

THE ROADRUNNER



A Publication of the Texas Highland Lakes Airstream Club #172 of the Airstream Club International (WBCCI)

<https://airstreamclub.org/texas-highland-lakes>

President's Message— October 2023

Hello, fellow THLAC friends,

Well, it's almost Fall, and, hopefully, cooling off soon, it is time to Rally. In the past few weeks, you've either already signed up and attended, are getting ready to attend, or need to sign up now to attend some great events. Grady, Keith, and their co-hosts are putting on a terrific Rally at Brazos Bend. Join us for Gators, Birds & Stars at the park we were frozen out of a couple of years ago. Much better weather is promised this time. We'll see many of you on the West of the Pecos Caravan, which has grown quickly from a Club to a Region and now a National Caravan led by Nancy & Brian Powers. We'll sprint back to NTAC from the Big Bend for our Installation Rally. Darel & Marve Ball and Hosts are planning some great Texas food and learning experiences to go along with the Installation of your 2024 slate of officers. Then, only a couple of weeks later, we'll finish the year with our Christmas Rally at Buckhorn Lake Resort in Kerrville With President & First Lady Bill and Elaine Saulnier. This Annual event is the highlight of our Camping season with great food and Holiday Cheer, with gift giving, card sharing and the Auctioning of Fabulous items, raising money for our Club and local charities. Don't miss it. You are also already seeing activities and invites for the Spring, from Cowboy Poetry to a once-in-a-lifetime Eclipse Rally. Bill is starting the year off with a bang.

Gayle and I have been honored to serve you as President and First Lady and your Officers and Committee Chairs have done a fabulous job. We've had great Rallies, updated our Constitution, By-Laws and Policies and purchased new equipment. We thank everyone who served, volunteered as hosts and attended our events. It was great to get back on the road and I hope everyone had as much fun as we did.

My first duty as Past President will be to recruit your 2025 slate of officers. Please consider stepping up and helping us continue to have the largest and best Club in our Region. You'll see a letter from me soon after the first of the year and a great way to stick your toe in the water will be to attend the Leadership Seminar that Grady and Keith Ferry will conduct during our Installation Rally.

We look forward to seeing you at a Rally soon.

Frank Steed President



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Executive Board:

President: Frank Steed
1st VP: Bill Saulnier
2nd VP: Allen Faulk
Corr. Secretary: Keith Ferry
Rec. Secretary: Nancy Powers
Treasurer: Bruce Nutt
Past President: Steve Zeringue
Webmaster: Debbie Trimble
Trustees: Richard Roucloux
 Paula Haddox
 Betty Richards
 Harvey Craig

Standing/Special Committee Chairs:

Caravan: Rick Trimble
Chaplain: Cinda Brooks
Constitution/Bylaws: Harvey Craig
Directory: Mike Lovell
Marketing: Peter Sajovich
Membership: Peter Sajovich
Newsletter: Keith Ferry
Sunshine: Cindy Berdan

For Security Purposes The Roadrunner does not publish contact information. Please refer to your Membership Directory.

Oct. 30-Nov. 13 West of the Pecos Caravan
 Nov. 16-19 Installation Rally—
 NTAC - Hillsboro, TX
 Nov. 30-Dec. 3 Christmas Rally
 Buckhorn Lake Resort, Kerrville, TX

2024

Feb. 15-18 Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering
 Alpine, TX
 March 14-17 Bluebonnets Rally
 Brenham, TX
 April 5-8 Eclipse Special Rally
 Hamilton, TX
 April 18-21 Texas State Railroad Rally
 Rusk, TX
 May 1-5 THLAC/ Region 9 Rally
 Bandera, TX
 May 30-June 2 Best of Belton & Salado
 Belton, TX
 Aug 28-Sept 16 Upper Pennisula Caravan
 Oct 5-12 67th International Rally
 Sedalia, MO
 Nov. 14-17 Installation Rally
 Fredericksburg, TX

The Roadrunner is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December for the Texas Highland Lakes Airstream Club #172 of the Airstream Club International (WBCCI). Members are invited to submit articles about their Airstream travels, maintenance tips, family news and prayer concerns to : ferry_keith@hotmail.com.

