August 2023

ALMOST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TEXAS HILL COUNTRY UNIT

The Bluebonnet

President's Message

Well, for those who were not able to attend the 8/19 luncheon at Louisiana Longhorn Cafe.....aw, we won't rub it in. Thirty one attended, great food, folks and fun. Tim Ebbers updated on planning for next year, Ally Ebbers announced the slate of Officers for 2024, and I touched on the following items:

- 1) The remote rally in Terlingua / Big Bend has 7 participants. Obviously hoping for a break in the heat before 9/16. I'm the host if you develop a late interest! The first stop is at Fort Stockton RV Park for a night then on to Road Runner Travelers RV Park for five nights.
- 2) Up next, in October, is Boondocking at Schitz Creek Winery, Distillery and Brewery 10/19-22. Zephyr Marek is the host if you're interested, contact at faye_marek@yahoo.com, participation is limited, but still open!
- 3) November is our Thanksgiving and Installation Rally at the Vineyards in Fredericksburg, 11/16-19. Pat and Mike Green and Gerald and Theresa Davis are co-hosts and meal planners. Region 9 President, Nancy Fitzgerald, will be installing new THCU Officers. Now is the time to call and reserve your site, 830-992-1237, and mention THCU (Texas Hill Country Unit). They are holding our sites so far.

Welcome to our newest THCU members: Michele Rast & Chris Usher from Llano, TX, David Tait from Canyon Lake, TX, David Rohde & Erin Rohde from Green Cove Springs, FL and our newest affiliate members: Guy Gamba & Lisa Brackett from Trophy Club, TX and Dan Santee & Megan Santee from New Braunfels, TX. As new members, check out our activities for the rest of the year as well as next year. Hope to see you/meet you at one of them!

Last week, there were instructions have been sent to all THCU Regular Members regarding voting for the nominated slate of Officers (2023/2024); and, separately, for proposed revisions to the THCU Constitution. We are required to review these no less than every 5 years and revise as necessary. Thank you for all who have already voted for the slate of officers and constitution changes. Please vote if you have not already; all voting will be by email back to me and/or 0104@wbcci.net. The voting window is open until 5 PM, Thursday, August 31st. That's it for now....hoping the official end of summer will include cooler temps. Safe travels in the mean time!



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

Meet David and Erin Rohde

We are David and Erin Rohde, I am originally from Cypress, TX and a retired USAF B-2 Stealth Bomber Crew Chief. Erin I met at my first duty location in central Missouri. Erin is from Lamonte MO and was raised on a 4 generation, 175 year old, 1800 acre crop and cattle farm. We have a son serving in the USAF and currently stationed outside of London at RAF Mildenhall. He and his wife are expecting their first child in January. We are very excited to become grandparents. We also have a daughter who works for the probation office and resides in MO. We have 2 dogs and 2 cats and are hitting the road full time starting in Sept. We love baseball and the Houston Astros. We enjoy the outdoors in general, but tough to beat a hotdog, cold beer and the crack of a bat.

This is our first Airstream. Planning to drive in circles for a few years chasing the weather.

When we decided to finally pull the plug and prep for the full time nomad life we chose the 33 Classic for the larger bathroom and numerous amenities. You hear a lot of negatives from what folks are calling the "post COVID" trailers, but that has not been our experience. Our rig has performed really well in our 15 months of ownership. We love the ease of setup, but we don't love the couch which we feel needs to be deeper.

We just completed a 9500 mile, 63 day trip from St. Augustine FL to Crater Lake, OR and back. We hit 10 National Parks and enjoyed many other stops along the way.

Our bucket list includes finishing our MLB Stadium and National Parks checklists. Thanks for having us and Go Stros!

Dave and Erin (Reveille - 2021 Classic 33FBQ)



Meet Michelle Rast and Chris Usher

Chris and I just moved to Hill Country in the past 1.5 years, both formerly in the NE. Chris was in WV in the Washington DC area and I was in NJ near NYC.

Chris is a Photographer and I am in retail Marketing (many brands you would know.) We have a great sporty dog named Maple who loves our airstream and traveling. She's a wire-haired pointing griffon (type of

pointer) and needs lots of

running/play time!



This is our first Airstream and we are thrilled - it was preowned but the previous owners loved it and maintained it. We are eager to figure out some of the quirks and up-

grades the former owner installed - we cannot figure out the sound system, but we will prevail!

The windows are incredible and if is just a quality experience! We want to improve the dinette area - not ideal for the space.

Most memorable trip so far was a 7,777 mile trip from Llano TX to Delfest (MD) to upstate NY (Colgate Reunion, VT (Lake Champlain, Quebec City, New Brunswick, PEI, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Maine, upstate NY, PA/Poconos to Family and a side trip to Rehoboth Beach, DE, then back to TX. We escaped the smoke and the floods as we were just ahead of it all. We did not hit the heat dome again until AK on the way back -

spent 2 weeks in Llano at 112

degrees on our porch in the shade every day - we cried uncle and headed out again. We are currently at Cochiti State Park outside Santa Fe, NM and headed to Ridgway park in CO near Telluride - so those may be new favs!

