

President's Message

As May begins to wind down, we closed out the month with a great rally at Airport Park at Lake Waco. The majority of members were able to park proximate to the huge group shelter, and others were two minutes away. Zephyr and Dan Marek kept us busy with visits to the Dr. Pepper Museum, the Waco Mammoth National Monument, and Homestead Craft Village / Market and Brazos Valley Cheese. Saturday evening was grill-your-own meat night with sides provided by Zephyr and Dan from their garden/s, as well as fixins' for s'mores over the fire. Simply awesome.

Announcements are as follows: 1). The August 19th luncheon is capped at 40 participants, 22 have signed up so far. Longhorn Louisiana Cafe in Round Rock at 11:45am. Let me know if you are attending. 2). September Big Bend participants.....get your reservations made. Call me with any question. 3). Nominations for 2024 officers will be published in September, we are looking for a 2nd VP nominee who would normally step-up to President after two years. Don't let the titles scare you off; it's all about creating opportunities for the membership to get together and enjoy each other in different locations.....that's "Streaming"! 4). The October boondocking event at Schitz Creek Winery/Brewery/Distillery, in Liberty Hill, is open for reservations. Contact Zephyr at Faye_marek@yahoo.com, and let me know as well. I believe this will be capped at 20 participants. 5). We have sites being held at the moment at The Vineyards in Fredericksburg for the Thanksgiving and new officer installation rally 11/16-19. Contact info is on the calendar to make your reservations. 6). Craig and Susan Fegley audited our checking and savings accounts last month with no discrepancies found.

A big THCU welcome to new members America & Chris Bonnet from Austin, TX and Kaye Traweek from Pasadena TX. We hope to see you at the luncheon in August if you are not able to make it to International.

Because of the International Rally 6/24 - 7/1, THCU has no scheduled local rallies in June or July. Of note, there are 21 THCU members attending International; some we know and will be parking with, others we look forward to meeting, and yet others who will be parking with Intra-clubs. We will look at the possibility of a THCU text/chat group to facilitate meet-ups. Just because there are no scheduled club activities, get out and enjoy what Texas, or cooler States have to offer!

Finally, voting for the ACI/WBCCI Executive Council will take place June 1-15. There are 30 candidates for 9 positions (I am one of them) profiled in the current Blue Beret. The Executive Council, along with the 12 Regional Presidents, together comprise your International Board of Trustees. You, as members, will receive an electronic ballot for each

email listed on your ACI member profile page, max of 2. Instructions will accompany the ballot. This voting process is the result of changes to the Bylaws in 2022, allowing candidates such as me, from the general membership (with no experience as a Regional President, or former experience on the prior Executive Committee) to be considered. Please re-view the candidate profiles and be sure to vote. This is your voice, and your club!

Bob (and Jan Grimes)
President (and First Lady), Texas Hill
Country Unit
Email: txairstreamer@gmail.com; Cell:
210-722-1080

In this issue:

President's Message	P.01
May 2023 Waco, TX Rally Pictures	P.02
5 things to think about before a long trip	P.06
Recipe Corner	P.08
General Announcements and Information	P.09
2023 THCU Rally Schedule	P.10

Editors: TnA Ebbers



May Waco, TX Rally

Attendees to this rally were: Dave Toy, Ken and Sue Roe, Craig and Susan Fegley, Loyce Engle and Greg Carroll, Bob and Jan Grimes, Pat and Mike Green, Kevin and Felicia Johnson, Zephyr and Dan Marek, Charlie Williams and Carol Wallace, Bob and Sylvia Lemley, Lois Mur and Dick Fletcher

Pictures below are from the tour of Waco Mammoth National Monument



May Waco, TX Rally
Pictures below are from the tour of the Dr Pepper Museum and the Homestead Craft Village





Picture below is a great photo from the Lemley's site. What a view!



Photo on the right is from the Fegley's site. This was their view as they drank their morning coffee.

Photo below is a get together under the group shelter. That is a very nice shelter!!



I thought this article from airgear.store is super appropriate as we get into the summer camping season. Hopefully this will help you as you get your rig ready for your summer travels. As I read this, the one 'thing' that I really relate to is #3. As we travel out of state, I stock up on HEB brand items such as bananas, hummus, fresh tortillas, dry pasta, gourmet cookies and fresh tortilla chips. They are just sooo good! I wish I can bring Creamy Creations ice cream in our travels...maybe when we upgrade our fridge we can bring a half gallon. I know; I know, I should not be so biased, I can't help it. It is the one store Tim and I miss when we travel out of the HEB zone. Sigh.

