

# North Texas Airstream Club NTxAC

## Newsletter – Feb/March 2022



*“To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home.” - Wally Byam Creed*

### IN THIS ISSUE

1	From the Editor
2	New Members
3	Spotlight on New Members
4	From the 1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice President
4	From the President
5	News You Can Use
6	Picture of the Month
6-7	Feature Article
8	February Meeting Minutes
9	Upcoming Events and Rallies
9-12	Rallies in Pictures
15	Recipe of the Month-not really

### FROM THE EDITOR



I am now wishing we had signed up for the Galveston Mardi Gras rally, but alas, we still haven't gotten our trailer back! We were hoping this week so we could go to Mineral Wells, but alas, they are out of spots. I encourage all of you to plan ahead. Places to park your RV are filling up early!

In this issue, I will print detailed information about the Region 9 Rally in April, report on that exciting Galveston Urban Rally and the small but fun Choctaw rally, and report on new decisions about T-shirts for the club from our meeting at Choctaw.

David and Anna Brandon are great hosts, so please drive over to Grapevine, their home, on April 9 for our monthly meeting, lunch on the Brandon's, and lots of socializing!

Do not expect another issue of the newsletter until late April, after Region 9. I am entering a very busy time of year for me, judging UIL One-Act Play contests, and there is very little to report, that happens in March.

Enjoy, and hope to see you down the road.

Allana Patterson BRN **12194**

allanapat@msn.com



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



### Joined in February:

*Christopher and Sheila Fritz from Weatherford, TX*

2017 Flying Cloud 30'

*Shirl and James Wills from Denton, TX*

1973 Argosy 26'/1998 Classic 30'

*Karen Petty from Tyler, TX (affiliate)*

2021 Caravelle 20'

*Scotty and Rebecca Graves from Haslet, TX*

2022 Globetrotter 27'

*William Westhoff and Susan Moore from Ft. Worth, TX*

2021 Flying Cloud 25'

*Mike and Debbie Hooker from Grapevine, TX*

2016 Flying Cloud 25'

## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

### Scotty and Rebecca Graves



So, this is our first camper and it's taken a few years to get to the decision to buy one. We've thought about it for several years but never thought seriously about it until this past summer when I lost my Mom unexpectedly. She was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer and died 2 weeks and 2 days later. That helped make our decision that life is too short to wait until retirement and that we needed to live our life to the fullest and start making more memories with our 10-year-old son. We researched several campers and went to a RV show. We even rented a camper on the Outdoorsy App and determined that the quality of most trailers was unappealing.

Ultimately, we chose Airstream because of the quality and love the community that it brings. Our Airstream is a 2022 Globetrotter 27-foot front bedroom twin with dual air conditioners for the extreme Texas heat! Our tow vehicle is a 2015 silver F150. We haven't had the chance to take it out yet, so we don't have any adventures to talk about. We do have several trips planned and have made reservations to attend the Chapter event June 10-12 at Pilot Knoll.

We live in Haslet. I'm a Captain with the Colleyville Police Department and my wife Rebecca is a Captain with the Grapevine Police Department. We have 3 boys 24, 17, and 10. Our plans for 2022 are to take as many trips as possible and get out and explore and make wonderful memories! Our 17-year-old is about to graduate high school and our 10-year-old keeps us busy with select baseball.



### Mike and Debbie Hooker

We are looking forward to seeing you at future events.

As for a brief bio - I retired from The City of Grapevine Parks Dept. in March last year. My wife Debbie retired from Keller ISD last year as well. We are new to RVing but have always been drawn to Airstreams and thought "maybe someday". Well, someday is finally here.

We had been looking for an Airstream for about two years and finally found the one we thought was right for us. We purchased a used (very slightly) 2016 25' Flying Cloud and are excited to take our grandkids camping in the Hill Country and Matagorda Bay in Texas and venture outside the state of Texas.

## **Christopher and Sheila Fritz**



Thank you for the gracious welcome! Gotta love Airstreamers!

