

# COYOTE TALES



Volume 49 - Issue 3

Editor: Lucinda ("Cindy") West

March 2024

## President's Message

By Rick Elkins



Please remember club Treasurer Jerry Lyddon and his family. Jerry's wife and our friend, Irene passed away on March 6, 2024. Her warm smile to all members, her love for her pets, her enjoyment at rallies, and her courage with her physical challenges are my memories of Irene. God Bless you Irene, rest in peace.

Hello fellow GHAC members! We had a fantastic, fun well attended March Rally at Lake Somerville State Park. Be sure to read the newsletter's rally host report for details including photos, and then check the dates for each of our upcoming rallies so you can register to join the fun!

As I write this, I am sitting in our Airstream at a campground outside Ft. Davis on the Big Bend club caravan organized by member Bruce Lee. We are seeing some amazing sites, exploring and learning about the "Texas Badlands". Be sure to check out Bruce's trip report.

The club caravan to the 2024 International Rally in Sedalia, MO. continues to be put together by the Caravan Committee. I plan to have registration with details on our club website very soon listing costs, schedule and activities.

Our nominating committee is looking for members who would serve in a club leadership role. If you are interested or have questions about the roles and responsibilities, please reach out to one of the committee members, Dan McAnulty, Clark Gardner, Bruce Lee, or me for assistance.

So thankful and very blessed with the support of the 2024 GHAC leadership team and rally hosts. Amazing talent and dedication in planning and providing the members a safe, fun and memorable club/rally experience. My continued thanks to each of you.

*Wally Byam: "Adventure is where you find it, any place, every place, except at home in the rocking chair."*

*Me: "Have you registered for an upcoming GHAC Rally?"*

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# Leap Year Rally Report

by Eric McMurphy



This was our first time as rally hosts. Holly and I co-hosted two rallies in 2023 to prepare for hosting in 2024. We consider it an honor that GHAC would let us host and we did not want to disappoint. We found our experience very rewarding. The weekend started with a nice dinner together in Somerville at Momma's Kitchen, a variety of home cooking and desserts!

On Friday, we kicked off the Rally with a traditional breakfast of eggs, sausage. I broke out

the Blackstone for some tasty bacon. For dinner, we all enjoyed the Baked Potato Bar! Thank goodness Jan Rightmyer was there because the oven was broken in the rally room! She taught us to boil the potatoes, wrap them in foil, and finish cooking them all day in the Yeti cooler. It was a great meal with appetizers and desserts provided by our guests!



Saturday started with pancakes and waffles (courtesy of Jan above) for breakfast. After lunch, Holly led the ladies in making homemade mesh wreaths. Then we all gathered outside the rally room to a double elimination (way too long, but fun) Cornhole Tournament. Bruce Lee and Eric McMurphy emerged victorious after well over three hours on a beautiful day.



Saturday night we had a full potluck dinner, then gathered together around a great fire that Tom Raia built for evening conversations. I know we all slept like rocks that night.

Sunday, we all got up, grabbed some breakfast to go, and figured out where to send the leftovers (mostly with the Big Bend Caravaners!



## LCR for RWB

A new game starting this year went into full execution after our Red, White and Blue (RWB) drawing. This dice game brings out the competitiveness in everyone, and Justin Hargadine (below) cleaned up! It's a great way to raise money for RWB.



Wayne Wilkerson (above right) was showing off his loaded baked potato while Mitch Guinn was working out in his mind how he was going to steal Wayne's dinner! Skymed delivered a fantastic lunch (below, left to right) Tom Raia, Rick Elkins and Mitch Guinn were not waiting for anyone to tell them it's time to eat. Wayne Wilkerson and Justin Hargadine were hoping they would get a cookie!



## Reflections from a Newbie Host

When we left the campground on Sunday, Holly and I reflected on the weekend. We were talking with anticipation about what we wanted to do next time. At the Christmas Rally,, Dan McAnulty introduced texting the group during the rally to communicate upcoming events, and we picked up a similar concept from our previous “cruise ship” directors. We started communicating via group text a few days before the rally. Being immediately accessible to the whole group seemed to be very popular. We wanted to generate “excitement” about the rally and really have our guests look forward to the weekend. We received very positive feedback in spite of a few challenges. We are looking into apps like WhatsApp to utilize during future rallies we host.

In addition, we were worried there would not be enough food for the rally. We wanted an awesome breakfast to start each morning and “community-building” dinners. We probably asked members to bring a bit too much for dinner! In the end, we had plenty of food with leftovers.

We would like others who have not hosted or co-hosted a rally to know this: we had so many people offer to help. Yes, we had our assigned co-hosts but others also volunteered during the rally (Paul Braun, Deborah Davis, Justin Hargadine, Rick Elkins, Jan Rightmyer). And Ed Ferrin was so gracious to take tons of pictures so we would have great memories of Somerville 2024. Don't be afraid of the challenge because there are many, many wonderful people in our club that will step up if you need help!



Holly and I were very proud to service our guests and I hope we exceeded expectations. From all the event hosts, we were honored you wanted to spend the weekend with us! (Left to right) Tom Raia, Holly and Eric McMurphy, Lisa and Jim Fiene.

## Surprises

Holly and I were really touched by the following stories. Justin Hargadine pulled out on Sunday, headed for home. He called us from the road with a problem so I asked him to come back to camp

His 7-pin trailer plug was totally ripped off from a turn Justin had made. The cord did not have enough slack and got tangled with his weight distribution equipment. He had no brakes, lights or power to his Airstream from the truck. Campers weres heading out for West Texas or home, but Tom Raia volunteered to stay and help; he was not in a hurry

Tom and Justin headed into town to get a new plug and we headed out for home. They worked on the plug for over two hours to get it right so everything worked.

