

President's Message

The International Rally closed out one week ago as I write this on July 7th, and most of the nearly 1,200 rigs departed Rock Springs over the weekend either for home, or for extended adventure somewhere. THCU had 16 rigs in attendance, though because of arrival dates, we were not able to all park together, and we didn't get to meet some of the newer club members, even with announcing and hosting a happy hour one evening. There were over 700 first timers at this International (most THCU attendees were in this group!). I think, no, I know that if you asked any of them about the experience, the responses would be overwhelmingly over-the-top!

Which brings me to a message that was delivered numerous times at this Rally; the Airstream Club is family. Yes, there are many more AS owners who are not members, but what they are missing is the comradery, the fellowship, the fun of getting to know and share experiences with fellow members. Friendships created here lead to planning and exploring new adventures with others. As I have reported before, our club nearly doubled in size last year, and the growth continues. On top of that, The Airstream Corporation will be providing a one year membership in Airstream Club International to all purchasers of new units, beginning August 1st to my recollection. Registration for 2024 in Sedalia, Missouri opens on August 1st as well. Join us, the year isn't over yet!

REMINDEES: 1) Unit luncheon 11:30 am, 8/19 at Louisiana Longhorn Cafe in Round Rock. Reserve your spot with me via email below...we have 22 coming, capped at 40! **2)** Big Bend Rally September 9/16-22. Contact me for details, but local RV spots in/near Terlingua are filling up. **3)** October Boondocking at Schitz Creek Winery, Brewery and Distillery 10/19-22 in Liberty Hill. Reserve with Zephyr Marek at faye_marek@yahoo.com. This is capped at 20 rigs. And **4)** The November Officer Installation Rally and Thanksgiving dinner, 11/16-19. Call The Vineyards RV of Fredericksburg to reserve your site, 830-992-1237 and mention the Texas Hill Country Unit Rally dates.

Welcome to our newest members: Rudy and Erika Rodriguez from San Antonio, TX and LeDana Zadorozny from Del Rio, TX. We hope to meet you at the August luncheon or at the next rally.



Jan and I hope that you are (in the words of Wally Byam) finding new adventure, anywhere and every where, except at home in the rocking chair! Hope to see you soon!

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

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Editors: TnA Ebbers

Region 9 Team,

The IBT meeting on July 13, 2023 resulted in the following:

Election of Executive Officers for 2023-2025

Eric, McHenry, President; Millie O'Donnell, Vice President; Terri Warren, Secretary; Per Hamnqvist, Treasurer

Tye Mott will continue as Past President and Lori Grassi will assume Parliamentarian duties in August

Motions were approved that result in the following bylaw/policy changes in the way publications are provided:

1. Publication of a monthly electronic edition of the Blue Beret.
2. Publication of 4 editions of the Blue Beret annually, which may be received as electronic or print editions.
3. Creation of an updated, downloadable pdf version of the Club directory.
4. Continued use of the online Club Directory, and
5. Availability for a printed copy of the Club Directory. (Special Committee will decide with member input what information will be included in this printed directory)

Below is Matt Hackney's letter to the Board and his summation of his balanced budget which was submitted and approved by the IBT

