

ALLIANCE RV EXTENDED STAY FIETH WHEELS



Join the ALLIANCE RV GROUP on Facebook.



See what thousands of RVers are saying about ALLIANCE RV





www. ALLIANCE RV.com

OBSESSED WITH PROVIDING THE BEST RV OWNERSHIP EXPERIENCE!

Thank you for your interest in Alliance Recreational Vehicles. Our mission is simple - Provide our customers with the best RV ownership experience! This means creating long-term alliances with our family of product owners and dealer partners, and exceeding expectations every step of the way.

Our vision is to create a product driven by our customers, through their experience and input, and execute on those ideas at the highest level. Innovation and product development is best done in collaboration with the RVing community, and we are listening. Many of us here at Alliance RV have spent the majority of our careers in the RV industry, and we believe our RV owners and dealer partners will welcome an independent and truly different manufacturer that is transparent and dedicated to their customers.

Located on 110 acres in the heart of Elkhart, Indiana, Alliance RV recently broke ground on our state-of-the-art production facility. Production began in Fall 2019 with our first product line focused on the luxury fifth wheel market. As our progress continues and our designs unfold, we encourage you to join our Facebook group (Alliance RV Group). We are constantly (and obsessively) engaging our future customers to drive what we build at Alliance RV.

We are honored you have taken the time to learn more about Alliance RV and look forward to your feedback and support as we execute our vision. If you are as obsessed with building a better RV ownership experience as we are, this is only the beginning of a very rewarding long-term 'Alliance'.

Sincerely,

Coley & Zyan Brady

VEAR COMPREHENSIVE





A WARRANTY IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE COMPANY THAT BACKS IT.

Every Alliance RV is generously backed with a 3-year limited structural and 1-year limited base warranty. Further, what really makes Alliance RV stand out is our willingness to communicate our guiding principle of "Do The Right Thing". We understand there is not a one size fits all solution when it comes to your warranty and service needs. Our ability to keep open lines of communication with both you and your Alliance dealer will help us find a creative service solution for your specific case. Add to this the unique service and

warranty programs we have implemented for our Alliance dealers to streamline the approval process and parts delivery times... all towards the mission of getting our Alliance RV owners back on the road faster and enhancing your RV ownership experience. If you ever want to speak with one of our customer service representatives, please don't hesitate to contact us at (574) 226-0140.





We are a network of wineries, breweries, distilleries, farms, and attractions that invite RVers to stay in 1000+ stunning camping sites. The \$79 yearly membership gives members unlimited access to stay overnight at any one of our Host's locations. We kindly ask our members to support their Hosts by purchasing one of their local products with each stay.

USE PROMO CODE "ROOTLESS" TO SAVE 15% AT HARVESTHOSTS.COM





SnapPad[®]

SOLID
FOOTING FOR
ROOTLESS
LIFESTYLES

Introducing RV SnapPad, the Ultimate Leveling Accessory for Serious RVers

Living on the road comes with its share of challenges.

That's why we made the world's only permanent jack pad.



More Convenience



More **Stability**



More Protection

SnapPads make your leveling system truly automatic. To learn more, visit **www.RVSnapPad.com**





Bamboo Roasting Sticks Biodegradable, made from eco-friendly bamboo material. Natural Fire Starters
Ethically sourced materials,
no harmful chemicals.

Cutlery
Compostable, made from corn
starch base material.



gratefulglamper.com







available at amazon



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 11 | From the Publisher
About our Cover Photo

Page 12 | The Feed

Page 13 | From the Editor

Page 14 | Reader Photo

Page 15 | The Solar Ready Fifth-Wheel

The new Super SolarFlex[™] package from Keystone

Page 17 | RV Renovations

Page 25 | Palo Duro Canyon

A Hiker's Paradise in West Texas

Page 29 | Remote Work

How to start your own virtual assistant business

Page 31 | Nomad Entrepreneurs

Tony & Melissa Flammia of Road Life Project

Page 33 | What is Boondocking?

The word's origin and how we at Rootless Living define it

Page 34 | Solar 101

How to determine your power needs

Page 39 | Lithium vs AGM Batteries

Page 40 | DIY Solar

Sean & Alli walk you through their system setup

Page 43 | Tiny Dream Home On Wheels

How one couple built their dream trailer

Page 46 | 6 Favorite Boondocking Spots

Page 53 | The Perfect Shot

Tips for capturing a great photo with your phone

Page 56 | International House & Pet Sitting

Page 59 | Creators on the Go

Reggie & Monica of The Wild Roam

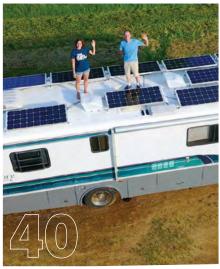
Page 63 | Gear Guide

Page 64 | Contributors

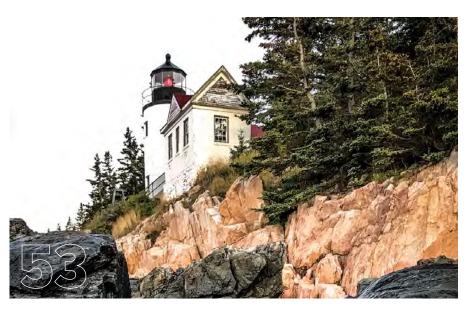
For Digital Nomads, By Digital Nomads

Page 65 | Podcasts for the Drive









FROM THE PUBLISHER

The part I love most about living in an RV full-time is boondocking. This is a term I didn't know or use before we hit the road in 2017. Our first try at boondocking was an epic fail. We navigated a long windy dirt road for hours to end up at a locked gate and we had to turn around and find a local campground.

Before I had actually done it, the thought of driving and camping on the sand in Texas was what scared me most. As someone who grew up in Southern California, you don't drive a vehicle on the sand, let alone a 16,000 lbs fifth-wheel. We never got stuck and the two weeks we were there are still some of my favorite memories. Falling asleep to the sound of waves, sitting out in the sun all day, and having a 10 million dollar view for free was amazing.

Every boondocking experience after that has been my favorite. Each one seems to top the next and I can't wait to explore even more spots later this year. I knew when we started this magazine we would want to include ways to boondock as it truly is the best part of living full-time in a RV.



The thing I dislike about boondocking is that I am so dependent on a generator for power. Being out in the desert or deep in the forest, enjoying the peace and quiet, and then having to run a generator just seems to defeat the purpose.

This will be the year we have a complete solar system installed which will get a ton of use, and I don't just mean while boondocking. We will also use it with services like Harvest Hosts and Boondockers Welcome, but also when we stay at campgrounds with dry camping areas, likely near water.

Relying on being plugged in has really taken away from the full potential of this lifestyle for me and I can't wait to remove this last obstacle and truly experience boondocking the way it should be experienced.

Until the next issue ... stay Rootless.

Demian Ross

<u>@demianross</u> demian@rootlessliving.com

About our cover:

In the last issue we asked for submissions for our boondocking cover and we received many great shots. But sadly, we had to narrow it down. It was a tough choice but this shot of Alabama Hills in California was the winner. (See page 14 for our runner up!)

of traveling the West during his three weeks of summer

About our cover photographer, Greg Graham: Greg bought his Airstream four years ago with the idea

vacation and on weekend trips throughout the year. He hoped to live in the trailer full-time after retirement, which was still years away. In that first summer of traveling he noticed all the people his age living full-time in their RVs. Greg got the boondocking bug. He sold everything and moved into his Airstream. For the last two years, Greg has pursued the beauty of the outdoors and documented his travels through his photography. Follow Greg's adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties of the outdoors and documented his travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through his photography. The properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventures on Instagram <a href="mailto:eta] travels through the properties adventur

THE FEED#rootlessliving

"I have read the first two issues cover to cover and I am looking forward to the next!

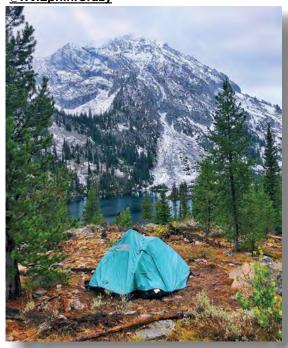
There is a lot of very helpful information and resources. Great magazine!" - Julie

@FlatOutTravellers



"We know it's probably not the best time to start a business venture ... But building these buses is more than just business to us." Photo by Geneviève Caouette

@RV.Ephin.Crazy



"Bonus of not setting up camp until 10 PM; waking up to this view."

@TheTasteForAdventure



"I'm behind the wheel about 40% of our travel days. #GalsDrivingRVs"

@TheAllensTinvAdventure



"This photo is from when we camped across the country. We can't wait to do it again but this time with our home behind us."

Join the Rootless Living Community and see your shots in the magazine!

Tag us on Instagram <u>@RootlessLivingMag</u> or use the hashtag #RootlessLiving.

You can also follow us on Facebook <u>@RootlessLiving</u>.

FROM THE EDITOR

Living in an RV, you get used to things changing and plans getting derailed but nothing quite prepared us for COVID-19. When the first state announced they were closing their parks we knew this was going to affect us as full-time RVers.

As I sit down to write this letter, most things are still uncertain. Our spring travel plans have all been canceled and our summer plans are still to be determined. One thing I do know, whenever we can get back out on the road we will be boondocking.

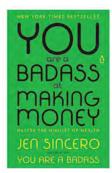
I've always been sort of a nostalgic person and I think that might be why I am so drawn to boondocking. It reminds me of all the camping trips I took growing up. There were no power outlets to park near and no specific place to set up our tent. You chose a spot and made your camp how you wanted it. While I don't consider what we do, living full-time in an RV, as camping; it does feel pretty close to it when we're boondocking.



Since one of my favorite things to do while boondocking is sitting outside and reading, I thought I'd share some of my favorite books with you. I read a lot and am always looking for great book recommendations so feel free to share any of your favorites with me as well!

Nikki Kirk

@nikkirk7 nikki@rootlessliving.com



"You Are a Badass at Making Money: Master the Mindset of Wealth" by Jen Sincero

The perfect read and kick in the butt if you are ready to get out of your own way and finally start all those money-making ideas.



<u>The Will Trent Series</u> from Karin Slaughter

I love finding a great author who keeps you captivated and when you find out they have a whole series, well that's better than a Netflix binge any day! I'd have to describe this detective series as a mix between Criminal Minds and Law & Order.



"The \$64 Tomato: How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden" By William Alexander

If you're like me and dream of a homestead or just looking for an entertaining read about a guy who set out to plant a large garden, this book is fun, funny and you might even learn a thing or two!

READER PHOTO

Right outside of the sleepy town of Wickenburg, AZ is a lovely boondocking area at the base of Vulture Peak. Rolling hills, towering Saguaro, and incredible views make this one of our favorite places to get away from it all.

By Jonathan & Ashley Longnecker | @TinyShinyHome



RVers WANT TO UNPLUG ... LITERALLY.

The idea of being able to buy an RV that's ready to be driven off the lot and head straight to your favorite boondocking spot is very appealing. The ability to use your electronic devices and work from anywhere? It's a digital nomad dream and it definitely got our attention.