Chris and I got our first Airstream in the early 2000's. She was an 86 Excella 1000. We have been trying to remember for certain how long she was, but we think 32'. We put the kids in the twin beds, and we took the fold out couch in the front. We LOVED the experience but with moving and HOAs and kids getting older we sold her. The kids are too old to go camping with us, so we got a trailer just for us. We were very lucky and found a barely used 2017 Flying Cloud Rear Bed Twin. The first thing we did was rework the couch in the front to fit the tiny little 6'4" hubby and remove the booth and put in a butcher block table. We both work remotely and have every intention of escaping to work in far better places than just our house. We gave named our Airstream "Bartok, the Magnificent". We kept calling it the big (other word for donkey) trailer - AKA Bat and the kids loved that movie. It seems to fit well as we think it is most certainly magnificent! Thanks, and we look forward to meeting you in Mineral Wells

Chris and Sheila Fritz

## **Shirl and James Wills**

We're so excited to be a member of this group! James and I began our Airstream adventures several years ago with a vintage Argosy that we named Lola. We sold Lola in early 2020 thinking we would turn around and buy an Airstream with a little more room. Unfortunately, as we all know, 2020 brought an increased demand for RVs in general and we were never fast enough to snag one. So, we waited patiently and finally found our beautiful Ruby. She's a 1998 30' Classic Limited and we're currently updating her interior, getting ready for our planned trips to Santa Fe, Table Rock State Park, Fredericksburg, Fort Pickens, Devils Den, and Champaign, Illinois.

In the past, we took our Argosy from Florida beaches to the Grand Canyon and lots of places in between

We love camping and began with tent camping in our young 20's while living in Colorado. We would upgrade every couple of years and have owned everything from a pop-up to a class C. We love our Airstream and look forward to years of empty-nest adventures with Ruby!



## **FROM THE 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

It is with great interest that Dan and I have watched and asked questions of those who have decided to go full time or travel extensively in an Airstream. We have talked and dreamed about it for a couple of years and wondered how we could make it work for us even though we both worked full time. Well, at the end of last year we found out that I would likely be working remotely for at least a few more months while our new office building was being built out. We saw this as a great opportunity to try Airstream living and implemented a plan to sell our home and set things in motion for Dan to retire from his second career. Doing both would allow us to, at a minimum, start trying this living and working from the road lifestyle. At the end of January, Dan retired and in mid-February the sale of our house closed. I must admit, I found it disconcerting to transition from being a stick-n-bricks homeowner for over half my life to intentionally not renting or purchasing another home. We ordered a bigger truck and are awaiting its arrival so we can both feel secure in pulling Neptune further distances. In the meantime, we have packed what we didn't sell into a 10x30 storage space, including my little MINI, loaded up the dogs, and hit the road to go visit friends and family for the next several months. Our goal for 2022 is to experience more and try to let go of permanence as much as possible, and this is a great start. I will continue to support David and the Club as your 1st Vice President even though in the next couple of months you may not see us as much.



**Jennifer Dice**

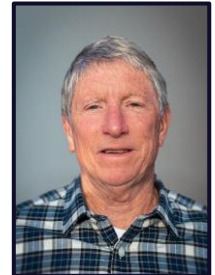
[jendice@gmail.com](mailto:jendice@gmail.com)

BRN 30301

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## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Anna and I had a great time at the first annual "Streamin' on the Strand" Airstream Rally at Mardi Gras! Galveston in February. Allana is including pictures in the newsletter, but I'd like to answer a few questions all of us had when we signed up for the rally. 1) Security—we felt very safe and had no issues whatsoever. Everyone walking down Mechanic Street was both curious and respectful—some thought the trailers were for rent (they didn't know what the BRNs meant). So many said "Oh, I've always wanted one!" 2) Parades—yes, we were right on the sidelines, but one block from the Strand, where the clubs, stores, entertainment, and larger crowds were during the event. We had ringside seats as the parades passed by us on their way to the Strand and on their return, making a game out of tossing beads at us. I finally had to tell Anna we had enough beads! 3) Services—we all had 30-amp hook-ups with few disruptions the entire time. If someone ran out of water, there was a limited supply available for topping their tanks. But hey, we're used to boondocking, right? Golf carts were available to ferry you back and forth to your tow vehicle as needed, and there were no security issues at the remote parking lot where we kept our vehicles for the weekend. 4) Rationale for expense—although some may have felt the rally was a little on the expensive side, we really got a lot of bang for our buck. Registration included parking for three nights, entry to the event area for the weekend, swag bags with t-shirts and other goodies, a Bloody Mary breakfast, a formal breakfast at the Tremont Hotel Ballroom, and a bagel goodbye bag on Sunday morning. 5) Logistics—parking at this first rally ended up with a few twists, but all 49 trailers were parked by 8:15 PM on Thursday night. Leaving Sunday morning went well with those of checking out in the morning safely off the streets before the 11:00 AM deadline (some opted to stay for Sunday's fun and exit after 6 PM). NTxAC was well represented by 7 rigs. The event organizers were so happy with our Region 9 organizers that a commitment was made for this event to be held each year for the next ten years. Watch for information for 2023 registration (Mardi Gras! Galveston will be in February again next year). Remember this is a limited space event so once the announcement goes out don't delay in making your reservation. That's all for now—hope to see some of you at Lake Mineral Wells State Park March 11-13!



