

RIVETED RAZORBACK



March 2024

President's Message

By Dave Wessinger

We are getting excited about our big Moonshadow Solar Eclipse Rally coming up April 6–9. This boondocking rally will be held just outside of Morrilton, AR, smack dab in the middle of the total eclipse pathway. In addition to our many Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club (ARAC) members and affiliates, we are expecting airstream club guests from 14 other states and Canada. This is an opportunity to meet many like-minded Airstreamers and showcase our club. And, once again, our club members have stepped up, working to insure a fantastic rally for all. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there!

Come to any of our events, and it is quickly obvious that our club has really exceptional participation. We Rally! is more than just a catch phrase for this group. And people notice. While our regular membership has held steady over the past few years, our affiliate numbers are really growing, rising from about 40 last year to over 60. Like our members, our affiliates are regular participants in our club activities, participating at all levels.

Membership in the Airstream Club International, and our ARAC in particular, has many benefits. Some, that come quickly to my mind because I have especially benefited from my association, include:

- We have great rallies, and a lot of them. They cover a wide variety of themes. They are organized by a wide variety of folks, not just a small cadre of insiders. Whether you like boondocking, or urban camping; national parks or exclusive resorts; camping is all seasons, and this group does it.
- You can meet all sorts of interesting people from all walks of life. Young people, old people, smart people that can hold up their end of the conversation. Cooks! OMG ... the food! Reason enough, in and of itself, to join in and have fun with us. And the fellowship ... I could go on.
- Our club members have great

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Member Spotlight: Jan & Charles Heavener

By Jan Heavener (questions by Dana Landrum)

How did you get interested in Airstreams, and can you tell us about your Airstream?

In my fishing days, one of the sponsors had a fully restored small Airstream at one of the Bassmaster Classics. I took Charles to see it and told him we would have one of these one day. Many years passed, and I got the bug once again. We looked at a few old Airstreams in the Little Rock area; most were too big or old. I found one that sounded just like what the doctor ordered. I asked Charles if he would like to go with me to check it out. He looked at me and said, "You are serious about this." We checked it out, and it was a piece of junk. About two weeks later, we found one and pulled it home . . . a 1999 Airstream Safari.

How did you get involved with the Airstream Club? How long have you been a member and a leader? What changes have you seen in the Club?

On the web, I saw that Eaton Rapids, Michigan, was having an Urban Air Rally. We knew nothing about it, but the pictures of all the Airstreams lined up on both sides of the highway looked so fun. I signed us up, and here we go, knowing nothing. As we drove out of town, my niece in North Central Arkansas called and said, you should be here; we are seeing Airstreams everywhere. We later learned it was the 50th anniversary rally of the Arkansas Razorbacks Airstream Club at Bull Shoals.



While at Urban Air, we were blessed to meet Katherine and Jamie Kingseed, our first Airstream friends. We learned about the WBCCI and local clubs and that we could go to Jackson Center and tour the plant. On the way home, we changed our trip to go through Jackson Center, joined the club, and made plans to attend our first rally with the Razorbacks.

WE WERE HOOKED!

We have seen many changes in the club (WBCCI) since joining. Change is good, but sometimes you have to get used to it. Larry Madden (at that time, first vice president of Region 6) asked me to consider coming on the board of Region 6 as second vice president. I agreed, and here I am now as president of Region 6.

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What are some things you like about the club and what are some ideas you would like to see implemented, if any?

We knew this would be our home after attending our first rally with the Razorbacks at a music festival in Bald Knob with only Mark Magie and Paul Moore. What an experience. We soon found that this club was an extended family; everyone was welcome and had a story to tell. You need to take the time to hear it. We are happy with the Club, the places we visit and camp, and the new people we meet on the way.

Where have you been in your Airstream? Favorite trips/rallies, experiences, etc.

We have traveled to many places that we never would have, had we not been members. The International Rally will take you all over the United States, or we can stay in our beautiful state to see back roads that are not commonly traveled. A few of our favorite places to camp are our last rally for the year, Buffalo Point, Airstreams on the Square, and float trips on the Buffalo River.

We hope to see you at one of them!

