

The Bluebonnet

Issue: Feb 2024



President's Message

We are finally getting to the end of our up and down Texas winter. As I write this the temperature outside is 37 degrees in Leander. The weather person is forecasting low 80s next week. The 70s and 80s degree days means great camping weather for us. I am so excited to be able to hit the road next week for our Tour of the Texas Coast Rally. This will be our first attempt at hosting a caravan style rally, but we have the Ira and Terri Rush as cohost and they've kept us in line and have come up with some fun things to do and see. I sure it will turn out well as we have a great group of WBCCI members going, even a couple from Ontario, Canada. It is always great to extend our Airstream family to other unit members. I would like to thank Ira and Terri Rush, Susan and Craig Fegley and Allison Ebbers for all of their effort on our rally document. They put a lot of time into it and will be very helpful. The document is filled with information on each of the RV park stops, location attractions, places to eat and driving instructions. We have a great stop planned to park our rigs on the beach and have lunch. Who knows, maybe we can use it in the future as a guide.

We have one spot available for the April eclipse rally. Thank you to the Greens and Micheks for hosting this event. They are working on the itinerary which will be sent out to the folks going.

Speaking of hosting a rally, we need a couple of volunteers to host the September Labor day rally in Moody, TX at Mother Neff State Park. The dates are Aug 29-Sep 2, 2024. Moody is located between Waco and Temple. We need someone to take the lead on the itinerary for this weekend. We already have a couple of group activities lined up to add to the itinerary. I also need to get a head count for members attending so I can get the park reservation completed. The deadline for attending this rally is March 27th. I will be making the group reservation on March 29th. This park only had 20 sites and they are not allowing us to book outside the 5-month window. This rally is over Labor Day weekend, the Texas Park Service is anticipating that the park will fill up quickly. Others are welcome to join the rally after March 27th but they will be on their own for finding a campground site. We are also looking for hosts for the 2024 international caravan and November installation rally. Please volunteer; these rallies need volunteers to make it a success!

The Region 9 rally in Bandera has forty rigs on the wait list and there has been no cancellation at this time. Nancy and Tracy are working on another location about two miles from Skyline to get us (on the waitlist) accommodation for the rally. If you are on the waitlist, you will receive an email with instructions for how to book your spot at the alternate campground in the next couple of weeks.

Exciting announcements from the last campfire chat the upcoming international schedule has been released.

2025 York, PA (August)

2026 Minot, ND (August)

2027 Rocksprings, WY (TBD)

There were also other interesting items from the fireside chat such as the ACI website has been updated for ease of navigation and the rollout announcement of Courtesy Parking using Harvest Host. The whole session for both coasts are on YouTube if you want to check it out. Look for Airstream International Club channel.

I would like to welcome our new members Pamela and John Halter, Carlos and Cheryl Fernandez, Robert Dickerson, Wendy Bowerman and new affiliate member Steve and Selina Shadd, Chris and Laura Eckert, Benson and Terry Sheally. Allison and I look forward to seeing each of you at a future rally.

Tim Ebbers
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Newsletter Chick: AllyEbbers

Meet Pam and John Halter

Pam just retired from Apple Inc, and is looking forward to some adventures with John now that they have the freedom to roam. John and I have 2 girls, 21 and 25, both in Austin. We also have 2 dogs, although one is very elderly so not sure how much camping she will be up for. John is an avid sailboat racer and has been a member of Austin Yacht Club for many, many years. Pam likes to browse thrift shops and junk stores and loves reading and listening to audio books. We both like to hike as well.

We had been thinking about an RV for several years and once I retired we figured we'd take a look. I had a Basecamp in mind and John had a conversion van in mind but once we started looking we settled on a 2022 22 foot Caravel FB. Neither of us have RVED before but turns out we had a ton of old camping supplies from early days of camping with our girls when they were smaller. We like the floor plan, including the almost queen and the bathroom in the back.

This is our first Airstream and we are still learning a ton. Our freezer didn't freeze ice cubes but maybe we didn't set it right? And we survived our first grey water dump. We also learned that our Tacoma will pull the unit but it might be tough on longer trips or big hills. So now John is looking at truck options.

We've only done one trip - to Inks Lake and it was beautiful. Future trips include any National Parks. Anywhere really :)



Pictured to the right are Pam (bottom),
Zoe (middle) and John (top)

Note: Pam and John will be at the boondocking eclipse rally! Can't wait to meet them. John—there will be many folks who can tell you all about which truck to buy (haha). Personally go with an F250



THCU 2024 Schedule

Date	Location	Comments
Feb 24-Mar 2	Tour of the TX Coast Rally	If you would like to attend part of this rally, review the 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. Currently, there are 12 rigs attending this rally. Mustang Island State Park and Iron Horse RV Resort is completely full so if you are interested, you will need to book another park within the area or check the two parks for any cancellations.
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.
April 19-23	Region 9/NTAC Stichin'and Fishin' Rally	This is a new Region 9 rally. If you would like to check out the schedule and register, click on this link: Region 9/NTAC Stichin' and Fishin' Rally ACI (airstreamclub.org) It is on the AirstreamClub.org site so you will need to log in to register.
May 1-5	Region 9 2024 Rally Bandera, TX	For those on the waitlist, an alternate campground will be announced in the next couple of weeks.
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 attending this rally. Reservations with the park will need to be done by calling (936) 544-8466 and letting them know you are with the THCU GROUP. They are expecting us.
July	<no rally planned>	
August TBD	Luncheon TBD	
Aug29-Sept2 Labor Day Rally	Mother Neff State Park 1921 Park Road 14 Moody, TX 76557	This rally will start on Thursday and end on Monday (Labor Day). This state park has full hookups. Please volunteer to be a host for this rally.
Sept 26—Oct 10	International @ Sedalia, MO	Dates reflect start of the caravan to the end of International. See page 10 for details of the caravan.
November 07-10	Installation Rally Colorado Landing RV Park La Grange, TX	Please volunteer to be a host for this rally.
December	TBD by incoming president	



