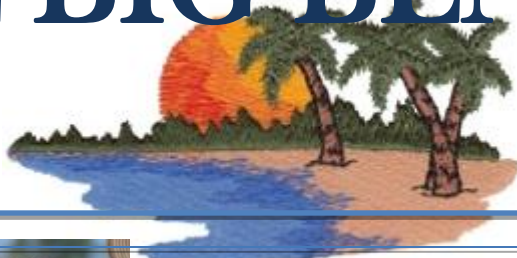


THE BIG BENDER

BIG BEND FLORIDA
AIRSTREAM CLUB

UNIT 153 REGION 3

VOLUME 49
NUMBER 8
September 2023
Airstreamclub.org



OFFICERS 2022 - 2023

President

RoseMarie Anderson

1st Vice President

Lindsay Shropshire

2nd Vice President

David Conrad

Secretary

Chris Stockstill

Treasurer

Jan Pfaff

Trustees

Monica Brinkley
Scott Pfaff
Gary Anderson
Dolores Jones

Membership

Lamar & Amy
Waymire

Directory/Webpage

Randy Shropshire



Hello,
September!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

By: RoseMarie Anderson

Big Benders kicked off the Fall camping season in style. Hosts Christine and Sammy Stockstill and Amber and Daniel Brock provided activities and meals to please the whole crowd. Thank you to our fabulous Hosts and St. Joe RV Manager Miles who provided the perfect background for a relaxing weekend. Read on for details about the weekend and the quest to find the lone flamingo!

Its time to renew your WBCCI registration! Everyone should have received an email making it very simple to sign up with Big Bend Florida Airstream Club. At the same time, register for the upcoming October Club Rally at Lake Pines Campground in Columbus, Georgia (706-561-9675) and November rally at Suwannee River Rendezvous Resort in Mayo, Florida. Book before Oct 10 to get the club discount at Suwannee River Resort, (386-294-2510). Make your campground reservation first, then register on the Big Bend website. As a courtesy, please email the Host so they have a correct head count for activities and food purchases. <https://airstreamclub.org/big-bend-florida>

If you've never participated in an Airstream caravan now is the time!!! There is space on the Club Caravan which runs Oct 15 – 21. Experience some of the amazing and fascinating parts of Alabama in the company of other club members. Contact Monica Brinkley to sign up or for more information. sweetashoneyliberty@gmail.com

Looking forward....

Election of Big Bend Officers for 2024...see article below
Region 3 Rally in Doswell, Virginia, April 17 - 21
International Rally in Sedalia, MO. – October 5 – 10.
2024 Big Bend Rally Lineup for December 2023 – November 2024

Looking for you down the road!
RoseMarie



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

2023 Rally Schedule

Date 2023	Campground	Where	Notes	Hosts	Earliest Date to make reservation
October 13-15	Lake Pines RV Park and Campground Go North!	Columbus, GA	Tour of vintage Airstreams for our Club	1. Vince and Dian Naman 2. Lindsay and Randy Shropshire	Reservations are open currently. 706-561-9675 Campground has vintage Airstreams onsite!
November 10-12	Suwannee River Rendezvous Resort Lazin on the River Installation Rally	Mayo, FL	386-294-2510	1. Carol and Winston Montague 2. Martina Pelley 3. Amy and Lamar Waymire	Reservations are now open! Call the resort directly and mention Big Bend Airstream Club. Check their website for discounts. All sites are new with 50-amp full hookups. Large pavilion with pool; and snack shop. Register before Oct 10 for Discount - All sites open to the public after October 10.

Just a reminder about our club Facebook page: look us up! Big Bend Florida Airstream Club (Group)





2023 Rallies...

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 (Installation Rally)

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 on March 1. **Register before Oct 10 for Discount - All sites open to the public after October 10.** Call the resort directly and mention Big Bend Airstream Club. Check their website for discounts.



