

UWAC Club News

Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club News

Volume 9 — JANUARY 2020 — WBCCI's Utah Affiliate



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Farewell

What a long strange trip it's been!

It is hard to believe the time has passed and it is time for me to step down as UWAC president. When Ben had the idea to revive the Utah unit, I thought he was crazy. I wanted nothing to do with it. We were not joiners or club people. I thought we were doing just fine dragging our little trailer, and our two little daughters all over the west. But Ben used his charm and soon I reluctantly agreed to help him. Getting the club going wasn't easy. There were many ups and downs and things to learn and learn again. We are still learning! Somehow we made it through, and now we have 40+ members. A number that is crazy exciting to me!

Looking back, by far the best thing has been meeting all of you. I am so thankful to all of you for coming out and supporting our rallies and events. The members are what make this club so interesting and so fun. We have shared some wonderful experiences together. I would like to give a special heartfelt thanks to John & Bonnie Ruskauff, Jim & Barb Powell, Ron & Holly Jorgensen, and Keith & Jeanne Lund. These members have been with us from the beginning. We couldn't have done it without them. They continue to give of their time and talents to the club. I am excited to see what happens next!

I would like to encourage (or beg) each of you to host a rally. It doesn't have to be a big production. All you really need is a location, a date, tell the club, and show up. For the club to keep going, we all need to take a turn. Utah has a never ending supply of interesting places to visit. I am sure you have a favorite you would like to share with your fellow Airstreamers.

Someone asked me recently, if they would see us at events when I was no longer president. I laughed a little and said your not getting rid of us that easy! It has been a long strange trip but we are in it for the long haul.

See you down the road!

Julie Schofield

Co-Founder and Past President, Utah's Wasatch Airstream Club



Message from the President

JIM POWELL

I am honored to serve as President of the UWAC and know I have big shoes to fill after the fine leadership of Ben and Julie Schofield. We have a great club and live in a beautiful part of the country with amazing places to camp. I retired in 2015, and we bought our first Airstream (a Flying Cloud 23D) the following year. We bought it used, unsure if this was the lifestyle we wanted, and quickly became hooked on "Airstreaming". Four years later, we are enjoying our 30 foot Classic, taking it to new places as well as old favorites; visiting friends and family, but also getting out and meeting new people in our travels. We are still getting to know members in the club so please stop by and introduce yourself to me, and my wife Barb, at the next club function.

We have a few rallies planned for 2020, starting with a kick-off rally in early May in Monument Valley. The weather should be warm, the scenery beautiful and the company fun and enthusiastic. I'd encourage you to sign up early. We are always looking for new rally ideas and rally hosts and hostesses. Also, we are encouraging "no-host" rallies; essentially you inviting the club to join you at a favorite camping spot. No-host rallies, sometimes called "just camping" gatherings, require virtually no planning and minimal coordination (other than an email).

Lastly, the Airstream International Rally is in Loveland, Colorado this year. The club will be attending and will be able to camp together as a unit. If you are interested in going to the international and camping with the club reach out to Barb and me for details on how to make that happen. We look forward to an active and fun 2020 camping with you!

Happy Camping,
Jim Powell



JIM AND BARB POWELL

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Stories from the Road...

Sun Valley Jazz and Music Festival - Annual Airstream Rally for Region II

By Keith Lund

This past October Holly and Ron Jorgensen and Jeanne and Keith Lund traveled with their Airstreams in tow up to Hailey, Idaho. We ventured there to attend Region 10's Fall rally that is held every October in conjunction with the annual Sun Valley Jazz and Music Festival. What a great time we had!

Each couple travelled separately and left a day early before the rally was to begin. The plan was to meet up at the rally campground at about the same time. Jeanne and Keith travelled through Wells, Nevada and

overnighted at Cactus Pete's RV park in Jackpot Nevada which is about 55 miles due south of Twin Falls, Idaho. This was great as they were able to play 18 holes of golf at Jackpot's Golf Club which is a fun and challenging course. Holly and Ron travelled up through western Idaho and camped overnight at Heyburn Riverside Park which is right on the banks of the mighty Snake River. They said the campground was very scenic and spacious.

Upon arriving in Hailey, we found the rally campground at the base of The Sun Valley Ski Resort at River Run Lodge. It was dry camping with very beautiful accommodations such as showers, coffee kiosk, cocktail lounge and a small store within the lodge which was a short walk from the campground. The gorgeous Wood River ran right along the campground and was wonderful to listen to the running water at night. The Rally host's, Bob and Darlene Caldwell, were extremely organized. Each camping spot was chalked off and very roomy. They greeted each of us upon arrival and had packets with information about facilities, the music festival schedules and locations and the schedule for the shuttle buses to take us to the various music venues in Hailey. There was a varied amount of music every day and evening right at River Run Lodge which made it easy to come and go between trailers and concerts.

