

NORTH TEXAS UNIT - AIRSTREAM CLUB

Newsletter- Oct./Nov. 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

Except for those of you with allergies, there is no better time to be out than Fall in Texas. The temperatures are fabulous this week. We had a great time at NTAC, at the buddy rally with Texas Plains.



The folks at NTAC are hardworking, gracious hosts. We got to know some new people, learned to play Joker, and will see them down the road in Glenrose, Grapevine, or Mineola! I am busy working on making the Grapevine Holiday rally a memorable one, and must get all arrangements done before Nov. 23, as I am having back surgery. Because the Rally in Glenrose, the surgery, and the Grapevine rally are all within 3 weeks there will not be a newsletter until December but expect an exciting one! For those making plans for the Grapevine rally, I will be at the campsite the entire time, no running around, so you are welcome to hang with me. Read on for news about the Buddy Rally, new members, and ways you can get involved...I promise, once you join us at a rally- you will know what makes owning an Airstream special.

Allana Patterson #12194
allanapat@msn.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joined in Late September:

Michael Krackenberger and Beth Wyss-Krackenberger from Plano, TX 2021 Classic 30'
Rita and Michael Barr from Graford, TX 2021 Flying Cloud 25'

Joined in October:

Donald Wright from Garland, Tx
Jeff and Marlbeth Pappas from Richardson, TX 2018 Bambi 16'
Tammy and Mike VanBuskirk from Sachse, TX 2021 Globetrotter 27'
Allen Harrison and Jean Muncrief from FtWorth, TX 2022 Globetrotter 25'

New members: Nathan and Pam Seery joined us with their daughter at the Granbury luncheon. They are restoring a trailer and have not looked at restorations except on YouTube. If you have restored an Airstream...give them a shout out and impart your wisdom. pamelaseery@yahoo.com



SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Michael Krackenberger and Beth Wyss-Krackenberger

Michael and I just celebrated 30 years of marriage and we are both semi-retired. Our girls Jenna and Riley are 26 and 19 and we have a sheltie/shepherd who loves to be wherever we are. We are brand new owners of a 2021 30 ft Classic. While we are new to ownership, we are not new to Airstream. My husband grew up traveling up and down the Blue Ridge and along the east coast with his Grandparents in their Airstream Land Yacht. He was enamored and has always expressed a desire to own one someday. Over the years, we have rented a Flying Cloud several times to get a feel for the responsibilities. About one month ago, our Airstream popped up for sale through a local dealer and we immediately knew she was ours. We just returned from a two-week maiden voyage to the Smokies and Georgia. We had a blast and made some great new friends. We discovered a few things that needed some adjustments and Mike has already jumped on making the needed repairs. He is an amazing problem solver and quality craftsman. We have already created a rather long list of destinations and will be looking for advice and suggestions on best places to stay as well as leverage any experience.



Michael's mother, Norma is battling stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer and she inspires us every day to live in the moment and to do more of what we love. She absolutely has the same passion for Airstreams and enjoyed going on the trips with us to Table Rock and Mount Rushmore. In her honor, our Airstream big red number is 30839 (March 8, 1939 is her birthday) and the Airstream's registered name is the Norma Ann.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS (cont'd)

Dan & Pam Brockway

We love to travel so we rented a few travel trailers to see if we wanted to buy one. We were drawn to the quality and classiness of the Airstream so we placed our order for a Caravel 22FB and took possession just last month. What a learning curve we are on! We spent 10 days making our way to Lexington Kentucky (horses & bourbon) and back by way of Arkansas, Tennessee, and Missouri. We loved our time in the trailer and on the road. We will have to stick to long weekend trips until we get some more time off, but we look forward to the rally in December and we are planning a trip for spring break next year. We've updated our tow vehicle to a Ford F150 and absolutely love our Airstream we named, "Distilled Dreams"!

– Dan & Pam



Jean Muncrief and Allen Harrison.

