

President's Message

From the Texas Hill Country Unit to you, Merry Christmas, and the very best wishes for the New Year.

We ended the year with a great Holiday Luncheon that was held at River City Grille, perched above the Colorado River in Marble Falls. Attended by 32 members (and a couple of family guests), there was lots of great discussions, general merriment, and a gift exchange with 28 participants....not sure if it was the "Chinese" version, or the "White Elephant" version, but it was enjoyed by all. Carol Wallace, though not trying to, set the bar for next year on gift selections. Her first three gift selections were stolen by other members, and she ended up stealing a holiday can of popcorn from someone else at the end. It appeared all enjoyed their meals, and we had the private dining room to ourselves.

There was no official business meeting as there was no official business to discuss. That said, we did have a formal installation of three new members; Ken and Sue Roe, Ira and Terri Rush, and Kevin and Felicia Johnson. Although, Felicia wasn't really sure who she was adjusting to a new name! And it's also worth noting that possibly our oldest member, and also a past President of the unit, 90 year old Louis Hendricks, was present.....and he's still traveling! That should be a motivation for us all.

Speaking of travelling, the January Rally will be in San Saba City Park & Golf Course. Yvonne and Ed Michek are Wagon Masters. Call the park to reserve your spot, and let Yvonne know. February will be Lake Brownwood State Park. Reserve through reserveamerica.com, Council Bluff Loop if space still available. Tim and Ally Ebbers are the Wagon Masters, let them know if you reserve. In March, there is no THCU Rally, rather there will be a Region 9 Rally in Gonzales, TX.

I'll end with part of a reflection I read at the lunch. "We gather as friends with a common goal, to strive to enjoy what we are doing, to cultivate the friends we are with, and to enjoy the adventure we are on." Isn't that what Airstreaming is all about? Enjoy!

Our group keeps growing through the end of this year!. Welcome to our new members, Ira and Terri Rush, Keegan and Brooke Carrick, and Jeff and Cindy McKee. We also want to welcome Laurie and Don ONeal and Chris and Kate Soulsby as affiliate members to THCU. Welcome and hope to see you at a rally soon.

Bob Grimes

President, Texas Hill Country Unit

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Bob and Jan Grimes at
Johnson City Lights (2023)

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Meet Jeff and Cindy McKee

Hi! We are Jeff and Cindy McKee. We have 3 adult children. We are both 57 and recently retired. Our focus now is real estate investing (Apartment syndications, Short Term Rentals, etc) and traveling :) We enjoy hiking, walking, biking, golf, tennis (eventually pickle ball), etc. We do not have any pets—for now.

This is our first Airstream. We bought a used '19 27' Tommy Bahama edition. We like the features of this rig and the size including the north/south orientation of the bed. The things that attracted us to this rig are the rear hatch and the bar set-up w/ice maker are cool features and the automatic awning and stabilizer jacks are nice to have.



Things we would've liked in this rig is a window in the bathroom and the storage in the closet and under the bed could be improved.

The prior owner has the 400W of solar with 3,000W inverter and 3 Battleborn batteries so boondocking will more feasible.

Thus far, our most memorable trip we've done is a trip to the Davis Mtns including going to the Starry Night at McDonald Observatory then to Big Bend.

Our 2023 trip has been planned. We leave in April and return early August to go to:

- Carlsbad/Guadalupe Mtns
- White Sands
- Petrified Forest
- Big 5 in Utah
- Grant Tetons
- Yellowstone
- Glacier
- Banff then Jasper
- June Airstream Rally in WY
- Rocky Mtn / Estes Park
- Mesa Verde
- Palo Duro

December Luncheon 2022 Photos:

Attendees from the luncheon were Kevin and Felicia Johnson, Louis Hendricks, Charlie Williams and Carol Wallace and Carol's daughter and grand daughter, Bob and Jan Grimes, Dave Toy, Jerry and Theresa Davis, Yvonne and Ed Michek, David and Nicky Allen, Terri and Ira Rush, Ken and Sue Roe, Pat and Mike Green, Craig and Susan Fegley, Doug and Sheryl Wylie and their daughters Shannon Wylie and Sandy Strozier and Tim and Allison Ebbers.



