

Volume 50 - Issue 3

Editor: Lucinda ("Cindy") West

March 2025



President's Message

By Eric McMurphy

Hello fellow club members!

March has come and gone, spring has arrived, and we have enjoyed another fabulous Region 9 Rally!

It was great to see so many rigs and members at the rally. What really stood out for our club was the number of new members that enjoyed Region 9 as their first rally with the club. By my count, we had 7 rigs that were new members out of our 31 rigs representing GHAC. All new members, I hope you enjoyed your time at the rally and are learning a bit about what being an Airstreamer is all about! To all our current members, thanks for attending. We had a blast with all of you and as always, it was great to see and talk with you all.

I would further like to say that Tracy Elkins (Region 9 President and GHAC member), along with Rick Elkins (2024 past GHAC President) did a fabulous job pulling off this event. I know they have been planning with their other Region 9 teammates for at least a year. The amount of work involved to pull off an event with over 200 people is just crazy and the rally went off flawlessly. My hats off to Tracy, Rick and the Region 9 team for doing such a great job and dedicating so many hours to the club which is near and dear to their hearts!

As a follow up to my February newsletter, the Executive Board electronically approved our 2025 Nominating Committee (Rick Elkins, Wayne Wilkerson and Bruce Lee) to find our next round of leadership nominees. For 2026, we are searching for a 3rd VP and two Trustees (2-year term) to help fill vacant positions on our Executive Board. If you would like to volunteer or learn more about these positions, please contact a member of our committee or reach out to me and we can have a discussion. Serving in the club has been an honor and frankly for me, it's been a pleasure to serve.

Regarding our two caravans to the International (ACI) Rally in York Pennsylvania, signups will be out via email this week. I encourage you to caravan with us if you're going to York. Last year, Holly and I went to our first international rally. It was a great experience and now we're hooked! We're looking forward to our York caravan as well; spending time with other members on the road is what life is all about! As a reminder, the Big Bend Caravan, which will happen in November, is still open. Holly and I recently made the decision to go to Big Bend with Bruce Lee and Justin Hargadine, caravan leaders. We are really looking forward to seeing the fabulous night skies in West Texas.

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President's Message

(continued from p. 1)

I've been keeping up with our committee to look at a new data management system. They have done some great work, and the plan is to present their recommendations at our May business meeting and have the Executive Board vote on our go forward method of managing our data. I look forward to our final recommendation and rollout. I know you all will benefit from data in a central place like pictures, newsletters, club by-laws, etc. We will also work to get old paper documents scanned and loaded electronically.

We are four events into this year already (Luncheon, Summer Breeze, Pop-Up Rally and Region 9) but there are many more rallies and great times ahead. I encourage you all to rally with us! Below is a list of what is coming up. You can find more information in this newsletter or by searching our GHAC ACI website. Registration for all rallies below is currently open.

- ♦ April Bluebonnet joint rally with Texas Hill Country Unit in Brenham TX, April 24-27
- ♦ May Gator Haven mid-year business meeting rally in Brazos Bend TX, May 15-18
- ♦ International Rally in York PA, August 23-28

I would love all of you to come out and have a great time with us. We really enjoy meeting new people, helping others and seeing friends.

Hope to see you in Brenham, TX!

Eric

****IMPORTANT****

The Club Nominating Committee is seeking officer nominations for 2026. All members who wish to serve or desire to know more about the club leadership possibilities are encouraged to contact the Nominating Committee (Wayne Wilkerson, Bruce Lee, Rick Elkins) or President Eric McMurphy for assistance. Any member may self-nominate for an office. Please reply to this newsletter email if interested.

The officer candidates and voting instructions will be announced soon to all members and the election results shared at the Club's Annual Business Meeting planned as a part of the May Rally at Brazos Bend SP, May 15-18.

Thanks,
Eric McMurphy
President
Greater Houston Airstream Club
Celebrating 50 Years!
832-247-9480



Region 9 Updates - March 31, 2025

By: Tracy Elkins, Region 9 President, BRN 9713

Howdy Airstream Friends!

Last week, we wrapped up an unforgettable 54th Region 9 Rally – Escape to the Country at Brackenridge Recreation Complex near Edna, TX. With 123 rigs and 225 attendees, it was our biggest rally in 12 years! Top notch entertainment, great clinics, and delicious food were on tap as always, but this year we hit some serious milestones:

- ♦ \$3,700 raised for Team Red, White & Blue
- ♦ 34 units of blood donated
- ♦ \$300 collected for Edna Animal Control
- ♦ David Brandon volunteered to serve as the Region 9 Membership Chair
- ♦ And, dubbed “rainmakers” by locals, we brought enough rain Thursday and Friday to boost Lake Texana nearly 3 feet—breaking a drought in style!

