



# The Alamo Bugle



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BENJAMIN YOUNG - PRESIDENT

MARCH 2023  
MUFFIN CAMP - EDITOR

## *TAU Board 2022-2023*

- President - Ben Young
- 1st Vice President - Rich Espinosa
- 2nd Vice President - AnnMarie Esparza
- 3rd Vice President - open
- Treasurer - Roseann Wood
- Corresponding and Recording Secretary - Diane Espinosa
- 2 Year Trustees - Levoy Dell and Jimmy Cook
- 1 Year Trustees - Robert Tillman and Les Postlethwait



## *February Presidential Ponderings*

The problem with not having a rally is it results in missing time with all of you. It also means my ponderings often go in other directions. Take what you like and leave the rest. The following is from an article I wrote recently entitled "Slow Growth."

We operate much of the time on autopilot. This is a useful ability. Whether it is good or bad depends on the situation.

When we walk through our days in more or less routine ways we have the opportunity to grow, learn, and develop new skills and also develop new relationships and deepen older ones thanks to our autopilots. This is because we can focus our minds on one or two things while a million others are being managed without much thought through already established habit patterns. Hopefully the habits are good ones, but we all know this isn't the case and why changing behavior isn't easy.

Another day-spending option, and I'm speaking from personal experience here, is to not focus to learn and grow but just waste time. I can't tell you how many times I have looked at some open time in the future and told myself that I will use it to do something creative or important, only to completely fritter it away.

So what causes or enables us to change, grow, and improve besides our reliance on habits? I believe there are at least two things.

The first is pain. Suffering awakens me to the absolute necessity to change my ways. The second is repetition. Before any good behaviors can become natural they must be practiced. At first they feel foreign, but over time, eventually, they begin to feel second nature. That's how habits are formed, slowly, over time, through repetition and a bit of discomfort.



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It reminds me of the simple statement heard and repeated often in both AA and Al-Anon, "Keep coming back." This simple idea of just returning to meet over and over results in changing from inebriated to sober and codependent to happy, joyous, and free.

This also applies to rallies. Keep coming back. We love it when you do.



Note from Roseann: As some of you know, Bruce and I used to sponsor a "non-rally" the second weekend of April at Roadrunner RV Park in Johnson City. I am resurrecting this again and invite all to come and camp. This year is April 14 - 16. Contact Roadrunner RV at 830-255-7650; let them know you are part of my group. No agenda, no timeframes, I provide the protein for Friday night, you are invited to bring snacks, sides or a dessert. Saturday night is entirely potluck. There is lots to do in the area, including eating lunch at the 3rd best burger place in Texas, Alamo Springs Cafe. Hope to see you there (let me know if you will attend).

**[roseanntexas2020@yahoo.com](mailto:roseanntexas2020@yahoo.com)**

## **2023 Caravan**

**Sue P**

Was I nervous? YES! After 18 months of talking and planning it was finally going to happen: **The TAU Caves, Graves and Staves Caravan!**

I think I called every destination 5 or 6 times, probably more. Even then I was nervous something was going to happen. I was reminded of a talk I went to when I was training for my first marathon: Imposter Syndrome: Fake it till you make it. I did feel like an imposter. I was a fifty year old who last time ran in junior high.

Doing a full on marathon I needed mental help. But run I did and medal I received!

The planning paid off and the caravan happened. Did things go perfect? NOPE! But what does? We had a great time!

It was a full schedule with so much to do. We hiked and gazed upon scenic views. We ate delicious dinners and laughed till our sides hurt. There were stars and clouds. We played games and best of all got to know a few of our members much, much better!

Friends are always the best part of any experience. Like the medal that came after the marathon training and race, new freindships are the gift of the planning and execution of the caravan.

Next month there will be articles and photos on each day from every member of the caravan!

Nominations are now open for new officers for TAU. We are looking for two vice president positions and two trustee positions. A search committee was formed at January's Rally. Anyone interested in serving can contact Samuel Esparza who is heading this committee. **[sespar777@yahoo.com](mailto:sespar777@yahoo.com)**

# Chili COOKOFF

TAU's February rally in Niederwald was the site of our club's annual chili cook-off. There were ten entries this year and I'm very relieved to say that I didn't have to decide on the winner. We had five guest judges from the Longhorn resort who took great care in tasting each and every entry. All the chilis were awesome but only one could take the crown. The top ranked chili started out sweet but finished with a spicy kick. The chef, Kevin Adams, a new TAU member, was our winner and will make his chili in the Region 9 chili cook-off in Gonzales this March. The grand prize was a chef's hat and apron embroidered with the TAU logo. Our club will be well represented with his awesome chili. LET'S MAKE IT TWO IN A ROW from TAU for Region 9's best chili. Good luck Kevin. We're rooting for you!