With more RVers looking to get off-grid from the start, the Keystone RV Company launched a solution for factory-installed solar on their Montana luxury line of fifth wheels. The Montana fifth wheels are already known for their spacious floorplans and

modern interiors, and now Keystone is adding solar to the mix.

The Super SolarFlex™ option allows buyers to get their solar installed by the same factory who produced their





fifth wheel. Saving you from trying to understand and install solar yourself, or from having to shop aftermarket options.

This turnkey solution is the first comprehensive, advanced energy management system designed specifically for Keystone Montana. The factory-installed components power every outlet and appliance. It is all fully warranted and comes with RVIA code compliant installation.

Keystone teamed up with Airxcel to design a softstart air conditioner, so yes, it can even run your air conditioner! Super SolarFlex $^{\text{\tiny M}}$ is an available option on every Montana model.

For more information about the Super SolarFlex™ option, visit keystonerv.com.

Super SolarFlex[™] package includes:

JABONI POWER PRODUCTS SOLAR PANELS 1,000+ watts of solar collection

60 AMP OF MPPT SOLAR CHARGING CAPABILITY MPPT (Maximum Power Point Tracking) technology maximizes power under all conditions, collecting more energy from the solar array than standard PWM (Pulse Wave Modulation) systems

DRAGONFLY ENERGY™ GC3 LIFEPO4 LITHIUM ION BATTERIES

- Two best-in-class lithium ion batteries delivering a combined 510 amp hours of storage. Lithium ion batteries last longer, provide 2-3X more usable power, and are 80% lighter than lead acid batteries. With Super SolarFlexTM, owners have the option to add up to 510 AH of additional storage post-purchase.
- \bullet Designed and Assembled in the USA 3000-5000 cycles

- Built in Battery Management System (BMS) monitors all operating conditions of the batteries to ensure they operate properly
- Internal heating system allows cold temp charging at below freezing temperatures, enabling the battery to operate in any environment

FULLY ELECTRIFIED COACH WITH 3,000W MAGNUM HYBRID INVERTER CHARGER

- Powers every outlet, every appliance, every system in your Montana
- Dual, 50AMP pass-through transfer switch power what you want when you want, regardless of the available energy source (solar or shore)
- Directs shore power to charge batteries until electricity is needed in the coach, then diverts current automatically

PRECISION CIRCUITS $^{\mathtt{M}}$ ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- $\bullet \ \, \text{State-of-the-art load management system}.$
- Prevents inverter overload by monitoring energy consumption and temporarily disabling non-critical circuits

ADDITIONAL SYSTEM SAFEGUARD

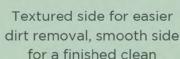
• Precision Circuits™ Battery Guardian provides a second level of protection by disabling 12V circuits until adequate battery charge is achieved

VICTRON BMV-712 WITH VICTRON CONNECT

 Battery load monitor and easy-to-use smart phone app provides real-time monitoring and reduces energy anxiety



Single-use pouches are ideal for packing into your backpack, gym bag, purse, or even a pocket



Eco-friendly, natural ingredients on a biodegradable material

Shop today at venturewipes.com or amazon

VENTURE WIPES[™]



RV RENOVATION

A NOT SO TRADITIONAL MOTORHOME

When Matthew and Hayley Reynolds purchased their 2004 Gulfstream Sunvoyager in June of 2019, they had no idea of the renovation ride they were in for. The couple are both nurses so when the idea of becoming traveling nurses came up, they initially played with the idea of a tiny home. However, after researching all the requirements and difficulty in finding a place to park, they agreed an RV would be a lot easier.

They found their Class A, which they named Georgia, through an online listing from a private seller. "Once we decided on an RV and got to researching, we knew we couldn't live in the classic brown RV." Hayley adds. And with a sunroom slide like theirs, there is nothing ordinary about this RV.

Before moving into the RV, the couple worked full-time in Kansas City, which for nurses, means 3 days a week. Between shifts they would drive the 3 hours to Hayley's hometown, where they stored and worked on the RV in a large barn on her grandparents' farm. They made the drive back and forth while renovating for 9 months.

"It was not easy and we had a lot of issues because we bought an older RV. Once you start ripping things out and see the bones, nothing is hidden and it can be terrifying!" Hayley said. "I think we could probably count on one hand the number of projects that went smoothly or were easier than we thought they'd be."

The couple pulled inspiration from Pinterest and Instagram. And they looked to other RVers, "It's a wonderful community of people who have been so encouraging and helpful throughout the whole process." said Hayley. For design, Matthew enjoys a modern look with lots of wood details and Hayley leans towards patterns and a boho feel. The results are a space that feels homey and is a great mix of both their styles.

While they didn't start the process knowing much about renovating, they soon learned a ton. They did all of the renovation themselves, from the initial demo to putting it all back together. In the process, Matthew taught himself plumbing, electrical, and construction. They also, very quickly, learned that the private seller



hadn't disclosed and even covered up a lot of water damage. They ended up having to replace the entire subfloor and ceiling in the back half of the RV.

They tore down everything, including removing upper cabinets, carpet, and shower. Then, there was the carpet on the ceiling. Yep, ceiling carpet. Hayley says they didn't really consider what they would do with it before they purchased it. They could either cover it up or rip it out. So out it went. "To be thorough we removed all the sticky carpet from the ceiling with the back of a hammer, then sanded down all the adhesive that remained, washed it all down twice, primed, then painted." Hayley adds, "Never. Again."

The reconstruction process included painting, installing vinyl click flooring with trim, and updating the kitchen backsplash with peel-and-stick tile. They added new slide trim, installed all new hardware and fixtures, and took on a few large construction projects. One of which was the entertainment center which includes their pantry, electric fireplace, pull out table, and TV.

Another large project was the bathroom. Suspecting water damage, they cut out the whole plexiglass shower. When they moved into the RV the only thing working in the bathroom was the toilet so they packed their things back and forth from the RV park shower houses for months. "It wasn't always joyful," Hayley adds. "But it makes you appreciate something as simple as a convenient shower."

In October of 2019, Matthew and Hayley moved Georgia out to California for a 6-month nursing contract. Since they are both nurses, they plan to travel full-time for a few years before starting a family. They move to new assignments every 3-6 months with time in between to travel and see family.

Hayley says if she has advice for anyone wanting to renovate "make sure you plan extra time, and then more extra time. A full DIY renovation takes a lot longer than you expect. It





was always the expectation to get it all finished by the time we started traveling but you know how that goes." They've been slowly finishing projects and a year after they started, they are close to being completely done.

"A couple of months ago, we discovered a water leak in our unfinished bathroom sink that had leaked under our flooring for weeks and we had to throw out a lot of our floor and redo a lot of work. I was talking to my dad, the wisest, most encouraging man, and I will never forget. He said, 'You guys have dealt with every home owner's issues over 30 years in less than 30 months, you're learning so many things.' It's relieving to know it's not about the number of issues but the lessons learned." Hayley said. "If anyone is considering this lifestyle, just do it and try. You won't regret it, life is short, and when will the timing get any better than now?"

Follow Hayley, Matthew, and their RV, Georgia on Instagram at @roamingwiththereynolds

Do you have a renovation story you'd like to share? Email us at collab@rootlessliving.com





WWW.ABCORV.COM



RV RENOVATION

BUDGET ECLECTIC FIFTH-WHEEL INSPIRED BY THE SOUTHWEST

When Bradley & Irene Lincoln started traveling full-time in August of 2018 with their two kids and a husky, it was in a 2002 Winnebago Brave they had newly remodeled. After about six months of travel, they decided it was time for more room and a separate space for their girls. They sold the Class A to purchase a truck and their 2008 Keystone Raptor fifth-wheel, toy hauler.

Brad works remotely as an online college instructor so their travel is only dictated by where they can get a cell signal. The family enjoys traveling at a slower pace. They stay in a spot for two weeks so they can really experience the locations, as well as keep their normal day to day schedules of work and homeschooling.

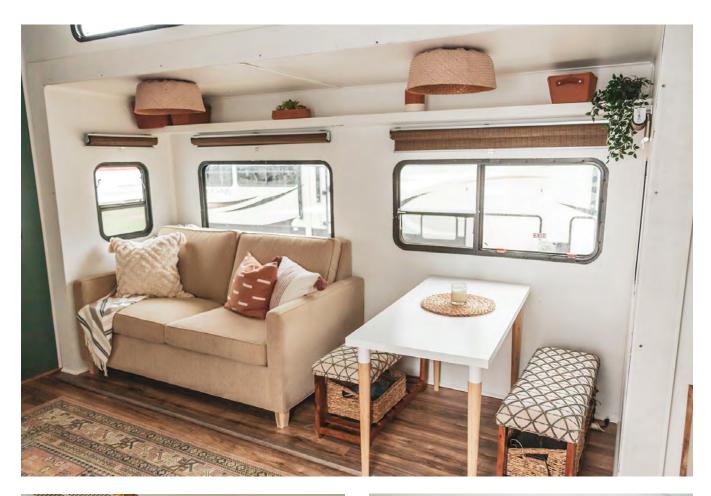
They were about a month into traveling when they discovered a giant leak in the upstairs master closet of the fifth-wheel. After taking the closet apart, black mold and a rotted floor in the slide forced them to begin their renovation sooner. "Renovating while living in

an RV is not for the faint of heart." Irene said. "It was very challenging. Not only are the living quarters tight to begin with, but you are also now having to deal with construction dust and mess everywhere."

Irene pulled her design inspiration from their travels around the southwest and the west coast. From Sedona to Redwood National Forest, she pulled greens from the forests and clay, earth tones from the desert. She calls her design style "budget eclectic" because "the budget is a huge driving force in how I design and decorate. We chose this lifestyle to be minimalistic, and I wanted the design to remain so. By limiting what we buy, we focus more on the functionality of the space and only bringing in items that truly spark joy."

Brad was in his element. Growing up in Missouri, his father and grandfather taught him how to troubleshoot problems, as well as engineering, and woodworking. Irene dreams up the plans and paints, while Brad











does the cutting and building. Irene adds that the two renovations have really shown what the couple are capable of "and we are truly grateful for that."

The couple completely gutted and rebuilt the interior of the fifth-wheel. They created a bunkhouse in the upstairs room for their two girls. Removed the closet with the water damage and converted it into a dresser and entertainment area with TV. They added new floors, bunk beds and some additional storage space. Irene also added cute lighting and shiplap to make it feel more like home.

The bathroom is a real show stopper. Brad reconstructed the existing vanity using birch plywood, marble laminate, and a vessel sink. They removed the old silver faucet and installed a brushed brass wall faucet. The medicine cabinet was replaced with a birch accent wall and arched mirror. On the floor, they placed hexagon marble and installed a shower using the same material. They finished the bathroom with a new white porcelain toilet and an antique brass shower head.

With the bedroom now a bunkhouse for the girls, Brad and Irene converted the toy hauler part of their fifth-wheel into a new master bedroom. Starting from scratch, they converted an unused half bath into a master closet on one side, and pantry on the other. Where an unused sink was, they added a work desk, and built a queen size bed frame into the slide. The result was a very spacious master bedroom.



