

Issue: May 2024

# The Bluebonnet

## President's Message

The 2024 Region 9 rally in Bandera, TX is over. The word throughout Skyline and Riverwalk parks was that everyone had a great time. No rally would be successful without the volunteers who stepped up and I have a lot of individuals to thank within our THCU family. These are in no particular order of level of contribution. THCU was very generous with their donation to the unit basket. We received so many great items for the basket that the single basket had split into three individual baskets. Thanks to all of you that contributed to the unit basket. There are too many to list everyone in this newsletter, but you know who you are and I believe that THCU baskets rocked! Special thank you to Janice Buck, Felicia Johnson and Pat Green for taking on the long day of registration at Skyline. Jeff and Cindy McKee, for the great informational seminar on RV maintenance on the road...they were popular y'all—standing room only. Their presentations are available on the Region 9 page on the ACI site (here's the [link](#)). Thank you to Mike and Pat Green for suggesting the 24 foot pizza party guys and for providing tables and chairs. I was very skeptical that a 24 foot pizza would taste very good but that was one of the best pizza I have ever had—seriously. Eric and LaVern McHenry for taking the time out to come to our region 9 rally. Lastly, a HUGE thank you to the current Region 9 team who put together a pretty dang awesome Region 9 rally. It was headed by Nancy F and was supported by lots of volunteers who worked tirelessly before anyone showed up and after everyone was gone. Stay tuned for next year's Region 9 rally in April 2025 at Edna, TX. That will be a blast too!

This year—since Eric McHenry was at Region 9, he also took time to give a few educational sessions and installed this year's Region 9 officers! What a treat! It's pretty official that Tracy Elkins will be President, Anna Brandon as 1st VP and me (Tim Ebbers) as 2nd VP. Thank

Speaking of VOTING—the Airstream Club International (ACI) will be sending out an email for a WBCCI Amendment for which you will be asked to vote on a WBCCI amendment to the constitution to have Financial Director versus an International Board of Trustees (IBT) member being in a Treasurer role. Please check out this link on the ACI site to be an informed voter: [2024 Special Election | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](#) An email will be sent to the email address or addresses you have listed on your ACI membership forms. Voting will be open June 20 – June 27, 2024.

Next the rally with GHAC at Crocket Lake on June 27 – 30 is just a few weeks away. We have four spots remaining. Check out page 5 for the itinerary and the information for getting signed up.

The Labor Day rally at Mother Neff State Park on August 29 – September 2 is full. The park website shows that the park is at capacity. Let me know if you would like to be on the waiting list in case someone in our group cancels. This rally will have some pretty cool activities such as a behind the scene tour of Baylor University and an opportunity to see how a local salvage yard operates.

The 2024 International Rally in Sedalia, MO is quickly approaching. We have 20 rigs signed up for International with 15 rigs going on a caravan. If you are going to International and would like to caravan and park together, additional information can be found on page 7. Don't forget to register for the Region 9 breakfast on October 7, 2024 at 8 am. An email has been sent out from Tracy Elkins to register for the breakfast. If you have not received it, check out this jotform [link](#) to registered. As far as caravanning back from international, we (Ebbers) have booked their route home. Additional details are on page 7, if you have any questions, let me know via email, text, or just give me a call (deets below).

Welcome to our new THCU members: Jonathan & Blakley Fletcher of Wimberley, TX, Kyle & Cindy Johnson of Bertram, TX, and Nance Algert & Kenita Rogers of Wimberley, TX. We also have several affiliate members joining us: Ginger & Mike Ainsworth of Dayton, TX, Tyler Pollard of Cedar Park, TX, Paul & Sabra Francis of Morgans Point, TX, and Rick & Susan Santos of San Antonio, TX. Hope to see you at the next rally or event!