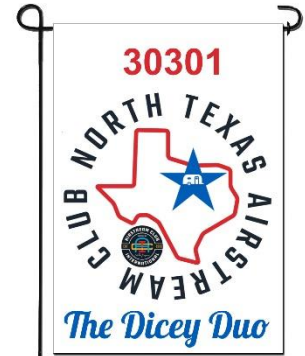
**David Brandon**

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## NEWS YOU CAN USE

✚ **T-SHIRTS AND HATS:** Orders from Custom Ink, did not work out because we did not meet the minimum. Anyone who ordered from Custom Ink should have received notice that their order was cancelled. The following is the decision about T-shirts voted on in the last meeting: **The club will fund ordering about 100 t-shirts with our new logo. These will be sold at a reasonable price to club members at rallies or meetings. It was decided that NEW members from January 2021 and after will be given a free t-shirt- when they attend a rally/meeting. T-shirts and caps will be ready soon! You can read about the decision in the minutes, but if you would like David Brandon to save a shirt for you please send me your size(s) and he will put them aside for you. In the meantime, for those that want extra special clothing with our club logo embroidered- it can be ordered from Land's End.**

✚ We are about to send in the order for the flags so if you haven't given me your order could you reply to this email with what you want on your flag. You can add above or below the logo your name and/or BRN. Here's an example: [Order with this link](#)



✚ **2022 Grapevine Holiday Rally:** There are 11 spots left for the “Silver Bells” Holiday rally! If you make reservations ASAP, we can increase the number, if needed, until Oct. 1. A reservation can always be cancelled. The Holiday Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre is \$60 per person. We must have commitments to reserve for Saturday, Dec 3; 5:30 show- by June 30. [Look for an email sometime in May.](#)  
*Grapevine Vineyards 817-329-8993 or [vineyardscampground.com](http://vineyardscampground.com).*

An email has gone out requesting birthdays and anniversaries but there has been a small percentage respond. PLEASE, check you emails from [airstream099leadership@gmail.com](mailto:airstream099leadership@gmail.com) and respond. We want you active in our club!

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries (March and April)**



- ✚ **Amy Terkel (March 2),**
- ✚ **Steve Horstman (March 15)**
- ✚ **Denise Walker (April 15)**

#### **Happy Anniversary to:**

- ✚ **Channing and Phyllis Fell (March 6),**
- ✚ **Rick and Carol Lowther (March 15),**
- ✚ **Arnold and Amy Terkel (April 30)**

If you had a special date in March or April, we didn't know about it! Just email [airstream099leadership@gmail.com](mailto:airstream099leadership@gmail.com) with your dates for our calendar.

## PICTURE OF THE MONTH



*Dan and Jennifer Dice in Galveston Mardi Gras Urban Rally- We all wish you luck on you adventure to infinity and beyond! We will miss having you around.*

### FEATURE ARTICLE

*Submitted by Ted and Janice Larson*

In the last issue of the newsletter, I introduced Ted and Janice Larson, who own a 1951 Cruisette. I saved the description of their restoration of the Vintage Cruisette for this issue.

#### **1951 Airstream Cruisette-#8023**

It is a rare collectible. At 14'8" overall (13'cabin) and weighing only 1420 pounds, the Cruisette is the smallest Airstream ever made. Cruisette 8023 was the 23<sup>rd</sup> ever built out of 75 total that were made. With only a handful known to currently exist, this is one of the rarest of all Airstreams. A beautiful restoration, coupled with added custom features and upgrades, make this an extremely unique and one-of-a-kind collectible. You are guaranteed to be the main attraction wherever you go. The quality of this very rare and totally unique airstream virtually assures that #23 will continue to increase in value.

