

NORTH TEXAS UNIT - AIRSTREAM CLUB

Newsletter- August 2021



"to place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home."Wally Byam Creed

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FROM THE EDITOR

I am writing this newsletter from Jennifer Hicks summer home in Minnesota, looking out at a beautiful lake.



So far, our trip has been fabulous, especially the International Rally in Lebanon. While we were there, our club got 4 new members! We are growing and need to find ways to get our members involved. Tom and I will be home after Labor Day. We are looking forward to some fall get togethers. My message to all of our membership is GET VACINATED! 2020 was a hard year for Airstream club gatherings...we don't want to repeat it!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Joined in June:

Lisa and Jim Knopp from McKinney, TX

Joined in July:

Steve & Ronda Horstman from Shady Shores, TX

Linda & Al Jordan from Livingston, TX

Mike Sayer & Pamela Ripperda from Princeton, TX

Kendi Olmstead from Fairview, TX

Deven & Heather Frigaard from Ft. Worth, TX

Richard & Lori Smith from Ft. Worth, TX

Joined on August 2:

Bill Steddum & Ann Weaver from Midlothian, TX

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS



Mike & Pam

Mike Sayer and Pam Ripperda are originally from Michigan, have lived in Illinois, California, Iowa, Georgia, and Texas. They moved to Princeton Texas 16 years ago. They have been married for 37 years and have 3 grown children and 3 grandchildren, with another granddaughter due this Fall.

Pam is a veterinarian, and Mike is a manager within a global software company. Mike says: "Animals have always been a big part of our lives. Only Pam knows how many horses we have (I've lost count again). She enjoys carriage driving in competition, parades, weddings, etc.. She's trying to figure out to how tow both the Airstream and a horse trailer."

They are avid readers (mostly science fiction and fantasy) and spend a lot of time in alternative realities (e.g., online gaming). They bought a 2017 International Serenity 25FB last year and haven't taken many trips with it yet. Still a couple of years from retirement, but they are looking forward to seeing more of the US.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS(cont'd)



Steve & Ronda Hortsman

We are so excited to be new members. We have been married 25 years and have dreamed of owning an RV since before we were married. It was only when we really started looking at them that we decided Airstream was the only way to go! We ordered our 2021 Globetrotter 23FBT in February and picked her up in June. We celebrated our silver anniversary on May 25 so we named her Silver Anni!

We have two grown children and one grandchild. Steve works in cybersecurity and I work in organ and tissue recovery for transplant. We are a few years out from retirement still, but we are excited to start experiencing traveling around the US in small trips as often as we can.

We are definitely newbies and have really appreciated all the support and information shared by the Airstream community. This weekend we are having our "Camp Grandma-Papa" with our grandson in New Braunfels at Camp Fimfo and are having a blast! Hope to see you down the road!



Heather & Al Frigaard

We are lifelong campers and have been Airstream owners since July 2020. We purchased a bigger Airstream this past June, a 2016 28' Flying Cloud. In the last 12 months we've been all over Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Missouri, and Iowa. At the time I am writing this we are on our way to Wisconsin and the Great Lakes. We are adventurous, spontaneous and love to travel wherever the wind guides us. We prefer to stay in state or county parks.

We have been married for 26 years and have two amazing grown children (daughter 26, son 19) and a little chihuahua named Bella. We own and operate a digital marketing company which allows us a lot of freedom to travel and work from the road.

We love the Lord and give all credit to Him for the life we live! We look forward to connecting with fellow Airstreamers on the road!



Linda and Al picked up their 2016 30' Classic Airstream in Marshalltown, Iowa July 5..joined a unit so they could register for the rally in Lebanon, TN. They are full timers, and because they have stuff and people in Texas, they picked our unit. They joined us at our lunch meeting in Lebanon, and we hope they will be a part of our unit for a long time.

Linda and Al Jordan

MEMBER SURVEY

In June, Allana Patterson sent out a survey on behalf of the unit. The purpose of the survey was to find ways to better serve our members. Sadly, out of almost 200 members, only 33 responded to the survey.

Results:

- Unit Name: The reason for changing the name from North Texas Unit is to include the Airstream identification and possibly call ourselves a Club rather than Unit. It was previously thought that International wanted all units to become clubs, but we found out at the International Rally that is not the case.
- *Of the respondents, 36% wanted North Texas Airstream Club NTAC, which residents of the North Texas Airstream Community feel that would be an internet search, twitter, and Instagram confusion nightmare.*
- *18% wanted DFW Airstream Club, 18% North Central Texas Airstream Club.*
- This resulted in a stalemate and with so few responses, we are going to propose other names, or leave it as North Texas Unit.
- To keep this brief: the survey included questions about how to serve our membership. We got some very good ideas. We are going to try to do more rallies in 22, and develop a mentor program for new members.

Thanks to those that responded.

MEETING MINUTES

NTU does not have a recording secretary, and we desperately need one.

Our last meeting was held at New Moon BBQ in Lebanon, TN. We had a crowd of 26 people. Past President, Steve Woodward began the meeting and handed it over to 1st VP, David Brandon.