Coming Up: **STITCHIN’ AND FISHIN’ Rally** – Year Two and Thriving!

Later this month the North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC) hosts a full Terraport for STITCHIN’ AND FISHIN’, now a National Event Rally in its second year. April in Texas is unbeatable—Bluebonnets and Indian Paintbrush in bloom, perfect weather, and prime fishing. Sewists can join the “All Texas Shop Hop” and work in a dedicated rally space, while anglers score a guided fishing trip on Monday, April 28th—a four-star day for striped bass, per solar lunar tables. It’s sold out, but hop on the waitlist: airstreamclub.org/region-9-stitching-and-fishin.

Meet Our New Region Historian: Linda Shelton

We’re thrilled to introduce Linda Shelton as our new Region 9 Historian! Linda brings a wealth of experience and passion for preserving our Airstream legacy. She’s sharing her personal history with us in the attached document—take a read to get to know her and see why she’s the perfect fit for this role.

Election Season Is Underway for Executive Council

Voting for the Executive Council opens June 1st! Check out the new Electioneering Webpage for all the details: airstreamclub.org/IBTCandidate/electioneering?check_logged_in=1. Take a moment to review the candidates and get ready to vote—your voice matters!

Volunteers Needed – Step Up!

Region 9 runs on the energy of our incredible volunteers. We’ve got an opening for Caravan Chair, a call for 2nd VP candidates and we can always use committee members. Whether you’re ready to lead or join a committee, we’d love your talents to keep the wheels turning. Reach out and get involved!

Happy Camping,
Tracy Elkins, BRN 9713, Region 9, President



Region 9 Historian

Linda Wadle Knezek Shelton, BRN 208

Hello Region 9!

I wanted to share a little about myself for those who don't know me. I'm a second generation Airstreamer, my parents Johnny & Wilda Wadle bought their first Airstream in 1976 and became members of the West Texas Unit of WBCCI in 1977. They traveled all over the good ol' USA and Canada until they were no longer able due to health reasons in 2009. My brother Lonny Wadle joined the club in 2004. My parents' BRN was 1308, mine was 13081 and my brothers was 13082.

My late husband Harvey Knezek and I bought a 1976 Airstream from my aunt and uncle in July of 1998 and joined the Texas Tropical Trail Unit in August. I served as 1st VP in 1999 and President in 2000. Unfortunately, the TTTU lost members and disbanded in 2007, when we joined the Texas Alamo Unit. I served as 2nd VP 2008, 1st VP 2009 and then President in 2010. Harvey passed away in October 2010, and this club got me through some very dark days.

I served as Region 9 2nd VP in 2011, 1st VP for 5 days in 2012, and President 2012-2014, Membership Chair 2018. I also served as the International Recording Secretary for President Tye Mott in 2022.

I married Gary Shelton April 4, 2015, and we loaded the Airstream to spend our honeymoon traveling Route 66! We spent 50 days on the road from Chicago to LA ending up in Quanah, at the first Texas for the Texas Country Air Rally for the last 7 days. We have attended seven International Rallies beginning in 2016.

I am honored that Tracy Elkins, Anna Brandon and Tim Ebberts have asked me to be the Region 9 Historian! I love this club and want to make sure that its wonderful history isn't lost. I am looking forward to gathering some really great stories and paraphernalia you are willing to share.

Linda Wadle Knezek Shelton

BRN 208

Airstream Club International – Region 9 Blood Drive Results from Texana Park & campground March 27, 2025



Jacob and Olivia Lozano are siblings living with a sibling. They need blood transfusions every four weeks. With blood donors like you, Jacob and Olivia can continue living their best lives.

Goal: 30 Units
30 people signed up!
33 Heroes showed up!
29 Successful donations!
Deferrals: 4 (lower than average!)
Units collected: 34!!! (113% of goal!!)
Potential local patients helped: 102!!!

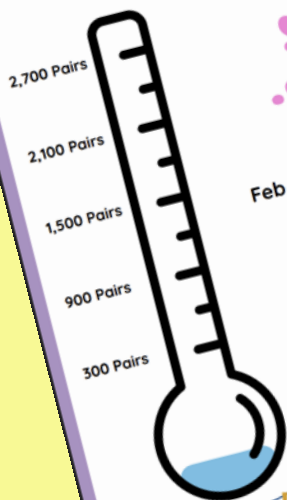
Thank you all for your generosity and support!
Safe travels and much appreciation!!!

