

North Texas Airstream Club

January 2023 Newsletter



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

PRESIDENT’S LETTER



Starting December with the 2nd Annual Holiday Rally hosted by Allana Patterson and Tom Jensen was a really great way to get us all in the holiday spirit! This rally never disappoints and I’m excited to see we have so many already signed up for next year. Dan and I spent the last couple of weeks of the year at The Range Vintage Trailer Resort trying our hand at being camp hosts while Sarah, Paul, and Bexsa were on their annual vacation. It was a wonderful experience and we found out we are definitely not interested in being part of the frigid-temps camper group. Our dogs really appreciated so much off leash time, and I got to practice honing recall skills with Jade in a medium distraction environment. On the 30th, Dan hooked up Neptune and headed for CanOpener. If you haven’t been to this rally yet – it’s one to put on your bucket list! Read further down for an overview of the event by Anna Brandon.

There are a few things I’m eager to share with you.

First is the **change in the look and feel of this newsletter**. I was recently looking through the Airstream Club International site and found a newsletter planning guide along with the ACI brand style guide. Both of these piqued my curiosity and I ended up down a rabbit hole reading numerous local and regional newsletters to get a sense of what others are doing. (I highly recommend this by the way...it’s a great way to see what others across the country are doing!) First thing I noted is other Clubs have named their newsletter! Since our newsletter does not have a name – I say we have a contest to name it! More to come on this later. They include the president’s message on the front page along with the Club Officers and frequency of publication. Some of these changes are incorporated into this newsletter and you will see more to come next month.

NTxAC OFFICERS

President
Jennifer Dice

1st Vice President
Arnold Terkel

Past President
David Brandon

Treasurer
Lynne Mack

Secretary
Anna Brandon

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership **Tom Jensen**

Newsletter **Allana Patterson**

Rallies **Maribeth Pappas**

Webmaster **Dan Brockway**

Second is the **Region 9 Rally**, which is coming up in March in Gonzales, Texas. Our Region President, Nancy Fitzgerald, has a goal of 100 Airstreams in attendance and we are at 60% already! Nancy's team was very intentional about the location of this year's Regional Rally; picking Gonzales for its abundance of available activities to meet anyone's interest. I'm not going to lie - when I saw there is hiking, biking, kayaking, a brewery, a model airplane museum, and world famous painted churches all available in the vicinity – I felt FOMO (fear of missing out) creep in and told Dan we needed to make sure to attend. We are signed up and I cannot wait to see our membership out there taking advantage of the great activities being planned at this rally! Let's make time to share our experiences when we meet up at the April Rally at The Boulders in Tyler.

If you haven't signed up, please use this link to access the registration form: <https://form.jotform.com/223305585017048>

As Anna Brandon has mentioned in the past couple of business meetings, we are assigned to support the events happening Friday, March 31. We need volunteers for the following areas on Friday:

- Lead for the Schulenburg Churches tour
- Lead for the Spoetzl Brewery tour
- Morning coffee setup and assist SkyMed setup if needed
- Help with cleanup and trash runs
- Golf cart shuttle (4 drivers)

Please email me at Airstream099Leadership@gmail.com to volunteer for one of these roles. It's vital to obtain enough volunteers to easily provide the support needed. Many hands make the work light! Those of you with families and those still working, although the rally starts on Tuesday the most fun things happen over the weekend—don't hesitate to just come Friday-Sunday!

In association with the Come and Stream It Region 9 Rally, the leadership has selected **Team Red, White & Blue** as our **Charity of Choice**. Team Red, White & Blue is America's leading health and wellness community for veterans. You can read more about the organization [here](#). We have two options here: 1) we can designate a point of contact who will collect all the donations from our specific members, or 2) we can make a cash donation from our Club funds. I'll be working to get a survey sent out soon so you can cast your vote for the direction we take.

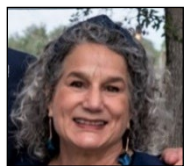
Lastly, I am working to set up "**knowledge sessions**" for each of our rallies. My vision is to have one of our club members share their knowledge on Airstreaming or another topic they are passionate about during a formalized time slot on our weekend schedule. I'm thinking of calling these sessions "**Wally's Workshop**" and would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on the name. Here are a few things I'm trying to line up for our 2023 rallies: winterizing your rig, maintenance for your fridge, AC, water heater, generator, black and grey tank, how to build a charcuterie board, cast iron/Dutch-oven cooking, disc golf for beginners, photography, etc. I often hear our members sharing their knowledge informally around the campfire and I am confident Wally's Workshop will give us an opportunity to further display this and increase engagement. What are you interested in sharing?

OK - That is it for now...I hope this first President's Letter of the year, though long, has been insightful.