All attending members introduced themselves. In attendance:

Steve Woodward, Sue Arneson, Diane Bailey(Affiliate member), Marty & Wanda Whitehall, John & Rita Green, David & Anna Brandon, Greg & Barbara Hanson, David & Roberta Hanson, John & Amy Van Artsdalen (affiliate members), Phillip Vasquez (affiliate member), Scott & Chritine Wayles, Randy & Dawn Truesdell, Tom Jensen & Allana Patterson, John and Janet Calvin, Linda & Al Jordan.

Survey results, name change, and future rallies were discussed. The next meeting will be in Grapevine on September 11.



FROM THE 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Anna and I attended our very first International Rally in Lebanon, Tennessee (actually, because of COVID we haven't been to very many rallies at all!). We were so disappointed last year because Loveland, CO would have been our first, but have to say that this gathering went way beyond our expectations.

We hopscotched over to Lebanon with the Heart of Texas Club enjoying happy hours, potluck dinners, and learning what makes caravanning so much fun. We ended up at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, joining the Vintage Airstream Club for three nights of music, fun, and games, even tagging along to represent the 2000-2010 decade of Airstreams parading into the fairgrounds on the first day. During the rally, we took advantage of as many seminars as we could—we learned about local club leadership, regional and national organization, club website development on the new Airstream International platform, and how to keep our Airstream happy and safe.

The Lebanon Rally organizers went over the top with transportation to The Grand Ole Opry on Tuesday night, and entertainment by the band “Top Tier” on Thursday night. I don't think we've danced this much in years. We are so excited about the 2022 International Rally in Fryeburg, Maine and are already planning the road trip. Registration is open now on <https://airstreamclub.org> There will be more details to come, but feel free to let us know if you're interested in joining and we'll plan the road trip together!

As our president couldn't make the rally this year, I was asked to represent our unit at the opening ceremonies and, as the NTU delegate, cast the votes for the three amendments proposed at the annual meeting. I didn't realize it at the time, but this is the last time a single delegate will cast the votes for the entire club. The first amendment (which passed unanimously) eliminated unit delegates and gave each member of the club a vote in future decision making. Rather than each “Big Red Number” voting on a club level and sending a delegate to the annual International Rally, each member and partner member of the Wally Bynum Airstream Club International will vote directly via e-mail or snail mail. Partner members are eligible for voting only if they are registered—if you have not registered on the new ACI website, you can either call 937-596-5211 or email assist@airstreamclub.org to set up your profile. The other two amendments simply transferred verbiage from the organization's constitution to the by-laws, also passed unanimously.

I am looking forward to the remaining events we have this year (check out <https://airstreamclub.org/events>, filter for Region 9) and look forward to serving as President of the North Texas Unit for 2022. Anna and I also look forward to seeing you “on down the road.”

David Brandon, 1st VP

dbtextilesoffice@icloud.com



NEWS YOU CAN USE

- The Region 9 rally will be in Mineola April 26-30, 2022 in Mineola. Phillip Vasquez has been inducted as the 2nd VP of Region 9.
- Need work on your airstream at your location:
Jerry Vanloon, is an Airstream Mobile technician. He makes HOUSE CALLS! He is great for on-site service for all components of your Airstream, from propane & electrical, to window replacement! Phone # 682-556-1141 Jerry is a former technician with Airstream, and now works for Prevost and himself.
- **NEW MEMBERS**- Please attend the Buddy Rally October 21-24 at North Texas Airstream Community in Hillsboro. There will be sessions for you to meet and get golden members to share tips and tricks! More info on pg. 7

NTU lunch meeting in Grapevine on Saturday, September 11, at Willhoites on Mainstreet. 11:30 AM

- Anyone who has discovered new ideas, products, RECIPES, or anything you want to share, please send to allanapat@msn.com for our newsletter.

PICTURES OF THE MONTH



"Field of Streams"

RALLIES AND EVENTS

- The September 17 Hill Country Rally has been cancelled. If there is some other get together created for September-, an email blast will be sent!

September 11- Luncheon meeting at Wilhoites -432 S.Main Street in Grapevine, TX. 11:30-upstairs room reserved. Please join us!

October 9: Luncheon meeting possibly Granbury-TBD

October 21-24 - Buddy Rally with the Texas Plains Unit.

Location: North Texas Airstream Community-Hillsboro

Call Jennifer in the office to arrange a slot on the terraport-254-582-5566 or ntac@ntaci.com

New members encouraged to attend and get to know seasoned Airstreamers!

Thursday evening arrivals: games and social time in the pavilion or meeting hall

Friday 10-22: Visit Waco -Magnolia Market, or Brazos Valley Cheese, Backyard Silversmiths, or Homestead Heritage Place north of Waco

4:30-Happy Hour to meet new members-BYOB, appetizers provided.