2024 Rally Schedule

Date 2024	Campground	Where	Notes	Hosts	Earliest Date to make reservation
December 2023		TBA	Christmas Party/ Luncheon		Arrangements are still being made. Stay tuned for further details for exact date and location..
January 4-7	Topsail State Park	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	Canopener	Buddy Rally with SECU	SOLD OUT-join the FACEBOOK page to watch for cancellations.
February 15-18	Mystic Springs Airstream Park "Let's Go Camping"	McDavid, FL	Let's do camping things. Dutch ovens/fires/ smores/games		LIMITED AVAILABILITY (40) Contact Lindsay Shropshire for reservations before Nov 1, 2023 lindsayshrop@gmail.com
March 14-17	Apalachicola, "Silver in the City"	Apalachicola, FL	Boondocking Urban Rally		TBD: The location of this rally has been changed to Apalachicola.
April 18-21	Cedar Key RV Resort "Old Florida"	Cedar Key, FL			LIMITED—ON HOLD 30 SITES Reservation Window is NOW OPEN 1(352)543-5097
April 17-21	REGION 3 RALLY	Doswell, Virginia	The Meadow Event Park		Save the date, registration information coming soon
May 16-19	Georgia Veteran State Park "Spring is in the Air"	Lake Blackshear, GA	Historic SAM Shortline Railroad		RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE 13 MONTHS IN ADVANCE (Sunday, April 16, 2023) https://www.lakeblackshearresort.com/ga-veterans-park/
June	No rally				
July	No Rally				
August	No Rally				
September 12-15	Live Oak Landing "Happy Birthday Big Bend"	Freeport, FL	Kayaking to Cypress Springs	Lindsay & Randy Shropshire	CALL BY September 30, 2023 DEADLINE Kim or Kendra (877) 436-5063 Pavilion screened by pool AC FREE First Come/First Serve Clubhouse AC 10 or more 10% off 20 or more 15% off 30 or more 20% off
October 5-12	Sedalia, Mo "International"				TBD
October 24-27	St. Andrews State Park "Sunsets & Sunrises"	Panama City Beach, FL	Beach Rally		Reservations open Friday, November 24, 2023 (11 Months)
November 7-10	TBD	Dothan, Alabama	Installation Rally	Lindsay & Randy Shropshire	Installation Location TBD



2024 Rallies...

“Christmas Luncheon”
Saturday, December 9, 2023
TBD

“Canopener Airstream Rally”
January 4-7, 2024
Topsail Hill Preserve State Park
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida

A Buddy Rally with Big Bend Florida Airstream Club and the Southeastern Camping Unit. Reservations must be made through the Florida State Parks website or by calling the Florida State Parks reservation number. This extremely popular rally is SOLD OUT, but there is always a chance to grab a cancelation. Join the “CANOPENER AIRSTREAM RALLY” Facebook page, to stay updated with tons of information and maybe a chance to catch a site. You are also welcome to stay off-site and still join in on activities, by registering through the Facebook page in the fall.

“Let’s Go Camping”
February 15-18, 2024
Mystic Springs Airstream Park
591 Mystic Springs Road
McDavid, Florida 32568
(850) 256-3280

Mystic Springs Airstream Park is located in McDavid, Florida, 40 miles north of Pensacola, right on the Escambia River. The plan is to do camping things. Everything from s’mores to dutch ovens, to bonfires to playing card games. Camping stuff! RSVP to Lindsay by November 1, 2023. Limited to 40 rigs.

“Silver on Main Street”
March 14-17, 2023
Apalachicola, Florida
TBD

Boondocking Urban Rally in downtown Apalachicola, Florida. **This is a change from the original planned event in Bainbridge.**

“Old Florida”
April 18-21
Cedar Key RV Resort
11980 SW Shiloh Road
Cedar Key, Florida 32625
(352) 543-5097

Cedar Key is commonly known as the Key West of NW Florida. Located where the Suwannee River meets the Gulf of Mexico; the town of Cedar Key is three miles from the mainland on an island called “Way Key.” Once a major shipping port of cedar, cypress pine, Rosen, and turpentine is Florida’s second oldest town, Cedar Key feels untouched in today’s world.



