

THE BIG BENDER

**BIG BEND FLORIDA
AIRSTREAM CLUB**

UNIT 153 REGION 3



**VOLUME 48
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

By: Sammy Stockstill

Hello Big Benders,

Camping is one of those activities that requires a resolute spirit. You're at the mercy of the weather and whatever hardships may or may not befall you. Our May 2022 trip down to Rainbow Springs in Dunnellon started with a tire deciding to separate after only 38,000 miles of use. Changing a tire in 90+ degree weather is no fun, but it's so much easier when traveling with other Airstreamers. Thank you again, Jason, Lamar, and Craig for helping, and so I didn't have to unpack my tools! We have helped and needed help. Which brings up the next situation, as most of you know about... thunderstorms! We had to regroup because our campsite was the designated one for Friday night's dinner, and suddenly we found ourselves in ankle-deep water after a short rain shower. Thanks again, Tony and Barbara Olm, for letting us move the cookout to your high and dry campsite.

I recount this simply to say we are investing our time and money in a hobby that is made up of some of the finest, most determined folk God created, in my estimation. Determined we were, and a great time we had because of it.

John and Nancy Smith opened their vacation home, "The Glass House" on Thursday evening, after most of the early arrivers met at Swampy's for dinner. What a beautiful home, and we all enjoyed coffee and desserts. Friday night we had a wonderful open-grill cookout at the Olm's, and Saturday's breakfast plans had to be restructured due to the weather forecast. So, the breakfast burritos and toppings were passed out on Friday night, and nobody had to get up early for Saturday breakfast! BONUS!!! Dan and Debbie Forney provided the delicious meal for Saturday night with a vegetarian soup, salad, cornbread, and a cobbler dessert. Very organized as well! Oh, they did have a crockpot of sausage to compliment the soup for those who had to have a taste of meat. Everything was exceptionally good!

Absolute determination, and for us, a good tire source in Panama City who had a set of Michelins waiting for us the following Monday morning, made the Rainbow Springs rally in Dunnellon a wonderful rally with a great turnout. Thanks for helping, everyone!

Also, in this newsletter, you will find how some of our fellow Airstreamers spent their summer at the International Rally in Fryeburg, Maine! Looks like it was an amazing trip!

Keep streamin!!
Sammy





Reminder for all members new and old, when you make a reservation for a specific rally, register online at the WBCCI site, OR let the Host and Chris Stockstill know you are coming. List your site number, if known.
stockcm1@gmail.com

2022 Rally Schedule

Date	Location	Where	Notes/Hosts	Earliest date to make reservations
September 16-18	Splash RV Resort and Waterpark	Milton, FL	Sammy and Chris Stockstill Chad and Dolores Jones	Available for reservations now
October 7-9	El Governor RV Park	Mexico Beach, FL	Monica and Craig Brinkley Jason Friedrich	Now Remember to mention that you are with the Big Bend Airstream group when you make your reservation.
November 11-13 Installation Rally	“Tech” rally at the Waymires’ house	Chipley, FL	Amy and Lamar Waymire	Please email Amy and Lamar to let them know if you plan to attend. thewaymires@yahoo.com
December 3 Christmas Party	Alice’s on Bayview	Panama City, FL	11:00 A.M. Central time	See note below

Subject to change based on park availability, health, and weather conditions. We must be proactive and make our reservations early. Changes and cancellations can be made later. It is easier to cancel a reservation than it is to get into a full park. Also, if you have a reservation and decide to cancel, please notify club members, or email Chris and she will email club members so that we can offer it to our own folks before releasing the site to the general public. Thank you!

**Christmas Brunch at Alices on BAYVIEW @11:00am Standard Central Time.
Dec 3, 2022**

1000 Bayview Ave,
Panama City, FL.
(By the St. Andrews Marina)

Historic St. Andrews is a beautiful walking community on the Bay with multiple restaurants, shopping, and art venues. Start Saturday morning with Oaks by the Bay Market held 9am-1pm. Walk across the street to Alices on Bayview, choose your meal after seated with a wide variety of breakfast or lunch items. Check out the BRUNCH menu at Alicesatbayview.com. After Brunch join us around the corner at Little Village for coffee or drinks, music, and dessert in a casual atmosphere on the Lake.

