The Four Corners Connection



July 4, 2020

Happy July 4th !!!!!!

Perhaps some of you are enjoying the great outdoors in your rig on this holiday weekend; perhaps you are planning a trip in the future. Either way, we wish you safe travels in good health.

Our last email blast had us chatting about changes in rules and regulations while we go from state to state. If you have any information to share, please send it and we will share it immediately. These email blasts also serve to update our members with up to the minute news that affects our travels.

Thank you in advance.

4CU Rally Reports

Please know that the 4CU board shares your wishes to gather "around the campfire" as quickly as possible at one of our wonderful rallies.
Unfortunately, we are all at the mercy of the rv parks owners, the US Forest Service, state parks and county parks. Although there are rallies listed on our calendar, news and status changes every single day. These rally locations do not have answers for us either. They are on a day-to-day schedule as well.

Here in the Four Corners we are facing many unknowns during this pandemic and wish to make well thought out decisions regarding our members health and well being. As soon as any decisions are made we will let you know.

Upcoming Rallies:

Here's the latest update (7/1/2020)

July 30 Crook Campground, Mogollon Rim, AZ

Sept 4 Reg Open * Third Annual Chile Run Rally, Silver City, NM

Nov 12 Tucson Unplugged 2020, Tucson, AZ

Nov 25 Thanksgiving Rally, Lake Pleasant, AZ

Dec tbd New Years Eve Rally, Picacho Peak, AZ

More information at <u>4CU Rallies</u>

Where are you???

We are usually pretty good with "winging it" although we prefer some type of plan while we are enjoying our time adventuring in our Airstream.

In these odd times, we have heard from a few of our members! Thank you for sending in your overviews of journeys during the past few months and thank you for offering to share!

from Don and Marilyn Sluyk

We were so looking forward to Loveland 2020, like everyone else. Hopefully, it can happen again some year.

We decided to come anyway with our 1960 24' Tradewind and enjoy Colorado, as we do every year like for the Rocky Mountain rallies every other year for the last ten years. We have also enjoyed Pismo Beach Vintage trailer twice, Mardi Gras Airstream rally in New Orleans, Rose Parade, and many 4CU rallies, such as Restoration rallies, Balloon Fiesta, We are actually at the Ft Collins, Lakeside KOA, recommended by VAC member Jim Cooper. We have friends and relatives coming, plus two nights to Mt Rushmore without the Airstream.

In almost 800 miles, we only saw six other Airstreams on the road, between Flagstaff AZ, stopping overnight in Pagosa Springs in a hotel. There are four other Airstreams(all newer) currently at the KOA. Things are different for sure: couldn't go from AZ through NM; could only get takeout at some restaurants; breakfast cancelled in Pagosa Springs hotel; visitor centers closed, much less traffic on back roads

Even though we have full hookups, I'm trying out my new gray water holding tank and three new slide valves, replacing the leaky black water slide valve and no gray water storage. Plus my new aluminum box on the back, I made to store very light weight stuff, since older Airstreams can't support much in the back without cracking the frame.

Also, my new bike rack, plus some ceiling hooks, inside to hold two bikes without bouncing around. As usual, I already found more things to do (even after about 20 times out).

from Carol Bennett

We are accidentally "full timing" in our Airstream! Our journey to full timing started pretty normally in January. We love going to Amado, Arizona for a month or six weeks in the winter. We stay at DeAnza RV Park. This year our reservation was for February 1 - March 15. We stayed longer to see the Linda Ronstadt Tribute Band featuring her niece. About the same time, some friends of ours in Albuquerque were in the process of selling their house. Our friends had retired in the fall to follow their dream of moving to France. They both have dual French/US citizenships and family there. It turned out that they needed a place to stay for about a week before their house closed and they flew to France. In December and January they sold or shipped most all of their possessions except the minimum they needed on a daily basis. We were happy to extend our stay in Arizona, so offered them our house. And at

Our friends flights were cancelled. But then the airline rescheduled until April: then cancelled again. Then again scheduled and cancelled again. Some of the cancellations were due to flight issues, and some were due to the French Embassy trying to find them a rental in France for their 14 day quarantine time, plus trying to find transportation to their new apartment near the center of France. We, in the mean time, were continuing to have a great time in Arizona - birdwatching, hiking, viewing spring cactus blooms and enjoying our Arizona family. We told them not to worry as we were fine. A great campsite, a wonderful Airstream and zero inconvenience for us.

Well, the last week of April, the heat struck as only Arizona heat can! We decided to head north to Lo Lo Mai Campground outside of Sedona May 1st. This was a great plan, as our friends flights were again scheduled for May 7 and we'd be headed back to Albuquerque on May 6. Lolo Mai was great - except for two things. The cottonwood trees were in full "fuzz"! It looked like a sea of swirling snow when we got to our campsite. Fluff everywhere - so bad we had to constantly clean all our window and vent screens. The next issue was the campground was so full and the campsites were so tight, personal distance was almost impossible. Mid week, people cleared out and we were a lot happier. Still cleaning fluff, however!

On May 5, our friends called with their news - flights cancelled again and they were trying to find a short term rental. Again, we told them that we are in the best situation in our trailer, and for them to stay at our house. We arrived in Albuquerque on May 6 and stayed for four days at the Bernalillo KOA. A great campground. We got mail, dropped things in our garage, visited our French friends, neighbors and our family. During our Albuquerque stay, we learned our daughter needed us to come to Spokane, WA area to help out with our granddaughter. I think she was just giving us a good excuse to come and stay. After a mad dash of three days and 1,300 miles of virus closed rest areas and not stoping except for KOA's, we arrived to begin our latest adventure - as "moochdockers"!

We have a great driveway setup here, sewer, water, electricity and Great family times. They have a very rural home on almost two acres with

in France at their final destination rented. They've taken great care of our house and garden and have befriended our turtle who came out of hibernation during their stay. They donate to the utilities and take care of the mail! I just can't imagine how they are coping during this.

We are now getting close to living in our 2019 23ftfb Airstream for six months. I would have never thought we'd be able to do this in that kind small of space. But we are comfy and the prospect of being here through summer is Just fine - good even.

We have signed up for the Silver City rally and really looking forward to it. Even if we end up driving from Northeast Washington!

*** They important things are that we are happy with our decision to help our friends; that we don't feel taken advantage of at all; that we have learned so much living in our tiny home and that we will continue to enjoy our freedom until we have to be in a house again. It is entirely possible, that we might end up as actual full timers before this is over. The freedom of a tiny space is so unique! And are 100% committed to Airstream.

Welcome to the 4CU

Maureen McCormack and Athala King, Scottsdale, AZ

Mike and Debbie Segrest, Durango, CO

Chris and Corree Sinkwitz, Scottsdale, AZ

Robert and Lelia Wright, Albuquerque, NM

William Burke, Gilbert, AZ

Newsworthy

Thor CEO Bob Martin.

Here's a CNBC Jim Cramer clip from Mad Money and

Thor CEO Bob Martin

https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/08/ceo-of-airstream-makermore-people-see-benefits-of-rv-travel-during-pandemic.html

Stay Healthy...Stay Home...Stay Connected

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