

The Tattler

Airstream Owners of California



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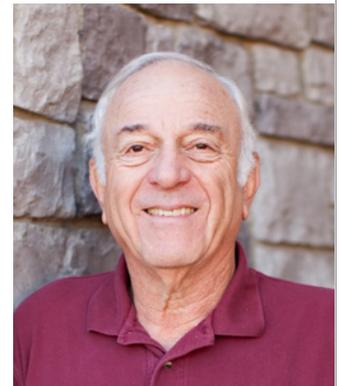
Tattler Editor -

Linda Hollenbeck

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

Message from Roger Siminoff, President

The Region 12 Rally just took place at the Camatta Ranch, and we heard that it was a great event. Rosemary and I were unable to attend so we're looking forward to reading more about it in the article Gary Mellinger prepared for this month's *Tattler*.



Pam and Stuart Lindsay will be co-hosting the November Rally at Ocean Mesa with Paula and Ed Poll, and they are seeking a third host. Do we have any volunteers? If so, please contact Pam at: lindsay7043@sbcglobal.com. (You may recall that the Rally Committee has recommended that we utilize the services of three hosts at our rallies to increase the fun and decrease the workload a bit.)

As we reported earlier, the insurance at Star Farms skyrocketed – as did their fees – and we were unable to continue our plans for the September Rally there. Pam advised me that the Rally Committee has secured a group campsite at the Ventura Ranch KOA for the same dates (Sept 18-20). Now that we have a location, we're ready for some volunteers to host the rally. Once again, this is a three-host opportunity, so the workload is on the light side. If you would like to jump in and help make this rally a success, please contact Pam at: lindsay7043@sbcglobal.com.

And, while on the subject of rallies, the no-host

rally at San Simeon (August) is in question because of the water and fire potential there. Pam and the team are monitoring that location and will let us know if plans change.

For decades, our highly differentiated Airstream trailers were considered to be both a cut above and an outcast. They were a cut above because of their fine craftsmanship and attention to detail. And, they were an outcast because their design and styling just didn't fall in line with what other manufacturers were doing. Well, Airstream has just been recognized as the number one manufacturer of diesel B-vans - the Interstate - with 33.7% marketshare in this segment. Not only is it the number one seller, it is also the most expensive unit with prices around the \$150,000 mark. The Interstates are used for business as well as a "touring coach" as opposed to the rest of Airstream's line, which are intended primarily for extended travel. Airstream is starting to send Interstates to Thailand for business executives to use as offices when stuck in traffic jams. It's exciting to see this change in how people use RVs, and it's great news to know that our mothership is healthy and growing.

The WBCCI International Rally is going to be held in Farmington, New Mexico from June 26 to July 4. Many of our members have attended an International Rally at least once, and some have gone several times. There's a lot to be said about the International Rally on both sides of the ledger, and comments abound regarding how they are run, attention to detail, scheduling issues, their rather impersonal approach to members and units, and more. Hearing these rumors poses two issues for WBCCI members: 1) don't attend, or 2) attend and do what we can to make it better. Rosemary and I went to the 2013 International Rally in Huron, South Dakota and were a bit disappointed. As a result, we took a proactive stance and prepared a rather detailed list of our recommendations and concerns, and forwarded them to WBCCI. We know that we were heard (they instituted a change or two), but whether our input will ever make a real difference, we'll never know. Change will only happen as a result of member effort - this is our club. On the plus side, we met some great folks at International two years ago and had the wonderful pleasure of reconnecting with them and spending some quality time at AlumaFiesta. In fact, we're planning on meeting up with them again at Alumapalooza at the end of May. Seeing them again and connecting gave us a new meaning for the International Rally because the Rally helped to seed this new relationship. Neither Rosemary and I nor Pam and Stuart are able to attend International this year, so I am happy to announce that David and Mary Lawson will represent the CCC unit at the International Rally. Also attending will be Keith and Lynne Valley. So, while I can't suggest that you go to International, I can certainly suggest that you consider it. (If you are going, please send me an email so I know who from our unit will be attending.)

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

Roger

Travel along with Cal & Peggy



Sarasota Rally/Georgia Plantation Caravan

Georgia Plantation was our twelfth WBCCI caravan. We included the Sarasota Florida Alumafleming Rally as part of our trip.