Tim (and Allison Ebbers)  
President (and First Lady), Texas Hill Country Unit  
Email: [Timberintx@gmail.com](mailto:Timberintx@gmail.com)  
Cell: 512-786-6380

### In this issue:

President's Message	P.01
2024 THCU Calendar	P.02
The Mystery Leak	P.03
GHAC/THCU Joint Rally Info	P.05
2nd Annual Wallly Workshop Info	P.06
2024 International Information	P.07
New Members and Repair Info	P.08
Birthdays and Anniversaries	P.09
EZ Links	P.10

Newsletter Chick: AllyEbbers

## THCU 2024 Schedule

Date	Location	Comments
<del>Feb 24-Mar 2</del>	<del>Tour of the TX Coast Rally</del>	
<del>April 6-9</del>	<del>Boondocking Eclipse Rally</del>	<del>This is a boondocking rally in Fredericksburg, TX. This boondocking rally is limited to 16 rigs.</del>  <del>See next page for additional details regarding this event.</del>
<del>April 19-23</del>	<del>Region 9/NTAC Stichin' and Fishin' Rally</del>	<del>If you would like to check out the schedule and register, click on this link: <a href="#">Region 9/NTAC Stichin' and Fishin' Rally   ACI (airstreamclub.org)</a></del>
<del>May 1-5</del>	<del>Region 9 2024 Rally Bandera, TX</del>	<del>If you want to go there's room. See page 3 for additional information</del>
<del>May 9-12</del>	<del>Region 9/NTAC 2024 Ham Radio Rally</del>	<del>If you would like to check out the schedule and/or register, click on the link: <a href="#">Region 9 2024 Ham Radio Rally   ACI (airstreamclub.org)</a></del>
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. There's room for you! Check out page 4 for additional information and how to sign up.
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. HOST: Sylvia and Bob Lemley and Tim and Ally Ebbers
Sept 13-Sept 15	NTAC 200 Walnut Hill Avenue #1 Hillsboro, TX 76645	Second Annual Wally's Workshop. See flyer on page 6
Sept 26—Oct 10	International @ Sedalia, MO	Dates reflect start of the caravan through the end of International. Additional dates are added to come back to TX through OK.  See page 7 for details of the caravan.
November 07-10	Installation Rally Colorado Landing RV Park La Grange, TX	Hosts: Kevin and Felicia Johnson and Susan Fegley
December	TBD by incoming president	

## The Mystery Leak

Ken and Sue Roe BRN 3805

RVs can be both enjoyable and fun or an incredibly frustrating piece of equipment. We “Streamers” are not immune to some of the issues the RV lifestyle can present. We all are aware of the fact that our rigs bounce down the road as we travel and enjoy the adventures. Needless to say, repairs and issues often present themselves. Many of these issues are minor and simply involve a quick tightening of a screw or fitting, or just putting things back where they fell from during the last move of the rig.

My wife Sue and I experienced what we thought was a minor leak that became quite a mystery. One day while out with our 2018 International 28 RBT which is affectionately named Maisie, we noticed a small leak. The water was coming from under the stove/oven area. Our water pump is located just behind the panel under the oven.



The leak was coming from the space below the cabinet just under the convection oven/microwave. The middle photo is the cabinet with the back cover removed exposing the duct work for the furnace. The photo on the right is the water pump which is under the ducts.

As we looked under all the hoses and ducts, we saw water but were unable to locate a source. I snugged up the connections to the water pump. We dried everything with some towels and thought the problem was solved. A loose fitting. Well it couldn't be that easy. After all this is Ken and Sue. We don't do easy!

We really didn't see any water the rest of that trip. So I put the panel back on and we put everything back where it belongs. On our next trip the leak came back again. We repeated everything and we still had no luck finding a source. The leak was intermittent. We tried everything we could think of with it. Was there a bad check-valve in the water pump? A cracked fitting? A split waterline? We tried pressurizing the water lines with and without the water pump. No matter what we did we could not get the leak to appear. It would seem to be fixed and then, out of nowhere, there it was again. We were beginning to think our Air-stream was possessed by some RV demon. Some of you may recall that this leak played its game at the Fredericksburg Rally in November of 2023. We still could not figure this out.