**2024****Officers**

President: Dave Wessinger

Vice President: David Holsted

Second Vice President: Katie Gulley

Secretary: Cindy Kugel

Treasurer: Laura Wessinger

Board of Directors

Tammi Terry (2023-2024)

Jonathon Gulley (2023-2024)

Pam Belk (2024-2025)

Zach Bullock (2024-2025)

Other

Paul Beck, Webmaster

Dana Landrum, Newsletter Editor

Frank Cox, Membership Chair

Big ASS CARAVAN (aka Airstream Southern Sojourn) • January 2024
Dauphin Island, AL • Ocean Springs, MS • New Orleans • Carencro, LA



Dauphin Island • Ferry to Fort Morgan • Bellingrath Gardens





Davis Bayou Campground, Gulf Islands National Seashore





OCEAN SPRINGS, MS





New Orleans





NOLA, cont'd (above); Carencro, LA (below)



The Scoop on Propane Tanks

By Larry Madden

The saga began while preparing for our trip to Oregon to welcome our new granddaughter into the world. Part of my pre-flight is to service the propane tanks; both were pretty light from our previous outing. The service attendant checked the manufacture date of our tanks before beginning the filling process. At this point he explained that both of our tanks were out of date and would need to be re-inspected before he would be able to refill them. I inquired where I could get the inspection complied with, and he was very helpful giving me the address of a qualified inspection station. Fortunately, it was just a few miles down the road.

The inspection process is nothing more than a visual inspection, which required less than five minutes per tank to be completed. There is a checklist that the technician referred to ensuring he had covered all the inspection criteria. He looked for dents, rust and just obvious abuse that could affect the serviceability of the tanks. He was very nice and knowledgeable and more than willing to educate me on the process. He explained that there is a lot of confusion referring to the inspection cycle timeline. Some filling stations enforce a 10-year re-inspection, while others are good with inspections every 12 years; others don't pay attention to the inspection dates at all! There is a paper trail too; upon completion of his inspection, he logged the serial numbers of our tanks, date of inspection, and his name as the inspector in a log book. He then affixed new inspection stickers on the tanks, and I was back in business. The inspection fee was \$10 per tank.

This experience piqued my interest, so I started looking for information on the inspection process and the rules, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). What I found was a twisted road of regulations that would make you car sick!

The regulations covering our Airstream propane tanks fall under the Department of Transportation (DOT), which makes sense to me. However, 49 CFR also covers the commercial transportation of propane in large trucks and rail tankers. I was somewhat familiar with reading CFRs when I was working, but this particular CFR is so convoluted, it was a nightmare trying to get the answer I was looking for. There is lots of well-meaning information out on the internet, but I like to get it from the source; that way I would be more at ease sharing the information.

My not so enjoyable trip into the CFRs started at 49 CFR chapter one. That led me to 49 CFR part 173.220, which in turn took me to 49 CFR part 178. Finally, I landed on 49 CFR 180.205 and found the information I was seeking.

On January 23, 2017, the DOT changed the inspection timeline on propane tanks from 12 years to 10 years from the date of manufacture. This would also include the small 5 lb. tanks we use with our BBQ grills. As you might imagine, there are caveats to the rules governed by this CFR, but my head is hurting so I will not even try to explain them all.

The propane tank's date of manufacture or requalification date can be found on the tank's collar. It will be in a month-year format. For instance, 06-17 for June 2017. Tanks that have been requalified will have an E on the end of the date. Contrary to what someone may have told you, there is no end of lifetime cycle for your propane tank. As long as a tank is serviceable and passes a recertification by a qualified individual, your tank has many years of serviceable life ahead.



UBT (Unit Board of Trustees Meeting) at Jeff & Cindy's in Jay, OK, February 2024





EARLY SPRING RALLY • HORSESHOE BEND, AR • MARCH 2024



more fun in Horseshoe Bend!**Pepper Jelly Cheese Dip**

by *thetipsyhousewife.org*

- 2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese, softened
 - 4-ounce piece of Sharp Cheddar Cheese, shredded
 - 4-ounce piece of Pepper Jack Cheese, shredded
 - 3/4 cup of Pepper Jelly (adjust to your liking)
 - 1/4 teaspoon of dry mustard
 - 1/2 teaspoon of garlic powder
 - 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (adjust to your liking)
 - 1/4 teaspoon of celery salt
 - 1/2 tablespoon of dried minced onion
 - 1/2 teaspoon of dried parsley
 - 2 tablespoons of thinly sliced fresh chives
1. Soften the cream cheese and whip on high speed with a hand mixer or stand mixer.
 2. Add all the seasonings and herbs except the chives.
 3. Add the shredded cheese a little at a time until this is all well blended.
 4. Whip for 1 minutes on high.
 5. Spread the mixture on a dish, cover and refrigerate overnight. I used about a 6-inch plate with little bit higher sides. When ready to serve, take from the fridge and let it sit out for about an hour before serving so it's easier to spread on crackers.
 6. When ready to serve, spread the pepper jelly all over the top. Then sprinkle the chives. Server with butter round crackers.