All restoration work was done by craftsmen of the highest standard but were also chosen due to their personal pride in delivering a work like no other. No expense was spared and attention to the smallest of details is evidenced throughout. With 1/8" birch wood lining the entire cabin area, the workmanship is breathtaking from the rounded endcap heads to the rounded corners on all the cabinets, drawers, and closet doors, which only a master craftsman could deliver. The polished original exterior panels give added character to this 65-year-old collectible. State of the art electrical and mechanical upgrades make this a better than new trailer while maintaining all the vintage features. Many of the custom features will not be found on any other camper.

#23 is finished with a 2-tone color scheme of aqua and satin black, popular with the period, except for dark green rippled glass cabinet doors which are also back-lit for added ambiance. The layout was kept mostly original but allows for maximum balance of space usage and yet incorporates needed convenience items, such as hiding the toilet in a storage area with a slid-out for ease of access.

Behind the well-crafted paneling is a high-tech maze of wiring-control panels for AC power, 12-volt, DC power, monster cables for video and audio prewired for satellite hookup, LED lighting, awesome surround sound speakers, as well as USB ports throughout.

**CUSTOM FEATURES ADDED:**

- Built-in wine cooler and wine glass rack (never be caught without again)
- Automatic icemaker for the non-wine drinkers
- Bed with tempur-pedic memory foam mattress custom fitted.
- Overhead canned LED lights in ceiling offers bright nighttime lighting, or the sconce lights for ambiance while sipping an evening wine.
- LED light at entrance step
- Custom wood blinds
- Built-in Microwave.
- Slide-out spice rack (impress your friends with a gourmet meal)
- Double radiant barrier insulation added between shell and inner lining for higher efficiency
- Awning rack with Aqua/white awning
- Self-closing drawers, do not need to be latched for travel
- Storage closet doors all have hydraulic shocks-to stay open
- Unique green rippled glass panel cabinet “covers” add striking beauty with backlights on at night.
- Lights in all cabinets, rear storage compartment and above exterior water & electrical plug-ins
- Automatic lights in storage cabinets come on when door opens
- Surround sound audio-whether rock-n-roll, country or jazz, it will blow you away



# MEETING MINUTES

## February NTxAC Business Meeting

Choctaw Casino KOA, Durant, OK

**February 12, 2022-10:00 AM**

Conducted by David Brandon

**Welcome and Introductions.** Present were Donald Wright, Allana Patterson, Tom Jensen, Dan and Jennifer Dice, Sue McLaughlin, Bruce and Denice Morrow, and David and Anna Brandon

### **Business:**

1. Jennifer Dice moved and Don seconded to accept minutes from January 15, 2022 meeting at North Texas Airstream Community.
2. Treasurer's Report: \$5751.09 balance, \$75 expenses in the last month.
3. Membership Chair, Tom Jensen, reported that three new rigs joined us last month.
4. Update on T-Shirts and Flags with new logo by Dan and Jenn Dice: Custom Ink, although we can order independently, still requires a minimum for order which we have not met with our current orders. Michael Gross outlined the way that Land's End works for customizing their items, as his club in California was set up to customize clothing through Land's End. Michael has sent the logo to Land's End for NTxAC, but the first proposal was not accurately rendered so we are waiting for a revision. Cost would be the price of the garment with an additional \$8 for the *embroidered* logo. Allana proposed that we go back to the way shirts were obtained before—the club itself purchased the minimum order and members bought the shirts from the club. Dan reported that most of the t-shirts ordered from Custom Ink were heathered gray so it would make sense to choose that color again. Jennifer moved that the club make a minimum order for gray t-shirts in assorted sizes from a local provider. Sue McLaughlin seconded the motion. David Brandon will contact Richey Company, an Irving, TX based company, for prices. Jennifer revised her motion to include that we should not place the order until members who have paid Custom Ink are refunded; Sue seconded the motion. Tom Jensen suggested that we give t-shirts retroactively. Allana moved that anyone who joined the club from January 2021 to present receive a free t-shirt when they attend a rally, and Dan seconded the motion. Anna continues to accept orders for the yard flags. Dan brings up the potential for the club to have a Venmo or Zelle to make payment easier for members.
5. Tom Jensen asked to resume the conversation about our Treasurer position. Lynne Mack requested to resign the position in December, but this had been tabled over the holidays. Dara Poole and Tom Jensen have both offered to accept the position. Tom has proposed that the Treasurer position fits well with his role as Membership Chair as both roles involve direct contact with our membership. According to our bylaws, this position can be appointed by the Executive Board and voted on this fall with the full slate of officers. David will call a meeting of officers and report the decision at our next meeting.
6. Allana Patterson, our Newsletter Editor, brought up that the logo on the Airstream Club International is so large that people are confused and don't scroll down to see the menu items. Anna Brandon explained that this is a "Microsite Lander" page that is set up by ACI. Jenn Dice will help coordinate with ACI to have the logo corrected. Allana also requested information and pictures for the March/April newsletter.
7. Review of upcoming rallies: Lake Mineral Wells State Park is our March Rally location; April we will have a membership meeting at the Brandon home in Grapevine, and the Region 9 Rally Let's Get Together! will be April 26-May 1 in Mineola, TX.