Thank you



GHAC SOCK DONATION PROGRESS 3,000 Pairs of Socks - GOAL

Current Progress



Feb Mardi Gras Rally = 81 Pairs
Mar R9 Rally = 11 Pairs

**you can
DO IT**

Benefiting Humble ISO

SALE

2012 30' CLASSIC LIMITED AIRSTREAM FOR SALE

Meticulously Maintained

My husband and I bought this trailer new from a dealership and have been the only owners. My husband was an engineer and meticulously maintained our Airstream. The trailer has been stored out of direct sunlight for its entire life. She has been pampered and loved! Approximate mileage is only 17,000, and she has taken only one trip outside of Texas.



WOW!

\$55,000

ONE OWNER

Queen Bed

Sleeps up to 6

Beautiful Interior!!

PLEASE CALL TO ARRANGE A
PRIVATE VIEWING

Deanna Shepard 832-515-4732

RALLIES AND CARAVANS



REGION 9 RALLY

Check out the following **FOUR Club Caravans** for 2025:

Express Caravan to York, PA for 2025 Airstream International Rally
Leaders Eric McMurphy and Julie Kulak

- ♦ August 15 to August 21
- ♦ Max number of rigs 12
- ♦ \$405 total per rig (some exceptions depending on number of people per rig)
- ♦ <https://form.jotform.com/250906991875169>

Scenic Caravan to York, PA for 2025 Airstream International Rally
Leaders Rick Elkins and Wayne Wilkerson

- ♦ August 11 to August 21
- ♦ Max number of rigs 12
- ♦ \$753 total per rig (some exceptions depending on number of people per rig)
- ♦ <https://form.jotform.com/250887630835163>

Signups are currently available for the Express and Scenic caravans from and email Eric McMurphy, Club President sent on 4/6/2025.

Big Bend Caravan - See [FLYER](#).

Boca Chita SpaceX Caravan - Dates TBD based on publish of launch schedule. Route & Stops Selected - Kitty Fee Budget in process.



El Campo Pop-up Rally



Coyote Tales, March 2025

REGION 9 RALLY - ESCAPE TO THE COUNTRY



Country storyteller



Cajun music



Desserts galore!



Mayor of Edna



Shrimp Boil



Grazing Table



Raffle Prizes

REGION 9 RALLY - CASINO NIGHT





Raffle Prizes

GHAC Luncheon



Sunday morning devotions





JOINT RALLY TEXAS HILL COUNTRY UNIT & GREATER HOUSTON AIRSTREAM CLUB

April 24-27
in Brenham, TX
THE HILLTOP RV RESORT

Two Step Process - Call the RV Park (979-269-7505) and tell them you are camping with the "Airstream Club" to get your discounted reservations. Second, both Club's register on the Jotform (Rally Fee \$11/person) at this link:
<https://airstreamclub.org/ghac-april-2025-joint-rally-thcu>

THURSDAY

6pm - Informal Happy Hour at Campsites and then local restaurant on your own or with friends.

SATURDAY

7-9am - Coffee @ Hosts Site & "Breakfast Baggie Bar" (custom omelette, fruit)

****Morning Adventures, Lunch & Afternoon Adventures on your own****

5-7pm - Happy Hour (BYOB) @The Clubhouse. Food Trucks will be on-site for dinner \$\$

FRIDAY

7-9am - Coffee @ Hosts Site & "Ghost in the Swamp" (Oatmeal w/ a yummy surprise, bacon & fruit) Breakfast

****Morning Adventures, Lunch & Afternoon Adventures on your own****

5-9pm - Happy Hour (BYOB) @Hey Barn. Bring your own meat to grill (appetizers, sides & desserts to be assigned)



Including Games & Social Time



SUNDAY

7-9am Grab-n-Go Breakfast @ Hosts Site

See You Down the Road

Your Hosts: Greg Carroll & Loyce Engle (THCU),
Ira & Terri Rush (THCU), Eric & Holly McMurphy (GHAC),
Dan & Maria McAnulty (GHAC)

Nearby Places of Interest

BRENHAM

Brenham Art Walk

Brenham Fire Museum

Saturday 11 - 2, free entry

Brenham Heritage Museum

105 S Market Street Friday and Saturday 10 - 4
The Brenham Heritage Museum is a local history museum located in Downtown Brenham. Exhibits and collections reflect a focus on the history and culture of Washington County. Originally serving as the United States Post Office, this magnificent building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was eventually transformed into the museum you see today.

