

The Bluebonnet

Issue: November 2024



President's Message

As most of you know, I was sworn in to being the president of Texas Hill Country Unit (THCU) at the recent LaGrange rally. Becoming THCU President for me is an honor but also very uncharted territory. In 1995 my business partner and I flipped a coin to determine who would become president of our new company. I won and he became president. I became vice president until the day I retired, so being president of our club feels a little odd to me. The good news for you is I did all of the hard and tedious work of scheduling most of the 2025 rallies/luncheons as first vice president, so now I can focus on being the best president I can.

Speaking of 2025 rallies, here is a quick recap of what's in store for you with THCU:

- * December 5-8, 2024-THCU & NTAC Joint Christmas rally - Grapevine Texas Christmas Rally
- * January 11, 2025 – THCU - Winter Luncheon in Marble Falls, Texas at Bella Sera Italian Restaurant
- * February 27-March 2, 2025 –THCU Let's go South Rally at Kemah Texas Rally
- * April 24-27, 2025 THCU & GHAC Joint Spring Rally at Brenham Texas
- * May 22-26 2025 THCU Memorial Day Rally at Kerrville Texas
- * June 2025 – TBD Maybe
- * July 2025 – THCU Summer Luncheon – Location and Date are TBD
- * August 23-28 – International Rally- York Pennsylvania
- * September 2025 – Maybe a return from York rally. Depends on interest.
- * October 16-19 2025 – THCU Dueling State Park Rally at Garner State Park
- * November 2025 – THCU Installation Rally at Goliad State Park

If you want to learn more about these rallies look on page 7. For more information about each one. Please note that the TCHU schedule also includes Region 9 Rallies and National Events. They are marked in *blue italics*.

As you can see it will be a busy year with lots of new destinations and a variety of activities. These rallies were selected by your votes sent out several months ago. I hope we have record turn outs. Sue Fegley, our first vice president is now working on her rallies for 2026! If you have ideas of places you want to go to with activities in those areas, please let Sue know asap since she is trying to zoom in on her rallies for next year. You can email her ideas at efegley802@aol.com.

I would like to welcome our newest THCU members: Noel and Dan Olsen, Tim and Georgia Jackson, Juan and Sonia Cazares, Ken

and Wendy Jennings, and David Rightmyer Jr. I would also like to welcome our newest affiliates: Glen and Julia Ernst and Kirk and Ellen Marchand. Since it is also renewal season, thank you for all who have renewed their memberships and affiliations with us.

This year, our club has been steadily growing from about 65 rigs at the beginning of the year to 95 rigs (as of today). As our small club grows, so have our trailer count at each rally! This is so very exciting! As an example, our last rally in LaGrange had 16 trailers with several new faces. I hope this trend continues and I will focus on keeping that "small group feel" regardless of size. For you who have not yet made it to a rally please consider coming to one of our luncheons (January or July) and meet the gang. It's only a few hours out of a Saturday and you can get to know your club members.

For those of you who want to volunteer and get "a little more involved" please refer to the rally schedule on page 7. There are still a few Host positions that need to be filled. If you have questions about being a host do not hesitate to ask us. We will help! When I refer to us, I refer to our immediate officers: Sue Fegley (First VP), Ira Rush (Second VP), Tim Ebbers (Past President) or me (your current President)

Hope to see you all down the road!



Mike (and Pat) Green
President (and First Lady),
Texas Hill Country Unit
Email: trac-tor_dude97@yahoo.com

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Newsletter Chick: *AllyEbbers*

Past President's Message:

Well, my year is up and, WOW, it was a lot of fun!! Everyone likes to ask me if being president is a lot of work and the truth is...it is if you want to be a good President. I feel that it is worth it to put my little touch on the unit's future and success. I want to thank all those that supported me and stepped up to continue with the tradition of FUN we would like to have. I most especially like to thank our new THCU officers who were just installed:

- ◆ President: Michael Green
- ◆ 1st VP: Susan Fegley
- ◆ 2nd VP: Ira Rush
- ◆ Recording secretary: Sue Roe
- ◆ Treasurer: Allison Ebbers
- ◆ 1 year director: Zephyr Marek
- ◆ 2 year director: Joan Ermis

I will remain available to all those that need to talk Airstream or need help getting something changed/fixed on their rig. I am also continuing to volunteer at the region 9 level as 2nd VP, so I look forward to those challenges and the new friends I will make along the way. Mike Green has some exciting rallies planned for us next year and as life continues so does the adventures. See you on the road or at the next rally!