## Another Heartwarming Story

Not to gross anyone out but our new members (Mitch and Mary Guinn) were on their maiden voyage in a beautifully remodeled and very shiny vintage trailer. They were so great to be with all weekend!. They had never dumped their tanks, and when their grey water filled up we discovered he did not own a dump hose (newbie!). Paul Braun, our guest from N.J., offered to let Mitch borrow a spare dump hose, and he also offered to supervise while Mitch dumped his Airstream for the first time. They both prepped for the 500 ft journey to the dump station, and when they got over there, Paul put on his gloves to dump Mitch's tanks. Mitch yelled, “hey man, thanks for the help. But I'm not going to let you dump my crap!” So Paul stood back and coached Mitch through the process. Here you had a guy from Texas, an “Aggie,” being helped by a guy from the Jersey Shore. What a hoot!

These stories really hit both of us as hosts. I found these acts of service and kindness what I wish everyone outside of our Airstream community knew about us. I think we would have other Airstreamers knocking on our door wanting to get in! This has us wanting to rally each month, to visit with friends, and have so many laughs. What a great time.

(more pictures on p. 11)



*Roadrunner Travelers RV Park in Study Butte with some of our Airstreams*

# Big Bend Caravan Report

**By Bruce Lee**

On Sunday, March 3, nine Airstreams met up at the Caverns of Sonora RV Park to begin an adventure to visit the Big Bend National Park area and Davis Mountains. Paul Evens & Natalie Garrett, James & Lisa Feine, Dave & Jan Rightmyer, Dan & Lisa Schwarz, Jim & Jo Ann Shults, Doug and Leslie Stauber, Wayne and Liza Wilkerson, co-leaders Rick & Tracy Elkins and leader Bruce Lee comprised this adventuresome group.

The next day we drove to Study Butte/Terlingua which is near the west entrance to Big Bend National Park. We spent four nights there taking in the beauty and wonders of the national park, state park, the surrounding areas in-between, having dinners at the Starlight Theater and Long Draw Pizza in addition to enjoying music performed by various west Texas bands. We were blessed to have beautiful weather during this early springtime.

On Friday, March 8, we departed Roadrunner Travelers RV Park and headed to the mountains – Davis Mountains that is. The group explored the area taking in Fort Davis National Historical Site, McDonald Observatory, Davis Mountains State Park, Marfa and Balmorhea State Park. A few of our members have made several trips to this area in years past and enjoyed re-visiting these places.

Dan and Lisa Schwarz had to leave us early Sunday morning (March 10) to get back home. The remaining eight rigs took off Monday morning and drove to Sanderson, TX. Fortunately, this was just about a 2-hour drive, so some of us took a short walk to Z-Bar Trading Company, a unique hardware store chocked full of all types of items. Some folks in our caravan purchased hard to find tools that can be used for Airstream repairs.

On Tuesday, we left for D’Hanis, TX, which was about a 5-hour drive from Sanderson. Along the way we saw much U.S. Border patrol activity along Highway 90 as we approached Del Rio. That evening we all met up to have one last Happy Hour before our departure on Wednesday for home or other destinations.



*James & Lisa Feine and Liza & Wayne (in front seat) Wilkerson going on a Big Bend Jeep tour*



*Happy Hour! Rick & Tracy Elkins, Wayne & Liza Wilkerson and Dave & Jan Rightmyer relaxing after a busy day*



*Aoudad Sheep, taken by Liza Wilkerson at Ft. Davis*



*Picture by Natalie Garrett from picnic area off Hwy 90 west of Del Rio*

Every caravan or rally allows people to showcase a special skill. This can be technical, housekeeping, hitching, etc. For our caravan we had some special culinary skills on display. Jim and Jo Ann Shults shared their extensive knowledge of Dutch oven cooking. At a potluck supper in Study Butte, Jim and Jo Ann prepared their chicken and rice casserole. Fortunately for us, they made enough to share, and it was delicious. Then, as an encore, Jim and Jo Ann got up early on a cold Saturday morning and made sticky buns for everyone. What a treat to have a hot mug of coffee (or tea) with a sticky bun on a cold morning in the Davis Mountains. We thoroughly enjoyed Jim and Jo Ann's culinary skills.



Since a few of us on the caravan came from the March rally in Lake Somerville, we were gifted with several food items to use on the caravan. We had the ingredients to make s'mores. We waited until we got to the Davis Mountains to try these out but found out there was a burn ban in effect which meant no open camp fires. Liza and Wayne Wilkerson took on the challenge to find an alternative way to make s'mores. Liza used her microwave to heat them up and provided samples. Even though you didn't get the toasted marshmallow taste, the s'mores turned out really good. Liza pledged to develop a way to make these in an Airstream oven and was awarded with enough ingredients to perfect her recipe.



Picture by Natalie Garrett from picnic area off Hwy 90 west of Del Rio

All-in-all we had a great time. For some it was experiencing Big Bend and the Davis Mountains for the first time. For others, it was a chance to renew past experiences in these areas and it's always nice to share these experiences with traveling buddies.

## Sanderson



Views of RV Park in Sanderson. Jim n Shults, Wayne Wilkerson, Liza Wilkerson



Ft. Davis Breakfast. Jim Shults & Jo Ann Shults, Tracy Elkins, Lisa & James Feine, Doug Stauber, Rick Elkins. Tracy is bussing a table.



Jan Rightmyer, Leslie Stauber, Doug Stauber, Jo Ann Shults

## Sticky Buns



Left: Doug Rightmyer, Rick Elkins, Doug Stauber, Jan Rightmyer, Leslie Stauber, Jo Ann Shults, Jim Shults. Above: Jim Shults looking over his sticky buns.