5:30-Dinner: Bring your own meat for the grill, sides provided

Saturday 10-23: Trip to the Country Roads Festival in Waxahachie

Dinner out or on your own

Sunday 10-24: Breakfast in pavilion, and head out

**(depending on information from Texas Plains Unit, more may be added in September issue)*

November 13: Luncheon meeting TBD- **all officers needed** to plan Installation

November 19 – 21- Installation Rally

Location: Oakdale RV Park, Glen Rose, TX *Details will be in next newsletter.* Call for reservations to: Oakdale RV Park (254) 897-2321 (group rates)

New members attending will formally be installed. New Officers nominated and installed.

December 3-5 Holiday/Christmas Rally –

Dec 4: Luncheon meeting at rally

Vineyards Campground -Lake Grapevine, TX

28 sites on stand by: make individual reservations as soon as comfortable, as The Vinyards fills up fast. **15% Group Discount being offered to NTU. Please call the main number (817-329-8993) and ask for the “NTU Airstream Group” December Rally folder. Jeanine and/or Lisa are familiar with our event, as is Pam.** To gain additional information, you may log onto the website

“vineyardscampground.com”. They do have cabins and equipment for rent, in addition to RV sites.

Please look at the map of the RV sites to choose your preferred location. They are currently holding Sites #1-thru-8, #10-thru-17, 20, 21, and #26-thru-33

Grapevine is considered the “Christmas Capitol of Texas” and Main Street shops get busy this time of year. With enough attendance, we will have use of the Pavilion for the duration. Over-looking the marina and Lake Grapevine, this is an ideal site for seminars, meals, white elephant gift exchange, Christmas shopping, wine tours, and relaxation with NTU members. *Details will be in next newsletter*

WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY-LEBANON, TENNESEE

Region 9 and especially NTU and HOTC had a great showing at the Rally. With a Region 9 Brunch and a Region 9 Happy Hour, we all got to know other Texas units very well, and look forward to more joint rallies in 2022. The following will be pictures (worth a thousand words) of travels to Lebanon and heading either home, or other far away places. Please send your pictures and stories of this summer's travels to allanapat@msn.com to be included in our newsletter.



20-21 President Andy Selking and Kathy leave the opening ceremony. 21-22 President Tye Mott follows.



NTU 1st VP David Brandon carries the flag for our Unit in the opening ceremony.



Ed Landers and Frank Steed play in the Band for opening, closing, and a concert, practicing for a week before rally!



Jennifer Hicks busy serving as Cashier for the Rally



Diane Bailey led the Vintage Caravan parade with the oldest trailer-1948 Airstream!





Jennifer Hicks, Jim Courtney long dinner line

Eating is a big deal even if you are waiting in line for dinner, ice cream, food trucks, or finding a local place to dine



Janet and John Calvin Region 9 Brunch



Greg and Barbara Henson at NTU Lunch



Steve Woodward at NTU lunch joined by Sue Arneson, and new members Linda & Al Jordan. Steve at Region 9 Happy Hour-Whiskey tasting.



There was plenty of Entertainment- Nashville on your own or with the 450 people on charter buses to the Grand Ole Opry, WBCCI Band Concert, Pet Show, Arts and Craft Show, Photo contest, and dancing the night away with a great band.



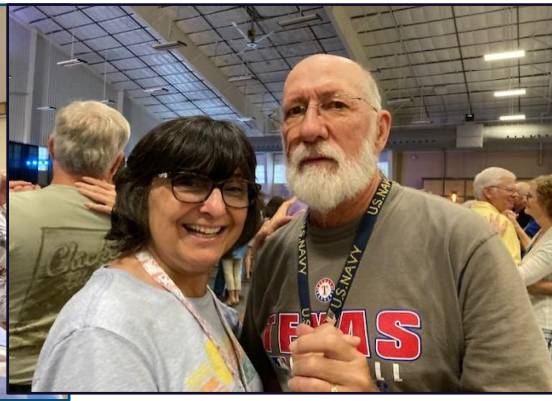
Grand Ole Opry and Broadway Nashville-Willie Nelson's first "discovered" here.



David and Anna Brandon



Jim and Vickie Courtney



Marty and Wanda Whitehill



Randy & Dawn Truesdell

← Scott and Christine Wayles →





*Tom Jensen and Allana Patterson at closing ceremony.
Around the campfire at the Jensen Airstream.*

There were many evenings all over of games, campfires, smores, and sharing stories. It was hard to leave. Trailers started pulling out and it felt lonely on Sunday.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Instant Pot One-Pot Ragu with Italian Sausage



Serves: 6

Directions

Mince celery, carrot and onion in a food processor. Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add Italian sausage and vegetables. Cook until sausage is browned, about 5 minutes. Stir in tomatoes, chicken broth, Italian seasoning and linguine. Make sure pasta is submerged in broth but do not stir. Cover pot, making sure the the knob is set to sealing. Press Manual/Pressure Cook and set for 5 minutes. Quick release, remove the lid and stir the pasta, breaking up any clumps. Season ragu with salt and black pepper; top with basil.

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup chopped carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 pound bulk Italian sausage
- 2 (14-ounce) cans petite diced tomatoes
- 3 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
- 1/2 pound linguini broken in half
- 1/2 cup chopped, fresh basil

Submitted at International Rally by Amy VanArtsdalen