

## President's Message



I would like to thank everyone who came to the rally in Bandera. What great fun! The 11th St Cowboy Bar's cook your own steaks was fun—warm, but a great time. It gets crowded, some people

really know what they are doing and people watching is at it's finest. We got to meet David and Nicky Allen from Liberty Hill when they came in on Thursday. It was their maiden voyage in their Basecamp. They did great for first timers. They even got in on a couple of Joker games—never underestimate Nicky. Friday night was great, starting with a Mexican themed dinner, a movie ('A Long Long Trailer') and a game of bean bag baseball. The women won this round after Joane threw a Home-Run in a sudden death round. Saturday, we had a business meeting and we initiated David and Nicki to the unit followed by BBQ from Bill's Bar-B-que in Kerrville, TX. Wow, it was great! We ate so much we had to play a few rounds of balloon volleyball. It was also super fun. I'm not sure which side ended up winning, but there was a balloon that went kaboom (good thing Zephyr had a backup), there were a few people ended up on the floor with some nice saves, some good-humored trash talking, a few head/shoulder bumps with the balloon (maybe not legal balloon volleyball rules), and a lot of laughing. All in all a great rally and I thank Bob and Jan who were the wonderful hosts.

A big 'Howdy' to the following new THCU members: Michael and Pat Green, Michael De La Mora and Amy Pogue, Jay and Tricia Ritch, and Joshua and Cyndi McCluskey. Hopefully we will meet in person at the next rally. Speaking of next rally...

Hope to see many of you at Big Chief RV and Cabin Resort in Burnet, TX for our June rally the 9-12. Doug volunteered to help me host because Carol probably won't be able to do much as she is focusing on her knee rehab. We will be looking forward to meeting our new members, the Coldwells, who are going to Burnet. Remember that this is a buddy rally. If you would like to invite non-WBCCI folks to the rally with their RV, they are more than welcome. If you are going to attend, please call Big Chief RV and Cabin Resort at 512.793.4746 to make your reservation. Please let me know as well if you are attending so that I can keep a count of who will be there. Mention to them that you are with the THCU Airstream group. This will be our last rally until September.

I sure hope Dan and Zephyr have a great cruise, Joane has a great vacation and Tim and Ally have a great trip to see family. Thanks to everyone for your prayers for Carol. She is healing nicely and came home on Monday (May 16th).

Charlie L. Williams  
President, Texas Hill Country Unit



### In this issue:

President's Message	P.1
Member spotlight—David and Nicky Allen	P.2
Member spotlight—Andrea and Louis Coldwell	P.3
Member spotlight—Jay and Tricia Ritch	P.4
Member spotlight—Bill and Christina Nabors	P.5
Member spotlight—Roberto Del Bosque	P.6
Bandera Rally in Pictures	P7
Business Meeting	P.12
General Announcements	P.13
2022 THCU Rally Schedule	P.14

**Editors: TnA Ebbers**

## Meet Nicky and David Allen

David is a Navy veteran, former police officer, and current pilot in training. Nicky works in the telecommunications industry doing customer service. We have 3 dogs (Gizmo, Tiger, and Ruger), no kids, and love to road trip when we do travel. That's what appealed to us about the Basecamp, we can take our home with us, dogs included! We don't have to worry about hotels or dog sitters!

This is our very first travel trailer! We picked it up in March 2022. We love that it's a smaller trailer but with still plenty of room for us and our 3 pups. David says it reminds him of being on a ship (he was in the Navy).



Things I think that needs to be improved is more versatile storage. The Basecamp has some taller cabinets that could have used some adjustable shelves (like the ones where you can move the pegs to adjust the shelf location).

David's bucket list trip is somewhere in the western US mountains with snow. My bucket list trip is anywhere scenic!



*ALLY NOTE: Nicky sent me her bio prior to their trip to the Bandera Rally. They now have at least one trip under their belt! It was great to meet you all.*

Meet the pups!  
Pictured top left Gizmo, pictured on the right is Tiger and pictured on the bottom left is Ruger.



## Meet Andrea and Louis Coldwell

We live in Georgetown, just a bit North of Austin, newly transplanted from the Houston area. Louis is an HR technology manager and currently works remotely for a cybersecurity firm. Andrea has a small business as an online reseller of clothing, shoes & vintage things. Since we are both working full time, we mostly take shorter weekend trips whenever we can. We are fairly active and we enjoy hiking, mountain biking (easy trails only) and exploring in general. Our kids are young adults and we have become empty nesters over the last few years, with the occasional boomerang kid returning for a bit. We have two larger dogs that are pretty decent campers, but we don't always bring them along.



