

North Texas Airstream Club NTxAC Newsletter – AUGUST 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

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FROM THE EDITOR



We are still travelling after the Maine Rally. As I write this, we are in Prince Edward Island.

The surroundings are beautiful. We crossed the Atlantic by ferry from Bar Harbor to Yarmouth, NS. It was like taking a cruise! Took another ferry to PEI, it is cheaper than gasoline! Wi fi is sketchy so this issue may be short.

This issue will contain information about the rally in Fryeburg, and the NTxAC/HOTC caravan to the rally.

We have rallies coming up in September and October.

I was responsible for the Region 9 display table in Fryeburg, and it seems we were a hit. We plugged the Galveston Mardi Gras “Streamin’ on the Strand” and it sold out in a few days!

Tom & I were busy and didn’t get registered, so we are on a waitlist. I was excited to have one of our newsletters in the Publications competition. We didn’t win.

We will be on the road until after Labor Day. See you at Lake Tawokoni on Sept 9 if you are going. I will also see many of you in Grapevine on Dec. 2. I made reservations for 45 for the Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre on Dec. 3.

This year is going by so fast, so please join us in Glen Rose for our installation rally, as we install new officers. Any new members for the year that come will also be ceremoniously installed.

See ya soon!

Allana Patterson BRN **12194**
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Joined in late June/July

David Blackmon from Maryville, TN

Kathleen and Monte Mercer from Burleson, TX

Bill and Julie Cunningham from Frisco, TX

Rick and Debbie Weaver from Plano, TX

Robert and Myra Speer from Aledo, TX

***Michelle and Mark Wright from Plano, TX*

***Lori Ernst from Santa Fe, NM*

***Nell and Megan Kuehn from Sunnyvale, TX*

Joined in August

Terry and Lauris Higgins from Colleyville, TX

2016 Flying Cloud 23'

2022 International 27'

2021 Flying Cloud 30'

2019 Flying Cloud 28'

2018 Classic 30'

2021 Flying Cloud 25'

2022 Basecamp 20'

2018 Flying Cloud Bunk 30'

2018 Flying Cloud 26'

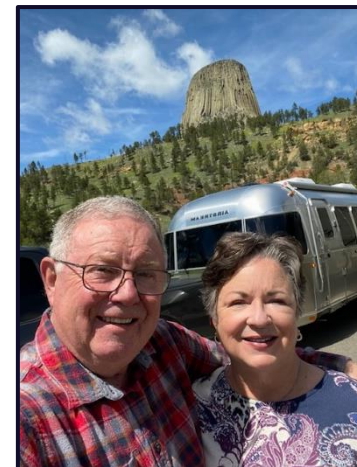
*** (affiliate members)*

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Debbie and Rick Weaver

BRN:19552

We both grew up in Beaumont, Texas and were married there in 1976. We eventually made our way to Plano in 1988 and saw our first Airstream at an RV show in Dallas shortly after we arrived in North Texas. We immediately decided that someday we wanted to own one and after enjoying several other travel trailers over the intervening years our Airstream dream finally came true in November of 2019 with our purchase of a 2019 28' Flying Cloud, which we have dubbed "StreamWeaver". After a shakedown voyage at the end of 2019 our first long trip in StreamWeaver was to Disneyworld in Orlando in early 2020, where we stayed at Fort Wilderness then made our way back home through the beautiful Emerald Coast of Florida. We were totally hooked on the Airstream life but COVID limited us to shorter distance trips for the remainder of 2020 and into 2021 but we enjoyed those greatly. Our goal is to visit as many of our magnificent national parks as we can and our most recent adventure was earlier this year, when we took a 3½ week trip to Grand Teton, Yellowstone, Wind Cave and Badlands National Parks with several other stops in between. Currently, we are contemplating a trip in August to somewhere cool to escape the North Texas heat. We are excited to be part of the Airstream family and as we travel in StreamWeaver we always enjoy the opportunity to meet and visit with other Airstreamers. We look forward to seeing y'all down the road!



Bill and Julie Cunningham



Our family is excited to join the Airstream Club. Bill, Julie and our two kids bring our love of travel and our 2021 Flying Cloud 30FB Bunk (Mandy Lou) to the group as new Airstreamers. We started RV travel in 2020 and found a love for the flexibility and ability to travel more, ultimately making the decision to get an Airstream to continue our journeys. From quick trips to local spots or multi week cross country trips we love to travel. Excited to be a part of the club and hope to meet up soon.

