

President's Message

Thanks to all of you who came to the rally in Rockport. I wish we had better weather but at least it wasn't 23 degrees! It was good to meet the St.Claire's as our guests. I'm sure and hope to see you at another rally.

It seemed as though everyone enjoyed the shrimp boil Saturday night. Neither Doug or I had ever cooked a shrimp boil before so it was the blind leading the blind. I think it turned out pretty good and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Unfortunately, Carol and I are not able to attend the 2022 Region 9 Rally because Carol's knee surgery is scheduled at this time.

Maybe next year, wish we could be there. Be safe, have fun. If you are going to Region 9 rally this year, please let Doug know. Doug will be the point person for THCU.

We had many new members since the last newsletter! Welcome to Allison and Bob Brown, Cheryl Wimberley and Jim (affiliate members), Selina and Steve Shadd, Roberto Del Bosque, and Elizabeth Easterling. Also, welcome to Larry and Linda Fagg, who became our new affiliate THCU members this last weekend. It is always good to see them. Hope to see you all at the next THCU rally.

Speaking of our next rally—it will be in Bandera (May 11-15). Hope we can see many of you there. This rally is a little different—it will start on Wednesday (rather than Thursday). On Wednesday, the 11th Street Cowboy Bar has a "grill your own meat night", which is pretty popular in the area. Don't forget to bring what you want to grill; the restaurant will have sides to purchase and provides utensils and spices. It should be loads of fun. Other activities for this rally haven't been scheduled yet, but stay tuned!



Stay safe and we hope to see all of you down the road.

Charlie Williams
President, Texas Hill Country Unit



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Editors: TnA Ebbers

Member Spotlight—Meet Bob and Sylvia Lemley



We are the Lemley's from Temple, TX. We are basically retired. Sylvia is a PRN nurse in the congestive heart failure clinic. Bob teaches a cybersecurity course at Baylor. We have two sons, one in Temple, Texas and one in Dehradun, India. We have two grandsons in Temple, ages 3 and 5, who we spend time with after preschool two days a week. We have two dogs, a Golden Retriever named Franklin and a black lab mix named Oliver.

Sylvia enjoys birding. Bob enjoys fly fishing. They both enjoy the other's pursuits.

When Bob retired five years ago he wanted to spend some time trout fishing. We had never camped in any kind of RV. Bob decided that an old Airstream that he could work on to make serviceable was the best option and they found a 1988 Excella. After the first trip I (Sylvi) was hooked. Our first rig had a lot of work go into it such as axles, water heater, upholstery, and polished above the waist. Unfortunately, Bob totaled it in a west Texas thunderstorm on a solo trip - and fortunately, Bob was fine. Another fortunate luck was two weeks later we found an almost exact replacement which has been dubbed "Bella". Bella has also had to have a lot of work done to her such as axles, toilet, water heater, mattresses, furnace, AC and more. We love the layout and the mattresses. She is a cozy and very serviceable rig. The next big item on the refurb list is polishing up Bella.

We made eighteen trips in her last year with one making our most memorable list. The trip was to Estes Park where we stayed at Paradise on the River. The back of our rig was literally over the Big Thompson river edge. Bob could touch the trailer while fly fishing. It was during the elk rut. Elk were everywhere. We were on the riverbank 20 feet from the rig. We saw over 200 in a meadow in Moraine Park. The scenery was spectacular. Many magical moments.



Our other memorable trip is to Davis Mountain to spend time at the McDonald Observatory. Star party is worth the

trip by itself, but we were also able to get tickets for special viewing on the 82" telescope. The telescope itself is an engineering marvel. Additionally, the nebulae and star clusters we saw are those you will only find in pictures. This is "one of the largest and finest telescopes in the world through which routine viewing is allowed". It is only available to the public a few nights a year. This area also offered a log of good hiking and there are some hidden CCC gems in the park.



Our bucket list trip in Bella will be camping in Big Bend and Glacier National Park.





Member Spotlight—Meet Dave Toy

Hi! I'm Dave Toy. Currently, I'm retired. In my previous life, I used to run retail stores then cloth world stores for 32 years. I'm a widower who was married to my lovely Lorraine from Lansing, MI for about 45 years. We have two boys who are married to two lovely ladies, two grand children, and 5 grand dogs.