This is our first Airstream, but not our first trailer. About 5 years ago, we bought a teardrop and the first time we took it to a campground, we could not get it backed into our campsite to save our lives. Luckily, a camper across the way came over and backed our camper into our site for us. He and his wife had an Airstream and they invited us in for a tour. We were amazed and it was love at first site. We loved the teardrop for a few years, then upgraded to a small trailer with slides (Lance 1575), but we had our sights set on an Airstream. The stars aligned for us and we purchased our 2022 25 FBQ International last month from a dealer in Huntsville, AL. We were super nervous driving home over the next few days and spent a night at Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs, AR which was very nice and now on our list for a proper visit. So, we've only used it a few times—and only one real camping trip so far to Fredericksburg.

We chose the 25 FBQ because it's the perfect size for us and the dogs. We love the windows (of course), the striped awnings and the functionality and build quality are beyond compare to almost anything else out there. Our trash can is huge!

So far there are two things we've noticed that could be improved. First is the speakers don't work with the TVs or DVD player. This seems to be an issue with the newer models and the stereo the factory used. The second is the sliding doors on cabinets over the galley only allow access to one side of the cabinet at a time, which can be a pain when cooking. If we had the choice, we would keep the lighted, sliding doors over the bed and dinette, but replace the kitchen cabinet with fold-open doors. Other than those small items, we're pretty much in love.

Other than the Fredericksburg trip, we don't really have memorable trips in this guy yet, but we do have several lined up for the upcoming months, mostly to state parks. Our bucket list for this Airstream would be Santa Fe (hopefully this November), the Pacific Northwest, and maybe Alaska someday.

We have confirmed a booking for the June rally at Big Chief in Burnett. So far, that is the soonest we would be able to make it to a rally. Hopefully we will make it to some fall rallies also. We are looking forward to meeting everyone.



Meet Echo (left) and Bandit (right).

Meet Jayson and Tricia Ritch

We are both still working, my wife part time and myself full time but able to work from the road for much of that. We have 2 kids that have just left the house and we decided to get an AS and explore the camping life and the country. I logged our travels and the first 10 months of ownership, we put 15,000 miles on the 2021 Flying Cloud! We both really enjoy the travel and exploration of new areas, focusing on national and state parks and enjoying hiking and walking trails. We've done all of this with a 20 lb dog named Rosie who travels surprisingly well.

We selected an AS due to reputation and resale value (in case we discovered we did not enjoy camping) and thankfully have had a great time.

This is our first RV / trailer and we had never camped before. We got a 27FC and like the layout with two twin beds in the front, the Texas Special dual heat pumps and split shower from toilet/lav closet. Even though the trailer is a bumper pull, the aerodynamics mean I can pull the trailer with minimal issues for acceleration, braking and cross winds; the trailer just works extremely well!

We enjoy the overall layout of the trailer interior and towing / braking performance and the windows/crossflow ventilation make many moderate conditions downright comfortable without having to run the heat pumps. Improvements? I have a short list, but as you can probably guess from my earlier paragraph, we've got a 2021 27FC that has some serious factory warranty defects including a jammed front hatch, warped front axle and separating floor / bulkhead seam, so I think my list of improvements could be distilled into "Quality Assurance Quality Control".

Our memorable trips have to be out to The Badlands that took us through the best state parks in TX, AR and then CO. We did the Million Dollar Highway into Ouray via a great state park in north NM, and we've even camped in a friend's yard in the dead center of Richmond, VA. Our bucket list is a big Alaska Trip and I want to spend some time down in the Big Bend.

Thanks for the note and we are looking forward to meeting everyone. Unfortunately, our AS is back to the dealership for a second round of 1 year warranty items. They kept it 3 months the first time and delayed the major repairs until this time - we're hoping it gets turned around by JUL. Hope to be back out on the road this summer!

*ALLY NOTE: I wasn't able to get a picture of Jay and Tricia. Hope to meet them at a rally in the fall. Pics while on their trip is very nice, however. Hope their rig gets fixed soon!*





## Meet Christina and Bill Nabors—It's just the Nabors

We are formally from Houston and moved to the Austin area for work in 2001. Our current residence is between Marble Falls and Kingsland on Lake LBJ. Christina is a retired physical therapist with the Pflugerville ISD and Bill retired from the state as a pilot for Texas DPS.

Our hobbies are anything dealing with the outdoors; hiking, kayaking, boating, fishing, cycling and gardening (Christina). We have two daughters that are married and live in Round Rock and Georgetown. Having them close is special for us, because we see them and the two grandchildren (Lindy 8 and Miles 5) frequently.