Kathleen and Monte Mercer



Last summer I decided to retire at the end of 2021, after working for 30 years with a local municipality. We have two granddaughters in Aurora Colorado, so I decided to buy an Airstream, find a part time job in Colorado, and work from my trailer, home, and onsite work. My husband was in shock and still is. But he is up for the adventure in our life. He will retire in 2024, but not if our Sweet Dorothy Mae doesn't capture his heart and retire early. We ordered her in October of 2021, and I got her on July 1st, took her out on the road July 2 (my 61st birthday). We had a fifth wheel, but never towed it and lived in it for 10 months until our house was built. So, we have lived in one but never towed one. Well, we

hailed Dorothy Mae up to Colorado where it would become her new home. Our head was spinning after the 4-hour tour at the dealership, we had books and YouTube, so we were all set to take out on the road the next day. Got our first lesson on how to hitch her up, (the only thing we really remembered was when the tech said, "if you don't do it in the right order, it could possibly break your leg if it snapped". We got this. We headed out laughing and said *Hey* there is an Airstream following us!! We did an overnigher in Lamar, Colorado. That is when the laughter really started. Husband couldn't believe that they didn't include the power cord that was at the dealership but was happy when we found it. Plugged it in but nothing turned on but the microwave and the tv's. An hour later, after reading all the manuals and several YouTube's, I decided to call my son. Mom isn't there a panel somewhere? Son, I have pushed every single button in this rocket ship!! I bent over and said, well except this one, on the very bottom of the side cabinet, which by the way doesn't say push here for power!! I was never happier than when that little green light turned on! I forgot to mention that we even moved to another site because we thought their power didn't turn on!!

Looking forward to cool adventures, while managing our work schedules. Happy Airstreaming Y'all!!!!

#12643 (Oldest granddaughter Anne is 12, Cedar 6, Lolo 4 and Lorenzo 3)

Sweet Dorothy Mae – my late mother's name

David Blackmon- by Allana Patterson



Tom and I are heading into Elkhart, Indiana. We text the Brandon's to find out if the road trip group has arrived at Elkhart campgrounds. They are getting ready to head to the RV Museum so we said we would meet them there with our trailer before we go to the campground. We got there first and paid our admission to the museum. The first room we went in had a 1950's airstream trailer as the initial exhibit of a large venue full of RV history. Tom and I were discussing the airstream and how they have changed and not

changed when a very friendly guy said "I just got one of those". We asked him about his airstream (a 2015 he bought used) and asked if he was on his way to Maine. He said "no, I just came from there, why?" We explained about the club and the rally. We gave him our card. He had never heard of the club. We told him to call the campground, see if they had a spot near the other airstreams and join us for the evening,

We went on and toured the museum with the Brandon's and Van Artsdalen's. Then headed to the campsite to hook up. About an hour later we see this guy pull in, set up, and start flying a drone around. Before the evening was over, everyone knew David Blackmon. He worked on the road from his trailer, and was very computer savvy. Within an hour or two, he had joined ACI, NTxAC, got his BRN, found camping spots to join the group road tripping to Maine, and registered for the Rally. Tom made a few calls to membership at National, and they had everything waiting for him in Maine! Talk about recruitment-with each new person you meet on the road, there is a new opportunity. I think David made friends for life with that group!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✚ **MEMORIAL-** AJ (Alexia Jeanette) Wolery Blood, NTxAC member since 2014 passed away peacefully at home in her sleep July 13th from a rare form of Parkinson's, PSP (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy). Her body was donated to UT Southwestern Medical School for medical research since there is no cure or medication for this disease. She is survived by her husband Victor Blood and two adult sons. The memorial service for AJ (Alexia Jeanette) Wolery Blood a NTxAC member since 2014, will be 2:00 pm **Saturday, September 10th** at St. Vincent's Cathedral, 1300 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford, TX 76022. There will be a reception following the service. Thanks-Victor Blood

- ✚ An email has gone out requesting birthdays and anniversaries but ONLY 34 of our over 200 members have responded. PLEASE, check you emails from airstream099leadership@gmail.com or send an email to airstream099leadership with your birthday (do not include year) and anniversary if you have one. We want you active in our club!

- ✚ RESULTS from your **VOTE**

Results for Constitutional Amendments 1 & 2: an email from ACI confirms the following:

- 99 of 104 local clubs participated in the vote
- Members-at-Large from 12 regions voted
- **Amendment #1** passed with 77% "yes" vote
- **Amendment #2** passed with 71% "yes" vote

- ✚ 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.

