



# *The Alamo Bugle*

Texas Alamo Unit



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BEN YOUNG - PRESIDENT

MARCH 2026  
RICK SANTOS - EDITOR



## *Presidential Ponderings...*

The Texas Alamo Unit headed to Colorado Landing RV Park in La Grange for our February 27–March 1 rally—and it was great to be back after a ten-year break. Proof that some places really are worth revisiting.

We had a terrific turnout and were especially happy to welcome Tom and Lee Ann Davis to their very first rally. We hope it's the first of many! Geno and Betty Dunn also stopped by on Saturday to join in the fun.

Our members who joined in the fun were Jimmy and Amy Allison; Dana and Sandy Braatz; Craig and Laurie Darilek; Samuel and AnnMarie Esparza; Mike Riojas and Virgie Reyes; Rick and Susan Santos; George and Joi Taylor; David and Cathy Willis; and Ben and Roseann Young.

A fan favorite made its triumphant return: **Bean Bag Baseball**. Teams were randomly assigned (no couples, no excuses) and named **ZZ Top** and **Big Foot**. After some friendly trash talk and serious tossing skills, ZZ Top took home bragging rights.

The food was outstanding by our two host couples. A huge thanks to Roseann, Rick, and Susan. I also contributed by cutting strawberries, which remains my safest and most reliable kitchen assignment.

We were grateful for warmer weather this time around, especially after January's freeze forced us to cancel that rally.

One of the weekend highlights was a guided tour of three of the beautiful **Painted Churches** near Schulenburg. Plain on the outside, breathtaking on the inside, these churches reflect the faith, culture, and craftsmanship of early German and Czech settlers. Favorites included the **"Queen of the Painted Churches,"** Nativity of Mary, Blessed Virgin Catholic Church, along with St. Mary's of the Assumption and Saints Cyril and Methodius.

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Editor's Note

All in all, it was a fantastic weekend full of good food, great company, Texas history, and plenty of laughs — just another reminder of why being part of the Texas Alamo Unit is so special.

Please come out for our upcoming Rallies. You can register here: [TAU Rally Schedule](#)

Stay Sunnyside Up!

-- Bon



## *Glamping Airstream-style*



## *Trying to find the rare 6-planet alignment*



## *Mike Riojas & Virgie Reyes with Bigfoot & Little Bigfoot*



*Roseann Young in action*



*Getting ready for some chow*



*AnnMarie Esparza, Rick Santos & Susan Santos*



*Tai Taylor at the plate*



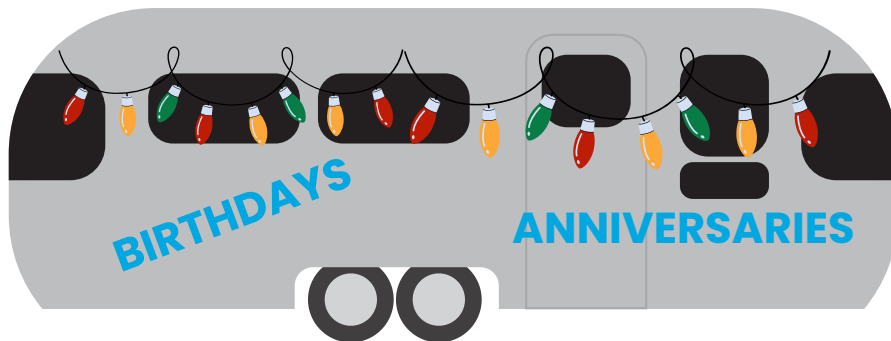
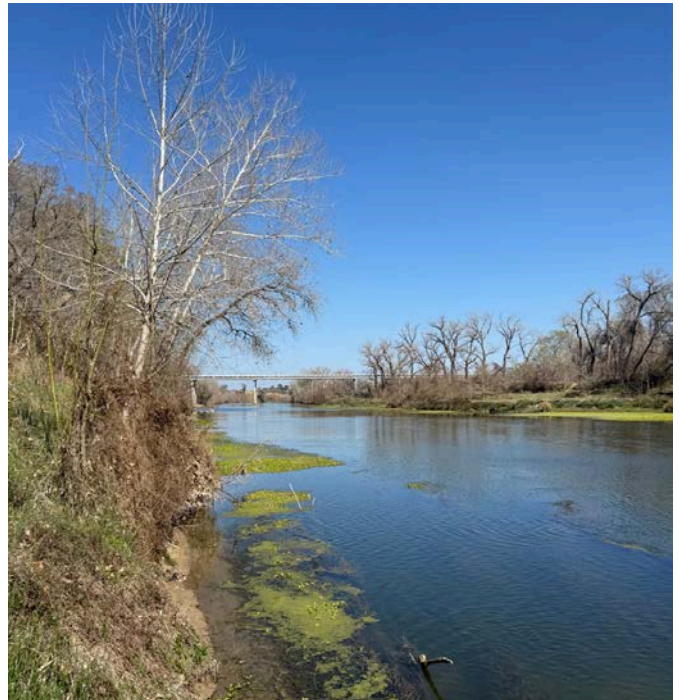
*Cathy Willis is focused*



