

RIVETED RAZORBACK



March 2023

President's Message by Dave Wessinger

Our Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club (ARAC) continues to amaze me. The level of engagement from members and the level of activities available with the club is extraordinary.

Laura and I have benefited by learning new ways to camp (boondocking and winter camping) that have greatly expanded opportunities for fun. Into the new year, we camped with ARAC down on the Gulf Coast (Big Airstream Southern Sojourn, thanks to members Jennifer and Trent Roberts for a highly successful Rally/Caravan!). Winter weather in

February did not dissuade us from camping at Devil's Den before going to Tulsa for a Springsteen concert, and after, attending the "UBT (Unit Board of Trustees) meeting" hosted by Jeff Dalrymple (former ARAC President) and Cindy Kugel (current ARAC Recording Secretary) at their ranch near Jay, OK).

We have a full dance card of activities coming up. Details can be found in this newsletter. And, as always, you can track our activities on our Airstream Club International page (<https://airstreamclub.org/Arkansas-razorback>), on our Club Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/111033909035203/events>), or on Slack.

Upcoming this Spring are the popular Arkansas Razorbacks Wild Hogs Baseball Rally in Fayetteville, the annual service rally (urban boondocking) at the Arkansas Food Bank in Little Rock, and a new this-year rally—the Spring in Eureka Springs rally, in (you guessed it), Eureka Springs. Many of our members are planning to attend the Airstream International Rally (with 1200 other Airstreamers) in Rock Springs, WY in June.

Our club is healthy and growing. We currently have 82 Regular Members (Airstream owners who affiliate primarily with ARAC) and 41 Affiliate Members (Airstream owners with primary

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In this issue: Member Profile: Larry & Terry Madden • Big ASS Caravan: Dauphin Island, AL - Bayou Davis, MS - New Orleans, LA • Unit Board of Trustees (UBT): Jay, OK • Welcome New Members • 2024 Save the Dates • 2023 Rally Schedule

Member Spotlight:

Larry & Terry Madden

By: Larry Madden

Caught in a daydream while gazing out the window of a Greyhound bus, my eyes suddenly and involuntarily were forced to squint due to a bright light, which was being created by the sun's rays reflecting off a silver trailer.

I was ten years old, and we were living in Boynton Beach, Florida, in 1963. I was on a bus trip to visit my aunt and uncle in Fort Lauderdale. When I asked my uncle about the silver trailer, he explained to me they were called Airstream and they were the best travel trailers a family could buy; subconsciously, the seed was planted.

Forty-five years later, on a beautiful sunny day in Searcy,

Arkansas, Terry and I purchased our shiny new 2008, 25ft FB Safari. We had no idea of the positive impact the Airstream would have on our lives.

We joined WBCCI in 2010; then in August of 2012, after a friendly call with Carol Barton, we expressed our desire to join the Arkansas Razorback Club. She invited us to attend our first rally being held at The Downtown Riverside RV Park, where we officially became members of the Arkansas Razorback Club of WBCCI and received our name tags.

I had the honor to serve the Razorback Club as a Vice President and then followed Jim Pankey as President for two years, from 2014-2016. During this period, Jason Landrum was our membership chair, and Mark Magie was the newsletter editor. Their combined contributions to our club were instrumental factors in growing our club's membership numbers.

2016 was an exciting time for our Razorback club. We hosted a Spring Rally that was literally in the clouds at Queen Wilhelmina State Park. It was during this rally, while sitting around a late-night campfire, a brainstorming discussion gave birth to what is known today as the Burning Mouse Rally (aka Arkaluma)!

In September of 2016, Terry and I had the great privilege of hosting the Arkansas Razorback Club's 50th Anniversary in WBCCI. The Anniversary Rally was held in Bull Shoals, Arkansas, which had historical significance. Bull Shoals was also the same location of the very first International Rally held in 1958. It also ushered in the end of my term as President, and Mark Magie led the club forward. Former International President and Razorback Club member Charles Duran encouraged me to get involved at the regional level, so Terry and I started attending the mid-winter International Board of Trustees (IBT) meetings. During an IBT meeting in Sarasota, Florida, I spoke with then Region 6 President Kenneth Ritenour about the vacant Second Vice-President position. In just a few months, I was elected as Region 6's Second Vice-President.



Member Spotlight, cont'd from page 2

For almost six years, Terry and I have had the pleasure of traveling within Region 6, attending as many local rallies and events as possible. We have found the membership of this club to be extremely friendly and welcoming.

Coupled with the behind-the-scenes business of the club and the onset of the Covid pandemic, the past two years have proven to be both challenging and rewarding at the same time. The changes in WBCCI have been profound over the past 13 years; however, the past two years have been transformational as the club is adapting to the exponential growth and the interests of a new generation of Airstream enthusiasts.

Farmington, New Mexico, was our first International Rally experience in 2015, and we had an absolute blast! So, the course was set, and we have been to and involved in every International Rally since.

Terry and I have enjoyed rallies throughout the country. One of our favorites was the Amish Rally in Sugar Creek, Ohio. Paul Moore joined us for this rally. We also experienced a wonderful time with the Oregon club at their annual Leak Check Rally on the Oregon coast.