Blue Bell Creameries & Ice Cream Parlour

1101 Blue Bell Road Observation deck is open Friday 8 -2. Country store, visitor center, ice cream parlour open Friday 8 - 5

Antique Carousel

910 North Park Street Saturday, 11-4. Children under 12 may ride the horses. Fully restored, the carousel is one of eight that exist in Texas today and is the only example of a C.W. Parker carousel with Herschell-Spillman horses. Manufactured prior to 1910, it is housed in a unique 16-sided WPA building in the heart of Fireman's Park.'

PLACES TO EAT

Pioneer Smokehouse and Mercantile

309 S Park Street
BBQ and outdoor dining - by the old train depot

Yum! Sweets and Eats

106 E Alamo Opens 11 am
Burgers, wraps, salads, Blue Bell

Must Be Heaven

107 E Alamo Street
Soup, sandwiches, salads, Pies

Santa Fe & SP Cafe

302 W First Street
Blue plate specials, burgers, a local favorite!

Honey's Bee'Stro

2116 S Market
Lunch plate specials, soup and salad bar

Brenham Grill

107 W Commerce St
Casual dining inside the elegant & historic Ant Street Inn

The Cannery Kitchen and Gift Shop

314 E Alamo
Homestyle American food served buffet style. Supports a local charity, Faith Mission

INDEPENDENCE

Antique Rose Emporium

Old Baylor Park at Windmill Hill

11300 Old Baylor College Road, Brenham, Texas 77833
On the east side of FM 50 (next to the Antique Rose Emporium), interpretive signage and a reconstructed bell tower mark the archeological ruins of the Baylor campus for males. A well-marked walking and/or driving trail with 19 interpretive signs relates the history of the village of Independence. On the west side of FM 50, ruins mark the site of the original Baylor University and its female department, one of the best places in the state to enjoy springtime bluebonnets. Adjacent to the John P. Coles homes, this park features picnic tables and a playground area.

Early Texas Home Tours

WASHINGTON

Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site

Star of the Republic Museum

Barrington Plantation State Historic Site

23400 Park Road 12, Washington, Texas 836.878.2214
Travel back in time to 1850 and explore the original home of Dr. Anson Jones, the last President of the Republic of Texas. The Jones family lived at the farm for over a decade, building a successful cotton farm with enslaved labor after Texas joined the union. This living history farm is complete with period costumed interpreters using 19th century farming practices for planting, cultivating, harvesting and working with livestock. Explore the sights and smells of farm life and experience the daily lives of those who came 150 years ago. Located within Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. Entrance fees apply. Open Wed-Sun 10am-4:30pm

BURTON

Burton Short Stop

12400 Fm 390 West, Burton
American style fo

Burton Cotton Gin Festival

Saturday, April 26, 2025 :: 10:00am - 6:00pm
This is a FREE family friendly event featuring a day full of fun and history! The day begins with a parade through Burton, and continues at the grounds of the Texas Cotton Gin Museum. Shop and eat in our Arts & Crafts Vendor Area and Food Court. Watch Folklife skills demonstrations like blacksmithing, butter churning, spoon carving, and more. Enjoy our Tractor, Engine, and Classic Cars on Display, and take part in fun contests and games. Live Music begins at 11am PLUS we will have two step dance classes at 12:30 and 2pm with Hill Country Two Step! Tours of the Burton Farmers Gin are from 11am to 2pm. At 3pm, the Oldest Operating Cotton Gin in America will come to life, and a bale of cotton will be ginned!

Gator Haven Rally at Brazos Bend State Park

May 15-18, 2025

Location:

21901 FM 762 RD, Needville, Texas 77461

Hosts:

Caren and Tom Bundy (281-250-7644), Carol and Jerry Goodwin, Jim & Liesa Glover

GHAC has reserved 35 RV sites for this rally and will be assigned by the hosts. The cost for the sites are included in the rally fees. Upon arrival at the park, pay day use fees or present park pass and obtain campsite location. The online rally registration is found at: <https://airstreamclub.org/ghac-2025-may-rally>. If you need to cancel your registration or want to be placed on the standby list in the event the rally sells out, call or text Tom Bundy at 281-250-7644.

Rally fees:

\$96 for RV site. (Site cost included with total rally fees)

Meals \$17/person

Thursday

5:00 PM – Happy Hour at dining hall

6:00 PM – Dinner: bring something to grill and a side to share

Friday

8:00 AM – Bird watching hike in park

5:00 PM – Happy Hour at dining hall

(Even Number Rigs bring appetizers)

6:00 PM – Dinner provided by hosts

7:30 PM – Activity

Saturday

7:30 AM – Early coffee

8:00 AM – Breakfast provided by hosts, Bring table service

10:00 AM – Field trip to learn about Texas Native Coastal grasses and visit the last remaining site with these native grasses

1:00 PM – Annual Business meeting

3:00 PM – International caravans meeting

3:30 PM – Dutch oven cooking seminar followed by breaking up into teams to cook dinner in Dutch ovens. Host will provide the food to be cooked in the dutch ovens

5:00 PM – Happy Hour (Odd Number Rigs bring appetizers)

6:00 PM – Dinner

7:30 PM – Activity – campfire (Bring your musical instruments.)