*Saturday morning*



*The mighty Colorado River*





## MARCH

**Birthdays:**

- 2 Jimmy Cook
- 9 Stephanie McConnell
- 12 Barbara Brennecke
- 13 Kevin Adams

**Anniversaries:**

None

**Next Monthly Gathering!**

*Chris Madrids*  
**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO**  
**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

March 14th  
 @ 5:30 PM



# 2026 Rally Schedule



## January 23-25

Longhorn RV Resort  
23932 Camino Real  
Niederwald, TX 78640  
512-398-3677

[www.longhornrvresort.com](http://www.longhornrvresort.com)

## April 17-19

Skyline Ranch RV Ranch  
2231 State Hwy 16 N  
Bandera, TX 78003  
830-796-4958

[www.skylineranchrvpark.com](http://www.skylineranchrvpark.com)

## February 27-March 1

Colorado Landing RV Park  
64 E Bluff View  
La Grange, TX 78945  
979-968-9465

[www.coloradolanding.com](http://www.coloradolanding.com)

## May 29-31

Longhorn RV Resort  
23932 Camino Real  
Niederwald, TX 78640  
512-398-3677

[www.longhornrvresort.com](http://www.longhornrvresort.com)

**BUDDY**  
*Rally*

## March 25-29

Region 9 Rally  
Camp Margaritaville RV Resort  
796 TX-87  
Crystal Beach, TX 77650

**Wait List**

## September 25-27

Sunset Point RV Resort  
2322 N Wirtz Dam Rd  
Marble Falls, TX 78654  
830-798-8199

[www.sunsetpointlbj.com](http://www.sunsetpointlbj.com)

## Weekend Rally Schedule

### Thursday Early Arrivals:

4:00 PM Social Hour  
6:00 PM Potluck Dinner

### Friday:

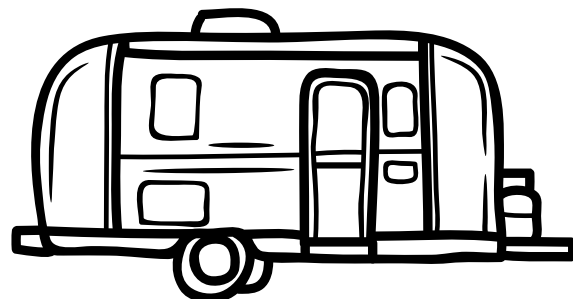
5:00 PM Social Hour  
5:30 PM Opening Ceremonies  
6:00 PM Dinner

### Saturday:

8:30 AM Breakfast  
4:30 PM Pay Rally Fees  
5:00 PM Social Hour  
6:00 PM Dinner  
7:30 PM Games

### Sunday:

8:30 AM Breakfast  
9:00 AM Devotional



**Texas Alamo Unit - Region 9 Auction Basket**  
**Theme for 2026**  
**Is**  
**TIN CAN SUNTAN**

*The 2026 Region 9 Rally will be held at Camp Margaritaville Resort in Crystal Beach, Texas. In other words, we're going to the beach, so come join the fun! Start collecting items for the basket now while summer things are on sale. Think bright beach colors, warm breezes, tropical flowers and drinks, beach or pool toys. We will begin collecting items at all of the upcoming TAU rallies.*

**Possible Donation Item Ideas**

*Sun hats, a beach bag, lotions, towel chair clips, beach towels, hand-held fan, tropical plates, napkins, glasses, margarita mix, pina colada mix, rum, tequila, flamingos (of course), beach snacks, mixed nuts, etc...*