We got the RV bug several years ago and rented a 34-foot Class B headed to Willie's Picnic and Palo Duro Canyon. It was nice to over-night in, but not much fun to drive. We later rented a teardrop trailer and enjoyed that much more, but instead of purchasing one we decided to build our own out of a 5x8 cargo trailer (pictured to the left). The fun part was planning the makeover and adjusting things as we went along. After a few months we had a good working camper and used it on several trips to Arkansas, Arizona, and Colorado. Bill happened to plan a more extensive trip to Utah and Colorado which was going to cover about 5 weeks and saw a look on Christina's face that suggested he needed to look for something bigger (like, with a bathroom).

Who does not love an Airstream? For camping it is the pinnacle of towables. I registered on RVTrader.com around December 2019, and within a week our Bambi showed up at a consignment lot in Fort Worth. It is our first Airstream and the driving force of the purchase was the price. If we were dreaming, we would probably go with a 25 foot twin bed, but other than that we are very satisfied with the layout and ease of towing the 22FB.



The big trip was initially cancelled due to covid, but we managed to get away later that year to the Dakotas, Dinosaur National Monument, and Moab. The parks around Moab are really something to see. Places like Arches and Dead Horse Point make you feel so small and insignificant. This past fall we went to Detroit for a wedding and stopped in St Louis to see a Cardinals game and the museum in the center of the Brickyard in Indianapolis. Two hours before the wedding I noticed that the door to the trailer sounded different when I shut it and sure enough it had locked behind me with both keys left inside. Christina had to do some Houdini work to get through the baggage under our bed. That saved us from attending the wedding in our shorts.



Right after Canada opened, we stayed a few days near Toronto to tour the city and catch a Blue Jays game. Then moved a little east to Niagara Falls and Niagara on the Lake. The Falls must be seen in person from the Canadian side to truly get the breadth and force. On the return we attended Allumapalooza 11. Unfortunately, we did not get to tour the factory due to the virus lock down, but did meet some great people and learned handy maintenance tidbits from the presenters.



Our bucket list is the Far East and West...east like Maine and west like Oregon and Washington State. At some point we want to make Canada, but not to excited about driving to Alaska. I don't want rock dings on our trailer. Something tells me Wally would be disappointed in me for saying that. After owning the Bambi and touring around in the community of Airstream, I feel a little bad for those other brand owners. All camping and exploring is good, but "Airstreaming" is special.



Meet Roberto Del Bosque:

I am a traveler that has done more countries than states. I plan to remedy this by traveling in my 2022 Airstream Classic. This is my first Airstream and my first RV. I chose the Classic model because of its technology package and the quiet Alde Heating system. I really like that I have space to add my own desk in the rig.

It is my 4th month full-time and I have found water leaks already which is a bummer. Also, my stairs have become unusable since a bolt came off. So far, I have found that it is true that the first buyer has to take care of ironing out the wrinkles the first year. As of now, I have traveled from New Jersey to New Mexico while stopping to visit family and friends along the way. I plan to visit as many National Parks as possible and I hope to be an efficient boondocking RVer as well.



2022 Bandera rally in pictures—Pictures from Wednesday cook-your-own-meat at the 11th Street Cowboy bar.



Pictured to the left are Bob and Jan Grimes who were the hosts of this Bandera, TX rally. Nicely planned, Grimes!



2022 Bandera rally in pictures—Pictures from activities, games, and meet-ups.



Pictured above is at the jail and courthouse.

Pictured below is at the Frontier Times Museum. It had an eclectic display like the dressed fleas (had to use a magnifying glass to see it), a TX flag made of rattlesnake rattlers, and shrunken heads plus the instructions on how to shrink heads! It was too weird for me to take a picture of the heads. I'm sure you can look it up on the interweb.



TAKE A LOOK  
AT THE  
AMAZING  
DRESSED FLEAS!





## 2022 Bandera rally in pictures—

Three photos on the top right is lunch at the Apple Store (formally known as Love Creek Orchard). I had to enlarge Tim and Dave's faces - too funny. Food was good, but they were super busy!

There was a short hike at Skyline RV which went to the creek. Spring definitely had sprung—the wildflowers were out and it was so green and peaceful. Additionally, Larry had to get those darn Love Bugs off the rig! Believe me—it was worse.



2022 Bandera rally in pictures

Hanging out and meals together. Charlie also initiated David and Nicky Allen to THCU.



When in Kerrville or near Kerrville—Bill's Bar-B-Que y'all!!!!

Bandera rally in pictures

No pictures from BeanBag baseball, but here are pics from Balloon Volleyball. Men against women.

To the right—Linda is discussing how lofty the balloons can be against the hot air the men were expiring



To the left—Jan is trying to figure out how to bounce the balloon off David's beard—which happened more than once.





