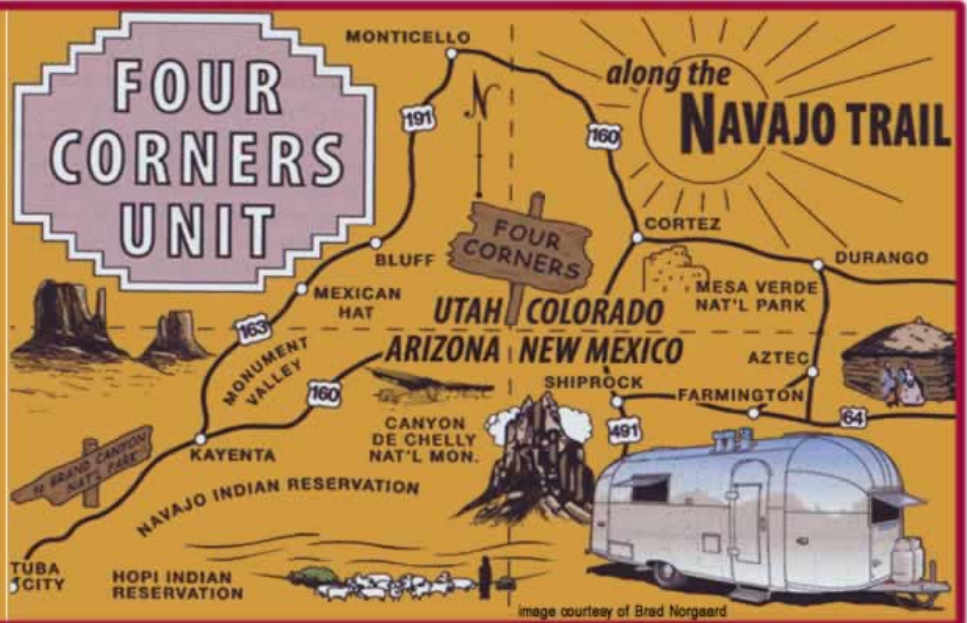


the Four Corners Unit Roundup

March 2011 Issue 21



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Louis Hall

The 2011 season is in full swing and it looks like we are going to have a full calendar this year. We have just finished two very well-attended and successful rallies and have several more lined up so far this year. Events such as rallies are great to bring our members together for fellowship and fun. I ask that if any of our members have an idea for a rally or would like to host a rally please let me know so we can get it on our calendar. Our board is standing by to help with this process, and to take some of the mystery and fear out of hosting!



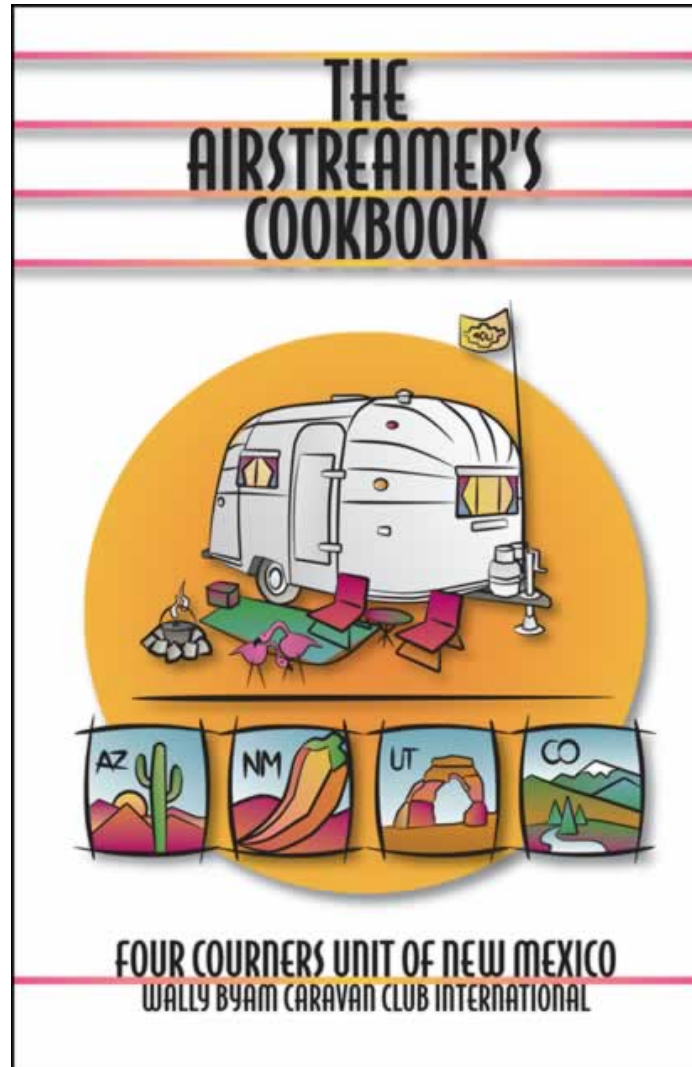
According to our Membership Chair Extraordinaire, the unit member count is now out-pacing last year! We are continuing to add new members and grow as a result of our rallies and, I believe, because we have the most diverse and welcoming bunch of folks in the club!



I look forward to seeing you at the next event and wish everyone a happy and safe Spring!

See you soon! - Louis

HOT OFF THE PRESS! 4CU Cookbook Is Here!



The Four Corners Unit Cookbook is a 100% volunteer effort with no cost to the Unit for design and production. The price is **\$15.00** per copy, with the proceeds going to the Four Corners Unit general fund. We anticipate 100 copies for the first run. We had a few completed (and sold) for the Dead Horse Rally, and plan to have the balance ready in time for the Lake Pleasant Rally.

The following individuals have worked hard and long to bring this project to completion - their efforts are greatly appreciated! Thank you one and all for a terrific job!

- Recipes supplied by various friends, members of our Unit & others
- Gathering, sorting recipes, content - Jan Girard & Julianne Campbell
- Cover art & illustrations, layout & design - Terry Rich & Greg Schmuker (TBRich Design)
- Paper, Printing, & Binding - Ron Gilson (Arizona Lithographers)
- Binding Supplies - Louis Hall (Creative Document Systems)

If you would like to reserve a copy of the Cookbook to receive and pay for at an upcoming 4CU rally, contact Jan Girard at **4CUcookbook@gmail.com** . It is also possible to order your Cookbook and have it sent - with an additional cost for shipping & handling.

