



THE BIG BENDER

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2025 Officers

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Presidents Message:



Summer is upon us, and I hope you've made some great travel plans! Mary and I are enjoying a break at home before starting a slow 7-week meander through 11 states, to and from International in York, PA, stopping at two National Parks and four Airstream campgrounds. We can't wait to get back to wandering widely! Don't forget to share some of your summer fun pics and stories on our Facebook page as well.

We couldn't make the May rally in Ocala, FL, but I definitely want to thank Julie and David Ludlow, and Scott and Jan Pfaff for hosting! I've heard it was a great time.

I've got a number of topics and info to share. So instead of spamming you with a dozen separate e-mails, please see those items on page 2.

And before we know it, our Fall rallies will be upon us! I would love to have co-hosts, so if you're willing to pitch in for Grayton Beach, Travellers Rest or Port St Joe, please let me (mykidsdadof4@yahoo.com) know. Many hands make for lighter work and more fun!

Travel safely as you Wander Widely!
~David

Welcome New Members & Affiliates!

- Jessica & D'Angelo Moscoso (BRN 8814)
- Jim & Alice Trusley (BRN 4251)



Club Topics and Info

Reservations for Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park opened June 10th for **non-FL residents**. You don't want to miss Paynes Prairie and Micanopy next April if sites are available! And if not, keep checking like with Grayton Beach State Park. Cancellations happen! And our members normally announce an available site on our Facebook page if they are cancelling.

Voting is open for the Airstream Club International 2025-2027 Executive Council Election, and the voting deadline is June 15, 2025 11:59 Eastern time. You have likely received e-mails and text messages, but I also wanted to remind everyone that both the member and partner member can vote separately. Each just needs their own ACI login. Please contact me if you have questions.

We are considering Officer and Director Liability Insurance for our local club. If insurance is your business, and you'd like to provide a quote for consideration, please let me know (mykidsdadof4@yahoo.com). If we proceed, I'd rather benefit a member!

ACI announced the launch of the new Airstream Club International Member App. I haven't installed it yet, but I understand we will be using it at International this year!

I know that some of us can't see ACI or Big Bend stuff without thinking about the recent loss of Jay Thompson. Thanks to all who attended services for him and who continue to keep Elna and their family in your thoughts and prayers. Hopefully you caught the two-page tribute to Jay in the Spring/May Blue Buret. If you didn't, I'd encourage you to take a look!

On that same note though, I was informed recently that we lost another member, Shala Wilson. Shala lived in Kentucky with her husband and spent winters at Travelers Rest. They joined the Big Bend club a couple years ago and were friends of Jay & Elna, Winston & Carol Montague and possibly others. Please keep the Wilson family in your thoughts and prayers as well.

We're always looking for more hosts and volunteers to keep the fun rolling! If you're interested or have questions, contact me (mykidsdadof4@yahoo.com), Amy (waymire_a@yahoo.com) or Carol Montague (montaguec43@gmail.com), and we'll get you plugged in!

Amy and I are working on getting our new Club Flag produced. We're also working on getting a club merchandise store up and running. And lastly, I will be sending out an e-mail to all regular members with our revised club Constitution and ByLaws. We will be voting to approve these at our September, Grayton Beach rally, so please take a look!

Rally Recap

Race Ya!, Ocala, FL

Our May RACE YA rally became an intimate gathering of five airstreams, with two attending their first rally! We gathered Thursday evening to greet each other with our 'Horsey' O D'oeuvres. On Friday, after a breakfast of Scott's 'galloping' waffles, we headed to UF's Equine Research Center just north of Ocala for a very informative visit and a walk in the pastures amongst the mares and foals. We were thankful for the opportunity to cool off in the resort's pool before dinner, followed by lively conversations of 'Airstream experiences' after. On Saturday, most of us made an early start to kayak the Silver River. It was a very enjoyable trip down river, assisted by 3.5m gallon flow of water from Silver Springs and other springs along the way. We ended our paddle at Ray Wayside Park where we were met and transported back to Silver Springs Park. While we were Kayaking, others headed to downtown Ocala to enjoy the square with its restaurants and shops. After a dinner of 'walking' tacos we played 'Horsey Bingo' until everyone was a winner! We then continued sharing our fun, and not so fun, experiences before calling it a day. We welcomed first-time attendees, Cathy and Reggie Johnson, and Jessica and D'Angelo Moscoso! The Johnsons are Big Benders, who recently retired. And Jessica and D'Angelo just transferred from the Florida AS Club. Both are looking forward to being part of our Big Bend family, and they had enough fun that they've already made reservations for our April 2026 rally at Paynes Prairie.

~Julie Ludlow



Our Remaining 2025 Schedule

2025	Campground	Where	Notes	Hosts	Reservation Information
August 23-28 "International"	York Expo Center	York, Pennsylvania			Window is open airstreamclub.org
September 26-28 "It's Grayt"	Grayton Beach State Park	Santa Rosa Beach, FL		Don & Gaye Baltz	Window is open https://www.floridastateparks.org/
October 23-26 "Relaxing Rally"	Travelers Rest	Dade City, FL		Gary & RoseMarie Anderson	Window is open (352) 588-2013 Mention Big Bend Airstream Rally
November 7-9 "Sunsets & Sunrises"	Port St Joe RV Resort	Port St Joe, FL		Hosts needed	Window is open (850) 280-6177 Mention Big Bend Airstream Rally

Come *Stay and Play* at Travelers Rest - October 23-26th!