We soon learned that the music festival was more than just jazz. It was an eclectic festival of 33 different bands or trios or solo artists spread over 5 days and 11 different venues. All kinds of music



from Blues, to Cajun, Zydeco, New Orleans R&B, Western style Swing, Gypsy Jazz, and the US Coast Guard Dixie Band. It had it all. Many of the venues had dance floors and they got quite a work out! They even had free dance lessons every day to learn Swing Blues, Balboa, Line Dance or Lindy Hop. Great fun.

Flaming Gorge

By Hunt and Megan Williams

UWAC Flaming Gorge "Fiesta" Rally –
September 12-15, 2019

Ten airstreams, with 22 members gathered at the Pine Forest RV Park in Dutch John, Utah for a weekend of touring local sites and sharing beautiful days and evenings together.

The weekend was hosted by Hunt and Megan Williams. The first night included a welcoming no host hors d' oeuvres and planning for the weekend. Ages of the participants ranged from 13 to a 100-year-old WWII veteran, on his first rally.

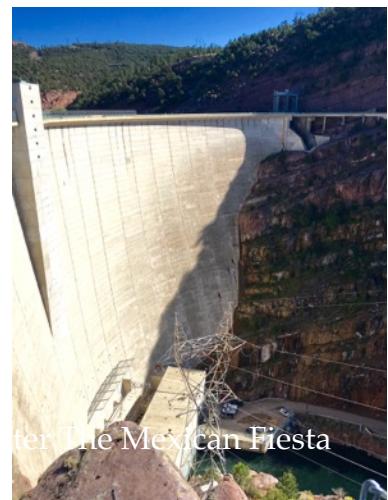


On Friday morning the group enjoyed a private tour of the Flaming Gorge Dam. We had a wonderful, young tour guide who had endless "Damn Dam" jokes.... The group ventured via elevator to the very bottom of the dam, where the group fed the huge rainbow trout near the dam outflow.

That afternoon, the group enjoyed another private tour of the Historic Swett Ranch. Our guide, Carol, was a life-long local cattle rancher who knew the family and history of the property. Our dinner was pot luck and we shared stories of the adventures we had that day.

On Saturday Morning the group ventured to Sheep Creek to watch the Kokanee Salmon spawning upstream. It happened to be Kokanee Salmon viewing day, organized by the Utah Division of wildlife resources. It was a very interesting and informative experience and the fish were beautiful to see.

That evening, UWAC members were treated to a wonderful Mexican Fiesta dinner prepared by the rally organizers Megan & Hunt. It



After The Mexican Fiesta



began with sombreros for the men and silk hair flowers for the ladies! Following drinks and hors d' oeuvres, Hunt hosted a margarita bar for those brave of heart, who wanted to have the full experience! We were serenaded by Mexican music, a full moon and a traditional piñata to close out the evening. It was great fun and everyone seemed to enjoy the party atmosphere.

Sunday we made our own burritos with left overs and eggs. Good byes were said to old and new friends, until the next adventure down the road.

EXCITING IN 2020

Loveland 2020 International Rally June 20 - 27

Incredibly, 2020 marks 60 years since the Club has had an International Rally in the State of Colorado! 2020 also marks the 65th [Anniversary](#) of the formation of the Wally Byam Caravan Club by Airstream owners on the 1955 Airstream Wally Byam Eastern Canadian [Caravan](#) August 3, 1955 in Kentville, Nova Scotia, Canada.

What better place to bring 700 Airstreams for the 63rd International Rally than [The Ranch Events Complex](#) in Loveland, CO! We will have full [access](#) to the First National [Bank](#) Exhibition North & South Halls, Larimer County Conference Center and the Thomas M. McKee 4H, Youth & Community Buildings with close to 50k square feet of meeting space. The beautifully groomed and expansive 240 acres of land that comprise The Ranch will provide parking and space for outdoor activities, with the Rocky Mountains providing a stunning backdrop to the West.

CLUB CARAVAN TO INTERNATIONAL RALLY JUNE 2020

The caravan is now full (we have reached the 10 rig maximum) but we are willing to start a waiting list if anyone else is interested. There may be cancellations after April 30th when the final payment is due. Here is the basic information:

- ② Caravan is June 17-20 (3 nights) with stops in Vernal, UT (one night); Steamboat Springs, CO (two nights) and a picnic in Loveland to gather together before heading into The Ranch Events Complex on the 20th.
- ② The cost will be approximately \$210 per rig. Final costs have not been established.
- ② Tentative plans include a dinner Wednesday night, a "surprise" activity to be announced that evening, and [optional](#) activities in Steamboat: Historic/Food Tour of Steamboat, Sporting Clays, Hiking, Biking, Strawberry Hot Springs and Botanic Gardens. If you are going to the International Rally but don't want to caravan, you can meet us in Loveland on June 20th so we can enter the Rally as a club. We are planning to be at Boyd State Park at the Mariner Point Group Picnic area for the

afternoon and there is plenty of room for more people. Please e-mail Barb Powell (utpowells@comcast.net) if you want to meet us there, as plans have not been firmed up yet at this time.