There were a lot of pictures. More pictures are on Facebook—Texas Hill Country Unit. Check it out!



Highlight pictures from Bob's first installation of new members: *Terri and Ira Rush, Ken and Sue Roe, and Kevin and Felicia Johnson*. These were too cute to exclude. More pictures are posted on Facebook—*Texas Hill Country Unit*.



Come and Stream It in Gonzales, TX



March 28 - April 2, 2023

Registration is open! You are invited to the Region 9 Annual Rally at the [JB Wells Park, Arena, and Expo Center](#) in [Gonzales, TX](#), an historic town nestled on the banks of the Guadalupe River, for our monthly campout in March of 2023. We'll kick off the event with a Margarita and BBQ Welcome Party complete with a DJ and boot scootin' (bring your cowboy hat and boots). Some of the planned events include a visit to the ["Come and Take It" cannon](#) at the Gonzales museum with a storyteller recreating the stand-off between Santa Anna and the rebel Texans, [a golf outing](#), a tour of [Spoetzl Brewery](#) (home of the quintessential Shiner Bock), and a tour of four of the [Painted Churches in Schulenberg](#). Add to that are on-your-own opportunities to visit nearby places to [bike](#), [walk](#), or [kayak/canoe](#). Of course, there is also the best part of our get togethers: chumming around with folks from other clubs in the region and learning new tips and tricks for Airstreaming. Below is the preliminary schedule of events. Additional information and specifics should come out as we get closer to the date and have approximations of participants.

Included in your registration are five nights of full hook-ups (30/50 amp), breakfasts, coffee all day long, Airstreaming classes, Margarita Welcome Party, and the Presidents' Dinner/Grill Night. You can also join us for the second annual Chili Cook-off.

Registration will be done using JotForm.

Here is the link: <https://form.jotform.com/223305585017048>. If you prefer a QR Code:



Hope to see you in Gonzales!

Nancy Fitzgerald, Region 9 President

Rally Itinerary is on the next page. To get an updated itinerary, please go to the following link: [2023 Region 9 Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](https://2023.Region9Rally.ACI/airstreamclub.org)

Region 9 Rally March 28 – April 2, 2023

JB Wells Expo Center 2301 CR 197

Gonzales TX 78629

Tuesday – March 28

JB Wells Expo Center

Parking 2-4 pm

Welcome Packet Pick-Up/Registration

Margarita Welcome Party!

Welcome Ceremony

BBQ Bash

Boot Scootin' with DJ

Ice Cream Under the Stars

Hosted by GHAC, TPAC, OAC & TAU

Wednesday – March 29

JB Wells Expo Center

Blackstone Breakfast

Come and Take It Story

at Gonzales Memorial Museum

Catered Lunch in Town

Explore Gonzales and Area

Chamber of Commerce Social Hour

Dinner on Own

Ice Cream Under the Stars

Hosted by TGPU & ETLAU & THCU

Thursday – March 30

JB Wells Expo Center

Breakfast-To-Go

Golf Scramble

Biking/Walking/Kayaking /Games

Lunch on Your Own

Cook-off Competition

Ice Cream Social / Music Jam

Hosted by THLAC & HOTC

Friday March 31

JB Wells Expo Center

Sky Med Breakfast & Presentation

Airstream 101

Lunch on Own

Explore Spoetzl Brewery, Home of

Shiner Bock Beer &

Painted Church in Shiner

Dinner on Your Own or

Return to Expo Center for

Public Roping/Music Event at JB Wells

Hosted by NTxAC



Saturday-April 1

JB Wells Expo Center

Pancake Breakfast

Region Board Meeting/Membership

Club Leadership Training Meetings

Airstream 102

Lunch on Your Own

Additional Clinics/Vendors

Presidents' Dinner/Grill Night

Presidents & Club Leaders Closing

Hosted by Region 9 Leadership Team

Sunday –April 2

JB Wells Expo Center

Coffee & Donuts

Clean-Up & Good-Byes & Departures

Hosted by Region 9 Executive Board

Each local club is asked to gather donations for Region 9 Charity of Choice Team Red, White & Blue. Each local club will present its donations at the Rally on Saturday evening. Team Red, White & Blue is America's leading health and wellness community for veterans. To read more about the organization, click the link:

