



The Alamo Bugle



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BENJAMIN YOUNG - PRESIDENT

FEBRUARY 2023
MUFFIN CAMP - EDITOR

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January Presidential Ponderings

As I said at the beginning of this particular rally, it is one of my favorites because January is expected to have weather that invites people to stay indoors. Although the weather, comparing to previous winter rallies was on the mild side, it was still overcast and drizzly making it the perfect time for a hot bowl of chili and a good table game with great friends. If you missed this rally, I'm sorry. Come next time and also this particular rally next year because it really is that much fun.

Big thanks to our hosts Diane and Rich Espinoza who are rally pros. Every meal was fantastic. Also thank you to all the dessert creators to include AnnMarie Esparza with wonderful cupcakes topped with a delicious frosting that included cardamom.

I know! Right?

I would have never thought of this.

Of course, as we all know Cardamom (/ˈkɑːrdəməm/), sometimes cardamon or cardamum, is a spice made from the seeds of several plants in the genera Elettaria and Amonum in the family Zingiberaceae. Both genera are native to the Indian subcontinent and Indonesia. Anyway, life changing. No, it's not an hallucinogen.

Also, thank you Roseann Wood for the baked goods you provided. She gave me some cookies and crumb cake to take home. On my drive back I had that bag opened by mile five.

As always others contributed to the host work load which, again, make these gatherings so much fun for all.



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Pre-rally Rumor

I was informed of a Cabellas run Friday afternoon where equipment was purchased in anticipation of the upcoming caravan in February. Binoculars were among the items purchased. I think people are getting excited.

Bean Bag Baseball

After dinner Friday evening we played our traditional girls against boys beanbag baseball. Levoy Dell, a professional heckler, failed to bring home the baseball pennant for the men. It seemed the more he heckled the more the ladies scored. It was an exciting high score game of intense jovial rivalry. Final score: Ladies 24. Gentlemen 21.

Levoy stated the next day that the women exhibited poor sportsmanship by exhibiting too much joy the rest of the rally. I sensed the same thing about the joy part but they are very good sports putting up with us guys.

We're playing by those rules???

Following the ball game, eight of us started Mexican Train Dominos. We quickly discovered that there are a variety of optional rules. This was compounded more, I believe, by the whiskey sampling opportunity provided earlier in the evening. Probably this was why we decided not to keep score. Who won? Who cares.

Next Morning

Pancakes were professionally made by Diane E who majored in organic chemistry as a child. (I made that up).

Following breakfast many of us took a VIP tour of the new Camper Clinic II facility. The old one is no longer and the new one is up and running right next door. Once all the RVs and equipment were moved over, the old facility was completely leveled. In about eight months a new facility dedicated to brands not Airstream will open for business, at which time the two entities will separate leaving for Airstreamers one of the largest sales and service centers in the country.

We returned for a perfect pre-chili cook-off lunch of tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches provided by Roseann and AnnMarie. Thank you both.

Sunday Morning

AnnMarie introduced me to whipping half and half to foam for coffee with a tiny handheld whipping device. It has changed my life, more or less, and reminds me that we are a true population of glampers.

Finally, A Rally Sign-up Tip

We are finding that when people call the RV Parks to make reservations it is more likely they will be placed near others in the Rally. Always get your reservations as soon as possible. Some who registered online were not connected to our group. They may have also missed out in a group discount.

Hope to see you at our March rally and to all going on the upcoming caravan, have a safe and wonderful time!

Ben



Having some FOMO? We've missed you! Please join the next meetup at Chris Madrids Saturday February 11th 12 noon
(We meet on every 2nd Saturday of the month)

Rally Schedule 2023



February TAU Caves, Graves, and Staves Caravan

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

Weekend Schedule

Rally 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

FEBRUARY



09 Sandy Baird
09 Lilly Putney
11 Muffin Camp
15 Nova Stephenson
20 Betty Dunn

02 Samuel & AnnMarie Esparza

For Sale

Past President Warren Wundt is selling his 1985 Airstream Excella, 32', everything works; has the lighter frame so can be pulled with a half-ton truck \$28,000.00. If you need additional details, please email Roseann Wood at roseanntexas2020@yahoo.com and she will send you a very detailed description of the rig provided by Warren.