Bucket list is the West coast up to BC and Alaska!





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 Ebbers
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 participants22 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	Roadrunner RV Park	See additional notes for this rally on the next page
Big Bend Caravan	23315 FM 170 Terlingua, TX 79852 432-466-1036	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	See additional notes for this rally on the next page 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	See additional notes for this rally on the next page 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	See additional notes for this rally on the next page

Notes on the last few THCU activities of 2023:

Big Bend Caravan (September 16-23)

- Coordinator: Bob and Jan Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com; 210-722-1080)
- 9/16 (check in date) and 9/22 (check in date)
- Fort Stockton RV Park 3604 KOA Rd, Fort Stockton, TX 79735; Call 888-432-2964 to make your reservations
- 9/17 (check in date) 9/22 (check out date)—
- Roadrunner RV Park 23315 FM 170 Terlingua, TX 79852; Call 432-466-1036 to make your reservations

Schitz Creek Distillery Boondocking Rally (October 19-22, 2023)

- Coordinator: Dan and Zephyr Marek
- Located at 101 County Road 257, Liberty Hill, TX 78642
- They offer: Texas Distilled Bourbon, Vodka, 3 Yr Solera Whiskey, Wheat Whiskey, Apple Pie Moonshine, Honey Pepper Whiskey and Texas Beers from Lager, IPA, Stout, Pale Ale, Wheat, Bock and Light Lager
- This is a boondocking rally with a limit of 20 rigs with 7 rigs signed up.
- Since this is a boondocking rally, we (Ebbers) are going to camp on the 22nd at River Ranch County Park located at 2100 CR 279, Liberty Hill, TX 78642. We don't have dump facilities at our place, so we will be camping a night with hookups and dump. If you are in the same situation and would like to camp and dump or just dump, this is a good and close option from Schitz Creek. Camping is around \$22-\$24 a night and just dumping is \$10.
- Rally itinerary will published at a later time.
- If you have not yet signed up, contact Zephyr Marek (faye_marek@yahoo.com)
 and/or Bob Grimes (txairstreamer@gmail.com); DO NOT contact Schitz Creek to reserve.



The Vineyards of Fredericksburg Installation Rally (November 16-19, 2023)

- Coordinator: Mike & Pat Green and Gerald & Theresa Davis .
- Located at 2647 N US Hwy 87, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624; call (830) 992-1237 to make your reservations. Let them know you are with the Texas Hill Country Unit.
- Nancy Fitzgerald will be installing the new 2023/2024 officers.
- Rally itinerary will published at a later time.
- If you are attending, call the park to make your reservations then let Bob Grimes know you are coming by emailing him at txairstreamer@gmail.com or calling him at 210-722-1080.

Double Horn Brewing Company December 16, 2023 @ 11:30 am

- · Coordinator: Tim Ebbers.
- 208 Ave H, Marble Falls, TX 78654
- Additional information regarding this event will be published at a later time.
- Limited to 40; few have signed up so there's room!
- Let Tim know if you are going to attend this event with the number of persons attending.





THCU 2024 Schedule		
Date	Location	Comments
Feb 24-Mar 2	Tour of the TX Coast Rally	See additional notes for this rally on the next page
		Contact Tim Ebbers for details if you are interested in joining us for all or part of this tour. Your reservations needs to be made by October 2023 if you want to attend this caravan.
April 6-9	Boondocking Eclipse Rally	This is a boondocking rally in Fredericksburg, TX. This boondocking rally is limited to the first 16 rigs to sign up.
		See next page for additional details regarding this event.
May 1-5	Region 9 2024 Rally Bandera, TX	Registration will be in 2024. Location will be Skyline RV Park.
June 27-30	Joint rally with GHAC Crockett Lakefront RV Resort Crockett, TX	This will be a joint rally with the Greater Houston Airstream Club. Contact Tim Ebbers if you are interested in this rally.
July		
August	Luncheon at Hi Sign Brewing Austin, TX	
September TBD	Temple/Waco Rally	
Sept 26—Oct 10	International @ Sedalia, MO	Dates include a caravan with stops in Little Rock, AK and Branson, MO before going to Sedalia. Parking with the THCU Group in Sedalia will be two days before the start of International.
		Contact Tim Ebbers for dates and locations.
November 07-10	Installation Rally Colorado Landing RV Park La Grange, TX	
December	TBD	
	<u>I</u>	1



Notes on a few of the THCU activities in 2024:

Texas Coast Caravan (February 24—March 2, 2024)