Enjoy the article and HAPPY SUMMER!!

5 things to think about before a long trip

Rich Luhr May 16, 2023

Are you taking a long trip in your Airstream soon? There's a lot to think about before you go. To make preparation easy, let's break it down into 5 simple principles.

1. GET YOUR SHIP IN SHAPE

Your Airstream and tow vehicle are your support system for the entire trip, so you don't want any type of failure. It's one thing to have a glitch when you're on a long weekend and just a few hours from home; it's quite another to have a glitch when you're out for a month and in unfamiliar territory.

Obviously, you should get any upcoming truck maintenance out of the way before you go. This includes stuff like oil changes, new tires, new battery, and any repairs.

For the Airstream it's similar, but there's a lot more to inspect. I wrote up all the inspection procedures I use before and during a trip, in my book "The (Nearly) Complete Guide to Airstream Maintenance." It's a good idea to start checking out the Airstream a few weeks before you plan to go, in case you find something that requires an appointment at your local service center.

2. GET YOUR GEAR ON BOARD EARLY

For a long trip I strongly recommend being ready for all the common problems that crop during RV travel. That means having a few well-chosen tools and supplies on hand. If you have delayed getting essentials like a tire changing kit, let the long trip be your motivation to get fully prepared.

I wrote a longer blog on things to pack that gets into suggestions in more detail.

By the way, it's a good idea to unpack/set-up and test any new equipment you've purchased for the long trip before you head out. The last thing you want on a long trip is to arrive at your first destination only to realize a piece is missing, you bought the wrong size, or the equipment doesn't work as expected and you need technical support.

If you're thinking about buying something like a water filter or a tire pressure monitor, get it a few weeks or even months before you set out for the trip. Like marathon runners say, "Don't try anything new on race day."

Don't get stuck in the middle of nowhere without maintenance and other essentials. Plan ahead and test everything before you go.

3. STOCK UP ON THE RARITIES

You might be able to find your preferred brands, or special items like gluten-free food, at home. But there are a lot of places across the USA where your choices will be very limited. Try to pack enough of any specialized consumable that you really need. That includes everything from your dog's favorite chow to your favorite salon-quality hair products—as well as foods that can only be found in certain stores.

Or, plan to pick up those items when you're near major metro areas. This can be part of your overall trip plan. Just don't expect to find every specialty item you can buy at home while you're camping near a western national park or in East Overshoe, WV. (Cashew milk, vegan butter, and Banza pasta come to mind here.)

In rural areas it can be difficult to find a natural food store. We stocked up on our favorite provisions before leaving a metro area.

5 things to think about before a long trip (Continued)

4. THINK ABOUT CONTINGENCIES

Like the saying goes, "Life is what happens while you're making other plans." The RV version might be "Life happens even while you're touring the country." That means lots of things could disrupt your trip.

This is something to discuss with your travel companion or family back home. What will you do if one of you gets seriously ill on the road? What if a hurricane hits Florida right when you arrive? What if a relative dies, or there's some other form of family emergency?

It's best to discuss these things before you set off, because if the worst happens you'll be in an emotional state and might end up arguing or making a rash choice.

In the past few years we've had to talk about the possibility of an elderly parent dying while we were on a long trip, and I'm really glad had that talk in advance. During our second major trip together, Tothie's dad died suddenly while we were 2,000 miles from home.

I wouldn't want to be forced to decide at that moment whether one or both of us was going to fly back, or what we were going to do with the Airstream and the dog. We had a contingency plan and we already knew what we would do, which made everything much easier to handle.

5. DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN ON THE WAY!

I hear from so many people who have a trip planned to destination X — but no plan to stop along the way (other than to find a convenient campground by the highway). That's a shame. Our worst trips were those that required us to drive 400 miles a day for two or three days, without time for exploration in the local area. (Never again!)

The journey is the destination, so look at the map and try to see all the interesting things you can check out on the way to your ultimate stop. And I can tell you from experience, if you look closely enough, everything is interesting. Even places that people tend to zip through, like west Texas and central Nebraska, have their subtle fascinations.

Shorten your "driving days" and seek out those things that others fly past, and it's guaranteed that your long trip will be more memorable.

This blog post is being used with permission from AIR GEAR, which retains copyright to the content. Visit <https://airgear.store> to shop for maintenance, safety, and upgrade solutions, and sign-up to receive new blogs and videos.