We visited relatives in Yuma AZ, Tucson and Houston arriving in Florida to visit more relatives and friends in the Sarasota area.

The Alumafleming Rally in Sarasota, was attended by 127 Airstreams, about half the number of last year. We were pleased with the food, entertainment and meeting Airstreamers, many of whom we knew from previous caravans. Many of the 127 headed to St. Augustine for the Florida State Rally that followed.

Some of Clive Towndrow's family lived close by and visited us. Clives' Dad, Tony, had many Airstream stories to tell, and we enjoyed them all.

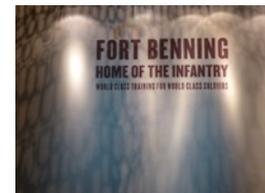
Tarpon Springs has a large harbor with many attractions including fantastic seafood and Greek restaurants. Oysters on the half shell were our favorite. We also had an

opportunity to take boat rides out to off shore islands with our friends.

After nine days in that area of Florida, we headed north to the state of Georgia to meet up with the Plantation Caravan.

Winston and Carol Montague were the leaders of the caravan and dear friends of ours from other caravans. The Plantation Caravan was only 20 days and attended by 23 rigs. Five campgrounds were on the itinerary.

Since I spent two years of my life at Fort Benning and we were close by, it was a must that I visit it to see if I could identify with



anything. I could recognize just one thing, the jump towers on Main Post. The Infantry Museum was new and very interesting. Many young soldiers were there. I was looking at items in the Gift Shop when I overheard soldiers discussing the Bausch & Lomb sunglasses which were \$62.00. I commented that they were seven dollars when I was stationed here, 60 years ago, they could not believe it.

The caravan itinerary was excellent, taking us to many old plantations, museums, the Tall Timber Research Station and a Quail hunting lodge where we experienced shooting skeet.

We visited Andersonville where 31000 Union troops were held during the Civil War, 13000 died and were buried there. It memorializes POWs from all wars and is a National Park. (cont'd)

Plains Georgia, the home of Jimmy Carter was also a high point of the trip. He was not in town that weekend but he is usually teaching Sunday school at his local church.



All of the caravan members were treated to a horse drawn carriage ride through the town of Madisonville to see homes built in the 1800s. Many of these homes were saved when General Sherman torched Atlanta and vicinity.

The dogwoods, cherry blossoms, azaleas and other flowers were in full bloom.



The caravan Banquet dinner, our last get together, was in a town called Social Circle, Georgia. The Blue Willow Inn, a large plantation style

home, was where the event was

held. It was a bittersweet moment

to be leaving such fine friends and hope to see them on a future caravan.



Our next stop on the way home was the WWII Museum in New Orleans which we thoroughly enjoyed.

Easter weekend was celebrated with our daughter and her family in Houston and we enjoyed a tour of that City as well.

After all our travels and sightseeing, we are back home in beautiful Ventura. We decided it is still our favorite place to be.

By Cal Meuser

Camatta Ranch - Cali-Rally by Gary Mellinger

The first annual Region 12 Camatta Ranch Cali-Rally began Thursday morning at the entrance of the Camatta Ranch, 40 minutes east of Santa Margarita California, on SR 58. We pulled into the entrance parking area along with friends Rick and Dena. We were the first arrivals and were greeted by the Welcome/Parking team. We were assigned a wonderful spot with a rear slope which was perfect for accommodating our generators out of hearing range. While parking, we noticed that there were approximately 10 rigs already parked, which belonged to the rally organizers. The rally was a boon-docking, dry-camping adventure, which for us Airstreamers, is no challenge at all: being off the grid for 4 days. (Cont'd.)

The Camatta Ranch is a working cattle ranch of 32,000 acres (7 mi. x 7 mi. or 49 sq. miles.) The Morrison family which owns the ranch, also operates a hunting camp and Lazy Arrow Outdoors Adventures. Wild boar is the game, if you fancy bagging your own pork. Camatta features an exotic animal compound as well as a rare mechanical machinery museum.

Fifty-nine rigs and 115 of our closest friends arrived over the next two days. It was a field of silver among the hills of gold after all had arrived. Our next-door neighbors were Brian and Margaret and their daughter Ivy, of the Golden West Unit, and on the other side were our Simi Valley neighbors, Rick and Dena.