For those who want to come for the weekend there are campgrounds on the beach or Hotels in Panama City.

Please notify Chris or register online at our club site at airstreamclub.org. by **Nov 15**.



2023 Rally Descriptions

Apalachicola Crawl

March 16 – 19

Downtown Apalachicola, Florida
The Forgotten Coast

Save the date for this long-awaited Rally at Historic Apalachicola. We will be Dry camping near Battery Park under the Bridge where the Apalachicola Seafood Festival is held. There will be a limit of 30 sites, watch for the registration window coming soon.

Mardi Gras After Party

April 21 - 23

Meaher State Park
5200 Battleship Pkwy
Spanish Fort, Alabama
Alapark.com
251-626-5529

Beautiful setting on North Mobile Bay. See the bridge lights at night. Close to fresh seafood and incredible civil war history. Registration open right now. This is a state park which fills up fast. Join us on the Delta Explorer river boat for a cruise with a historian to Old Mobile or simply cruise the Bay. Enjoy evening music at Blakeley Park.

Island Time

May 10 - 14

[Jekyll Island RV Park](#)
1197 Riverview Drive
Jekyll Island, GA
912-635-3021

Influential members of the Gilded Age used Jekyll Island as their playground. We can enjoy the results of their work by touring the beautiful Hotel and the mansions they left behind. Combine the colorful history of the island with the beautiful grounds, Georgia Sea Turtle Center, restaurants, beaches, and miles of biking and walking and it will be an amazing 4-day Rally! Bring your bikes/walking shoes for a beautiful time on Jekyll Island off the coast of Georgia.

Jekyll Island State campground requires a group registration submitted by one person.

To register, contact RoseMarie between Nov 1,2022 & March 1, 2023.

Gary.rosemarie@gmail.com. Registration during this window guarantees a 10% discount and placement with the Airstream group. Once registered with RoseMarie, members can call the Campground **after April 1** to pay for their sites. There is no limit to number attending. More details & reminders about registration will follow. Individual calls made to the campground to book a site will NOT include the discount or being placed with the group.



Beach Party!

Sept 15 - 17

[Port St. Joe RV Resort](#)

153 Red Fish St
Port St. Joe, FL
800-761-2857

Pack the flip flops and your bathing suit, we're gonna have a beach party! There are 77 sites at this brand-new campground, full facilities, close to St. Joe beach or Cape San Blas for scalloping, boating, or beach walking. **Reservation window is open now.** Request Big Bend Airstream Club or RoseMarie Anderson. Club price is \$70/night, which is our discounted price.

Go North!

Oct 13-15

[Lake Pines RV Park & Campground](#)

6404 Garrett Road
Columbus, GA
706-561-9675

This campground offers something different! Owned by Airstreamers, there are several older Airstreams in various stages of refurbishing to be added to the list of rentals. The Owners will give us a personal tour of their grand plan. Columbus GA itself has a wealth of shops, breweries, and sightseeing for your weekend activities.

Reservations are open at this time. This is the jump off Rally for the Big Bend Club Caravan. Monica & Craig have a week of fun lined up in Alabama. Don't miss it! Register with Monica.

Lazin on the River

Nov 10 - 12

[Suwanee River Rendezvous Resort](#)

828 N.E. Primrose Rd
Mayo, Florida
386-294-2510

The Suwanee River Rendezvous is a 40-acre campground that has much to offer campers including canoe and kayak rental, Chicken Poo Bingo, Pigeon Classic Race, Karaoke & Trivia, restaurant on the grounds, and numerous beautiful Springs in the surrounding area. It is also home to Convict Spring, a natural freshwater spring that feeds the Suwanee River.

Make your reservation for [Upper Rendezvous](#), (also known as the RV Resort) which has FHU 50-amp sites for larger campers which include cable and WI-FI. The [Lower Rendezvous](#) includes primitive tent sites, water and electric only sites, and FHU 30-amp sites for campers less than 25' in length.

Reservations will open Nov 10, 2022. Call the resort directly and mention Big Bend Airstream Club. Check their website for discounts.