Contact Jan - she will answer any questions! - *Louis*

RALLY REPORT: NEW YEAR'S RALLY AT PICACHO PEAK STATE PARK

by Linda Lawson



The weatherman had forecast one day of cold before the rally officially started, followed by a stretch of mid-60 degree or higher days of mild Arizona winter. He was wrong!

Some 24 Airstreams kept their owners warm and dry for most of the weekend! We all ventured out in the mornings once the sun was up, and again in the late afternoons to catch the gorgeous sunsets as the Happy Hours got under way. While the game-playing and movie watching was curtailed by the weather, everything else went ahead as planned. Plenty of plastic tarps, bungee cords, duct tape, and gas fire rings transformed the ramadas into inviting spaces to enjoy a vast array of Happy Hour beverages and hor d'oeuvres.



On New Year's Eve the Group Hike to the Peak took off in the mid-morning sunshine. This year there were about 8 participants; they all enjoyed themselves and returned to the camp fit and healthy, but ready for food and a nap!



The evening cold brought a lot of shivering people into the tarp-wrapped ramadas - we huddled together while enjoying Happy Hour, followed by a grand potluck that could have fueled an army for two days! For the signature event of ringing in the New Year, the group fire pit was piled high, the flames were roaring, the champagne flowed from glass to glass, and the cold was kept at bay as we welcomed in the promise and hope of better times for all in 2011!



An absolutely fantastic breakfast furnished and prepared by Guest Chefs Richard and Jan Girard greeted everyone on New Year's Day morning. A fresh ostrich egg from the nearby ranch was the main ingredient for a huge Dutch Oven omelette with all the trimmings, each serving wrapped in a warm tortilla accompanied by steaming hot coffee. Later that day some folks enjoyed the Trailer Open House, while others napped or visited with friends. We gathered again for Happy Hour and an impressive display

Dessert Bake-Off Contest



The Winner: Airstream Cake by Sergio Quiros

of 14 extravagant-looking desserts. Of course they ALL had to be sampled in order to vote! The winning entry of the Dessert Cook-Off was Sergio's delicious, beautifully decorated cake!



The final activity of the evening was the much-anticipated White Elephant Gift Exchange. Many strange - and some very nice - gifts were opened and passed from hand to hand at this year's event; the *vintage Barbie hand model mannequin* seemed to be the most coveted!

The attendees of this New Year's Rally bravely withstood 3 days and nights of cold, at times with added rain and wind! Happily most kept their spirits up, and their coats, gloves, & hats on, and enjoyed the festivities and camaraderie with their fellow Airstreamers! Happy 2011! - Linda



RALLY REPORT: DEAD HORSE 5

by Richard Girard



Jan and I hosted the fifth Dead Horse Rally this President's Day weekend in Cottonwood, Arizona. We had plenty of familiar faces at the event and a few new ones this year as well. It was a real honor to have **Barry and Donna** make the long drive from BC, Canada to attend this year. We also had friends from Washington (**Roger & Bonnie**), Michigan (**Mike & Betty**), Nebraska (**Jim & Mary**), Colorado (**Jim & Marcy and Larry & Kathy**), California (**Don & Gail**) and Texas (**Carroll & Paula and Diane**). The rest of the members were from New Mexico and Arizona.



Thirty one trailers parked in the circle at the park is a great site to see, and we had several people drive through the loop over the weekend to see seven decades of the best trailers made on this planet! The weather was a litter cooler and wetter than we would have liked, but it did not keep the 4CU members from having a great time and celebrating the fifth anniversary of the *first ever* Four Corners Unit Rally.



This year's theme was *western* and there sure were a lot of good looking cowboys and cowgirls! It is interesting that the Best Dressed Cowboy Award went to Steve Kopp, who was dressed as an Indian and not a cowboy! The Best Dressed Cowgirl Award went to Tamara Rodriguez, who was not dressed as a cowgirl, but as a saloon girl! Congratulations to Steve and Tamara! Thank you to all the runners up as well. We had many great-looking outfits, and they were all winners in my opinion!



Saturday night was the big night for the rally. We had a great BBQ dinner prepared by a shop in Cottonwood called **Hog Wild**. They did a great job working with us to make sure everything was just right. Dinner was followed by the ever-popular White Elephant Gift Exchange. Some great gifts were exchanged and stolen as the night went on. Everyone had a great time, and Louis Hall walked away with the most unique gift of the event. I'm sure we will be seeing and hearing more about this gift in the future!





Jan and I have a great time planning and hosting this rally every year. We would like to thank everyone who attended the rally and helped us pull off another great Dead Horse. We have the park



reserved for the same weekend next year, when we will be hosting DH6. We have not selected a theme for the event yet and are open to all suggestions. The park has promised that we will have *better weather* in 2012, and we will be keeping our fingers crossed. Hope to see you there! -Jan & Richard



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MICHAEL SMITH, 4CU 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Smith ("Mello Mike" in AirForums) of Phoenix, AZ

I've been a fan of Airstreams for many years, but I didn't buy my first until 2004 when I bought a 1972 Sovereign. This thing was in bad shape and knowing what I know now, I paid too much for it. The interior bedroom area was painted Pepto Bismol pink and the kitchen was painted painter's-tape blue. Three panels in the rear were badly dented, it had rear end separation, it needed new axles, and it was missing the front goucho, credenza, and refrigerator. I tinkered with it on and off for six years until I finished the restoration last year. I learned a lot of things in the process, which is what I really love about Airstreams - I love to learn new things and hate to be idle.

In 2005 I took a job in Sierra Vista, AZ. We had already settled in Phoenix, so we decided to keep the family there while I worked down south. To do this I needed a place to live. The Sovereign wasn't anywhere near ready to live in so I bought a 1997 Excella and lived in it at an RV Park during the week and came home on weekends. To keep myself busy during the weeknights, I pulled my Sovereign down to Sierra Vista and worked on it in the evenings. It was blast!

I love to travel, camp, attend music festivals, and visit family and friends. An Airstream allows me to do all of these things, and more, in comfort. The most memorable trip I've taken in an Airstream (so far) was the trip to Monument Valley last April. The views there were breathtaking and Goulding's RV Park is one of the nicest I've ever stayed at. The Valley of the Gods and Mexican Hat Rock were nearby and must-see sites as well. I haven't hosted a rally yet, but if I did, this would be the location I would choose.

