The Bluebonnet Issue: Oct 2023 NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS HILL **COUNTRY UNIT**

MOSTLY MONTHLY

President's Message

Caravans and Rallies have, or are coming to an end for our Northern neighbors. But barring a freak winter storm in Texas, we get to continue on. On tap for the rest of the calendar year are 1) November Rally and New Officer Installation at the Vineyards of Fredericksburg, 11/16-19th, with +/- 35 people signed up; 2) our first "Pop-up" Rally 12/8-10 on a private ranch outside Mason, and the Feliz Navidad Show with musicians Los Texmaniacs at the Odeon Theater in Mason (limit 8 rigs); and 3) the December luncheon on 12/16 at the Double Horn Brewing Company in Marble Falls (limited to the first 40 people). Info needed to register / sign-up, and other important info for each event, follows in this newsletter.....but you're running out of time! Please note that for the Fredericksburg rally there are several events for which you must sign up to participate, and also coordination with Pat Green &/or Theresa Davis for side dishes for the BIG Saturday meal.

Ten rigs (and several members who just joined us for evening activities because they live in the area) made our first boondocking rally a success at Schitz Creek / Thirsty Mule Winery, Distillery and Brewery in Liberty Hill. Parking was around the vineyard which allowed for solar and generator use. Proprietors Dan Jr. and Becca Marek treated to grilled burgers the first night, and Dan Sr. and Zephyr Marek were excellent hosts. We endeavor to find interesting "stuff" to do......one such outing was walking the South (or was it West?) San Gabriel Riverbed to look at dinosaur tracks! An open invitation had also been made to Members-At-Large (MALs) residing in the area, and new MALs under the Airstream Explorer Member Program to drop by and get to know the Club.

Welcome also to new members Lee & Tricia Henry, Monty & Yvonne Davison, Linda and Tim Beutnagel; and to new Affiliate Members David & Anna Brandon, and Grady and Kieth Ferry. I may be off by one or a few, but that brings our new regular and affiliate members to +/- 30 for the year, and 110 total for the Unit. Regular (voting) members now total 98 households (based on BRNs) and approximately 170 people.

With new officers being installed in a couple of weeks, it has been a pleasure for Jan and I to be a part of leading THCU this past year. Make no mistake, it really is a group effort. Those you elect, along with many volunteers, work hard to keep you informed, and ensure that events are fun, and most importantly worth your time to attend. We've tried some new ideas that will carry forward, seen overall membership growth, growth in the amount of participation in scheduled events, and watched

new friendships develop. If you haven't participated, how can we reel you in? We



DO have fun. And that's the point of a social club, fun with friends!

Bob (and Jan Grimes) President (and First Lady) of the Texas Hill Country Unit

Email: txairstreamer@gmail.com

Cell: 210-722-1080

In this issue:

President's Message P.01

Meet Eddie and Jan Eiland P.02

October Boondocking Rally in Pictures P.03

The Burg Installation Rally Itinerary P. 06

2023 Detailed Rally Information P.08

2023 THCU Calendar P.09

2024 THCU Calendar P.10

2024 Detailed Rally Information P.11

October Business Meeting Notes P.12

General Announcements and Information P.13

Birthdays and Anniversaries P.14

EZ Links P.15

Editors: TnA Ebbers

Meet Jan and Eddie Eiland:



Eddie is a retired engineer. Worked for Dresser, Haliburton and WLS doing rockbits before retiring. I (Jan) have been a Nurse Practitioner since 2005. I recently placed my status as inactive....so, I guess that means I'm retired. We have 2 border collies, 2 barn cats, 1 near the house cat, 1 horse, and 12 cows. We have 4 sons and three daughters in law. 9 grandkids- 5 girls and 4 boys. Eddie flies his airplanes, tries to keep the place going, fixes up old cars and he is learning how to fly a sailplane. He soloed recently. I garden, take care of my Mom, keep the house going and take care of the animals. I do like to cross stitch. We are active in our Sunday school class.

We chose the rig we have because we liked it. It has oakwood cabinets and is generally constructed well. This is our first Airstream. The cabinets and the wood floor are a plus. I like the twin bed arrangement. It has plenty of storage. It needed the carpet changed after 30 years. We had a great flood from the water heater the second day we had it. So, the flooring got changed. It was a big job. I wanted a porcelain toilet instead of a plastic one. We changed that. Recently we had the couch recovered. The water heater seems to have issues. Eddie is the boss of the mechanical parts.

We haven't taken many trips with the Airstream. Our first one was to Mother Neff State Park in July 2020. It was 105 degrees. There was nowhere to go swimming or cool off. Cross that one off for a repeat visit. Ha! I think we both enjoyed the trip to Kerrville June 2021. We did some fun things with the group. The mountain prayer garden was the best. Eddie's Aunt lives there and we took her out to eat and to a Western Museum that was quite nice.

I want to go on a long trip. Eddie's not much into that. Not sure where I want to go.



