

FOUR CORNERS UNIT ROUNDUP

VOL. 11 NO. 3 - SEPTEMBER 2017



TAKING THE LONG WAY TO CARSON CITY
2017 EL MORRO RALLY REVIEW
4CU MEMBER NEWS
UPCOMING 4CU RALLIES

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ON THE COVER



This issue we see an Airstream at Echo Amphitheater. Photo by Jamey Lathrop

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EDITOR'S LETTER

By Ilene Porter

Fall is finally upon us! With cooling temperatures it is the perfect time to get on the road and enjoy the beauty of camping in the southwest. I want to apologize for the delay in getting this edition of the letter out to members. Stephen and I recently had some changes in our lifestyle which delayed my working on the newsletter. Part of those changes was selling our Airstream. I want to thank each and every one of you for the wonderful camaraderie and friendships we have found through the club. Heck if it wasn't for the Club, Stephen and I would never have met! I will continue to produce the newsletter until an editor can be found. I hope to see you around the campfire in the future!

Remember to follow the Four Corners Unit on Instagram at #WBCCI4CU as well as on Facebook and Twitter!

AIRSTREAM • 4CU



2017 NEW YEARS RALLY - PHOTO BY DENNIS & DIANE MOORE

LETTER FROM THE 4CU PRESIDENT

✧ By Steve Bittner ✧

Hello again 4CU members! Hope early fall is seeing everyone in good health and you are enjoying the fun of camping and fellowship. Reg and I have not been on the road for several months, just too much work to catch up on. We have been working steadily on Reg's sister's trailer so we can get them on the road and joining us! We are hoping to see many of you at some of the fall rallies as things cool down. Our big trip this year will be the Pendleton Round-Up in Oregon, mid-September and we are really looking forward to easing up down the road.

It is that time again for Unit elections and I would encourage members to step forward and get involve if you can. 4CU is a very diverse group and we will only grow even more (thank you, Terry!) and become an even better club with more involvement from

our members. If you are interested in the Unit's leadership, please contact me at

herkypig@hotmail.com

or

Terry Rich at terry@tbrich.com.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow officers, board members and the general membership for your support during my tenure as President. You have all made this a truly enjoyable experience. Special thanks to Terry Rich as he was an invaluable mentor for me.

Hope to see you all soon!

Steve Bittner

President



2017 MOAB RALLY - PHOTO BY TERRY RICH & GREG SCHMUKER

4CU MEMBER NEWS

~ By Terry Rich ~

Maria Beck (Bosque Farms, NM) served the 4CU as our official Delegate for the International Rally held in Escanaba, MI in July! Maria's husband, **Lynn Eubank** headed up the Water Committee. **Ed Stroetz** (Thomson, GA) was our Alternate Delegate. And of course, **Richard & Jan Girard** (Dewey, AZ) were the hosts of Escanaba Rally, as President and First Lady of WBCCI. Richard passed the torch to **Jim Cocke**, incoming President. Thank you all for your service! The best way to get the rundown on the Escanaba Rally is through the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/105483026552234/>

Jim Mohle (Denver, CO) has sadly reported that he lost his Airstream in the "Great Denver Hailstorm" earlier this summer. We are so sad to hear this. It is something we all have nightmares about! Jim says there are no current plans to replace his trailer. And he will most likely not be renewing his 4CU Membership this year at least not for the moment.

Relatively new Four Corners Unit members **Bruce Mulligan & Janis Checchia** (Arroyo Seco, NM) were traveling on their maiden voyage through Idaho to Bruce's daughter's wedding. Their trailer fishtailed for no apparent reason and rolled both the truck and trailer outside Twin Falls, ID. Thankfully Bruce & Janis walked away from the accident, though Janis will require follow up surgery. Bruce & Janis were slated to attend the Mesa Verde Labor Day Rally but that is off the table now. We wish them a full and speedy recover from everything that has been altered in their lives by this unfortunate event. Hang in there!

On 1 Sept, **Duncan Orr** marks the one year anniversary of his lymphoma remission! Congratulations, Duncan. We are so pleased to hear the good news! Duncan reports that he is doing well and though his energy fluctuates. Duncan says he can't run much, but he is hiking all he can.

Carolyn Efner completed her chemotherapy in June and is doing well from all accounts. Congrats Carolyn! We are all keeping you in our thoughts.

Are you moving?

Did you get married?

Do you have a new family member?

If you have news or life events that you'd like to share with the 4CU membership, just let Terry Rich know at Terry@TBRich.com.