**10:30 AM Meeting Adjourned:** Tom Jensen moved to adjourn, and Anna Brandon seconded the motion.



## **RALLIES AND EVENTS**

(Rally details will be in newsletter 1-2 months out)

### **MARCH 11-13**

#### **MARCH ON OVER RALLY**

**MINERAL WELLS STATE PARK – Mineral Wells, TX**

**If you haven't planned on this rally and want to last minute attend, there have been some cancellations at the Mineral Wells State Park. Call**

*\*Note: Park closes at 10pm, checkout is 12 noon.*

#### **Friday, 3/11/22**

Arrival & set up 5:30 PM Socializing at the Group Hall Appetizers/Dinner, bring your own beverage, a dish to share, and setups; games and visiting to follow

#### **Saturday, 3/12/22**

9:30 AM Coffee and BYO Breakfast

10:00 AM Monthly business meeting

11:00 AM On Your Own or with Others- explore Mineral Wells and surrounding area or gather and socialize at the Group Hall and enjoy Viking Bowling (weather providing)

6:00 PM Pasta Sauce Competition (if you aren't entering, please bring a box of your favorite pasta to cook or a veggie) garlic bread and salad provided, bring setups; games and visiting to follow

#### **Sunday, 3/13/22**

11:30 AM (or whatever time the group is ready to leave) Line up rigs at the spillway to do an iconic video and photos of all the Airstreams caravanning out of the rally



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**April 9:** North Texas Airstream Club Monthly Business meeting at the home of our President-David Brandon. They have a lovely home, and it is sure to be more of a social than a meeting. A large representation of our members would be amazing. The Brandon's are providing lunch, so please let them know if you are attending the meeting so they can plan accordingly at:

[dbtextilesoffice@icloud.com](mailto:dbtextilesoffice@icloud.com) .

**Hope to see you there!**

### **April 26 - May1:**

**Region 9 "LET'S GET TOGETHER" RALLY in Mineola, TX.** Perhaps it should be "Let's **FINALLY** get together"

✚ Registration at <https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-2022-rally> **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 8, 2022**

✚ **RALLY SCHEDULE** (CLICK THIS LINK FOR ALL THE ACTIVITIES)

We hope you are planning to join us for the first Region 9 Rally since 2019-- Alongside the usual fun and learning opportunities, our friends Heart of Texas Camping Unit are planning a **golf outing** and our club is sponsoring "**Stitchin' in Time with Region 9**" at Stitchin' Heaven (in Quitman, TX) on Thursday, April 28th. Because there is a project and goody bags, please make your reservation with Anna Brandon [by email](#).

## **May 13-15: Eisenhower State Park, Denison, TX**

hosted by Christine and Scott Wayles.

Reserve your site at: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/eisenhower>

Schedule of activities to come in next newsletter.

### **Dates for rallies from June - December**

**June 10-12:** Pilot Knoll (Highland Village on Lake Dallas). Call 940-455-2228 for reservations, ask for Dana, identify yourself with NTxAC. **No host yet but feel free to volunteer.**

### **JULY 23 – 29, 2022**

### **65<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL RALLY - FRYEBURG, MAINE**

By now you have received emails from National and The Blue Beret- all we can add to that is: There is nothing like the international rally- YOU MUST experience it- once you do, you will be hooked! NTxAC and Region 9 will have special activities for our members.

**August 13:** Rally Afterparty! Location to be announced later

**September 9-11:** Lake Tawakoni State Park, Wills Point. **No host established yet PLEASE volunteer!** No schedule yet but count on a trip to Canton! <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/lake-tawakoni>

**October 14-16:** Stay tuned! Looking for a western location and a host for this rally right on the way home from the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta.