Balmorhea State Park

## Study Butte



## Welcome New Members!

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*Mark & Cathy Atkins  
BRN 2648 from Tomball*

*Jeff & Lorraine Gray  
BRN 7848 from Cypress*



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## Member Benefits

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- Membership Discounts
- Product Savings
- Courtesy Parking
- Blue Beret Quarterly Publication
- Preferred Partners - Travel, Trip & RV Insurance

<https://airstreamclub.org/benefits>

## March Membership

by Tracy Elkins

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*Membership & Directory Chair*

*281.725.1672*

*Tracy.d.elkins@gmail.com*

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## Member Spotlight

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Our very own Ed Ferrin was featured in the March 2024 edition of *Coast Monthly* for his talents as a local bird photographer and co-founder of the *Featherfest Photo Contest*, which is celebrating its 15th year.

We have long enjoyed fabulous photos courtesy of Ed's keen timing and eye for a great shot during GHAC Rallies and Events, but his passion lies in capturing unique images of birds in their habitat. Living in Galveston provides many fertile locations for incredible photos but Ed frequents the wetlands area along Sportsman Road and 8 Mile Road where he regularly sees his favorite bird, the reddish egret. Patience, skill and a touch of ornithological intuitiveness combined with a Canon R5 mirrorless camera and a Canon RF 100-500 L zoom lens gives Ed the tools he needs to move into position easily to capture the best shots.

# The Sunshine Corner

By Carol Goodwin



*“May you have warm words on a  
cold evening,*

*A full moon on a dark night,  
And a smooth road all the way to your door.”*

*-An Irish Blessing*

Airstreamers usually know where they're going—whether it be a local, regional, international rally; a caravan; or just following a country road. But, do you know where you've been? How did you get to where you are today? Researching your genealogy may give you the answers. GHAC has at least two people who follow their own genealogy. Tracey Calvert and Tom Taroni have both shared their knowledge with me. Tom introduced me to FamilySearch Tree, a free website, which offers a family tree template that enables its users to start and build their own family trees and connect to others. I created an account and inputted my name. With a few clicks, my family tree emerged. I didn't know much about my grandmother's, Clora Mae O'Neal history, so I followed her paternal line all the way to the end. I found an astonishing amount of information about this branch of my family tree. Her lineage predates 1000 AD to Kings and other nobility in Ireland! Who knew?! I didn't!! I invite you to try out FamilySearch Tree to travel back in time on the roads from where you came. You, too, may be surprised.

## *Member Concerns*

It is with sadness I announce that longtime GHAC member, Irene Lyddon, has died from heart failure. She was a patient at Kindred Hospital in Sugar Land where she was under the care of a team of doctors who specialize in complex medical needs. This comes as a shock to her husband, Jerry, and to her family. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

## March Celebrations

### *Birthdays*

- 1 Stephen Couch
- 8 Ron Bautsch
- 12 Ines Baptista
- 12 James Wanja
- 13 Jerry Lyddon
- 13 Kay Neichoy
- 14 Dell Jones
- 14 Linda Ford
- 17 Gary Alley
- 21 Jerry Goodwin
- 22 Carla Dagget
- 24 Ron Bernucho
- 27 Jerry Adams
- 27 Red Childers
- 27 Jim Glover
- 28 Paul Evens
- 29 Jim Goodwin
- 31 Vernon Goodwin

### *Anniversaries*

- 6 Rick & Jennifer Cary
- 9 Peter & Shareece Dumont
- 9 Jim & Jo Ann Shults
- 12 Jason & Sherry Goodwin
- 13 Kelly & Gina Hargraves
- 14 Ron & Kathryn Bautsch
- 17 Tom & Caren Bundy
- 19 James & Lisa Feine
- 20 Bob & Lisa Hansen
- 22 Richard & Lisa Sambrano
- 23 Gary & Pamela Alley
- 24 Mark & Danielle Sitton

**HAPPY TRAILS  
AND  
SAFE TRAVELS!!**

# RALLIES AND CARAVANS



One of the great things about Airstream life is that members are able to travel with their family, which might include their pets. Being able to include one's loyal and loving pets in an Airstream life or event is a true blessing.

For members attending Airstream Rallies, Airstream Club International provides guidelines for pets. When we rally, please be aware.



## Recommended Pet Policy for Events

All pets must be on a 6-foot, non-retractable leashes when outside the Airstream. Always check collars and leashes to ensure they fit correctly and are working properly. A size-appropriate pet containment system can be used at the campsite. Pets are not permitted in the buildings or outside dining areas during a meal except for working service animals. Well-mannered dogs are welcome to play and exercise in designated dog parks. Always clean up after your pet. And make sure your pet has an ID tag.



# DARK SIDE OF THE MOON “BUDDY” RALLY

**APRIL 5-9, 2024**  
**BOON DOCK at the Calvert's**  
1102 W. Broadway St., Winnsboro, TX

Directions: GPS coordinates: 32.97639° N, 95.30534° W  
From Houston: Winnsboro is approximately 300 miles North of Houston, 50 miles North of Tyler, 100 miles East of Dallas, 100 miles West of Shreveport and 26 miles North of Mineola where Region 9 Rallies have been held in the past

## **REMEMBER THIS IS A BOON DOCK BUDDY EVENT**

Arrive with Full Fresh Water Tank & Provisions (area stores are expected to be very busy)  
Propane Tank Fuel Checked  
Generator Checked & Exercised Prior to Arrival  
Gasoline Container for Refueling Generator

### **Friday, April 5** Early arrivals –

**5:00 PM** Happy Hour on the Porch - bring a shared appetizer  
**6:00 PM** Stuffed bake potatoes and salad by Host

### **Saturday, April 6**

**Breakfast and Lunch** on your own  
Check out Winnsboro - Antique shops, Winnsboro Historical Museum, Winnsboro Center for the Arts on the Bowery, Winnsboro Farmers Market 7:30 to 12, Bloom  
**5:00 PM** Happy Hour on the Porch. Bring a shared appetizer.  
**6:00 PM** Bring something to grill and something to share.