<https://www.about.teamrwb.org>

HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER

01 Andrea Coldwell
07 Pat Green
12 Joe Long
13 Austin Lucas
22 Lois Muir
23 John Blackhall
25 Gerald Davis
27 Becky Blackhall
29 Yvonne Michek
30 Wayne Gosnel

JANUARY

01 Roberto Del Bosque
07 Elise Winchester
08 Louis Coldwell
09 Bonnie Stanley
11 Michael Green
27 Richard Fletcher
28 Sylvia Lemley

welcome

New members:

- ⇒ Ira and Terri Rush
- ⇒ Keegan and Brooke Carrick
- ⇒ Jeff and Cindy McKee

New affiliate members:

- ⇒ Laurie and Don ONeal
- ⇒ Chris and Kate Soulsby



Dec 28 Linda Esper and Mickey Finch
Dec 31 Michael Stanley and Bonnie Stanley
Dec 31 Wayne Gosnell and Martha Gosnell
Jan 07 Michael and Pat Green
Jan 11 Eddie and Jan Eiland

General Announcements

⇒ 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 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: txairstreamer@gmail.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit



THCU 2023 Schedule

Date	Location	Comments
Jan 19-22	San Saba City RV Park & Golf Course 723 CR 102, San Saba, TX 325-372-3212	Eight sites being held until 1/10/23. Make reservation with the park directly and advise Yvonne Michek (michekmgw@gmail.com) to get an accurate head count. Host: Ed and Yvonne Michek
Feb 16-19	Lake Brownwood State Park 200 Park Road 15 Brownwood, TX 76801 www.reserveamerica.com	Council Bluff Loop, full hookups, 10 FH sites available as of 12/20/2022. Many other non FH sites available in other loops Host: Tim and Ally Ebbers
Mar 28-Apr 02 Region 9 Rally	JB WELLS PARK, ARENA & EXPO 2301 County Road 191 Gonzales, TX	This is your opportunity to experience a larger rally, and replaces a THCU rally for this month. Info on registration to follow from Region 9. Rally runs Tuesday – Sunday.
Apr 20-23	Traveler's World RV Resort 2617 Roosevelt Ave. San Antonio 78214 210-532-8310; 844-726-2450	This is the FIRST WEEKEND OF FIESTA. You will/should make your reservations ASAP. Since this is Fiesta, activities will consist of going related activities and local site-seeing. Host: Bob and Jan Grimes
May 18-21	Airport Park Lake Waco 4600 Skeet Eason Rd Waco, TX 76708	Group site has been booked with 7 sites. If you want to book one of the 7 sites, please let Bob Grimes know. It is FCFB (first-come-first-book). Once group site is filled and you want to attend this rally, you will need to make own reservations from www.recreation.gov Host: Dan and Zephyr Marek
Jun 28– Jul 01 International	International Rock Springs, WY	There may be a caravan going to International. If interested, please contact Bob Grimes or Ally Ebbers.
Aug TBD	Mid Year Luncheon	Location TBD
Sep 17-22 Big Bend Caravan	Roadrunner RV Park 23315 FM 170 Terlingua, TX 79852 432-466-1036	Depart Saturday 9/16, overnight in general Ft. Stockton area, arrive in Terlingua Sunday 9/17. Five nights, four days on site, head home 9/22. You can caravan or go at your own pace. Current rate \$55/nite. September average low 58, average high 78. Coordinator: Bob and Jan Grimes
Oct TBD	Schitz Creek Distillery 101 County Road 257 Liberty Hill, TX 78642	This will be a boondocking event. There is a limit on the number of rigs. Dates and Registration info to follow. Host: Dan and Zephyr Marek
Nov 16-19 Thanksgiving and Installation rally	Brazos Valley RV Park 2190 TX-21, Caldwell, TX 979-200-3007	Subject to change based on 2023 A&M football schedule
Dec TBD	Holiday Luncheon; location TBD	