Check us out:

If you own an Airstream and are curious about what being a member of the Texas Highland Lakes Airstream Club and the Airstream Club International (WBCCI) would be like, visit us at <https://airstreamclub.org/texas-highland-lakes>. Listed are events offered by our club. You are welcome to attend one of our events provided there is space available. You would be responsible for any fees covering your camping site, event activities and/or meals. We look forward to welcoming you as a prospective member of our club.

THLAC NEWS

Rally Schedule for 2023-2024

Submitted by: Bill Saulnier

Date (Check In-Departure)	Rally Name	Rally Location
11/30-12/3, 2023	Hill Country Christmas Rally	Buckhorn Lake Resort, Kerrville, TX
2/15-18, 2024	Cowboy Poetry Gathering Rally	Alpine, TX
3/14-17, 2024	Bluebonnets Rally	Brenham, TX
4/5-8, 2024	Eclipse Special Rally	Hamilton, TX
4/18-21, 2024	Texas State Railroad Rally	Rusk, TX
5/1-5, 2024	THLAC/Region 9 Rally	Bandera, TX
5/30-6/2, 2024	Best of Belton and Salado	Belton, TX
8/28-9/16, 2024	Upper Peninsula Caravan	
10/5-12, 2024	International Rally	Sedalia, MO
11/14-17, 2024	Installation Rally	Fredericksburg, TX

THLAC SOLAR ECLIPSE RALLY

APRIL 5 - 8, 2024 HAMILTON, TEXAS



Plan to watch this exciting event with our club.

THIS WILL BE A VERY POPULAR RALLY

EARLY REGISTRATION IS A MUST

Register on the THLAC website and submit your non-refundable registration payment of \$225 by October 27th to:

**Bruce Nutt
200 Walnut Hills Ave. #79
Hillsboro, TX 76645**

Rally Hosts: Colin Melton & Mike Lovell



Taste of Texas Installation Rally



NOVEMBER 16-19
NORTH TEXAS AIRSREAM COMMUNITY
HILLSBORO, TX

Please join us for the 2024 THLAC Installation Rally and support those who have been elected to lead our club. Incoming President, Bill Saulnier, and First Lady, Elaine, will be announcing plans for 2024 rallies and events. Pack up your western attire, slap on your hat and head to Hillsboro for Texas style fun.

GAMES

TEXAS CATERED DINNER

TASTE OF TEXAS POTLUCK

HILL COLLEGE TEXAS HERITAGE MUSEUM TOUR

To register for a full hook-up site email Darel Ball dgb_57@icloud.com stating your plans to attend the rally together with your arrival and departure dates. Indicate any accessibility needs. Darel will assign your site on arrival. The cost is \$30 per night and will be included in your rally fee. Also sign up through Constant Contact available on the THLAC website.

Rally Hosts are Darel & Marve Ball, Pat Lovelace and Harvey Craig.

THLAC FALL BUSINESS MEETING

THLAC will hold its Fall Business Meeting on Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 9:00 AM at North Texas Air-stream Community in Hillsboro, TX. All members are welcome to attend. The meeting will be preceded by an Executive Board Meeting on Friday, November 17, 2023 at 2:00 PM in the same location.



Interested in knowing more about the duties of our club officers?

Do you have questions about the structure of the International Airstream Club?

Are you a match for serving in a leadership position within our club?

Then plan to attend the [Prospective Officer Leadership Seminar](#) during the Installation Rally offered by past Region 9 President, Grady Ferry, and his first lady, Keith.

Marketing & Membership

Peter Sajovich #13349

Marketing & Membership Chairman

Visited with management at Airstream of Austin last week and witnessed first hand the progress made by Blue Compass on their new Super RV Center.



When the SOB store opens later this year, we should witness a major change in both sales and service for our Airstreams.

Anyone purchasing a new Airstream will receive the new Blue Carpet treatment upon delivery from Blue Compass! For those who have been to an all Airstream dealership, the difference is night and day. In 2024 and going forward, they are sure to become the best dealer and service center in Texas.

NEW MARKETING PROGRAM

I have some news regarding the new Airstream Explorer program announced at International which went into affect August 1st.

Since 2019 when I became membership and marketing chairman with only 88 rigs in our club, Carol and I have done everything possible to grow THLAC into the #1 premier club in Region 9 with 184 rigs. Earlier this year, I even announced that Carol and I would fund a new non-profit AirNewbie.com website for the purpose of promoting our Newbie Workshops and recruiting new members to THLAC.