2023 Rally Schedule

Date 2023	Campground	Where	Notes	Earliest Date to make reservation
Pre-Canopener Dec 25-Jan 4 Canopener Jan 5 - 8	Topsail Preserve	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	Can Opening No Host Can Opener No Host	January 25, 2022 (for reservations beginning on December 25) Feb 5, 2022
February 17-19	Otter Springs	Trenton, FL	352-463-0800 Good Sam's, 15% for vets \$26/night,	Feb 17, 2022 Available Now... mention that you are with the Big Bend Airstream Group
March 17-19	Apalachicola Club Rally Apalachicola Crawl	Apalachicola, FL Under the bridge	Volunteers will be needed to help with all areas	Registration window for our club TBA
March 29 – April 2	Region 3 Rally Silver on the Sands, Take #2	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina	877-510-1413	Register on the WBCCI site after January, 2023
April 21-23	Meaher S.P. Mardi Gras After Party	Spanish Fort, AL	Alapark.com 251-626-5529	April 21, 2022 Don't delay..., this park fills up quickly!
May 10-14 (Wed - Sunday)	Jekyll Island RV Island Time	1197 Riverview Dr Jekyll Island, GA	10% discount for our club members	To register, contact RoseMarie between Nov 1, 2022 & March 1, 2023. Gary.rosemarie@gmail.com .
June 23 - 30	2023 International Rally	Rock Creek, WY	Register on the WBCCI site	Make Reservation Online, appears to be available now
July	No Rally			
August, date up to Host	Area Lunch, will be explained soon	Tallahassee Panama City Alachua		None needed
September 15-18	Port St. Joe RV Resort Beach Party	Port St, Joe, FL	800-761-2857 Ask for Miles or Michell	Reservation window is open now. Request Big Bend Airstream Club
October 13-15	Lake Pines RV Park and Campground Go North!	Columbus, GA	Tour of vintage Airstreams for our Club	Reservations are open at this time 706-561-9675
November 10-12	Suwannee River Rendezvous Resort Lazin on the River	Mayo, FL	386-294-2510	Reservations will open Nov 10, 2022. Call the resort directly and mention Big Bend Airstream Club. Check their website for discounts



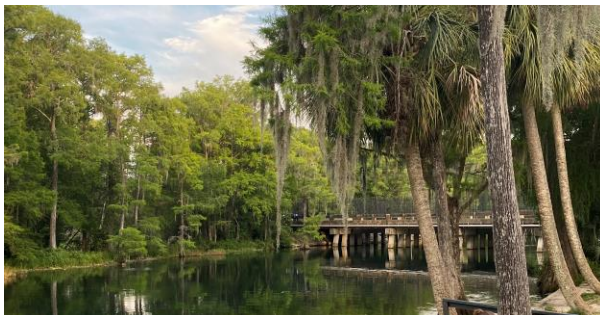
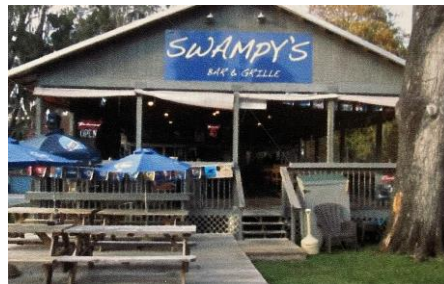
Rainbow Springs State Park Rally

