



THE BIG BENDER

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2026 Officers

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Jason Friedrich



Presidents Message:



Wow—summer has arrived! Our spring rallies are behind us, and now it's time for summer caravans and the International Rally. Time sure does fly when you're enjoying your Airstream and spending time with fellow Big Benders.

As you head out on your summer travels, be sure to keep everyone updated. Our Facebook group, Big Bend Florida Airstream Club, is a great place to share your adventures and photos along the way.

Our next official rally is scheduled for September, but it would be wonderful to have a casual summer meet-up. Would anyone be willing to coordinate? We could gather in Tallahassee, Panama City—or even both. Let me know if you'd like to take this on.

I hope everyone enjoys safe and happy travels this summer.

I'll see you at Lake Martin!

Amy Waymire

President,
Big Bend Florida Airstream Club

Rally Recap

Off to the Races

May 1-3, 2026

Eastbank is a Corp of Engineers campground located on the shore of Lake Seminole in Georgia just north of Chattahoochee, Florida. The lake is formed by the Jim Woodruff Dam and is fed by the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers and forms the Apalachicola River. It sets on the Eastern/Central Time Zone line which caused some confusion as to what the correct time was because our cell phones kept switching time.

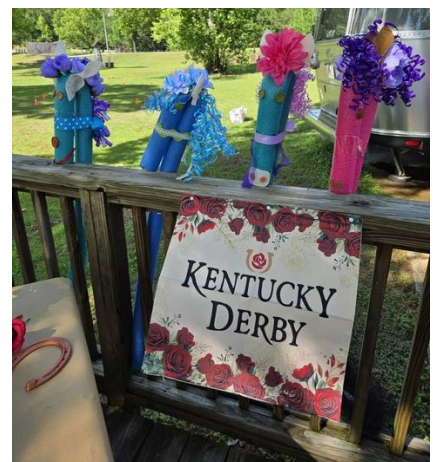
On Thursday, early arrivers were given a wonderful tour of the Jim Woodruff Dam. We learned a lot of dam history and were given a walking tour of the entire facility including a climb down flights of stairs to the bottom of the turbine which sits about 40 feet below the surface of the lake. Fortunately, it was an elevator ride back to the top. After the dam tour, we met for happy hour and played Airstream trivia.

On Friday the weather forecast called for significant rain chances so we moved our group breakfast up to Friday. The breakfast included egg casseroles and fresh fruit hosted by Jason Friedrich and David and Julie Ludlow. After breakfast the ladies got together and decorated their derby hats and made race horses out of swim noodles for the following day's Kentucky Derby. The folks at the Jim Woodruff Dam also offered a second dam tour for those who arrived after the first one. The evening meal was burgers and lots of wonderful side dishes hosted by the Waymires and the Naman's.

Turns out the weather forecast was right and it rained all night long and the campground lost electricity for about an hour.

Saturday was Derby Day. The skies cleared and the clouds parted right on schedule. Games were scheduled to begin at 3:00, but everyone was so happy about the improved weather that many started imbibing and celebrating early. Amy Waymire and Monica Brinkley did fantastic planning for Derby themed games. Lots of fun for all. Watching the Solo cup stacking race was hilarious due to wind conditions blowing the cup away faster than they could be stacked. We then donned our Derby attire including the derby hats and bow ties. We enjoyed traditional derby food (a special thanks to Don & Julia Wilmoth who sent Bourbon balls since they couldn't attend) and mint juleps, placed our wagers, and watched the race. In an unexpected twist, Golden Tempo surged from last place to win the Derby. With no winning bets placed, we're pleased to donate \$65 (\$40 in bets and \$25 in mint julep tips) to St. Joseph's Episcopal Church Food Pantry in Bainbridge. After the race Sammy and Chris Stockstill previewed the club caravan for 2027 (Brews with Views) scheduled for next April.

Submitted by: Chad Jones



Up Next...

September 10-13, 2026	Windcreek State Park	Alexander City, AL	Lake Life	Window is open www.alapark.com
October 9-11, 2026	Pensacola RV Park	Pensacola, FL	Angels & Airstreams	Window is open 1-850-944-1734
November 13-15, 2026	Coastline RV Resort	Eastpoint, FL	Not So Forgotten Coast Rally	Window is open 1-850-799-1016

Before heading out on your summer travels, be sure to secure your plans for our fall rallies!

Wind Creek State Park – We'll be camping in sites 133–150. With over 600 campsites, there's still plenty of room to join us. Currently, the JotForm shows only four trailers registered, but we know more of you have reservations—please take a moment to complete the form so your hosts can plan accordingly. Lake Martin is beautiful, and a boat ride is planned—you won't want to miss it!

Register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/lake-life>

Pensacola RV Park – This private park has plenty of available sites. When making your reservation, be sure to mention the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club. Pensacola is home to the Naval Air Museum, the Blue Angels, and a rich slice of Florida history. So far, only six trailers are registered on the JotForm, but we know more of you are planning to attend. This rally kicks off our fall caravan—don't miss it!