Curious minds want to know!

**A big thank you to all of the following contributors
who made this issue of the 4CU newsletter possible!**

Steve Bittner, Howard Efner, Terry Rich, Greg Schmuker, Bonnie Bobman, John Greenfield & Jamey Lathrop, Stephen Porter, Leon Hauck, and the 4CU Board Members

4CU BIRTHDAY CLUB

~ by Bonnie Bobman ~

Wish you knew a 4CU member's birthday so you could send best wishes? Join the 4CU Birthday Club and we can all celebrate together! In each newsletter we will publish a list of our upcoming birthdays! If you see one of your 4CU pals has a birthday drawing near, you'll know to send them a greeting!

The 4CU would like to wish a very happy birthday to the following people:

AC Wood	September 8
Dawn Vaughn	September 11
Tara Sillert	September 18
Bonnie Bobman	September 19
Rick Carmichael	October 1
Danna Myers	October 10
Billy Myers	November 29

To join the club, simply email your name and birth date

The Month and Date or MM/DD - Year is NOT necessary to Bonnie at BAAMbi7as@gmail.com



2017 EL MORRO RALLY - PHOTO BY DIANE & DENNIS MOORE

4CU MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Terry Rich

We are pleased to **WELCOME** the following **17 New Members** who have joined the 4CU since the June 2017 Newsletter.

Ryan Baldwin & Wendy	Norris, Bend, OR	4CU
Nancy Braffett	Tempe, AZ	Affiliate, AZ Unit
Jim Breitinger	Salt Lake City, UT	4CU
Rick & Cheryl Carmichael	Phoenix, AZ	4CU
Nile & Jeanette Cornelison	Taos, NM	4CU
Steve Friedman	Gallup, NM	4CU
John & Nancy Keetch	Insbrook MO	4CU
Kenneth & Sue Levan	Albuquerque, NM	4CU
Marcia Ludden & Jim McVicar	Albuquerque, NM	4CU
Russell & Kim Moore	Frederick, CO	Affiliates, DenCO Unit
Rick & Theresa Marshall	Durango, CO	4CU
Dave & Natalie Sharka	Tucson, AZ	4CU
Brent & Cindy Smith	Santa Clara, UT	Affiliates, Utah Wasatch Unit
Bruce & Cathy Stevenson	Marana, AZ	4CU
Rosanne Storjohann	Montrose, CO	4CU
Paul & Ronnie Ward	Sedona, AZ	4CU
AC & Dorothy Wood	Ramona, CA	4CU

A big 4CU WELCOME to each of you! We are pleased to have you join our merry band of happy campers and encourage you to get involved ASAP! Those who have not yet attended a rally, why not sign up for one soon and jump in? You won't regret it! We all look forward to seeing you around the 4CU campfire as soon and as often as possible.

Will You Help Welcome New 4CU Members?

We have a small group of members who have volunteered to send welcome email notes to new members as they join. You can be part of that effort. If you'd like to help, drop Terry Rich a note at Terry@TBRich.com. You will then be CC'd as each new member welcome letter goes out. Just follow up with a personal welcome note of your own at your leisure. This is an easy but important way to help with

membership. Reaching out to new members makes a world of difference to them! The best thing you can do to keep the 4CU strong is to help new members to get involved and help them get acquainted with other members. We all know how hard it is to join a new group not knowing anyone. This is a chance to ease someone's way to being a new friend right at the get-go!

Our Current Membership Numbers:

We currently have 195 Full Members + 83 Affiliates for a total of 278 Members.

Help the 4CU Continue to Grow!

There's a 2017/18 Membership Form available on the 4CU Website at <http://fourcornersunit.com/membership.html> and an online version is available at <http://4cu.boondocking.net/application.php>.

When we camp there are opportunities to share our

good times in the 4CU with other Airstreamers. Why not print some 4CU 2017/18 Member Applications and keep a supply in your rig ... or keep a copy on your laptop and phone to email to folks you meet! You never know when someone will want information about the 4CU! Word of mouth is our greatest membership development tool.

Renewal Reminders for 2018 Began in July!

We begin our annual membership renewal efforts in July with monthly reminders. Thank you to all those who have already renewed for 2018! We appreciate your promptness. If you have not renewed you will receive an email reminding you and laying out the details of how to renew.

If you have any questions about 4CU or WBCCI membership, your current membership status please do not hesitate to contact Terry Rich, Membership Chair, at Terry@TBRich.com.