Tim (and Allison Ebbers)
Past THCU President (and Past THCU First Lady), Texas Hill Country Unit
2nd VP, Region 9
Email: Timberintx@gmail.com
Cell: 512-786-6380

PS—The picture may show us in distress, but really, we were just having fun at the Titanic museum at Branson, MO. One of the fun THCU group activities planned this past year. MORE fun planned this coming year so check out the schedule.

Meet Dan and Noel Olsen



We are Dan and Noel Olsen and we live in Point Venture, Texas. Between us we have 5 kids and 6 grands. We are both retired but have a few part time projects keeping us busy. Dan retired from the oil and gas industry and I am a retired clinical social worker. We have 2 dogs, Swell and Maggie. We enjoy travel, golf, and family. We play a bit with real estate and long and short-term rentals. I'm a foodie and Dan entertains my need for food adventures and coffee and we both enjoy winery and vineyard exploring.

As we planned to get a second dog (Maggie), Dan thought an RV would be a good idea rather than searching for dog-friendly hotels. He grew up RV'ing but it was new to me, so we started March of 23 with a different trailer until I was sure.

We live in Angel Fire New Mexico about half the year and met a couple on the golf course there traveling with a 30' Classic they wanted to sell. The organization of the Airstream was amazing and after some research, we decided to buy it. They, however, decided they loved their Airstream more than realized and couldn't part with it, so we started over. We began researching A LOT before deciding what would work best for us. Part of what impacted us most was the advise to "buy our last Airstream first" which lead us to the 2024 30' RBQ because of the change to allow the recliners to fold flat for a second twin. We found our AS outside of St. Louis, MO at Bill Thomas RV.

There is lots we do love about our Riveted Roots, but the recliners are not as solid as we expected and the mechanism to lay the recliner area flat for a bed is pretty dicey. We've only had her about 2 months and know there will be warranty visits. We've just completed one and got her back with other issues. We are not thrilled but also not too stressed about it and will continue with that process.

We took a week-long trip to Durango and Silverton for our first adventure. We've done several long weekend trips and will do 10 days later this month to Jupiter, Florida. Next Fall we will have a month-long trip from New Mexico through

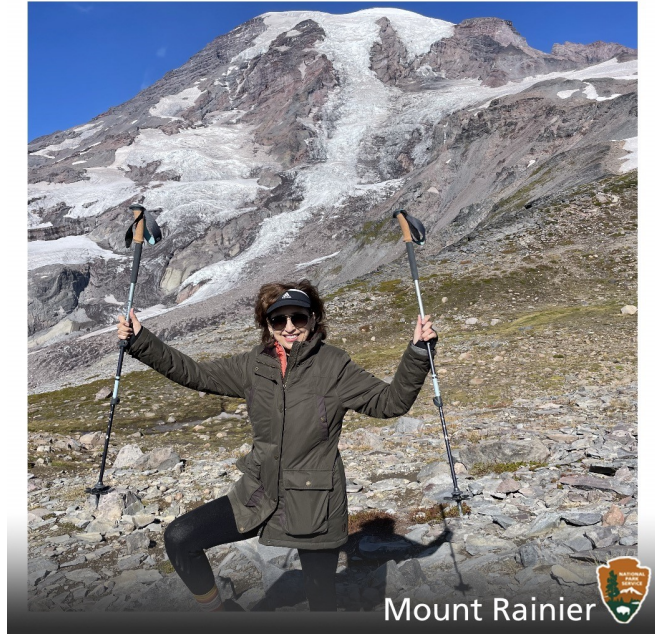


Wyoming to Banff and return with all the things along the way. We have done lots of Harvest Host stays, mainly at wineries along our way and Fredericksburg since near and easy for





Meet Juan and Sonia Cazares



We are Juan and Sonia Cazares from the Rio Grande Valley in Texas. I am actively still working in the insurance industry and my wife is a former educator. We have two daughters and both live in Frisco Texas. We have five grandchildren ranging from elementary to high school age level. Our hobbies are hiking in the moderate level range. Our interest goal to visit as many National Parks in the U. S. This is the second Airstream we have purchased and the reason why we like it is it rides so well. This Airstream does not need any improvements, the improvement lies in me being a handyman. We are new to this industry as we have only started in the last five years. I am basically an Airstream newbie and I need to attend rallies and workshops to improve my knowledge. Our most memorable trip has been to Glacier National Park. Our bucket list trips is to continue visiting all national parks as we have only visited 20.





