



East Texas Lakes Newsletter

Rally Time

We do not have a rally on the schedule yet, but we will try to work something out soon.

Shelley has a rally planned with another club at Tyler State Park the weekend before Halloween. If you would like to take part give her a call. Also we are looking at a rally at Caddo Lake State Park in early December (1st-3rd?). This would be a new officer installation as well. [Need a head count by the end of June if you would be interested.](#)

Don't forget the International Rally in Rock Springs, WY starting on Saturday June 24th. There is a group from GHAC leaving Houston June 9th & 10th if you would like to caravan out with them. I know the Chaumonts plan on heading out there, so if you would like to team up give Hunter a call.

There were 8 ETLU members and a couple of guests at the True Vine Brewery social Saturday night. We enjoyed some great pizza from SOLA Bread and tasty brews from True Vine. It was great to compare stories and get to know everyone. We had a great time! We will be doing more of these in the future.

If you have any ideas for a future social, please let us know. We are thinking about the brewery in Athens next. The beer and food are outstanding.

Maintenance Minute

It is getting warm again and that means we likely need to be able to fire up the AC units. While these units are very reliable, they do need some maintenance. Here are a couple things you can do yourself:

1. Clean the return air filters. Dirty filters can restrict air flow and cut down on the cooling efficiency of your unit.
2. If you feel safe on stop of your Airstream, you can remove the shroud and clean the condenser coils. Over the winter who know what could have built a nest up there.
3. Use a long tubing brush and make sure your condensate line is clean so your unit can drain properly. For most Airstreams, there is a drain located in the road-side wheel well. This is the brush that we use to clean the tube:





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It is 7 feet long and will reach close to the top of the unit from the end. It is less than \$8 on Amazon. You may also need to check those lines near the coils when you remove the return air vents for cleaning. Just examine the line for dirt and debris.

New Members

No new member this month.

People Profile

This month we are profiling Gina Smith. Gina is an experienced Airstreamer and travels the country with her surfing dogs (see pet profile). She was born and raised in Garland Texas then moved to Carthage, TX raising her two daughters, precious granddaughter and caring for her crazy mom (her words, not mine).

After 30 years as a Hospital Administer, she finally tired of a business suit and panty hose. Her father had also died and she had had enough! So back to school to become a Medical Massage/Sports Reb therapist where she started her own practice and did that for over 20 years. That practice allowed her to meet so many folks from around the world, and oh boy the stories she can tell!!!

But COVID shut down her practice and along with her mom's health going downhill (she passed away July 2022) it was time to retire and Gina finally said "I'm done!" So, she ran away from home, packed up the Airstream, goldens, and bought and gutted a dumpy beach house. Now she lives with her three goldens (Diva, Madness, and Turbo) and is now a full-time beach/Airstream bum!

Please send us your short bio so we can profile you (and your pets).

East Texas Lakes Pet Profile

Turbo – owned by Gina Smith



This sweet golden beast came from East Texas Golden Retrievers out of Lufkin, TX. He was born on April 18, 2021.



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He came into her life when she needed it the most. Gina had just lost both of her golden heart dogs (Elvis and Bugsy) who worked as therapy dogs in the East Texas area, (bonus, she even has a published children's book about them).



Turbo has big paws to fill. His personality and heart are as big as Texas. He is so smart! Turbo's hobbies are rolling in the seaweed on the beach, bike rides into the sun set, an occasional obedience and scent/nose training class. Turbo is

currently working towards being a First Responder Therapy Dog so he can start traveling in our new redone Airstream (the one with 3 built-in kennels) sharing his golden sugars!

Next month be on the lookout for Tikka.



Please send us your pet profiles. I think they are more popular than anything in the newsletter.

Social Media

Don't forget to follow ETLU on social media. The sites are up and running:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EastTexasLakesAirstream/>

Instagram: east_tx_lakes_ac

Airstream Website:

<https://airstreamclub.org/east-texaslakes>

Who's going where?

Send your travel plans to the Unit Gmail address by the 15th to be included in that month's newsletter.

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The Towns's Trip Calendar:

- 6/2 Lake Ray Roberts State Park
- 8/24 Lake Mineral Wells SP
- 9/8 Dinosaur Valley State Park

Starting in July, The Battles have an awesome summer (and into fall) planned. They are heading to Colorado to see Mesa Verde National Park then onto the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Dead Horse State Park, UT, Canyonlands National Park, and Arches National Park. Then onto Boise, ID through Oregon to Mt. Hood and Bend, Crater Lake, then up the Oregon Coast to Washington. If that was not enough, back through Montana, Wyoming, Devil's Tower, and Mt. Rushmore. Finally, whatever sparks their interest as they head back to Texas. What a great trip!!! A trip diary will definitely be in order for a future newsletter.

Join us if you can. Please send us your trip schedule and see if any ETLU folks can join you.

Trip Diary

We tried to spend a nice long weekend at Purtis Creek State Park early in late April. Unfortunately, we only made it one night before our weather radio went off. There was projected golf-ball sized hail and 60

mph winds. Not out cup of tea. So we packed up fast and headed home.

Purtis Creek is a nice park though and you should camp there if you get the chance. It is close to most of us and just outside Ennis, TX. There is a very nice lake that is well stocked with Large Mouth from what I understand. The campsites are flat with electric and water. The trails are mostly shaded and a great place to ride bikes.

To finish the story, the storm ran out of steam right over the park and we could have stayed. Oh well, better safe than dented.

In Other News

If you have a good service provider, please send it to us. We would like to let other members know who they can trust.

Also, still trying to get birthdays and anniversaries. If you have not already sent them to me, please do so we can all celebrate with you.

Don't forget to give us a heads up if you can make a Caddo Lake Rally in early December. If we get enough interest, we will get spots reserved.

**Hawley Towns – Newsletter
Coordinator**

May 2023