### **Sunday, April 7**

Visit any number of churches.  
**2:30 PM** on your own “Harp on the Road” concert and comedy at Winnsboro Center for the Arts (sm. venue visit [winnsborocenterforthearts.com](http://winnsborocenterforthearts.com))  
**5:00 PM** Happy Hour on the Porch - host will provide heavy appetizer  
**Meals** on your own today

### **MONDAY, APRIL 8, ECLIPSE DAY** *viewing glasses provided*

**9:00 AM** Breakfast  
**Eclipse Start 12:25 PM**  
**Totality Begins 1:43 PM**  
**Duration 3 minutes 59 seconds**  
**Eclipse Ends 3:04 PM**  
**5:00 PM** Happy Hour on the Porch. Bring a shared appetizer  
**6:00 PM** Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Fix-in's provided by hosts

**Tuesday, April 9**, Depart at your leisure. Happy Trails

**\*\*Gray water can be disposed of on the ground, but be considerate of your neighbors.\*\***

**\*\*We will attempt to park trailers with the door opening on the driveway depending on the number of trailers.\*\***



**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

# Greater Houston Airstream Club Spring Rally

Colorado Landing RV Park  
64 E Bluffview Dr La Grange TX 78945  
979-968-9465

**Thursday - April 18th**

**April 18 - 21, 2024**

6 pm - Dinner on your own at fourteensixteen with a group reservation (<https://www.1416lagrange.com/>).

**Friday - April 19th**

7 am / 8 am Coffee first then Cinnamon rolls, bacon, yogurt/granola, Explore historic Fayette County

5 pm - Happy Hour - bring appetizer to share & your beverage

6 pm Dinner: Chicken fajitas & fixings, black beans, rice, (portobello mushroom fajitas - vegetarian option)

7 pm LCR Tournament benefitting TRWB



**Saturday - April 20th**

7 am / 8:30 am Coffee then Build a breakfast sandwich yogurt & fruit

9 am - Carpool to Monument Hill State Historic Site for workday

5 pm - Happy Hour - bring appetizer to share & beverage

6 pm - Grill Night - Hot Dogs & all the fixings & Chips

7 pm - Raffle benefitting TRWB

**Sunday - April 21st**

7 am / 8 am - Coffee then Kolaches

8:30 - Devotional

**See you down the road!**

**Register by April 10th**

Host: Justin Hargadine

979.450.6275



Bring five \$1.00 bills for the LCR tournament. Winners get cash and tickets for Annual Grand Prize drawing for an Airstream Weber Grill.



Bring your "set-up" bag, with plates, utensils, napkins, and beverage to all meals.



Earth Day! Bring work clothes, shoes, gloves & loppers for work day at Monument Hill. There's a beautiful picnic spot here if you want to bring your lunch.



## Registration Details

Call Colorado Landing RV Park 979-968-9465 for Site Reservations and mention GHAC Rally.

Register with GHAC & pay Rally Fee (\$18 each). <https://airstreamclub.org/ghac-april-2024-rally>.

Contact Justin with questions: [jhargadine@gmail.com](mailto:jhargadine@gmail.com) or 979-450-6275.

**We Rally Together!**

Check out LaGrange Visitor's Center at 254 North Jefferson St for local historic sites and exploration options.



**LUAU Rally**  
 at Conroe KCA in Montgomery, TX  
 (Call the campground at 800-562-9950. Tell them you're with GHAC then Hula your way to the GHAC website & register on the events page.)

Thursday - 6pm early arrivals dinner @ Pizza Shack across the street

Friday - 7am Coffee in Rally Room  
 8am Breakfast by the Hosts  
 Lunch on your own  
 5pm Happy Hour - BYOB  
 6pm Dinner by the Hosts  
 7pm-ish LCR Game to benefit Team Red, White & Blue

Saturday - 7am Coffee in Rally Room  
 8am Breakfast by the Hosts  
 10am Member Business Meeting - Everyone Welcome  
 Lunch on your own  
 2pm Crafts with Host (\$2 donation towards supplies)  
 3pm Luau inspired games with Host & President Rick  
 5pm Happy Hour - BYOB or enjoy Luau inspired creations from the Tiki Bar  
 6pm Luau Dinner - main dish & dessert provided by Hosts  
 Bring a Hawaiian inspired side dish to share  
**Wear your favorite Hawaiian Shirt or Hula Skirt for a fun "Best Dressed" prize.**  
 Following dinner we will draw winners for the Team RWB raffle

Sunday - 7am - Coffee in Rally Room  
 8am - Light Breakfast  
 Lunch on your own  
 1pm - Happy Hour BYOB  
 5pm - Memorial Day Cookout - bring your meat to grill and a side/dessert to share

Monday - 7am - Coffee in Rally Room  
 8am - Grab-n-Go Breakfast

LOCAL FUN!!  
 Conroe Main Street Market  
 Sat - 10am-2pm

Sat/Sun Afternoon fun on the Davis' Pentoon boat (weather permitting)

Bring your own table service to all meals, please.

HOSTS: ERIC & HOLLY McMURPHY  
 CO-HOSTS: JOHN & DEBORAH DAVIS



Holly tied with Justin for the win at the Leap Year Rally.



Leap Year Rally. Craft time on Saturday afternoon was a fun filled event! (Left to right) Lisa Fiene, Liza Wilkerson, Laurie Braun, Mary Guinn, Holly McMurphy, Tracy Elkins, Charlene Ferrin and Deborah Davis.