May 20 – 22, 2022

Dunnellon, Florida

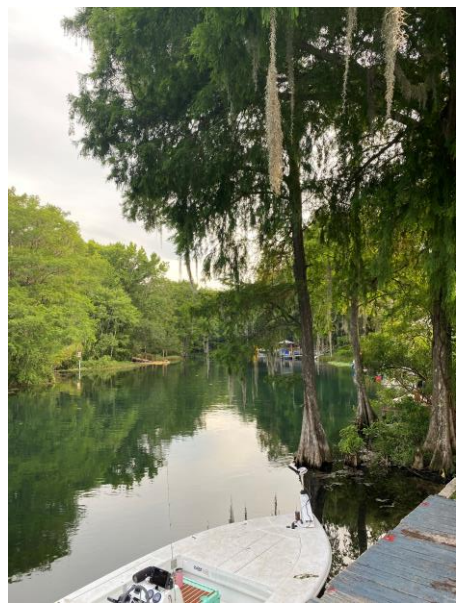
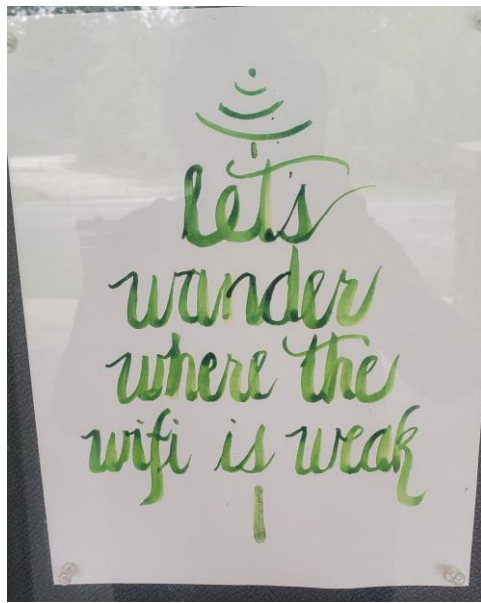
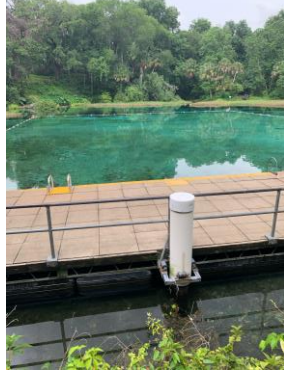
Those who attended: Scott and Jan Pfaff, Dan and Debbie Forney, John and Nancy Smith, Sammy and Chris Stockstill, Jason Friedrich, Lamar and Amy Waymire, Craig and Monica Brinkley and Audrey Powers, Bruce and Sandy Anderson, Tony and Barbara Olm, Lindsay and Randy Shropshire, and new members, Brian and Natalie Eaton.

Thursday





Friday... on the rivers and at Weeki Wachee!







Saturday...



Welcome to our new members, Natalie and Brian Eaton, who joined Big Bend after this rally!

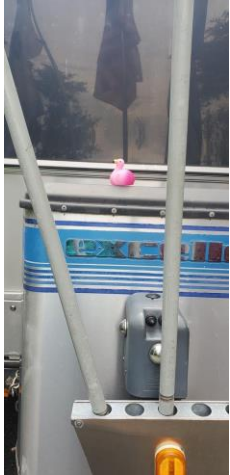
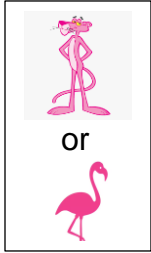


Many of us tubed down the river on Saturday, but sadly there are no pictures to document this epic event! FYI...We all made it back safely to our campsites.





The Case of the ~~Pink Panther~~ Flamingo... Who has flocked the Big Bend Members?



Even the dogs were perplexed! Watch out Big Benders,, You might be next!





Recipe for: Breakfast Burritos (Freezer Friendly)

Freezer friendly breakfast burritos are crisp on the outside and filled with tender scrambled eggs, ham, fresh tomatoes, and plenty of cheese. Our go-to breakfast burrito recipe.

Ingredients

- 6 medium flour tortillas, (8-inch diameter)
- 1/2 lb button mushrooms, (8 medium), thinly sliced - optional
- 1 Tbsp unsalted butter
- 6 large eggs
- 1/2 cup sour cream, divided (2 Tbsp for eggs & 1 Tbsp per tortilla)
- 1/4 tsp **sea salt**, (or to taste)
- 1/8 tsp black pepper, (or to taste)
- 2 oz deli ham, cut into strips or squares, optional
- 4 oz mozzarella cheese, (1 cup shredded)
- 1 tomato, diced - optional
- 3 Tbsp **olive oil**, to sauté (add more as needed)

Instructions

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together 6 eggs with 2 Tbsp sour cream, and salt and pepper to taste. Stir in the strips of ham and set aside.
2. Heat a large skillet over medium heat and add 1 Tbsp oil. Add sliced mushrooms and sauté until golden (5 min), stirring occasionally. Season lightly with salt and pepper then remove mushrooms.
3. In the same skillet over medium heat, melt 1 Tbsp of butter, add egg mixture and stir/scramble until the eggs are just cooked through (3 min) don't overcook. Remove from pan and set aside.