- ✚ Next month Allana Patterson will be going to a new format for the NTxAC Newsletter . If you are an officer or new member, or love writing about your Airstream adventures, please send information to allanapat@msn.com for the September newsletter.

T-SHIRTS AND HATS:

- ✚ We have sold a lot of t-shirts and hats, but still have a lot more!!. These will be sold at a reasonable price to club members at rallies or meetings. NEW members from November 2021 and after will be given a free t-shirt- **when they attend a rally/meeting**. If you would like to buy a t-shirt [send your order to Anna Brandon](#) and she will put them aside to give you at your next rally (including international). In the meantime, for those that want extra special clothing with our club logo embroidered- it can be ordered from Land's End.

FROM THE PRESIDENT -David Brandon

THE ROAD TRIP TO MAINE

I hope you are all doing your best to stay cool, whether it's indoors or on the road! Anna and I had a great time both on the way to Maine and at the International Rally. It was not just the beautiful pieces of our country that we saw, it was the deepened friendships we all created. Here are some snapshots from this epic trip.





After nine months of planning, 12 rigs from the North Texas Airstream Club and Heart of Texas Camping Unit left Clear Springs Campground in Texarkana on July 4th for Fryeburg, Maine.



Our first stop was at Cricket Creek COE Park in Omaha, AR, right in the heart of the Ozarks. We were here for two hot nights—good thing there was a lake for folks to jump in and cool off! Most of us spent part of the day at the Top of the Rock Lost Canyon Cave Trail just outside Branson, MO. Pictured are members Dara Poole and granddaughter Ava in the front cart, Dices and Brandon’s behind.



We were hopscotching across with one-night stops to get out of the heat as soon as we could. The drive to Merramac State Park in Sullivan, MO was beautiful and one of the benefits of traveling together is shots like this one of the Dice's rig.



We made sure to pass through Elkhart, IN to see the RV Hall of Fame, staying at the Elkhart Campground.

Here we recruited a random Airstreamer who happened to be camping there too on his way

out west, David Blackmon. What we were doing seemed like such fun that he joined NTxAC, changed his plans, turned around, and went with us to Fryeburg!



We made it to Four Mile Creek State Park at Niagara Falls, NY at the end of our first week of travel—this was one of the favorites in the trip. The park featured a beautiful sunset over Lake Ontario at the end of our busy days (top photo). Here are members Sue McLaughlin, Dara Poole, and granddaughter Ava (bottom photo) on their way for a close-up look at the falls.



Next was Natural Bridge/Watertown KOA and then Lake Placid/Whiteface Mountain KOA—we spent two nights at each of these parks, one on the edge of the Adirondacks and one right in the middle. Highlights of this stop were a lovely lunch cruise through the Thousand Islands, an archipelago in the St. Lawrence Seaway between the U.S. and Canada, and a gondola ride to the top of Whiteface Mountain.

By now it was really cooling down; although we still had some warm days the evenings were perfect for our nightly potlucks. Just before entering Maine we stopped a couple of nights at the Sugar Ridge RV Village & Campground in Danville, VT—right in the White Mountains. We were not far from Mt. Washington, several covered bridges, and the famous Polly's Pancake House.





Just before heading into Fryeburg for the rally, we took a pause at the Wild Duck Campground in Scarborough, on the coast of Maine. We were just a few miles from the LL Bean headquarters and flagship stores. Our group suddenly had two main dietary choices, ice cream and lobster. We didn't just eat "lobstah," we went lobstering! Another favorite was a visit to the famous Maine Beer Company. By the way, in the foreground is our new NTxAC member David Blackmon and Affiliate member Lori Ernst!



And we all made it safe to Fryeburg! Left to right, front row: John and Amy Van Artsdalen, Robert and Myra Speer, Sue McLaughlin, Vickie Graham, Becky Gray, Anna Brandon, Jennifer Dice; back row: Lori Ernst, David Blackmon, Mark Wright, Dan Dice, Michelle Wright, Scott Graham, Roxie and Michael Gross, David Smith, Ava, Dara Poole, and David Brandon.



Fryeburg Chefs David Blackmon and Dan Dice

That's all for now! We'd love to see you next month at Lake Tawakoni, show you more pictures, share the stories, and make you want to join us next year as we head to Rock Springs, WY for the 2023 International Airstream Rally.