Christa and I have never been to a Region Rally before, even though we've been members of WB for over 8 years, and have attended many large rallies including Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque. We found it such fun becoming reacquainted with many friends we've met over the years. We also met several wonderful folks we realized we'd like to hang out with in the future. It's easy to see why lifelong friendships are developed at events such as this.



After we got settled in and had lunch, we had time to catch up with our most recent traveling friends. For those who wanted to get a little exercise, some walked, biked and played western games such as Horseshoes and Cornhole. Before we knew it, it was time for our social hour mixer with appetizers including Ranch boar sausage prepared by our Ranch chef. Looking out over the dining tables, we found them to be decorated with western tablecloths and really cool mason jar LED lights on each table, which made it so elegant. Also, a couple of wooden horses on each. Dinner included Camatta Ranch burgers and hot dogs, all the fixings including a salad and a tasty barley dish and of course a camping favorite, beans. After dinner the rally team had our 2 campfires already lit. For our entertainment, 15 year-old Amaya Rose, Calif. State Fiddle Champion, entertained us during dinner and also played a concert after.



Friday morning arrived, and our gracious hosts had coffee and breakfast for our gang. At 10:00, the Ranch provided a hayride and another wagon for half of our attendees to tour a little of the ranch. It was about a 45-minute narrated tour, with Camatta owners Felicia and Mark, and their sons Hostin and Garrett. Lunch was on our own, and then the afternoon was packed with Jim's "Checklists and Light Maintenance" seminar, then Yvonne's presentation on "Camp In Comfort." It was a bit warm, in the mid-80's outside, but with a refreshing breeze. Some of our guests saw the wild boar in the distant hills, but we personally didn't.

Now we're already into our social mixer and our 21 Chili Chefs were already preparing their delicious chow. Others were getting together their pot luck favorites to accompany our main Chili dishes. The winner of the Chili Cook-off was Nancy Murphy from the Long Beach Unit and Pam Pall of the GLA Unit came in second. Friday night's campfire entertainment was Emily, the Ranch owners' daughter. She switched back and forth playing guitar and then ukulele. She sang everything including country, bluegrass, contemporary pop, and even Gershwin. Emily also asked her Mom to come up and

accompany her in backup vocals. It was a most enjoyable evening. And the overnight lows got down into the low 30's, making for what some called a 3-dog night.

Saturday morning found Tom manning the coffee pots again, and another scrumptious breakfast from the much-appreciated breakfast team. 9AM was the swap meet around the wagons (trailers) with some really great bargains. Then another 10:00 Ranch tour for those who didn't go on Friday. At 1:00, an archery lesson was featured under the trees, with practice into several hay bales with targets posted. It was really fun and very interesting. At 2PM, Olivias de Oro folks came to host an olive oil and balsamic vinegar tasting. There were a lot of sales for their tasty treats. What a packed day.



Urban Cowgirls

We gathered in the late afternoon for our trolley and hayride limo trip to the stage and dinner area of the ranch. Upon arrival at dinner central, everyone picked out their tables with friends, and enjoyed Ranch appetizers. B&E Vineyards in Paso hosted a wine tasting and quite a few bottles were bought for tables and future indulgence. Our Ranch Family catered our dinner, starting with veggie appetizer wraps, Ranch pork sausage, and marinated skewers of rosemary threaded with tomato, artichoke, cheese and olives. Dinner was an amazing BBQ tri-tip from their family's herd, as well as chicken, accompanied with salads and garlic bread and beans. Folks were delighted with brownies and ice cream for dessert. The evening's entertainment on stage were the Cali Rally All-Stars, a group of professional musicians, friends of the Morrisons. After a few songs, our dance directors

Fredric and Beverly gathered up our rally folks, pretty soon we had half the audience dancing. Line dancing was initiated by Judy, many folks followed and soon Ranch son Hosten was there in the line too. The band played an encore of another couple of songs making our audience and dancers happy.

All too soon it was time to climb aboard our cowboy limos and head back to the table glow of the jar lamps at camp. Then the campfires were lit, and some kept warm outdoors, while others retreated to their silver nests. The end came much too soon for an absolutely delightful rally with such good friends.

A great big "THANK YOU" to our rally-host families: Stansbury, Smithson, Polk, Bechthold, Amundsen, Handshoe, Murphy, Sickler, Scheuer, and Jackson.