Bruce Lee 'shining' Rick Elkins' tennis shoe at the Paisano Hotel in Marfa, TX. Big Bend Caravan.



Leap Year Rally. Contestants Rick Elkins and John Davis try to dual it out for the Cornhole championship. Looks like we need a rematch!



It could be you! Grand Prize ticket winners are in the running for the End of Year Grand prize, an Airstream Weber 1200 propane grill. Thus far ticket winners are:



## SOCK IT TO ME!

Jan Rightmyer spearheads our sock drive, to support disadvantaged children who have no socks for school. Donations of socks, or money to purchase socks, may be given directly to Jan. Another simple way to give is to order socks directly from Amazon and have the socks shipped to Jan Rightmyer at 2018 Midlothian Lane, Kingwood, TX 77339. #ghaccars

Update! We currently have less than 10 pair. Please donate to help meet our 2024 goal of 1000!

## For the Record...



### Leap Year Rally Attendees:

Paul & Laurie Brawn  
 (visiting from New Jersey)  
 John & Deborah Davis  
 Rick & Tracy Elkins  
 Jim & Lisa Feine (Co-Host)  
 Ed & Sharlene Ferrin  
 Jim & Liesa Glover  
 Mitch & Mary Guinn

Justin Hargadine  
 Bruce Lee  
 Eric & Holly McMurphy (Hosts)  
 Tom Raia (Co-Host)  
 Dave & Jan Rightmyer  
 Tim & Cindy West  
 Wayne & Liza Wilkerson

### Big Bend Adventure Caravan:

Bruce Lee (Leader)  
 Rick & Tracy Elkins (Co-Leader)  
 Paul Evens & Natalie Garrett  
 Jim & Lisa Feine  
 Dave & Jan Rightmyer  
 Dan & Lisa Schwartz  
 Jim & Joann Shults  
 Doug & Leslie Stauber  
 Wayne & Liza Wilkerson



# THE 67<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AIRSTREAM RALLY SEDALIA, MO - OCT 5 - 10, 2024

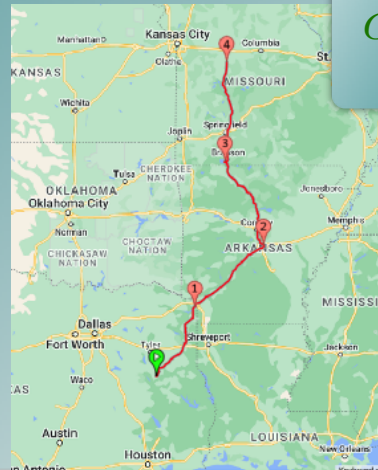
SEP 30 - OCT 4 - GHAC CLUB CARAVAN, TO SEDALIA  
LEADER, RICK ELKINS

**Caravan Signup Open Soon!!  
Watch for Email.....**

**Hop-off point - Rusk, TX after Sept Rally.  
Stops in Texarkana, Little Rock, Branson, &  
Sedalia**

- **Planning for 20 rigs**
- **Planned Activities All Stops**
- **Checking Route Sights & Scenery**
- **150 Mile Avg. Between Stops**

*Registration  
Coming Soon!!*



## Airstream Humor

### National Caravan News

Tom and Vicki Ketchum, members of GHAC, are experienced National Caravan Leaders. In February we published some details they gave us on two National Caravans they are leading in 2024 and 2025. Registration and more details can be found in the [ACI National Rallies](https://airstreamclub.org/events/caravan): <https://airstreamclub.org/events/caravan>



EVENT | SEP 13 - NOV 21, 2024  
[Register for the Mother Road!](#)



EVENT | APR 26 - MAY 21, 2025  
[Register for the Old National Road!](#)

Boudreaux, an Airstreamer, travels with a talkative but foul-mouthed parrot. One day at a rally the bird's swearing got to be too much. Boudreaux grabbed it by the neck and yelled "Be Quiet!" But only minutes later, the bird was swearing like a sailor again.



The next day, the bird yelled so loudly that the couple next door in a Globetrotter stopped by to demand that Boudreaux silence the bird. Desperate, he locked the bird in a cabinet. It didn't help.

The next day, the parrot was even worse. As a last resort, Boudreaux tossed it into his Dometic freezer. After five minutes, all was quiet. Worried the bird might be freezing, Boudreaux took it out.

"I'm sorry," confessed the suddenly polite bird. "I promise to never swear again."

Boudreaux was astonished. He couldn't understand the change in attitude.

"By the way," asked the parrot, "what did the chicken do?"

\*Disclaimer: No parrots were harmed during the writing of this newsletter.

# 2024 Rally Hosts / Co-Hosts Filled!!

Thank you for volunteering as a Host or Co-Host for a 2024 Rally! Contact Rick Elkins at [Club155@airstreamclub.org](mailto:Club155@airstreamclub.org) or 713.859.5939 for information or to select a Rally to volunteer.

## What Hosts/Co-Hosts Do

*Click here for more specific details.*

- GC Contact
- Visit Location
- Set Rally Theme
- Plan Meals
- Plan Activities
- Rally Schedule
- Rally Fees
- Purchase Food
- Club Rally Boxes
- Reservations
- Promote Rally
- Monitor Registration
- Transport Food, Supplies, and Rally Boxes
- Greet Campers
- Prepare Meals
- Coordinate Activities
- Maintain Rally Room
- Lead Pledge, Devotion, & Grace
- Return Rally Room
- Report w/Pics for Newsletter
- Have Fun!