Optional activity

The George Observatory located in the park is hosting star gazing sessions on Saturday at 9:00 PM and 10:00 PM. If the weather is poor, the sessions will be held in the planetarium. The cost of the program is \$13/person. Make your own reservations by calling 713-639-4629.

Sunday

7:30 AM – Early Coffee

8:00 AM – Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM – Devotional



The Brazos Bend Rally is coming up soon. If you've already have signed up, remember to bring your binoculars for the Friday morning bird watching hike. If you haven't signed up, sign up ASAP as there are less than 10 spots left!



Big Bend – Davis Mountains Caravan

Nov. 2-13, 2025

Itinerary

Nov. 2-5: Meet up at Davis Mountains State Park, Ft. Davis, TX
Davis Mountains State Park

Nov. 6-11: RoadRunner Travelers RV Park, Study Butte, TX
RoadRunner Travelers RV Park

Nov. 12-13: Seminole Canyon State Park, Comstock, TX
Seminole Canyon State Park

Click on the links provided above to get more details about each park.

Costs

- ♦ Davis Mountains State Park - \$25/night with full hookups. Total of \$100 per rig
- ♦ RoadRunner Travelers RV Park - \$54/night with full hookups. Total of \$270 per rig
- ♦ Seminole Canyon State Park - \$20/night with electric and water at each site. Dump station available. Total of \$40 per rig.

To reserve your spot, please pay a deposit of \$275 by April 20, 2025 to Bruce Lee (34 Thundercove Place, Spring, TX 77381 or you can Zelle a payment to balee5068@gmail.com).

Total costs will be about \$410-\$415. This pays for all the RV sites. Out of pocket costs will be for meals and activities such as jeep/ATV tours, river adventures, and other sight-seeing activities.

This caravan will be limited to 15 rigs maximum. As of March 30, I have 5 reservations that have paid at least an initial deposit and 4 more rigs saying they would like to go on this caravan.

Cancellation Policy:

- Before Sept. 1, 2025 - \$50 per rig
- On or after Sept. 1, 2025 – No refunds
- *These fees do not apply if another rig agrees to fill your reservation.*

More Details to come about things to do at each park.

2025 GHAC Rally Schedule

[Click for Details](#)

- January 18, 2025 - Annual Luncheon at the historic Brandt 1910, Wallis, TX
- February 20-23, 2025 - Rally at the Summer Breeze RV Park, Brookshire, TX
- March 26-30, 2025 - Region 9 Rally at Brackenridge RV Park, Edna, TX **
- April 24-27, 2025 - Joint Rally with the Texas Hill Country Unit at The Hilltop RV Park, Brenham, TX
- May 15-18, 2025 - Rally and Annual Business Meeting at Brazos Bend State Park, Needville, TX **
- August 23-28, 2025 - International Rally, York Exp Center, York, PA **
- September 18-21, 2025 - Rally at Colorado Landing RV Park, La Grange, TX
- October 16-19, 2025 - Rally at Blue Water RV Resort, Freeport, TX
- November 20-23, 2025 - Rally at Rusk KOA Holiday, Rusk, TX **
- December 4-7, 2025 - Installation Rally at On The Lake RV Resort, Onalaska, TX

*Rally Registration follows this Two-Step process, unless indicated with **:*

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

** Rallies indicated with an asterisk will follow a different registration and campsite reservation process. Please see the information for those specific events to learn more.

*For the Record...



Please note:

The names you use to sign up will be included "For the Record." If you wish to be known by a nickname, please include that in your registration for each rally.

Correction: The February newsletter failed to include Jerry Lyndon who also attended the Mardi Gras Rally. Our apologies for this oversight!

