THE BIG BENDER

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2026 Officers

President
Amy Waymire

Vice President
Chad Jones

2nd Vice President
Vince Naman

Secretary
Monica Brinkley

Treasurer
Julie Ludlow

Trustees
Daniel Brock
Guy Neff
Don Baltz
Elwood McElhaney

Webmaster
Bryan Green

Newsletter
POSITION AVAILABLE

Membership
Gaye Baltz

Historian
Jason Friedrich

Presidents Message:



As my tenure as President of the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club comes to an end, I have found myself reflecting on this season of my life. It has truly been a privilege to serve this club. I hope I have honored those who came before me while helping guide our club toward the future. One of the things I have always appreciated about Big Bend is our ability to adapt and change to meet the needs of our members, while still holding on to the friendships and traditions that make our club so special.

Planning rallies is certainly a big part of what we do, but a successful rally takes more than a plan. It takes members who are willing to step up, share their ideas, and welcome others along the way. To all of our rally hosts this year, thank you! Your time, effort, and willingness to serve made our camping season possible. Each rally brought its own adventures, memories, and opportunities to spend time together, and I am grateful for all you did to make that happen.

Every year brings its own challenges, and this year was no exception. I have been fortunate to work alongside such a supportive Executive Board. Thank you for your guidance, your encouragement, your willingness to pitch in, and, most of all, your friendship. Serving as President has reminded me that while one person may hold the title, it truly takes a team to keep a club moving forward.

As I look toward the future of Big Bend Florida Airstream Club, I am excited about what lies ahead. New officers will bring fresh ideas and new energy, while the spirit of our club continues on. I encourage each of you to get involved, attend a rally, volunteer to host, welcome a new member, or simply lend a helping hand. It is those little things that make our club stronger and keep our friendships growing.

Thank you to each of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your President. I will always be grateful for the experiences, the laughter, the friendships, and the memories made along the way. It has been an honor to serve, and I look forward to continuing our adventures together as a fellow Big Bender.

Safe travels, happy camping, and I'll see you down the road!

Amy Waymire
President,
Big Bend Florida Airstream Club

RALLY RECAP

Airstreams and Angels

Pensacola RV Park — Cancelled Due to Hurricane Isaias

The best-laid plans sometimes fall victim to the weather, and that was certainly the case with our October rally in Pensacola.

Our hosts, Gary and Rose Marie Anderson and Vince and Dian Naman, had a wonderful weekend planned for us. I'm sorry it didn't work out this year, but hopefully we'll have another opportunity to visit Pensacola and enjoy all they had planned for us!

Our *Tracin' and Tastin'* caravan was also cancelled. A big thank-you to Chad and Dolores for all their hard work and planning. Hopefully, we'll be able to reschedule this adventure for another year!

While Hurricane Isaias left some folks without power and debris scattered across their yards, thankfully, none of our members experienced any substantial damage. Those who were outside the storm's path decided to make the most of their time and head out on their own adventures.



Daniel and Amber enjoyed a visit to **Nearest Green Distillery**, one of the planned stops on the caravan.



The Brinkley's traveled to **DeSoto State Park, Fall Creek Falls State Park, and R. Shaefer Heard Campground**, making the most of their time on the road.







The Ludlows and Namans met up at **Top of Georgia Airstream Park** and enjoyed a little *Grapes and Grains* together.

Mother Nature may have changed our plans, but she couldn't keep our Big Benders from finding a little fun down the road!

UP NEXT

Not So Forgotten Coast Installation Rally
Coastline RV Resort
Eastpoint, FL

Thursday

5:00 Happy Hour, optional bring an appetizer

6:00 Dinner on your own, or at local restaurants

Friday

8:00 Coffee

Daytime: free day to visit nearby Apalachicola

5:00 Installation/Business Meeting and Dinner (west clubhouse)

Saturday

8:00 Coffee

8:30 Breakfast, Naval Aviation presentation by Lane Watkins

Afternoon: football games on tvs or big screen if someone has a projector, bring your favorite tailgate foods and wear your team shirts if you'd like



Locals who aren't attending the rally are welcome to stop by on Saturday. We'd love to see you!

🎄 Save the Date! Big Bend Christmas Luncheon 🎄

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and it's time to make plans for our annual Big Bend Florida Airstream Club Christmas Luncheon!

Join us on December 12 at 12 noon Eastern Time at Southern Philosophy Brewing in Bainbridge, Georgia, for a little holiday cheer, good food, and wonderful fellowship with our Big Bender friends.

Come early and make a day of it! Take a leisurely stroll through historic Willis Park, enjoy the beautiful riverwalk, or browse the many locally owned shops for a little Christmas shopping. Bainbridge has plenty to offer, so come early, explore, and get into the holiday spirit!