My hobbies are gardening, watching TV, traveling and fixing stuff. I want to be a car guy—one of these days, I may pursue that hobby. Since I like

fixing stuff, I bought a 26 ft 1968 Land Yacht as a fixer upper. I found it in a farmer's field unused but for sale. The price was right and the rest is history. The main reason I bought that trailer is it looked like my dad's trailer. I have pictures of him going to International in his Airstream. The improvements I've made includes replacing about 10% of the plumbing, replaced the awning, curtains, mattress, flooring, added two TVs, new tires, and back door flap. The back door flap was lost during the trip back from International last year. My next to do is to really fix the plumbing—100% of it. The 2021 and 2022 TX freeze really did a number on the copper piping!



My most memorable trip is going to Loveland CO, where my youngest son ran Race Across the Peaks (a whopping 105 miles!!). I went to support him where I provided food, water, and anything else required. He wasn't able to complete the race, which is heartbreaking. On the upside, he has not given up and will be trying it again. I'm proud of him.

As far as future trips—I have no plans but many places I want to see and people to visit. I need to get the plumbing fixed first!



Some bumpy roads, Bigfoot gets mad and messes up throwing stuff all over



Member Spotlight—Meet Gayle and Joe

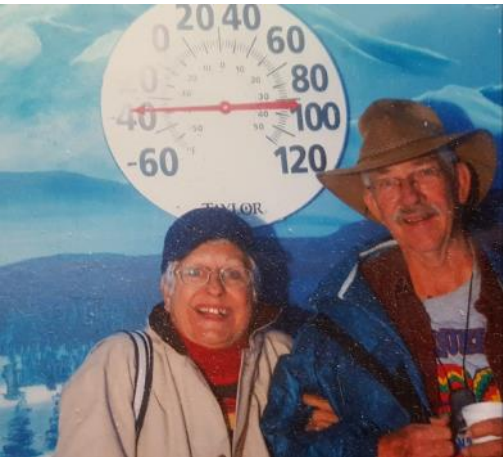
We are Gayle Ketchum and Joe Long. Gayle (I'm) a retired RN where my last position was teaching at the College of Nursing in San Antonio. I have two sons, one grand daughter and one step grandson, and three great grandchildren with another on the way in August! My hobbies are quilting, gardening, traveling, reading and spoiling their two cats (Dee and Brother). Joe previously worked in law enforcement and is now happily retired. He has two daughters, one grandson and one grand daughter. Joe's hobbies are pipe smoking, travelling, spoiling Dee and Brother (the two cats) and playing the pedal steel guitar. Joe used to play semi professionally with folks at the Grand Ole Opry. We both also enjoy snow skiing which we currently don't do but really miss.



Before 'Streamin we were previously pilots and flew all over. Fun fact, Joe was my pilot teacher. We currently no longer fly and have switched out the plane to travel in an Airstream. Our first one was a 25ft 1976 Argosy. We sold that to get larger holding



tanks to go on longer trips. Our second 25 ft Airstream achieved this goal but it had features that we weren't too excited about such as the corner (90 degree) dining configuration and there was no room for our furry babies to have a private litter box. On a trip north, we saw and fell in love with the 2007 25ft FB Safari because it had space to have two out-of-sight litter boxes, a split bath, improved dining seating, and the vista view windows. When we saw one for sale with the exact configuration we wanted, we snatched it up.



We have been on several caravans and have taken the Airstream all over the place such as the three-week Alaska caravan, the New York State of Mind caravan, UP (Upper Peninsula), San Francisco, and Yellowstone. Our most memorable trip is the Alaska caravan. Although, we love going to Yellowstone and we've been back several times. On our first visit we stayed at Fishing Bridge area which is the only campground with full hook ups. Our cat, Oreo (at the time), paced



the trailer all night...on patrol. The second visit we dry camped at Bridge Bay. This is our preferred drycamping location because it is the most central although, we have stayed at Grant Village and Madison Campground on other visits. In 2017, we took the extended family of 12 (including son, daughters, daughter in law, son in law, grand daughters, boyfriend, friend, and grandson) to Yellowstone. They were in cabins at Wapiti Campground and we dry camped at Rex Hale. We would love to go back to Yellowstone!



Pictures from the Rockport rally— Top: Best view of all the rigs. Middle: The first night to meet each other. Bottom: Lunch at Benchwarmers Hudat (really great place; great food).