David Brandon dbtextilesoffice@icloud.com

BRN 5157



FROM THE 1ST VICE PRESIDENT- Jennifer Dice

Wally Byam said, “Adventure is where you find it, any place, every place, except at home in the rocking chair.”

I feel like Dan and I have had the unique opportunity to live that quote as we traversed West, North, and East this year. As I sit here at The Range enjoying Women’s Weekend, I have been reflecting on the unexpected turn our life has taken for the past few months. From living in a traditional home to selling most everything and full timing in our Airstream. While all of it has been memorable, our travel with a group of other Airstreamers from Texas to Maine for the International Rally was exceptional! There are few things better than the easy camaraderie shared amongst Airstreamers. This sense of community is what I love about Airstreaming and being part of the Airstream Club International.



International was quite a learning experience for me in terms of the Club’s leadership and how our membership is heard. Wally said, “Let’s not make changes, let’s make only improvements.” I hope we find the recently passed motions indeed move us in the direction of improvement. While I understand most of you just want to camp, I think it’s important that you understand the makeup of this Club is dependent on you and who you elect into leadership positions. Now that we no longer have delegates and we have relinquished our ability to vote for the president to the International Board, it’s even more important for you to be engaged at a local and regional level. It’s important for you to understand our Constitution, By Laws and Policies and how YOU can submit and advocate for change when necessary. This is the avenue in which you may now be heard.

Later this year our membership needs to elect and fill Vice President roles at the local and regional levels. We also need to review and update our By Laws to ensure we are consistent with International. I invite you to get involved and share your expertise on a broader scale. Our club depends on it.

Birthdays and Anniversaries (August)



- + **Rick Jeanes (8/4)**
- + **Charles Gustafson (8/17)**
- + **Tom Jensen (8/20)**

Happy Anniversary to:

- + **Tom Jensen & Allana Patterson (Aug 11)**

If you have a special date or event you want in the newsletter, please email airstream099leadership@gmail.com with your dates for our news you can use

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Sunset at 4 Mile State Park, Niagra Falls

From Tom Jensen

MEETING MINUTES

There was no meeting in July or August because of the International Rally. The next meeting will take place at the Rally on Lake Tawakoni- September 10.

RALLIES AND EVENTS

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

September 9-11: Lake Tawakoni State Park, Wills Point. Hosted by James and Cheryl Wills. There are still a few spots left. We are on the White Deer Reach camping loop.

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/lake-tawakoni>

Schedule:

Friday: Set up and Happy Hour. BYOB and snacks

Saturday: On your own for breakfast and lunch (unless Jim and Shirl come up with something).

Canton is not far away so carpool and take a trip. We will have missed the First Monday flea market but they still have things open and the farmer's market.

Saturday afternoon: games will begin around 5:00- a Putt Putt event. You will make a hole at your site (whatever you come up with, use your imagination. You can plan before you come.) Bring a putter and a balls if you have them. The group will travel from site to site to complete the course. **EXPECT AN EMAIL WITH AN EXPLANATION AND MORE DETAILS.**

Saturday evening: Fiesta Dinner. James and Shirl will provide the meat. Bring a side to share. A google doc may go out on this.

Sunday: The Jensen's will provide cinnamon rolls for breakfast before you head out. Safe travels

October 7-9: Hords Creek Lake, Coleman, TX. This is a core of engineer park, so book soon. Lakeside campground is sites 63-76. We should have great weather and maybe fall colors. Some may be returning from New Mexico Balloon Festival with great stories and pictures. Perhaps a presentation?

Ph: 325-625-2322 <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/gateways/499>

November 18-20: Oakdale RV Resort and Motor Court, Glen Rose, annual membership meeting and Installation Rally (indoor rally room). <https://oakdalepark.com> – The food is always fantastic at this rally!

We will be installing Jennifer Dice as our new President, David Brandon Past President, and Arnold Terkel as 1st VP. Expect more information and a solicitation for nominations through email.

December 2-4: 2022 Grapevine “Silver Bells” Holiday Rally: The Vineyards RV Park at Grapevine (will find indoor venue for meeting if necessary).

- Saturday, December 3 dinner-The Grapevine Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre- Reservations have been made for 45 people.

We have communicated as much as possible so if you decide you want to go and didn't sign up, go online *

- There have been a couple of cancellations so a phone call is the best way to reserve. Be sure you tell them you are with NTxAC for the discounted rate.

Grapevine Vineyards 817-329-8993 or vineyardscampground.com. They are holding spots until October 1.

A full schedule will be in the September newsletter.