					
Dates	Rally Site	Host	Phone	Co-Host	Phone
Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> Luncheon	Golf Club of Houston 5860 Wilson Rd, Humble	Dave & Jan Rightmyer	713.818.9021	Bill & JoAnne Miller	832-577-7687
Feb 8 – 11	Magnolia RV Park Goodrich, TX	Jim & Lisa Feine	832.816.1242	John & Susan Sheridan	832-527-9644
Feb 29 – Mar 3	Lake Somerville State Park – Birch Creek Unit	Eric & Holly McMurphy	832.247.9480	Lisa Feine Tom Raia	832.816.1242 832-533-6435
April 5 - 9	Eclipse Buddy/Boondock Rally – Winnsboro	Jerry & Tracey Calvert	832-549-5042 281-210-6130	Rick & Tracy Elkins	713.859.5939 281.725.1672
Apr 18 – 21	Colorado Landing RV Park, La Grange	Justin Hargadine	979-450-6275	Rick & Tracy Elkins	713.859.5939 281.725.1672
<i>May 1 – 5</i>	<i>Region 9 Rally – Bandera Bound!, Bandera, Texas</i>				
May 23 – 27	Lake Conroe KOA, Montgomery TX	Eric & Holly McMurphy	832.247.9480	John & Deborah Davis	832-216-3492 281-974-0321
June 27 - 30	Joint Rally w/THCU– Crocket Lakefront Resort & Marina, Crockett	Rick & Tracy Elkins	713.859.5939 281.725.1672	Tim & Cindy West	863-838-0187 863-670-2828
Sept 26-29	Rusk KOA, Rusk TX	Rick & Tracy Elkins	713.859.5939 281.725.1672	Wayne & Liza Wilkerson	832-326-8814 832-326-5221
<i>Oct 5-11</i>	<i>International Rally – Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO</i>				
Nov 7-10	Joint Rally-TX Gulf Coast – TAHI, Zavalla	Dan & Maria McAnulty	832.392.7033 832.392.7034	Jerry & Beth Adams	972.529.8320 972.832.5078
Dec 5-8	Installation Rally – On The Lake RV Resort, Onalaska	Tim & Cindy West	863-838-0187 863-670-2828	Rick & Tracy Elkins	713.859.5939 281.725.1672

# 2024 GHAC Rally Schedule

[Click for Details](#)

- April 5 – 24, 2024 - Eclipse Buddy / Boondock Rally, Winnsboro, Tx
- April 18 - 21, 2024 - Rally at Colorado Landing RV Park, La Grange, Tx
- May 1 - 5, 2024 - Region 9 Rally at Skyline RV Park, Bandera, Tx
- May 23 - 27, 2024 - Rally at Conroe KOA, Montgomery, Tx
- June 27 - 30, 2024 - Joint Rally with Texas Hill Country Unit at Crockett Lakefront RV Resort and Marina, 75 Dogwood Lane, Crockett, Tx
- July 20, 2024 - Picnic at Alexander Deussen Park Pavilion, Houston, Tx
- August 17, 2024 - Picnic at Alexander Deussen Park Pavilion, Houston, Tx
- September 26 - 29, 2024 - Rusk KOA, Rusk, Tx
- October 5 - 11, 2024 - ACI International Rally at Missouri State Fair Grounds, Sedalia, Mo.
- November 7 - 10, 2024 - Joint Rally with Texas Gulf Coast Unit at TAHI, Zavala, Tx
- December 5 - 8, 2024 Installation Rally at On the Lake RV Resort, Onalaska, Tx

*Rally Registration is a Two-Step process:*

1. *Reserve your campsite with the Campground and pay direct (mention GHAC Rally).*
2. *Register at the GHAC Website & pay your Rally Fees.*



2013 Airstream Classic 31 ft.  
Asking \$68K.  
Jack Williams. 281 660 9918

2005 39' Airstream motorhome model 396.  
Freightliner chassis, 330 h.p. cat engine, 8 kw diesel generator. Two slides, queen bed,  
washer/dryer, tire pressure monitor, 50 amp surge protector, 2 slide out trays, 6 new  
tires, original owner.  
145K miles. \$55,000

Pete Baker  
832-569-2063 or email p4641@juno.com

# Greater Houston Airstream Club

## 2024 Officers

<i>Officers</i>		<i>BRN</i>
President	Rick Elkins	9713
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Eric McMurphy	15220
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Lisa Feine	31415
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Open	
Recording Secretary	Mary McAnulty	2162
Corresponding Secretary	Tracy Elkins	9713
Treasurer	Jerry Lyddon	7746
Assistant Treasurer	Caren Bundy	2835
Trustee 1 Year	Jan Rightmyer	26931
Trustee 1 Year	Tom Raia	20121
Trustee 2 Year	Jo Goodwin	731_1311
Trustee 2 Year	Paul Evens	20004
Parliamentarian	Joanne Miller	212
Immediate Past President	Dan McAnulty	2162

### *Committee Chairpersons:*

Caravan	John Sheridan	1326
Constitution & Bylaws	Bruce Lee	5461
Crafts & Projects	Carol Goodwin	1131
Sunshine	Carol Goodwin	1131
Directory Editor	Tracy Elkins	9713
Electronic Communications	Tom Bundy	2835
Historical	Vacant	
Membership	Tracy Elkins	9713
Mentorship	Rick Elkins	9713
Newsletter	Cindy West	19963



### **New Club Email Account:**

Please note GHAC's new e-mail. Airstream Club has changed all e-mail addresses effective 12/31/2023. All future communications will come from the e-mail account [Club155@airstreamclub.org](mailto:Club155@airstreamclub.org) reflecting the name **Greater Houston.**