“Choo-Choo”

May-16-19, 2024

Georgia Veteran’s State Park
2459 US-280 West
Cordele, Georgia 31015
(229) 276-2371

Located on Lake Blackshear, an 8,600-acre lake, known for Bass fishing, Georgia Veteran’s State Park has a lot to offer. The SAM line train begins inside the park, and travels to Plains, GA, and Archery and back. Explore Jimmy Carter’s hometown, go shopping, and sample some peanut butter treats. Then travel to Archery, GA, the location of Jimmy Carter’s boyhood home. Andersonville National Historic Site is located 30 miles from the park. A former Confederate prisoner-of-war camp during the Civil War, the NPS has done an excellent job preserving the location also known as Fort Sumter. Anderson National Cemetery is located on the 26-acre property. The famous Salt Lick Sausage (SL Sausage) is also from Cordele. If you like sausage, this is for YOU. Reservations can be made 13 months in advance, through Georgia State Parks. (Sunday, April 16, 2023).

JUNE – No Rally

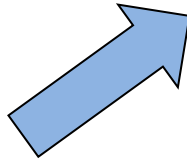
JULY – No Rally

AUGUST – No Rally

“Happy Birthday, Big Bend Florida Airstream Club”

September 12-15, 2023

Live Oak Landing
229 Pitts Avenue
Freeport, Florida 32439
(855)891-9606



Live Oak Landing Registration Deadline extended to September 30, 2023. LAST CALL... (see below)

The discount tiers we offer are 10 sites – 10%, 20 sites – 15%, and 30 sites – 20%.

On September 30 we will see how many sites have been booked and apply the earned discount to all reservations before charging everyone. After September 30 it will just be the set discount amount that was earned, and we would no longer increase the discount amount based on the increased number of bookings. This way all members of your group will get the same discount amount.

Let’s celebrate our 50th birthday by kayaking Holmes Creek to Cypress Springs. This is a huge spring located on private property with the only access by kayak or paddle boards. Kayak rentals will be available as the date nears. Stay tuned. We also have a couple special celebratory dinners planned. Reservations can be made once an email is sent the group with further instructions.

“Airstream International - Sedalia Missouri”

October 5-12, 2024

Reservations open July or August 2023

“Sunsets and Sunrises”

October 24-27, 2024

St. Andrews State Park
4607 State Park Lane
Panama City, Florida 32408

St. Andrews State Park is a beautiful waterfront park with lots of things to do inside the park, such as the beach, or the bay, hiking trails, bird watching and bike riding. A shuttle is also available to the famous Shell Island. Reservations open 11 months in advance on Friday, November 24, 2023, at 8AM EST, through the Florida State Parks website or by calling the FSP’s reservation line.

“Dothan, Alabama”

November 7-10, 2024

TBA... more information coming soon



Port St. Joe RV Resort Rally September 15-17, 2023

The Port St. Joe rally was a huge success! With the extremely generous help of the managers at this resort, everyone had a great time!

Thursday, 9/14

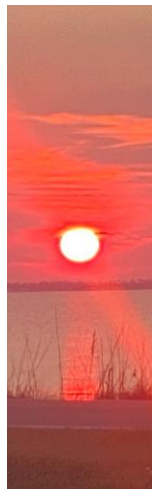
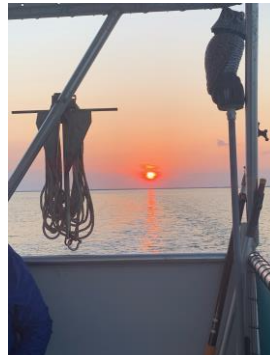
Many of us gathered at Krazyfish for dinner on Thursday night!





Friday, 9/15

We had Happy Hour and appetizers before a huge taco bar dinner. There was plenty to eat! Some people in our group took a sunset cruise, and others relaxed in the beautiful pool at the resort. Either way, what a beautiful sunset it was!



On the sunset cruise: (L-R) the Namans, Waymires, Andersons, Brinkleys, Watkins', Stairs, and the Conrads all had a great time cruising the bay.