Notes on a few of the THCU activities in 2024:



Boondocking Eclipse Rally (April 6-9)

- Coordinators: Mike & Pat Green and Yvonne & Ed Michek
- If you plan on attending this rally, please let Tim Ebbers know by emailing him at timberintx@gmail.com.
- 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 [guide](#) 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.
- Additional information regarding activities, rally fees, and limitations will be published to the attendees as we get them.



Region 9/NTAC Stitchin' and Fishin' Rally (April 19-23)

- The schedule and registration form has been posted on AirstreamClub.org. If you are interested click on this link: [Region 9/NTAC Stichin' and Fishin' Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](#)



EVENT | MAY 1 - 5 2024
Region 9 2024 Rally

1-5 May
 Skyline Ranch RV Park
 2231 Hwy 16N
 Bandera, TX, 800-267-1402 | [Get Directions](#)
 P 800-267-1402

The Region 9 Rally is now sold out. If you want to attend, please sign up on our waitlist by clicking on the Waitlist Button. Spots that open up due to cancellations are going to be filled from members on the waitlist in the order that people have signed up.

[Wait list Registration](#) →

Region 9 Rally in Bandera, TX (May 1-5)

- The link to all things Region 9 2024: [Region9 2024 Region Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](#)
- If you would like to attend this, but saw it is sold out, get on the “Wait list Registration”. An alternate park will be announced in the next couple of weeks.
- The Rally Schedule is updated so check it out.
- If you are registered and are interested in the Blood Drive, there is a link to sign up. There are still slots available for you to donate blood!



THCU Sedalia Bound Caravan (September 26-October 10, 2024)

- Caravan dates are September 26—October 3, 2024. The stops on this rally include the following by date:
 1. Martin Creek Lake State Park in Tatum, TX—Sept 26-Sept 28—2 nights. Tim will make a group reservation for this park.
 2. Catherine’s Landing in Hot Springs, AR—Sept 28-Sept 30—2 nights. We are in site 206.
 3. Cooper Creek Resort and Campground in Branson, MO—Sept 30-Oct 03—3 nights. We are in site 78.
 4. We will caravan to Sedalia, MO on October 3rd. International officially starts on October 5 and runs through the 11th (check out is on Oct 11th).
 5. We are planning a trip back to TX via a different path through Oklahoma.

Additional information regarding the route with dates, number of nights and mileages

STOP	MI/HR	NIGHTS
1 Thu, 09/26/24 - Bertram, TX Bertram, TX, United States		
2 Thu, 09/26/24 - Tatum, TX Martin Creek Lake State Park	275 4:31	2
3 Sat, 09/28/24 - Hot Springs, AR Catherine's Landing	216 3:30	2
4 Mon, 09/30/24 - Branson, MO Cooper Creek Resort & Campground	222 4:12	3
5 Thu, 10/03/24 - Sedalia, MO Missouri State Fair Campground	156 2:48	8
6 Fri, 10/11/24 - Carthage, MO Big Red Barn RV Park	165 2:54	2
7 Sun, 10/13/24 - Norman, OK Lake Thunderbird State Park	271 4:42	2
8 Tue, 10/15/24 - Wichita Falls, TX Lake Arrowhead State Park	154 2:46	2
9 Thu, 10/17/24 - Dublin, TX Sowell Creek	155 2:29	2
10 Sat, 10/19/24 - Bertram, TX Bertram, TX, United States	117 1:52	

←--Good to go.

←--Subject to change

If you are interested in attending the caravan and/or joining us to head back to TX, contact Tim Ebbers at 512.786.6380 or timberintx@gmail.com for detailed information regarding making reservations at each park.



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:

- ◇ Steve and Selina Shadd of Zavalla, TX
- ◇ Chris and Laura Eckert of Round Rock, TX
- ◇ Benson and Terry Sheally of Mooresville, NC

New Members:

- ◇ Pamela and John Halter of Austin, TX
- ◇ Robert Dickerson of Santo, TX
- ◇ Wendy Bowerman of San Marcos, TX
- ◇ Carlos and Cheryl Fernandez of Fredericksburg, TX

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: timberintx@gmail.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit





February

- 17 Gary Odom
- 28 Jan Eiland
- 28 Patti Phillippe

March

- 12 Jeff McKee
- 14 Mark Knox
- 18 Joan Ermis
- 27 Charlie Williams



- Feb 18—Lois Muir & Richard Fletcher
- Feb 22—Gary Stacey Cameron
- Mar 31—Jim and Raisin Schwerdfeger



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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. This will be updated in the future to use the Harvest Host website. Watch for updates to this.

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.

