Yanks RV Park Hosts: Bob and Linda Minder/Mike and Nancy Jackson

Just outside the Pinnacles, this is a relatively new upscale park North of King City. The Pinnacles has been requested by several...lots of exploring to do! This is also a business meeting rally so we will have access to the clubhouse! Another new venue for CCC!

# April 15-17 The Springs at Borrego Co- Hosts: Linda and Jot Holenbeck, Roxy and Mike Gross

An all time favorite! This park has such attention to detail it will amaze you! When someone leaves and staff gets ready for the new arrivals...look for a design in your sand! It has a wonderful 9-hole golf course that surrounds the camp sites, and last time we were there they were adding additional sites. We will have access to a meeting room here also. Oh! Forgot to tell you,....GREAT hot spring Jacuzzis! (Plus tennis courts, etc.!)

May 13-15 Lopez Lake Hosts: John and Carol Taggart // Co-Hosts: Robin and Alan Sokolow

One of Stuart and my favorites since we have been camping! A rural setting with lots of space between sites! We will be in Quail, as we were last year...with El Nino in the predictions, we hope the lake will be back up!! The park has just installed a zip line...there are great hiking trails, and you can bike/hike to the back area and visit the Boy Scout camp/equestrian area. You will see wild turkeys, smaller wildlife (squirrels and such) and perhaps larger (bears! Oh my!) Arroyo Grande is a wonderful village to explore with a great gourmet cooking store and many antique stores.

**June/July/August-** The pot is brewing....more information to follow, but the rally committee is trying to put together a mini caravan! More info to follow!

**September 9-11 Big Bear Lake** Co-Hosts: Mike and Roxy Gross, Pam and Stuart Lindsay, and Mark and Shelly Griffin

Off to the mountains to where we have not been before! "Before what?" you may ask! Before the snow!!!!! We will be staying at a full hookup rv park right on the lake! They will have all sorts of water sport rentals! I think this will be great fun! An early introduction to fall...you can explore Big Bear Village, hike/bike....or just 'chill 'out.

#### October TBD dates Refugio coordinated by Bruce Yeoman hosts/co-hosts needed

With any luck at all, hopefully, there will be no more oil spills in the area!! This will be at a group site, boon docking. The scenery/location/etc is well worth it!!! Not to miss!!!

#### November 18-20 Wine Country RV in Paso Robles host/co-hosts needed

Home of the best Jacuzzi on the Central Coast, we'll have a community room for the election of officers. Lots of wine tasting possibilities, but don't over look the Pioneer Museum on the South side of town, or the air museum just down Airport Road. Tons of great restaurants....yum!

#### December 9-11 Pechanga Casino and RV Resort host/co-hosts needed

Out in Temecula with a great location to access outlet shopping/gambling/old town exploring...and, did I mention golf? This is the installation of new officers, so we will have access to a community room.

Thank you!

# Central Coast California Unit WBCCI Rally The Springs at Borrego RV Resort

2255 Di Giorgio Rd., Borrego Springs (760) 767-0004

http://www.springsatborrego.com April 15 – 17, 2016

Hosts: Jot & Linda Hollenbeck and Mike & Roxy Gross (310) 809-5607 or (310) 809-0648 email: pvjot@me.com



#### **Tentative Schedule**

#### Friday: check in,

5PM happy hour,

bring heavy apps to share

Saturday: Light breakfast provided

Explore the natural wonders

of Borrego Springs

4PM open house: sign up to show off your pride & joy! 5PM happy hour followed by

pot luck dinner. campfire, stargazing

Sunday: light breakfast provided,

clean up and depart for home

## Rally Information

**General Information:** The Springs at Borrego is in a beautiful desert setting with lots of opportunity for hiking and viewing wild flowers and birds. It is also a top-rated resort with swimming, massages and a 9 hole golf course!

Meals Included in Fee: Breakfast Sat-Sun

**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. Also, bring binoculars and telescopes for stargazing.

#### **Directions:** From Los Angeles

Directions: (Be sure to check resort's website, pull out your maps and charge your GPS!) From Los Angeles, and from experience, the easiest way is to: Take I-10E to Hwy 86S just past Indio and head south toward the Salton Sea. Exit onto S22 at Salton City and head west. Note: first 4 miles of S22 is full of whoop-dee-doos. Take your time.

If you take I-15 south to Hwy 79S to S2 you can continue to 78E to S3 and approach Borrego from the south, or take S22 at Ranchita and drive slowly and with care down the 8% Montezuma Grade.

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	April Borrego Spring	gs Rally
Name		WBCCI No
Address		
City, State, Zip	Email	
Phone	Cell	Rig length
Emergency Contact: Name		Phone:
Nights Present: Extra night* □	Friday □ Saturday □ @	\$ 57/night \$
Rally Fees: \$20 per rig, \$10 single		\$
Saturday Golf? # players	TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$
*please specify:		

Please mail coupon and check (payable to Central Coast Unit WBCCI) by March 8, 2016 to: Jot & Linda Hollenbeck, 29503 Quailwood Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275 Final Coupon to be

completed Soon in

separate mailing

...Plan to attend

Lopez Lake...May 13-15

#### Pam Lindsay

# Central Coast California Unit WBCCI Rally May 13-15, 2016

## **Lopez Lake Recreational Area**

6800 Lopez Dr., Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 Hosts: Carol & John Taggart (626) 285-8441 Co-Hosts: Robin and Alan Sokolow (831) 659-5466

#### Tentative Schedule

#### Friday:

4:00pm social hour 5:00 pm dinner provided by hosts (w/veggie alternative). Campfire TBD at the hosts site

#### Saturday:

8:30 Breakfast provided

Fun filled day exploring Arroyo Grande/

Lopez Lake on your own! Hiking, biking, kayaking, or just kicking back!

5 pm social hour & potluck dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share: main, appetizer, side or dessert

#### **Sunday:**

8:30 am Breakfast provided 11 am Check Out

#### **Rally Information**

**General Information:** Lopez Lake is a rural setting, but camping in Quail will bring full hookups & a great opportunity to enjoy the local wildlife! For the most part there is no cell service/internet, so it's a great place to truly escape for the weekend! Check in time is 3:00 pm, check out 11:00am. Please contact to park directly for any variance.

Meals Included in Fee: Friday dinner, Sat. and Sun breakfasts.

What to Bring: A dish to share for Sat pot luck, your own drinks for Friday/Saturday Happy hour, your own coffee, and a flexible nature since March weather can be 'a bit off'.

**Directions:** Driving north or south on Highway 101 take the Grand Ave Exit in Arroyo Grande. Turn east onto Grand Ave and head towards the mountains. You will drive through old town Arroyo Grande to Huasna Road. Turn right onto Huasna Road. Huasna Road becomes Lopez Drive. Stay on Lopez Drive for approximately 10 miles. At this point the road ends at the entrance to Lopez Lake. (Signs are posted along the way.) Park is on your left hand side.

**Additional fees to be paid individually upon arrival:** \$3.50 per pet per day. Motorized boats \$10, non-motorized boats \$5, sailboards \$3. If you intend on bringing any type of boat, follow the inspection procedures found on: www.slocountyparks.com/information/quagga\_info\_asof\_4\_6\_10.pdf

Questions: Contact Carol (626) 840-6434 jtag@sbcglobal.net