Saturday, 9/16

A hearty breakfast of biscuits and gravy, sausage patties, fruit, juice, coffee and coffee cake was served. Miles Roberts, one of the managers at the resort, took it upon himself to make vegan gravy, and it was a huge hit! The recipe is included in this newsletter.



After breakfast, Monica met with those people going on next month's Sweet Home Alabama caravan to discuss details of the trip/



On Saturday evening, we had a general club meeting during Happy Hour to announce the nominees for officers for the 2024 calendar year as well as some other items. Following the meeting, we had a full dinner spread with boston butt roasts cooked by our resort host, Miles Roberts. It was delicious! Miles also arranged our entertainment for the evening, which was Chuck Bowman, a magician who also does some hypnosis as well. As a extra treat, Mr. Bowman made three Airstream themed wood crafts that were given away to three lucky winners!



We had 32 members attending this rally... nice crowd!



Left: Our magician and his wife, Chuck and Pam Bowman...

Right: Chuck also made the wood crafts below, and Amber Brock, Scott Pfaff, and Fantasia Lyons were the lucky winners! Congratulations to all!





Port St. Joe RV Resort On-site Rally Hosts

Amber and Daniel Brock along with Sammy and Chris Stockstill were the rally hosts for this rally. But a lot of work went on behind the scenes, and we wanted to be sure to mention the management staff at PSJ RV Resort. The staff assisted with:

- Planning and communication/ printed itineraries available at check-in
- Help with finding activities in the area and entertainment for our group
- The willingness to allow us to use the pavilion and pool as needed for various activities
- The personalized banners created for our group
- The organization of the rally itself
- The generosity with the food
- The staff's time for the entire weekend

Much of the food preparation was done at the Hiland View Fire Station, and the club made a donation to the fire department in appreciation for allowing the staff to use their facility. We want to give a huge shoutout to the staff for a wonderful weekend!

Miles, Michell, Jerimie, and Amanda... thank you so much!



L-R: Michell, Miles. Amanda, and Jerimie



Vegan Gravy Recipe for Biscuits and Gravy from Port St. Joe RV Resort Rally

A thick, peppery mushroom gray. Flavorful and healthy. This will make about 3 servings of gravy.

INGREDIENTS for MUSHROOM GRAVY:

- 2-3 TBSP Vegan butter
- 1 Tbsp of minced garlic (1 or 2 cloves) I used the bottled minced garlic
- 1 medium white onion, finely diced
- 1 small can mushrooms (bits and pieces) finely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste (I poured s/p into my palm and measured out what I thought would work.)
- Fresh thyme (or sage) I used thyme. About $\frac{3}{4}$ tbsp
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of flour to start. May need to add more depending on how thick you want it
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup vegetable broth. May need to add more depending on how thick you want it
- 1 cup of unsweetened plain almond milk. May need to add more depending on how thick you want it

INSTRUCTIONS-

- Add butter over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, mushrooms, and healthy pinch salt n pepper. Cook until onions are translucent. Near the end of cooking add the herbs.
- Lower heat a bit. Add flour and whisk to coat. Cook for a minute.
- Slowly add the broth, almond milk $\frac{1}{4}$ cup at a time, building up desired thickness. Add more salt and pepper to taste.
- Cook over medium/low heat until you get your desired thickness.

Store gravy covered in fridge. You may need to add some more almond milk or broth to stored mixture as it will thicken while in the fridge. No Cholesterol; No Trans Fat Sodium 1000m Fiber 3.6g Sugar .8g Calories 520 per serving

Miles Roberts GM Port St Joe RV Resort





Adventuring with Monica...

By Monica Brinkley

“Buffett”, AKA Salt, Mingo, and tons of other monikers (a pink flamingo) has been living in Port St Joe since September 2. It is believed to have been brought to the area by Hurricane Idalia. I have been following him on various sites on Facebook (Birding Port St. Joe) along with a friend’s page.

