

THE BIG BENDER

**BIG BEND FLORIDA
AIRSTREAM CLUB**

UNIT 153 REGION 3



**VOLUME 43
NUMBER 9
SEPTEMBER 2017**

bigbendfl.wbcci.net

OFFICERS 2016 - 2017

President

Jim Weilhammer

1st Vice President

Tom Beyer

2nd Vice President

Craig Brinkley

Secretary

Katherine Kamiya

Treasurer

Martina Pelley

Trustees

Gary Anderson

John Duncan

Linda Coleman

Jim Lewis

Membership

Mary & Chip Adams

Directory/Webpage

RoseMarie Anderson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



NEW BEGINNINGS

By Jim Weilhammer

Labor Day is the unofficial end of summer and marks the beginning of our fall camping season. At their recent meeting in Escanaba, MI, the International Board of Trustees (IBT) approved our request to change our name, to formally approve our logo and to approve a new flag with the new logo and name. We are now the Big Bend Florida Airstream Club. This change aligns us with the International Club name change. Making Airstream prominent in our name we hope will be an aid in recruiting new members. Speaking of new members, it is my pleasure to welcome our newest members Jan and Scott Phaff from Alachua, FL.

Later in this issue, you will find the schedule for the upcoming rally at Ft. Pickens State Park, September 15-17, 2017. This will be a no host, no fee rally with lots of time to take advantage of the many things to do in the area. Consider coming early or staying late as several members have told me they plan to do. The October Rally will be at Cotton Hill Campground, October 13-15, 2017, and feature famous campfire cooking by the Hurst's and Worthington's. Plan to spend time in the campground watching the masters at work. An article on selecting cast iron cookware and recipes will be provided along with the delicious food.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Our Sincere Thanks	2
International Rally Spotlight.....	3
Rally Recipe.....	6
Ft. Pickens Rally Schedule.....	8
2017-2018 Rally Schedule.....	10
Member News	13
Looking for Stories.....	13

Remembering Mac McCauslin...11





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued . . .

November will be our Installation Rally at Georgia Veterans State Park, November 10-12, 2017. To celebrate Veterans Day, we will host a Charity Big Bend Florida Marketplace, a combination flea market and craft fair. We are asking members to donate some goods for sale with all proceeds going to ***K9 for Warriors***, a Florida-based not-for-profit providing service dogs for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and other trauma from military service. If you are a baker, seamstress, crafter, jelly marker, wood carver or jewelry designer, please consider selling your creations at this event. If you are not so artistically inclined, share excess Airstream parts, used books or other flea market items to help raise funds for this worthy veterans' project. As you start your fall cleaning, start a box for the Charity Big Bend Florida Marketplace. Think of it as chance to get rid of some things and to do a good deed at the same time. More to come on this event in future issues of the newsletter.

The Preliminary 2017-2018 Event and Rally Schedule, developed by Tom Beyer, is also in this issue. We will vote on the schedule in October so please take time to ask any questions you might have of Tom before the vote. Also in October, we will vote on the slate of officers for the upcoming year. Tom Beyer and Craig Brinkley are serving as the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving as an officer or on a committee, please contact either of them as soon as possible.

OUR SINCERE THANKS

We want to thank all those Big Bender who sent us cards and emails upon the passing of our beloved son. We deeply appreciated your thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time for us. It was devastating to lose our son but your messages of hope and love meant so much to us. We have a truly remarkable group of friends within our club and you all mean so much to us. It seems inadequate to say thank you but please know how much your messages mean to us.

Love all of you,

Jim and Pat Hentz



60th INTERNATIONAL RALLY SPOTLIGHT

By Martina Pelley

My journey to Escanaba began with me meeting Gary and RoseMarie Anderson at Whitetail Ridge Park, a beautiful Corp of Engineers park in LaGrange, Georgia. It continued for the next 11 days until we arrived at Escanaba on July 16th. The well-known advice to, “smell the roses” certainly fits our trip. We traveled through mountains (some might call them hills), congested cities (Chattanooga, for one) horse country, cherry orchards, and beautiful, gorgeous American countryside. We even toured Jackson Center, the factory not the town. I will not dwell on the rain overly much, but we encountered our fair share of that, too; however, when it mattered the most, we had gorgeous, sun-filled days which for me provided the backdrop to a wondrous trip.