In the kitchen and living area of the RV they removed a cabinet that opened up the walkway and laid new flooring throughout. Irene replaced the furniture with items that felt more like their family. She added open shelving where old cabinets had been. Brad designed and built a custom birch plywood kitchen with deep drawers, marble laminate countertops and more open shelving. They set the microwave and toaster oven into the wall to create more room on the counters.

Irene said, "overall, we created a spacious and open RV for our family." She adds, "if you are considering living in your RV while renovating, don't be like us and travel while you're doing it, maybe do it while stationary. There was a time where all four of us were sleeping in the same unfinished room, while we fixed a huge water leak in the bedroom slide. There is also the aspect of traveling with an insane amount of tools and supplies that you normally wouldn't have to." The couple joke that while they might



not have seen every National Park yet, they have visited almost every hardware store across the country.

See more from the Lincolns on Instagram
@TheLincolnTribe or search YouTube for Lincoln Tribe Alive.





LET'S TELL YOUR STORY

When we launched Rootless Living the idea was simple; FOR DIGITAL NOMADS, BY DIGITAL NOMADS. And with each and every issue we've accomplish this goal.

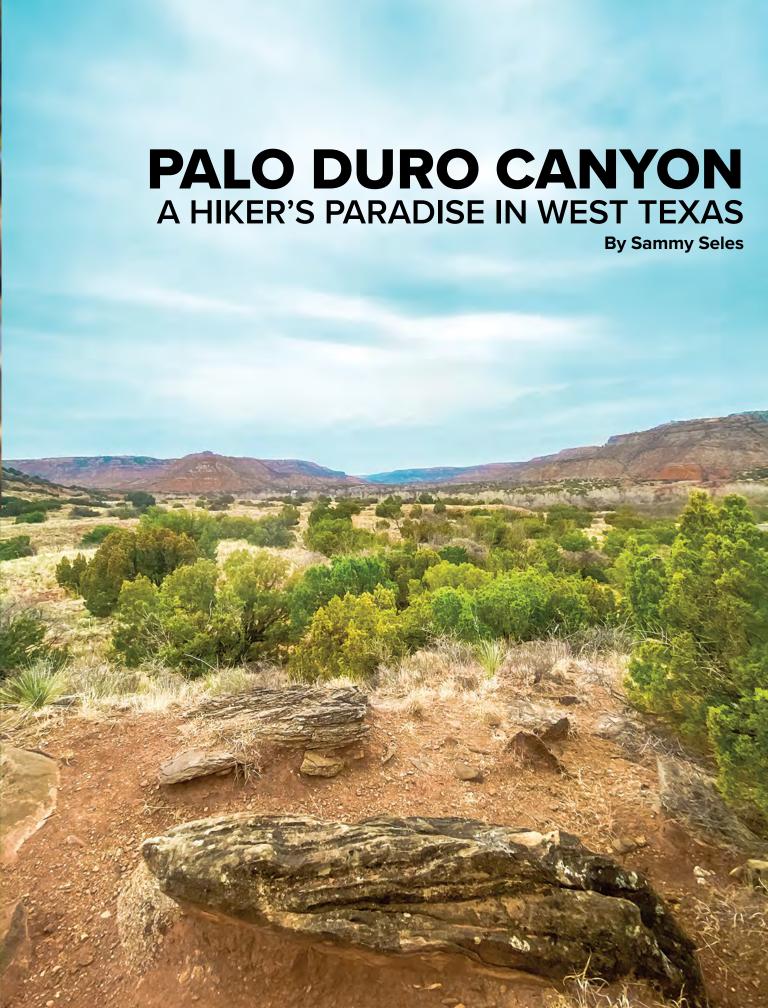
We are always on the look out for people who have a unique story we can include on our weekly podcast or right here in the magazine. Digital nomads of all ages, backgrounds, and nomad lifestyles.

You might be thinking your story is not unique, but we know it could encourage others with a similar background to make the leap to live ROOTLESS.

If this is you, or you know someone who has a interesting story please email us at collab@rootlessliving.com and let's see if we can tell your story.

Follow us and use the #rootlessliving hashtag so we can connect on Instagram as well.







Palo Duro Canyon in Canyon, Texas is a treasure that not many know about. It is the second largest canyon in the United States. At nearly 120 miles long, 20 miles wide and 800 feet deep, the canyon immediately reminds you just how small you are!

My favorite part about the canyon is all the different ways you can explore, making it super accessible to everyone. Discover it in the comforts of your car, by foot, on bike, or even horseback.

If you are on a time crunch, the weather isn't ideal, or hiking isn't really your thing, you don't have to worry. You can still experience just how amazing the park is from your car. You start at the top of the canyon rim, with plenty of lookout points to get out and take photos. Then you'll find yourself making your way down a steep, narrow road deeper into the canyon floor. You'll see just how deep it really is! You can make the trip through the canyon in about thirty minutes, depending on how many times you stop.

Trails are important to us when researching and deciding where we want to visit. Well marked trails offering a variety of skill levels always grab our attention. We have two toddlers and we want to make sure where we go, we can all hike. We also wear our babies in carriers during hikes and enjoy more challenging trails. Palo Duro has been one of our favorites because of its trails!

With over sixteen trails, there are a variety for all skill

levels. You can expect to see wildlife, rivers, cliffs, caves, and more. All trails are well marked and easy to follow. One of our favorites was the Givens, Spicer & Lowry Trail. The skill level is moderate and it's over six miles long, but the variety of views make it worth the hike. Our two year old was able to hike it mostly by herself with little help.

Lighthouse Tail is the most popular trail, which means it's also heavily trafficked. The trail leads to Lighthouse Rock, Palo Duro's park symbol, and the view is something you won't soon forget. While hiking the trails, make sure to be prepared with plenty of water. The trails can be long and as you can imagine it can get pretty hot out in Texas Be sure to check the heat advisory warnings at the front gate before setting out.

We stayed at the canyon in our travel trailer, taking advantage of one of the many ways you can camp in the park. I'm not going to lie, it was a little nerve wracking to drive it down the steep slope to get to the floor. Getting to the campsite was a breeze though.

Different campsites within the park offer different hook ups and amenities. Make sure when you're booking that you read the descriptions before selecting. The sites are roomy and you can't beat the views! Some sites will hold up to 60-foot RVs.

We've stayed at the campsite Juniper, and the views surrounding our RV were incredible. Colorful canyon walls were all around us and the site was very large with plenty of space for our children to play. We noticed the park is pet friendly as long as they're on leash.

There is a dump station nearby and each site at Juniper also has a nice picnic table under a covering, fire pit, and plenty of room for two vehicles. When exploring we liked Juniper and Mesquite best for booking RV sites. In our opinion they had the roomiest sites and great locations. For those camping in tents, Cactus had the best scenery.

Palo Duro is a Texas State Park you want to make sure is on your travel list! When I was doing my research, many said it was like going to the Grand Canyon, just less crowded. We enjoyed the park in March, the weather was still cool, making it perfect hiking weather. Be cautious if it rains, the park will shut down trails due to flooding. If there's been recent rain, call ahead to see if everything is open.

There is so much to do, see and learn in the canyon and we aren't even close to experiencing it all. There are shows, tours, classes, and more available. Visit the visitor center or the parks website for more information. We hope to get back someday to explore some more!

About Us:

We are a family of four who decided we're better together. We sold it all and joined my husband on the road full time. We enjoy seeing our country through our toddlers eyes. Living tiny has shown us big experiences. We can't wait to see more! You can check out our blog at bigheartstinyspaces.net

Follow Sammy & Family on Facebook and Instagram @BigHeartsTinySpaces









PACK SMARTER.

WITH TRIPPED COMPRESSION CUBES





"SQUEEZING INTO CARRY-ON LUGGAGE OR SAVING SPACE IN YOUR RV

THAT'S WHY WE CREATED COMPRESSION PACKING CUBES"

- @TIMANDFIN 👩 🖸







HOW TO START

Your Own Virtual Assistant Business

By Deb Damm

When my husband and I began dreaming of traveling and living the RV lifestyle, one of our first discussions was how we'd earn an income while traveling. I knew my background in management and administration could be valuable to small businesses and entrepreneurs, so I began researching the virtual assistance industry. And there is a lot of information out there!

What is a Virtual Assistant? And how do you get started?

In the simplest terms, a Virtual Assistant or VA is someone who works remotely and provides various services to entrepreneurs or small business owners. While the VA industry started with people providing general administrative tasks, the term VA has grown to encompass a wide range of services and skills.

I started my VA business offering general admin services like email management, document creations, and social media graphics. Once I started working with clients, I began learning new skills and really started to focus on the tasks and skills I enjoyed doing. The best way to get started as a VA is to discover what skills and interests you already have. Start with what you know!

One of the more helpful materials I found in my search

for what services to offer was a list put together by The Virtual Savvy. With this list, you can identify your service offering based on the skills and interests you already have.

There are also great training courses available online. Some free and some paid subscriptions. While you certainly don't need to invest in training to get started, I would recommend it when you're ready to niche down and scale your business.

Here are some of the areas and skill sets virtual assistants can niche down into:

- Social Media Management (creating posts, graphics, scheduling, engagement, hashtag research)
- Content Writing (emails, blog posts, sales pages)
- Marketing (websites, landing pages, funnels)
- Video & Podcast Management
- Course Launch & Management
- Technology VA (Support for various platforms & tech)

How much does a Virtual Assistant make?

Honestly, there are no salary guides for Virtual Assistants. Generally, most US based VA start somewhere between \$20-\$30 per hour based on experience. Experienced VAs can charge between \$40-\$75 or higher. As I became more experienced in different platforms, software and

skills, I raised my hourly rate with each new client.

Experienced VAs, and those who have niched down to a specific task or industry, charge a flat rate package instead of an hourly one. By charging a flat rate instead of hourly, it allows them to not be penalized as their skill and speed increase. It's also beneficial to clients as it helps them determine their monthly expenses and know exactly what the deliverables are. Win-Win!

How do you find clients?

I've found the best way to find clients is by building relationships. The VA business, like most businesses, is based on relationships. Build relationships by providing value, being helpful, answering questions, and providing resources. I've joined various Facebook groups based on who my ideal client is or the platforms that I use.

Start with Facebook groups, Instagram, and LinkedIn. It's best to join groups where your ideal client hangs out, as well as where other VAs do. Be insanely helpful, and you will be positioning yourself as an expert in your area of specialty.

A lot of the groups post #JobOpps. These can be a great way to get your feet wet and begin getting your first clients. In order to stand out in a crowd of other virtual assistants, who will most certainly be commenting on the job opportunity, do some research on the potential client first. Find out everything you can about them and their business, social media, and newsletter.

Then, when you're ready to submit a proposal, personalize it and WOW them. Include something you learned about them. Did they mention their kids, dog, or location? Be sure to include that in your proposal.

Another awesome way to provide value first is to give the potential client something for free. Yes, free! For example if a #JobOpp is for help with Pinterest, create a mock Pin for them to use based on your research of their brand, voice, and industry. If they need help with content, draft a list of blog post ideas or better yet, write a blog post for them.

What does a typical week as a VA look like?

I don't believe there is such a thing as a "typical week" in life, regardless of your industry! VA work can be as diverse or simple as you want your lifestyle to be.