I love the old black and white photographs of the Wally Byam Caravans of the 1950s and early 1960s. Some of my favorite shots were those taken in Europe, especially in Italy. I spent 24 years in the Navy (I retired in 2004) and my favorite tour was the three years I spent in Italy. If I could take my Airstream anywhere in the world, I'd take it to Italy--the best food and sites in the world!

The photographs of the Wally Byam Caravans inspired me to buy my current restoration project, a 1958 Overlander. Located on Craigs List, she was a real find. Solid floor, no dents, and the interior was mostly intact. The refrigerator was replaced in the early 70s, but I was able to buy a 1958 Dometic from a 1959 Trade Wind. My intention is to restore this beauty as close as possible to the original, including period fabrics and flooring. There is some minor damage to the interior wood. Repairing this wood will be my biggest challenge but one which I will really enjoy. You can view the progress of my restoration and my travels in my blog at

www.mellomikesairstreams.blogspot.com

My Airstream travels have been pretty uneventful except for one. After I finished my contract work in Sierra Vista, my wife, Karen, and I were driving back home with the Sovereign. The trip went well until we were one mile from home. As we turned off the freeway we suddenly heard loud metallic scraping sounds and sparks coming from the trailer. Alarmed, we pulled off the road to see what happened. What we saw astonished us. Both propane tanks were on the ground and badly scraped up. The tension rod, which holds the tanks for the A-frame, had snapped in two and left both tanks unsupported. It was pretty unnerving. The propane tank hoses had huge, gaping holes in them from dragging on the ground. The event is forever documented on the AirForums under the thread titled "Read This...Disaster Averted."

My interests outside Airstreaming are pretty diverse. I love family time, college football, music (I have a large collection of music and I play the guitar), and I enjoy writing. My love of history inspired me to write my first book, an account of the Guadalcanal Campaign in World War II titled *Bloody Ridge*, which was published in 2000. I've also written several pieces for Airstream Life Magazine on topics ranging from boondocking to buying your first Airstream. My newest piece on the 2010 Balloon Fiesta will be published in the Summer 2011 issue!

Karen and I will be celebrating our 25th year of marriage this April. We have three boys. I currently work in Scottsdale as a Project Manager for Booz Allen Hamilton.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: STEVE KOPP, 4CU 2ND VICE PRESIDENT



Residence City & State? Occupation?

Sun Lakes & Lakeside, Arizona. Now semi-retired, formerly was Director of Safety, Security & Investigations for Intel Corp.

What made you choose an Airstream and what was your first camping trip in one?

We purchased our first Airstream, (a 1950s single axle 21 foot) in 1966 while living in NJ. We became members of the Watchung NJ unit #68. We were the youngest members of that unit and were an anomaly at rallies. We purchased the AS because in 1966 an Airstream was by far the best travel trailer you could buy. Our first trip was to the Great Smoky Mountains of West Virginia.

What model(s) Airstream do you currently have, and how did you come to acquire it?

We have had four airstreams, A 21 footer; a 1990

Squarestream 32 foot, a 2000 Safari 25 foot, and our current AS is a 2000 30' Excella. We purchased our current unit in Washington State from the Airforums classifieds.

What has been your favorite trip in your Airstream so far?

Last year we went from AZ to NJ and back with stops along the way.

Have you had any close calls when traveling in your Airstream?

Taking our 32 foot AS down route #1 along the Oregon California Coast Highway was by far the most harrowing trip. This road is nothing but blind "S" curves for hundreds of miles!

Have you ever hosted an Airstream Rally; if so, what is that experience like? Where have you camped that you think would be a great location to hold a rally?

We have hosted many rallies for SOB RV clubs. We had loads of fun hosting RV rallies and are hosting the upcoming 4CU Lake Pleasant Rally (Spring Break at the Lake, April 7-10) with Mike and Betty Gardiner. A good place to hold a rally? Show Low Lake Campground would be an ideal spot, located in the White Mountains of Arizona.

If you travel in your Airstream full time, what has been the most difficult adjustment you've made compared to living in a house?

We live in our Airstream for 6 months of the year. While we are not traveling, the adjustment from our home in Sun Lakes to our 30 foot Excella takes a few days to get settled. The biggest adjustment is the smaller lounge chairs and shower. Otherwise, we love living in our Airstream for half a year!

Do you travel with any pets; if so, where do they ride while on the road, and how do you manage them inside your rig?

We travel with two small shih tzu's. They ride in the rear seat in our F250 pickup. They love living in the trailer and traveling with us. They can't wait to get in the trailer!

If you could take your Airstream anywhere in the world, where would you go?

If the price of diesel ever came down again, I would just like to take off, no itinerary, no schedule, and see our country from the back roads (no freeways). I have no desire to leave the USA with our Airstream.

As an officer of the 4CU, what are your goals in serving the Unit, and what future do you see for the WBCCI?

My goal is to try to keep the 4CU the way it is today. We have been in two other WBCCI units and we honestly felt there was way too much structure and not enough fun. The 4CU offers inexpensive, relaxed rallies with few (if any) meetings and plenty of spontaneous fun without being told you have to do this or wear that or be a rally host or whatever. The WBCCI, in my opinion, is rapidly losing its attraction. Most WBCCI members have joined because of the local units. If the WBCCI does not get its house in order and start listening to the membership it may be a thing of the past.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: TAMARA RODRIGUEZ, 4CU SECRETARY



Name, Residence City & State: Anthony Rodriguez and Tamara Jones Rodriguez, Alcalde, New Mexico

What do you do for a living: Anthony works for the Los Alamos National Labs in waste water management and I am the Director of Nursing Services for Espanola Valley Nursing and Rehab Center.

What made you choose an Airstream and what was your first camping trip in one: Anthony and I had gone through the tent phase, then the Winnebago phase, finally I wanted a trailer, so we could unhook and go places while we camped. Anthony had always wanted an AS, so we began looking for one we could afford. I personally thought they were ugly on the outside, but once we found one and began to work on it, I fell in love, as did Anthony, and we have been hooked ever since. We now possess four Airstreams! Our maiden voyage was to La Junta Canyon in

Northern New Mexico; neither of us remember any major glitches.