During our rally in Port St. Joe, I shared with the group about the siting. It took a lot of talking to RoseMarie to convince her the flamingo is real. Once convinced, she agreed to go on a hunt. I called a friend to get the exact location he had last been seen. Several of us loaded up in my car and went on the search. After riding by the site several times and talking to others who were also searching, we had to give up as we didn’t spot him. However, RoseMarie did see a white blob way offshore and she just knows that was Buffett. I even rode by on my way out of town Sunday morning but didn’t see him.

Keep your eyes open, you never know what you will find, or not. Life is an adventure, worthy of living to its fullest.

Until the next adventure,
Monica





Lake Pines RV Park and Campground Rally

Vince and Dian Naman as well as Randy and Lindsay Shropshire are your hosts for the upcoming Columbus rally on October 13-15. The itinerary is listed below.
(* Location for these events is The Pinecone Lodge at Campsite)

At this time, there are still several openings at this park... if you make a last-minute reservation, please be sure to let Vince or Lindsay or Chris know so that the hosts can communicate details and adequately purchase and prepare enough food. 706-561-9675



Thursday, October 12

For those arriving early, Vince and Dian would like to host us at their home. More details will be forthcoming soon in an email to those registered for the rally.

Friday October 13

- 2pm check-in begins
- 4pm Welcome to Columbus*
Presentation from Ashley Woitena
www.VisitColumbusGa.com
- 5pm Presentation from Connie & Kenny McClutchen*
Owners of Lake Pines
Second generation Airstreamers and restorers
- 6pm Breakfast for Dinner!*
Hosted by the Shropshire's
Omelets, fruits, sweet breads

Saturday, October 14

- 9am Coffee and sweets*
- 10am Big Bend Meeting*
- 12-2:30pm Visit the National Infantry Museum
Guided group tour 30 minutes - (\$3 each)
- 3:30-5:30pm Time for quality Time with friends, food, and craft beer at the Cannon Brew Pub. We'll have a private room (\$4.00 per person)



Free time in Columbus: Links for places to visit for those who may be interested:

Food options (all local):

<https://banksfoodhall.com/>

<https://www.theanimalfarmcolumbus.com/>

<https://www.saltcellar.com/> *

<https://11thandbay.com/> *

<https://www.mabellas.com/> *

<https://www.theduelingkitchens.com/> *

<https://www.theloft.com/>

<https://www.themixmarket.com/>

<https://epiccuisine.com/> *

<https://bodega1205.com/> (breakfast/ lunch)

<https://www.hunterspubandsteakhousega.com/> (of the beaten path, but may be worth it for steak lovers)

Breweries/Bars

<https://scofflawbeer.com/location/columbus/#location-info>

<https://www.chattabrewchee.com/>

<https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063639819636>

<https://www.ihg.com/hotelindigo/hotels/us/en/columbus/csggo/hoteldetail/dining> (Unique rooftop bar with views of the Chattahoochee River and sunset)

<https://maltitude.com/> (on site brewing and unique brands for sale)

<http://uptownwinespirits.net/> (great selection of liquors and wines)

Museums:

<https://bartlettcenter.columbusstate.edu/> *

<https://columbusmuseum.com/> (art)

<https://www.portcolumbus.org/> (civil war naval museum)

<https://www.columbuscollectivemuseums.com/> (Lake Pines recommendation)

Other activities:

<https://chattahoochee.whitewaterexpress.com/>

<https://www.rushsouthfest.com/lineup>

<https://rushsouth.com/icf-world-championships>

https://visitcolumbusga.com/visit/things-to-do/chattahoochee_riverwalk *

* Host Favorites

General information - <https://visitcolumbusga.com/>



Election of 2024 Big Bend Officers Voting Procedure

The slate of officers for 2024:

President:	Lindsay Shropshire
1st Vice President:	David Conrad
2nd Vice President:	Amy Waymire
Treasurer:	Julie Ludlow
Recording Secretary:	Monica Brinkley
Newsletter Editor:	Open _____
Trustee (2-year term):	Dolores Jones (2nd year) Gary Anderson (2nd year) Chip Leavine (1st year) Carol Montague (1st year)

At the business meeting held at the October Rally in Columbus, Georgia, a nomination for the Newsletter Editor will be accepted from the floor. Officers shall be elected at the annual business meeting and installed at the November meeting, where they shall assume office at the close of that meeting.