The most wondrous was my first acquaintance with Lake Michigan. It was very close to spiritual; definitely, it was Awesome in that word's truest sense. I was nearly over-powered by its color, bigness, and most of all, its clarity. After hearing about Flint's water pollution, Chicago's woes, and the like, I was totally unprepared for Lake Michigan's majesty. Yes, I know I am using lots of hyperbole here. However, that was my undiluted reaction and I am still wowed in memory by it today. I saw lots and lots of the Great Lakes before I made it home. I remain a fan of them all. They were like the Ocean and Gulf all rolled into one without the salt!



RoseMarie and Gary Anderson and Martina Pelley at Sleeping Bear Dune Park

RoseMarie was on a quest to eat the best cherry pie Michigan had to offer. That involved a side trips to Traverse City and many samplings. The pies got better and better as we went along. I have heard that the pie tasting went on after the International Rally was over and we all parted company. But, you will have to ask RoseMarie and Gary about that.



60th INTERNATIONAL RALLY SPOTLIGHT contin ued . . .

We arrived at the Rally on Saturday, dry camped that night and were parked the next day. Arriving as I did on the Anderson's coat tails, I was parked with the Caravan leader grouping - my lucky day. The leaders were great neighbors and I learned some of the, "ins and outs" of caravan planning and how dedicated these folks are to making a caravan great. Even though common sense dictates that it does involve lots of thought, investigation, and planning, listening to these folks talk among themselves showed me just how much. Aren't the rest of us lucky that there are people in our club who are willing to do this for us? Amazingly, they even want to do it!

In addition to the rally, one of the highlights for me was the gorgeous flowers growing profusely in Escanaba, actually they were everywhere in the Upper Peninsula. One of the side opportunities scheduled at the rally was a visit to a Master Gardener's home and gardens. It was truly spectacular. I know, more hyperbole, but that's the way it was. See me at one of our rallies, and I'll show you pictures.



Gary Anderson at the Opening Flag Ceremony

At the rally, I volunteered for the Information and Lost and Found Booth. I helped staff it throughout the rally. It was a good choice. Not only was I part of a needed service, I also met many more people than I would have otherwise. While walking about the grounds, seminars, and evening programs I was able to share more than a smile of greeting, or "hi" because of my work in the booth. It enhanced my feeling of "belonging" to the Club.

In addition to the usual seminars for officer and caravan training, seminars for rig maintenance and accessories, and corporate presentations, there were more personal offerings such as quilting, bicycle excursions, games, and my favorite: line dancing. Airstream's Justin Humphreys held separate meetings for Men and Women in which he asked for individual feedback.



60th INTERNATIONAL RALLY SPOTLIGHT contin ued . . .

We found time to spend with fellow Big Benders doing what else but eating!



Sherry and Jack White

Our night time entertainment included a lumberjack demonstration; comedy hypnotist, Doug MacCraw, a harmonizing group; Airstream Betty; and master storyteller, Antsy McClain. We also had an evening of dancing complete with D.J.



Antsy McClain and the Trailer Park Troubadours

The rally ended July 29th and the next day I joined the “Ores, Shores, Waters, and Lights-East” Caravan for an additional 15 days of exploring the Michigan Upper Peninsula and socializing with fellow Club members from all over the US. I returned home ten days later after visiting friends and viewing the amazing solar eclipse. All in all I enjoyed a spectacular summer (I know, more hyperbole), but thanks to WBCCI, and some terrific people, that’s the kind of trip I had to Escanaba and back, hyperbolically speaking!



RALLY RECIPE: Upper Michigan Pasties

Pasties have a long tradition in mining communities in Europe and the United States due to their convenient easy-to-handle shape and substantial filling which satisfies hearty appetites. The Upper Peninsula of Michigan has embraced this tradition, and made it a Yooper specialty. Lehto's Pasties just east of St. Ignace is famous for their beef, chicken and vegetable pasties which can be ordered online at www.lehtospasties.com. They are not sharing their recipes but the one below has all the ingredients of a classic beef pasty.

Ingredients for Pasty:

½ pound shortening or lard (or combination)
1 cup boiling water
4 cups of all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons of salt

Ingredients for Filling:

8 potatoes, peeled and cubed
1 large rutabaga, peeled and cubed
1 pound ground sirloin
3 sweet onion, peeled and chopped
2 teaspoons of salt
½ teaspoons of black pepper
Butter





RALLY RECIPE: Upper Michigan Pasties continued . . .

Directions:

1. Pour boiling water over shortening and/or lard and stir until shortening is dissolved.
2. Add salt to flour and stir into dissolved shortening. Mix together until it forms a ball.
3. Wrap dough in plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.
4. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
5. Combine all filling ingredients in a large bowl.
6. Divide the dough into 8 equal portions.
7. Roll each dough ball on a floured surface into a circle about 1/8 inch thick. Brush edges of rounds with water.
8. Spoon 1/8 of the filling onto lower half of each round, then fold upper half over. Press edges together and crimp with a fork or fold edges over to make a tight seal.
9. Place pasties on a baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes, then reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 45-60 minutes until nicely browned. Brush tops with melted butter if desired.