2017 MESA VERDE RALLY - PHOTO BY TERRY RICH & GREG SCHMUKER

2ND QUARTER FINANCIAL - 04/01/16 TO 06/31/16

By Howard Efner

Starting Balance

6,130.10

Income

Dues - Cash	110.00
Dues - PayPal*	55.80
T-Shirt Sales	52.00
Moab Rally	183.61
Rim CG Reservation Cancellation	1040.00
Affil. Badges	10.00
Total	1,451.41

Expenditures

International Dues	144.00
First Rally Rebate	20.00
Congo Project for Relief (Moab Rally)	180.00
Thanksgiving Rally Campground Reservation	240.00
Total	584.00

Ending Balance

6,997.51

* Less PayPal Fees



TAKING THE LONG WAY TO CARSON CITY

❧ By Bonnie Bobman ❧

So, I decide to take over this month's adventure column and tell you all the ins and outs of our trip up to Carson City, NV and back. We went there because Alan was in a 35-mile mountain bike race called The Carson City Off-Road: just a little race across through Tahoe Mountains with 900 of his closest buddies. But first, a week of camping.

We chose to begin our journey from Phoenix north through Las Vegas rather than through Palm Springs. First, because it was faster and second, we will travel back through California on the way home. I personally think the trip up to Las Vegas is boring but we broke up the morning with breakfast in Wickenburg at the Horseshoe Cafe. (Park at the school lot on the side street.) It was probably too soon for a break but we've never been to Wickenburg.

So off through Las Vegas and into Pahrump. We stopped at the Saddle West Casino RV (site # 19) parking lot. We needed Wi-Fi for Monday morning business, so this had exactly what we needed. Full service and easy in and out. It was \$25.00 and cable that night had good offerings: NHL playoffs, CMA Awards and the Tony Awards. A trifecta and better than losing in the casino. Ok, onward.

The only one way to get into California from here is through Death Valley. Another new National Park we have never been to yet. And we got really lucky for a June day: 65 degrees!! We didn't stop at each viewpoint though, just two. After a haul up the mountain, the Father Crowley lookout was our lunch spot. If you're lucky, the air base flies jets through the canyon all the time! I heard this crazy noise while we



were eating a quick lunch inside and WOW! It was a fighter just outside the door going sideways through the canyon!

After you meander west out of DVNP, you finally see the snow covered mountains of the Sierras. Stop at the visitor center when you hit Hwy 395. It's a gorgeous building. And get the INYO county maps! They are fabulous. They show lots of BLM spots up the corridor if that's your liking. We decided to play it safe and pick a campground for our second night in Lone Pine.

Tuttle Creek Campground. One of a few campgrounds in the area. After reading many blogs on line and viewing posts on Campendium.com (a must for RVrs and campers), we read that this was a great campground with good cell service and only \$5! No

services but who needs it? Cool nights and beautiful cool creek serging behind our site #48. The site was a bit unlevel but spot was terrific. Full moon to boot! There was a little hike which took you around the campground and over the creek by a foot bridge where the water was rushing though the slats. A culvert on a spur was also there if you didn't want your tootsies wet.

Also in the area was Lone Pine Campground as well as BLM spots among the Alabama Hills. Google this one. It's a mecca for boondocking against the boulders off Movie Rd. Movie Rd is named such because it's the location for many, many movies. Also a movie museum in town that I hear is pretty well done. We drove through the hills on our way out to check it out. Down Movie Rd less than a mile there is a trailhead and lot where you can park and walk the trail to the Mobius Arch. It was a nice little morning walk. I wouldn't say it was challenging but there are inclines and rock stairs.

Quick stop in Bishop, for a fabric fix at the local quilt/knit shop and gas. They also had a great RV wash in town. A bay with two levels so you could scrub the top! A must next time.

Onward ho! We are headed north and I had heard about this cool place called Convict Lake. It can be reserved but since we were kind of winging it, we didn't want to commit; maybe they had a few "walk ins". As we drove off 395 and down the road we had another "ahhh" moment! It was a breathtaking view. Thank fully they had an opening for the night (site #14) and it was great. There are some sites which are tighter than others (this was our second go around after the first spot we tried was too tough). We found our

spot for the night with another view of snow capped mountains and this time a gorgeous lake. Also a day use area, there's a boat launch and a perfect little trail that was just glorious. It took you around the lake and through the trees. Although the sites had no services, there were public bathrooms and potable water to fill you up. And a dump with the best view I've ever seen!!!

