

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

Hope this month's issue of *The Tattler* finds you all well, and visiting a piece of our beautiful country somewhere. There's so much to see and we're all very fortunate to be able to experience and enjoy our National treasures in our Airstreams.



One morning, while camping at Morro Bay State Park where Rosemary and I often camp, a fellow was walking his dog and came by our trailer. "Hey," he said pointing to our trailer, "I didn't know you could rent those trailers!" I looked back at our trailer and responded, "That's not a rental." "It's not?" he asked, "Well what do those numbers mean?"

Speaking about numbers, Paula reported that we're getting close to the 80-family mark and that's pretty exciting. Helping us reach that number, I'd like to welcome new member Todd Bebb, and Melissa and Wayne Yee as returning Affiliate members, and Terry Gadaire and Michael Brekke as new Affiliate members. Welcome all.

I just learned that Nancy and Michael Jackson were in an accident involving their truck and Ocean Breeze trailer. Fortunately, they are both fine (but their truck and trailer weren't as fortunate). Apparently, they were on Hwy. 122 in Bakersfield heading to I-5 when a flatbed truck pulled out in front of them. It's an incident none of us want to experience. Most importantly, they are okay, and I

know you join me in saying that we're glad they are well and hope to see them at a rally soon.

Rosemary and I (along with several other CCC members and affiliates) went to AlumaFiesta in Tucson in mid January, and despite three days of rain, good times were spent with both new and old Airstream friends. You can read more about the event and learn about your Vice President's performance in the Aluminum Chef contest later in this issue of *The Tattler*.

We're back to Wine Country RV for our next rally – March 6-8 – and it promises to be a good one. The Kiger's will be your hosts with us (the Siminoff's) at their side co-hosting. We have some fun things in store for you including an after-dinner concert of some good old bluegrass music! And, while on the subject of the rally, there will be a membership meeting on Saturday morning March 7 at 9:30 right after breakfast in which the membership will be voting on creating a new Board position for our Membership Director. The Board believes that the Membership Director plays a vital role in overseeing our most valuable asset – our members – and that all growth and development issues relating the unit should include direct guidance and input from membership. The creation of this new Board position is not to commend Gary for his great work (although he certainly deserves a ton of compliments) but instead to have a direct link between membership and our Board. There will also be a Board meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday (any member is welcome to sit in and listen).

Within the next month or so, we will be adding a Membership Directory to the secure password-protected section of our web site. We're currently preparing and editing the list, and it will only include your name, address, phone number, email address, and WBCCI#. In consideration of your privacy, please email me if you DO NOT want your information included in this listing or if you want to restrict any specific part of your information.

Have safe and fun travels, and I hope to see you soon at a rally.

Roger



Tech Tips: by Michael Jackson (tried by Jot Hollenbeck)

Some of you may have had the same problem with your on-board refrigerator not deciding to switch for Auto to LP or vice-versa. This tip should help - Try turning it off and on three (3) times to reset it. Works like a charm.

Meet a New CCC Member



Steve & Christina Kensrue

Greetings,

Chris and I are new to trailer camping. Wanted to get out and do a little sightseeing and traveling. Spent years looking at all the options and settled on the classic I've seen all my life.....an Airstream. Figured they must know how to build them good after that long of being in production.

We decided on a new 2015 25' Flying Cloud FB Twin. Choose the twin beds to have that visually longer hallway (interior). Black leatherette cushions and stuck with the aluminum blinds and added the Solar and Awning packages.

We think we'd like it to be self-sustaining (eventually higher watt solar) and be able to dry camp wherever we find an accommodating beautiful location, dog friendly with good fishing close by.

Chris is an excellent chef and I've been an artist (sculptor) all my life with some background in prototype sailplane and had a dental lab for a while. (cont'd)

We have two grown kids, Aren and Rebecca. A Rhodesian Ridgeback, Tibetan Terrier, 35 year old parrot (Lilac Crowned Amazon, Parakeet and a Himalayan cat.

I enjoy Early American Blues and Country Blues, Acoustic guitar and 50's-60's era music. Now, Christina may have a different take on her music, sometimes my twangy stuff drives her nuts, she's a bit more diverse than I.