What model(s) Airstream do you currently have, and how did you come to acquire it? Well, we have a 59 Flying Cloud that awaits renovation - we found it near one of Anthony's sisters home in La Puebla, NM; a 69 Tradewind that we currently use most of the time - we found that one while we were at the car wash after a local camping trip. My brother in law convinced the seller to sell it for 1300\$ - a steal, considering!. Our first AS was the 73 Safari, which we use occasionally, and we got that one in Espanola, from a lady who I had seen as a home health nurse, so she cut us a deal. Finally, we have an 83 Limited 34ft, which we found in Las Vegas, NV - we decided to get it and challenge ourselves with a complete renovation. We continue to work on it and we should have it done by summer 2011, so maybe we will get it to the New Year's Rally.

What has been your favorite trip in your Airstream so far? We enjoy going to the Dead Horse Rally every year.

Have you had any close calls when traveling in your Airstream? Not so far - thank heavens!

Have you ever hosted an Airstream Rally; if so, what is that experience like? Yes, we hosted the Heron Lake Rally in 2010. The rally gave me a whole new perspective on the work involved in hosting one, I have to thank our great friends Terry and Greg for all that they did to assist me and Anthony!

If you travel in your Airstream full time, what has been the most difficult adjustment you've made compared to living in a house? Not there yet, but one day.

Do you travel with any pets; if so, where do they ride while on the road, and how do you manage them inside your rig? We always have Rex and Bella with us. They have their bed in the truck and in the AS, and are very well behaved (no messes yet).

If you could take your Airstream anywhere in the world, where would you go and why? Wow, we love to go anywhere, to meet up with our 4CU friends and see new places. We have no one place we want to go, just everywhere - lol!

As an officer of the 4CU, what are your goals in serving the Unit, and what future do you see for the WBCCI? My goal as recording secretary is to be aware of what I need to complete before someone has to remind me I needed to complete it! I feel that the WBCCI will need to develop and move into being more open-minded and have acceptance for all lifestyles. The Four Corners Unit is very open to all lifestyles and non-judgmental. Anthony and I have enjoyed the Unit and have made many friends along the way. As long as the Unit exists, we will be members.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HOWARD EFNER, 4CU TREASURER



Q: Name, Residence City & State?

Howard Efner. Carolyn and I live just outside of Santa Fe, NM. The official mailing address is Lamy, New Mexico.

Q: What do you do for a living (or if retired, what did you do used to do)?

I am a retired PhD chemist and have spent 25 years in various industrial research and development assignments. My current interest is in large format photography and the photographic printing processes of the late 19th and early 20th century.

Q: What made you choose an Airstream and what was your first camping trip in one?

We made the choice to downsize from a "lead sled behemoth of a SOB" to a 25 foot Airstream for the ease of towing, and we did not need all of the space that the old SOB had. We both fell in love with the 25ft International with the Ocean Breeze interior

package. Other than towing the rig from California to New Mexico, our first trip was to Rociada, NM, where we discovered that they did not get the tank gages repaired correctly!

Q: What model(s) Airstream do you currently have and how did you acquire it?

We currently have a 2007 75th Anniversary International which we purchased new. We had looked at doing a restoration, but decided that camping was a higher priority.

Q: What has been your favorite trip in your Airstream so far?

One of our favorite trips was taking the long way to Zion NP for an annual photo shoot. We camped outside of Monument Valley at the Goosenecks of the San Juan SP, Dead Horse Point SP, Goblin Valley SP, Capitol Reef NP, Kodachrome Basin SP, Bryce Canyon NP, and finally arrived at Zion NP.

Q: Have you ever hosted an Airstream Rally; if so what was the experience like? Where have you camped that you think would be a great location to hold a rally?

No. One area that comes to mind (and it is a location that the 4CU has not visited) is Southeastern Utah - Monument Valley area (stay at Mexican Hat) over to Capital Reef NP. This could be done as a fixed-location rally, or as a moving rally where you stay several days in an area and then move to the next location. With all there is to see in that part of Utah and Arizona, it could be anywhere from a week to a month long event.

Q: If you travel in your Airstream full time, what has been the most difficult adjustment you've made compared to living in a house?

We are not full timing, but it IS amazing how big the house is on return from an extended trip!

Q: Do you travel with pets; if so where do they ride while you are on the road, and how do you manage them inside your rig?

The menagerie can be as many as two dogs and two cats! When on the road, one of the cats has her favorite location under the passenger seat, while the dogs like Carolyn's lap and the front seat. The other cat sleeps where SHE wants! In the rig, the dogs have their beds while the cats like the front window ledge.

Q: If you could take your Airstream anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

England, Scotland, and Ireland. Why, because we have never been there!

Q: As an officer of the 4CU, what are your goals in serving the Unit and what future do you see for the WBCCI?

As the 4CU Treasurer, there are the usual assigned duties. Another goal, as a member and officer, is to promote the 4CU Unit as a fun and informal group of Airstream owners who love camping!

As far as the future of the WBCCI, the winds of change are blowing and we all need to see what happens in the near future. The parent organization needs to modernize to attract and retain the newer generation of Airstream owners, while preserving the history and legacy of Wally Byam. The leadership needs to listen and make the changes that the membership is asking for, rather than entrenching the status quo. If this does not happen, then the downward membership spiral will continue until WBCCI exists in name only.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MICHAEL BERTCH, 4CU TRUSTEE



We are Michael and Tracy Bertch, and we are allowed to own and drive a 1989 AS 345LE motorhome by our 17 year old Rat/Jack Russell terrier. Our house without wheels for 9 months of the year is currently in Silverton, Colorado, and we bought it back in 1992 (we have courtesy camping w/water and electric, 120) as a retirement location. I am a retired RN (ER 12 yrs, Oncology 3 yrs, Pediatrics 3 yrs) and a paramedic with Buda, TX Vol EMS for 13 yrs. I was also a volunteer EMT with Silverton EMS for 12 years. Tracy was a pediatric nurse in Austin, TX since 1978, but also worked as a camp nurse for 3 summers. She was an EMT for Buda EMS. In 1996, she was stricken with an undiagnosed neurological injury which led both of us to retirement (Tracy's coma lasted 3 months). We used to tent camp, but that was pretty much finished....