It's the ideal location for fun! Like Pickle Ball or tennis? Bring your rackets. Bocce Ball anyone? Join our tournament. You say you're a golfer? Bring your clubs. Want to try some water aerobics? Bring your swimsuit. Just want to relax? You can do that too, or take a stroll through the beautiful gardens. There's so much to do and so little time. Other surprises are waiting for you when we see you October 23-26.

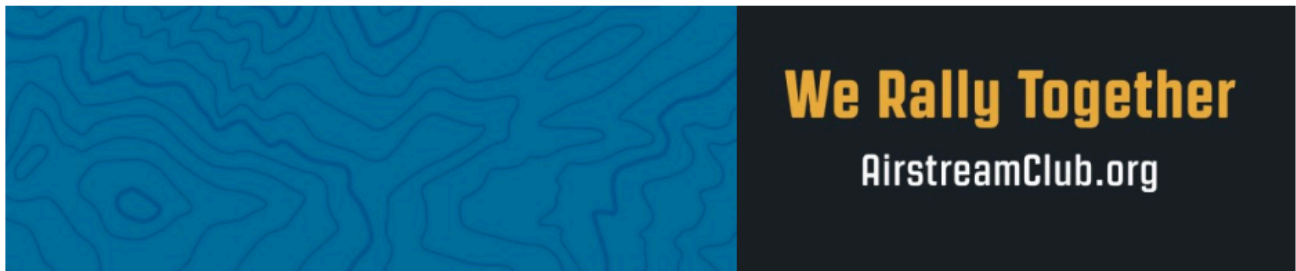
Limited sites are still available! Book your site today by calling Travelers Rest at **352-588-2013** and mention the Big Bend FL Airstream Club Rally.

Join us for *Sunrises and Sunsets* - November 7-9th!



Pack the flip flops and your bathing suit, we're gonna have a beach party! There are 77 sites at this new campground, full facilities, close to St. Joe beach or Cape San Blas for scalloping, boating, or beach walking. Reservation window is open now. Call 850-280-6177 and mention Big Bend FL Airstream Club.

**DON'T FORGET REGISTER ON THE ACI WEBSITE
TO LET THE HOSTS KNOW YOU ARE COMING!!!**



Our 2026 Rally Schedule!

Dates	Campground	Where		Hosts	Reservation Information
January 8-11, 2026	Topsail Hill Preserve State Park	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	Canopener		Window is open www.reserve.floridastateparks.org
February 6-8, 2026	Coastal Georgia RV Resort	Brunswick, GA	Golden Isles - Port of Call	Host needed	1-912-264-3869 March 2025
March 4-8, 2026	SUN 'n FUN Campground	Lakeland, FL	Region 3 Rally		
March 19-22, 2026		Bainbridge, GA	Silver in the City-Bainbridge	No Host	January 2026
April 10-12, 2026	Paynes Praire Preserve State Park	Micanopy, FL	Camping on the Prairie	David & Julie Ludlow	5/10/2025 www.reserve.floridastateparks.org
May 1-3, 2026	EastBank COE	Chattahoochee, FL	Off to the Races	Everyone	11/1/2025 www.recreation.gov
August 22-27, 2026		Minot, ND	International		
September 10-13, 2026	Windcreek State Park	Alexander City, AL	Lake Life	Craig & Monica Brinkley	9/10/2025 www.alapark.com
October 9-11, 2026	Pensacola RV Park	Pensacola, FL	Angels & Airstreams	Vince & Dian Naman	1-850-944-1734 TBD
October 11-18, 2026		Natches, MS - Lynchburg, TN	Tracin' & Tastin' Caravan	Chad & Dolores Jones	
November 6-8, 2026	Coastline RV Resort	Eastpoint, FL	Not So Forgotten Coast Rally	Sammy & Chris Stockstill Jason Friedrich	1-850-799-1016 TBD



◆ Don't Forget! ◆

Big Bend has come into the digital world!

Members with Zelle accounts can **pay rally fees** directly to the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club through the club Zelle address, club153@airstreamclub.org. The treasurer can also quickly **reimburse members** with Zelle for rally expenses.

Of course, cash and checks will still be accepted!

Instructions to send and receive payments via Zelle - Big Bend FL Airstream Club

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2,200 banks have Zelle capabilities, so check your bank's mobile banking app. **The standalone Zelle mobile app no longer allows users to send and receive money transfers as of 4/4/2025.** So if your bank supports it, set up your Zelle account through your bank. When setting up your account, please include an email address in your contact information as club funds will only be transferred to members via an email address.

To transfer funds to Big Bend, use the following address: club153@airstreamclub.org

When sending funds, please indicate what the payment is for on the memo line. If you are sending payment for multiple items, please also note the amount for each item.

Please contact our Treasurer, Julie Ludlow at 352-213-3218, if you have any questions!



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