Some VAs work full-time in their business, while others work 20-25 hours per week allowing more time for travel and adventuring. It's really up to you how many clients and how many hours you want to work each week or month. Your income and revenue is entirely up to you! Currently, I have four monthly retainer clients, as well as various one-off projects. I schedule all my client Zoom

meetings on Mondays so we can plan the week ahead. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday I have time blocked for each client base on their retainers and weekly needs. Fridays I save for unexpected client work, and for working on my own business' needs.

Being a virtual assistant is a great choice for digital nomads! Even if you start by offering general admin skills, you will quickly learn new skills and decide which of those you'd like to niche down into.

If you're interested in learning more about virtual assistance, how to get started, or if you're looking for help in your own business, feel free to reach out to me at deb@dammfinesolutions.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/DammFineSolutions I'd love to connect with you!



Deb Damm and her husband, Sean, have been full-time RVers with their tribe of fur-babies (a Golden Retriever named Bodhi and two cats named Bruhaus and Loki) since September 2018. Originally from Connecticut, she's currently located in St. Augustine, Florida. Damm Fine Solutions was born from her love of all things admin & techy, and a passion to help small business owners and entrepreneurs do what they love and delegate the rest!

Deb can be reached at: <u>dammfinesolutions.com</u> and on Facebook or Instagram @dammfinesolutions

TONY&MELISSA FLAMMIA

ROAD LIFE PROJECT

Tony & Melissa were working hard, long hours in order to have all the "stuff" and "keep up with the Jones." However, they quickly found their family growing up and growing apart. In order to bring their family closer and quit the rat race, they sold everything and moved into a Class A Motorhome.

The couple, affectionately named, the Hippie and the Tech, along with their kids hit the road in 2018. They had joined all the different RV clubs and went to various rallies but still felt there was a gap in the space. Together with their good friends, Todd and Stephanie Hensen, they launched the Road Life Project in March of 2019.

"We actually started as a way for members to get good information about full-time RV living." Tony said. "After looking at all of the pain points of RV living, we started finding solutions that could help." Being full-time RVers helped them understand what traveling families and the community needed. Their Facebook group and community have quickly grown to over 12,000 members and they continue to see it grow each week.

The Road Life Project, or RLP, offers their members some pretty great discounts and benefits in addition to a nomad community. Members can get access to the group health care, Full-time RV and Auto Insurance, discounts on RV warranties, roadside assistance, mail forwarding, solar, tires, auto parts and a whole lot more. They offer a variety of memberships and community groups for everyone from the solo traveler, to couples and full-time families. They even have a Digital Pen Pal program for kids!

One of the challenges they are facing is getting their insurance policy stepped up to an A+ rated policy.



"Everyone in our industry has been offering variations of the same B rated policies so we wanted to stand out. It's been taking longer than we wanted but the end result will be better healthcare for our members." They hope to have this launched in the next few months.

Tony and Melissa also share a mutual love for photography and they have been able to use this passion on the road. Melissa is a freelance still photographer and has had commercial success taking jobs for manufacturers, but her passion has always been lifestyle. Tony specializes in videography and has done commercial video shoots for major label acts like Toby Mac, EAW, and most recently shooting videos for the National RV Training Academy and RVillage.

"One downside to mixing this career path and travel is keeping a consistent customer base." Tony says. "When customers are looking for a photoshoot they typically look weeks in advance for a photographer. That's great, but we hardly stay in the same place for more than 14 days so sometimes timing is difficult."



Tony enjoys traveling the country and abroad to create short videos in the hopes they can inspire other families to get away from the status quo. "You have to live by example. For many, we're living the lifestyle they want and proving day by day that it's something obtainable."

Join the Road Life Project at RoadLifeProject.com and follow Tony and Melissa on YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram @HippieandtheTech

WE ARE YOUR OFF-GRID RESOURCE.













fsi-solutions.com 574.262.3688







The next generation of RVs will revolve around one core demand: Power. OEMs and RV owners alike can trust Future Solutions for high quality installations and retrofits. Check out our site for more information.

In order to provide our customers with quality innovation, it is key for us to partner with industry leading companies. These strategic partnerships bring an array of products that allow us the capability to provide solutions for any application.









WHAT IS BOONDOCKING?

When you hear the word "boondocking" what do you think of?

In 2016 I had no clue what the word boondocking meant. I hadn't done any RVing and being out in the boonies was just called camping. Now, 4 years later, I still find it funny that a word can have so many different meanings depending on who you ask.

As far as the origin of the word, the best I can figure out is the word made its way to the United States from the Tagalog word, bundok, meaning mountain. Soldiers in World War II, stationed in the Philippines, used it to describe a remote, rural or bushy area. When they came home, it worked its way into American slang as 'the boonies'.

So, while it still means many different things to different people, at Rootless Living, we believe it requires three things to truly qualify. 1) It's out in nature, 2) It's free, and 3) It has no hook-ups.

I do like some of the other terms like "lotdocking" for an overnight stay at Walmart or free parking lots. Or "dry camping" for those paid parks and campgrounds with no hook-ups. Then there is always "moochdocking" for when you're on a friend or family members property.

Actual boondocking though, is a privilege for everyone and can be helpful both financially and mentally for full-time RVer wanting to get away from it all. From the beaches of Texas, to the deep woods of California, or way out in the middle of the Arizona desert, boondocking offers some truly amazing experiences.

Boondocking can be scary for some, sometimes to the point where they never get to experience it. I have to admit that driving on sand in Texas was a little scary (ok a lot scary) and I almost psyched myself out. I am glad I did though, because it truly was one of my favorite 14-day stays.

We have had some of the best experiences out boondocking and we love to hear about new locations and technology that makes boondocking easier for all. In the pages ahead you'll hear from a couple who built their trailer for off-grid living, learn from a photographer how to take the best photos with your mobile phone, and we'll walk you through how solar works and the differences in today's batteries.

Read ahead and remember, take only photos and leave only footprints.



SOLAR101



A STARTER GUIDE TO SOLAR

Solar is the highly coveted and yet widely unknown or misunderstood aspect to really great boondocking. Sure, you can use a generator and go wherever your rig can take you. But the noise of a generator can very quickly annoy you (or maybe it's just us?) and the daunting task of drilling holes and wiring an RV for solar can overwhelm even the best do-it-yourselfers.

Then there's the all too common questions. What do I need? How much do I need? How much will it cost? Can I do it myself? And of course, can I run my air conditioner? We had done a fair bit of our own online research into solar over the years but still felt confused as to what we needed, and honestly, how the whole thing would even work.

When we started our full-time RV journey three years ago, the idea of running solar for the air conditioner was mostly out of the realm of possibility. Just about a year

later, it was happening. And Today? Yes, you can run your AC on solar. If you have enough power, that is.

THE BASICS

It all sounds simple enough, solar panels catch the rays from the sun. The panels convert the rays into electricity which goes into your batteries and you run your RV off of the batteries. If you've ever asked in a group or even a solar installation company for help on your specific RV, you likely heard back, "Well, what is it you want to run?"

This is where the confusion sets in and equations enter the picture, because it really is different for everyone. Just as you are uniquely different from your neighbor, so is your lifestyle, way of travel and RV power needs. To get started, we'll walk you through the components every solar setup requires and then take you through how you can identify how much power you will require for your RV lifestyle.

There are 4 basic components to an RV solar setup: the solar panels, a solar controller, batteries and an inverter.

The solar panels capture the light from the sun and convert it into 12 volt DC (Direct Current) electricity. A solar panel can range anywhere from 80 - 300 watts, with most RV panels now falling into the 160-200 watt range.

From there, a solar controller controls how many amps are being sent to your batteries to recharge. For solar panels, there is this thing called sun strike, which is actually just how it sounds. How much, or little, the sun is striking your panels determines how much electricity is being made and sent to your batteries. It's like how on some days you get a tan and on others you can burn quickly. Depending on the cloud cover, trees, time of day, or where you're at in the world, you will get varying levels of sunlight and electricity being made from it.

Now your batteries can only take in so much electricity at a time. For example, at noon on a perfect day your panels could be converting energy at a level too high for the batteries to take in. This is where a solar controller comes in. It regulates how much electricity is being sent to the batteries, never sending them more than they can handle.

A solar controller also works in the reverse, in addition to controlling the energy flow into the batteries, it also prevents energy from being lost back through the panels when light is not present. There are two types of solar controllers, MPPT (Maximum Power Point Tracking) and PWM (Pulse Width Modulation). They operate in different ways but both regulate energy for optimum charge and prevent battery back feed to the panels.

Your batteries are now receiving all that nice clean power from the sun, but it's at 12 volts DC electricity and most appliances and electrical outlets run on 120 volts of AC (Alternating Current) electricity. In order for you to be able to run your appliances you need an inverter to convert the battery's 12 volt DC power into 120 volt AC power. This electricity created from your inverter is what you're using to power your electronics in the RV.

So that's the basic explanation of an RV solar system. But we know what you really want to know is, what do you need for your RV lifestyle?

HOW MUCH POWER DO YOU NEED?

Before we bring in all the super confusing conversions of watts to amp to volts, let's

take a look at what you need to power your RV.

Device	Amps	\	/olts	Watts
Air Conditioner*	20	X	120	= 2400
Electric Water Heater	12.5	X	120	= 1500
Microwave Oven	12.8	X	120	= 1536
Coffee Maker	9	X	120	= 1080
Toaster	10	X	120	= 1200
Hair Dryer	10	X	120	= 1200
Television	2	X	120	= 240
Hand Vacuum	2	X	120	= 240
Electric Frying Pan	10	X	120	= 1200
Instant Pot	10	X	120	= 1200
Slow Cooker	1.5	X	120	= 180
MacBook Pro	.8	X	120	= 96

*Based on a 15,000 BTU air conditioner which will pull 20 to 30 amps to start, then drop back to 15 to 20 amps running

Think of a typical day in your RV life, which of the above will you need to run? Which will you run when you are boondocking or not otherwise connected to shore power? Add up all the watts necessary for your lifestyle and that will be your starting point. Obviously, some things will not be running all the time or at the same time (you don't run a hair dryer or microwave for hours) but you do want to have a good idea of what your power needs will be.

If you have an appliance that's not listed here, it's fairly easy to check its watts either on the product itself or





through a quick google search. The Verizon MoFi router we use for internet, for example, runs at about 12 watts.

There are also devices in your RV that run straight from your 12 volt batteries. Things like your LED lights, carbon monoxide and propane detectors, water pump, slide outs, and leveling system. You will need to take these devices into consideration on your overall battery bank of power as they draw some of your battery's amp hours.

One more thing before we continue. It's important to note that you are not powering appliances with your solar panels. You're powering devices and appliances with your batteries. Your solar panels are simply recharging the batteries which will drain as you use their power for devices. You can have a large solar panel array and a large watt inverter but if you don't have the batteries to store all the power, the extra panels and watts are rendered useless.

Now for the math. Bear with us because now that you have the wattage you're aiming for this should be a little bit easier to understand.

All electricity can be calculated in watts. Solar panels are creating DC electricity in watts, the solar controller is regulating that energy, sending it to the batteries in volts and charging in amps. The inverter is now "inventing" AC electricity for you in volts, which you are measuring again in watts.