### *Useful Links and Contacts*

- ❖ Airstream Club International (WBCCI / ACI) <https://airstreamclub.org>
  - ❖ Region 9 (Oklahoma & Texas): <https://airstreamclub.org/region9>
  - ❖ Greater Houston Airstream Club (GHAC, #155): <https://airstreamclub.org/greater-houston>
  - ❖ GHAC Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/GreaterHoustonAirstreamClub>
  - ❖ Blue Beret Archive (club magazine): <https://airstreamclub.org/member-only-section/member-only-blue-beret-magazine>
  - ❖ Blue Beret Blog (club blog): <https://blog.airstreamclub.org>
- Airstream Club International Headquarters**  
 803 E. Pike Street P.O. Box 612, Jackson Center, OH 45334  
 Phone 937-596-5211; Fax 937-596-5542
- ❖ General Questions/Comments: [assist@airstreamclub.org](mailto:assist@airstreamclub.org)
  - ❖ Membership: [membership@airstreamclub.org](mailto:membership@airstreamclub.org)
  - ❖ Blue Beret: [blueberet@airstreamclub.org](mailto:blueberet@airstreamclub.org)
  - ❖ Website Feedback/Questions: [feedback@airstreamclub.org](mailto:feedback@airstreamclub.org)

# Region 9 Updates, Spring 2024

By Nancy Fitzgerald, Region 9 President, BRN 223



I have several updates for you from the most recent International Board of Trustees meeting February 22, 2024:

- This August, Airstream Club International Hosts will be added to the Harvest Hosts map, giving Courtesy Parking Club members more robust functionality, including detailed Host profiles, contactless booking, photos, reviews, route planning tools, and more. If a Courtesy Parking Club Member is also a Member of Harvest Hosts, they will get their Harvest Hosts locations and Courtesy Parking Club locations all together on one map using one convenient log-in. The Courtesy Parking locations will be free. Harvest Host locations will still require a subscription.
- Many of you know that January 14, 2024: Per Hamnqvist resigned from the IBT, effective immediately. Resignation was from the Treasurer position and Executive Council. Kendall Felder was moved onto the vacated Executive Council position because he received the next highest votes in the previous EC elections. By emergency resolution, the IBT voted by two-thirds vote to elect a non-officer individual from the current Finance Committee to serve as Financial Director until August of 2025.
- Going forward, every two years, near the midterm of the EC, the IBT shall reaffirm the tenure of the Finance Director with a simple majority vote of confidence. With the recent growth and complexity of WBCCI's financial state and the importance of ensuring long-term financial stability, transparent reporting, regulatory compliance, risk management, budgetary control, operational efficiency, and strategic decision-making, having someone with an extensive financial background for this position is crucial. The current election process for Executive Officers may not always result in the most capable person being elected. By making the Finance Director (formerly the International Treasurer) elected by the IBT, we can ensure that the most qualified person fills the role.
- The IBT voted to clarify the structure of a Region Board. The motion eliminated the ambiguity about the responsibilities of the Region President. It also defined the responsibilities of the Region Treasurer and Secretary and provided a mechanism for the succession or removal with cause of an

elected Region Officer. The impact of this is to address a recommendation of Roberts Rules that any organization operating under a Constitution and Bylaws with elected officers provide a method for the removal of officers.

I will head to Jackson Center for a March 12 -14 Strategy Session with the full IBT. Our focus is on membership, financial and budget deep dives, and identification of new opportunities and initiatives.

Do not forget to sign up for the Region 9 **Bandera Bound Rally, May 1-5** at Skyline Ranch and Riverwalk Resort: [Click here for the link](#). We have forty sites reserved for us at Riverwalk, and we will offer several activities at the satellite site. This is the year to elect our Region 9 Officers for 2024-2026. Tracy Elkins has been nominated as President Elect for Region 9 and will assume leadership August 1, 2024. Anna Brandon is nominated for 1<sup>st</sup> VP and Tim Ebberts is nominated for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. Let your club president know your support and these officers will be installed at the Region 9 Rally in Bandera. You can read their bios on the Region 9 webpage or on the Region 9 Facebook page.

And finally, have you heard about the two fabulous rallies planned by NTxAC and HOTC at North Texas Airstream Park?

## **Stitchin' and Fishin' - April 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Be part of the first ever Airstream Rally in Region 9 gathering quilters and fisherpersons (of all levels)! Quilters will be able to visit a couple of the stores participating in the Shop Hop, as well as be able to set up their stations in a devoted rally space. The "fisherpersons" among you will enjoy a fully guided fishing trip on Lake Whitney on Monday, April 22nd. The trip will include all rods, tackle, fully rigged striper boats and guides. Participants will only need to bring snacks, drinks and of course a Texas Fishing License. Our catch will be cleaned and packaged for us.

## **Region 9 Ham Rally - May 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Join us for an Amateur Radio (Ham) Rally at NTAC. We will have a crash course targeted to help you pass your exam, a swap meet, tours, and lots of fun!

Call for Registrations:

North Texas Airstream Community  
200 Walnut Hill Avenue #1, Hillsboro, TX 76645  
254.582.5566

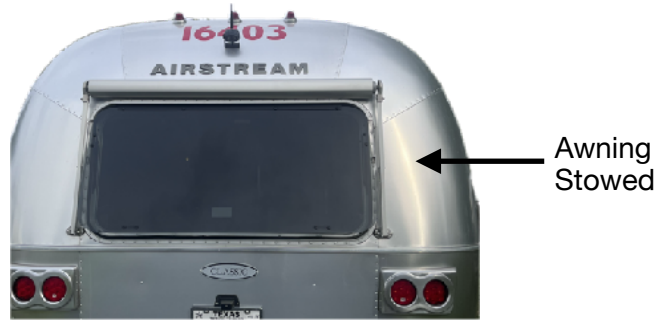


# Tech Tip

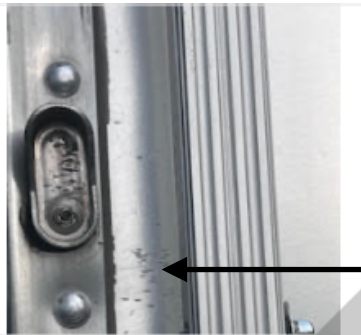
By Rick Elkins and Jim Shults

Rigs with back awnings like shown below, may incur damage to body shell in the area where awning supports move out of their holding pad in windy conditions. Awning support rods have rubber protection on rod end, but these get cut or damaged from movement in & out of the holding pad.