See you down the road!

Jennifer Dice
BRN 30301

FROM THE EDITOR



December flew by and I did not get a newsletter out, so here's hoping I will be more diligent in 2023. We had a relaxing time in Hawaii, though Maui was hit with wind and rain for two days. We left 75 degrees to come home to 25 degrees, and today we are back up to 75. It seems we are at the mercy of weather constantly. My new year's resolution is to try to do my part in combating climate change, and I hope that is everyone's. It's kind of hard when you are pulling a trailer with a gas/diesel guzzling truck!

It seems though, 2022 was a year of saying "We had fun, in spite of the weather!" From Choctaw to Maine to Grapevine.

We have a great line up of rallies for 2023. In this issue I will review them and look back at our December rally in Grapevine, 2022. I started planning 2023 Grapevine the day after Christmas at after Christmas sales!

The thing I love about this club is the people. You meet so many kind and caring people, that it keeps you optimistic about the world. I would like to publicly thank Cliff Millican for reaching out to our son and helping him achieve his dream. And thanks to Anna and David Brandon for all their hard work to keep the club active. To Ann Clark for her pictures and kind words. To Jack Clyne for delivering the food donations to GRACE. And to the club in general, for giving me some purpose. I wish you all a prosperous, healthy, and safe New Year.

Allana Patterson
BRN 12194

NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Joined in December

Earl Lunsford from Euless, TX	2015 Flying Cloud 25'
Becky and David Johnson from Weatherford, TX	2021 Globetrotter 27'
Mark Hornsby from McKinney, TX	2023 Basecamp 20'
Jill Jurenka from Granbury, TX	2018 Basecamp 16'
Frederick and Audrey Morrill from Denton, TX	2018 International 23'

New Affiliate members

Chris and Melanie Mathews from East Texas Lakes Unit	2021 Bambi 22'
Steven and Cathy Duran from Texas Alamo Unit	2019 Flying Cloud 25'
Doug and Amber Lewis from East Texas Lakes Unit	2019 Flying Cloud 25'

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Steve and Cathy Duran

BRN 15452

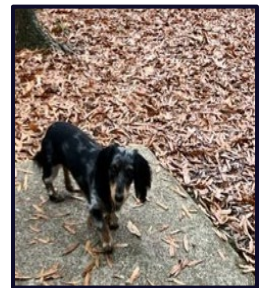
Steve and Cathy live in Justin, TX and joined as affiliates. My wife Cathy and I decided to join your group after hearing about it from Airstream newsletters etc. A year ago, Thanksgiving Day in Fredericksburg, TX we met some people in the Texas Alamo Unit Airstream group and decided to join. We look forward to a rally with your group sometime in 2023. We made plans to go to the international rally in Wyoming this coming Summer.



Chris and Melanie Mathews

BRN 24608

Melanie (52) Chris (53) Mathews and Jolene (2yr old dachshund) Residents of Lake Cherokee in Henderson, TX. We are empty nesters who decided to get active and explore life outside of just the lake! We witnessed and heard about how much fun our friends who are Airstream owners were having and we decided we wanted in on the FUN ... BEST DECISION EVER!



Becky and David Johnson

BRN 07518

We retired in 2007 and spent the next 12 years split between our home in Weatherford and a home in Angel Fire, NM. Then the pandemic arrived, and vacation properties were crazy so we decided it was time to sell Angel Fire and spend that time exploring new destinations. There's so much to see in the USA we feel like we're just beginning a new journey. We started our RV experience with a class C RV, but quickly decided we wanted a little more room and the ability to "unhook" and explore the local communities. That led us to Airstream. We found our 27' Globetrotter in Florida in November and it now awaits some new journeys. Big Bend and Yellowstone are first up in 2023.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Birthdays and Anniversaries (January)



Jennifer Dice

1/15

Anna Brandon

1/17

Phyllis Fell

1/17

Ashley Robbins

1/30

Happy Anniversary

*Anna and David Brandon - 1/16
24 years! Congratulations!*

A spreadsheet will be at every rally trying to collect dates for our members. If you have a special date or event you want in the newsletter, please email airstream099leadership@gmail.com with your dates.

LOGO INFO



There has been a slight change in the logo. Probably not noticeable, but the direction of Airstream Club was turned right side up. **Thank you Dan Brockway** for making this adjustment for us!

We will continue to use both logos until we run out of things with the old one. We still have a lot more t-shirts which you may purchase 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- you may order from Land's End.