Assembling Breakfast Burritos:

1. Spread 1 Tbsp sour cream in the center of a tortilla and top with 1/6 of the cooked eggs, shredded mozzarella cheese, and sauteed mushrooms. Add 1-2 Tbsp diced tomatoes if using*. Don't over-stuff or they will be tough to roll.
2. Roll the burrito from top to bottom: tightly wrap the top flap over the filling, fold the edges in tightly and role to seal with the bottom flap. Repeat with remaining burritos.

To Heat Burritos:

1. Place a large skillet over medium heat with 2 Tbsp oil. Transfer fresh or thawed burritos to the hot pan, folded-side-down, and cook until golden brown on all sides (2 min per side), adding more oil as needed.

Recipe Notes

*Skip the tomatoes if planning to freeze breakfast burritos.





Airstream International Rally 2023

Fryeburg, Maine

By Lindsay Shropshire

International was a blast.

I felt very honored to represent Big Bend by carrying our flag, in the opening ceremony, as well as representing us in the delegate meeting.

The week started off HOT! I volunteered as a HOT CHICK the first week, helping assist the parking team.

The Hot Chicks, are the first group of girls (and one dude) you meet when arriving at the gate. It was our job to get the incoming rigs their welcome envelope which contained rally ribbons, meal tickets, and the schedule of events.

I LOVED this job! It was so fun to meet everyone at the gate and ask them how their journey went, as well as answer any question they had, right when they arrived.

Annette Conoly does a fantastic job organizing this part of the rally. Her energy is contagious, and her ability to make everything go smoothly, is something every Airstream Volunteer should strive to mimic.

I'd also love to give a special shout out to the parking team, which consists of several of our affiliate members. Joe Conoly and Tony Olm knocked it out of the park! They arrived three weeks before the rally started, to help Larry Owens, the parking team leader, to check and make sure every site was in perfect order before the Airstreams arrived. They also were on-call, throughout the rally, for late incoming Airstreams, as well as fixing minor issues with electric or water, and even emptying the trash cans. They even sawed off a few jack stands! These guys worked 24/7.

And I don't know who knows Stacy Daniel, a Canopenian, but she needs recognition. She was the pump out team leader and worked 8 hours a day, making sure all our tanks were pumped out on schedule. It was a poopy job, that she made look like a fun job.

We had a Big Bend Happy Hour, hosted by Chad and Delores. We had a great crowd. Several new Big Bend members even stopped by. We had snacks and shared some cocktails. We even managed to grab a photo. The night ended early, as the little non-biting beetles came out to greet us. Thank you, Chad and Delores for hosting this fun happy hour.



We also got together for an impromptu beer exchange, at my site one night. It was a huge hit, all the Big Bend members joined us, as well as our Canopenian friends. We had live music by Ben and Jill Lacy (Palmetto Unit). I'm pretty sure if we didn't know their real names, they were disguised as Grammy Award Winners. Ben played for FIVE hours straight, and Jill assisted him on some songs by playing the flute. We also had way too much fun with the "We Rally Together" cardboard cut-out. The party trailer even came by a few times.... even Dale Schwamborn, Wally Byam's nephew, came by for the fun, which is always an honor.

The delegate meeting went over without a hitch. What we thought would last hours, if not days, ended in a record 1-1/2 hours. Both the Amendments passed, in record time. Again, it was an honor to represent each and every one of you that voted. I learned so much about Club functions, by being a part of that committee.

As the week went by, the weather started to get cooler. Not the Maine weather we were all looking forward to, but nice enough to open a window or two in the evening.

I didn't have much time to take classes, but I did attend the Argosy History and Birthday Party one morning. Argosy turned 50 years old this year. I'm still holding out for a new release. Fingers crossed.

I also got to pet a Llama, totally an unplanned activity to do, at International. That was an exciting thing to check off the bucket list, that I didn't even know would interest me. They are so soft. And cute. I'd love to have one, but I don't think they are good pets for hauling around in an Airstream.

Randy and I enjoyed a late-night visit with Jay and Elna. Their van is technically savvy. Jay showed us all the ins and outs, of the van, and Randy got every question answered he always wondered about. Chatting with them is always a pleasure, their expertise and ability to share, is what makes our older generation of Airstream experts, an experience within itself.

Jay and I also had a wonderful morning conversation before the delegate meeting. His insights on Club functions, are always appreciated.