Pasties can be served hot, warm or cold.

Serves 8 people.



FORT PICKENS STATE PARK RALLY SCHEDULE: Gulf Breeze, FL

Join us for the September Rally at Fort Pickens State Park. This is a no host rally with no rally fee. There is more to see and do than you can accomplish in one weekend. Consider coming early or staying late. Please welcome our newest members, Jan and Scott Pfaff and invite them to join you for local touring. There is a wide variety of local attractions including, hiking, boating, beaches, museums, historic villages and the world-famous Blue Angels. Visit www.visitpensacola.com for a complete listing of special events and local attractions. A few highlights are described below.

National Naval Aviation Museum, 17500 Radford Boulevard, Pensacola Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL, (850) 452-3604. The museum is the world's largest Naval Aviation Museum with over 150 restored aircraft and over 4,000 artifacts in 350,000 square feet of exhibition space. The museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and admission is free. Please note that visitors without a Department of Defense identification card must enter/exit at the West Gate (Blue Angels Parkway) and present valid forms of identification.

Pensacola Art Museum, 407 South Jefferson Street, Pensacola, FL 32302, (850) 432-6247. Special exhibits during September include Prints of Francisco Goya and Federico Castelo and American Impressionist Women. The museum is open Tuesday – Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. The admission fee is \$7.00 for adults.

Blue Angels Practices, Museum Flight Line north of the National Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola, FL. The world-famous Blue Angels are the United States Navy's flight demonstration squadron, with aviators from the Navy and Marines. The Blue Angels team was formed in 1946, making it the second oldest formal flying aerobatic team in the world, after the French Patrouille de France formed in 1931. Practice sessions for September are scheduled for the 13th and the 19th beginning at 11:30 a.m. and lasting about 55 minutes. Open bleacher seating is available for 1,000 people and admission is free. Sun and hearing protection are recommended. ID check is required for all visitors to access the museum flight line to view the Blue Angels practice. Practice sessions are subject to weather and maintenance cancellations.

Historic Pensacola Village, 120 Church Street, Pensacola, FL 32502, (850) 595-5985. Collection of 28 historic buildings and museums with living history demonstrations by costumed docents. Self-guided tours of the property and four museums. Guided tours at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Open Tuesday – Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for seniors.



FORT PICKENS STATE PARK RALLY SCHEDULE: Gulf Breeze, FL continued . . .

Jacksonian Guard Colors Ceremony, Plaza Ferdinand (Downtown on North Palafox and East Cervantes Street at the flagpole), (850) 466-5220. The Jacksonian Guard is a Pensacola re-enactment group of Jacksonian era and Spanish soldiers, fifer and drummers who perform a colors ceremony every third Saturday (September 16th) at noon to celebrate Pensacola's 195th birthday and Florida becoming a US territory. The ceremony is open to the public and free.

Palafox Market (Downtown at Martin Luther King Plaza on North Palafox between West Gregory Street and West Chase Streets), (850) 434-5371. Free open-air Saturday market operating from 9:00 a.m. – 200 p.m. featuring fresh produce, baked good, fine art, and antiques.

Thursday, September 14, 2017

6:00 p.m. Early bird arrivers can dine, at their option, at a local restaurant.

Friday, September 15, 2017

5:00 p.m. Social Hour in the campground. Please bring a light snack to share and your beverage of choice.

6:00 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner in the campground. Please your chairs and set-ups and a dish to share.

Saturday, September 16, 2017

9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast of yogurt, fruit and breakfast breads in the campground.

Local touring and lunch on your own.

4:45 p.m. Depart campground for rally dinner at Flounder's Chowder House, 800 Quietwater Beach Road, Gulf Breeze, FL 32361, approximately 10 minutes travel time. The menu features seafood and also includes, chicken, pasta dishes, steaks and burgers.

Sunday September 17, 2017

9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast of fresh fruit salad in the campground.

Late stayers can do local touring and dining on their own.

NOTE: All times are listed in Central Time.



BIG BEND FLORIDA AIRSTREAM CLUB

UNIT 153 REGION 3

2017-2018 EVENT/RALLY SCHEDULE

Preliminary Schedule 09/01/17

If you have any questions or are interested in signing up to be a rally host, please contact Tom Beyer at bucklake@hotmail.com or (850) 509-7231.