If you want a personalized garden flag, email Airstream099Leadership@gmail.com and when we get a large enough order, an order will be placed.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



RALLIES AND EVENTS

January 5-8 CanOpener

Topsail Hill Preserve State Park, Florida

Some of our members attended the CanOpener Rally at Topsail Hill Preserve State Park in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida. The rally started the evening of January 4th, but our members learned that the “CanOpening” group before the rally is a great lead-in to the fun! Here’s a little information that could help anyone who wants to come next year:

CanOpener is an annual National Rally that started somewhere around 2006 when a group of folks from the Tin Can Tourists and Airstream Forum started getting together the first full weekend of January to kick off the new year. It



has become so popular that, unless you hover over your computer exactly 11 months before the date of arrival to grab a spot, you’ll have to wait for someone to cancel before you can reserve a spot. The Florida State Park system allows you to stay 14 days, so the wise guys take a look at the calendar, count back 11 months from the first Sunday in January, then back again 14 days, to come up with the earliest possible day to try reserving (<https://reserve.floridastateparks.org/Web/>). There were about 70 trailers this year for New Year’s Eve, and when the rally actually starts the number will be up to somewhere around 140 rigs (in addition to those who live nearby and





come for the fun but don't necessarily camp). One of the easiest ways to take a look at the fun over the last few years is via the Facebook private group, CanOpener Airstream Rally. Because this area has so much to offer in terms of hiking, bicycling, birdwatching, beaches, touring, and shopping, there isn't a ton of organized activities. Besides the New Year's Eve



Party, high points for the CanOpening this year were an evening of music at Kith and Kin, the park's coffee shop, "Be Kind" sign painting, an axe-throwing competition, and a tour of Eden Gardens State Park. During the rally is the famous Chili Feed, Cornhole Competition, Beer and Root Beer Exchange, Mardi Paw Parade, Bloody Saturday, and "It's a Southern Thing" hosted by the Argosy Adventure club. Members from our club who attended this year are David and Anna Brandon, George and Sheryl Mayer, Dan Dice, and affiliate members Michael and Judy Shelley, Andy Selking and Kathy Carl.

January 13 – 15, 2023 Reason for Freezin' Rally "Yes We're Doing It Again" North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC) Hillsboro, Texas

The January Campout/Rally is just around the corner, starting on the 13th. As of this writing, all sites on the NTAC Terraport are filled. For those still interested in joining there are also a number of sites within an easy walk to the NTAC Rally Room available throughout the park.

HOTC & ETLAC Please call Vickie 210.347.8759 or NTxAC please call Anna Brandon 214.460.0420 if you want to attend. Hillsboro is just an hour south of DFW, so if you can't camp feel free to come for Saturday's fun!

Friday, January 13

Arrival and Setup – mingle in the Rally Room or at the Pavilion, take a walk around NTAC.

5:30 PM - Happy Hour & Potluck gathering at the NTAC outdoor pavilion.

Please bring a dish to share along with your own beverage and set-ups. We are expecting about 65 attendees.

If you want to see what others are bringing and sign up for something, [HERE IS THE LINK](#).

Saturday, January 16

8:00-9:00 AM - Pancake breakfast. Please bring your set-ups and we will provide coffee and pancakes.








9:00-11:00 AM – Swap Meet in the Pavilion. Please only bring Airstream, travel, or camping items and a table to display things on.

11:00 AM - NTxAC Business Meeting at the pavilion.

1:00 PM - We are planning a participatory pasta making demonstration in the NTAC Rally Room if enough are interested Saturday afternoon. Please [SIGN UP](#) if you would like to participate.

2:00-4:00 PM – Wally's Workshop (Details TBD)

5:30 PM – Saturday evening features a **Pasta Sauce competition**


-  Please [SIGN UP](#) to let us know if you plan to compete.
-  Prepare a tomato-based **meat** (Bolognese) or **meatless** (Marinara) sauce for judging.
-  We will provide tasting cups and spoons.
-  Everyone will get a chance to vote for their favorite.
-  We will then provide pasta for the meal and your choice of sauce.
-  Those not competing are asked to bring a salad, parmesan cheese, bread, or dessert to share.
-  Sign up on the HOTC Guest list at [THIS LINK!](#)

After the meal, please plan to visit and join in some games.

 Joker

 Rumikub

 Mexican Train

 If you have another you would like to share or introduce everyone to, please do.

For those wanting an outing instead of the schedule above, there is a lot to do in the local area, from visiting Lake Whitney, hiking and disc golf in Hillsboro, to the Magnolia Market & Silos, Ranger Museum, or Cameron Park Zoo in Waco, and the Mammoth Site or Homestead Heritage Community.

Sunday, January 16

7:30-9:00 AM Shared Breakfast in the Rally Room.

Departure at your leisure.....or stay another night.