Sue and I went out on one last trip before the gray days of winter and did our usual New Year's trip to Bastrop State Park. We absolutely love this park. Guess what, the leak was back! We finished the trip and drained all the lines, drained the water heater, and got Maisie all prepped for winter storage. We had a few repairs we wanted done so I spoke to the service manager where we store her and mentioned the mystery leak. He said he would have the technicians look at it and try to locate the source and repair it once and for all.

About a week later I got a call that the technicians could not find any leaks. They pressurized everything and tried everything they could think of, and nothing leaked. Of course it didn't. That would be too easy!

Fast forward a bit and we take Maisie out for her shakedown to get ready for the Region 9 Bandera Bound Rally. Once again, we were back at Bastrop State Park. Did I mention how much we love this park? LOL. As we were setting up, I connected the city water lines and was working on some other set ups when I observed water pouring out of the driver side of the rig where



## The Mystery Leak (Continued)

Ken and Sue Roe BRN 3805

the kitchen sink is located. I shut the water off and looked under the sink. We had a major leak! The leak was coming from the inline pressure restrictor for the Acuva Ultraviolet water purifier. We had first installed this great system when we acquired Maisie. If you're interested in it, let us know and we'll show it to you. It is pictured on the right.



Fortunately, the Acuva has a dedicated water shut off valve. We got the water cut off and cleaned up the mess and no more leaks! Anywhere. Hmmmm. We were able to finish this shakeout trip and after some research were able to order replacement parts. After replacing the inline restrictor we found the faucet did not turn off (2nd issue). What we think happened was there was a small leak on the original pressure restrictor that periodically would leak. When the techs re-winterized Maisie they forgot about the Acuva and water froze further damaging both the inline restrictor and faucet valve. We were able to get new parts from Acuva and had to replace the faucet and restrictor. So far everything works and no more leaks.

Below are the pictures of the newly installed (new) inline restrictor installed (left photo below) and the damaged one (pictured on the right).



It has been quite an adventure and yes, the cause of this mystery leak led to a simple fix. It just took us several months to figure it out.

Thank you all for reading this and I hope it helps in some small way. Please feel free to find us at a rally or if you see us set up in a state park or wherever. Good luck and happy travels! Ken and Sue Roe (BRN 3805)



Picture taken in Genesis Town in Israel



# GHAC & THCU – JOINT RALLY

June 27 - 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

CROCKETT LAKEFRONT RESORT & MARINA

75 Dogwood Ln West, Crockett, TX 75835 - (936) 544-8466



Hosts: Tim & Ally Ebbers (512.786.6380), Rick & Tracy Elkins (713.859.5939), Tim & Cindy West (863.670.2828)

## ITINERARY

### THURSDAY - JUNE 27, 2024

12:00 PM Arrivals & Parking

*Afternoon Games on the Lawn – Corn Hole, Fishing in the Lake, Casting Contests*

05:00 PM Happy Hour in the Rally Room—Hosts provide Appetizer

06:00 PM Dinner On Your Own

### FRIDAY - JUNE 28, 2024

07:00 AM Coffee, Pastries & Fruit

11:00 AM Lunch & Explore

02:00 PM Craft in the Rally Room

Tech Talk on the Pavilion

*Afternoon Games on the Lawn – Corn Hole, Fishing in the Lake, Casting Contests*

05:00 PM Happy Hour – If your last name begins with A – L, bring an appetizer to share

06:00 PM Grill Night – Bring something to grill – Sides & Dessert by Hosts

07:00 PM Movie - Grownups

### SATURDAY - JUNE 28, 2024

07:00 AM Coffee, Pastries & Fruit

11:00'ish Pack a Picnic in Rally Room

12:00 PM Davy Crockett Spring-100 E. Goliad Ave, Crockett & Explore OYO

*Afternoon Games on the Lawn – Corn Hole, Fishing in the Lake, Casting Contests*

05:00 PM Happy Hour – If your last name begins with M—Z, bring an appetizer to share

06:00 PM Taco Bar & Dessert by Hosts

07:00 PM Prize Raffle & Games benefitting Team Red White & Blue

### SUNDAY - JUNE 30, 2024

07:00 AM Coffee, Pastries & Fruit

Pack up and go. See you down the road!