The simple math is Volts x Amps = Watts.

Batteries are rated on amp hours. In other words, how

many amps can you run for how many hours before it's drained? Since we calculate all electricity in watts, it's easiest to understand when you understand the battery's watt hours.

Let's say a lithium battery has 100 amp hours. Lithium has a depth of discharge of about 80%, so we are taking the battery's 12 volt electricity x 100 amps x.8 to compensate for the 80% and getting 960 watts of usable energy. The more batteries you add to your setup the more watt hours you have available. For more on batteries, see page X.

If you are looking at the chart of devices, a standard television uses 240 watts/hour so with our single lithium battery example above, you could watch about 4 hours of TV until the battery would be drained.

This is where your solar panels come in. If you are recharging your batteries with 1000 watts of power per hour, your batteries may never drain. But, of course, that is on a perfect sun strike, 24 hours a day, and that doesn't even happen in Alaska. On a best case scenario, you will only get the max amount of power from your solar array for 5 hours a day.

There are of course other things to consider when you are shopping for solar. First, you can always start small and add batteries and solar panels as needed. If you have plans to eventually go bigger, you might want to buy the inverter you'll need in the future because this is the one piece of the set up that cannot be added to. If you have a 1000 watt inverter, you can only ever power 1000 watts. The type of inverter you choose will also dictate what type of loads you can run. Something that

needs a large spike of power to start cannot be handled by a smaller high frequency inverter very well. However, you can change out and upgrade your inverter as you grow your system if needed.

You also want to be aware of your weight. Unlike in a stationary home, you can't just stock up a bunch of heavy batteries and add 20 panels to your roof. The weight will start to add up quickly. While AGM batteries are cheaper, they are around 100 pounds each. Lithium on the other hand, weigh around 30 pounds each. As far as panels go, you still want to leave room for servicing your roof and its existing appliances like your vents and air conditioners.

Smaller systems require less installation, if any. You could power a small need with a 1000 watt inverter, solar suitcase, extension cords and one or two batteries. You can also mount just a few panels to your roof and still use a smaller system with just an extension cord and power strip running through to where you need the power. Then there are larger inverter systems which require more in-depth installation due to the required increase in wire size, or in some cases re-wiring to power the entire breaker box rather than a specific inverted circuit.

Solar can be very confusing but the first step to figuring out how much you'll need is to calculate your power usage. Once you have that number, a few equations can really help you understand what you need for your RV

lifestyle camp abilities. The beauty of the systems is their ability to scale so if money is tight, you can start small and add later.

For this article we were fortunate to learn from two separate RV industry experts. I'd like to give a huge thank you to the Future Solutions and their Engineering team for help in writing this piece. Future Solutions specializes in custom off-grid solutions specific to solar & advanced energy systems. They offer both onsite installations in Elkhart, IN as well as D-I-Y kits they will ship direct to you. If you're ordering a new RV, they even offer dealer programs to install the system at their facility between factory build and dealer pick-up. If you'd like Future Solutions to design a system specific to your RV lifestyle, send them a message on their website at fsi-solutions. com and follow them on Instagram @fsi.solutions and Facebook @FutureSolutionsInc.

I'd also like to thank Todd Henson of the National RV Training Academy for walking us through all the solar components in his training facility in Athens, TX. If you are an RVer or looking to purchase an RV, the National RV Training Academy offers both online or in person "Basic RV Maintenance Training Course". This week-long course will teach you how to fix 80% of the things that could go wrong in your RV, saving you money on repairs, as well as help you identify issues to look for when buying an RV. For more on the courses, check out NRVTA.com





As the world around us changes, so do the ways we get around it. With our revolutionary lithium ion deep cycle batteries you will experience a long lasting and light weight battery like never before. Without battery anxiety, you can get out there and stay there. Check out Chad from Living The Van Life's ride and see how he boondocks in his own way.







LivingTheVanLife



BATTLE OF THE BATTERIES



'm sure you've heard the question, should I buy a trailer or a motorhome? In the solar world, there are many of these types of questions. And the answers are the same, it depends on you and your unique circumstances and preferences.

Branding aside, there are two types of batteries that commonly come up for solar installs, lithium and AGM or Absorbent Glass Mat. Lithium batteries are leading the technology but for some people, AGM are still a viable option. Just like when it comes to deciding on an RV type, you have to ask yourself some things when it comes to batteries. Like what is your budget? What's your carrying capacity? How much power will you need?

In order to help you get a better understanding of which type of batteries are right for your set up, we reached out to the pros at Future Solutions. Their team created the below chart to help quickly identify some of the main differences in the two. Besides the obvious differences like weight and price, lithium batteries are more efficient. With a depth of discharge of 80%, you are getting a lot more usable energy per cycle.

AGM batteries have been around awhile and are still a good choice if you have the carrying capacity or if you fall into the weekend RVer category. They are the battery of choice for most self installations and they require relatively little maintenance. However, if you are looking to go off-grid, lithium is where you'll likely want to be.

Lithium	AGM 📑 🖜
Average cost = \$949 each	Average cost = \$359 each
Depth of Discharge = 80-90%	Depth of Discharge = 50-60%
12v x 200 Ah x 0.8 (compensates for DoD limit) = 1920 Watt hours useable energy	12v x 200 Ah x 0.5 (compensates for DoD limit) = 1200 Watt hours Useable energy
Weight of 200 amp hours of Lithium battery = 31 lbs	Weight of single AGM 12 volt 200 Ah battery = 127.9 lbs
Expected number of Ah over lifetime =432,000 (with 2 batteries hooked up in parallel to equal same Amp Hour bank.) (Ah rating x DoD rating x Cycle expectancy 2700)	Expected number of Ah over lifetime = 60,000 (Ah rating x DoD rating x Cycle expectancy 600)
Cost per Ah over life = \$0,35	Cost per Ah over life = \$0.60
Self Discharge rate = ~1%	Self Discharge rate = 3% at 77 degrees
Max charge rate = 1C (200 amps on a 200Ah bank) Recommended .5C (100 amps on 200Ah bank)	Max charge rate = 0.3C (60 amps on a 200 Ah bank)
Additional equipment required: Highly suggest ONLY purchasing batteries with built in BMS (Battery Management System). If BMS is internal to battery, no additional equipment is required.	Additional equipment required: Battery temp sensor for larger bank to regulate charging.

*AGM DoD 50-60% Lithium (generic ratings NOT SPECIFIC TO LiFePo4) DoD 80-100%

D-I-Y SOLAR By Sean Torstenson & Alli Newton

FOR POWER INDEPENDANCE



oondocking, dry camping, wild camping or whatever Dyou choose to call it is one of the best ways to experience the RV lifestyle. Trying to immerse yourself in nature can come with a whole set of problems that aren't prevalent in a campground or resort setting. Power is one of those issues. If you are like us and want to get off the beaten path, while still being able to enjoy some of the luxuries of home, solar could be a great option for you.

When we established a 3-year plan to be debt free and travel the country in an RV, we dove straight into researching solar as an option to keep us powered while off the grid. Believe us when we say that it can be a bit overwhelming at first. New terminology, varying levels of equipment and mathematical conversions can begin to consume you. Everyone will have different power needs and different budgets to work with, but the end goal is the same. Power independence.

For us, we wanted to save as much money as we could once on the road. That meant going big. For two and a half years, we worked overtime and weekends to save up for a system that could handle what we wanted it to power while we learned all the ins and outs of solar.



There is a lot of information available and there will always be new technology coming out. You can find yourself in a pit of analysis paralysis if you always wait for the latest piece of tech, just as we did before finally making our purchases. Installing the system yourself will save you a lot of money and also give you in-depth knowledge of your system, should any issues arise in the future.

The heart of your system is your batteries. In a perfect world we would have gone with lithium, but based on budget and timeline we ended up with top of the line Lifeline AGMs. We have 1200 amp hours of storage capacity. While Absorbed Glass Mat (AGM) are nice because they don't require the maintenance that flooded lead acid (FLA) do, they still weigh a significant amount more and have a greater voltage drop than lithium. However, if you have the cargo carrying capacity, they are still a great option.

When you know how much power you have to work with, having the correct amount of solar to recharge that power each day is your next step. At a bare minimum you want to have 1.5 watts of solar for each 1 amp hour of storage capacity. For us, that would be 1800 watts of solar. We ended up going with twelve Carmanah 160 watt monocrystalline panels for a total of 1920 watts. We roof mounted these panels on custom brackets we made so we can charge even when driving down the road. Some people choose to have smaller ground deploy setups, but those only charge once you get somewhere and set up.

Sending the power from the panels to the batteries requires a solar charge controller. In our case, we went with two Outback Flexmax 80 MPPT, or Maximum Power Point Tracking, controllers. Each one is handling 960 watts of the panel array. Each half of the array is wired in series which sends high voltage/low amperage to the controller where it converts that to a lower voltage/higher amperage to efficiently charge the batteries. Higher voltage runs allow the controllers to start producing power earlier in the day and continue later into the evening as the sun is lower in the sky. MPPT controllers are more efficient than cheaper PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) controllers at converting all the power available.

Now that we have power stored in the batteries, if we want to run any of the standard 120 volt appliances or outlets in the RV, we need an inverter. We planned on running everything in our rig from the solar system so we went with a Xantrex Freedom SW 3000 watt Pure Sign Wave inverter. It also has a built in charger for any time we may plug in to shore power or if we ever had to run our generator. We cook with electric power exclusively and use everything from an induction burner, countertop oven, air fryer, instant pot, electric griddle, microwave, food processor, bread maker, to an electric water kettle, and more.







The last thing, and arguably one of the most important, is wire, fuses and switches. Each component of the system will have its own sizing requirements to be safe. We went with a lot of products from Blue Sea Systems because they are made for marine applications. If you haven't lived in an RV before, you may not realize that the elements outside do have an effect on everything inside. Having components that can handle the changing temperatures and humidity is a good idea for your safety in your mobile home. Being able to isolate a component from power with switches will make troubleshooting, maintenance and repair much easier and safer.