Unfortunately, unbeknown to us, the 3 year Explorer trial program between Airstream Inc. and ACI was designed to have all future leads flow through the Region and then have Region 9 distribute those new at large members to our different clubs.

During a conference call between myself, Eric McHenry, Lori Plummer and Nancy Fitzgerald it was made abundantly clear that I was supposed to suspend any efforts to directly market Texas Highland Lakes.

On September 21st I received an email from Nancy Fitzgerald with copies to Eric McHenry and Frank Steed stating the following:

“Keep doing all that you do. Just DO NOT represent THLAC as the club a new owner should join and then direct them to the Explorers program.”

Needless to say this came as a shock and a major disappointment after having spent countless hours and paid a programmer to create the website for the sole purpose providing a better experience for new owners and recruiting new members to THLAC.

Continued on Page 6

Marketing & Membership

Continued from Page 5

At this time we have no choice but to follow the clubs request by waiting for members at large leads to be distributed by Region 9. However, over the past two months we have not received any leads. It would be impossible for us to hold future Newbie Workshops and not speak about the benefits of joining THLAC which we believe is the best club in Texas. As a result we have cancelled our November 4th and February 24th workshops and have returned everyone's registration fees.

We will also be terminating our new AirNewbie.com website, but I will keep it running until the end of the month so anyone interested could see what we had been working on since April.

Peter



Viewing the partial eclipse at Brazos Bend State Park



Enjoying a stop on the George Ranch Tour



Rally Hosts with their Gumbo & Minestrone Soup
Mike & Betty Richards, Mark & Cindi Cockrill & Grady & Keith Ferry and Kirk & Sharon Guidry

NEW MEMBER PAGE

Welcome New Members

Karl Gephart
Richmond, TX
2021 Caravel 16'

Tina & Jim Arseneau
Lake Placid, FL
2021 Classic 30'

James & Susan Nelson
Beeville, TX
2023 Atlas 24'

Todd & Janis Buck
Fredericksburg, TX
2023 Classic 30'

Steven & Yvonne Bartling
Dallas, TX
2022 Globetrotter 27'

Brett Lyons &
Jason Beasley
Katy, TX
2024 International 23'

Tammi Terry &
Janet Ply
Bentonville, AR
2021 Classic 30'

Gary & Linda Shelton
Georgetown, TX
1990 Land Yacht Excella 34'

Mary & Jim Trussell
Austin, TX
2022 International 25'

Chris & Melissa Rios
Waco, TX
2023 Flying Cloud 27'

Pam & George Beckwith
Hillsboro, TX
2019 Classic 30'

Audrey Yu-Speight &
Evan Speight
2020 International 25'

Mark Gate &
Diane Weber
Austin, TX
2016 Flying Cloud 23'

Gregory & Louisa Stone
Boerne, TX
2016 Flying Cloud 27'

WBCCI Intra-Clubs

WBCCI Intra-Clubs provide gathering places within the greater organization for those who share common interests. As a member of the Airstream Club you may choose one or more Intra-Clubs to join.

The benefits of an Intra-Club group is it organizes and conducts events of interest for their members, provides a forum for sharing travel information and tips, educates members on how to maintain their rigs and equipment and encourages the building of new friendships not only in your area but across the United States and Canada.

Here is a list of the current Intra-Clubs with a brief description of each.

Vintage Airstream Club—Open to all members who appreciate the value of Airstreams which were built 25 years or more in the past. You do not have to own a vintage Airstream to join.

Classic Airstream Club—Open to all members who own an aluminum trailer or motorhome.

Amateur Radio Club— This group provides the International RV Service net sponsored by WBCCI and are affiliated with ARRL. It is open to all appropriated licensed ham operators.

Indie Streamer— Open to those members whether single or married who always or sometimes travel solo.

Grape & Grains- Open to members who have an interest in the making of beverages from grain or grapes such as wine and beer. Events include tours of wineries and breweries as well as visits to venues serving these beverages.

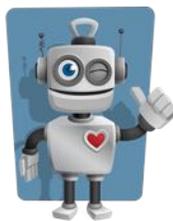
Future Streamers— This group is for members traveling with children.

Stella's Sisters - This group is open to all members with an emphasis on women members who tow their own Airstreams or share the driving with a spouse/partner. The goal is to aid in skills development while providing adventure.