Now we were headed to Carson City. On the way there, we decided to stop at Mono (moe-noe) Lake Tufa State Park. A must. It only takes about an hour but you need to go. We went to the visitors center first then backtracked to the South Tufa Site. It was cool. Go early if its summer. It could get a bit warm. If you wish to boondock in the area, check with Campendium for some coordinates. We checked a site out and it was pretty nice

Carson City was the destination and I won't give you details of Alan's 6 hour grueling bike race (snow in the mountains changed the course and it was not as the bikers expected when they signed up. Good thing he chose the 35 mile not the 50!) I can't give

you recommendations for RV parking because we stayed in the community park with other bikers staying in RVs and tents. I know some people stayed at Camptown RV Park with no remarks good or bad. Of course, I found an awesome mill end fabric store that was unbelievable!



Alan and I stayed there Thursday through Sunday and after four days of dry camping in unseasonably warm temps, we knew we needed to refresh the rig and to get Wi-Fi for Monday business. We decided Lake Tahoe was a great option. This was the one place we thought a reservation was a good idea because there aren't that many RV parks in the area. We wanted to stay easy

in/ easy out and away from a lot of the casino hustle bustle. Zephyr Cove RV Park was our choice.

This is one big RV park. While we weren't thrilled with our site (#170), we stayed because we needed full hook ups and it was right across the street from the public pier and beach. The owners, the national corporation Aramark, also ran the property across the street which

had a full service restaurant and cabins on the beach. The tour boats along with the public beach meant for a busy place on the weekend. Although this RV park with had many monthly/seasonal renters as well as guests with extended families, I'd say go for it if you need a recharge. The summer crowds can be quite imposing but if you plan to tour Lake Tahoe, it's a good spot. We opted to get to the dock in the early morning to see the sun rise and catch the morning cool air as well as the sunset. Everyone on the beach is gone by then. Two nights is all we stayed but mostly because our spot was not good. Suggestion would be to oversize your spot needs when making reservation and you'll get a better site. They don't guarantee the exact site but we suggest you choose premium location. Don't choose the area by the road. It is really as close to the street as it looks and there are 18-wheelers buzzing by all the time. Also, It's pretty tight and when everyone gets their campfires going, the smoke lingers under the canopy of the trees. Close your windows or you'll be remembering those campfire moments for the next days!

Heading south back along 395, we stopped along the Walker River at the day use area just south of Topaz Lake to see the huge flow! The snow melt was huge this year and the river was raging!

We arrived at June Lake and the Oh! Ridge Campground. No words for this place. We though it was awesome. There was an open site on line the night before so we grabbed it site # 28. When we got there and saw the area we decided to stay another. Our site wasn't available for the next night but we went down to the check-in hut first thing the next morning to see what was available. The second night's site was perfect as well! Site # 14.

About June Lake: The campground has dry camping only with water at each loop. There are some loops which had restrooms and there was a dump but with a fee, which we thought was rather ridiculous. The beach and lake was beautiful. There was a bar and a marina, then there was a secondary lake with a laid back marina where we had relaxed after a long bike ride to the town. I wouldn't suggest the bike ride as you need to ride on the two-lane highway and it was a nice coasting ride in, but a strenuous trek back the other side. I made it but wasn't so sure beforehand looking up at what was ahead. Alan had no problem, of course!

The cell service was good, until there was an incident our last morning 200 miles south in California where they discovered 5 hours later that a line had been cut,



eliminating all the cell service up the 395 corridor all day. Of course, we needed that cell service for work this one and only time!

We had to forgo our plans to use the Wi-Fi/cell in nice cool Mammoth Lakes that day and search by going south. We managed to get things done but not until we reached Bishop ... in 105 degrees. So much for our escaping the heat for a few more days!

At this point we figured we needed electricity to get the A/C going for the rest of the trip and we made arrangements to hang in Palm Springs for the last two nights in stead. So, on the way down we called Emerald Lakes RV Resort:

When you get to the property, it certainly doesn't look like the RV parks we have been accustomed to during our travels. It looked like a desert community that had green lawns and lush landscaping , typical of Palm Springs. This was full service to the max. It wasn't busy as it was mid summer and in the triple digits, but there were some people hanging nonetheless. As soon as we were escorted to our site # 404, we hooked

up the electric and threw on the air conditioning. Lesson learned: If you are traveling for hours in 100+ degrees heat, bring your Reflectix for the windows! It took quite a while to get the inside temperature down to the 70s from the 90s. We took advantage of some pool time and chatted with a family who came in from California for the weekend getaway.