Wally's Workshop, NTAC Hillsboro

Tim & Cindy West

Pop-up Rally, El Campo

Tom & Caren Bundy
Rick & Jennifer Cary
Rick & Tracy Elkins
Jim & Lisa Feine
Ron & Janice Lange
Jim & Cheryl McGee
Holly McMurphy
Tim & Cindy West

Region 9 Rally

Jose & Ines Baptista
Jay & Amanda Bubela
Tom & Caren Bundy
Richard & Jennifer Cary
John & Deborah Davis
Rick & Tracy Elkins
James & Lisa Feine
John & Jerry Fuselier

Jim & Annaliese Glover
Jerry & Carol Goodwin
Jeff & Lorraine Gray
Mitch & Mary Guinn
Gene Guthrie
Tim & Georgia Jackson
Bob & Dell Jones
Pierre Judge & Michele Berniwr
Lisa Laney & Nando Lopez
Ron & Janice Lange
Bruce Lee
Eric & Holly McMurphy
David & Felicia Petit
Rom & Susan Raia
William "Bill" Weibel & Teena Reese
David & Kimberly Savage
Thomas & Virginia Taroni
Ray & Denise Wall
Tim & Cindy West
Wayne & Liza Wilkerson

*GHAC Only listed. Many others came!



2025 Rally Host/Co-Host Sign-Ups



Dates	Rally Event	Rally Location	Hosts	Co-Hosts	Theme
Jan 18	Annual Luncheon	Brandt 1910 Wallis, TX	Dan & Maria McAnulty	Alan & Bernadine Billard	"Hollywood Glam"
Feb 20 - 23	February Rally	Summer Breeze RV Park Brookshire, TX	Vernon & Jo Goodwin	Tom Raia, Jim & Cheryl McGee	"Mardi Gras"
Mar 26 - 30	Region 9 Rally	Brackenridge RV Park Edna, TX	Tracy Elkins, Region 9 President, and Region 9 officers. Contact Tracy if you want to help out with this event.		"Escape to the Country"
Apr 24 - 27	April Joint Rally with THCU	The Hilltop RV Resort Brenham, TX	Eric & Holly McMurphy	Dan & Maria McAnulty	"Bluebonnet"
May 15 - 18	May Rally & Club Business Meeting	Brazos Bend State Park ** Needville, TX	Tom & Caren Bundy	Jerry & Carol Goodwin; Jim & Liesa Glover	TBD
No Rallies in June or July. Join one of our caravans to the International Rally!					
Aug 23 - 28	International Rally	York Expo Center, York, PA			"Let's Make History"
Sep 18 - 21	September Rally	Colorado Landing RV Park LaGrange, TX	Justin Hargadine & Guy Bily	Eric & Holly McMurphy	TBD
Oct 16 - 19	October Rally	Blue Water RV Resort Freeport, TX	Tim & Cindy West	John & Susan Sheridan	"John Wayne Western"
Nov 20 - 23	November Rally	Rusk KOA Holiday Rusk, TX	Lisa & Jim Feine	Larry & Susan Meeks, Jim & Liesa Glover	TBD
Dec 4 - 7	Installation Rally	On The Lake RV Resort Onalaska, TX	Rick & Tracy Elkins	Raj & Narmin Ramlal	"The Fabulous Fifties"

What Hosts/Co-Hosts Do

Thank you for volunteering as a Host or Co-Host for a GHAC Rally! For more information or to select a Rally to volunteer, please contact Eric McMurphy at Club155@airstreamclub.org or 832-247-9480 or contact Holly McMurphy at 832-808-3309.

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!

March Membership Update

by Tracy Elkins

Membership & Directory Chair

281.725.1672

Tracy.d.elkins@gmail.com

Member Benefits

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

<https://airstreamclub.org/benefits>



Welcome New Members!

- ♦ Joel & Michelle Belle join us from Magnolia with their 2025 Basecamp 20X
- ♦ Chase Caldwell & Devon Wilson join us from Houston with their 2025 Flying Cloud 25
- ♦ Robert & Jody Cerisano join us from League City with their 2019 Flying Cloud 25
- ♦ William & Christina Rathbun join us from Montgomery with their 2023 Classic 33

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

If you know someone who is making an Airstream purchase, remind them they get a free 1-year (ACI) membership (Explorer Program) when they purchase a new rig. And we would love it if they select GHAC as their primary club.

Member Spotlight

By Christina Rathburn

Here are a few pictures and words about New Members Bill and Christina and our beloved Airstream.

We bought our Airstream from Airstream of Austin in the summer of 2024 after the Labor Day fire in the 105 storage (where we stored our Airstream) burned out 8 units. Even though our storage unit was 3 units away from the fire, we got smoke and heat damage externally as well as internally. It has taken this long to "repair" all the damage. We are going on a 27 day trip next week and truly looking forward to it.

