

RIVETED RAZORBACK



MAY 2021

President's Message By Michael Shelley

We can all take pride in our club's first Service Rally led by Trent Roberts during the last weekend in March. Fifteen Airstreams were at the event, and several more members joined us at the Arkansas Food Bank for a weekend of service and fellowship. You have probably seen details of the rally in our Riveted Razorbacks FaceBook page; it is worth restating that in addition to all the work we provided, our members donated sufficient cash to provide 62,250 meals to those in need. Tim Welch and his company donated a pallet lift as well. The unanimous feeling afterwards was that we need to do this every year going forward.

Despite some cool and rainy weather, 37 club members in 18 Airstreams enjoyed a weekend of fellowship as we sampled food and drink in Little Rock and North Little Rock at our Bikes, Buddies, and Brew Pubs Rally. Covid restrictions kept us from our Thursday evening on the patio at 42, the Clinton Library restaurant, but we enjoyed brats & kraut with baked potato salad with sweet & sour baked beans, all prepared by Chef Judy and her Sous Chefs Trent, David and Michael. After a cool bicycle ride along the Arkansas River Friday morning, we found good food at Food Truck Friday and then continued on to Diamond Bear and Flyway breweries, then finished our day at The Railyard for even more good food and drink. Rain kept us from riding early Saturday, but we enjoyed a great time with brunch, mimosas, etc., at Fassler Hall, really good beer at Stone's Throw, and finished our day at Lost Forty for, yet once again, even more good

food and drink. Sunday morning, we all enjoyed gourmet donuts from Hurts before heading homeward.

June 10-13, we will float the Buffalo from Gilbert General Store (870-439-2888). Make a reservation for floating and a reservation at Shady Oaks RV Park in Harrison, AR.

July is of course the International Rally in Lebanon, TN. Because the Alaska Caravan was cancelled, we are now free to attend and in a moment of insanity agreed to serve as Presentations & Roundtables Chairs for the rally. Looks to be a very busy next several weeks. Our own Past President Larry Madden will be installed as the Region 6 President. Hope to see many of you in Lebanon; the Arkansas contingent has a

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2020-2021

Officers

President: Michael Shelley

Past President: Jeff Dalrymple

Vice-President: Dave Wessinger

Secretary: Laura Wessinger

Treasurer: Judy Shelley

Board of Directors

Paul Beck (Webmaster)

Eleanor Jester

Trent Roberts (Membership Chair)

Tim Welch

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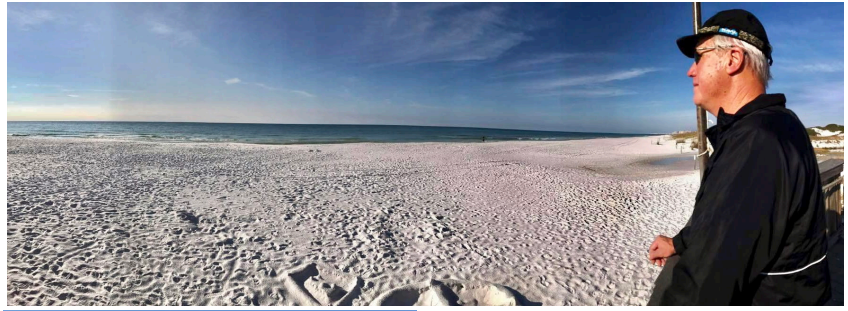
well- deserved reputation for being the center of fun at International rallies.

We have several more exciting club rallies planned for the remainder of the year, including a re-imagined Arkaluma boondocking rally, most likely at the Automobile Museum on Petit Jean Mountain. Watch for details in the near future as this is finalized.

Don't forget about the Region 6 Rally next October in Foley, AL.

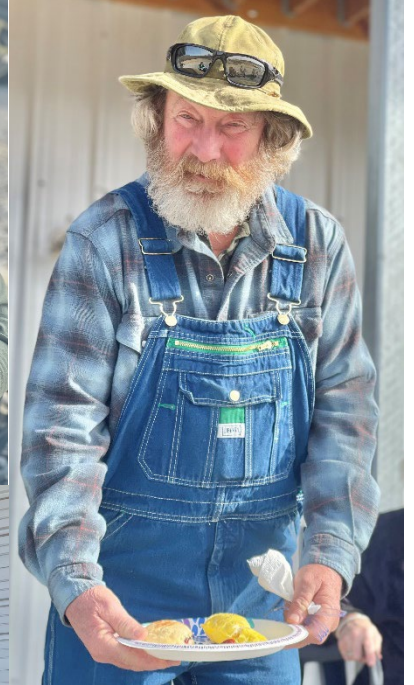
I pray we will continue to come out from under the iron grip of Covid-19; already many of us are fully vaccinated, hopefully all of our members will be vaccinated soon. Travel safe and we hope to see you soon!

CANOPENER 2021



Canopener is held every year in early January at the Topsail Hill Preserve State Park in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida. 2021's Canopener was a low-key event due to Covid-19.