For all group meals, bring your “set-ups” (plates, utensils, napkin & drink). Meals & Happy Hour will be in the Rally Room.

If you are interested in going to this rally, please call the campground at 936.544.8466. Let them know you are with the Texas Hill Country Unit. Once you have your site, please register on the website: <https://airstreamclub.org/ghac-2024-june-rally> for the rally. The Rally Fee is \$21/person. This fee will pay for breakfast and dinner.



## Second Annual Wally's Workshop

Friday, September 13-Sunday, September 15

200 Walnut Hill Avenue #1

Hillsboro, TX 76645

REGISTER: <https://form.jotform.com/241288307812053>

**DESCRIPTION:** Whether you are headed to the International Rally at Sedalia or not, this is the perfect opportunity to both learn and service your Airstream trailer. Featured guests are The Royal Flush (tank maintenance and cleaning), Cross Country RV Solutions (Micro-Air Easy Start Certified RV Tech), DFW RV Rescue (Washing, Waxing), and Airstream Tech Jerry Vanloon. We will also have a few experts from our Region, Bill Poteet of the Oklahoma Airstream Club (Solar power), John Green (safety checks), Channing Fell (ProPride and other hitches), and Chris Hanus (tires) from the North Texas Airstream Club, and Andy Dunkinson from the Heart of Texas Camping Unit (hitch weights). You will make appointments for the services in which you have interest directly with the service provider and the work is done on site Friday, Saturday, or Sunday (you will receive an estimate of cost in advance). If you decide to take advantage of a service (or services) without an appointment, this will depend upon the tech's availability.

Preliminary Agenda:

### Friday, September 13th

07:00 PM Sue Rasmussen of The Royal Flush will talk dirty (Grey/Black Tanks)

### Saturday, September 14th

- 08:00 AM Andy and Channing are the perfect couple to describe hitches, importance of knowing your accurate hitch weight, tire pressure, brakes, and relationships between these systems.
- 10:00 AM Tim Love with Cross Country RV Solutions will shoot the breeze about your air conditioning system, what the EasyStart is, and whether you need one.
- 12:00 PM John Green will help you decide if you can mark yourself safe.
- 02:00 PM Bill Poteet will enlighten you on solar, AC, and DC Power.
- 07:00 PM Panel of Experts will dispense wisdom as you ask questions we failed to answer during the day.

Estimated Costs:

Full Hook-Ups, \$35 nightly plus Food @ \$50 per person (This includes: breakfast Saturday and Sunday, lunch Saturday, and dinner Friday and Saturday)





### THCU Sedalia InBound Caravan (September 26—October 3, 2024)

- Caravan dates are September 26—October 3, 2024. The stops on this rally include the following by date:
  - Martin Creek Lake State Park in Tatum, TX—Sept 26-Sept 28—2 nights. Tim will make a group reservation for this park.
  - Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs, AR—Sept 28-Sept 30—2 nights. We are in site 206.
  - Cooper Creek Resort and Campground in Branson, MO—Sept 30-Oct 03—3 nights. We are in site 78.
  - 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).

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 4:32	2
3 Sat, 09/28/24 - Hot Springs, AR Catherine's Landing	216 3:36	2
4 Mon, 09/30/24 - Branson, MO Cooper Creek Resort & Campground	222 4:26	3
5 Thu, 10/03/24 - Sedalia, MO Missouri State Fair Campground	156 2:48	8

October 5-October 11, 2024 are the official dates of 2024 International at Sedalia. For a sneak peak of the itinerary, check out this [link](#) (you may need to log into the ACI website). Check out the official 2024 International Facebook page for additional information, itinerary updates, group tours, and other pertinent info: [Airstream Club International Rally2024 - Fun in the Fall | Facebook](#)

STOP	MI/HR	NIGHTS
1 Thu, 10/03/24 - Sedalia, MO Missouri State Fair Campground		8
2 Fri, 10/11/24 - Afton, OK Monkey Island RV Resort	229 3:58	2
3 Sun, 10/13/24 - Norman, OK Lake Thunderbird State Park	218 3:47	2
4 Tue, 10/15/24 - Wichita Falls, TX Lake Arrowhead State Park	154 2:46	2
5 Thu, 10/17/24 - Dublin, TX Sowell Creek	155 2:30	1
6 Fri, 10/18/24 - Bertram, TX Bertram, TX, United States	117 1:52	