Boondockers—This group is interested in returning to the good old days when camping involved sites with no hook ups. It encourages members to learn the art of boondocking.

Pride Streamers—This is a group offering connections and support for members of the LGBTQ+ community.

To learn more visit <https://airstreamclub.org/explore/intra-clubs>



Dear Rivet, Do you have a favorite travel tip? Curious

I do. Always make sure someone knows where you are going and when you expect to return. I leave an itinerary with one of our family members. I also leave a contact number of the caravan leader/rally host if traveling with a group. Call or text a family member or friend and set dates to check in with them regularly during your road trip. Make a plan so they know what do if you miss a check in.

PARTY LINE *and* PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Windy & Shirley Fleming



Windy & I are on our way back from Sugarcreek, Ohio Swiss Festival Rally! The Ohio unit has been putting this together for 60 years! It was a week chocked full of tours to Amish businesses, homes,& museums. We were busy every day. We met up with old friends and made new ones! The Amish were warm, welcoming & fun! The school children are shy and so sweet. We weren't allowed to take pictures, unless we asked permission. We got to ride in the buggy, their main transport vehicle. We ended the rally at the Swiss Festival, rode on the club's parade float & ate apple fritters! It was a great trip and I'm happy to learn more about the Amish. I recommend it to everyone! Windy & Shirley



PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Windy & Shirley Fleming—continued



PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Peter & Carol Sajovich

Wonderful news to report from our family, Carol and I were blessed by becoming grandparents for the fourth time. Our daughter-in-law Alyssa, went into labor on Labor Day and delivered the morning after on September 5th. Pictured below our 3-year-old grandson Grayson with 4 day old Savannah.



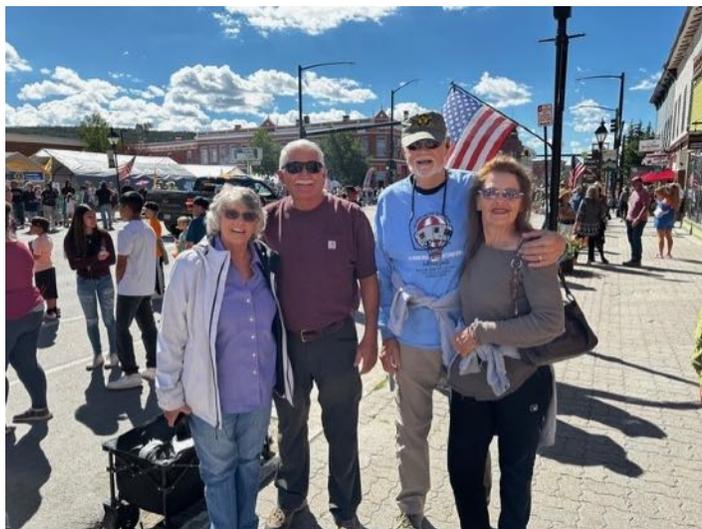
Another milestone was Carol's decision to move from our 7 year old home in downtown Austin to a new home I was building for resale. Below is the display rendering I had on a 4' X 8' sign during construction. The new home is only three blocks from our current home and has some very nice features but the major reason for moving was a master bedroom on the main level vs our current master on the second floor. Our new home is also only four doors from Lady Bird Lake and the hike and bike trail which we use often. Our new address: 1704 Riverview Street, Austin, TX 78702



As a result of our move, there is no longer a need to build a single story home on our double lot in NTAC. We will be putting our two adjacent lots #616 & #617 on the market for sale. We have preliminary plans for a 2,000 foot 2 bedroom + office, 2 bath home available if any of our THLAC members are interested please give us a call.

PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Rick & Debbie Trimble



We were able to escape the Texas Heat for three weeks in August. In the first part of the trip, we enjoyed traveling with John and Sherry Parten, our club members. First, we stayed at Memphis Texas City Park, [W & E} We have stayed there many times and it is a clean, quiet, inexpensive site. We were thankful for 2 ACs because it was around 106 degrees when we stopped. Then, we headed to the NRA Whittington Center in Raton. Excellent camping, full hookups. When you camp there, using all the shooting ranges is free. John, Sherry, Rick, and myself, a novice, enjoyed our day. We made reservations for our other campgrounds back in February. It took our teamwork to reserve the sites at most of the campgrounds, except for Pine Cove Campground on Lake Dillion. [It is first come, first serve.]. From Raton, we headed to Baby Doe Campground in Leadville. Other stops were Pine Cove Campground on Lake Dillion and Big Meadows Reservoir CG between South Fork and Pagosa Springs, CO. Our last stop was Haviland Lake CG between Durango and Purgatory, CO.