Fryeburg is such a cute little town. They welcomed us with open arms. Every place we visited was happy we were all there.

It's only been a few weeks and I'm already planning Wyoming next year. It's going to be all about Cowboys and Cowgirls. I'm crossing my fingers for nice weather, but as everyone says, "You can plan an International Rally in Juno, Alaska, and there will still be a heatwave!"







“Keeping up with the Joneses” 😊 (and the Conolys.....and the Olms!)





Registering on the WBCCI site:

Scott has added more dates to the web site, so you can now register for the fall, 2022 rallies and Canopener. If anyone needs to cancel their current reservations for any of the upcoming rallies, or if anyone really wants to attend one, and is unable to secure a reservation, please email me at stockcm1@gmail.com and I will try to contact those of our folks who are looking for a site.

Anyone who is attending the Splash Rally should **be sure to register on the WBCCI site ASAP**. If you are UNABLE to register, please send me your information (dates and site number). Our hosts would like to know how many people are attending so they can plan accordingly. At this time, the following people are registered on the WBCCI site:

- Scott and Jan Pfaff (but I believe they are cancelling)
- Sammy and Chris Stockstill
- Jason Friedrich
- Lamar and Amy Waymire
- Chad and Dolores Jones
- Brian and Barbara Robinson

If you have a reservation and your name is not listed here, please register on the WBCCI site OR email me ASAP to ensure that the hosts have accurate numbers and so you get the itinerary memo.

The itinerary for this rally will be emailed to all registered participants about one week before the rally.

Splash RV Resort in Milton is next!!!





(Repost from last month... Keep this caravan on your radar, more information will be coming later.)

Big Bend Unit Caravan “Sweet Home Alabama” October 15-22, 2023

By Monica Brinkley

Do you enjoy spending time exploring with your fellow Airstreamers? If you do, please consider caravanning to North Alabama with us from October 15-22, 2023.

We briefly discussed this trip at the O’Leno Rally general meeting. The plan is to leave from the unit rally which is planned for Columbus, Georgia at Lake Pines RV. We will travel to DeSoto State Park in Ft. Payne, Alabama, and spend a few days there, exploring waterfalls, historical sites, and we will find some brews and BBQ. Then we will travel to Joe Wheeler State Park in Rogersville, Alabama. While in that area, we will go to the Rattlesnake Saloon, visit some museums and more historical sites, and enjoy nature, The caravan will then drive south to Montgomery, Alabama, and spend our last night at Gunter Hill Campground.

More details will be coming soon. Hope you plan to join in on the fun!





Welcome to our new members in the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club

- Brian and Natalie Eaton of Port St. Lucie, Florida
- Mary and Darrell Laver of Tallahassee, Florida
- Chip and Traci Leavine of Crawfordville, Florida
- Chuck Kelley of Fort Walton Beach, Florida
- Tim and Angie Maxwell of Riverview, Florida (affiliate members)

The Big Bend Florida Airstream Club welcomes each of you to our club! Hope to see everyone at one of the upcoming rallies!

Miscellaneous..

- Next February's rally in Otter Springs is now available for reservations. Be sure to mention that you are with the Big Bend Airstream Group, so we are grouped close together and you get a special rate. Phone number and dates are listed on the 2023 schedule on p. 5 of this newsletter.
- Meaher State Park is also open for reservations for next year. Be sure you mention that you are with the Big Bend Airstream group when making reservations, and set your alarms to remind you to register, as Meaher State Park fills up quickly.
- Port St. Joe (September 2023) and Lake Pines RV Resort (October 2023) are also open for reservations. Please see the 2023 Rally Schedule for more details.

*******General Meeting will be held at the October Rally in Mexico Beach...**

Splash or Mexico Beach Reservations:

If you are still in need of reservations for Splash in September or Mexico Beach in October, Scott and Jan Pfaff will be cancelling their sites. You can contact Scott or Jan, or Chris regarding these reservations. There may still be availability by calling Splash and El Governor as well.

Photo Credits for this newsletter:

Monica Brinkley, Jason Friedrich, Laurie Jones, Barbara Olm, Lindsay Shropshire, John Smith, Chris Stockstill

(No "vintage" newsletter included this month due to length of this edition.)

Keep Streamin'!!!