New Members:

- ◆ Noel and Dan Olsen from Lago Vista, TX
- ◆ Tim and Georgia Jackson from Sealy, TX
- ◆ Juan and Sonia Cazares from Edinburg, TX
- ◆ Ken and Wendy Jennings from Georgetown, TX
- ◆ David Rightmyer Jr from Kingwood, TX

New Affiliate Members:

- ◆ Glen and Julia Ernst from El Paso, TX
- ◆ Kirk and Ellen Marchand from Kerrville, TX

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



NOVEMBER

- 03 John Cragle
- 05 Sonia Cazares
- 07 Stacey Cameron
- 11 Joyce Schwerdfeger
- 17 Theresa Davis
- 20 Jim Schwerdfeger
- 22 Katy Bonugli
- 26 John Halter
- 30 Brooke Carrick

DECEMBER

- 01 Todd Buck
- 01 Laurie O'Neal
- 04 Nance Algert
- 07 Pat Green
- 08 Juan Cazares
- 18 Brian Walker
- 19 Noel Olsen
- 22 Lois Muir
- 25 Gerald Davis
- 26 Gary Cameron
- 27 Keegan Carrick
- 28 Kimberly Taber
- 29 Yvonne Michek
- 30 Wayne Gosnell



- Dec 20 Nance Algert and Kenita Rogers
- Dec 23 Keith and Kimberly Taber
- Dec 31 Michael and Bonnie Stanley
- Dec 31 Wayne and Martha Gosnell



Website: <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>
THCU President: tractor_dude97@yahoo.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit



Introducing your 2025 THCU Officers



Pictured right to left

- ◆ President: Mike Green—tractor_dude97@yahoo.com
- ◆ 1st VP: Susan Fegley—efegley802@aol.com
- ◆ 2nd VP: Ira Rush—irarush@gmail.com

Additional THCU Officers:

- ◆ Recording secretary: Sue Roe
- ◆ Treasurer: Allison Ebbers
- ◆ 1 year director: Zephyr Marek
- ◆ 2 year director: Joan Ermis
- ◆ Newsletter: Ally Ebbers
- ◆ Web Master: Brian Walker
- ◆ Past President: Tim Ebbers



Website: <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>
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THCU 2025 Schedule