So, mark your calendars, bring your Christmas cheer, and let's enjoy one more opportunity to gather together before the year comes to a close.

Please let Chad know you plan to attend by email at cjanddo@gmail.com or by text at 561-302-0652.

We look forward to celebrating the season with you!

🎄 *Merry Christmas, Big Benders!* 🎄

SAVE THE DATE:
"Shining In The Smokies" Region 3 Rally 2027 - to be held Wednesday, April 7 - Sunday, April 11, 2027.
Will be visiting the Great Smoky Mountains.

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026!

2027 Region 3 Rally

Shining In The Smokies

Wednesday, April 7 - Sunday, April 11, 2027

The Ridge Outdoor Resort

Sevierville, Tennessee

Key Dates

Monday, October 26, 2026 *(10:00 AM ET)* - Rally Registration goes live

Sunday, March 7, 2027 - Cancellation deadline for refund eligibility. Please be advised that refunds for rally registrations will not be available after March 7, 2027.

Wednesday, April 7 – Sunday, April 11, 2027 - Region 3 Rally: *Shining In The Smokies*

Rally Fees & Camping Accommodations

- **Rally Fee: $90 per person** *(payable via Jotform to Region 3)*
- **Camping Fees** *(payable directly to The Ridge Outdoor Resort)*:
  - **Standard Campsite:** $92 / night
  - **Glamping Tent:** $125 / night
  - **Tiny Home:** $175 – $225 / night
  - *Note: You can add up to 4 additional nights split before or after the rally at these same rates.*

Membership Renewal Season is here!

For many of our members, the 2027 Membership Renewal season begins now!

. Below are a few highlights to remember:

- Membership dues are $99 per year.
- The primary or partner member MUST be logged in to the member-only portal to renew online.
- Members with multiple Big Red Numbers (BRN) can renew their additional BRN in the member-only portal at the time of renewal.
- HQ is collecting Affiliate and Intra-Club dues.
- All Lifetime members must go through the renewal process.
- The deadline for the 2027 Published Membership Directory is January 31, 2027.
- Members can pay by credit card or ACH (bank transfer).
- • Credit card payments will be charged a 3% convenience fee but are processed immediately.
  • ACH payments may take 3–5 business days to process.

Follow this link to the
2027 Reminders/Guidelines for Renewals
for additional information.

If you have any questions, email Amber at
membership@airstreamclub.org
or call 937-596-5211.

2027 Rally Schedule

DATES	CAMPGROUND	WHERE	HOST	RESERVATIONS
December 12, 2026	Christmas Lunch Southern Philosophy	Bainbridge, GA		Reserve your spot by email (cjanddo@gmail.com) or text (561-302-0652)
February 11-14, 2027	Suwannee River Music Park	Live Oak, FL	Pfaff Ludlow	Now accepting reservations for Feb. 11-14. Call the park at 386-364-1683 and mention Big Bend Florida Airstream group.
March 19-21, 2027	Tallahassee Car Museum	Tallahassee, FL	Brinkley Montague	sites saved- instructions pending
April 7-11, 2027	Region 3	Sevierville, TN		
April 15-18, 2027	Lake Pines	Columbus, GA	Gardner	706-561-9675
April 18-27, 2027	Brews with Views		Stockstill	Caravan currently full. email stockcm1@gmail.com for wait list
May 13-16, 2027	TH Stone Memorial Sp	Port St. Joe, FL	Baltz	window open 6-13-2026 https://reserve.floridastateparks.org/
June 26-July 1, 2027	International Rally	Rock Springs, WY		details to follow
September 16-19, 2027	Crooked River SP	Kingsland, GA		window open 8-16-2026 GA state park
October 7-10, 2027	Topsail Hill Preserve SP	Santa Rosa Beach, FL	Brock	window open 11-7-2026
November 11-14, 2027	Reed Bingham SP	Adel, GA		OPEN NOW - GA state parks

Rally Hosts Needed

The heart and soul of our club is the local rally — and great rallies only happen because members like you step up to help make them happen.

We're currently looking for volunteers to host our 2027 rallies, and we'd love to have you involved. Never hosted a rally before? No problem at all. We can pair first-time hosts with experienced rally volunteers who will help guide you through the process.

If you're willing to help host a 2027 rally — or would like to learn more — please contact Chad at: cjanddo@gmail.com



Welcome New Members……

- Blanche Thomas (BRN 1603) Daytona Beach, FL
- Raymond Benoit (BRN 7861) Beverly Hills, FL

Affiliate member

- Steve Benefiel (BRN 9310) Lewisville, NC

Visit us on the Web https://airstreamclub.org/big-bend-florida

Like us on Facebook Big Bend Florida Airstream Club (Group)

Zelle club153@airstreamclub.org