After 11 months and 20,000 miles of full time travel (so far) we are more than happy with the system we have installed. We have a complete overview of our system install on our YouTube channel, Youtube.com/ HereThenGone, as well as a video going over exactly how to calculate your personal solar needs. Hopefully we

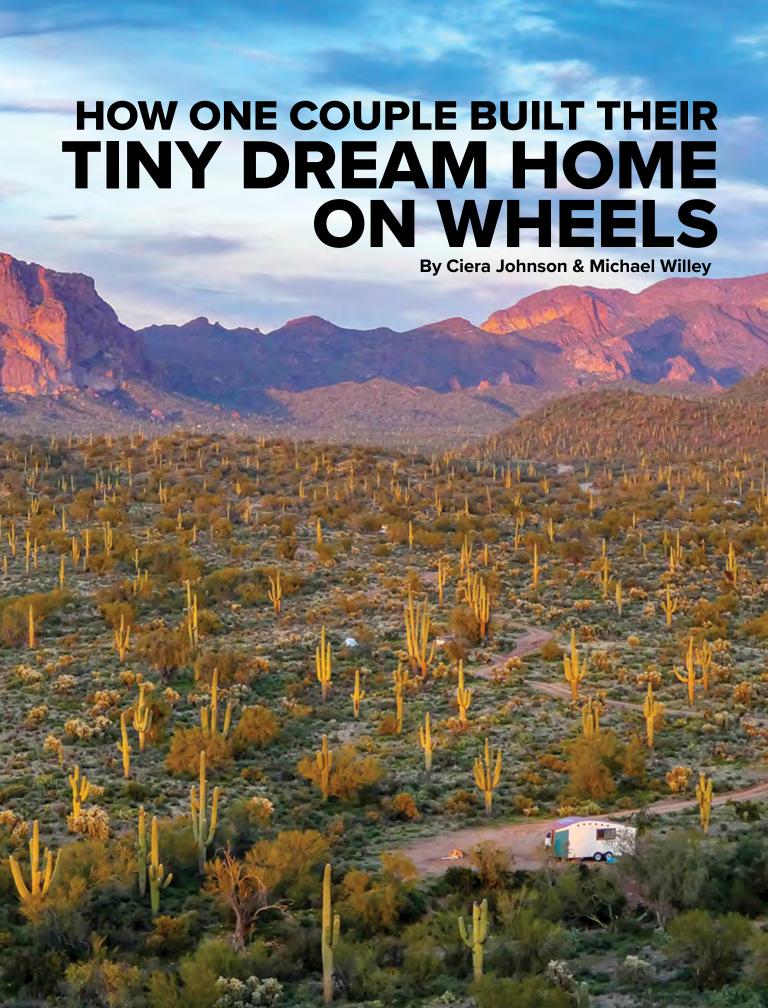
can meet you on the road as you enjoy your silent power surrounded by nature and powered by the sun.

About Sean & Alli

Sean & Alli were both born and raised in South Haven, Michigan. Alli worked in childcare at the local Wellness Center/Gym and Sean was a machinist at a small local shop and is a "Jack of all trades". Both grew up with a little bit of camping experience, from tents to pop-ups, but nothing like the off grid full-time life they have now chosen. The couple travel with their two cats Simba and Nala who have taken to the lifestyle quite well, watching wildlife from the windshield of the motorhome and even taking short hikes.

See more of Sean & Alli's setup on their YouTube at YouTube.com/HereThenGone and follow their adventures on Instagram @Here.Then.Gone







If you ask us, there is no better feeling than living a sustainable lifestyle; one that allows you to find fulfillment and work hard in a natural environment. That's why we custom-built our tiny house on wheels to incorporate all of the necessities for off-grid living. Throughout the build, the idea of staying at campgrounds never really crossed our minds. After all, we didn't need much more than a place to park with enough cell service to keep our small business connected. The dream that really captured our hearts was to finish a long day of work, step outside our home and step directly into the wild places we love.

After almost one year of living on the road full-time, we are proud to say that boondocking has become our day-to-day lifestyle. By choice, we have never stayed at a campground! We often get asked about how we live off-grid or about where we stay. Through our many trials and tribulations, we've boiled the answers down to our top three essentials of boondocking (1) reliable energy sources, (2) the ability to navigate tricky or tight spots, and (3) use of public lands while following leave-no-trace principles.

First, having dependable power is vital to keeping our lights on and devices charged. Since our tiny home doubles as our workshop, we knew from the beginning that reliable electricity would be critical to our success. To keep the volts flowing, we rely on two primary sources of energy: our solar panels and gasoline

powered generator. We currently have four 25 watt solar panels mounted on our roof that output 100 watts of solar power.

The panels, combined with our 12 volt deep-cycle battery system, function to power all of our essentials, including laptops, phones, and even our mini fridge. Our generator can provide us up to 4,000 watts of energy to run tools that require more power, or to charge up our lithium battery pack which helps us through cloudy days. However, we try to use the generator as little as we can, because one of our goals for living the tiny lifestyle is to reduce our carbon footprint on our planet.

Second, the ability to maneuver through rough roads and tight turns has broadened our boondocking horizons. When designing our tiny home, we were acutely aware that every extra inch in width, height or length would make it much more difficult to navigate those off-the-beaten-path roads that harbor the solitude we desired. We decided to build our home on an 18ft flatbed trailer which allowed us approximately 127sqft of living space for us and our two dogs, Brock and Lyla.

With our house weighing under 5,000lbs, we are able to tow it down almost any road that a van or car could reasonably drive. The ability to haul our tiny house down narrow and bumpy dirt roads has afforded us access to some of the best hidden-gem camp spots that are not marked on any online resources. As you might imagine,



we have definitely run into roads that turn into dead ends, and at those times we are so grateful that we built our rig small enough to make those u-turns.

Finally, how could we survive without our public lands? As Americans, we are so fortunate to live in a nation that protects vast areas and invites us to recreate on these lands. Typically, we will stay at a spot for the maximum-allowed two weeks to give us enough time to work hard, explore thoroughly, and try to give back to the area in which we find ourselves. We almost always become familiar with the people who work at the local post office since we ship all our products via mail. We also make efforts to shop at local grocery stores, farmers markets and thrift stores in the area.

Respecting our public lands and leaving no trace is also very important to us, and to all of those who come after us. For example, we always follow the well known 'pack it in, pack it out' principle, as well as making sure we leave the spot better than we found it. To us, there is no better way to end a hard day's work than by hitting the trails with our dogs and enjoying the thrills of the great outdoors in our backyard.

Altogether, our off-grid lifestyle would not be possible without reliable energy, our unique rig, and vast public lands. To others who are interested in boondocking, we encourage you to consider your energy needs, the size of your rig and the impact you leave on the places you stay. In our year's experience, we've found that indeed,

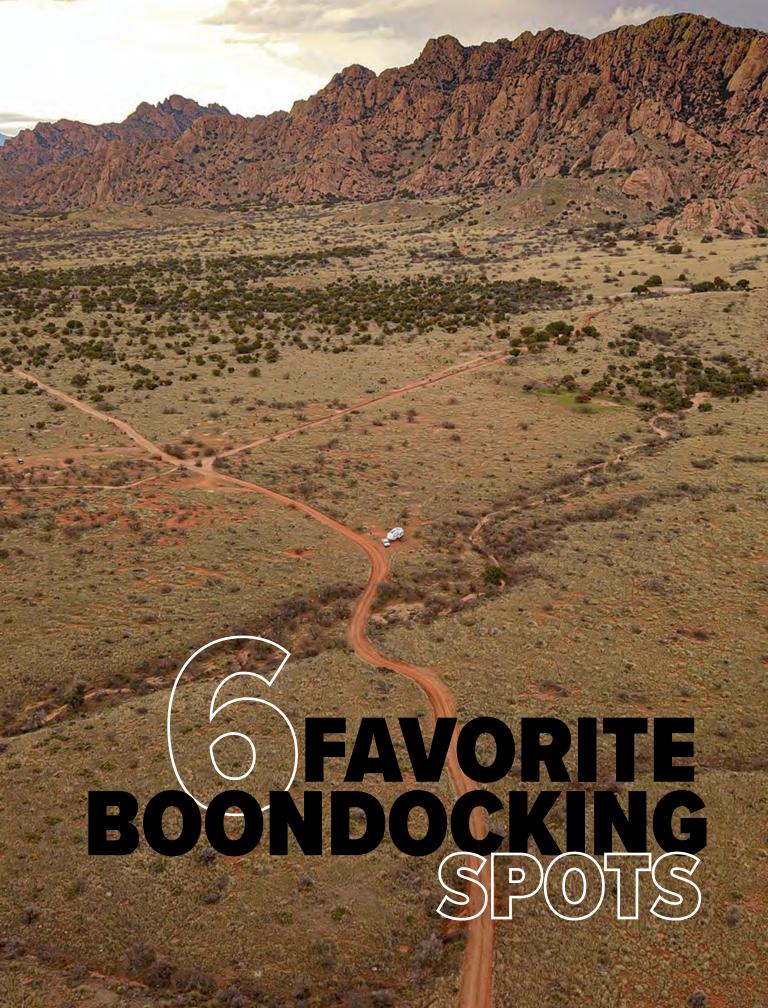
less is more; going tiny has opened up huge possibilities for us!

About the Authors:

Mike and Ciera are two adventure seekers currently living in their tiny house / workshop on wheels. Together, they have traveled over 22,000 miles with their tiny house across North America, while running their small business, Made to Cut, from wherever they go.

Follow their travels on Instagram <u>@lifeinacaboose</u> and shop their custom wood creations for family, home or business on <u>etsy.com/shop/MadeToCut</u> or on Instagram @madetocut.







0

Forest Road 687 Coronado National Forest • AZ GPS: 31.8511, -110.0037

This was the perfect place for us to get away from it all. Surrounded by low shrubs, cacti, and the Dragoon mountains at our back, we had a spot where we could let the dogs run and enjoyed beautiful views out every window.

We traveled to the spot in our 33' fifth-wheel. The road is a long dirt one so be prepared for a bumpy ride. There are a ton of spots on the road and most would be considered big rig friendly. Although the farther back you go, the lower the trees get. This location is about 20



minutes to the tourist town of Tombstone, famous home of Wyatt Earp, and about 45 minutes to the eclectic town of Bisbee.

We found the Slavin Gulch hiking trail near the back of the road. We only saw one other couple hiking so the dogs were able to be off leash and run their energy out and splash in all the flooded pools. The trail follows several creeks all the way up to an abandoned mining area. The views were amazing!

Our remote working ability was not impacted at all by being so remote! We had 30+ mbps on our Verizon network and our AT&T plan had a fairly limited connection with less than 2 mbps. If you love the desert and open spaces, this is a great spot to lay your head for a while. We hope you enjoy it! And don't forget to leave no trace!

Kelsey & Scott Kiessig

@no.e.t.a





Lake Mead National Recreation Area, **Government Wash • NV** GPS: 36.1319, -114.8420

his spot is on Bureau of Land Management land, called Government Wash within the Lake Mead Recreation Area. There is an entrance fee but that is waived if you have a national parks pass. You can park right next to Lake Mead and surround yourself with beautiful views.

The sunsets are breathtaking, especially when the colors project onto the lake. You can kayak or paddle board right next to your home, hike the nearby trails, and have a relaxing fire at night. It's also in close proximity to the Hoover Dam, Las Vegas, the Arizona Hot Springs, and the Gold Strike Hot Springs.

There is free water and dumpsters for trash close by and we had no issues with getting cell service. You'll find yourself staying a lot longer than you planned at this spot as it truly has everything you need for the best boondocking!

Thomas & Kelly Wilson

@roamingwilsons













Saddle Mountain, Tonopah • AZ GPS: 33.46404, -113.03659

ur only issue with Saddle Mountain is that we didn't stay long enough! This picturesque area is located between Quartzsite and Phoenix, about 10 miles south of Interstate 10. It's a convenient overnight stop with stunning views and it's a great place to stay for the 14 day limit to explore the many hiking trails through Saddle Mountain.

As you turn onto Courthouse Road from Salome Highway, you'll begin to see unpaved roads heading towards Saddle Mountain. We went approximately 2 miles before choosing a road that we thought had a perfect view of the mountain. Some of the roads are narrow and rocky while others would have no problem accommodating larger rigs. We easily pulled our 28 foot Airstream up a dirt road to an open spot with a rock fire pit.