We are both retired. We both enjoy cycling on a regular basis, mostly on a casual basis. We are active with fostering dogs that have been rescued and are awaiting adoption. We favor the older dogs that have difficulty being placed due to their age or health. Next month, the arrival of our Globetrotter will make us 3-time owners of Airstreams. We are pretty familiar with the advantages and occasional problems that accompany Airstreams. Almost all our travel with Airstreams has been local. Our only long-distance trip has been to Jackson Center in 2016. We hope to be able to take some longer trips with the Globetrotter. We already tried to sign up for one of the Caravans with the Airstream Club, but the first opening is not until 2024 so I guess we can forget about traveling with that group. We will probably have to make our own Caravan! Thank you for the welcome, Allana. We were members of the unit some years back, but we were completely inactive.



MEETING MINUTES - October NTU Business Meeting

Spring Creek Barbeque, October 9, 2021, 12:00 PM

12:00

Welcome and Introductions: Allana Patterson called the meeting to order. Present were David and Anna Brandon, Tom Jensen and Allana Patterson, Dan and Jennifer Dice, Elizabeth Flores, Sue Essary (affiliate member), Sue McLaughlin, Sterling and Marianne Combs, Georgina Woodward, and Nathan, Pamela, and Adeline Seery. The Seery family were welcomed as new members to NTU.

12:25

Business

Minutes were reviewed; Jennifer Dice moved for acceptance and Elizabeth Flores seconded the motion. Lynn Mack was unable to be present but provided the information that the checking account of NTU has a balance of \$5420.64.

David discussed the offices open to nomination for 2022 (to be installed at November Installation Rally):

1. First Vice-President: David Brandon nominated Jennifer Dice.
2. Second Vice-President: Open
3. Third Vice-President: Allana Patterson nominated Greg Hanson.
4. Treasurer: Lynn Mack has agreed to continue holding this position.
5. Corresponding and Recording Secretary: Anna Brandon is serving in this position as interim and is nominated by David Brandon to continue.
6. Two Directors: Elizabeth Flores has agreed to serve, one position open
7. These committees need leadership also: Budget & Finance, Constitution and Bylaws, Directory and Printing, Historian, Legislative, and
8. Parliamentarian: Allana Patterson is serving in this position as interim and is nominated by David Brandon to continue.

Nominations (or self-nominations) can be e-mailed to airstream099leadership@gmail.com

David Brandon reviewed the 2022 Rally schedule for members to look over and comment upon before voting at the November rally in Glen Rose at Oakdale RV Resort. The tentative schedule is:

South: January 14-16: Join HOTC for a New Year's rally at NTAC (indoor rally room and outdoor pavilion).

North: February 11-13: Choctaw Casino (indoor rally room); potentially include a "chili cook-off" and buddy with other clubs

West: March 11-13: Mineral Wells State Park (indoor rally room)

April will have two functions: April 9th, Spring membership meeting at the Brandon's, lunch and beverages provided, and

East: April 26-May 1: Region 9 Rally at Mineola Civic Center, Mineola, TX

North: May 13-15: Eisenhower State Park, Dennison, TX

Central: June 10-12: Hidden Cove (Little Elm) or Pilot Knoll (Highland Village)

No meeting in July because of International Rally

Central: August 13: Rally afterparty—find an indoor venue central to membership

East: September 9-11th: Lake Tawakoni State Park, Wills Point, TX

Southeast: **October 7-9th: The Range Vintage RV Resort, Bristol, TX**

Southwest: **November 18-20th: Oakdale RV Resort and Motor Court, Glen Rose (indoor rally room)**

Central: **December 2-4th: Second Annual NTU Holiday rally at The Vineyard at Grapevine (will find indoor venue for meeting if necessary)**

66 members voted in the final tally regarding the future name of our group. Results are: North Texas Airstream Club (NTxAC): 53% (35); North Texas Unit (NTU) 21.2% (14); North Central Texas Airstream Club (NCTAC) 15.2% (10); North Texas Airstream Unit 10.6% (7). Allana made the motion to accept "North Texas Airstream Club" (NTxAC) as the new name of the group based upon the final vote of the membership, officially changing the name at the Installation Rally in November; Dan Dice seconded the motion.

Allana Patterson reminded us that she is putting together a November newsletter and would like to have any relevant material ASAP: allanapat@msn.com.