THCU Boondocking Rally at Schitz Creek in Liberty Hill TX in pictures:

Attendees are Yvonne and Ed Michek, Ira and Terri Rush, Jan and Bob Grimes, Pat and Mike Green, Eddie and Jan Eiland, Tim and Ally Ebbers, Susan and Craig Fegley, Kevin and Felicia Johnson. Not pictured attendees are Bob and Sylvia Lemley (Bob was taking the picture and Sylvia was doing some volunteer work) and Dan and Zenbyr Marek. This picture was taken at the Dinosaur.

Tracks in Leander, TX







If you haven't climbed up to Enchanted Rock
 Drank a cold shiner down in Luckenbach
 You gin't seen a hill country sunset
 Then you gin't met my Fredericksburg yet

If you haven't sipped wine with a rhino Toured tractors at a Brewery silo Seen bats emerge at Alamo Springs you won't forget Then you gin't met my Fredericksburg yet

(Lyrics from My Texas by the Josh Abbott Band and singing Pat Green)



November 2023 Rally Itinerary Fredericksburg, TX November 16 – 19, 2023

Thursday, Nov 16:

1:00 PM Pull into The Vineyards of Fredericksburg RV Park - check in time 1:00 PM

Address: 2647 N US Highway 87

6:30 PM Dinner - Bring appetizers to share and BYOB; Games, chatting, kvetching to follow.

Friday, Nov 17:

Breakfast on your own (see extensive list of restaurants)

Time TBD Late brunch/early lunch at Backwoods BBQ

Followed by Bourbon tasting at

1693 Distillery, 21 Luckenbach Rd, Fredericksburg

Wreck havog on your own in Fredericksburg or nearby locations. See attachments for suggestions

6:00 PM Pot luck dinner, games, chatting, fireside

Saturday:

Breakfast on your own or we suggest Airport Diner (opens at 8:00 am)

Note: lunch is late

10:00 AM Christmas Mice with Teresa. Let your creativity shine!

2:00 PM Late Lunch/Early Dinner

We will have an Italian luncheon. See next page for items you can contribute.

3:00ish Indoctrination (oops) Induction ceremony for new officers.

4:00 PM On your own. Enjoying each other's company, napping, wandering the RV park,

napping, enjoying the fall weather by napping (hopefully

Sunday:

Time TBD Breakfast provided by someone

Check out time: 12:00 PM

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 the hosts know you are coming by texting Teresa at 512.293.6134 or Pat at 512.796.1234. There are a few items on the itinerary which needs attention, which are listed below:
 - 1. RSVP for lunch on Friday
 - 2. RSVP for a bourbon tasting at 1693 distillery.
 - 3. RSVP for Christmas mice with Teresa on Saturday morning (so we know how many supplies to bring. There may be a small charge for the supplies)
 - 4. Let us know what you can bring for the Saturday Italian luncheon so we don't have 10 salads and no bread or dessert.

Main dish	Green - TBD
Main dish	Davis - Lasagna
Main dish	Ebbers – Italian Beef Sandwiches
Salad/Soup	Michek – Zuppa Toscana
Appetizer	Johnson - Meatballs
Vegetable	
Bread	
Dessert	

Details for the last two THCU activities of 2023:

THCU Pop-Up Boondocking Rally in Mason, TX

- Hosts Ira & Terri Rush
- This will be a boondocking rally on private ranch land about 8 miles outside Mason, TX. As of 10/24—eight sites are booked. Eight is initially the max number of rigs, so you may be put on a waitlist unless the host is able to add more rigs depending on the site size. If you are interested, please let Ira Rush know by emailing (irarush@gmail.com) or texting (512.694.8545) with your name/rig size. If you have any questions, call him at 512.694.8545.
- Dates for this rally are Friday, December 08 (arrive) to Sunday, December 10 (depart). Two boondocking nights.
- Activities include:
 - ⇒ Cooper's BBQ Dinner
 - ⇒ Wine tasting and possible tour depending on group size
 - ⇒ Historic Downtown walkabout
 - ⇒ Feliz Navidad Show with Los Texmaniacs at the Odeon Theater in Mason (Sat Dec 9th). If you are interested in this event, purchase your tickets (\$25/pp if purchased in advanced). Los Texmaniacs Odeon Theater (theodeontheater.com)
- Because this is a small rally, instructions and finalized itinerary will be sent to the folks who are going.





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

- Coordinator: Tim Ebbers.
- 208 Ave H, Marble Falls, TX 78654
- This luncheon will be \$22/per person and includes a Taco/Fajita bar with two alcoholic or non alcoholic beverages. FYI—their food is really good!!
- Limited to 40; few have signed up so there's room.
- There will be a gift exchange!
- Let Tim know if you are going to attend this event with the number of persons attending by texting him at 512.786.6380 or emailing him at timberintx@gmail.com.