2022-2023**Officers****President:** Dave Wessinger**Vice-President:** David Holsted**Secretary:** Cindy Kugel**Treasurer:** Laura Wessinger**Board of Directors**

Patti Kymer

Ivy Lincoln

Tammi Terry

Katie Gulley

Other

Paul Beck, Webmaster

Dana Landrum, Newsletter Editor

Trent Roberts, Membership Chair

*Laissez Les Bon
Tems Rouler!*

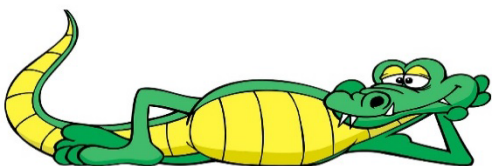
"Rouler" on into the Wilderness Bayou for
Good Times, Fabulous Food, and Great People.

1. Call and Book your Site at

WBCCI Region 6 Rally
Bayou Wilderness RV Campground
600 Wilderness Trail
Carencro, La 70520
337-896-0598
September 27 - October 1, 2023

2. Click on the link below and fill out your Registration
form for the Rally

<https://form.jotform.com/230451792989066>



While Alumapalooza is not necessarily a club rally, our experience was that it meets the same criteria for fun and fellowship, all in the backyard of the "Mothership" at Jackson Center, Ohio. We have traveled to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta three times and are looking forward to our fourth trip.

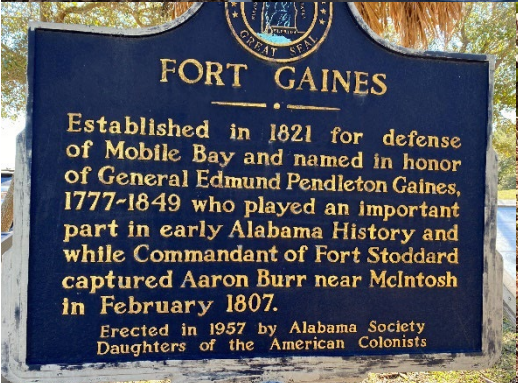
By our measure, the Airstream Club's most important benefits are the lifelong friends we have made and the memories of shared travel experiences.

The Land of Opportunity was the Arkansas state motto when we moved our young family to Arkansas 41 years ago. It has most certainly lived up to that motto for the Madden family. Terry and I have been blessed with three wonderful sons along with three beautiful grandchildren who light up our lives. This April, we will be celebrating our 44th wedding Anniversary, in the Natural State!

Big ASS CARAVAN (aka Airstream Southern Sojourn) • January 2023
Dauphin Island, AL • Ocean Springs, MS • New Orleans, LA



Dauphin Island, AL



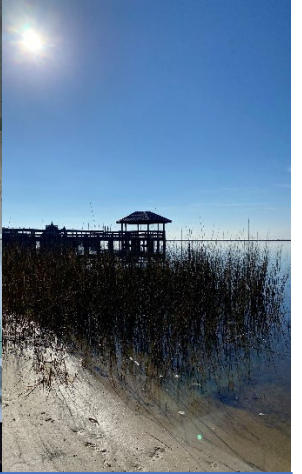


Sunset Dinner



Ferry to Fort Morgan



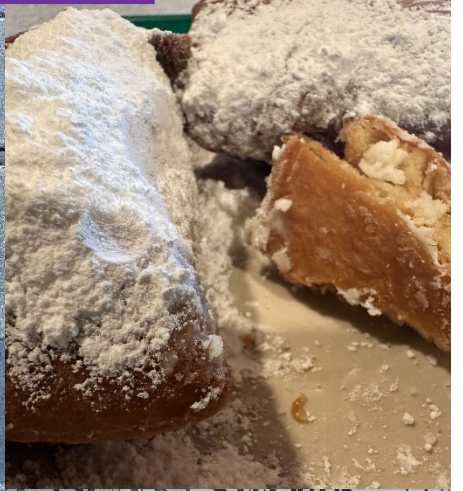


OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI





New Orleans





WWII Museum & Brunch at Lakefront Airport



UBT (Unit Board of Trustees Meeting) at Jeff & Cindy's in Jay, OK, February 2023



President's Message, cont'd from page 1

memberships with other clubs, but who also follow and participate with the activities of our club). We also have strong representation of ARAC members who are active at the International level as officers.

Our membership is healthy, thanks in large part to efforts of our Membership Chair, Trent Roberts. However, Trent has asked to be relieved of his chair duties, having fulfilled them for many years. It's time for someone else to step up. We want to be, and need to be, responsive and welcoming to new members. If you would be interested in taking a bigger role with our club, and filling this position, please contact me. I would be very interested in hearing your ideas.

Watch for news of our upcoming Eclipse Rally, April 2024!