### Business meeting minutes:

Attendees were Dan and Zephyr Marek, Joane Ermis, Linda and Larry Fagg, Doug and Sheryl Wiley, Shannon Wiley, Charlie Williams, David and Nicky Allen, Dave Toy, Jan and Bob Grimes, and Tim and Allison Ebers

- ⇒ Charlie called the meeting to order
- ⇒ Last meeting minute were approved by Bob Grimes and seconded by Zephyr Marek.
- ⇒ New business:
  - ⇒ Bob Grimes bround up two WBCCI Constitutional changes that is up for a vote early June. All members should've received an email from WBCCI outlining the changes. Additionally Bob Grimes have posted on the THCU Facebook page an opinion for the changes (by Eric McHenry) and against the changes (by Richard Girard).
    - ◇ It is important everyone read the changes to be made for your vote to be cast.
    - ◇ Charlie will send out, electronically, the voting ballots early June.
    - ◇ Each member will have a chance to vote—please ensure that your email address on the Air-streamClub.org site is correct.
  - ⇒ Doug made the motion to make Bob Grimes is the official flag bearer for THCU at International this year. Dave Toy seconded the motion.
- ⇒ Zephyr gave a treasury report of what is in the club's checking and savings account.
- ⇒ Announcements:
  - ⇒ The next rally is in June 9-12 (Thursday-Sunday) at Big Chief RV and Cabin Resort in Burnet TX. Charlie Williams and Doug Wylie are cohosting this one. If there are less than 5 rigs coming it will probably be cancelled.
- ⇒ Zephyr made a motion to end the business meeting. Sheryl seconded it.



**MAY**

- 08 Martha Gosnell
- 15 Jan Grimes
- 22 Tolley McCormick
- 28 Nicky Allen

**JUNE**

- 10 Mickey Finch
- 16 Warner Hord
- 25 Gail Hord



- May 13 David and Nicky Allen
- May 26 Bob and Sylvia Lemley
- Jun 11 Doug and Sheryl Wylie
- Jun 16 John and Becky Blackhall
- Jun 20 Dan and Zephyr Marek
- Jun 28 Lisa and Gary Brankin

welcome

**New members:**

- ⇒ Michael and Pat Green
- ⇒ Michael De La Mora and Amy Pogue
- ⇒ Jay and Tricia Ritch
- ⇒ Joshua and Cyndi McCluskey



- ⇒ You will notice that our Facebook page is 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](http://airstreamclub.org) for other Units' rallies. As always, please check with the hosts first before showing up.

Date	Location	Comments
January 13-16	<b>Oakwood RV Park</b> 78 FM 2093, Fredericksburg, TX 830-997-9817	<del>Hosts: Dan and Zephyr Marek</del>  Call to reserve your spot, \$47 per night if we get 10 rigs, otherwise \$57 per night
February 10-13	<del><b>Top of the Hill RV Resort &amp; Cabins</b></del> 12 Cedar Rd, Boerne, TX 830-537-3666	<del>This rally has been cancelled.</del>
February 17-20	<del><b>Streamin' on the Strand</b></del> Galveston, TX	<del>Email Philip Vasquez at <a href="mailto:pdvasquez@outlook.com">pdvasquez@outlook.com</a></del>
March 10-13	<del><b>Bay View RV Resort</b></del> 5451 Hwy 35 North, Rockport, TX 78382 (361) 400-6000	<del>Hosts: Charlie Williams &amp; Carol Wallace and Doug &amp; Sheryl Wylie</del>  Call to reserve your spot, \$45 per night—no credit cards (cash/check only). Let them know you are with the THCU Airstream Club.
<b>April 26-May1 Region 9</b>	<b>Region 9 Rally Mineola, TX</b>	<b>Region 9 officers</b>
May 11-15	<del><b>Skyline RV Park</b></del> 2231 Hwy 16 N, Bandera, TX 830-796-4958	<del>Hosts: Bob &amp; Jan Grimes and Doug &amp; Sheryl Wylie</del>  Call to reserve your spot, \$43 per night if we get 10 rigs, otherwise \$46 per night.
June 09-12	<b>Big Chief RV Park</b> 1420 FM 690, Burnet, TX 512-793-4746	Hosts: Charlie Williams & Doug Wylie Call to reserve your spot, \$40 Thurs night and \$45 Fri & Sat night
<b>July 23-29 International</b>	<b>Fryeburg, ME</b>	<b>International Officers</b>
August	Mid-Year Luncheon at Black's BBQ in Lockhart TX	Time and date TBD
September 15-18	<b>Brazos Valley RV Park</b> 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	<b>Braunig Lake RV Resort</b> 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	<b>Schulenburg RV Park</b> 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	