Finally, upcoming rallies were reviewed: Buddy Rally with the Texas Plains Unit at the North Texas Airstream Community, October 21-24, NTU/NTAC contact is Sue Essary, (806) 340-1811. Rally details can also be viewed at: <https://airstreamclub.org/joint-rally-ntac>.

Next NTU meeting occurs Saturday, November 19, at 11:00 AM at Oakdale RV Resort in Glen Rose, TX, Installation of new officers to be held in the evening.

12:55: Meeting was concluded.

FROM THE PRESIDENT- Gary Copeland

President Farewell message

Hello Everyone,

I know that it doesn't really have to be said that it has been a crazy, exciting, scary, and challenging year for all of us, and for the North Texas Airstream Unit as well, yet, I am saying it anyway. Considering everything that we have all been through, I am happy with where we as a club are today.

This last weekend, we had a fun buddy rally with the Texas Plains Unit. Thank you to everyone that helped, and to everyone that joined us for a fun weekend.

I have great confidence in the direction of our club as David Brandon takes the leadership as the President for the next year. David and Anna have been fantastic leaders this year during those times that I was unable to be actively involved. Thank you, David and Anna, and congratulations on your new upcoming roles as President and First Mate. David and Anna have been very active, and instrumental in moving forward with the name change. Thank you for everything you have done in that regard as well.

I also want to mention that Allana Patterson and Tom Jensen have also been outstanding in their leadership and active involvement in this club. They have been instrumental in keeping the lines of communications open to every member, as well as making sure that the unit members are made aware of everything that is going on and planned. Thanks to Tom and Allana!

I obviously need to mention Steve Woodward for his continued very active participation. He has been a great resource and leader for many years. Thank you, Steve! This year could not have been as successful as it was if not for everyone mentioned above. Members and officers, Thank you all!

See you all on the road,

Gary Copeland – outgoing President
#5848



FROM THE 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT-David Brandon

Last weekend we had a blast hanging out with NTU friends and meeting new friends from the Texas Plains Unit at the Buddy Rally in Hillsboro. This weekend we are repeating the fun up at the LBJ Grasslands with the Heart of Texas Airstream Club. It is so heartwarming to fall in step with the social life Airstreaming brings after what seems like an eternity of social distancing. Although we still need to be cautious and take measures according to our values to protect ourselves and others, our last few months of rallies remind me that our social needs haven't changed just because of the pandemic.



I hope you will be able to join us for our annual November Installation Rally (meeting to be held Saturday morning, installation of new officers in the evening) at Oakdale RV Park and Motor Court in Glen Rose (<https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-north-texas-unit>). Please come for this last meeting under Gary Copeland's wing as we express appreciation for his service alongside our fun activities.

The almost 30 rigs registered for the December Holiday in Grapevine Rally ("First Annual" by the way!) tells me that we are off to a wonderful start to 2022. By the way, since the Vineyards campground is sold out (sites are sold out, there are still cabins available), if you can't spend the weekend, please do come spend Saturday with the club. After the meeting on Saturday morning, there is quite a lot to do in Grapevine (<https://airstreamclub.org/holiday-grapevine-december-rally>). Our group is now up to 135 rigs, 251 members, and 25 affiliate members—I hope 2022 brings us a year of "sold out" rallies!

David Brandon

BRN# 5157 dbtextilesoffice@icloud.com

"HAM" RADIO

John Green, W9CJX
W9CJX@arrl.net

Amateur ("ham") radio is alive and well within the Airstream club. There is a radio club within the international club and it's the WBCCI/ACI Amateur Radio Club with a club station call of WB8RC which is on the air every year from the International rally site. If you are interested in becoming a "ham", a testing session is held at every International rally location. If you are already a ham with an FCC issue license, I want to welcome you to join the club. Online registration can be completed on the club's website at <https://rvnet.wbcci.net/membership-application-renewal/>. This application is for new members and for existing members to renew their membership. There are daily "nets" on 40M called RV Service Nets. If you hold a general class license or greater, you're invited to check into these nets. You can find the time and frequency on the [RVnet.wbcci.net](https://rvnet.wbcci.net) website. On a local level, there are already many "ham" members of the North Texas Airstream Club. There are 10 hams, for example, who live in the North Texas Airstream Community in Hillsboro. Mobile VHF use between rigs is useful on caravans where 2 or more hams are travelling together to a rally or any destination. An entry level license named Technician is all that's required for VHF/UHF use to have contact with other local hams. There are hundreds of repeater systems operating in Texas that enable mobile units to extend their range plus contact local hams for more information about a particular area. I've been a ham for over 60 years, and I still enjoy using the radio to meet people in the areas we travel. Feel free to contact me to learn more as well as add your name and callsign to the ham log in the North Texas Airstream club.