July 13, 2023

To: WBCCI



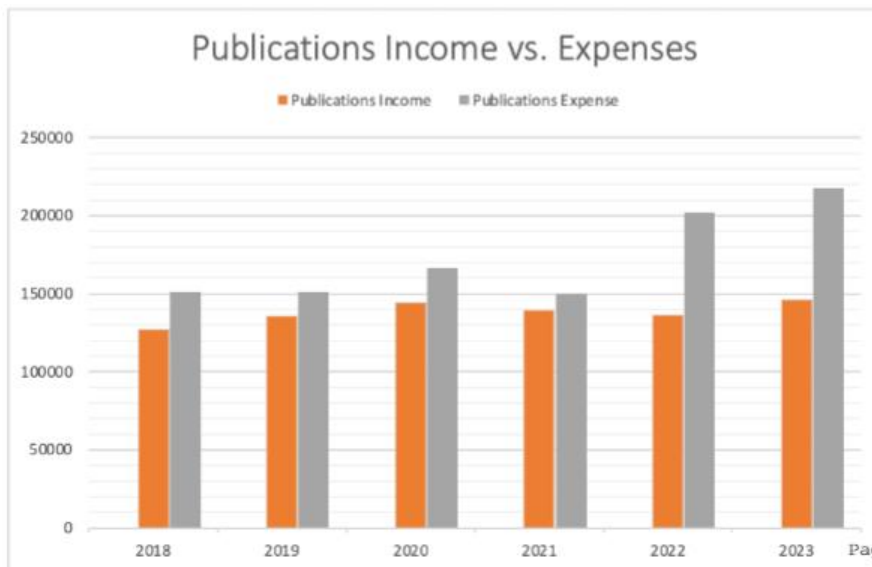
Treasurer's Report - July Special IBT

I want to thank the members of the IBT for working through this budget. It has been a real challenge to incorporate all the initiatives from the Strategic Planning Meeting in Jackson Center, couple those with the pending acquisition, and align those with the necessary consensus on changes to the Blue Beret. I appreciate the input from the Region Officers, especially Brad Briggs and Christine Baum, and our Historical Standing Committee, including Chair Joe Peplinski.

Today I bring forward three separate motions. One revising Bylaws, one revising Policy, and the last bringing forward the operating budget for the coming year. These reflect the consensus position reached after two months of discussions. The major changes brought forward in these motions are:

- Changes to our club publications, the Blue Beret and Club Directory
- Continuation of the ability for members to obtain a printed copy of the Club Directory
- Elimination of the Abinity Benefit Program, started last year
- A balanced budget with an allocation to begin building a designated reserve fund
- Full funding for Region Officer Travel to their local clubs, at an increased reimbursement rate
- An absence of funding for International Officer / Executive Council Travel
- Inclusion of the income and expenses associated with the pending acquisition of 707 E. Pike St.

Of these changes, those related to printed publications have brought the most interest, discussion, and concern. I want to re-iterate that costs have and will continue to increase rapidly for print publications. The graph below demonstrates that.



It is important to note that all costs are going up, but the costs of printing and postage were significantly higher this year than in the past. Additional postage rate increases are scheduled for the coming year. It is also important to note that advertising income for the period has been essentially flat. Some advertisers are exiting print media entirely, as they can better track effectiveness and target their message with digital publications. We are excited by the opportunity to increase our advertising income in the coming years as a result of these changes. Some on the IBT pointed out the the Blue Beret used to be self supporting. With these changes, we expect that to again be the case.

I also want to thank Eric McHenry and Joe Peplinski for developing a proposal to fill a void in our current Digital Directory. During our discussions it was noted that historical information including past offices held and numbered caravans taken did not port over when we implemented the new system. Work is planned to fill that gap, to ensure the Club Directory, in the future, will again have all the information we have had over the years.

It has been my pleasure to serve this club and this Board over the past year.

Respectfully,

Matt Hackney, WBCCI International Treasurer

As always, let me know if you need/want additional information. The approved budget is available for viewing on the ACI website home page. Go to <https://airstreamclub.org>. From the menu, go to *About* and choose *International Board of Trustees*. You may need to log in if you haven't already. The full budget can be found in the Meeting Book link from the *2022/2023 Special International Board of Trustees Meeting, July 13, 2023* section.

Sincerely,
Nancy Fitzgerald, Region 9 President





JULY

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

AUGUST

- 01 David Toy
- 02 Edward Michek
- 05 Tim Ebbers
- 08 Craig Fegley
- 19 Zephyr Marek
- 21 Eddie Eiland
- 31 Tamara Burnsed Cragle



happy anniversary

- 09 Susan Fegley and Craig Fegley
- 12 Elise Winchester and Nathan Winchester
- 14 Carol Wallace and Charlie Williams

2023 THCU Officers

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

get well soon



Please keep the following folks in your thoughts and prayers:

- * Dave Toy is having surgery
- * Raisin Schwerdfeger is having surgery
- * Zephyr Marek is recovering from a fall

General Announcements

- ⇒ 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



New Members:

- * Rudy and Erika Rodriguez from San Antonio, TX
- * LeDana Zadorozny from Del Rio, 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 of 20 rigs. Currently, there are 7 rigs signed up. 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 Fredericksburg 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 16 @11:30 AM	Holiday Luncheon@ DoubleHorn Brewing Marble Falls, TX	Double Horn Brewing will set up a Taco/Fajita Bar for our group.