Happy Camping, Jim & Barb Powell

2020 Rally Schedule

May: Monument Valley

Dates: April 30-May 3 (3 nights)

Hosts: Keith & Jeanne Lund

June: Caravan to Loveland, CO for International Rally

Dates: June 17-20 (3 nights)

Hosts: Jim & Barb Powell

July: No Host/Open

August: Bryce Canyon National Park (we have reservations at Ruby's)

Dates: August 13-17 (4 nights)

Hosts: TBD

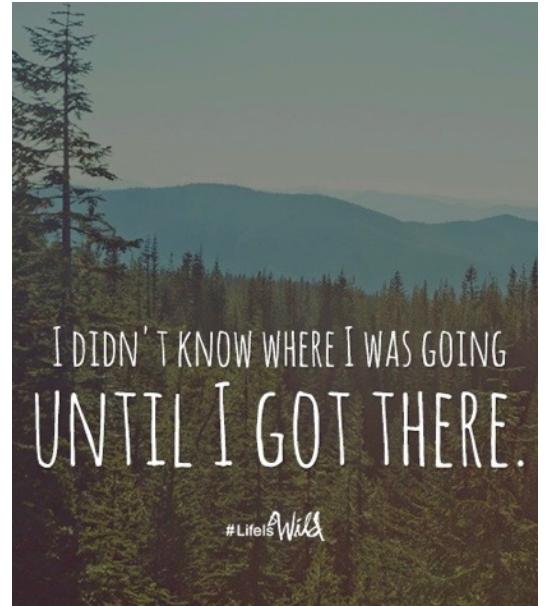
September: No Host/Open

October 9-12 (3 nights)

Torry, UT (near Capitol Reef National Park)

Hosts: TBD

November: Club Dinner



Courtesy of
Cheryl Strayed's "Wild"

As you can see, we have some great rallies on the schedule but would like a couple more, and are still looking for hosts. Hosting a rally is fun, and even easier this year now that we have a Rally Coordinator: Holly Jorgensen. She is available to help plan and answer questions (ron.holly.jorgensen@gmail.com or cell: 801-599-8275). You can also co-host with another couple, or make the rally just a simple get-together.

Monument Valley -

April 30th - May 3, 2020

As you cruise down Highway 163 in Northern Arizona and the first sandstone butte appears, you are entering Tsé Bi' Ndzisgaii, valley of the rocks in the Navajo language. Better known as Monument Valley to the rest of the world, this is the iconic setting of Stagecoach and The Searchers, films that made John Wayne a



legendary star, and the majestic landscape of Ansel Adam's photographic inspiration. This great valley boasts sandstone masterpieces that tower at heights of 400 to 1,000 feet and clouds casting expansive shadows that graciously roam the desert floor.

The Dine people, known as the Navajo, have lived on these lands for more than 500 years and today Monument Valley lies entirely within their nation. The most famous mesas, buttes, and spires stand within the boundaries of a Navajo National Park. In the park, seventeen miles of dirt roads loop around the valley's most admired landmarks including Rain God Mesa, the Thumb and Gray Whiskers.

To go off road and admire the colossal rocks up close, hire a Navajo guide for a journey you will never forget. Float above the colossal rocks at sunrise in a hot air balloon while learning about the area's history, or take a safari into the restricted areas of the Valley where local guides share their knowledge of Navajo culture. Feeling intrepid? There are also day and overnight hikes, rafting, horseback riding, and backpacking tours for those craving more adventure.



Come join us for our UWAC Rally for the breathtaking landscapes of Monument Valley, the unbelievable dark night sky for star gazing, for the adventure of a sunset guided tour with a local Navajo guide, local crafts and arts, and of course, the fry bread, and leave remembering the warmth and culture of the Dine people.

UWAC has the kick-off rally of 2020 season planned to be held at Monument Valley located at the southeast border of Utah and Arizona. The dates of the rally will be Thursday, April 30th until Sunday, May 3rd. We will be basing our adventure at The

Monument Valley KOA Journey. The club has 14 sites reserved together with more sites available if needed.

