Hints & Kinks
for Your Airstream

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ITEM: WINTER HINTS If you are closing the door of your RV for a winter layover period, don't walk away satisfied that all will instantly return to full operation when you are ready to GO. After you complete the winterization basics as water systems, etc., it is time to consider other items that also need attention. Walk around your rig and squirt a few drops of WD-40 onto every door and cabinet hinge inside and outside your RV. Take the time to lay on a cloth full of furniture preservative on all wood surfaces inside to maintain those surfaces and to prevent "brittleness" and surface stain. Don't forget to lubricate your outside folding entrance steps. Turn all gas (Propane) valves OFF. Cover all tires with wheel covers to protect against freezing dry rot and sun damage. In the case of motorhomes, fill the gas tank and add a few doses of gasoline preservative to maintain the chemical balance of the fuel in the tank (refer to preservative can label for dose requirements - available at auto supply stores). Lubricate both ends of your hitches whether you tow a trailer or automobile. Spray an antibacterial deodorizer into your grey-wash water drain hose and into its storage tube. Take the time to run a cloth containing rubber gasket preservative over your outside window gaskets to preclude winter dryness and summer leaks. (Don't forget the vent gaskets and include the Fantastic vent gasket if installed). After checking your propane valve for OFF, open all of your range burners (stove) to drain off the trapped gases (I do the same for refrigerator valve) as it assures easier relighting when needed. Leave open all water faucets to vent out during nonuse periods. Periodically recharge your rig's batteries to maintain the wet cells and prevent sulfation and costly battery replacements. Lube your battery terminals to prevent rust coating. Your attention to the above items can make your return to the road much easier.