NEWS YOU CAN USE



REGARDING THE GRAPEVINE HOLIDAY RALLY: The 15% Group Discount can no longer be applied, however a 10% discount if you are Good Sam. We have 28 rigs booked. If you called, and they told you they were full, they are, - for the 15% rally rate, however, you can keep calling in case of cancellation or try to book something at regular rate. Please call the main number (817-329-8993). If you get in as a regular reservation, ask them to put you on the December Rally folder. Jeanine and/or Lisa are familiar with our event, as is Pam. the website vineyardscampground.com. We checked on 10-29 and they do have cabins available if you want to join us w/o your trailer.

- When exploring our club information-use this website link: <https://airstreamclub.org/north-texas> *(the old website will soon be taken down)*
- ALL GROUP COMMUNICATION FROM OUR CLUB will now be sent through *Mail Chimp*. Check your spam folders and allow it as “not junk”. The *MailChimp* emails come from airstream099leadership@gmail.com
- Check our unit out on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/httpsairstreamclub.orgmembersnorthtexasunit>
- This is a reminder that we will be redesigning the logo and need submissions! We can keep the old logo, just change the name of our club, or we can come up with something brand new. This will all need to be concluded by the end of November to give Region 9 time to approve and send on to Airstream International by January 1 so the new directory will have our new name. On November 4th members will have several important decisions to make so watch for the link to the ballot in your email box. This ballot will also include the proposed slate of officers and the proposed rally schedule for 2022. You can vote electronically or in person at the November 20th meeting at Oakdale Park in Glen Rose (details here: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-north-texas-unit>).
- **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.
 - Anyone who has discovered new ideas, products, RECIPES, travel stories, pictures, or anything you want to share, please send to allanapat@msn.com for our newsletter.

Sunset on NTAC terraport.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



RALLIES AND EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- November 20- Luncheon Business meeting will be held at the Installation Rally

- November 19 – 21- Installation Rally OAKDALE PARK STILL HAS SITES AVAILABLE!

Location: Oakdale RV Park, Glen Rose, TX Call for reservations to: Oakdale RV Park (254) 897-2321 (group rates) New members attending will formally be installed. New Officers nominated and installed. *If you are interested in serving the club as an officer, please contact David Brandon, Kathi Mitchell, or Steve Woodward. Office positions are listed in the meeting minutes. Please come join us.*
Saturday will be installation, meeting, voting, and dinner.



It is a great RV Park and very pleasant around the fire pit in the fall!

DECEMBER

- December 3-5 Holiday Rally at the Christmas Capital of Texas- Grapevine
Vineyards Campground -Lake Grapevine, TX

Preliminary Itinerary

Friday, Dec. 3- Arrival and set up. (If you arrive early, or Thursday night many things to enjoy in Grapevine-see below)

4:30 Happy hour (BYOB)at the pavilion, followed by dinner (provided) at **6:00**. Cost will be one (or more) items for the Grapevine Relief And Community Exchange (GRACE) for Holiday food drive (see pg9). Weather permitting- card and board games, possible live music from across the lake. There will be a Christmas tree and “make your own ornament” table. Wear your ugly Christmas sweater.

Saturday, Dec. 4- 8:30-9:30am- Coffee and breakfast at the pavilion.