**Unit Board of Trustees Meeting
at Jeff & Cindy's in Jay, OK
February 2021**



Addressing food insecurity, Airstreamers donate 64,000 meals

By Mark Magie #24797
Region 6 Contributing Editor

This morning, more than 200,000 children in Arkansas woke up not knowing if they would have food to eat. That grim statistic is no surprise as Arkansas ranks No. 2 in food insecurity in the United States, according to the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance.

Members of the Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club learned those staggering facts and more at a club rally with 15 Airstreams boondocking in the semi-truck loading area of the Arkansas Foodbank in Little Rock, March 26-28, 2021.

Saturday morning, 40 club members ranging from age 9 to 75 were divided into four work groups – one group donned USDA protective gear and packaged 740 pounds of cereal. Another group packed 240 backpacks for school children and filled 520 emergency food boxes with canned goods, juice bottles and packaged food items. A third group freshened up the landscaping, and a fourth group built six raised garden beds. Club member Tim Welch delivered a pallet jack donated by his company, Wiese USA, to which Airstreamers added their signatures.

One of the most outstanding contributions from the Razorback club was a donation of \$12,905 to the food bank which will be used to provide more than 64,000 meals. Razorback club member Trent Roberts, who also volunteers as an Arkansas Foodbank board member and treasurer explained, “Your \$1 donation can provide five meals to our neighbors in need. The foodbank has a relatively small staff of just under 70 employees that enabled several thousand volunteers to distribute more than 40 million pounds of food last year. It is the leveraging effect that impresses me.”

“Hunger is not only in your town and your neighborhood; it is a real problem that should not exist in a developed country and the pandemic really exposed the issue” he added. Roberts and his wife, Jennifer, hosted the rally.

Rhonda Sanders, Arkansas Foodbank CEO, added, “I am grateful for the work accomplished this weekend by the Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club. We usually see more than 13,000 volunteers in a year who provide us with more than 36,000 hours of help. We cannot do our work without volunteers. We distributed 40 million pounds of food in 2020 to more than 280,000 people facing hunger. 2020 was an extreme year of need and it will take several years for the economy to fully recover. This means we will continue to see increased need for years to come. Partners like the Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club are how we will meet this need. Thank you for your help! And I thought your breakfast on the loading dock was one of the best breakfasts I’ve ever had.” (It is a well-known fact that the Arkansas Razorback Club eats very well at rallies.)

Michael Shelley, Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club president, said, “Volunteering at the Arkansas Foodbank was an eye-opening and rewarding experience. We learned that food insecurity and hunger exist not only around the world, but in our own backyard. Our efforts and donations will help provide food to those in need. We can hopefully return next year to lend a hand and help our fellow citizens.”

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The Club had a wonderful time boondocking in the loading area. Meals included a catfish dinner Friday night; a big country breakfast Saturday morning featuring the world's best biscuits made in an Airstream oven by new club member Michelle Mercer; a "we're at the county fair" lunch with fried pickles and cheese curds, fried onion rings, sweet potato fries and other assorted deep-fried delicacies; and smash burgers on the griddles for supper, followed by the Arkansas Razorbacks' NCAA Elite 8 basketball game projected on a wall in the warehouse which allowed for social distancing and many "Hog calls."

According to the foodbank's website, arkansasfoodbank.org, the Arkansas Foodbank was created in 1984 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to serve several central south Arkansas counties by providing an affordable and credible food source for local agencies serving hungry people in the state. By 1986, the Arkansas Foodbank had its first year of distributing one million pounds of food. In 1989, the Foodbank became a member of the Feeding America national network and gained more assistance for acquiring and distributing food. Since that time, the organization has grown to include 450 local partner agencies. It distributes to 33 of Arkansas' 75 counties.

The Arkansas Foodbank has had several locations since it was founded in 1984. Today the Foodbank is located at 4301 W. 65th St. in Little Rock at the Donald W. Reynolds Distribution Center that was built for the organization in 2011. From this distribution center the Arkansas Foodbank operates eight trucks to deliver and pick up food daily, Summer/After School programs and backpacks for children, local agency food pick up, training and capacity building as well as volunteer and fundraising activities. The current location houses freezers, refrigerators and storage areas, plus workspaces and offices in 99,900 square feet, according to Sam Green, facilities coordinator.

In 2016, the Arkansas Foodbank and Arkansas Rice Depot joined together and became the Arkansas Foodbank: United to Fight Hunger. The new brand image reflects the partnership and honors the legacies of both organizations. This partnership combines unique and effective approaches to addressing food insecurity.

Arkansas Rice Depot's Food For Kids program has been replicated in over 40 states and Mexico because of its effectiveness in addressing childhood hunger and will remain a focus area; Arkansas Foodbank's local and national partnerships allow it to procure large quantities of food and other resources to distribute to Arkansans in need. Partnering improved upon what each organization did well and used collective expertise to implement new and innovative programming focused on serving hungry Arkansans with more healthy and nutritious food.