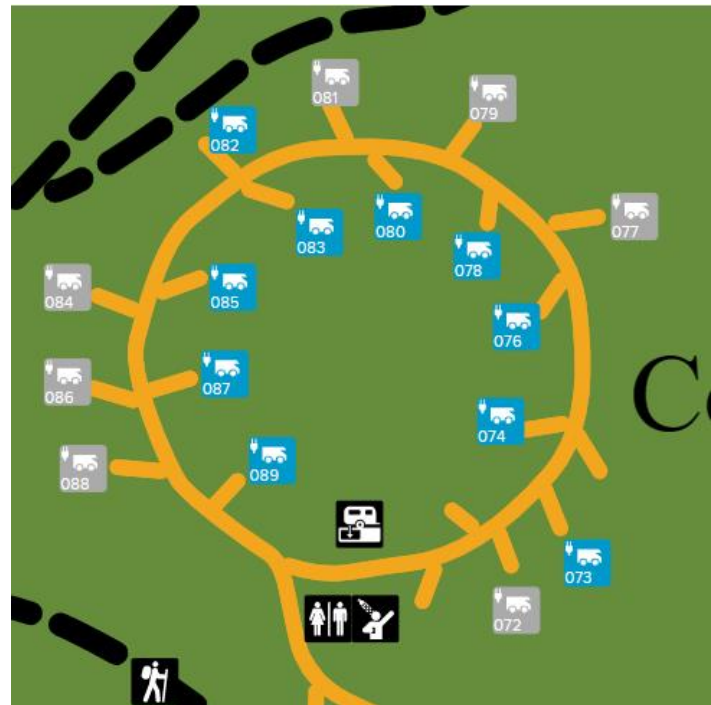
Additional 2023 Rally Information:

January Rally (Jan 19-22) in San Saba City RV Park & Golf Course:

- ◆ When you call San Saba City RV Park & Golf Course (325-372-3212), please let them know that you are with the THCU Air-stream Group. Also let Yvonne Michek (michekmgw@gmail.com) know you are coming to get an accurate head count.
- ◆ Currently there are four sites booked.
- ◆ When you arrive at the park you simply park your rig in an open site, unhook. Once you are unhooked, drive to the actual Golf Course-about 1/4 mile down the road (there is a sign) and check in with the office (looks like a 2 story house) and pay. The road to the office is narrow, so it is suggested to unhook prior to paying.
- ◆ All sites are full hook ups with 30/50 capability. Most have concrete pads but a few do not.
- ◆ County Roads 104 and 102 from 190 are a little rough and definitely narrow when you come off of 190.
- ◆ If there is questionable weather, this rally will be cancelled.
- ◆ The rally itinerary will be sent out separately as we get closer.

February Rally (Feb 16-19) in Lake Brownwood State Park:

- ◆ This is Brownwood State Park and you will have to reserve your site from www.reserveamerica.com. It is easier if you create an account.
- ◆ If you have a current Texas State Park Pass, your entry fee will be waived.
- ◆ Book your site in the Council Bluff Loop. This loop has full hookups and 10 FH sites available as of 12/20/2022. The sites that are available are in blue in the picture to the right.
- ◆ If you are unable to get a site in Council Bluff Loop, there are many other sites available in other loops. The other loops will not have full hookups.
- ◆ Let Ally Ebbers know you are coming to get an accurate head-count.
- ◆ If there is questionable weather, this rally will be cancelled.
- ◆ The rally itinerary will be sent out separately as we get closer.



April Rally (Apr 20-23) in Traveler's World RV Resort in San Antonio, TX:

- ◆ This rally is occurring during Fiesta; this is the first week of Fiesta (opening day is Apr 20). The activities for this rally will be going to Fiesta and related activities and local site-seeing. For the itinerary check out this site: [Official Fiesta® Event Calendar \(fiestasantonio.org\)](https://www.fiestasanantonio.org) and go to the month of April.
- ◆ As of 12/22/2022, Traveler's World has the following available: 64 full hookup back-in sites, 11 full hookup pull through sites, 6 cottages (if you don't want to pull your rig). To reserve, go to this site: [Traveler's World \(sunoutdoors.com\)](https://www.sunoutdoors.com) or call one of these numbers: 210-532-8310; 844-726-2450.
- ◆ Once you have made your reservations, please let Bob Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com) know you are coming.
- ◆ Additional information will be posted here.