10:00am- Monthly Business Meeting (1 hour)-then day on your own to enjoy the Christmas Capital of Texas. (see pg 9)

8:30-10pm: Around the campfire-after dinner hot chocolate, mulled wine, egg nog, cookies and “White Elephant” gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift \$15 or less (you can “regift” something you already have). Those that bring gifts participate in the exchange. The twinkle light boat parade on Lake Grapevine **5:30-8:00pm if you want to join early.**

Sunday, Dec. 5- 8:00-9:30am- Coffee and donuts at the pavilion. **Wish everyone a Happy Holiday and on our way by 12:00 unless you have booked Sunday night.**

The following members are registered in case you want to plan events together. (use your directory to contact, only last name listed)

Ebbers	Jensen	Pohler	Macphail	Normington
Wilkens	Hancock	Steddum/Weaver	Copeland	Dice
Pappas	Woodward	Jeanes	Horstman	Wright
Clyne	Dennis	Kohnle	Brandon	Michek
Arnesen	McLaughlin	Millican	Mitchel	Brockway

*if you have reserved a spot and are not on this list, please notify Tom Jensen- tomjensen@msn.com

THINGS TO DO IN GRAPEVINE-The Christmas Capital of Texas.

- ✚ Grapevine Wine Tours- a unique experience- visit 3 wineries in Grapevine (out of 9) with lunch. Mention our rally and all the group will be on the same tour. Tours pick up at The Vineyards Campground (11:00am). <https://www.grapevinewinetours.com/> or call 817-259-9463 and speak to Patrick.
- ✚ The Gaylord Texan- ½ mile from the campground! Each year the Gaylord provides a wealth of holiday activities <https://christmasatgaylordtexas.marriott.com/>
- ✚ The **Nutcracker** will be presented outdoors at Meadowmere Park \$22. Phone: (817) 428-8232 Time: 7:00 on Friday, 6:00 on Saturday and Sunday.
- ✚ Star Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre: "Where Historical meets Hysterical". Saturday shows at 5:00 and 8:30. Free parking, full-service bar. \$59.95. <https://www.texasstardinnertheater.com/>
For those of you attending: We tried to book a performance at The Vineyards of the Murder Mystery show, however, it did not work out. They have plenty of tickets for the 8:30 show. We are going to book them for 2022 December Rally!
- ✚ Main Street Grapevine- shopping and Christmas everywhere! Grapevine Shuttle will take you to all the hot spots (**we are working on a pickup at the Campground**)-
<https://www.grapevinetexasusa.com/grapevine-main-street-program/>
- ✚ Story Time with Santa: Noon & 1 p.m. on Dec. 2, 3, 9 & 16 701 S. Main St. Located inside the Grapevine Christmas Village
- ✚ Grapevine Railroad- North Pole Express- <https://www.grapevinetexasusa.com/grapevine-vintage-railroad/events/>
- ✚ Vetro Glass Blowing Studio (Create your own wine glass, Christmas ornament) www.VetroArtGlass.com
- ✚ The new Vin hotel, rail station, and Harvest Hall- Experience a European-style food hall, event, and entertainment destination in downtown Grapevine, Texas. <https://www.harvesthall.com/>
- ✚ **Victorian Christmas Tours at Nash Farm:** December 4, Various times, \$5 per person
626 Ball St. Grapevine, TX 76051
- ✚ Restaurants galore! Many local restaurants all along Main Street from \$\$\$\$ to \$\$\$. Grab a group for lunch/dinner on your own. <https://www.grapevinetexasusa.com/shop-wine-dine/restaurants/>

Needed items for GRACE



Thanks to your generous support, GRACE was able to provide 481 Thanksgiving meals and 347 Christmas meals to families in need last year. The estimated value of each food basket is \$80.00.

Shopping List

- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Fruit
- Instant Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Chicken Broth
- Canned Mushroom Soup (10.5oz)
- Sugar (2 or 5 lb)
- Flour (2 or 4lb)
- Green Beans (canned 2)
- Cooking Oil
- Instant Stuffing
- Instant or canned Gravy (please no glass jars)
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Canned Pumpkin
- French Fried Onions (6oz)
- Corn (canned)
- Jello (1 box)



BUDDY RALLY WITH TEXAS PLAINS- What a Joker!

We had roughly 40 people at the rally in Hillsboro. It was about half and half NTU and Texas Plains. Boy, those West Texas folks are serious about the marble/card game JOKER!

After happy hour in the rally room, we thoroughly enjoyed dinner Thursday night at the Lone Star Restaurant, where we took over the private room. Afterwards, Joker lessons were given in the Rally room.