Voting:

Each Unit (BRN) will receive an e-mail ballot from Christine before the October Rally business meeting. If not at the October meeting, please cast your vote, one per UNIT (BRN), by responding to Christine's email with a "YES" or a "NO." (Vote is for the entire group, not individuals). E-mail voting will conclude at the end of the day on October 12, 2023, and will be confidential until the final vote.





November Installation Rally

Ever played Chicken Poo Bingo or run a Pigeon Classic Race? Now's the time to get on board at the November Rally at Suwanee River Rendezvous Resort in Mayo, Florida Nov 10 – 12. Karaoke and Trivia, canoe and kayak rental, snack shop on premises, numerous natural springs in the area and other surprises from our Hosts Winston and Carol Montague, Martina Pelley and Amy and Lamar Waymire. Hope to see you there!

Embroidery Vendor

If you would like to order a baseball cap, polo, denim or fishing shirt with our club logo embroidered on it, please contact A & W Designs. Henry and CeCi are new owners of the company and are anxious to work with Airstreamers. CeCi said they can order about anything. If you already have a shirt and want it embroidered, check with them about the process. Depending on the color of the shirt, members have used several different colors of thread for the text. A minimum group order of 12 qualifies for a discount.

NOTE: In May of 2023 I discussed with CeCi to change the word UNIT to CLUB. Please verify this with Ceci before printing. I will also reconfirm with her.

A & W Designs
CeCi and Henry Gohlke
833-728-7746 Toll Free
713-503-1137



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

- Todd and Michelle Burh of Sanford, North Carolina
- Kevin Staley and Barbara Cleland of Panama City Beach, Florida
- CJ and Mary Landry of Metairie, Louisiana (new affiliate members)
- Josie and Tom Lewis of Michigan City, Indiana (new affiliate members)

We hope to see all of you at an upcoming rally soon!



Still Desperately Needed: Newsletter Editor for 2024

Job Description: Must be willing to hang with Big Benders at Rallies and know his/her way around a computer working with Word or Google Docs.

Title: Communication Czar.

Benefits: include exciting travel, photo opportunities, ability to spin yarns and tell stories. Only those who are good at playing with others will be considered for this opportunity

Notify: Chris or RoseMarie for further information.



Rally Reminders for Reservations/Payments: 2023 Rally Schedule

October 10, 2023 – Suwanee River Rendezvous Resort, Nov 10-12, 2023.
(Installation Rally) Any of our designated sites not booked by October 10 will be released to public. Call now.

How Do I Register for a Big Bend Rally??

To register for any Big Bend Rally please do the following:

- 1) **Contact the campground FIRST** and secure your campsite. Mention Big Bend Airstream Club or RoseMarie Anderson for 2023 rallies, or Lindsay Shropshire for 2024 rallies..
- 2) **THEN, register on the Big Bend website** to let us know you are attending. This helps with our planning for food and activities.

It's Renewal Time if your membership expires at the end of 2023

Renewing your membership is easy, and it only takes a few minutes to complete. You can renew your membership online, by phone, or by mail. We encourage you to renew your membership today to continue enjoying the many benefits of being a member of Airstream Club International. Go to airstreamclub.org and log in. There is a tutorial available online to walk you through with directions if you if you don't remember the renewal process.



Photo Credits for this newsletter:

Chris and Sammy Stockstill, RoseMarie and Gary Anderson, Monica Brinkley, Miles Roberts

Registering on the WBCCI site: airstreamclub.org

Randy will be adding more dates to the web site, so you can now register for several upcoming rallies. 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. Just a reminder, **you must first secure campground reservations online or with the campground directly BEFORE registering on the WBCCI site.**

PLEASE be sure the hosts of any rally that you are attending know that you'll be there! No one wants to run out of food! It's always great to have big rallies, just be sure that you have registered on the WBCCI site or that you have contacted the hosts or Chris directly.

Keep streamin'... and we'll see you down the road!