**April 17-19, 2026**  
**Skyline Ranch RV Park**  
**2231 State Hwy 16 N**  
**Bandera, TX 78003**

**SIGN UP NOW FOR  
THE NEXT TAU RALLY**

**1) Call the RV park**  
**(830) 796-4958**  
**[www.skylineranchrvpark.com](http://www.skylineranchrvpark.com)**

**2) Sign up at TAU Website**



- Stitchin' & Fishin

When: April 16–21, 2026

Where: NTAC-Hillsboro

Registration: Waitlist only – <https://airstreamclub.org/region-9-stitching-and-fishin> A relaxing mix of crafting, fishing, and good company—perfect for spring!

- Don't forget the upcoming 69th International Rally in Minot, ND (August 22–27, 2026)—registration is open: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2026/registration>.

We're also still seeking enthusiastic members to step up as candidates for the **\*\*2nd Vice President\*\*** role (2027–2028 term). If you're interested in helping guide Region 9 forward, please contact Nancy Fitzgerald at [nefitzge6@gmail.com](mailto:nefitzge6@gmail.com).

Happy Camping & Safe Travels—let's make this spring one for the books!

Tracy Elkins - BRN 9713

Region 9, President

281-725-1672

[Region09@airstreamclub.org](mailto:Region09@airstreamclub.org)



**From Jason Grendahl, host of the National Event Rally:**

**An exclusive river cruise in France this July for ACI members. Enjoy a 7-day journey with group tours before and after the cruise, all arranged by a fellow ACI member and travel agent.**



### **What you can expect:**

- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Cruises.
- An Airstream exclusive river cruise sailing from Lyon to Avignon through the Rhone Valley and Provence region of France.
- Inclusions: Gourmet meals, unlimited premium drinks, choice of shore excursions, all gratuities, and all panoramic balcony-window suites with butler service.
- Great pre-cruise group options include additional 3 nights on Ravel, tours to Normandy or Champagne region. Post cruise is an optional group trip to Paris.

**July 15-22, 2026**

### **More Info:**

**JASONGRENDAHL@GMAIL.COM**



**<https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>**

## **Two Apps I Use to Plan Trips**

### **Campendium**

This is a comprehensive crowd-sourced camping app and website—recently acquired by [Roadtrippers](#)—designed for RVers, tent campers, and road-trippers to find and review campsites. It features detailed user reviews, photos, cell service reports, and, notably, a large database of free and public land (BLM, Forest Service) locations.

#### Key Features and Description:

Location Database: Covers public lands, national forests, and RV-friendly spots.

User Reviews: Provides detailed, firsthand, and verified information regarding site quality, costs, and amenities.

Platform: Accessible via a web platform and a dedicated mobile app for iOS and Android.

Service Reports: Often includes details on cell phone signal strength.

Premium Access: While free to browse, it is now bundled with the \$59.99/year [Roadtrippers Premium](#) subscription.

### **Harvest Hosts**

This is an annual membership program providing RVers with over 9,000 unique, free overnight camping options at wineries, breweries, farms, museums, and golf courses across North America. Members must have a self-contained RV (no tents) and are expected to support the small business hosts by making a purchase.

#### Key Details of Harvest Hosts:

Cost: Annual membership fees vary by tier, starting around \$80-\$100 for basic access and up to \$179 for additional options like golf courses, Boondockers Welcome, and **Airstream Courtesy Parking**.

Requirements: Vehicles must be fully self-contained, meaning they have a built-in toilet and water tank, as hookups are usually not provided.

The "Rule": Members are expected to purchase a product (e.g., wine, farm produce, beer) from the host as a thank-you for the free spot.

Stay Duration: Typically one night, though some hosts may allow longer stays.

Network Size: The program includes over 5,000 to 9,000+ locations, depending on the membership level.

#### Benefits:

Unique Experiences: Offers a break from traditional, crowded campgrounds with unique locations like vineyards, museums, or farms.

Safety & Convenience: Provides a safe alternative to parking lots, often with 40% of locations located within 5 miles of major interstates.

Cost-Effective: While there is a membership fee, the lack of nightly camping fees makes it economical for travelers.