Date	Location	Comments
Dec 05-08	Christmas Rally Joint rally with NTAC Grapevine Vineyards @ Grapevine, TX	Hosts: Allana Peterson & Tom Jensen Currently, this rally is full, BUT call Tom Jensen at 817-329-3090 BEFORE calling the RV Park if you would like to be on a waitlist for the park. If you want to be on the waiting list for the dinner theatre, please call Alex Swanson at 817-310-5588. Link to tentative agenda: "Oh What Fun" *Check out page 8 for itinerary.
Jan 11 @ 11:30 AM	Luncheon at Bella Sera Italian Restaurant in Marble Falls, TX at 11:30 AM	Address: 701 N Hwy 281, Marble Falls, TX Send an RSVP to tractor_dude97@yahoo.com if attending.
<i>Feb 20-23</i>	<i>Region 9 National Event Rally Mardi Gras Galveston @ Galveston, TX</i>	<i>If you would like to check out the schedule and register, click on this link: Region 9 Rally: Streamin' on the Strand 2025 ACI</i>
Feb 27-Mar 3	THCU Rally US RV Park/ Marina Bay Kemah, TX	Hosts: Sue & Craig Fegley and Tom Sykes & Cheryl Mallan To reserve a site call 281-334-9944 and let Ariel or Sherri know you are with the Texas hill country airstream unit. Click on this link for additional information: THCU - Marina Bay ACI . *Check out page 9 for itinerary and how to register.
<i>Mar 26-30</i>	<i>Region 9 Rally Brackenridge Recreation Complex in Edna, TX</i>	<i>Registration is open! Don't wait to register. Check out the link for additional information and to register: Region 9 2025 Rally ACI</i> Some THCU attendees are planning on parking together at Region 9. We may meet up at a central place before Edna or in Edna, depending on space. If we have assigned spots, we may just roll in when we are able. More information will come out as we get closer and know more information. If you do want to park together, make sure you select "Yes" on the registration question: "Would you like to park with other members from your club?"
Apr 24-27	THCU/GHAC Rally Hilltop at Brenham Brenham, TX	THCU Host: Loyce Engle & Greg Carroll and Ira & Terri Rush This is a joint rally with Greater Houston Airstream Club
<i>Apr 24-29</i>	<i>Region 9 National Event Rally Stichin and Fishin' @ Hillsboro, TX</i>	<i>If you would like to check out the schedule and register, click on this link: Region 9 Rally: Stichin' n Fishin' 2025 ACI</i>
May 22-26	THCU Memorial Day Rally Johnson Creek RV Resort and Park Kerrville, TX	Hosts needed for this rally. Contact Lisa at 830.367.3300 to make reservations. <u>This is a 4-day rally.</u> Rates are \$52/night FHU sites with full use of club house; one-night reservation deposit. The Kerrville Folk Fest is also occurring this weekend.
June TBD		
July TBD	THCU Luncheon	No host needed. Location, date and time are TBD.
<i>Aug 23-28</i>	<i>International Rally York, PA</i>	<i>THCU may have a caravan going to and coming back from International depending on interest. If you are interested in going on a caravan, please contact Mike Green.</i>
Oct 16-19	THCU Dueling State Park Rally Garner SP/Lost Maples SNA Concan, TX/Vanderpool, TX	Hosts: Bob & Jan Grimes and Tim & Ally Ebbers Camping at Garner SP (Rio Frio Loop) and exploring Garner SP & Lost Maples SP There are 16 FHU (50 AMP) sites reserved for this rally (Rio Frio Loop). If you are interested in this rally, please contact Ally Ebbers (ally.ebbers@gmail.com) to book your spot. There are already 7 out of 16 spaces filled.
Nov TBD	Installation Rally Goliad State Park, Goliad, TX	Hosts needed for this rally
December	TBD by incoming president	



GRAPEVINE VINEYARDS CAMGROUND

Currently, this rally is full, BUT call Tom Jensen at 817-329-3090 BEFORE calling the RV Park if you would like to be on a waitlist for the park. If you want to be on the waiting list for the dinner theatre, please call Alex Swanson at 817-310-5588.

“Oh What Fun” Holiday Rally

December 6-8, 2024



For ALL eating events in the Pavilion, bring your own SET UPS (plates, utensils, napkins) and drinks.

RALLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- “POT” Cooking competition- 3 categories DUTCH OVEN open fire pit/ CrockPot/ Instant Pot. You may prepare any dish to compete-entrée, side, or dessert but it must be cooked in one of the 3 pot types. There will be a winner for each category.

SIGN UP HERE: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/156EvEelbG_g_EEDvDNgrhuRvVvVVi3m5PERj1frBq3g/edit?usp=drive_link

- Ugly Sweater Competition
- Collection of Holiday donations for kids and families of Grapevine

- Blackstone Pancake breakfast
- Grapevine, Christmas Capital of Texas
- White Elephant Gift Exchange

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

11:00 am – 02:00 pm: Those attending early- lunch and Pavilion set up for Rally

02:00 pm – 04:00 pm: Check in at Pavilion, pick up Goody Bag

Begin drop off donations for Grapevine Relief and Community Exchange (G.R.A.C.E)

Website for Christmas Cottage and Food Pantry: <https://www.gracegrapevine.org/current-needs/>

04:00 pm: Prep fire ring for Dutch oven cooking. 4:30-5:45 cooking time on fire pit.

05:00 pm: Happy Hour: Those not competing in Dutch Oven, Instant Pot, Crock Pot competition, please bring appetizers, or sides.

06:00 pm :Dinner and voting (each participant will have a number and voting basket- diners will place poker chips in their favorite dish in each category. Explanation will be in your rally bag.)