Monument Valley is located approximately 130 miles south from Moab on State Highway 163. Each member of UWAC will be responsible to contact Monument Valley KOA to book your site and pay camping fees. Their contact information is:

(800) 562-3424 and ask for "Doc" or Doc's direct contact:

(928) 209-6913 or Email: manager.monumentvalleycamp@gmail.com

Please make sure you tell them you are a member of the scheduled UWAC rally.

We have 6 premium and 8 standard sites reserved. The difference between the two are the premium sites are wider, longer and have a concrete patio. Both types have full hookups with 30 A service.

Cost of the sites are:

\$ 67.00/night for premium

\$ 55.00/night for standard.

Please make your reservations by February 28th. Try to talk to "Doc" directly if possible.

There are many activities available at Monument Valley and also nearby at areas such as Valley of the Gods, Muley Point, Goosenecks State Park, Moki Dugway, Mexican Hat, all of which are within 30 miles of our campground. I will be sending out a detailed itinerary of the Rally, activities planned such as hikes, sunset jeep tour within the park, games, movie night, astronomy night, meal plans and further costs above and beyond the camping fees, via email in the next 7 to 10 days.

We are hoping for a good turn out to camp together in one of the most unique, special and magical areas within our entire country.

For further questions about the Rally, please contact Keith Lund
mobile : 435-602-9817 email : kslund@aol.com

New RV Resort in St. George Area

We often stop in the St. George area on the way home from long trips so we can arrive home in the afternoon with time to unpack and tuck our Airstream away. We have been disappointed in the RV campgrounds in the area; one place was downright scary! If we are just stopping for a night and leaving early, we like the Casablanca RV Park in Mesquite at \$30/night. It's safe, clean and close to the casino if we are out of food and need dinner out. It's just a parking area behind the casino but it has the basics.

<https://casablancaresort.com/hotel-rv-park/>

If we want a nicer place and may stay an extra night to enjoy St. George, we plan to stay at the NEW Southern Utah RV Resort. We drove around it last month to check it out for a January stay and they are just finishing it, but it IS open. It has nice level, spacious spots and is close to Hwy 15 (exit 13). We are so glad this new place opened up!

<https://southernutrv.com/>

Tech Corner

As many of you Airstream owners know, certain things about our trailers defy logic and comprehension on design or layout. One of the examples would be the location of the 12 V water pump in our rigs. It has to be the work of a sadist engineer as to how and where they locate these important pieces of equipment.

Here is an all too typical scenario while trying to winterization your trailer: Trying to squeeze a large hand into a tight cubby, totally by feel, while laying awkwardly on your side, all in effort to unscrew the water intake hose from the pump presents the opportunity to make up some interesting combination curse words and also reaching for the band aide box. Then trying to fit the Camco antifreeze fitting onto said intake port of the pump really provides opportunity for interesting leverage techniques. Sometimes the entire pump needs to be removed from its mounting in order to get the whole thing to operate. I found this much smaller fitting that is easier to maneuver and fit onto the pump and allows the siphoning of RV antifreeze through the pump and into the water system. Available on Amazon for about \$5.

**SharkBite UC532LFA Swivel Elbow, 1/2-Inch by 1/2-Inch
by Hearthshire Learn more: https://www.amazon.com/dp/B007AHJA1Q/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_U_uXKfEb52TT6TN**



Keith Lund

More Tech

For those of you who might not know, there are several great resources for Airstreamers that help with maintenance, camping ideas, towing, questions on parts / accessories etc. One is: <http://www.airforums.com> with a good search engine to look for specific info. The other is in The Blue Beret —“The Airstream Tech Help Group”, which is a regular feature in the magazine, or you can e-mail at: [techhelp@wbCCI.org](mailto:techhelp@wbcci.org). Jim and I like to read both of these and recently found a little posting that was quite useful. We could not figure out how to keep our refrigerator and freezer doors open during storage since they want to swing open, and then we saw this posting and it was great!!

Refrigerator Door "Trick" to Keep it Ajar During Storage

I keep finding that folks don't know about these little doodads that domestic includes with the refrigerator to help with storage, so I did a 90-second video on the topic. Enjoy!

<https://youtu.be/h5zrGLLNFB0>

Just wanted to share this info with our fellow Utah Airstreamers!

Barb Powell

From the editor:

This is the first newsletter of 2020. It will be an exciting year with fun rallies, new members and a terrific group of leaders. To have a good newsletter we need the help of the members of our great club. If you have a fun trip, a tech tip, a new exciting destination or pictures you would be willing to share, we would love to include them. The newsletter will come out quarterly so we hope to have great new information for our April edition. Email me: jeanneL333@gmail.com and see me at the rallies. It's your newsletter, let's make it informative and fun. Jeanne Lund