Happy hour and introductions.



Texas Plains greets North Texas

Friday we were on our own after a delicious breakfast served up by our hosts. David and Anna Brandon provided two tables full of fabric samples and quilting books that a few of us went nuts over. Amy Terkel and I didn't get enough so we drove to Homestead Heritage village, to see more quilts and fabric. We also enjoyed a nice lunch courtesy of Dan and Jennifer Dice at the Homestead restaurant. If you have never been there, it is worth a stop on your way down I-35, north of Waco.



This looks serious.



Enjoying lunch at the Café Homestead

Friday night was a blast with a cookout at the Pavilion, all the men lined up cooking at grills, and all the women chatting away. After the cookout, we gathered in the rally room for a Joker tournament...it was ruthless.

NTU took first, second, and third place!





One thing you can always count on with Airstreamers, We LOVE to EAT!

John Green imparts his wisdom on everything including the grilling..

Blue skies, nothing but blue skies, from now on!

Anna Brandon, Dan & Jen Dice enjoy the evening socializing with all.



Pull up a chair and enjoy!

Sue Arneson toasts to all, Cheers!



Georgina Woodward learns more about new members Debra and David Normington



Are they talking Airstreams or Grills?



Last minute instructions for Neil the newbie to Joker



Ken and Jen contemplate their next move.



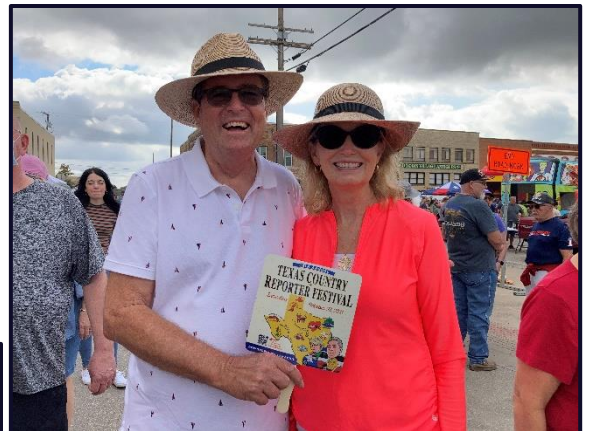
And the winners are: 1st Jim Courtney 2nd Vicki Courtney 3rd Sue McLaughlin. The biggest loser: Kathi Mitchell.

Saturday was a day to attend the Texas Country Reporter festival in Waxahachie. Most went on their own time and came back with tall tales and plunder. We hung out with each other, the usual trailer talks and tours. Then all the leftovers came out, David Brandon ordered pizza, and Joker started all over again! We had a very nice devotional on Sunday morning. Many stayed on for lunch at Lake Whitney. Everyone left feeling we might be coming back to a new normal with Airstream life. I know I had a great time, learned a new game, met new people, and bonded more with the familiar friends. If you are reluctant to attend a rally, just give it a chance...you won't regret. Hope to see you at the next one.

Eating again. Food truck food! Yum.



Day 3 of the rally!



Larry and Joan Lumen ready to enjoy the festivities.



Bread Pudding with Whiskey Sauce

Sounds like a great Holiday dessert

5 eggs	2 cups sugar	1 tsp nutmeg
3 Tb butter	1 cup brown sugar	1 tsp cinnamon
3 Tb vanilla (Mexican is best)	2.5 cups sourdough bread cubes	4 cups milk
½ cup pecans (optional)		

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Beat the eggs and add the butter, vanilla and milk. Gradually add the sugar and mix thoroughly until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle nutmeg and cinnamon over bread cubes. Place bread cubes in the bottom of a baking dish. Pour liquid over bread, making sure all the pieces are fully saturated. Sprinkle pecans over bread and push them down into the bread. Bake in the oven for 50 to 60 minutes.

Whiskey Sauce

1½ cup sugar

1 stick butter

½ cup cream

¼ cup Jack Daniels

Combine the ingredients in a medium saucepan. Stir constantly over low heat until mixture reaches a low rolling boil. Pour a small amount over the individual servings of bread pudding. YUM!

 **Happy Fall!**

Happy Thanksgiving!