Death Valley - Furnace Creek - February 2015

Not being real desert fans, Mike & I decided going with the CCCers was the best option for our first trip to Death Valley. And we were right! After a six hour drive through a lot of same-same scenery, we were treated to a wonderful gathering of Airstreams at Furnace Creek Ranch. Many of the group came in a day early, so our adventure started on Wednesday night. There is nothing better than sharing the gorgeous starry night sky in a remote location like Death Valley. Several of us got out our iPads and used apps to track the stars real-time. You can try Sky Safari, Star Finder, Star Guide (and several others) to help discover and learn about the constellations.

By Thursday 20 rigs were gathered with one more joining us on Friday. Jot & Linda were the perfect tour guides. Checking out the harsh terrain and fabulous rock vistas was incredible. We took advantage of the tours planned including Scotty's Castle, Artists' Drive,

Devil's Golf Course, and the Borax Museum. If you haven't been, it is worth at least one trip to wonder at the vastness of the area and the hardiness of those that settled that area. It is remote so having other Airstreamers, including 2 that were just camping there, was the way to go.



Top - Scotty's Castle & Badwater Basin - Bottom - Teeing up at Devil's Golf course & Artists Palette - see pg. 10

Naturally Mike (and 5 others) had to try golf at the Furnace Creek course - 214 feet below sea level. Something new to add to the "I did it list". Not bad golf but definitely interesting with coyotes joining on the fairways. They didn't seem particularly leery of the golfers just wanted a drink from the water hazards.

We came together each night for Happy Hour and dinner. Unfortunately the winds came up on Friday, blowing like crazy which cut our campfire time. We made up for it on Saturday night with a terrific dinner of Desert Rat (beef) Chili, followed by 35 of us around the campground's fire pit - eating dessert, singing and laughing. Great fun!

On Sunday about half our group packed up to head home or explore other areas. We stayed until Monday for one more group get-together.

Good time – great group. Just a reminder. As a WBCCI Airstreamer, you can always join another rally. If you go online, you can see where other units might be going. If it sounds good, call the host and see if there is availability. That's what it's all about.

Many thanks to Jot and Linda for putting together a superb rally, Roxy

A Gathering of Airstreams in

Tucson

Roger & Rosemary Siminoff

Rich Luhr and Brett Greiveldinger of R&B Events, LLC – both who are seasoned Airstreamers – have taken a very proactive role in creating meaningful, fun, and rewarding events for their fellow Airstream owners. Their “Aluma” events – AlumaFiesta, AlumaFlamingo, AlumaPalooza, and AlumaFandango are geared towards providing a meaningful week full of rich content for Airstream owners to gather and share their experiences and explore the local area.

As the name implies, AlumaFlamingo is held in Florida (this year in Sarasota from February 24 to March 1). AlumaPalooza will be held at the Airstream factory in Jackson Center, Ohio from May 26-31, and the AlumaFiesta was just held in Tucson from January 27 to February 1. AlumaFandango, previously held at the Seven Feathers resort in Canyonville, Oregon in September will not be held this year, but will likely return in 2016 to a location in Northern California.

We mini-caravanned to Tucson with the Mellingers, signaling them when we left Atascadero, and contacting them again when we passed through Burbank, with the hope of closely aligning our schedules. Our first night's stop was the Elk's lodge in Indio, and the Mellingers pulled in just 10

minutes after we arrived. While we could have made Tucson the next day, we decided to stop at Picacho RV Park along I-10, a nice campground at the foot of the beautiful Picacho Peak, about 45 minutes west of Tucson. And, we're glad the Mellingers were with us because we had a check engine light come on in our Dodge Ram as we headed out the next morning. Although we made it to the AlumaFiesta site just fine, it was comforting to have Gary and Christa close at hand.