Register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/airstreams-and-angels>

Coastline RV Resort – West – Our installation rally is always a highlight, offering a chance to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the next. Located near historic Apalachicola, perfect for shopping, seafood, and especially oysters. Coastline RV is a wonderful private park. The Waymires are in site 53, so plan accordingly, and remember to mention the club when reserving. Also, Coastline has cabins, so if you would like to attend and can't bring your trailer check into the cabins that are available. At the moment, only three trailers are registered on the JotForm.

Register here: <https://airstreamclub.org/not-so-forgotten-coast-rally>

I look forward to seeing everyone at our fall rallies. Please be sure to complete the JotForm for each event you plan to attend—it really helps your hosts prepare!

BIG BEND FLORIDA AIRSTREAM CLUB

Statement of Income

08 Feb- 07 May 26

Beginning Balance		4740.76	
<u>Income</u>			
Chapter Dues		170.00	
Rally Fees		660.00	
Member badges			
Donation Food Pantry		65.00	
Total Income		895.00	\$5,635.76
<u>Expense</u>			
Rally	Feb, April & May	862.08	
Other			
Total expense		862.08	\$862.08
Net Income (Loss)			\$4,773.68
outstanding costs			
check #1186		65.00	donation to Food Pantry
#1189		119.06	april rally costs
#1191		43.63	May rally costs
#1190		41.29	BB rally sign
WBCCI Fdn		102.53	memorial donation
TOTAL AMOUNT		371.51	
Adjusted Net income(Loss)			\$4,402.17

2027 Rally Schedule

DATES	CAMPGROUND	WHERE	HOST	RESERVATIONS
February 11-14, 2027	Suwannee River Music Park	Live Oak, FL		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	Brinkleys	sites saved- instructions pending
April 7-11, 2027	Region 3	Sevierville, TN		
April 15-18, 2027	Lake Pines	Columbus, GA		706-561-9675
April 18-27, 2027	Brews with Views		Stockstills	details to follow
May 13-16, 2027	TH Stone Memorial Sp	Port St. Joe, FL		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		window open 11-7-2026
November 11-14, 2027	Reed Bingham SP	Adel, GA		window open 10-11-2026 GA state park

*****2027 Schedule Notes*****

Suwannee River Music Park is now accepting reservations for Feb. 11-14. Please call the park at 386-364-1683 and mention you are with the Big Bend Florida Airstream group.

Reservations for TH Stone Memorial State Park will open this June 13, for Florida residents. The rally dates are May 13-16. This park fills up fast! <https://reserve.floridastateparks.org/>

Brews with Views (GA & NC)
Big Bend Florida Airstream Club Caravan
April 18–27, 2027

Join us for our **Brews with Views Caravan!** We begin at **Lake Pines RV Park, Columbus, GA** at the end of our April Club Rally. Highlights and tentative dates:

Stop #1: Athens, GA (Apr 18–20, 2 nights, ~170 mi from Midland, GA)

- **Terrapin Brewery:** Outdoor area, food trucks (Sun 12–9, closed Mon)
- Other breweries open Mon: Athentic, Tucker, Normaltown, South Main
- **State Botanical Garden of Georgia:** Free admission, open daily 7–7

Stop #2: Blue Ridge, GA (Apr 20–23, 3 nights, ~127 mi from Athens)

- Downtown breweries: Grumpy Old Men, Black Bear Bier Garten (open daily from noon)
- Nearby Copperhill, TN breweries: Copperhill, Buck Bald (accessible by car or Blue Ridge Scenic Railroad)
- **Blue Ridge Scenic Railroad:** Thu, round trip to McCaysville, GA & Copperhill, TN
- Wineries: Living Waters, Kerith House
- **Mercier Orchards:** Produce, baked goods, gifts
- **Swan Drive-In:** Thu–Sun, double features, snack bar opens ~6:00 pm

Stop #3: Asheville, NC (Apr 23–27, 4 nights, ~140 mi from Blue Ridge)

- Breweries: Sierra Nevada (restaurant), New Belgium (food trucks), plus downtown breweries: Green Man, Burial Beer, Wicked Weed Funkatorium, Asheville Brewing
- **Biltmore:** Mansion & grounds, restaurants on-site
- **Farmers Market:** Open daily, nearby
- **Hop-On, Hop-Off Trolley:** \$38 pp, 90-min narrated tour, discount cards available

End of Caravan: Asheville; optional additional nights to ease travel home.

Registration: Contact **Chris & Sammy Stockstill** by **May 11**. Limited to 10 trailers. No kitty fee; meals are potluck, restaurant, or on your own.

Contact Info:

stockcm1@gmail.com | (850) 819-2472 / (850) 819-0746

We have reached the maximum number of trailers for our April 2027 Brews with Views Caravan. If you would like your name to be added to a waitlist, please contact Chris at stockcm1@gmail.com and let her know.

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



"Remember that although they may speak a different language, they are still the same kind of people as the folks you know at home, have the same mental processes, are just as kindly and just as friendly. Remember that, quit talking and start over again - in pantomime." ~ Wally Byam

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



[Bend Florida Airstream Club \(Group\)](#)

Zelle

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