Bill and I have been married 25 years and have a blended family of 5 children, 12 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

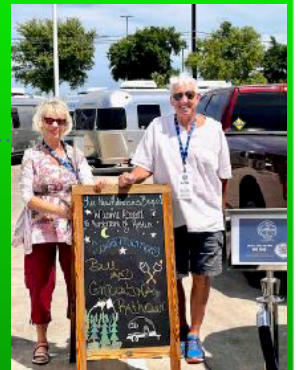
We enjoy family get-togethers. Our passion is traveling and the Airstream will be our way of seeing the USA and its beauty. I am Swedish so we visit Europe every year. We also like cruising. Since we are retired we can do it all.

Pictures are from Austin Airstream the day we bought it, truck and Airstream outside our house on Lake Conroe and a sunset at Margaritaville in Crystal Beach/Bolivar.

We are looking forward to being part of the Greater Houston Airstream Club.

Hugs

Christina and Bill





The Sunshine Corner

By Carol Goodwin



Why is everyone exhausted on April 1st?

Because they've just finished a 31-day March!

-imom.com

Member Concerns

Great News! Bob Hutson has been receiving chemotherapy for treatable lung cancer since November 2024. After having his cancer scan this past March, his wife, June, reports that the spot on his lung has decreased dramatically. She says that the chemo portion is finished and now Bob has begun the maintenance therapy which consists of only immunotherapy. June is thankful for everyone's thoughts and prayers.

I have reported in the past couple of months that we have several members who are dealing with serious health issues. I would like to offer healing thoughts and prayers to those who are going through significant medical issues whether shared or not in my Sunshine Corner. Our members are like family, and we wish everyone a happy and healthy life.

HAPPY TRAILS!! SAFE TRAVELS!!

April Birthdays

03 Bob Hutson
03 Charles O'Donnell
04 Joanne Miller
05 Jenny Brown
08 Susan Meeks
09 Jerry Calvert
15 Ronn Gilbert
18 Rick Cary
21 John Davis
21 Lana Dalston
22 Bob Jones
22 Johnda Pugh
23 Suzan Bernucho
24 Carla Ricks
27 James Feine
28 Lee Howel
28 Chase Caldwell

April Anniversaries

07 Dale & Kathy Spillman
13 Dan & Rose Nugteren
17 Jim & Barbara Mercer
25 David & Louise Parry
29 Tim & Ally Ebbers

NOTE: Airstreamers love to celebrate special dates. If we missed yours, please contact Tracy Elkins at 281-725-1672 or tracy.d.elkins@gmail.com and we'll get you next time!



Tech Tip

By Tom Bundy



Maintenance Alert

During the Big Easy Caravan, the Caravan leader had a never lube bearing fail on his 30' Classic Trailer as we pulled into the RV park in New Orleans. Shortly before the caravan, the brakes were replaced on this trailer by a mechanic and it appeared that when the wheel hubs were reinstalled, the axle nut was significantly over torqued above the Dexter torque spec of 150 ft-lbs with a +/- 5 ft-lbs tolerance. When you have a bearing failure, the challenge is finding the correct replacement hub and bearing for your trailer as there are 3 axle shaft diameters depending upon the size of your trailer and they generally are only available from Dexter. Our leader was fortunate to find the necessary parts at Foley's Airstream in Alabama.

I'm raising this issue because I've been on four caravans since we bought our current trailer with never lube bearings and this is the second time we had to pull a hub. On our first caravan, we have a total failure of the right front brake. Fortunately, Vernon had the tools to pull the hub so we could remove the brake backing plate and reinstall the hub. We drove with three brakes without issue until we could get parts from Dexter. I know several other Airstreamers who had similar brake failures with Dexter breaks.

Recommendations.

1. When you have work done on your trailer requiring the brake hubs to be pulled, make sure the axle nuts are installed with a torque wrench to achieve the required 150 ft-lbs of torque.
2. Inspect your wheel bearing regularly.
 - a. Do a visual inspection looking for excessive amount of grease coming out of the bearing.
 - b. When you stop on the road, check to make sure one hub is not getting significantly hotter than the others.
 - c. Once a year jack up the trailer and check each wheel to make sure there is not an excessive amount of play. When in doubt, get the hubs checked by knowledgeable tech.
3. Consider carrying the tools required to pull the hub. This is particularly important on long caravans in remote areas.
 - a. The axle nut requires 1 7/16" socket and a large break over bar to remove. NAPA has this socket with a 1/2" drive that works with most torque wrenches.
 - b. A torque wrench that has a 200 ft-lb or larger capacity, so you can accurately torque the nut.

Thanks Tom for this valuable information! Let's all be safe on the road.

Next month...President Eric explains how to replace the exterior trim on your Airstream.