	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
	1.0.7	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	Check out the itinerary for this event on page 3. This is open to THCU members through Oct 10; after this date it will be open to other Airstreamers from Oct 11-15. 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
Dag 8 40	Den He Belli	Host: Mike and Pat Green and Gerry and Theresa Davis
Dec 8-10	Pop-Up Rally Mason, TX	Small boondocking rally in Mason, TX. See additional notes for this rally on the next page
Dec 16 @11:30 AM	Holiday Luncheon@ DoubleHorn Brewing Marble Falls, TX	See additional notes for this rally on the next page

	THC	J 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 soon if you want to attend this caravan and be parked with our group
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 start early November for this event. 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	Details and dates will be published when the activities and site are secured.
Sept 26—Oct 10	International @ Sedalia, MO	Dates include a caravan with stops in Hot Springs, AK and Branson, MO before going to Sedalia. Parking with the THCU Group in Sedalia will be two days before the start of International. Dates reflect start of the caravan to the end of International.
		Contact Tim Ebbers for dates and locations.
November 07-10	Installation Rally Colorado Landing RV Park La Grange, TX	
December	TBD by incoming president	



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. Mustang Island State Park in Corpus Cristi, 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.

There are 10 spots available and 8 spots have already been booked.

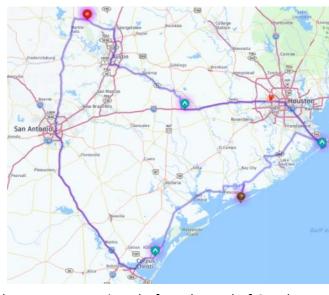


Boondocking Eclipse Rally (April 6-9)

- Coordinators: Mike & Pat Green and Yvonne & Ed Michek
- 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—human or bull.



- 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—pack your patience.
 - f. On the above mentioned website, pay particular attention to pages 7 and 8.
- 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. Currently, there are eleven of the sixteen spots booked.
- Additional information regarding activities, rally fees, and limitations will be published to the attendees as we get them.



There was a business meeting conducted during the rally. Below are the minutes:

Bob Grimes opened the meeting

Zephyr provided the financial report for THCU for August and September. Copies are below.

Grimes took the floor to talk about:

- ⇒ Doing a buddy rally with the Oklahoma Unit and/or North Texas Plains Unit.
- ⇒ Explained the new program called Explorer Airstream

Tim took the floor to talk about 2024 rallies and some of the changes/updates.

⇒ Changes/updates are reflected in the 2024 Detail and Schedule pages.

Meeting adjourned.

Attendees are Jan and Bob Grimes, Pat and Mike Green, Yvonne and Ed Michek, Eddie and Jan Eiland, Dan and Zephyr Marek, Felicia and Kevin Johnson, and Tim and Ally Ebbers.

August 2023 Beginning Savings Balance: \$ 901.1 Interest 8/31 .08 Total 8/31 \$ 901.21 August 2023 Beginning Balance \$ 3,501.05 Interest 8/31 .09 Sub. Total 8/31 \$ 3,501.18	September 2023 Beginning Savings Balance: \$ 900
Deposits: 8/04 WBCCI unit fees (see attached) 45.00 8/15 WBBCI unit fees (see attached) 90.00 Sub Total \$ 3,636.18	Deposits: 9/08 WBCCI unit fees (see attached) 9/20 WBBCI unit fees (see attached) 22 Sub Total \$ 3,87
Checks: Ck #`1268 - Homestead Tours Funds available for use 195.00 \$ 3,441.18	Outstanding Checks:
Outstanding Checks:	Ck # 1268 - Homestead Tours Funds available for use 193 \$ 3,680
Note: On Hand \$20 cash out of rally fees to have for change.	Note: On Hand \$20 cash out of rally fees to have for change.



We also have several members who have renewed. Thank you for choosing THCU!

Join us our private Facebook group—Texas Hill **Country Unit**

New Affiliate Members:

- Grady and Keith Ferry of Woodlands, TX
- David and Anna Brandon of Hillsboro, TX

New Members:

- Lee and Tricia Henry of Fredricksburg, TX
- Yvonne and Monty Davison of Austin, TX
- Linda and Tim Beutnagel of Longview, TX

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 Ebbers Web Master: Tim Ebbers

Past president: Charlie Williams

2024 Elected THCU Officers

President: Tim Ebbers 1st VP: Michael Green 2nd VP: Susan Fegley

Recording secretary: <open> Treasurer: Zephyr Marek

1 year director: Dave Toy

2 year director: Felicia Johnson

Newsletter: Ally Ebbers Web Master: Brian Walker

Past President: Bob Grimes



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





OCTOBER

- 03 Linda Esper
- 08 Clarita Walker
- 08 Robert Grimes
- 16 Daniel Marek
- 22 Gayle Ketchum
- 27 Michael Stanley
- 30 Carol Wallace
- 30 Allison Ebbers

NOVEMBER

- 03 John Cragle
- 07 Stacey Cameron
- 11 Joyce Schwerdfeger
- 17 Theresa Davis
- 20 Jim Schwerdfeger
- 22 Katy Bonugli
- 30 Brooke Carrick



Oct 04 Keegan and Brooke Carrick
Oct 06 Joe Long and Gayle Ketchum

Oct 16 Brian and Clarita Walker



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.