I can remember seeing Airstreams on the road as a child, and wanting to be in one, so we went online and after several false starts, bought a 1968 Overlander...drove from Silverton to St Louis, were given a 30 minute instruction course from the PO, and discovered the joys of Airstreaming in the week+ it took us to get home. Then we joined a now-defunct unit of WBCCI, and wondered why - for a small group - the politics were vicious, and the camaraderie was present for others of long standing, but not for us. We discovered the RMVAC (Rocky Mountain Vintage Airstream Club), and went to our first rally in Colorado Springs... WOW!!! We couldn't pay the dues fast enough!

Because it was such a chore for Tracy to stop while traveling with the trailer - having to maneuver getting out, dropping the steps, and reversing all that - she went on line and, after a year of searches and travel, we found the moho in Cookeville, Tennessee. We have met the best folks, made lifetime friends, and while we would like to visit other areas of the US, have not been able to get out of the Four Corners area...too much still unseen.

We 'host' a rally in Quartzsite, AZ for Thanksgiving, and attendance is lots to little, but there's always much good company, way too much food, bonfires (REAL 4CU bonfires) and a bit of libation abuse...

GREAT group of folks. We remained members of Co West, but luncheons weren't our idea of camping. Heard from Ken J that a new unit, with new (old) ideas was forming, so...well...we are charter members of 4CU. The unit grew rapidly, the rallies grew exponentially, and the politics are there only for necessary growing pains. I have enjoyed my 'officer' status with 4CU, and feel like some of my input (while not always generally accepted) is an asset to the group. Where else could I be awarded Trailer Trash Queen...??? Now THAT'S an honor.

As far as WBCCI, I'm thinkin' they're gonna get better, but the fiscal responsibility needs to be a priority, and as the guidance transitions to younger folks, I think this will occur...I just get really impatient. I don't wear a beret, I don't wear a vest, my nametag has been hanging on the wall since I got it, and I pay my own freight. I think the attitudes and direction 4CU has is the best thing to happen to WBCCI since...well...Wally.



Tales from Around the 4CU Campfire...

The Blue Beret had a cover pic of Miss Teen Airstream a few years ago.... Somehow, we came up with our own election for Trailer Trash Queen (can't imagine how that happened...)! When not one female would volunteer to run, **I** volunteered. I campaigned vigorously, lied shamelessly, offered bribes I never intended to pay, fought stiff competition at the Balloon Festival, and prevailed...well, me and my dual 16 ounce cups, fuzzy pink slippers, matching flamingo purse, shirt, and ear rings...and I am still TTQ till they pry my tiara, silver thingie, tootsie roll pop bouquet, and flashing baton from my cold, dead fingers...or, at least, vote in a new one...but I was FIRST, and WHAT AN HONOR!!!

4CU WEB SITE NEWS

by Leon Hauck



<http://fourcorners.wbccf.net>

We are in the process of renovating the web site along with adding new features. So far we have updated the rally schedule along with including more details about the rallies, updated the officers information, and have gotten all the previous newsletters online.

In the next couple of months we will be rolling out a new system that will allow any member of the 4CU to easily submit photos via email or text message to an online photo gallery system without needing to resize them beforehand.

If anyone has suggestions for what they would like to see on the site you can send an email to leon@boondocking.net . - Leon



Calling All 4CU Member Small Business Owners!

Starting with the next issue of the 4CU Newsletter, we will be publishing business card advertisements submitted by our members! The price is nominal - **\$5 to appear in one Newsletter issue, as well as on the 4CU Web site for 3 months.** Your card will be scanned (one side only) and the digital image used for the Newsletter as well as the Web site. (We will also publish business card ads from non-4CU member businesses that are Airstream-related. Cost to non-members is \$15 an issue.)

The Newsletter will be published quarterly - in March, June, September, & December. Deadline for ads will be the last Monday of the month before publication i.e; last Monday of May, August,

November, & February. You can pay for one issue, or for a full year at once for \$20. **All advertising proceeds will go to the 4CU General Fund.**

If interested, send your business card, along with your check payable to The Four Corners Unit to:

**Linda Lawson/4CU Newsletter
#70D16 4025 E Chandler Blvd
Phoenix, AZ 85048**

Our intention is not to make a lot of money, but to provide 4CU members with an inexpensive venue for promoting their small businesses to other members. Each issue of our Newsletter is distributed to 140+ Airstream owners - here is an opportunity to help support the club while also supporting one another!

4CU MEMBER NEWS

Our sincere condolences to **Michael Depraida**, whose father passed away in early January. . . .

Bon Voyage without their Airstream - Departing right after Dead Horse 5, **Harry & Marge Walters** are touring Australia on a cruise ship to celebrate their 50th Anniversary!. . . .

Ken Lawson is undergoing A C joint shoulder surgery on the last day of February - he won't be towing the Airstream for a while!

Elaine Acker is selling her 2005 25' International CCD for \$33,900. Call 505-204-8403 or email acker.elaine@gmail.com You can view photos and read more details on the Airforums at www.airstreamclassifieds.com/showproduct.php?product=12253

Terry Rich & Greg Schmuker have been FORCED to remodel - not their trailer, but their house! The story:

Terry & Greg and Sadie Full Time (Sort Of)



Terry Rich & Greg Schmuker and their cocker spaniel **Sadie** arrived home from the New Year's Picacho Peak Rally (after 10 days on the road) to a frozen pipe in their home's kitchen ceiling - water gushing from the ceilings into the kitchen and dining areas - and 5" of water in the back half of the house. What a surprise, and what a mess! All rooms in the house suffered damage to one extent or another. The entire house had to be emptied of belongings and furniture before the ceilings could be brought down to begin restoration. Damage was quite extensive, but repairs and recovery are well under way.



In the meantime, Terry & Greg and Sadie are living in their Bambi in the front yard ... with 30 amp service, water (after 5 weeks of "borrowing" water from a generous neighbor before water was restored), sewer...and even cable. They will be out of their home for at least another month before repairs are complete. Thank goodness for good insurance ... and **thank goodness for the Airstream!**

So far they have been in the Bambi for 2 months...a sort of "forced full time experience." But now they know they can live in the Bambi and be comfortable for more than a couple of weeks. Terry & Greg would like to express sincere thanks to their 4CUnit family for the assistance they've received along the way ... dinners and laundry facilities - and moral and emotional support. Your good thoughts and concern are truly appreciated!