Greater Houston Airstream Club

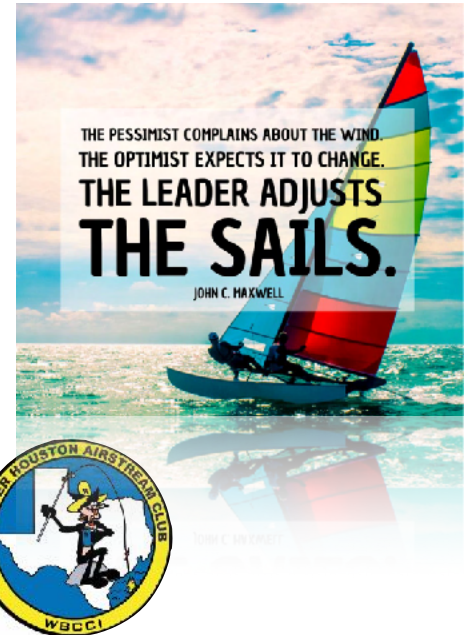
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Happy Birthday GHAC!

We are celebrating our Club's 50th anniversary this year. At each rally we will be celebrating the Club and all of its members as YOU are what makes this Club a special group to be apart of as we travel in our wonderful Airstreams.



Useful Links and Contacts

- ❖ Airstream Club International (WBCCI / ACI)
- ❖ Region 9 (Oklahoma & Texas):
- ❖ Greater Houston Airstream Club (GHAC, #155):
- ❖ GHAC Facebook Page

- ❖ Blue Beret Archive (club magazine):

- ❖ Blue Beret Blog (club blog):

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:
- ❖ Membership:
- ❖ Blue Beret:
- ❖ Website Feedback/Questions:

<https://airstreamclub.org>

<https://airstreamclub.org/region9>

<https://airstreamclub.org/greater-houston>

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[https://airstreamclub.org/member-only-section/
member-only-blue-beret-magazine](https://airstreamclub.org/member-only-section/member-only-blue-beret-magazine)

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Hello Friends!



Historic Texana Church

Tim and I are still full-timing it, while waiting for our new house to be built. We have been in our Airstream for a full year by the time you receive this newsletter. And we *still* love it! We left Florida on March 10th and took the long way back to Texas, visiting State Capitols along the way, adding three to our bucket list (Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi), in addition to the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta.

Since arriving in Texas, we have had the privilege of traveling from one Airstream Rally to the next. First we stayed in Hillsboro at the NTAC terra port for a week. It's a beautiful park, and if you need a place to stop on your way out of Texas, I highly recommend it. Full hook-ups with plenty of activities if you want to join in the fun. ACI members get a discount as well. We went to Wally's Workshop, and met some fantastic people from our region. AND, we won a BIG prize! Our Classy Girl was so happy to finally get a bath.

On the way to Edna, we started our own "caravan" as two Airstreams followed us all the way there 🥰👑. First stop was the "pop-up" rally in El Campo, where Lisa and Jim Feine greeted us with smiles and stories of adventure. It was fun to sit and relax. It got so hot we took our first swim of the season. The swimming pool (with a lazy river) rivals any RV Park we have seen to date; and, we've been to a few! Future Streamers would love it.

Of course we saw many of you in Edna. We had a blast at the "Escape to the Country" Rally, hosted by our own Tracy Elkins, Region 9 President. We couldn't ask for better leadership. The activities, food, entertainment; the whole shebang was a huge success! Casino night was unforgettable. I've included a collage of pictures from the Region 9 rally on p. 6. My favorite moment occurred after the rally had officially ended, when we gathered on Sunday morning in the old historic Presbyterian chapel and shared a time of music and devotion (led by my hubby). That was a special time for me, and for many others as well.

We plan to be in Texas a few weeks now, and we hope to see you soon. Perhaps we will get together for lunch or dinner, or maybe visit at an upcoming rally. Enjoy the cooler weather this week; summer will be here before we know it!

Wishing you smooth 'streaming on the journey ahead,

Lucinda (a/k/a "Cindy") West

GHAC Newsletter Editor

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BRN 19963 - 2025 30' Classic RBT ("Classy Girl")

Bored? Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#).

"God gives us the capacity for choice. We can choose to alleviate suffering. We can choose to work together for peace. We can make these changes—and we must."

Jimmy Carter, Nobel lecture

Wally's Workshop at NTAC



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!**



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GOT A PROBLEM? WE CAN FIX IT!

We also install Blue Ox towbars.

Call Bob or Chris at 713-910-2949.

*****Please Note*****

Our hours are 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.
Thank you for your business.