### THCU Sedalia OutBound Caravan (October 11—October 19, 2024)

- Caravan dates are October 11—October 19, 2024. The stops on this rally include the following by date:
  - Monkey Island RV Resort in Afton, OK—Oct 11-Oct 13—2 nights. Call 918-257-6400 to make your reservation. We are in site C1.
  - Lake Thunderbird State Park near Norman, OK—Oct 13-Oct 15—2 nights. Go to the website and make your reservations: [Home Page - GuestRez \(megasyshms.com\)](#). There are some discounts available. We are in site LA001
  - Lake Arrowhead State Park in Wichita Falls, TX—Oct 15-Oct 17—2 nights. We are in site 78.
  - Sowell Creek near Dublin, TX—Oct 17-Oct19—2 nights. We are in Loop 1 Site 4
  - From Sowell Creek, we all head homewards or other places of interest.



#### **New Members:**

- \* Jonathan and Blakley Fletcher of Wimberley, TX
- \* Kyle and Cindy Johnson of Bertram, TX
- \* Nance Algert and Kenita Rogers of Wimberley, TX

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

#### **New Affiliate Members:**

- \* Ginger and Mike Ainsworth of Dayton, TX
- \* Tyler Pollard of Cedar Park, TX
- \* Paul and Sabra Francis of Morgans Point, TX
- \* Rick and Susan Santos of San Antonio, TX

# Hope to see you at a rally soon!



*There have been some folks who have asked about places where they can get their Airstream repaired, updated, and upgraded. Susan Fegley has collated a list of places, which I thought was very helpful for everyone. If you would like to add a place you would recommend to this list, please send it to me and I'll add it to the list!*

*Note: If they had a website, I included it.*

- ⇒ Rivet Restoration in San Marcos, TX. Phone: 512.214.2863
- ⇒ Texas Hill Country Coach (Terry Nabors) in New Braunfels, TX. Phone: 830.627.3030
- ⇒ Caravan Services (Todd Ludzenski) in New Braunfels, TX. Phone: 830.626.1946
- ⇒ American Vintage Trailers in Gatesville, TX. Phone: 254.248.1186. Website: [AVT](#)
- ⇒ Bob Jones RV in South Houston, TX. Phone: 713.910.2949 . Website: [Bob Jones RV](#)
- ⇒ Bayer RV in Dublin, TX. Phone: 254.445.4807 Website: [Bayer RV](#)
- ⇒ Auers RV in Georgetown, TX . Phone 512.863.2030. Website: [Auers RV](#)



## MAY

08 Martha Gosnell  
17 Cal Bonugli  
18 Jan Grimes  
26 Jerry Phillippe

## JUNE

16 Warner Hord  
17 Don Oneal  
21 Cindy Mckee  
25 Gail Hord



Happy  
Anniversary!

May 06 Edward Michek & Yvonne Michek  
May 14 Katy Bonugli & Cal Bonugli  
May 20 Todd Buck & Janis Buck  
May 21 Jeff McKee & Cindy McKee  
May 26 Robert Lemley & Sylvia Lemley  
May 31 Gerald Davis & Theresa Davis  
Jun 20 Daniel Marek & Zephyr Marek

## 2024 Elected THCU Officers

- ◆ President: Tim Ebberts—timberintx@gmail.com
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Michael Green—tractor\_dude97@yahoo.com
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Susan Fegley—efegley802@aol.com
- ◆ Recording secretary: <open>
- ◆ Treasurer: Zephyr Marek
- ◆ 1 year director: Dave Toy
- ◆ 2 year director: Felicia Johnson
- ◆ Newsletter: Ally Ebberts
- ◆ Web Master: Brian Walker
- ◆ Past President: Bob Grimes



**Website:** <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>  
**THCU President:** timberintx@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. 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.*