February 9-12 - Streamin' on the Strand, Galveston, TX

This National Rally is currently sold out, but there are a few places to stay in the area and attend the festivities during the day. Please email mardigras airstream@gmail.com to be wait-listed. Details of the Mardi Gras weekend here:

<https://www.mardigrasgalveston.com/>

Alternative campgrounds if you would like to join us:

Galveston Island State Park

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/galveston-island>

Tiki Tom's RV Park

<https://www.tikitomsv.com>

Sandpiper RV Resort

<https://www.sandpiperrvresort.com>

Galveston RV Resort & Marina

<https://www.galvestonrvresortandmarina.com>

Dellanera RV Park

<https://galvestonparkboard.org/160/Dellanera-RV-Park>

Stella Mare RV Resort

<https://www.stellamarervresort.com>

Oasis Resort & RV Park

<https://www.ronhooveroasis.com>

If you check into one of these other parks email us; we can let you know where we are and offer you a place to hang out among friends to watch the parades.

**March 28-April 2, 2023, Come and Stream It Region 9 Rally
JB Wells Expo Center - Gonzales, TX**

Tuesday- Parking 2-4pm- Hosted by GHAC, TPAC, TAU

Welcome Packet Pick-up/Registration
Margarita Welcome Party!
Welcome Ceremony
BBQ Bash
Boot Scootin' with DJ
Ice Cream Under the Stars

Wednesday- Hosted by TGCU, ETLAU, THCU

JB Wells Expo Center
Blackstone Breakfast
Come and Take It Story-Gonzales Memorial Museum
Catered Lunch in Town
Explore Gonzales and Area
Chamber of Commerce social Hour
Dinner on Own
Ice Cream under the Stars

Thursday- Hosted by THLAC, HOTC

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

Friday- Hosted by NTxAC

JB Wells Expo Center
Sky Med Breakfast & Presentation
Airstream 101
Lunch On Your Own
Explore Spoetzi Brewery-Home of Shiner Beer
Painted Church tour in shiner
Dinner on your Own
Return to Expo Center for
Public Roping/Music Even

Saturday- Hosted by Region 9 leadership

JB Wells Expo Center
Pancake Breakfast
Region Board Meeting/Membership
Club Leadership Training Meetings
Lunch on your own
Additional Clinics/Vendors
Presidents' Dinner/Grill Night
Presidents & club closing ceremony



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.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://airstreamclub.org/2023-region-9-rally>

Sunday- Hosted by Region 9 Executive Board

JB Wells Expo Center
Coffee & donuts
Clean up, goodbyes, depart

April – September

April 21 – 23: The Boulders at Lake Tyler - Whitehouse, TX – Rally with East TX AC

May 19 – 21: Pilot Knoll at Lake Dallas - Argyle, TX

September 15 – 17: Twin Coves Park at Lake Grapevine - Flower Mound, TX

October 26 – 29: LBJ National Grasslands - Decatur, TX - Wagon Wheel Rally with HOTC

November 17 – 19: The Range - Bristol, TX

December 1 – 3: The Vineyards - Grapevine, TX

Silver Bells Rally in Grapevine December 22

We all had a great time in spite of the cold and wind. Enjoy the pictures and hope for better weather next December.







Only half made it to the group picture but thanks Ed Wilson for being our official photographer!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

From Allana Patterson

(I am not competing in the Pasta sauce competition at January Rally, so I think I am going to try this as a side dish.)

Sicilian Vegetable Medley- for Instant Pot

- 1 large eggplant, cubed
- 1 tsp salt
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 medium red or yellow pepper cut in strips
- 2 medium zucchinis, cut round
- 1 onion, thin wedges
- 2 medium potatoes, cubed
- 10 cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 tbsp capers, strained
- 2 tbsp pine nuts
- 1 tbsp raisins
- ¼ cup olives, pitted
- 1 bunch basil, chopped
- Salt & pepper to taste

Directions

1. Strain eggplant by pressing down in strainer until juice comes out, then salt and set aside.
2. Slice other vegetables as indicated
3. Pre heat instant pot on sauté add olive oil and brown vegetables, stirring constantly
Add eggplant first, then potatoes-stir 3 minutes, then peppers and onions-stir another 3 minutes, then zucchini for another 3 minutes. Cooker may be getting full, stir carefully.
4. Finally, add half the chopped basil, pine nuts, raisins, olives, capers, salt & pepper to taste.
5. Add one cup water, turn off sauté, close the lid and set valve to pressure cook.
6. Cook for 4 minutes at high pressure.
7. Release pressure when time is up and open cooker.
8. Transfer the contents to a serving dish immediately, mix in cherry tomatoes and dress with fresh olive oil and balsamic vinegar.
9. Sprinkle fresh basil and pine nuts on top.