Thanks

Rich Espinosa

# Rally Schedule 2023



March 25-27 Buena Vista Wildlife Safari and RV Resort  
1830 Hwy 281, Evant  
254-791-5441

April 22-24 Leisure Resort on the San Marcos River  
1 River Lane, Fentress  
512-213-0112

May 26-28 Lagoons RV Resort  
600 Enterprise Blvd, Rockport  
361-729-7834

September Roadrunner RV Park  
23-25 501 S Hwy 281, Johnson City 2023 830-255-7650



**November 2023 Rally**  
**Nov 23-26 at Oakwood Resort**  
FM 2093 Fredericksburg Texas  
Contact: Malinda 830-997-9817

The resort does not schedule rallies during the Thanksgiving holiday because they provide a Thanksgiving feast for their guests. They will allow reservations in excess of 10 sites if they have availability, **so make your reservations ASAP.** T  
Safe travels  
Rich Espinosa  
1st VP TAU



## Weekend Schedule

Thursday Early Arrivals:  
4 pm Social Hour  
6 pm Potluck Dinner

Friday:  
4 pm Social Hour  
5 pm Opening Ceremonies  
6 pm Dinner

Saturday  
8:30 am Breakfast  
4 pm Pay Rally Fees  
5 pm Social Hour  
6 pm Dinner  
7:30 pm Games

Sunday  
8:30 am Breakfast  
9:00 am Devotional

# TAU Caves, Graves, and Staves Caravan

Feb 13, 2023

by Luke Brennecke



In the morning, Greg led group of us on a nice short hike along the Boquillas Canyon Trail. The views up through the canyon and up and down the Rio Grande River were spectacular. In addition to native plants which were expertly identified by several members of our little group (notably Greg, Sue, and Dottie), we saw numerous mortar holes in the limestone that were created and used by native peoples to grind their food. They were also created by a number of birds, and at least three four-legged equine residents of Mexico that had crossed the river because, "The grass is always greener on the other side . . .".

In the afternoon, we drove up to the Chisos Basin. Again, the views were spectacular. We enjoyed a group lunch at the Chisos Mountains Lodge restaurant (soon to be torn down and re-built) before taking a short walk for a group photo in the roaring wind with "The Window" in the background.

Back at Rio Grande Village we enjoyed each other's company for a happy hour prior to thoroughly enjoying the fabulous dinner that was prepared by Dottie.



# MARCH



02 Jimmy Cook  
09 Stephanie McConnell  
13 Kevin Adams

None to celebrate this month!

*Has your name been missing from our celebration Airstream? Please email Roseann Wood your birthday/anniversary dates, especially if you joined our fun group after Jan 2019!*



## Lunch Out

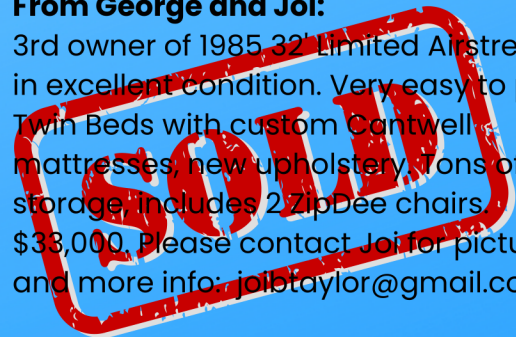
Please join the next meetup  
at Chris Madrids  
Saturday March 11th @ 12 noon  
*(We meet on every 2nd  
Saturday of the month)*



## For Sale

### From George and Joi:

3rd owner of 1985, 32' Limited Airstream in excellent condition. Very easy to pull. Twin Beds with custom Cantwell mattresses, new upholstery. Tons of storage, includes 2 ZipDee chairs. \$33,000. Please contact Joi for pictures and more info: [joltaylor@gmail.com](mailto:joltaylor@gmail.com)



# March Rally 2023 Info



Here's what you need to know for the March rally at Buena Vista Wildlife Safari and RV Park scheduled for March 24-26th

If you haven't already made your reservations, please do so by calling the park at (254) 791-5441.

Friday's dinner, Saturday's breakfast and Sunday's breakfast will be hosted at the RV park.

Saturday's dinner will be a potluck at the 4T Ranch (Joi and George Taylor's amazing property in Evant). They will grill the protein and we will contribute appetizers, sides and desserts. We can arrive as early as 1:30 and enjoy the wonderful views and wildlife.

Other activities include the wildlife safart. Gatesville has the Spur Museum, and Hico is home to Wiseman Chocolate, a short drive away.

We will also host a swap meet on Saturday at the 4T Ranch. Bring your unneeded Airstream, RVing and/or camping gear - buy, sell or barter!

Lifetime TAU members *Cliff and Gail Hall* and former TAU members *Jimmy and Diane Lohrke* will be attending our March rally in Evant.

Cliff Hall was one of the founding members of Texas Alamo Unit in 1977, and also served as TAU President from 1978-1979, and was Region President from 1999 - 2001.

Gail Hall served at TAU President from 2002-2003.

Jimmy Lohrke served as TAU President from 2004-2005, and Diane Lohrke served as TAU Treasurer from 2015-2016. Surely, they have lots of memories to share!