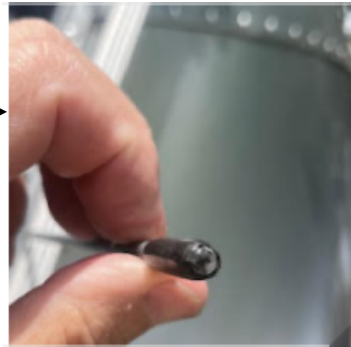
Jim Shults, BRN 16403 is offering to host a workshop at one of our planned picnics at a local park (July and August) where you bring your rods & he will furnish the parts, and make the modifications for your rods to have a more permanent fix for avoiding body damage.



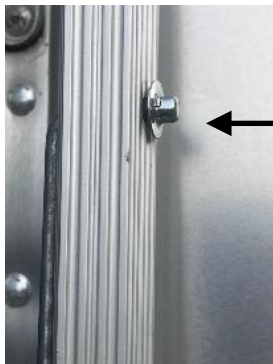
Awning Extended



Damaged Tip (Rubber Boot Worn/Torn/Missing)



Damage by rod are spots on shell caused by metal rod impact/movement.



Press fittings 2ea which you will remove & then remove 2ea awning rods for modification

Rod re-installed with threaded end & new plastic nut tip.



# EDITOR'S LETTER



Hello friends!

I was blown away by all the kind comments regarding the February newsletter, in spite of a few glitches with links and formatting. Thank you for your words of encouragement! Each month I will strive to make it even better. I hope you get some enjoyment as you stay informed about the GHAC events and news. There is much to do with the club, and some great people to meet. If you have never attended a rally I encourage you to do so, even if you only stay one or two nights. As one fellow camper recently said, “this is like a second family. We take care of our own.”

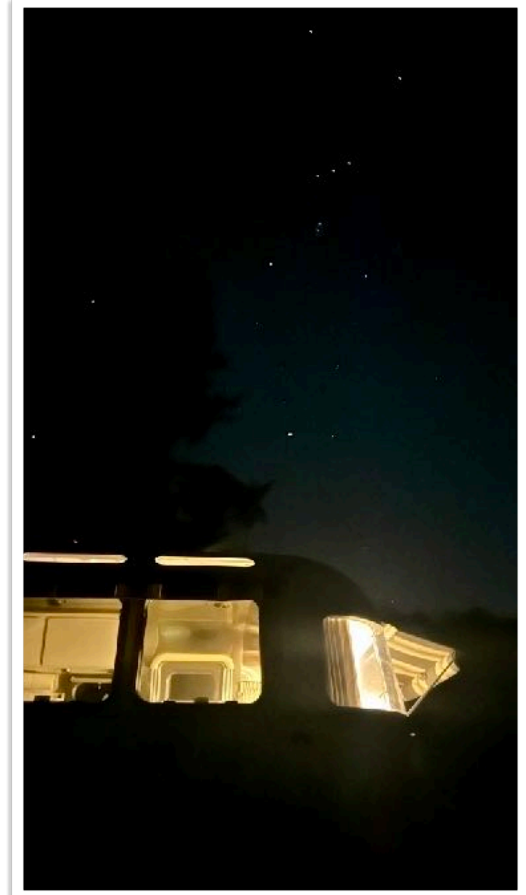
We just got back from the Leap Year Rally in Lake Somerville, and it will be hard to top that one! Our hosts were well prepared and offered some great food and activities for everyone to enjoy. We had a wonderful time getting to know some new folks and taking walks on the hiking trails. The stars came out in full force deep in the heart of Texas. Orion was diligently keeping watch over our Airstreams. Pictures barely capture the brilliance of the night sky.

Happy Trails!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lucinda West'.

Lucinda (a/k/a “Cindy”) West  
GHAC Newsletter Editor

*“Who lives sees much. Who travels see more.”  
-Arab Proverb-*



Roam Home  
2023 Globetrotter 27' FBT, BRN 19963  
Bored? Visit our [YouTube channel](#).

P.S. Feel free to reach out to me if you have news to share. We want to hear your stories! In addition, I'm far from perfect, so when you find an error or omission, please email me with the correction (ever-so-gently *please*) so I can include it the next newsletter. Newsletter articles may be edited for length.

[lucindawest@mac.com](mailto:lucindawest@mac.com)

863-670-2828

## A Word From Bob Jones

Hello to all our Greater Houston Airstream Club members from the gang at BOB JONES RV!

We would like to express our excitement about an advanced service we are providing. BOB JONES RV has invested in a SEAL TECH machine that will pressurize the interior cabin of any coach, allowing us to detect leaks by soaping the complete exterior. It will identify efficiently any breaches in the exterior seal that will cause water leaks ultimately causing damage.



Our service team will pinpoint problem areas on a chart and consult with the customer on a plan for corrective action. This is a true cost saving & preventative measure to protect your RV investment. The cost is \$230 - \$345 depending on your coach configuration. So, give us a call to discuss how we can protect your RV, we think you'll be glad you did!

## Get out there and enjoy your Airstream adventures!



**BOB JONES**  
**RV REPAIR**  
SOUTH HOUSTON ★ TEXAS

**GOT A PROBLEM? WE CAN FIX IT!**

**We also install Blue Ox towbars.**

**Call Bob or Chris at 713-910-2949.**