My favorite 'dressing'...this is something I typically use for coleslaw, BUT I've used this in grain bowls and mixed salad. I typically make double or triple the dressing recipe and store it in glass bottles in the fridge where it is ready to use as we travel. Super easy—just mix a bag of veggies for a quick lunch on the road—maybe add some tuna or cooked chicken. You don't need to put a whole lot on—just a drizzle.

Check out the pic on the right...I used the dressing in a salad bowl with canned tuna, canned whole baby corn, canned black beans, and mixed greens. Really good and all I had to do was open and drain a few cans and mix in some fresh greens with a little bit of the dressing then mix! Hope you enjoy!



Ingredients

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup creamy salad dressing or mayonnaise (I typically use avocado or olive oil mayo)

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup white sugar

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

1 tablespoon white vinegar or rice wine vinegar

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon poppy seeds

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt

Whisk salad dressing, sugar, vegetable oil, vinegar, poppy seeds, and salt together in a medium bowl until blended.

Here's the link to the original recipe if you want to make the coleslaw: [Sweet Restaurant Slaw Recipe \(allrecipes.com\)](https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/242827/sweet-restaurant-slaw-recipe/)



JUNE

- 10 Mickey Finch
- 16 Warner Hord
- 25 Gail Hord
- 21 Cindy Mckee

JULY

- 09 Nathan Winchester
- 30 Charissa Wyatt
- 31 Susan Fegley



Jun 20 Dan and Zephyr Marek

2023 THCU Officers

- ◆ President: Bob Grimes
- ◆ 1st VP: Tim Ebbers
- ◆ 2nd VP: Michael Green
- ◆ Corresponding & recording secretary: Carol Wallace
- ◆ Treasurer: Zephyr Marek
- ◆ Membership chairman: Yvonne Michek
- ◆ 1 year director: Ed Michek and Joanne Ermis
- ◆ 2 year director: Dan Marek and Dave Toy
- ◆ Newsletter: Ally Ebbers
- ◆ Web Master: Tim Ebbers



- ⇒ 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 have a friend or family member who owns an airstream and they want to join our FB group with an interest in joining THCU, please message one of the group admins. Our goal is to keep out scammers, sales people, etc. Admins are Yvonne Michek, Bob Grimes and Ally Ebbers.



New Members:

- * America & Chris Bonnet from Austin, TX
- * Kaye Traweek from Pasadena TX



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 Ebbbers
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	Schatziland RV Resort 3169 Florence Street San Marcos, TX 78666 (737) 221-3331	This is a brand new park in San Marcos. Mention that you are with Texas Hill Country Unit. Rate is 65/nite, but will drop by \$15/nite if we have 10+ rigs signed up. Currently, there are 12 rigs signed up. - Host: Bob and Jan Grimes
May 18-21	Airport Park Lake Waco 4600 Skeet Eason Rd Waco, TX 76708	Group site is been booked with 7 sites. If you want to book a site, please make own reservations with www.recreation.gov . Please let Bob Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com) or Zephyr Marek (faye_marek@yahoo.com) know if you are coming Host: Dan and Zephyr Marek
Jun 28– Jul 01 International	International Rock Springs, WY	
Aug 19	Longhorn Louisiana Café 200 E Main St Round Rock, TX 78664	This lunch is capped at 40 participants...22 folks have signed up so far. Please let Bob Grimes know if you are attending and how many by emailing him at txairstreamer@gmail.com .
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. Current rate \$55/nite. September average low 58, average high 78. Coordinator: Bob and Jan Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com ; 210-722-1080)
Oct 19-22	Schitz Creek Distillery 101 County Road 257 Liberty Hill, TX 78642	This will be a boondocking event and there is a limit on the number of rigs attending. Contact Zephyr Marek (faye_marek@yahoo.com) and/or Bob Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com) if you are coming Host: Dan and Zephyr Marek
Nov 16-19 Thanksgiving and Installation rally	The Vineyard in Fredricksburg RV Park 2647 N US Highway 87 Fredericksburg, TX 78624 thevineyardsrvpark.com	Call the park for reservations. Let them know you are with the THCU group. Please let Bob Grimes know you are coming by emailing him at txairstreamer@gmail.com or calling him at 210-722-1080 Host: Mike and Pat Green and Gerry and Theresa Davis
Dec TBD	Holiday Luncheon; location TBD	