This year's AlumaFiesta was held at the Lazydays KOA campground, a large full-service campground with 387 campsites, event center, two pools, and a recreation area. The campground is owned by Lazydays and managed by KOA. Lazydays is a major producer of Class A, Class B, Class C, fifth wheel, travel trailer, pop-up, and truck campers. Lazydays has one of their key service and repair facilities adjacent to the campground. (cont.'d)



Of major importance is that Airstream recently announced a relationship with Lazydays to have a collaborative service and parts facility for Airstream at this Lazydays location. During AlumaFiesta, the timing was perfect for us to hear Justin Humphreys, Airstream's Vice President of Sales, talk about this new relationship with Lazydays and preside over a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Justin shared some exciting information about Airstream's progress and reminded us that Airstream is the only trailer company still in business since 1931. He went on to report that the past three years have marked an all-time sales high for Airstream. The company is now in the process of expanding the factory and building new executive offices that will be integrated into the middle of the plant to provide an optimum link between all facets of the company's operations. After the ribbon cutting, everyone piled into the Airstream/Lazydays parts store, which now boasts many Airstream-related parts and promotional items (mugs, t-shirts, caps, etc.). In recognition of the new relationship, attendees to the AlumaFiesta were given a special \$25.00 gift coupon (which most of

us used in a hurry) and a commemorative Airstream/Lazydays coin.

The week was packed with scheduled events that included activities and tours such as yoga, polishing techniques, visit to Colossal Cave, visit to an active open-pit copper mine, bike trips, a trip to the oldest anthropology museum, a culinary tour of downtown Tucson, Chinese tea tasting experience, a trip to a Titan II missile site, and a presentation on Airstream maintenance and preparation for a road trip. And, I was honored to be asked to give a presentation on "Improving the Storage in your Airstream." And, of course, there was plenty of time to just relax and visit with friends – old and new.



Evening events included traditional Mexican dances performed by Ballet Folklórico San Juan, an acrobatic and juggling act by Cirque Roots, and an a cappella concert by Noterietty Acapella (a student group from the University of Arizona). And, of course, evening raffles were always looked forward to as attendees' names were pulled from a box. (cont.'d)

A highlight of the event was the Aluminum Chef cook-off in which seven chefs competed for top-chef billing. Of the seven, three made it to the final round, which included our own Vice President Pam Lindsay, CCC Affiliate member Terry Gadaire, and Charlie Wright (of Tucson). The ingredients for the first round were published on the AlumaFiesta website one and half weeks prior to the event, which gave the chefs some time to plan. The actual preparations of their dishes had these chefs locked down and busy during the day of each round. The judges were Rich, Eleanor (Rich's wife), and Brett who carefully tasted the savory meals as many hungry attendees and anxious chefs looked on. The first tasting and judging was done on Thursday evening after which four of the seven chefs were eliminated. The three runners-up were then given a surprise bag of contents from which they had to develop their creation for the final round. The award for top Aluminum Chef went to Terry Gadaire with Pam Lindsay placing second. (We don't want to appear partial to our Vice President, but we thought Pam's dishes were astoundingly beautiful and equally delicious.) Regardless, we were thrilled to have our CCCers take the top two places.



On the way back home, the Lindsays, Polls, and Minders decided to take I-8 and stop in Yuma, Arizona for a couple of nights at a wonderful high-end campground that the Polls knew of. We were going to head up to I-10 and camp near Quartzsite but decided at the last minute to join the folks in Yuma for one more enjoyable night together before heading home. Gary and Christa were caravanning with Melissa Yee on their way back. When they tried to get a reservation at the same high-end (uppity?) campground, Melissa was told that her trailer (a non-Airstream) was not new enough to meet to the standards of the campground, so sadly, the Mellingers and Melissa had to camp elsewhere while the rest of us took advantage of the Poll's recommendation for this wonderful park.

The AlumaFiesta, our second Aluma event, left us with good memories and closer bonds, and we're already looking forward to the next one!

Rally Schedule - March to December 2015

March 6-8 (Friday - Sunday) Wine Country RV Resort - (Meeting)

Hosts: Mark & Glenda Kiger and Roger & Rosemary Siminoff. Call Mark for availability. (805) 354-5119 Come and celebrate the "Irish" in us all as we return to springtime in Paso Robles and Wine Country RV Resort. This time we'll be camping on the upper level and enjoying the use of the upper clubhouse.

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. This year, Region 12 selected the Camatta Ranch to replace the Hobo Rally. Hiking, western barbecue, and lots of time to connect. [Coupon on website](#)

May 14-17 (Thursday-Sunday): Moss Landing

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 10](#)

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. 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**May 2015 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



Furnace Creek - by John Taggart

February 2015