In early March, Saddle Mountain was exploding with blooming desert flowers and lush green grasses. Even though there were other campers in the area, we never felt their presence. It was peaceful and quiet.

We had plenty of Verizon and AT&T LTE service for streaming movies when we settled in for the night. If you plan to stay for an extended period of time, the Saddle Mountain Ranch, located nearby, will allow you to fill up your water and use their dump station for a small fee.

We added Saddle Mountain to our list of "must returns" so we can spend more time hiking the area and take in the stunning views.

Samantha & Brent Gardiner

@ToasterOnWheels







Lake Panasoffkee Wildlife Management, Wildwood • FL GPS: 28.8739, -82.1346

While most people think boondocking, they always think it's only out west. There could not possibly be any boondocking in Florida. Well guess what, there is more than one would think! I am here to tell you about one of our favorite places, Lake Panasoffkee.

Lake Panasoffkee is part of Southwest Florida Water Management District, and the 9,911 acres that make up Lake Panasoffkee are to preserve the lakes vast floodplain forest, pine flatwoods, marshes and oak scrub forest. There are miles upon miles of trails to be enjoyed by hikers, bikers, and equestrians. The area is open for hunting sometimes and during the hunts, camping is not allowed.

The campground consists of a huge grass field with dispersed campsites, each with a fire ring and picnic table. There is a bathroom with a flush toilet and sinks with running water. There is a barn with 8 stalls that campers can use for free, as well as a picnic pavilion and over 18 miles of multi-use trails.

The stay is free, however reservations must be made. There are 26 different campsites within SWFMD's system. Reservations can be made up for 6 nights (7 days) and can be made up to 3 months in advance.

The reasons to go are plentiful, the many views, the hiking, sunrises & sunsets, and peace and quiet. We had no issues with our Verizon and AT&T service.

Hope Michaud whatrwewaiting4.com





Keysville Recreation Area, Lake Isabella • CA GPS: 35.63294, -118.49897

ake Isabella, California is a boondocker's paradise!
There is an abundance of wonderful Bureau of Land
Management (BLM) options, spacious campgrounds,
and rustic recreational sites. It is easily one of our
favorite boondocking spots from our past two years of
full-time RVing.

This spot is a wide open space with enough room for 10+ rigs, but there are many more secluded and rugged spots in the Keysville Recreation Area, some beside the beautiful Kern River. We suggest scoping it out first to ensure it will accommodate your set-up. The roads are pretty rough, and some spots require high clearance. It is also an OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) area, so depending on which spot you choose, you may encounter some noise.

While we were there, we explored several lakes, a nearby hot spring, ghost town, and our favorite, Kernville, which is a quaint town about 10 miles up the road. Located along the Kern River, the town boasts a great brewery, cute antique shops, and plenty of outdoor activities including fly-fishing and rafting. We were fortunate to be there during their biggest event of the year where 20,000+ visitors attend their annual "Whiskey Flat Days" festival, described as a leap back to the good ol' wild west days! It was such a unique and fun experience! There is plenty to explore in the little adventure town of Lake Isabella, and we are confident you'll enjoy it as much as we did!





Amy & Matt Rekart

@carpediemcampers





Alabama Hills, Lone Pine • CA GPS: 36.5958, -118.1091

There is a surrealness to Alabama Hills. The huge boulders make you feel like you could be on another planet. The view of the Eastern Sierras, including Mount Whitney, the highest peak in the contiguous United States, takes your breath away.

It is no wonder over 150 television shows and movies have been filmed here. To see where many of these scenes were filmed, just take Whitney Portal Road west from Lone Pine. Then, turn right on Movie Flat Road.

Alabama Hills is a great place to disconnect and reconnect with nature. Hiking and climbing boulders is easy and fun. Make sure to bring your camera. This place is one of the most photogenic landscapes I have experienced. And, the best part - there is plenty of space to park your RV and camp!

My Verizon cell service was almost non-existent, but I didn't come here to look at my phone or work. If you need it, a cell signal is strong a few miles down the road in Lone Pine, or up the road at Tuttle Creek Campground.

Greg Graham

@thisairstreamlife







THE PERFECT SHOT

Tips for Capturing A Great Photo with Your Phone

By: Barry Benton

Just as a pen does not make a great author, the camera does not make a great photographer. A camera is simply a tool to capture a scene that expresses something you are feeling or something that you want to remember and share later.

Photography is about content, composition, and light. Once you understand a few photography basics, you can create amazing images whether you are using a DSLR, with lots of buttons, shutter speeds and f-stops, or simply the camera on your phone. As they say, the best camera is the one you have with you.

To create an image that tells your story, master these 4 basics of photography.

CONTENT

Be intentional about what you are photographing. In the movie Caddyshack, Ty says to Danny: "Be the ball..." His message was to think about what you're doing, be present and notice your surroundings - don't just swing or in this case, snap.

To capture an image that has meaning and appeal, consider the scene and why it interests you. Look at it from different angles, move around and see how the scene changes. Then raise your camera, lower your camera, try it horizontally and vertically, zoom in or out to find the best angle. Then, fill your frame and snap. Everything in the image should be your subject or should guide the viewer to the subject. "Be the ball!"



Late one night, I found myself in this subway with few people. The lines on the wall and the railing seemed to lead one down the stairs. I stopped at the right spot to capture the floor of the platform below while balancing the symmetry of the walls and the leading line of the railing. This composition is "Balance" and "Leading lines" to create interest

COMPOSITION

To quickly improve your photography, learn and practice composition. While there are a variety of compositional techniques, the first one to master is the "Rule-of-Thirds." As you look at the scene, visualize a grid on your screen that divides your scene into equal thirds two lines going horizontally and two lines going vertically.

Consider the intersection points as "power points" and place your key element at one or more of these intersections. By balancing your image along these thirds, you create a more compelling image.

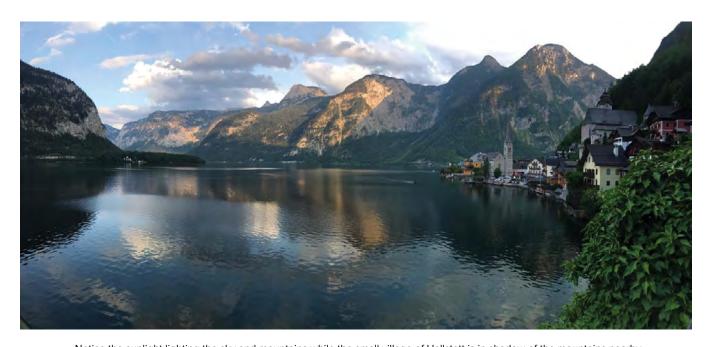




This image of a lighthouse near Acadia National Park follows the rule of thirds with the lighthouse in the top left third and the reflection near the bottom third.

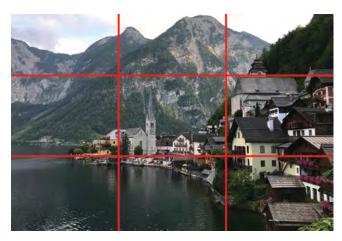
LIGHT

Light is the essence of photography. It has the greatest impact on the scene and your image. To become a better photographer, start by just observing light and shadows throughout the day. By being intentional about "seeing the light," you will better understand how the light and shadow affects your scenes and thus, your photography. Notice when you shoot a subject with the sun behind you, how the light on the subject is flat. By moving so that the sun hits the subject at an angle, texture is added to the image, making it more interesting. Sometimes the light is from a streetlamp and can add interesting texture as it reflects off puddles or shines through a haze.



Notice the sunlight lighting the sky and mountains while the small village of Hallstatt is in shadow of the mountains nearby, giving it a smaller and less important role in the image and creating a feeling of protection and grandeur.





This image of the same scene has softer light on it with the bright sky above the mountain. The church is placed near the bottom left third of the scene following the rule-of-thirds and village continues on this bottom third.

TIMING

To create better photos, you have to be willing to go when and where the light is best. The secret to many professionals' beautiful images is timing, shooting during the "golden hour" and the willingness to wait for the right moment. The "Golden Hour" is loosely referred to as the two times a day when the sun is just above the horizon. The shadows are longer, creating a beautiful play of light and shadow across the landscape. Outside those two time periods, we still want to take pictures and can't always return to a site we are visiting when the sun is right. In those cases, plan your day with some attention to the timing of the sun and the weather conditions. When it is a bright sunny day, find an indoor scene for when the sun is overhead. Go outdoors when the sun is more angled or even on a cloudy day when it hides behind a cloud.

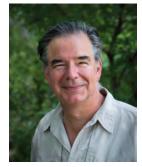
Photography is about observing the world in an intentional way. Slow down, watch the light, pay attention to what interests you. "Be the ball" and take lots of photos. You might take hundreds of images to find just the right one. So give yourself some room to take a few images and have fun!





Photo Credit: David Downs. The middle of the day is a great time to go indoors and photograph interiors of cool spaces. This photo is a great example of another composition technique: Framing. By using the doors and the elegant antique doorknobs, David was able to use the doors to frame the inside of this beautiful chapel.

Barry Benton is co-founder of Benton Downs Photography which assists new and seasoned photographers to improve their skills and tell their visual stories through workshops and courses. As a professional photographer for more than thirty years, Barry enjoys sharing his techniques and skills to help others capture iconic images of their own to share photos that you are proud to display in your home.



Website: bentondowns.com

FB: facebook.com/BentonDownsPhoto

IG: <u>instagram.com/bentondowns</u>

Unless otherwise noted, all photos are © Barry Benton



INTERNATIONAL HOUSE & PET SITTING NOMADS

Two years ago, we were ready for a big change ... again. During our first year of our ditch-the-desks nomad adventure, we lived full-time and traveled in an RV, but it really just wasn't working for us. We loved the friendships we made in that year, but we knew early on that it just didn't feel like the right fit for us. We always wanted to travel to far-off lands and be able to spontaneously hop around to new places. Although RV life felt much more freeing than our sticks-and-bricks house and traditional life, we wanted more — and at the same time less. As freelancers, having the money to fund such trips seemed unlikely.

Stumbling Upon House Sitting

As I was randomly scrolling through Facebook one day, I saw a post about this couple who was traveling around the U.S. as house sitters. While not a money-making venture, the opportunity to save on accommodations while traveling was intriguing. When we found out there were opportunities around the world, we immediately signed up for TrustedHousesitters.com or THS, and planned to use it casually for the next year in the states as we built a profile and got used to it.

The house sits through THS are set up as a mutually beneficial trade. The homeowner gets someone to watch their home, pets, and plants for free. While the house sitter gets free lodging, and sometimes even use of a vehicle. Win-win-win!

As it often goes with us adventurous types, our plan to play it safe turned into diving head-first into house sitting full-time as soon as the sale of our RV went through. Within a few months of signing up, we were on our way to spend the summer sitting our way around Hawaii. While sitting on the islands, we applied to some sits in Europe on a whim and before we knew it, we were headed there for a five-month trip filled with house sits and amazing travels in-between.

Who is a Good Fit for House & Pet Sitting?