Katherine Kingseed made this with Jan Heavener's pepper jelly and highly recommends!

Please Welcome Our Newest Members!

ARAC Members. Lester & Teri Barrett BRN 1327, Jonesboro, AR, 2022 Atlas 22; Jon & DeLee Holbert BRN 02316, Springdale, AR, 2023 Interstate Grand Touring; Harold & Elena Parker BRN 3326, Dubach, LA, 1960 Pacer 16

Affiliate Members. Don & Nannette Broussard BRN 5882, Kaplan, LA, 1993 Excella 31 [Louisiana Airstream Club]

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depth of expertise about Airstreams. If you need advice, or even hands-on help, with some Airstream projects, this club has the knowledge, or can point you in the proper direction. I have particularly benefitted from being able to call a friendly member and get advice and feedback on how to solve a sticky issue (Thanks Ivy. Thanks Jeff. Thanks Jan, and Trent, and Mark! I'm sure I'm leaving several out!)

If you're reading this, you are probably already a member. If you are not reaping these benefits yet, come on and join us.

2024 RALLY SCHEDULE

April 6-9: Moonshadow Solar Eclipse Rally, Morrilton, AR. The daytime skies will turn to night during this celestial rally. Up to 75 rigs will be boondocking with an emphasis on the heavens, stars, planets, food, fun, and maybe an extraterrestrial visitor! Generators welcome. See email for registration link or contact Mark Magie, mark.magie@yahoo.com.

April 25-28: Airstreams on the Square, El Dorado, Arkansas. The extremely popular urban camping weekend around the Union County Courthouse square. This year's theme is M* A * S * H. Hosts: Jan and Charles Heavener, Mark Magie, and Bad Paul Moore (contact: Jan Heavener).

May 16-19: Hot Springs, Arkansas at J&J RV Park. More details to follow. Make reservations at <http://www.jjrvpark.com/>. Hosts: Jeff Dalrymple and Cindy Kugel (fdcaptjd@gmail.com).

June 19-23: Region 6 Rally at Washington County Fairgrounds, Fayetteville, AR. Register at <https://region-6-rally-2024.cheddarup.com>. Hosts: Jan and Charles Heavener (bassjan@gmail.com).

July 11-14: White River Rally at Dam Site RV Park in Bull Shoals, AR. Call: Lynn Nickels @ 870-405-9619 for reservations. Pay for the reservation online @ CITYOFBULLSHOALS.ORG. The park offers 33 shaded sites, 30/50 AMP electrical service. More information will be forthcoming as we finalize our plans. Hosts: Larry & Terry Madden (h70man@cox.net).

September 5-8: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Rally, Tompkins Bend campground on Lake Ouachita. Join us for the fourth annual girls' only weekend. We will eat, drink, swim and whatever else floats our boat. Hosts: Laura Wessinger, Terry Madden and Katie Gulley. (Laura at lwessinger@gmail.com.)

October 5-12: International Rally – Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO

October 24-27: Arkaluma aka “Burning Mouse” – Museum of Automobiles, Petit Jean Mountain. Eighth annual boondocking rally with Airstreams parked in the magical wagon wheel arrangement. Evenings by the campfire in the middle of the circle, potlucks, a big-sky full of stars, and hiking nearby. Hosts: Paul Greene/Dave Wessinger/Jason Landrum (Paul: 1pggreene@gmail.com).

October 31 - November 3: Buffalo Point Rally, Buffalo National River. We return for this annual rally on America's first national river to take in the wildlife, Fall color, local hikes, and feast on Dutch oven cooking! Make your own reservations in Loop C at Buffalo Point Campground six months in advance @ recreation.gov. Hosts: Jason & Dana Landrum (jdlandrum@mac.com).

2025 SAVE-THE-DATES

February 20-23: Unit Board of Trustees (UBT) (open to all members) in Stuttgart, Arkansas. Host: Zach Bullock (zachbullock@me.com).

March 14-16: Arkansas Food Bank Rally, Little Rock, AR. Hosts: Trent and Jennifer Roberts (dtrent@gmail.com).

May 15-18: Fun in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Hosts: Larry & Terry Madden (h70man@cox.net).

August 23-28: International Rally – York, PA