07:30 pm: UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST- (you will sign up for this at registration and pickup a number placard to hold when you model your “outfit”. Judges will be the non-participants. Evening ends with announcement of winners and prizes, games, and fireside chats.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

08:45 am— Blackstone Pancake breakfast (Pancakes, eggs, and sausage) Sign up if you have a Blackstone and want to cook! Food supplies provided. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdIIP3p3Vd4xjVm_99gj3TnALysBvP6d-RvMqmLbt3XOD5IPA/viewform?usp=pp_url

09:45 am: Brief announcement meeting according to new President Mike Hooker’s wishes.

10:00 am—Enjoy Grapevine on your own. Suggestions:

1. The venues in Grapevine that were Voted best in DFW by Dallas Morning News:
 - (WON Best beer, best brewery, best pub)
 - Hop & Sting Brewing Company, 906 Jean St, Grapevine
 - Kids Amusement-Legoland Discovery Center at Grapevine Mills
 - Immersive experience- Meow Wolf Grapevine Mills
 - Extreme Adventure -Texas Gun Experience 1901 Main St. Grapevine
 - Hotel – Hotel Vin, Autograph Collection, Main Street- Grapevine
 - Family Hotel- Great Wolf Lodge- Grapevine
 - Staycation Hotel- Gaylord Texas- Grapevine (a sight to see at Christmas)
2. Peace Plaza IceRink- in front of Hotel Vin
3. Grapevine Library: Artisan Market Dec. 7-8. 10am-5pm
4. Grapevine website for Holiday Activities: <https://www.grapevinetexasusa.com/christmas-capital-of-texas/>

03:45 pm: Leave for Murder Mystery Dinner Theater (doors open at 4:00) Carpooling recommended. Those not going to dinner theatre, there are many dining opportunities in Grapevine.

08:00- pm: Gather at the Pavilion for an evening of spiked coffee or hot chocolate, desserts and WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE.

Rules: With so many attending- if you want to participate- bring ONE wrapped gift per RIG- gender neutral. Airstream related gifts are always fun, so are gag gifts. Rules to White Elephant will be in your rally bag.

10:00 pm: Bedtime or campfire chat

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

08:30 am: Donuts and coffee at Pavilion

11:00 am: Check out. See y'all down the road!



THCU Kemah, TX Rally at USA RV Resorts, Marina Bay

Thursday, February 27 through Sunday, March 02, 2025

925 Marina Bay Drive

Kemah, Texas 77565

REGISTER: To reserve a site call 281-334-9944 and let Ariel or Sherri know you are with the Texas Hill Country Air-stream Unit. RV sites are 65 feet pull through sites for \$49/night. There are currently 15 sites reserved in a group.

Hosts Sue and Craig Fegley

Rally Fee: Estimated at \$10/pp

Preliminary Agenda:

Thursday, February 27

Check in at noon

Happy Hour and/or dinner out

Friday, February 28

Tram tour/general admission of NASA Space Center. 10am -5 pm go to space [center.org](https://www.nasa.gov/center) to learn more . Tickets are about \$45 per person ; if we have enough going, there will be a lower group rate. Please let Sue Fegley (efegley802@aol.com) or Mike Green (tractor_dude97@yahoo.com) know if you want to do the NASA Space Center to get a head count for the group rate.

Saturday, March 01

On your own. Lots of shopping, restaurants , entertainment on the boardwalk etc within walking distance. Moody gardens in Galveston, shopping on the strand, beach combing, sea wolf park (submarine tour).

Saturday evening - happy hour at the RV park or go to the final night of Mardi Gras in Galveston

Sunday, March 02

Donuts/coffee. Pack up and head home

Check out is at noon





There have been some folks who have asked about places where they can get their Airstream repaired, updated, and upgraded. Susan Fegley initially collated a list of places and there have been a few add ins to the list. Hope y'all find it helpful, when/if you need Airstream repairs—outside of the Airstream dealer repair shops.

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](#)
- ⇒ Cross Country RV Solutions (Tim Love). Phone: 817.917.0092. WebSite: [Mobile RV Repair](#)
- ⇒ Texas Country RV (Karrie Mikle). Phone 830.935.4503. Website: [TexasCountryRV.com](#)

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.



Website: <https://airstreamclub.org/TexasHillCountry>
THCU President: tractor_dude97@yahoo.com
Facebook Page: Texas Hill Country Unit