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: joibtaylor@gmail.com

From the Recipe Box...

Old Fashioned Easy Apple Crisp from The Chunky Chef

Prep Time 15 mins

Cook Time 45 mins

Total Time 1 hr

Ingredients

6 golden delicious apples, peeled and chopped (other varieties can be used, can also be sliced)

2 Tbsp granulated sugar

1 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon, divided

1 1/2 tsp lemon juice

1 cup light brown sugar

3/4 cup old fashioned oats

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, diced into small cubes

pinch of kosher salt



Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 F degrees. Butter an 8x8 baking dish, or spray with non-stick cooking spray. Set aside.

In a mixing bowl, add chopped apples, granulated sugar, 3/4 tsp of the cinnamon and lemon juice. Stir to combine, then transfer to prepared baking dish.

In a separate mixing bowl, add topping ingredients (brown sugar, oats, flour, 1 tsp cinnamon, salt, and diced cold butter). Use a pastry cutter to cut the butter into the oat mixture, using a slight downward twisting motion, until mixture resembled pea-sized crumbs. Alternatively, you can use two forks or even your hands to cut butter into the mixture.

Spread topping over apples in baking dish, and gently pat to even it out. Bake 40-50 minutes, until golden brown and bubbly.

Serve warm and enjoy!

Notes

The amount of chopped apples would be about 6-7 cups.

Note that all ovens bake differently, so yours may take a little less or a little more time to bake.

January RALLY



Memories



Levoy Dell and Steve McConnell



Levoy and Ben Young are jamming!



Rich Espinosa did an excellent job displaying the flags



George and Geno chat it up!



Rich and Diane Espinosa



Joi, Malen and Sue @ Social Hour



Rich crowns Kevin Adams as the Chili Cook off Winner



Looking good, Betty and Geno!



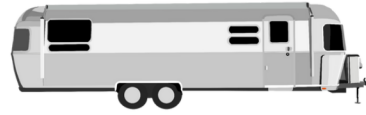
Jason and Johnnda Pugh @ social hour



AnnMarie and Samuel Esparza. Wonder what he said that AnnMarie has her spatula ready!

Camper Clinic Outing

by Sue Postelthwait



The highlight of the January rally was our group visit to Camper Clinic II. Well.....after the great food, after all the laughter playing games, after seeing everyone in the New Year. I always love the January Rally! But I digress....

We showed up to Camper Clinic II (aka CCII) and were treated to donuts, kolaches and coffee. We met General Manager Able Gonzales and Service Manager Leroy Calk. They gave us a quick overview of all the construction and changes that will be happening at CCII. One of them being there will be a name change to Airstream of Austin once the construction is complete.

The service bays were amazing, so clean and big, not at all what they had in the past. And to top it all off....they had so many models for us to walk through as they were gearing up for the Austin RV Show.

We also met Rachel Adams, who will be joining our unit soon. I believe she is probably the social media manager and expressed interest in helping us get our face out there more at events!

All in all I was really impressed with all the changes going on. And glad we went because I don't think I have had a kolache since my return to Texas!





ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. However, they do let families reserve ten sites during the Thanksgiving holiday. *When making your reservations, please let them know that you are with the Espinosa family gathering.* They will allow reservations in excess of 10 sites if they have availability, **so make your reservations ASAP.** They also provide local wines as part of the meal. They only ask that attendees provide a side dish to share. Suggested side dishes will be provided as we get closer to the November 2023 rally. There are no age restrictions at the Oakwood Resort so children and/or grandchildren are welcome.

Safe travels
Rich Espinosa
1st VP TAU

Terry Barnhart reports: We are nomadic Airstreamers currently hosting at Tortilla Campground in Tonto National Forest outside Apache Junction, Arizona. This is a fabulous National Forest Campground with 50 first come first serve beautiful campsites each having water and sewer. No showers, but flush toilets are available!

Would love to have some Alamo visitors!

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

THANK YOU for all the photos and articles! Keep my inbox full, please.

Where have you been...are you out and about traveling? The club is curious and interested in where you've been in your trailer and without it!

Send us your travel news or other news.

Have you purchased something for your trailer, or made an upgrade? Send me your article(s) and photos by the end of March!

muffincamp@gmail.com

Until next time...