

Meeting

January NTxAC Meeting

North Texas Airstream Community

Saturday, January 14, 2023

11:00 AM

Conducted by Jennifer Dice

11:00 Welcome: Present were Dan and Jennifer Dice, Isaac and Elaine Holmes, John and Rita Green, Georgina Woodward, David and Becky Johnson, Jeff and Maribeth Pappas, Pam and Dan Brockway, Tom and Allana Patterson, Barb Adamson, Steve Adamson, Cliff and Maxi Millican, David and Anna Brandon, Henry and Carol Wilkins, and Arnold and Amy Terkel.

11:15

Treasurer's Report: \$5785.55 in our checking account.

Jennifer reminded everyone that Region 9 supports the non-profit organization "Team Red, White, and Blue" each year and solicits donations at the annual region rally that will be held this year March 28-April 2 in Gonzales, TX. Team Red, White, and Blue is a non-profit supporting lifestyle changes to benefit the mental and physical health of veterans. She proposed that our club donate \$15 for each rig that attends the rally along with any individual contributions (currently we have 15 rigs registered). Members can give her cash, check, or send money by Venmo. The Parliamentarian Allana Patterson called for the motion, John Green first moved, and Maxi Millican seconded the motion.

Constitution & Bylaws: Maxi Millican updated members regarding the ongoing revision of the club's Constitution & Bylaws. A paper copy of the revisions was made available for members to review and provide comments. Maxi summarized some of the changes: exchanging "club" for "unit" in the verbiage, removal of the Third Vice President position, simplification of guidelines for co-owners based upon International's 2005 change, and placing some items from the Bylaws into the Policies and Procedures document.

Membership Chair: Tom Jensen reports that after the December Rally in Grapevine we reserved 54 spots for the 2023 Holiday Rally. There are a few spots remaining that will be held until October 1st. He reminds us to be sure to identify as members of the North Texas Airstream Club to receive the discounted camping rate. In the last couple of months, we have had 32 new members. Meeting attendees David and Becky Johnson were recognized as among them.

Newsletter Editor: Allana Patterson requests information and pictures from the members including travel notes. Jennifer notes that the newsletter format has been altered to reflect the guidelines for newsletters by Airstream Club International. She also noted that many clubs name their newsletters, and she would like to invite comments and input on names for our newsletters. Allana reports, for example, that the Hill Country Unit calls their newsletter "The Bluebonnet." Jennifer would like to send out a Mailchimp request for potential names and then put this up for vote by the membership. Allana also conveyed that she is ready to

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give up the responsibility of the newsletter to another club member because she feels it has become “stale” for her.

Upcoming Rallies: Maribeth Pappas reminds members that two upcoming rallies are about to close windows for the held reservations so all need to make sure they have their reservations. The Boulders at Lake Tyler (weekend of April 21-23) will let any unreserved sites go to the public on March 1st. This is a park where all sites are lakeside, and this is in the middle of Azalea season, so it promises to be a lovely time of year. Pilot Knoll, May 20-23rd, at Lake Lewisville, will also release any unreserved sites on April 1st. These sites are also mostly lakeside, and our club potentially has the whole peninsula side of the park. Maribeth also reminds everyone that the 2023 Rally Summary, included in the newsletter and on the Facebook site, is an easy way to know rally dates, reservation windows, and cancellation policies. Dan Brockway has improved our website on airstreamclub.org by placing links for each rally on the main page at the bottom that mimic the way WBCCI displays rallies around the country. Although all rallies for 2023 currently have a host, some would benefit from a second. Allana asks if there could be some type of perk to encourage people to host rallies. Maribeth points out that one club offers one free camping night for a rally host. David Brandon moved to make this our policy and Allana seconded. The motion was accepted but tabled pending further discussion among the membership, therefore this will be reviewed by the membership and voted on later.

Region 9 Rally in Gonzales: Anna Brandon reported that NTxAC is the sponsor for Friday’s activities at the Region 9 Rally “Come and Stream It” in Gonzales, TX. We are asking for volunteers to help lead the Shiner Bock Brewery Tour in Shiner and the Painted Church tour in Schulenberg. Open for discussion is how to plan dinner for that evening. There will be a Public Rodeo Event at the Expo Center (high school calf-roping) that might be interesting for some, or we could come up with another activity. Our club had more rigs than any other club at the region rally last year, and so far, we currently hold 25% of the reservations for this year. This makes sense since we are one of the larger clubs in the region. Responsibilities for Friday include four golf cart drivers, people to setup coffee in the morning, empty trash, wipe down tables, introduce guest speakers (Friday morning Stan from SkyMed will be speaking and Amy Turkel volunteered to introduce him). We also need leaders for the painted church tour and brewery tour – this would just mean serving as a “sheep herder” to make sure all arrive at the right time, take in consideration travel time, facilitate carpooling, etc. The Spoetzel brewery tour is in afternoon so those who want to can participate in both tours. The brewery website says that on some days there is also food and live music. The rally schedule has “dinner on your own” but some might decide to stay at the brewery. There is a rodeo at the Fairgrounds that weekend with calf roping and there will be food trucks there also. We can arrange for members not going on any tours to be golf cart drivers during the day. We are not sure if there is Wifi there but will check. Sue Arneson stated that she had heard there would be no games at the rally and wanted to know if that’s true. Because of the fading popularity of games, the region will not be formally scheduling or sponsoring games at the rally. Members are welcome to arrange their own games. Anna will ask if there are any rooms available in the facility that could be designated for games. Arnold Terkel asks if there might be a caravan of members going to Gonzales and the group discusses the convenience of meeting here at NTAC.

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Closing Comments: Jennifer explained that one of her desires during her presidency is to align the club better with the bylaws. For example, one need is to have individuals in all the key positions outlined and she requests help from members. The first step will be forming a Nomination Committee to vet and present a slate of officers. Jennifer also has an idea for a new offering at our rallies, Wally's Workshop. This will be a session at each rally where a member presents or teaches something that is their strength or specialty. She would like to kick this off with a full "Wally's Weekend." This idea came from a conversation with Sue Rasmussen, a member of ours who is an expert on black and grey tanks (she even has a business of cleaning tanks on RVs). Another individual is Jerry VanLoon, a local Airstream mechanic, who works on a lot of member's rigs. She has spoken with both people and they are enthusiastic about helping out. Jennifer is currently looking for someone who could both speak and wash our rigs. Phil Enoch, another Airstreamer, is a lock/door expert and has a couple of products that are great safeguards. This weekend would be here at NTAC (full hook-ups are necessary for a few of these services). We can use the Jotform platform to allow members to sign up for the knowledge sessions they are interested in and pay for any services they are interested in. Allana moves that we pursue this idea. Other ideas are to invite A & P to talk about solar and renovation. If we don't fill up the Terraport we could open the rally to other clubs. One of the members describes this as a "spa" day for our trailers and Jennifer offers that it is also "Springerizing" your rig after being stored for the winter season. The weekend she is looking at is the first weekend in March and she will find out if NTAC is available that weekend. If this goes well we might schedule a couple of them a year.

Another idea of Jennifer's is to give tickets to all those attending rallies for a drawing at the end of the year. A potential gift could be covering one of the weekend rally fees for 2024, and Jennifer is open to more ideas from our membership. Tom Jensen moved to adjourn and John Green seconded.

Adjourned at 12:23