Housesitting certainly isn't for everyone. It takes a lot of flexibility, patience, a genuine love of animals, and – to be quite honest – some backup money in savings or available credit to make it all come together well.

Recently, we found ourselves in New Zealand with all of our sits cancelled due to travel bans and no good reason to return to the U.S. Luckily, another house sitter we connected with was able to give us a great deal on an apartment she owns. We would have been hurting had we not built up reliable online income, a savings account, and some back up credit availability. It still is necessary to have some back-up plans in place as a house sitter - especially when abroad - since you never know if a sit may need to be cancelled due to illness or other issues.

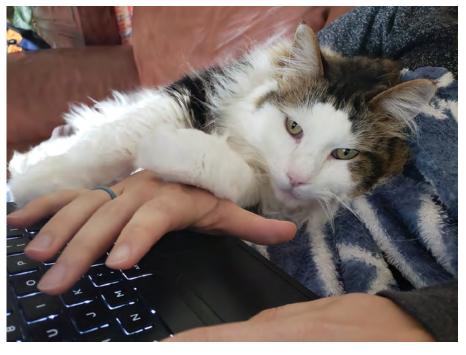
A full-time nomad, part-time sitting lifestyle is a great option for anyone wanting to travel. You are required to get yourself there and back, but it is a great way to extend a trip, save money while traveling, or visit somewhere rural you may not have accommodation options for. Some people also use it as a way to scope out a new area they may want to move to and a lot of van lifers use it as a way to have a break from the road since many homes can accommodate vans in their driveway.

How TrustedHousesitters Works If this sounds like a great option for your future travels, it is really easy to get started. Although there are multiple sites to facilitate house sitting, we love how THS is set up and that they have a very wide membership base. Simply make a profile on TrustedHousesitters.com with information about yourself, previous experience with pets, gardens, and other home-related tasks, and some photos. There is an annual fee, but you can use RootlessLiving20 for 20% off new for members.

Once your profile is set, you can search on the website for sits in your area or around the world ranging from a weekend to months long. After applying, the homeowner will decide if you are a good fit compared to other applicants and once selected, the sit will be locked in on both sides.







We highly recommend doing a two-way video interview to make sure it is a mutually beneficial situation that both sides will be happy with. Don't just apply because it is in a pretty place – at minimum, make sure you are capable of taking on the responsibilities and that you can afford any costs of getting there and living in that area (aside from accommodations). We offer lots of tips on our website at TrailingAway.com/pet-house-sitting

Currently, we are celebrating our two-year housesitting anniversary in New Zealand where we traveled to in late January, shortly after our second long-term sitting trip around Europe!



About the Authors:

Brooke & Buddy are full-time nomadic travelers who share their adventures at TrailingAway.com (@otrailingaway on Instagram and Facebook). They left their traditional life in 2017, and after a year of traveling North America in an RV, they set out to expand their travel by house sitting internationally – including visiting 28 countries in Europe. To pay the bills, they do various freelance work. Buddy does analytics, website design, and photography. While Brooke is a writer, editor, and content manager.







CREATORS ON THE **GO**

By Demian Ross

ots of people are making the move to the digital nomad lifestyle and many of them set out to create content around their life. It's not enough anymore to just have an RV or backpack, a camera and create content. You have to really do something to stand out.Reggie and Monica of The Wild Roam have done just that. Sure, they are funny and interesting, but at the heart of it, they are two people and a cat, who have taken what's fun and unique about them and really shined.

I can't tell you how I first found Reggie and Monica, but I think it had something to do with high heels and a sewer hose. After watching one video, I was hooked and ended up binge watching most of their content.

Reggie and Monica met when they were both single nomads traveling in their separate RVs. Reggie, a film maker from Canada, spent the past eight years traveling around the United States and Canada in a 7x10 foot trailer. Monica works in the software industry and has been traveling in her 1993 Airstream motorhome for the past two years.

Reggie wanted to interview other nomads while he was in the states so naturally he put a call out on his social media to see if any nomads were interested. Monica answered, even though she didn't really want to be in the documentary, she was interested in meeting up with other nomads.

The documentary project faded away and Reggie decided to reach back out to Monica, after watching some of her content, to see if she wanted to do a little video project with him. To his surprise, Monica had been thinking about doing a spoof series which would be a behind-the-scenes look at a married couple and their amazing Instagram account full of super happy and in love photos, while they are secretly miserable.

Once Reggie realized Monica could act, he was thrilled to be able to get back to his roots of creating scripted material and he was all in. Bonus for Reggie, he got to play Monica's husband in this spoof series. And so, their series "Road Couple" was born.

The series is very funny and probably true for a lot of couples. People can relate to being mad or in a bad mood at some point, and yet you still need to get the shot for Instagram and look happy. If you haven't seen it, I highly recommend going back and watching those videos.

While filming the series, the pair kept it strictly professional. But Reggie found himself secretly falling for Monica and











at their own wrap party, with a little liquid courage, he confessed his feelings. And as they say in the movies, this was the beginning of their modern nomad love story.

After months of dating long distance and commuting back and forth between the United States and Canada, they discussed what type of content they wanted to create together as a couple. They ended up taking the same idea of a couple taking amazing photos, but with a twist of being a couple who actually like each other. Now they really needed to stand out, so they found a new, fresh way.

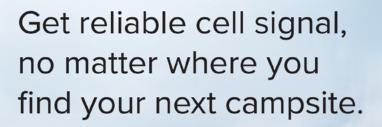
Instead of just posting a photo, they also share videos with almost every post. These videos are funny, relatable and most importantly real. So not only are they capturing great photos, but their videos are top quality, with jump cuts and zooms which make it entertaining to watch. Reggie and Monica took their existing talents and added their own unique spin to make it different.

There is a saying that different is better than better and I think this is their secret sauce. The format is just different. The premise is simple, here is a photo and now swipe left and watch the video. In the videos they discuss where they are in the world and what was going on in the photo. It's very natural, like we would do in real life when we show someone a photo or are telling a story.

I love that they found a way to use their talents to have fun in a unique way and put it out in the world. When making content, everyone is different and everything is not for everyone. The key is to be yourself and embrace all the things that make you unique. Let your own awkwardness shine and look for a simple, fun way to stand out in the crowd.

Follow Reggie and Monica on Instagram @TheWildRoam or watch their series "Road Couple" on their website, TheWildRoam.com.





Boondocking isn't just about getting away from crowds, enjoying nature, and seeing where the road takes you. To maintain their nomadic lifestyles, full-time RVers always need a way to stay connected, wherever they go.

weBoost cell signal boosters provide reliable cellular signal for your RV.

Compatible with all phones on all U.S. carrier networks, our boosters enhance your ability to make calls, send texts, stream content surf the web, and more—even from the most remote campsites.

To learn more or shop now, visit weBoost.com.





GEAR GUIDE

Products to enhance your boondocking experience.

Shop All Of Our Rootless Living Gear Guides at Amazon.com/Shop/RootlessLiving

VIAIR 400P-RV AUTOMATIC PORTABLE COMPRESSOR KIT

Powered direct to your car battery with alligator clamps, VIAIR's automatic tire inflators make tire filling simple! Great for adjusting tire pressure on RVs and trailers, it comes with 2 30 ft coil hoses for a total length of 60 feet.





PORTABLE STEEL PROPANE GAS FIRE PIT

Ever end up at your favorite camping spot only to find out you are not allowed to have a wood burning fire? This portable propane campfire pit is a clean buring alternative! Made with an easy-to-carry lock handle and auto-ignition function for instant use anytime, anywhere.

SCEPTER WATER CAN (5-GALLON)

A lot of the newer rigs come with outdoor showers and hoses to clean up before heading inside and fresh water can go fast. Having an extra 5 gallons can be a lifesaver ... literally.



"We always look for products that help extend our time when out boondocking"



FIRMAN 2100/1700 WATT RECOIL START GAS PORTABLE GENERATOR

When solar isn't available it's nice to be able to power up your rig and appliances without being "that neighbor" with the loudest generator.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Greg Graham

Jonathan & Ashley Longnecker

Matthew & Hayley Reynolds

Bradley & Irene Lincoln

Sammy Seles

Deb Damm

Tony & Melissa Flammia

Todd & Stephanie Henson

Josh Atwood

Alli Newton

Sean Torstenson

Ciera Johnson

Michael Willey

Kelsey & Scott Kiessig

Thomas & Kelly Wilson

Samantha & Brent Gardiner

Hope Michaud

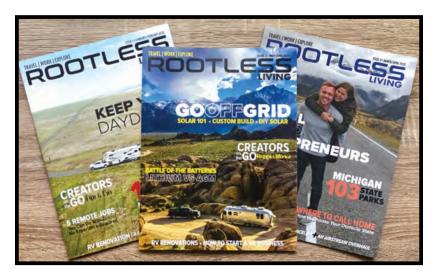
Amy & Matt Rekart

Barry Benton

Brooke & Buddy Baum

Reggie & Monica

SUBSCRIBE TO THE **PRINT** EDITION rootlessliving.com/print



LET'S CONNECT #rootlessliving







Rootless Living Magazine
Volume 1 | Issue 3 | May/June 2020

Publisher Demian Ross

Editor Nikki Kirk

Advertising Information: sales@rootlessliving.com

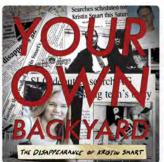
ROOTLESS LIVING • 3916 N POTSDAM AVE #3194, SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104

Disclaimer: One of the great things about digital publications is the ability to link you directly to the products or services you want to hear more about. Some of the links in this issue are affiliate links where we earn commissions on goods or services you buy. These commissions help us to continue to publish the magazine. Rootless Living is also a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to Amazon.com. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to us at info@rootlessliving.com

Copyright © 2020 DNI Group LLC. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited submissions.

PODCASTS FOR THE DRIVE

Your Own Backyard by Chris Lambert



A documentary podcast series investigating the 1996 disappearance of Cal Poly Student, Kristin Smart.

How Did This Get Made? By Earwolf



Have you ever seen a movie so bad that it's amazing? The hosts of this podcast are watching, and reporting back on movies listeners send in.

Last Day by Lemonada Media



A deeper dive into what's killing us.
Last Day season one dives into the opioid crisis, zooming in on a person's last day of life, exploring how they got there.

The Way I Heard It with Mike Rowe



A series of short mysteries for the curious mind with a short attention span.

Travel Loving Moms by Penny



A podcast all about moms who travel the world full or part-time in a variety of ways. Hear their stories and tips to get started traveling with your family.

Limetown by Two-Up



Ten years ago, over three hundred men, women, and children disappeared from a small town in Tennessee. Lia Haddock is asking the question, what happened?

Pod Save America by Crooked Media



A political podcast for people who aren't ready to give up or go insane. It cuts through the noise to break down the week's news, and helps people figure out what matters and how they can help.

RV Miles by Jason & Abigail Epperson



A weekly show for RV and outdoor enthusiasts. Covering tips and tricks, campground reviews, gear, and industry news.

Podcasts are listed as a courtesy to our readers and compiled from recommendations in various Facebook groups. If you have a podcast you think we should include, email us at info@rootlessliving.com



THE OPEN ROAD AWAITS

www.CampgroundViews.com