Then it was our planned return back to Phoenix. We can't wait to go back again. It was really a great trip especially that time of year. There's something about being in beautiful 70 degree temps and viewing snowcapped mountains at the same time.



4CU Photos Buckets

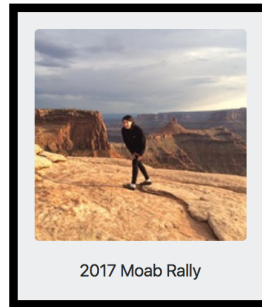
Click on any image below to see album



2017 Mesa Verde Rally



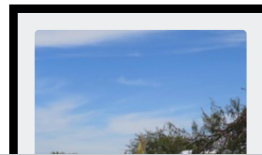
2017 El Morro Rally



2017 Moab Rally



2017 Lo Lo Mai Rally



4CU WEBSITE NEWS

✧ By Stephen Porter ✧

As you may have read earlier, Ilene and I have sold the Airstream. However, you are not going to get rid of us that easily; this club will always hold a special place in our hearts and I will be supporting the website until someone else steps up to run it. With that said, if you have any interest in learning how to build and run a website, please let me know. Our website is built with modern web technologies and we are always looking for ways to improve it and add the features desired by the members of this club.

At present, the website has been updated with all of the current rally photos and the future rallies have been updated as to date of this newsletter. Please Let Terry or myself know if you see any information that is missing or items that should be added.

One area that I have been looking at for improvement

is the forum. Utilization of the forum is not very high and logins have been low; there are only a couple of users that login on a regular basis. The forum is the highest cost part of our web architecture, and with some help from AWS, we did not have to cover much of the cost as they gave us some developer credits.

That however has changed as the credits for this server have run out. I am suggesting to the club that we shut down the current version of the forum and look at ways to update it along with some of the other web architectures to a serverless design. This will lower the cost to run (less than a few dollars a month) yet give us the flexibility to have more features. Please keep an eye out for updates on what we will do with the forum, and again, if you have any idea (that is how we started the forum in the first place) please pass them on.



2017 EL MORRO RALLY - PHOTO BY TERRY RICH & GREG SCHMUKER

2017 EL MORRO RALLY REVIEW

✧ by John Greenfield & Jamey Lathrop ✧

Thirteen Airstreams from Arizona, California, Colorado, and New Mexico gathered at El Morro RV Park near Ramah, NM this past June.

The rally officially began on Friday evening with an appetizer potluck, followed by the first of the three nightly team trivia competitions that were held over the weekend. We'd planned campfires during the evenings, but as our rally dates were so close to the summer solstice, many of us were ready to crash for the night by the time it got dark and cool enough to really enjoy a fire!

During the day, participants were able to enjoy many nearby attractions, including El Morro National Monument, Bandera Volcano and Ice Caves, El Malpais National Monument, art galleries across the road and much more. Plus, many of us ventured to

the Ancient Way Cafe next door occasionally to enjoy a delicious breakfast, lunch, or one of their special weekend dinners. Some visited the cafe more often in an attempt to sample all available flavors of the pies for which they are well known.

Our big finale on Sunday evening featured a build-it-yourself taco dinner and potluck. By the time everyone packed up and began the trip home on Monday morning, it seemed that it had all gone by much too quickly. A big "thank you" to everyone who joined us!

John and I especially want to thank our co-hosts Terry Rich and Greg Schmuker for agreeing to help us out on a rally that was planned on very short notice!



2017 MOAB RALLY - PHOTO BY DENNIS & DIANE MOORE

UPCOMING 4CU RALLIES

2017 Pancho Villa Rally

When.....October 19-23, 2017



WherePancho Villa State Park, Columbus, NM

HostCarolyn & Howard Efner and Terry Rich & Greg Schmuker

Info<http://fourcornersunit.com/rallies/2017-10-19-pancho-villa-rally.html>

2017 Thanksgiving Rally

When.....November 22-26, 2017



WhereCaballo Lake State Park (Riverside Campground Group Area), Caballo, NM

HostJohn & Sylvia Blan and Terry Rich & Greg Schmuker

Info<http://fourcornersunit.com/rallies/2017-11-23-Thanksgiving-rally.html>

2017 - 2018 New Years Rally

When.....December 29, 2017 - January 2, 2018



WherePicacho Peak State Park, Picacho, AZ

HostLouis Hall & Sergio Quiros

Info<http://fourcornersunit.com/rallies/2017-12-26-new-years-rally.html>