Attendees were Zephyr & Dan Marek, Dave Toy, Linda & Larry Fagg, Doug & Sheryl Wylie, Sylvia & Bob Lemley, Donna & Eldon St Claire, Carol Wallace & Charlie Williams, Gayle Ketchum & Joe Long, and Allison & Tim Ebbers



Pictures from the Rockport rally—Views of Rockport/Fulton



Pictures from the Rockport rally—Game nights included Sequence and 42. They were popular that we didn't even pull out bean bag baseball! We also had two new affiliate members—Linda and Larry Fagg. How sweet are they?



Pictures from the Rockport rally—Shrimp boil night. Food was delish and company great. This is a must do activity again. We were even joined by a member from Wisconsin!



March meeting notes:

- ◆ Meeting called to order by Charlie Williams.
- ◆ Old business:
 - ◆ Doug made a motion to accept the minutes of the January rally published in the newsletter. Gail seconded the motion. Motion carried
 - ◆ Zephyr gave the treasurers report
- ◆ New business:
 - ◆ Doug has created a member directory. The printed directories will include members up to a certain month. Any new members after that month will be included in the following year. There will be an email version as well.
 - ◆ Changes to Facebook will occur. The changes are
 - ◆ Changing the group from Public to Private.
 - ◆ Going through the current Facebook members and review all the members of the current facebook group to ensure that they are our unit members, or at least own an airstream and are members of WBCCI group, AND not a non-WBCCI advertiser.
 - ◆ After the review, folks who don't qualify from the facebook group will be removed. Hopefully, this will reduce the weird or unrelated posts - even though it occurs rarely - and ensure privacy of the folks who are joining our TCHU group. Anyone to be removed will first be informed and reviewed on an individual basis.
 - ◆ Motion to approve was made by Charlie and seconded by Doug. Motion carried.



- ◆ May rally in Bandera
 - ◆ Starts on Wednesday to go to the 11th Street Cowboy Bar for the grill your own meat. This occurs only on Wednesday and is very popular.
 - ◆ If <10 rigs price per night is 46 if >10 rigs price per night drops to 43/night.
- ◆ October rally at Braunig Lake RV will include the chili cook off. Other units will be invited to this.
- ◆ Official 2022 buddy rallies are those occurring in June 9-12 at Big Chief RV Park, October 13-16 at Braunig Lake RV Resort, and November 17-20 at Schulenburg RV Park
- ◆ August luncheon will be at Blacks BBQ in Lockhart, TX
- ◆ Motion to adjourn by Dan, seconded by Doug. Meeting adjourned.

Recipe Corner

Zephy's Perfected Jalapeno Poppers

These were so good,!! They were not greasy, not so burn-your-mouth-hot and perfectly cooked. I wish I had a picture, but they went like...well...yummy jalapeno poppers.

Ingredients:

- ◆ 12-14 medium sized jalapenos (adjust filling amount if using super giant, large or small jalapenos)
- ◆ 1 1/2 package 8 oz Cream cheese softened
- ◆ 1/2 cup Grated Cheddar Cheese
- ◆ Pre-Cooked Bacon Strips (this was the key to non-greasy poppers)

Pre-heat oven at 350 degrees. Wash jalapenos then cut in half, remove seeds and membranes. Pat dry the jalapenos and sprinkle the insides with a tiny bit of sugar. Mix the cream cheese and cheddar cheese together and fill each jalapeno half. Top with a strip of pre-cooked bacon (the long way). You may need to cut the bacon in half no need to wrap...unless you want more bacon. Bake poppers until jalapeno is softened and cheese is golden and bubbly—about 20 mins.

Shrimp Boil

The recipe used from the rally's shrimp boil. Simple, but great.

Ingredients

- ◆ 2 Small Potatoes Per Person
- ◆ Zatarain's Pro Boil. Use about 1 cup for 25 people
- ◆ 2 short ears of Corn Per Person
- ◆ 1 short piece of Link Sausage Per Person
- ◆ 1/2 Pound of Shrimp Per Person

Use a very large pot, fill about half full of water and put on the heat. Add potatoes in and cook until half done, add Zatarain's at this time, add corn to pot at this time, let cook for about 5 minutes, then add the links of sausage, let cook for about another 5 minutes, now turn of heat, add shrimp. The shrimp only takes about 3 minutes to cook.