MEMBERSHIP NOTES (11DEC10 – 23FEB11)

BY **TERRY RICH**

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to **WELCOME** the following **New Members to the 4CUnit:**

Gale & Pat Carmoney, Silt, CO (4CU, Transfer from Member at Large)

Jim & Rhonda Cooper, Loveland, CO (Affiliates, Denver CO Unit)

Tim Haskin & Rebecca Block, Tucson, AZ (4CU)

Tim Kendziorski & Kimber Moore, Reno, NV (4CU)

Bill Scott & Judith Mariahazy, New River, AZ (4CU)

Tharon & Connie Neal, Alexandria, LA (4CU)

Dale Sandberg & Lou Rowley, Phoneix, AZ (Affiliates, AZ Unit)

Don & Marilyn Sluyk, Phoenix, AZ (4CU, Transfer from San Diego Unit)

Welcome to each of you! We are pleased to have you on board, and we look forward to seeing you all around the 4CUnit campfire as soon as possible.

Our Numbers:

As of this writing the 4CUnit has 83 Full Members, 58 Affiliates (members of other WBCCI units who also want to be part of the 4CU)...and 1 Honorary for a total of 142 members. We already have MORE members than we ended the 2010 membership year with (79 full + 53 affiliates + 1 honorary = 133).

Questions?

If you have any questions about membership please contact Terry Rich, Membership Chair, at **Terry@TBRich.com**. We have included a copy of the 2011 Membership Application at the end of the newsletter. Be prepared to do your part to help our membership grow — print out some applications and take them along with you when you go camping! You just never know when someone will want information about the 4CUnit!

We look forward to yet another great year in the Four Corners Unit with you, filled with good times with old friends and new, great rallies and memorable gatherings around the 4CU campfire.

Happy trails! - Terry, Membership Chair

CAMPING NEWS

FREE ENTRY TO NATIONAL PARKS

The National Park service has announced that there will be seventeen "free" days at all national parks and monuments in 2011. The first is in conjunction with Martin Luther King Day on January 15 through January 17. The second period is to commemorate National Park week from **April 16 through April 24**. The first day of summer will also be free, **June 21**. The next period is National Public Lands Day, and will be observed on **September 24**. The last free period will be the week ending that also marks Veteran's day, **November 11 through November 13**. All entry fees are to waived on these days. In addition, the Park Service intends to have special programs on those free days to also emphasize the special days. Read more at <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm>

WALLY BYAM CELEBRATION

A summer long exhibit at the Baker County Heritage Museum will tell the story of Wally Byam, born in Baker City Oregon in 1896. Airstream caravans are planned for the summer, with a July 4th weekend Wally Byam birthday celebration event as a highlight. More info on the rally can be found on the Airforums Web site at www.airfoums.com . For more information about the exhibit or other Baker County, Oregon events, attractions, and vacation activities visit the Baker County Tourism website at www.basecampbaker.com

Voted Most Likely to Become An Airstreamer



seriously happy camper



On The Road



good-looking vintage



glamour model



absolute traveler

Can You
Tell Who
They
Are?

check the 4CU
Web site for
answers!

The Early Years of the 4CU

<http://fourcorners.wbcci.net/newsletters>

UPCOMING RALLIES: April 7 - 10, 2011**Spring Break at the Lake, Lake Pleasant Regional Park, AZ**

**Hosted by Betty & Mike Gardiner and
Faith & Steve Kopp**

We have reserved the **Raccoon Camp Group Area**. This is a dry camping location, but there are water faucets to fill your fresh tank as well as nearby rest rooms and showers. There is also a convenient dump site.

The park offers rally attendees many daytime activities: the Spring wildflowers will just be starting to bloom, the weather should be warm, there is fishing, swimming, hiking, picnicking, and wildlife viewing, biking, or just visiting with other Airstreamers. And, of course, a beautiful lake for your canoes and kayaks! It is only a short drive to the boat launch ramp from our camp area. We will have evening social hours, and at least one potluck meal.

The camping fee for this rally is \$15 per night, payable in advance. Please send a check made payable to Steve Kopp for the number of nights you will be attending. If you would like to come early or stay a few more nights, this can be arranged. Please fill out the form below and mail it with your payment ASAP!

Directions: From central Phoenix, take I-17 north to Carefree Highway (SR 74). Exit Carefree Hwy and travel west 15 miles to Castle Hot Spring Road. Travel north to Lake Pleasant Regional Park entrance.

This is a Four Corners Unit WBCCI rally - it is open to all members or Airstream owners who might like to become a member. If you are not a WBCCI member, please contact me, and we will arrange for you to be the guest of a member! - *Steve*

Park Web Site: http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake_pleasant

Any questions? Steve Kopp at QRsk@aol.com Mike & Betty Gardiner at bttgardiner@yahoo.com

**Spring Break at Lake Pleasant Rally April 7-10, 2011
Registration Form**

Name _____

Email Address _____

WBCCI Number _____

Airforums Name (if applicable) _____

Number of people in party _____



Please send me more info on the Four Corners Unit (check box if interested)

Price: \$15 a night per trailer, payable in advance to Steve Kopp

Please fill out & mail this form, along with your payment, to:

**Steve Kopp
26629 South Papago Place
Sun Lakes AZ 85248**

Thank You!