In addition to enjoying the outdoors, we enjoyed the Leadville Boom Days, did a boat tour on Lake Dillion, saw “Clue” at the Creede Repertory Theater, and visited Pagosa Springs and Silverton. We were thankful for a trouble-free trip.

We were looking forward to enjoying a 10-day Canada and New England Cruise with Larry & Brenda Heinold, and her sister and brother-in-law. We had to cancel at the last minute due to Rick’s mom’s declining health. She turned 103 on September 20. She is still in her home and alert. Her caregivers are awesome. Also, she is now receiving hospice care. We only live about 2 miles from her, so Rick checks on her daily.

We would appreciate your prayers.



PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Frank & Gayle Steed

How we spent our summer vacation in 2023

In June, as we prepared to leave Texas to avoid the typically hot summer, we did all the regular safety checks, including tires, vehicle maintenance, etc. We had a local RV repairman come to check a noise we have had occasionally when pulling our Airstream. He discovered the brake had come apart and ruined the wheel hub. Yikes! To expedite matters, we drove to Waco to pick up the new hub and were on the road by June 5th. Fortunately for us, the problem was discovered before we left town, and a good reminder that it is always good to do safety checks.

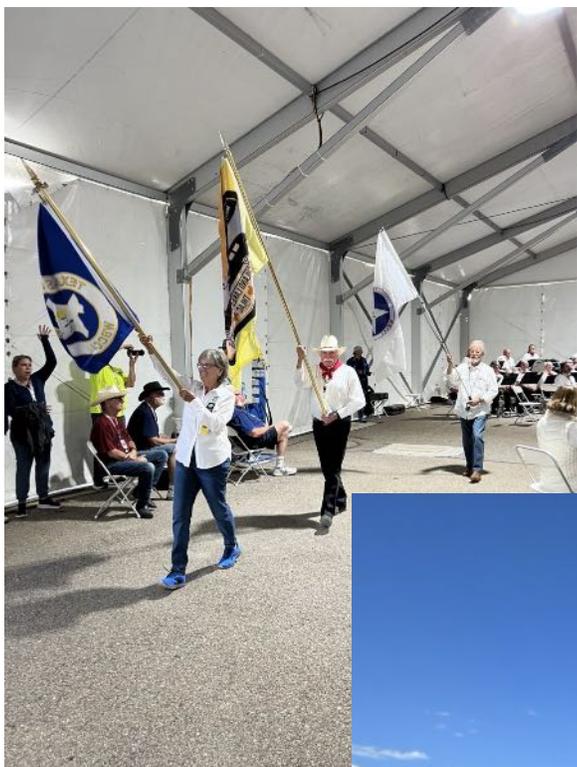
Like many other Airstreamers, our travel plans revolved around getting to and from the International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming, with stops along the way to include visiting local attractions and visits with friends and family. Since Frank is in the Band, we needed to arrive at Band Camp in Boulder, WY, on June 14th, a week before International began. To be on time, we had nine days to reach Boulder, which allowed us to visit Pike's Peak in Colorado. We stayed at the KOA in Cripple Creek. Its claim to fame is that it is the World's Highest KOA, with an elevation of 10,000 ft. Speaking of elevation, it was a real bummer for me and continued for the rest of the summer. Pam & Allen Faulk pulled in and parked near us the day before we left. What fun to see THLAC friends! We had dinner with them in the little town of Cripple Creek, known for its donkeys that roam free. Cripple Creek is also known for its active gold mine.



We made it to Band Camp in Boulder, WY, as planned. It was fun to be back with the band again. There were a few new members, and we missed those who could not return. Besides Frank, those from Texas included Bruce Morrow playing the coronet and Alana Patterson playing the clarinet. After a week of practice, practice, practice, we arrived at Sweetwater Events Complex in Rock Springs. This year, the band performed in the downtown Park and performed for the opening and closing ceremonies.

PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Frank & Gayle Steed—continued



The 66th International Rally was fun and seeing friends from all over the country was wonderful! Rock Springs expected the economic impact of the Rally to be over \$2 million for the community, of which I believe we spent our share. Frank proudly represented Texas Highland Lakes with the traditional presentation of posting the Club Flags. He wore his Cowboy hat and kerchief and looked mighty handsome. Texas Highland Lakes had a large attendance, as did many of our clubs in Region 9. Our very own Keith & Barbara Roberts and Pam & Jim Dudley hosted a THLAC Happy Hour for our Club members and affiliates. What great hosts they are!



After the Rally was over, many of us extended our stay through the 4th of July when we saw the most spectacular fireworks display we have ever seen, and never have we ever been so close. There were fireworks displays all around us, and we had an incredible panoramic view. It was amazing!

And then, we were back on the road again. Next, we spent time with Frank's family in Idaho and a month in the Seattle area, visiting our son and wife. We stayed at the Washington Land Yacht Harbor in Olympia and left our Airstream on the Terraport while we enjoyed an Alaskan Cruise. We attended the Potlatch Rally, where we experienced a traditional Salmon Bake, which was a blast! The Washington Club knows how to do a Rally! They say they are going to do it again in two years. We plan to go back.

PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Frank & Gayle Steed—continued

After leaving Seattle, one of my favorite stops was “Yellowstone Bear World” in Rexburg, Idaho, where I watched and photographed baby bears being fed. The facility is a drive through an animal park with over forty Black Bears and five Grizzly Bears roaming freely. You are instructed to keep your windows up, which they did not have to tell us twice! Once you pay the entrance fee, you can drive through as often as you would like. We went through it three times. And I could have gone back again!

As you know, sometimes you see some crazy things. My favorite was when a large group of people exited a tour bus and stood in the middle of the highway trying to reenact the scene from Forest Gump when he said, “I’m pretty tired... I think I will go home now.” And, yes, we did it too.

Some other favorite stops were Craters of the Moon National Park, Petrified Forest National Park, Moab National Park, Monument Valley, and an unexpected pleasant surprise was Dead Horse State Park in Utah. We hesitated to pay the \$20.00 entrance fee to do a drive-through, but we were sure glad we did. The park has astonishing views, and we learned that the part in the movie where Thelma & Louise drove over the Cliff into the Canyon was filmed there.

Along the way, we collected many souvenirs, including decals, magnets, pins, and rocks, and even caught Covid. We took many photos and ate too many meals, but it was all fun, and we were blessed not to have any problems. We visited ten states and traveled 7,000 miles. And, just like that, the summer was over, and we boogied back to Texas, where it was still hot! Stay tuned for our next adventure, and we look forward to reading about yours.

Frank & Gayle Steed



PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Kathy & Mike Ashley

We traded our black Interstate for this beautiful silver 2023 International 25FB. Picked her up in Mississippi on 9/28/23. That date would have been my mother's 96th birthday so we named her after my mom - "Jennie Marie" I do believe we're going to love her!!



John & Karen Stutsman



We were in Rivers Bend RV Park in Wisconsin. The colors were starting to appear and this tree framed our site really well.

Best to all!

John & Tanya Parrish



PARTY LINE *and* PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Kirk & Sharon Guidry

We departed from Cypress Early June and heading to Kentucky to visit The Bourbon Trail in Kentucky. We had so much fun. Then headed the Nashville to the CMA Festival. I think we are official tailgaters since we met the same people from last year. We enjoyed four nights of concerts from the biggest Country Stars. Then in August we escaped the brutal Texas Heat. Destination was Mount Rushmore. We spent a week in Colorado first. The weather was much cooler. He visited Mueller State Park, Pikes Peak and Cripple Creek. We then went Boyd's State Park and visited Rocky Mountain National Park and Estes Park. Then off to beautiful South Dakota. We visited Custer State Park, Deadwood, Spear Fish, and even got to boondock on The Wall. What an experience. The Badlands was amazing. Then we traveled back thru Nebraska and Kansas. Had a few interesting sites along the way. We did end up in a hail storm in Nebraska. No damage. Land of Oz was interesting along the way was in Kansas. We headed to The Pioneer Woman Mercantile. Was a great stop off. Saw Reba's new place in Oklahoma. Then back to Texas in September. The summer heat was still waiting. But all worth the adventures.



PARTY LINE and PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Kirk & Sharon Guidry—continued



PARTY LINE *and* PRAYERS/CONCERNS

Kirk & Sharon Guidry—continued





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