The Region 9 Rally location is the Mineola Civic Center in Mineola, TX from April 26-May 1. Select the link for the itinerary and schedule: [Region 9 2022 Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](https://form.jotform.com/213517082690152)

The itinerary is below:



Region 9 Rally
April 26 – May 1, 2022
Mineola TX 75773
Mineola Civic Center
1150 N Newsom St

Tuesday – April 26

2-4PM Civic Center
Welcome Packet Pick-Up/Registration
5-6 PM Civic Center
Margarita Welcome Party!
6-6:30 PM Civic Center
Welcome Ceremony
6:30-7:30 PM Civic Center
Taco Dinner Bar

Hosted by Greater Houston & Heart of Texas

7:30-9 PM Civic Center
Games & Fun & Ice Cream

Wednesday – April 27

8-9:30 AM Rig Center
Blackstone Breakfast Bunch
Hosted by Texas Gulf Coast

10-Noon Civic Center
Airstream 101

Lunch on Your Own-Explore Mineola

5-6 PM Rig Center
Social Hour

Music by Region 9" Jammers"

Wednesday Evening, Continued

6-7PM Civic Center

Catered Dinner

7:30-8:30 PM Rig Center

Campfire & Music by Region 9 Jammers"

Hosted by Texas Gulf Coast

Thursday – April 28

Dawn- 10:30 AM Rig Center

Dutch Oven Cook-Off Brunch Competition

Judging & Sampling at 11AM

Organized by Texas Hill Country & Texas Plains & Texas Highlands

10-Noon Rig Center

Balloon Volleyball Club Competitions

Organized by North Texas

1-5PM

Golf Tournament – Mineola Golf Club

Organized by Mike Gross & Heart of Texas

5-6PM Civic Center

Social Hour & Ice Cream

Music by Alexa"

Dinner on Your Own

Friday – April 29

8-9 AM Civic Center

Breakfast

Hosted by SkyMed

9-10 AM /SkyMed Presentation

10-10:30

Sidewalk Sale Set Up in Front of Rigs

10:30-Noon

Sidewalk Sale Stroll

Hosted by Texas Alamo & Oklahoma

Lunch on Your Own

1-3PM Civic Center

Caravan Leadership Training

Friday, Continued

4-6PM Rig Center

Chili Cook-Off Competition

Each Club Prepares & Serves Its Award Winning Recipe (One Pot Per Club)

Cooking Done on Site to Preserve

Integrity of Recipe!

Hosted by All Region 9 Clubs

Music by Region 9 Jammers" & Alexa"

6-8PM

Chili & All the Fixins" & Ice Cream to Chill

Saturday – April 30

8:30-10AM Civic Center

Food Truck Breakfast

10-11AM Civic Center

Club Leadership Meetings

11-12:30 PM Civic Center

Airstream 102

Lunch on Your Own - Explore Mineola

5-6 Social Hour Civic Center

6:30-7:30PM Civic Center

Grill Night – Burgers & Dogs

Presidents Dinner

7:30-8PM Civic Center

Presidents & Club Leader Recognition

Closing Ceremony

Hosted by Region 9 Officers

Sunday – May 1

8-9AM Rig Center

Coffee & Tow-Nuts Breakfast

9AM Civic Center

Clean-Up & Good-Byes & Departures

Hosted by East Texas Club & Texas Gulf Coast

Fees and registration, can be done online through jotform: <https://form.jotform.com/213517082690152> or through mail-in registration:

Registration for Region 9 Rally

Location
Mineola TEXAS
April 26 – May 1, 2022
Mineola TX 75773
Mineola Civic Center
1150 N Newsom St

Register Online
Form.jotform.com
<https://form.jotform.com/213517082690152>

Mail-In Registration
Region 9 Rally 2022
David Thompson
2200 4th Avenue #305
Canyon, TX 79015

Fees

\$125 Parking Fee + \$175/adult +\$40/teen
 13-16 (Youth 12 and under are free)

 First Name Last Name

 Spouse/Partner Name

 Phone # Spouse/Partner #

 Email

 BRN Rig Length

 # Adults (17+) # Teens (13-16) #Youths (<13)

 Total Rally Fees

Additional information and activities are as follows:

Additional Information

- _____ Yes, I will participate in
Golf scramble on Friday PM
(\$30 at Check-In)

- _____ Yes, I will participate in
Region 9 "Jammers"
(Sign Up at Check-In)

- _____ Yes, I will participate in
Quilting Excursion in
Mineola on Friday PM
(Sign Up at Check-In)

- _____ Yes, I plan to participate in
SideWalk Sale on Fri AM

- _____ Yes, I want training to be a
National Caravan Leader

If you want to do the Quilting excursion, it is imperative you contact Anna Brandon to reserve your spot! The information is as follows:



STITCHIN' IN TIME WITH REGION 9!