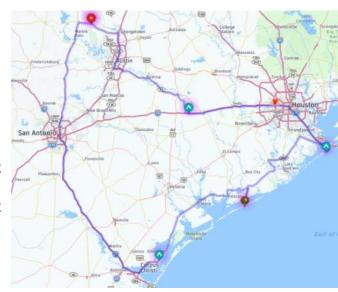
- Coordinators: Ira & Terri Rush and Tim & Ally Ebbers
- This will be a mini caravan through three TX coastal towns starting at
 - 1. Iron Horse RV Resort in Weimer, TX . (Feb 24—1 night)
 - 2. Stella Mare Resort in Galveston, TX. (Feb 25-27 2 nights
 - 3. Matagorda Bay Nature Park in Matagorda, TX. (Feb 27-29 2 nights) Sites 3-12
 - 4. Silver Oaks Airstream Park in Aransas Pass, TX. (Feb 29-Mar 2 2 nights)
- If you are going to do all or part of this caravan, please let Tim Ebbers know at timberintx@gmail.com. He will send you the information for booking the sites for each park. Unfortunately

each park has its own way of reserving. It is recommended to make your reservations before the end of October if not sooner. These beach cities start filling up with monthly renters from the north. Currently the parks are not yet booking their monthlies.



Boondocking Eclipse Rally (April 6-9)

- Coordinators: Mike & Pat Green and Tim & Ally Ebbers
- This rally will be boondocking in a cattle pasture. Due to the location and season of the year, should there be rain before or during the rally, this rally will be cancelled. We don't want y'all stuck with the bull in our wet pasture. Generators can be used as long as you are not annoying anyone else.
- Our pasture (& home) is 9 miles east of Fredericksburg, just off Hwy 290.
 We are not in Fredericksburg.
- Fredericksburg has produced a lengthy <u>guide</u> to the eclipse. You can also access this at www.eclipseinfbgtx.com. The high points are:
- a. The burg will be filled to overflowing with eclipse chasers from all over the U.S.
- b. Businesses will be slammed or will close down when they run out of supplies.
- c. Come with a full tank of gas.
- d. HEB is predicting they will run out of groceries before the weekend is over.
- e. Traffic will be a booger.
- On the above mentioned website, pay particular attention to pages 7 and 8.
- 4. If you plan on attending this rally, please let Tim Ebbers know by emailing him at timberintx@gmail.com. This rally will be limited to 16 rigs. Due to the popularity of this event, a THCU Member will have priority although don't wait until the last moment.
- 5. Additional information regarding activities, rally fees, and limitations will be published to the attendees as we get them.





AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

- 05 Becky Gray
- 11 David Smith
- 25 Robert Lemley



Aug 09 Susan Fegley and Craig Fegley

Aug 12 Elise Winchester and Nathan Winchester

Aug 14 Carol Wallace and Charlie Williams

Sep 04 Mark and Peggy Knox

Sep 06 Warner and Gail Hord

Sep 12 Robert and Jan Grimes

Sep 11 Jerry and Patti Phillippe

Sep 22 Felicia and Kevin Johnson

Sep 24 Tamara Burnsed and John Cragle

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 EbbersWeb Master: Tim Ebbers



New Members:

- * Michele Rast & Chris Usher from Llano, TX
- David Tait from Canyon Lake, TX
- David Rohde & Erin Rohde from Green Cove Springs, FL

New Affiliate Members

- * Guy Gamba & Lisa Brackett from Trophy Club, TX
- * Dan Santee & Megan Santee from New Braunfels, TX



Website: https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry
THCU President: txairstreamer@gmail.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit



EZ Links

This page is dedicated to links you may want to access. These are links within AirstreamClub.org and other links you may find helpful. If you have a link or website you find helpful and would like to add to this, please send it to me at 0104@wbcci.net.

AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG — https://airstreamclub.org/

Description: This is the mainsite for WBCCI Members. There are a few pages that do not require a log in, but most of the helpful links within these pages will require a log in. A log in can be created if you are a WBCCI Member.

Helpful links within airstreamclub.org (log in is required)

Courtesy Parking Directory— https://airstreamclub.org/members/courtesy-parking-directory

Description: Have you ever wanted to mooch-dock? If you find yourself in a situation where you just need a place to park with no/minimal hookups, check out this least used benefit of being a WBCCI member. Let's use it! It would be a great way to meet other members across the United States AND Canada. Can I get a WHOOP WHOOP?

Texas Hill Country Unit—https://airstreamclub.org/texas-hill-country

Description: This is the official THCU site within airstreamclub.org. It has links to the Rallies for our unit, newsletters, and other THCU Information. Check it out.

Blue Beret Magazine—https://airstreamclub.org/member-only-section/member-only-blue-beret-magazine

2024 International Registration link (and information) - https://airstreamclub.org/rally2024

Campfire chats—https://airstreamclub.org/events/campfire-chats

Description: This page link includes all of the prior recorded campfire chats, any future campfire chat dates and time AND on the day of the campfire chat the link to the virtual meeting.

WBCCI local rallies, events and national caravans—https://airstreamclub.org/events

Description: If you want to check out and attend a rally outside of THCU rallies, check this out! If you want to attend another unit's rally it is proper etiquette to email the wagonmaster, event planner, or coordinator first prior to booking to ensure there is room for you to attend.—unless there are other registration instructions are listed for the event.

Other Links

THCU Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/267836193395602/
Description: This is a private facebook group for THCU members and friends of THCU.