* If you decide you want to register for the dinner on your own, contact

<https://www.texasstardinnertheater.com/> price is \$71.50.

INTERNATIONAL RALLY FRYEBURG, ME

It seems the Texas contingent brought hot weather to Maine, and they didn't have air conditioning in the buildings, so it made standing around and visiting uncomfortable. However, as airstreamers, we made the best of it and had a wonderful time. Everyone's experiences were different, as we were spread out all over the fairgrounds. Bicycles everywhere to get to and from events- and of course, meeting new friends from all over.

Region 9 was well represented. We had a crowd at our luncheon, but the heat kept us from dallying too long. Our Region 9 table out shined all other regions with the large banners donated by Phillip Vasquez, plugging the Streamin on the Strand Rally. It sold out in 3 days.



Region 9 Club Presidents

Dan Dice represents the US Navy carrying the Naval flag



S David Brandon w/ NTxAC flag



Region 9 table

There were so many events! A 70's dance, Blue grass band, Opening ceremonies, Band concert from the International Rally band, Derby Day tea party, luncheons, dinners, LOBSTER, Rock and Roll dance, lots of informative workshops, flea markets, and more. In spite of a fire ban, everyone managed to gather in groups



Region 9 luncheon

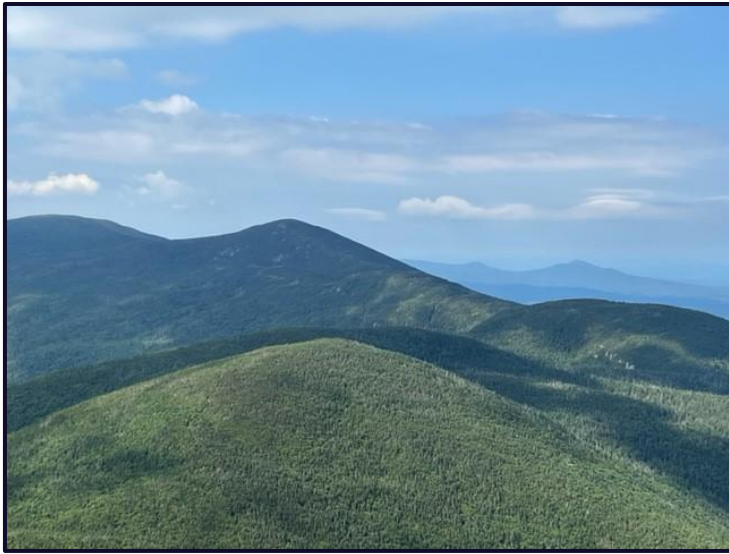
by their trailers and swap stories and drinks. The weather cooled off later in the week and we closed the rally with new international and region officers. The sign up for the rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming - 2023 was bigger than ever! We were promised great weather!



The International Rally volunteer band



Kathi Mitchell and her granddaughter at the Derby Day tea/ Anna Brandon models



White mountains in New Hampshire



Sunset in Fryeburg

HOTC president Scott Graham coordinated a blood drive with the Red Cross. Many NIXAC and HOTC members volunteered to help, and to give blood. The Red Cross was unable to keep up with so many people willing to donate, they had to turn some away. They ended up with close to 140 pints of blood, more than they had ever collected over a 2-day period. Very impressive Scott! Unfortunately, Scott had an accident and tore tendons, and is still in New Hampshire recuperating



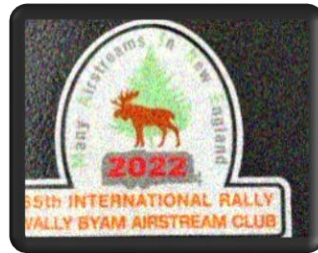
Blue Grass band-fantastic!



Blood Drive



**Eric McHenry takes over as
The new President**



***There really were Many Airstreams In
New England!***



© M. Dirk MacKnight

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

I have no recipe this month, but



LOBSTER ROLL

1. Get a Lobster (preferably in Maine)
2. Boil the lobster
3. Get the meat out of the lobster
4. Get a quality long sandwich roll
5. Put the lobster meat in the bun
6. Serve with melted butter or mayonnaise, and cole slaw or salad

Or go to Maine- you can get one almost anywhere in Maine for \$25 to \$35.

SEE YOU DOWN THE ROAD. AND IF THIS NEWSLETTER LOOKED LIKE FUN, THEN COME TO A LOCAL RALLY OR SIGN UP FOR ROCK SPRINGS WYOMING IN JUNE OF 2023!