The North Texas Airstream Club and [Stitchin' Heaven](#) invite our Region 9 quilters to an afternoon at Stitchin' Heaven in Quitman, TX. [Stitchin' Heaven](#) is one of the top quilting stores in Texas, with an international online, retreat center, and travel cruise presence. We will leave the Mineola Fair Grounds at 1:00 PM on Thursday, April 28th—Quitman is about 10 miles away. Please reserve your spot with Anna Brandon by calling 214-460-0420 or by email airstream099leadership@gmail.com More details will follow after we have a head count of those interested (but you can count on gift bags and refreshments!).



MARCH

14 Mark Knox
18 Joan Ermis
27 Charlie Williams

APRIL

03 Peggy Knox
05 Paul Mock
09 Doug Wylie

welcome

New members:

- ⇒ Allison and Bob Brown
- ⇒ Cheryl Wimberley and Jim Selina and Steve Shadd
- ⇒ Roberto Del Bosque
- ⇒ Elizabeth Easterling



Mar 31 Jim and Raisin Schwerdfeger
Apr 29 Tim and Allison Ebbers



- ⇒ You will notice that our Facebook page has become Private. If you are a new member and would like to join our Facebook group, search for the page name = Texas Hill Country Unit.
- ⇒ If you have rally or airstreaming pictures you would like to post on our Facebook page, please do so. We would love to see you there too!
- ⇒ If you are not a Facebook user or a seldom Facebook user (like me) BUT would like to provide news or pictures in this newsletter, please send it to me at ally.ebbers@gmail.com and I will post on the next newsletter.



Website: <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>
THCU President: ncw123@aol.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit



THCU Rally Schedule 2022

Below is the 2022 Rally schedule for THCU. We are also being invited to other Units' rallies, which is usually posted in the email where the newsletter is attached. Those won't be listed below, but you can check airstreamclub.org for other Units' rallies. As always, please check with the hosts first before showing up.

Date	Location	Comments
January 13-16	Oakwood RV Park 78 FM 2093, Fredericksburg, TX 830-997-9817	Hosts: Dan and Zephyr Marek Call to reserve your spot, \$47 per night if we get 10 rigs, otherwise \$57 per night
February 10-13	Top of the Hill RV Resort & Cabins 12 Cedar Rd, Boerne, TX 830-537-3666	This rally has been cancelled.
February 17-20	Streamin' on the Strand Galveston, TX	Email Philip Vasquez at pdvasquez@outlook.com
March 10-13	Bay View RV Resort 5451 Hwy 35 North, Rockport, TX 78382 (361) 400-6000	Hosts: Charlie Williams & Carol Wallace and Doug & Sheryl Wylie Call to reserve your spot, \$45 per night—no credit cards (cash/check only). Let them know you are with the THCU Airstream Club.
April 26-May1 Region 9	Region 9 Rally Mineola, TX	Region 9 officers
May 11-15	Skyline RV Park 2231 Hwy 16 N, Bandera, TX 830-796-4958	Hosts: Bob & Jan Grimes and Doug & Sheryl Wylie Call to reserve your spot, \$43 per night if we get 10 rigs, otherwise \$46 per night.
June 09-12	Big Chief RV Park 1420 FM 690, Burnet, TX 512-793-4746	Hosts: Charlie Williams & Carol Wallace Call to reserve your spot, \$40 Thurs night and \$45 Fri & Sat night
July 23-29 International	Fryeburg, ME	International Officers
August	Mid-Year Luncheon at Black's BBQ in Lockhart TX	Time and date TBD
September 15-18	Brazos Valley RV Park 2190 TX-21, Caldwell, TX 979-200-3007	Hosts: Dave Toy and Joane Ermis Call to reserve your spot, \$35 per night
October 13-16	Braunig Lake RV Resort 13550 Donop Rd., Elmendorf, TX 210-633-3170	Hosts: Charlie Williams & Carol Wallace and Doug & Sheryl Wylie Call to reserve your spot, \$35 per night
November 17-20 Thanksgiving and Installation rally	Schulenburg RV Park 65 N Kessler Ave, Schulenburg, TX 78956 979-743-4388	Hosts: Ed & Yvonne Michek and Tim & Ally Ebbers Email Micheks/Ebbers if you plan to attend. Each night is \$35 per site
December	Holiday Luncheon; location TBD	

Texas Hill Country Unit #0104
 Website: <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>
 President: ncw123@aol.com