Arkansas Foodbank is a member of Feeding America and the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance. The Arkansas Foodbank is the foundation in the fight against hunger, finding pathways to connect people, resources and food to reach those in need, providing dignity, hope and a brighter future for all Arkansans. The foodbank's vision is for a stronger community where hunger needs are met with sufficient access to nutritious food.

Decisions and actions at the foodbank are guided by five core values: **Collaboration** – We are stronger when we work together. **Respect** – We value the dignity and diversity of those we serve, our partners, volunteers and coworkers. **Innovation and Creativity** – We seek, identify and implement the best solutions to fight hunger, meeting people where they are. **Service** – We are united in a belief to serve those in need. **Integrity** – We achieve our goals by maintaining the highest degree of ethical standards and by putting our values into action.





Razorbackers Attend Region 6 Rally

By Mark Magie

Airstreamers from across Region 6 converged on Vidalia, La., April 8-12, 2021, for the annual region rally. It was originally planned for October 2020 but was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

67 Airstreams participated, according to Region 6 President Jim Johnson. The “Rally on the River” was held at the River View RV Park and Resort. The campground is located at the base of the Mississippi River bridge across from Natchez, Miss., and those attending enjoyed touring local antebellum homes, and learning about the river trade and cotton farming.

Seeing pusher tugboats with their barges navigate up and down the mighty river provided quite a spectacle. There was one exciting moment when a tugboat captain misjudged his route approaching the bridge and clipped a piling protecting the bridge pylon, causing his 20 barges to become separated. Several barges floated toward the campground and knocked down small trees along the levee. 11 barges drifted down-river to be recovered later.

One evening of entertainment was provided by Bill and Betty Lancaster of the Alabama Airstream Club and Terry Brennan from the East Tennessee Airstream Club who played and sang folk songs such as “If I Had a Hammer,” “This Land is Your Land,” “Blowing in the Wind,” “You Are My Sunshine,” and “Five Hundred Miles.” Many of the Airstreamers joined in on the choruses.

Another evening’s entertainment included listening and dancing to the music of the group Riverland Express from Natchez.

Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club members attending included: Arnie and Eleanor Jester, Ivy and Jacqui Lincoln, Jack and Teresa Blakley, Larry and Terry Madden, Charles and Jan Heavener, and Mark Magie.

The next Region 6 rally is Oct. 7-14, 2021, at Johnny’s Lakeside RV Resort in Foley, Ala., according to Larry Madden, Region 6 first vice-president and incoming Region 6 president.



Bikes, Buddies & Brew Pubs, North Little Rock, April 2021



2021 RALLY SCHEDULE

June 10-13: Float the Buffalo

Shady Oaks RV, Harrison, AR (870-743-2343 Melissa)
Gilbert General Store (870-439-2888 reserve kayak or canoe here)

Leader: Jan Heavener

July 17-14: International Rally

Wilson County Fairgrounds, Lebanon, TN

September 10-13: Girls' Weekend

Tompkins Bend, Lake Ouachita, AR

Leader: Laura Wessinger

October 7-11: Region 6 Rally

Johnny's Lakeside RV Resort, Foley, AL (251-202-4999)
Larry Madden to be installed as Region 6 President

Riveted Razorback Roadtrip (come and go caravan):

October 21-24: Airstreams on the Square

Downtown El Dorado, AR

www.mainstreeteldorado.org/airstreams-on-the-square-2021
assistant@mainstreeteldorado.org (870) 862-4747

Leaders: Jan & Charles Heavener; Mark Magee

October 25-28: DeGray Lake State Park

Reserve online at <https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/>

Leader: Paul Greene

October 28-31: Arkaluma (aka Burning Mouse) Boondocking Rally

Museum of Automobilies, Petit Jean Mountain, AR

Leaders: Paul Greene & Dave Wessinger

October 31 – November 4: Denton Ferry RV Park

Cotter, AR (on the White River) <https://dentonrv.com/>

Leader: Paul Greene

November 4-7: Buffalo Point Rally

Buffalo Point Campground, St. Joe, AR

Leader: Jason Landrum

HAPPY HOUR RECIPES

Stuffed Mushrooms

2 pt. whole mushrooms
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese (room temp)
1 1/2 Tbsp. Cavendar's Seasoned Salt
1 (3 oz.) pkg. shredded Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350°. Clean and de-stem mushrooms. Slowly add Cavendar's while mixing cream cheese. Add all but 2 T. of Parmesan to cheese mixture. Spoon mixture into mushrooms. Place in a lightly greased glass pan. Sprinkle remaining Parmesan cheese on top of mushrooms. Bake for 30 minutes or until brown.

-Terry Madden

Texas Caviar

1 (15 oz.) can black-eye peas, drained
1 (15 oz.) can white hominy, drained
2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped (or use more cherry tomatoes)
4 green onions, thinly sliced
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 medium-size green bell pepper, diced
1 small onion, chopped
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
1 (8 oz.) jar hot picante sauce
2 Tbsp. lime juice

Combine, cover, and chill at least two hours. Serve with tortilla chips.

-Dana Landrum