UPCOMING RALLIES: June 2 - 5, 2011

Jemez Rally, Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico

Co-Sponsored by the New Mexico Unit #069 & the Four Corners Unit of New Mexico #004

Contact A Rally Host to Register for this Event:

NM Unit: Tom & Barbara Stallings: H 505-298-8355, C 505-263-5540, casacornice@hotmail.com

4C Unit: Bruce & Kathy Gaither: 505-281-0941, 0069@wbcci.net

Location: Santa Fe National Forest, USFS Paliza Group Campground, GS1 Group Area

- Three miles north of Ponderosa, NM (Sandoval County) on Forest Road 10. Approximately 60 miles (1 hour) from downtown Albuquerque, NM
- This is a dry camp! No Hookups! Bring your solar panels or generator if you need it.
- Drinking water will NOT be available, you must haul what you need. Jugs can be filled & hauled from the Jemez Pueblo convenience store, 9 miles from the campground.
- There is no firewood available in campground so BYO Wood if you plan a campfire.
- **Local cell phone coverage is spotty**, & dependent on your provider. If you can't get a signal in the campground, drive a few miles toward civilization & you should get some bars.
- Participants are welcome to come late or leave early but the Paliza Group Campground, GS-1 area is reserved for our exclusive use only from June 2 - 5. You could stay at the very nearby Paliza Family Campground before or after those dates.
- The Paliza Group Campground is newly renovated & has 20+ paved sites, 5 or more of which can be doubled or tripled. Most of the sites are long enough for large Airstream trailers plus tow vehicle. **Site assignments will be coordinated by the rally hosts upon arrival.**
- What's included? (**Fee will be collected at the rally**, estimated \$8 -12 per person)
 - ◇ Camping Fees Thursday – Sunday (3 nights)
 - ◇ Dinner Friday (main course, you supply a side dish)
 - ◇ Saturday Left Overs at Pot Luck

Preliminary Rally Itinerary - All Activities Optional

Thursday June 2 Arrivals: Group Campground gate opens 10AM. We are in campground GS-1 Rally Hosts will direct you to a campsite – largest sites are for largest trailers (duh!) Lunch: On Your Own Self Guided Tour of Local Attractions Happy Hour 4:30PM Group Shelter (BYOBeverage) Dinner: On Your Own	Saturday June 4 Breakfast: On Your Own or BYOCoffee to Group Shelter Self Guided Tour of Local Attractions Lounging, Hiking, Hot Springs Fishing Valles Caldera National Preserve Lunch: On Your Own (BBQ Leftovers Group Shelter) Happy Hour 4:30PM Group Shelter (BYOBeverage) Dinner: "Pot Luck" Group Shelter
Friday June 3 Breakfast: On Your Own or BYOCoffee to Group Shelter Self Guided Tour of Local Attractions Lounging, Hiking, Hot Springs Fishing Valles Caldera National Preserve Lunch: On Your Own Happy Hour 4:30PM Group Shelter (BYOBeverage) Dinner 6:00PM Group Shelter Main Dish Provided - Pulled Pork & Smoked Brisket - BYO Side Dishes & Drinks	Sunday June 5 Breakfast: On Your Own or BYOCoffee to Group Shelter Have A Safe Trip Home

Access: From the intersection of US 550 (old NM 44) & NM 4, near San Isidro, turn onto NM 4 heading northeast toward Jemez Pueblo. Continue about 6 miles to the intersection with NM State Road 290 on the right. Turn RIGHT onto NM State Road 290 toward Ponderosa, NM, & follow State Road 290 approximately 7 miles. State Road 290 then turns into Forest Road 10 - a maintained gravel road. Continue on FR 10 for an additional 2.25 miles to a large sign marking "Paliza Group Campground" on the left. The campground entrance is on the right side of the road a few yards ahead. The separate Paliza Family Campground entrance is about 1.5 miles further on FR10.

URL to Campground's Website:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/recreation/districts/jemez/camping/palizagroup.html>

UPCOMING RALLIES: June 9 - 12, 2011

Vintage Restoration Rally, Albuquerque, NM

The 4th annual Vintage Restoration Rally is coming right up! This is a serious seminar-style rally, taught by professionals, for anyone interested in hands on learning all of the ins and outs of restoring a vintage trailer, or just seeing how these trailers are put together. This rally is part classroom and part hands on and does not require you to bring your trailer.

Topics anticipated are as follows:

- Complete overview of trailer restoration – with lots of photos to see
- Rivet and skin skills taught by aircraft experts
- Cabinet building skills
- Zolatone painting (this will be worth it alone)
- Electrical – basic & high tech wiring
- Axle replacement
- Door & window rebuilding/repair
- Solar
- And more!

As in the past, this rally will feature **Area 63 Productions** and **Uwe Salvender** (UWE on the forums). Many of you know of the incredible Airstream restorations that he turns out from his studio. He is planning on giving a slide presentation on some of the trick stuff he's done over the years. Also featured is **Kip Eagan** (Aerowood) – he is a master aircraft skin mechanic and has incredible knowledge of all things aluminum. **Steve Bittner** is back this year to do cabinet and Zolatone demos – he has many years' experience in the cabinet making industry. New this year we will feature **Low Farber** (Lewster), a master RV Tech who will be talking about solar installs and electrical wiring. You may be familiar with some of these folks and know them to be experts in their field. We are very lucky to have assembled the best of the best to show you how to do things right.

So you want details...? OK - we hold this rally the second weekend in June (9-12) at Enchanted Trails RV Park and Trading Post (an old Route 66 trading post) in Albuquerque New Mexico. <http://www.enchantedtrails.com>

Our **rally fee is \$50 per person or \$85 for a couple, plus a screaming deal of \$15 per night paid to Enchanted Trails** (thank you Vicki!!) for the camp site. **Please make your camping reservations directly with her.** Below you will find the sign up sheet.

So what do you get for your rally fee? You get a great learning experience plus a catered meal on Saturday night (so you don't have to worry about cooking after working hard all day), and a continental breakfast (so you won't have to worry about cooking after staying up late on Sat night) Sunday morning. So don't hesitate - we look forward to seeing you in Albuquerque! - Ken J

FCU - Vintage Restoration Rally - June 9 - 12, 2011

Send to: **Four Corners Unit, WBCCI**
c/o Ken Johansen
P.O. Box 1554
Tijeras, NM 87059

Thanks!!!

First Name _____ **Second Name** _____

Other names _____ **E-mail address** _____



Please send me further information about the Four Corners Unit! (check box)

Address, City State _____

Trailer (year) _____ **Number of attendees** _____

Rally Fee: **Single \$50.00** **Couple \$85.00** **Family \$100.00**

Note: Make checks payable to the Four Corners Unit

Be sure to call the Enchanted Trails campground and make your camping reservations (\$15/night) with them. Their number is (505) 831-6317 please be sure to let them know how much we appreciate use of their campground!