We'll see you down the road.

Cheers, Gary

Living Together 24-7 in an RV - How Do You Do It?

(an excerpt from Air-Hitch Advisor)

Do you think you and your spouse or partner can live together 24 hours a day, seven days a week in 240 square feet of space - more or less? Put that way, it seems daunting, yet thousands do so happily in a recreational vehicle or RV!

When you consider, that for many of these couples, one or both have been working and out of the house for years until right before they take off together in their RV, it means two adjustments. Not only do they adjust to living in a tiny space, they are also adjusting to living together constantly. Either one can be a big adjustment. Adjusting to both together can strain the relationship. A little knowledge and planning can ease the way into all this togetherness.

Tips for Living Together in an RV

At first, it may seem like you are on vacation. And, you are. That is familiar and you have past behavior to draw on. As the days move on, it may feel like too much togetherness. How do you cope? Here are some suggestions from other RVers. By the way, most caution two things:

You and your spouse must like each other. Both you and your spouse must want to live this lifestyle, even if only for a certain period of time. If you have those two things going for you, the rest can be worked out.

Here are 10 techniques you can use:

- 1 Own space: Have your own bit of space, however tiny. You might stakeout a certain place to sit in the evenings or a place to work on crafts or hobbies.
- 2 A retreat: The bedroom or perhaps a corner can be a "retreat" for whomever is needing a little "space."

- 3 Different bedtimes: One spouse may already stay up a little later or wake up earlier. This gives the other a little "alone" time.
- 4 Marriage saver: Whoever watches TV alone, please use headphones. Listening to music should be the same unless both people want to listen. The fact that one partner has on headphones gives both a sense of privacy.
- 5 Solo activities: Do some activities by yourself. You may be traveling in close quarters but that doesn't mean you have to be joined at the hip and do everything together. Walking, biking, walking the dog, shopping, rig maintenance can be done alone.
- 6 "A You day": go off for the day on your own.. It doesn't need to involve spending money, just some time away. Invariably these days are renewing and you have things to share with your partner.
- 7 Get involved: If you are staying at an RV park or resort, check to see if there are any activities going on in the park or community that you might have an interest in.
- 8 Find friends: Join an RV club or interest group within it so you can have individual friends as well as couples who are friends. Working or volunteering on the road can give you time doing your own thing plus the chance to interact with other people.
- 9 Recognize stress: Recognize when you are getting stressed from traveling. Packing up and changing locations every day can be stressful. Schedule some days to putter around and stay put for a while. (cont'd)

- 10 Communication skills: Improve your communication skills. Be clear about your needs and requests and honor each other.

If you respect each other and recognize your partner's need - and your own - for personal physical and psychological space now and then, you can create an even better relationship and enjoy this lifestyle. Keep in mind that your partner may need more or less space than you do. Each needs to take responsibility for

themselves and find ways to meet this need. And, remember not to take your partner's genuine need as a personal affront to you or your relationship.

About the Author: Jaimie Hall Bruzenak is an RV Lifestyle Expert.



From the Editor:

Jot and I have had the opportunity to stay on Camp Pendleton, Del Mar Beach, for a few days awaiting the arrival of our new grand daughter. You know you are on base when Armored Personnel Vehicles roll by your door at 8:00 in the morning.

Still no baby as of the publishing date.

Also note: There will be a June/July *Tattler*, so if you have an article you think others would enjoy reading, please submit it to me by June 20th.



Rally Schedule - May to December 2015

May 14-17 (Thursday-Sunday): Moss Landing **call for space: (805) 258-3901**

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 11](#)

June 12-14 (Friday-Sunday): Emma Wood State Beach (No-Host). Here's another ocean- side opportunity for a great summer weekend break.. Make you're 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. **Due to drought, water restrictions have been implemented.** 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): Ventura Ranch KOA - Hosts needed
Come exploring at the Ventura Ranch KOA! Located on 76 acres set back in the California hills with a beautiful nature trail on property. Come try the zip line and scratch this thrilling ride off your Bucket-List!

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 Pam Lindsay and Paula and Ed Poll 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

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, CA 93003

Questions: Contact Bob or Linda at (805) 258-3901 or rkminder@msn.com