**November 18-20:** Oakdale RV Resort and Motor Court, Glen Rose, annual membership meeting and Installation Rally (indoor rally room). <https://oakdalepark.com>

**December 2-4:** Second Annual "Holiday in Grapevine Rally" at The Vineyard RV Park at Grapevine (will find indoor venue for meeting if necessary). [Grapevine Vineyards 817-329-8993](http://GrapevineVineyards.com) or [vineyardscampground.com](http://vineyardscampground.com).

## **DO YOU FEEL LUCKY RALLY- with HOTC Unit**

*Choctaw KOA at Choctaw Casino Durant, OK*



It was a small rally, weather on Saturday kept everyone inside the rally room, or at the casino. The big discussion was taking another route besides I-75 to the Choctaw, because road construction and conditions are so bad. Food was great, companionship better.



*Reflections at night*



*Playing games in the rally room*



*The Brandon's displayed our new "garden" flag.*



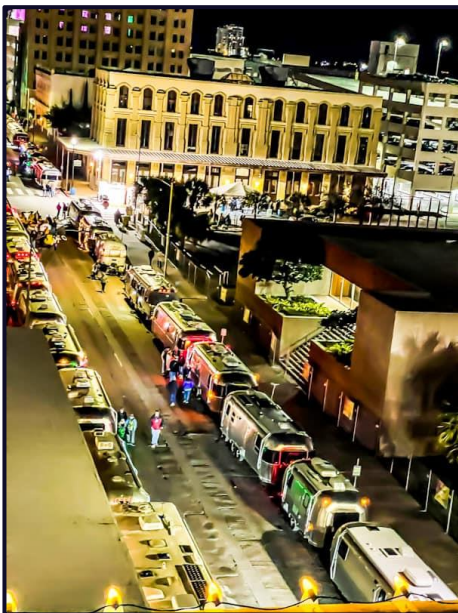
*A VERY low key swap meet. We went home almost everything we brought.*



*The weather cooperated only on Friday.*

## **“Streamin’ on the Strand” Airstream Rally at Mardi Gras!**

David Brandon did a nice description of the Rally in his President’s comments, so here is the rally in pictures.



**Aerial view of the street**



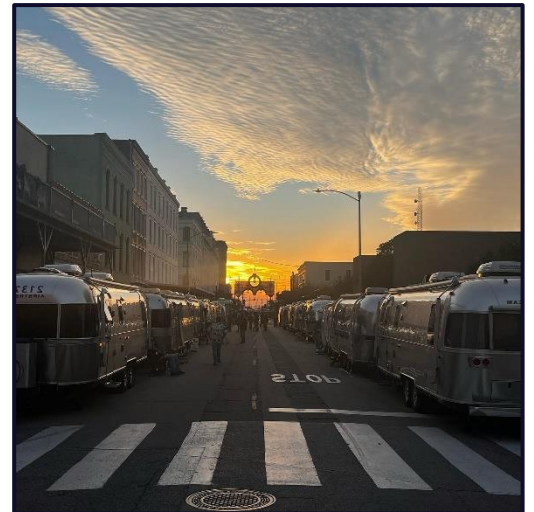
**NTxAC group at the Tremont Hotel**



And the parades march by!



Food and drinks!



Sunset on the Strand

# RECIPE OF THE MONTH

*There was no recipe submitted for this month so here is some humor instead.*

## HOW TO WALK A HUMAN *A Dogs Guide*

**Humans need exercise. If they don't get it they become "chubby". It's up to you to save them.**



1. Allow your human to tether themselves to you. This keeps them from wondering off or running away.
2. Your human probably needs breaks. Be considerate and stop and sniff often.
3. Bark frequently. Humans have a short attention span.
4. When you go to the bathroom, walk away. If you have trained your human correctly, they will pick it up.  
Good aerobics.
5. Periodically drag your human as fast as you can. This is called interval training.
6. Do not allow your human to shorten the walk. They are being lazy. Sit in protest if you must.
7. Once you are home, allow your human to remove their tether, then lick their face many times. This is positive reinforcement for a job well done.



***THIS IS THE END UNTIL LATE APRIL  
PLEASE CONSIDER REGISTERING FOR REGION 9  
IT WOULD BE GREAT FOR NTxAC TO HAVE THE LARGEST GROUP ATTENDING!!***