UPCOMING RALLIES: September 30 - October 4, 2011

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Rally, Albuquerque, NM

The 2011 Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Rally is on! We will be camping "Beach Front" right on the grounds of the Balloon Fiesta. If you have never been before, this is a great opportunity to see this event close up - the balloons will be taking off yards from your front door. **This year will be particularly special as it's the 40th Anniversary of Balloon Fiesta!** For more information log on to <http://www.balloonfiesta.com>

The dates are to arrive September 30 and leave the morning of Oct 4th. The cost is **\$341** which **INCLUDES FREE** (that alone would cost almost \$200 if you were not camping with us) **entry to all events for 2 people**. The only thing we charge is \$1 to cover bank fees for the rally funds.

Don't miss the early morning Dawn Patrol where a dozen balloons light up the pre-dawn sky. Next up is Mass Ascension where you will see hundreds of balloons take to the sky. The best part is that you are not sitting in grandstands taking in the action from a distance, but you are right on the field watching as balloon crews set up their balloons and take off. The evening brings more balloons and fireworks!

We have 90 spots reserved at this point - **This event fills up fast and I need to know who is attending by mid March, plus ½ of the fee (\$170.50) is due at that time.** After that point I can't promise a spot, although in the past we have been able to accept later reservations - it just depends on how they fill up. A fresh water truck and pump out service is available, however there are no electric hookups. Generators are OK and solar works great! **This is the perfect family rally** so bring the parents, grandparents, kids, pets, and let's have a great time at this VERY popular and NOT TO MISS event! **Don't forget your camera!**

Refund Policy - the Balloon Fiesta folks have a strict policy of **no refunds after September 1st**. I also can't promise full refunds up to that point - their policy is a \$10 charge until July 15th and from July 15 - Aug 31st there is a 50% charge. We work well with the Balloon Fiesta folks and they have never charged us for refunds up to Sept 1st - after Sept 1st we can't refund any money!

Below is the sign up sheet - and please please write your e-mail clearly so I can read it because that's how we will communicate with you - you will receive several updates as we get closer to Balloon Fiesta! Ask anyone who has attended this great event and they will tell you that you cannot describe it - you just have to be there! See you at Balloon Fiesta! - Ken J

FCU Balloon Fiesta Rally Sept 30 - Oct 4, 2011 Please remember there are no hookups on the fiesta field!	
Send to:	Four Corners Unit, WBCCI c/o Ken Johansen P.O. Box 1554 Tijeras, NM 87059
	Rally Deposit Due by 3/15 Thanks!!!
First Name _____	Second Name _____
Other names _____ E-mail address _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me further information about the Four Corners Unit! (check box)	
Address, City State _____	
Trailer (year) _____	Number of attendees _____
Rally Fee: Deposit due 3/15 - \$170.50 Balance due in July - \$170.50 Note: Make checks payable to the Four Corners Unit	
Refund Policy - the Balloon Fiesta folks have a strict policy of no refunds after September 1st. I also can't promise full refunds up to that point - their policy is a \$10 charge until July 15th and from July 15 - Aug 31st there is a 50% charge. We work well with the balloon fiesta folks and they have never charged us for refunds up to Sept 1st - after Sept 1st we know we can't refund any money!	

2011 Upcoming 4CU Rally Schedule



When	What	Where	Host(s)	Contact
April 7-10	Spring Break at the Lake	Lake Pleasant Regional Park, Arizona	Steve & Faith, Mike & Betty	qrsk@aol.com or bttygardiner@yahoo.com
June 2-5	Jemez Rally	USFS Paliza Group Campground, GS1, Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico	Bruce Gaither, Tom Stalling	0069@wbcci.net or casacornice@hotmail.com
June 9-12	Vintage Restoration Rally	Enchanted Trails RV Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico	Ken Johansen	fourcornersunit@hotmail.com
Sept 30-Oct 4	Balloon Fiesta Rally	Balloon Fiesta Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico	Ken Johansen	fourcornersunit@hotmail.com

Many thanks to the following contributors; they made this issue possible!

Brad Norgaard (Immediate Past 4CU Newsletter Editor),
Louis Hall, Richard Girard, Leon Hauck, Mike Bertch, Steve Kopp, Howard Efner,
Tamara Rodriguez, Michael Smith, Terry Rich, Greg Schmuker, Jan Girard,
& everyone (you know who you are) who sent their 'early years' photos!

Newsletter Submissions

If you have comments, ideas, articles, member news, and/or photos for the 4CU Newsletter, please contact the editor at lawson@xwinds.com



FOUR CORNERS UNIT OF NEW MEXICO

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL

REGION 11 · UNIT 004 · FOURCORNERS.WBCCI.NET

2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME(S) _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

CHILDREN _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

YOUR NAME ON THE AIRFORUMS.COM (IF YOU ARE A MEMBER) _____ DO YOU OFFER COURTESY PARKING? ☐ YES ☐ NO

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

- ☐ **NEW 4CU MEMBER** · \$66 ANNUAL DUES (\$65 WBCCI DUES + \$1 4CU DUES)
- ☐ **RENEWING 4CU MEMBER** · \$66 ANNUAL DUES (\$65 WBCCI DUES + \$1 4CU DUES) · WBCCI NUMBER _____
- ☐ **TRANSFERRING MEMBER** · \$66 ANNUAL DUES · FROM (UNIT NAME) _____
 REGION _____ UNIT NUMBER _____ WBCCI NUMBER _____
- ☐ **AFFILIATE MEMBER** · \$1 ANNUAL DUES · HOME UNIT NAME _____
 REGION _____ UNIT NUMBER _____ WBCCI NUMBER _____

AIRSTREAM INFORMATION

YEAR _____ MODEL _____ LENGTH IN FEET (BUMPER TO BALL) _____

SERIAL NUMBER _____

MAIL APPLICATION

SEND YOUR **COMPLETED APPLICATION** ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO FOUR CORNERS UNIT TO:

HOWARD EFNER, TREASURER
 30 CAMINO CABALLOS SPUR
 LAMY, NEW MEXICO 87540

☐ **RECEIPT Requested**
 I have enclosed a SASE.

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT TERRY RICH, 4CU MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
 PHONE 520.748.0696 · EMAIL TERRY@TBRICH.COM



FOUR CORNERS UNIT USE ONLY: _____
 AMOUNT RECEIVED _____ DATE RECEIVED _____ DATE RECORDED _____ BY _____