**Please Welcome Our Newest Members!****Unit Members.**

Marj Bernhardt, Bella Vista, AR, 2018 Basecamp 16; **Jan Houck**, Ruston, LA, 2021 Caravel 20; **Caitlin & Ken Koonz**, N. Little Rock, AR, 2022 Flying Cloud 27; **Terri & Jeff Miller**, Prairie Grove, AR, 2022 Bambi 22; **Daniel Sanchez & Janice Vaughn**, Grand Prairie, TX, 2021 Bambi 16

Affiliate Members.

Rush Bowman & Kathy Morgan, Arlington, TX, 2021 Caravel 20 [Heart of Texas Camping Unit]; **Jim Geurin & Jill Warnock**, Tulsa, OK, 2013 Interstate 24 [Sacramento Valley Airstream Club]; **Robert Harp**, Houston, TX, 2023 Globetrotter 27 [Texas Hill Country Unit]; **Heidi Peterson & Rodney Ramsey**, Joplin, MO, 1999 Safari 25 [Missouri Greater Ozark Unit]; **John & Susan Sipos**, Green Cove Springs, FL, 2019 International Serenity 28 [Florida Airstream Club]; **Marvin & Cheryl Trayford**, Roeland Park, KS, 2023 Basecamp 20 [Missouri-Kansas Airstream Club]

2024 Save the Dates**Big Airstream Southern Sojourn Reprise**

January 7-12, 2024: Dauphin Island Park Campground (251-861-2742)

January 12-16, 2024: Location TBD on MS Gulf Coast

January 16-21, 2024: New Orleans RV Resort and Marina (504-286-8157)

January 21-24, 2024: Bayou Wilderness RV Resort, Carencro, LA (337-896-0598)

April 8, 2024: Solar Eclipse Rally, Morrilton, AR – dates to be determined.

October 5-12, 2024: International Rally – Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO

2023 RALLY SCHEDULE

March 30-April 2: Hog Wild Baseball Rally. *It's back! The popular rally for Hog fans to watch the University of Arkansas Razorback baseball team play at Baum Stadium. We camp, have happy hours, and tailgate at Roadhog Park a block from the stadium. On Saturday, we take our chairs and ice chests to the Hog Pen to cheer on the Hogs (or stream the game while tailgating). Hosts Tim Welch and Amanda Pace-Welch. RSVP and reserve a site with Tim Welch at timwelch85@hotmail.com. (Pay Tim, not the campground.)*

April 14-16: Community Service Rally. *Join us at the Arkansas Food Bank for our third annual community service rally. We will boondock at the food bank, 4301 W 65th Street, Little Rock. Hosts: Trent & Jennifer Roberts. Contact Roberts at dtrentr@gmail.com for more information.*

May 18-21 - Spring in Eureka Springs. *Nestled in the heart of the Ozark Mountains, Eureka Springs offers small-town charms along with award-winning dining, arts, and entertainment. Members make their own reservations by calling 479-253-7385 and stating you are with the Arkansas Airstream Club. Hosts: Jeff Dalrymple and Cindy Kugel (fdcaptjd@gmail.com).*

June 24-30: International Rally, Rock Springs, WY. *Six days of fun, friendships, and all things Airstream at the 66th annual Airstream Club International Rally. <https://airstreamclub.org/2023-international-rally-rock-springs-wy>*

September 7-10: Girls Just Want to Have Fun Rally, Tompkins Bend, Lake Ouachita, AR. *Join us for a Girls Only Weekend! We will eat, drink, swim, and whatever else floats our boat. Make your own reservations in Loop D (as close to #50 as you can get – contact club members for cancellations if Loop D is full, and please contact host before canceling). Hosts: Laura Wessinger lwessinger@gmail.com and Terry Madden blowdry@cox.net. **BoyzonBoats** will occur again this year! Contact Ivy Lincoln for more information: ivy.glen.lincoln@gmail.com.*

September 27-Oct 1: Region 6 Rally, Bayou Wilderness RV Campground in Carencro, LA. *Phone: 337-896-0598. For more information, see flyer on page 3. Hosts: Jan and Charles Heavener (bassnjan@gmail.com)*

October 19-22: Airstreams on the Square, El Dorado, Arkansas. *The extremely popular urban camping weekend around the Union County Courthouse square in El Dorado, Arkansas. Hosts: Jan and Charles Heavener, Mark Magie, and Bad Paul Moore (contact: Jan Heavener).*

October 26-29: Arkaluma aka “Burning Mouse” – Museum of Automobiles, Petit Jean Mountain. *Seventh annual boondocking Arkaluma rally with Airstreams parked in the magical wagon wheel arrangement. Evenings by the campfire in the middle of the circle, potlucks, a big-sky full of stars, and hiking nearby. Hosts: Paul Greene/Dave Wessinger/Jason Landrum (Paul: 1pgreene@gmail.com).*

November 2-5: Buffalo Point Rally. *Always beautiful on America's first national river. We return for this annual rally to take in the wildlife, changing colors of leaves, hike to Indian Rock House cave, tour Rush - an abandoned mining town, and feast on Dutch oven cooking! Make your own reservations in Loop C at Buffalo Point Campground six months in advance @recreation.gov. Hosts: Jason & Dana Landrum (jdlandrum@mac.com).*