To take advantage of off-season rates, please note two rallies have switched locations from the initial draft of the 2017-2018 Preliminary Event/Rally Schedule distributed at F.D. Roosevelt State Park.

NOTE: All rallies are scheduled for Friday-Sunday. Participants can opt to arrive early or stay late.

DATE/HOST	PLACE	DIRECTIONS/NOTES
Sat. December 9, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.	<i>Christmas Luncheon</i> The Seinyard at Wildwood 3870 Coastal Highway Crawfordville, FL 32326 850-926-9191 http://theseineyardatwildwood.com/	
Fri. January 19- Sun. January 21, 2018	<i>Holiday and New Year Celebration</i> Seminole State Park 7870 State Park Drive Donaldsonville, GA 39845 Reservations: 800-864-7275 State Park: 229-861-3137 http://gastateparks.org/Seminole	Rate: \$30.00/night. Located 16 miles south of Donaldsonville via Georgia Highway 39 or 23 miles west of Bainbridge on Georgia Highway 253/Spring Creek Road. From Tallahassee (approximately 1 hour, 10 minutes) take Highway 27 north into Bainbridge then Highway 253/Spring Creek Road west.



DATE/HOST	PLACE	DIRECTIONS/NOTES
Fri. February 16- Sun. February 18, 2018	<i>Valentine's Day Celebration</i> Eagles Roost RV Resort 5465 Mill Store Road Lake Park, GA 31636 Resort: 229-559-5192 https://www.eaglesroostresort.com/	Rate: \$33.00/night. Advise "Big Bend Airstream" when making reservations for 10% group rate. From junction I-75 (exit 5) and Highway 376, go 500 feet east on Highway 376, then ½ mile south on Mill Store Road.
Fri. March 16- Sun. March 18, 2018	<i>Daylight Savings Time Celebration</i> T. H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park 8899 Cape San Blas Road Port St. Joe, FL 32456 Park: 850-227-1327 https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/St-Joseph	Rate: \$24.00/night; Florida residents are half price. Reservations made through https://www.reserveamerica.com up to six months in advance. Reservations fill up so don't wait too long. There is a pavilion close to sites 80 through 95. Stores and restaurant right outside the entrance, and that special sidewalk Donut Shop.
Fri. April 20 – Sun. April 22, 2018	<i>Spring Celebration</i> Salt Springs Recreation Area 13851 Highway 19 N Ft. McCoy, FL 32134 Information: 352-685-2048 Reservations: 877-444-6777 https://www.recreation.gov/camping/salt-springs-recreation-area/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=73853	Senior Rate: \$19.00/night. Reservations can be made through https://www.recreation.gov up to 6 months in advance. Sites 4-22 are around a bath house and are grouped together at the far end and are convenient. There is not a covered pavilion but the sites are concrete and large. We will need a couple of canopy covers for inclement weather. (Beyer's have one.)
Tues. April 24 – Sun. April 24, 2018	<i>Region 3 Rally</i> Myrtle Beach, SC	Please consider volunteering to represent the unit at this rally.



DATE/HOST	PLACE	DIRECTIONS/NOTES
Fri. May 18 – Sun. May 20, 2018	<i>Summer Celebration</i> Gunter Hill Campground 561 Booth Road Montgomery, AL 36108 Campground: 334-269-1053 https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/gunter-hill/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=71187	Rate: \$18.00/night. Reservations can be made through https://www.reserveamerica.com up to 6 months in advance. There are many things to do around Montgomery, more details at a later date.
Sun. June 17 – Sat. June 30, 2018	<i>61st WBCCI International Rally</i> Oregon State Fairgrounds Salem, OR http://wbcci.org/international-rally/caravans/rallies/international-rally/2018-salem-or/2018-salem-or	Please consider volunteering to represent the unit at this rally.
Fri. September 14- Sun. September 16, 2018	<i>End of Summer Celebration</i> Live Oak Landing 229 Pitts Avenue Freeport, FL 32439 Landing: 877-436-5063 http://rvcoutdoors.com/live-oak-landing/	Rate: Off Season rate: \$45-47/night. -10% off - 5 to 9 units -15% off - 10 to 20 units Advise "Big Bend Airstream" when making reservations.
Fri. October 19- Sun. October 21, 2018	<i>Columbus Day Celebration</i> Hardridge Creek Campground 592 U.S. Government Road Abbeville, AL 36310 Campground: 334-585-5945 https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/hardridge-creek/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=71190	Rate: \$24.00/night. Reservations can be made through https://www.reserveamerica.com up to 6 months in advance.



DATE/HOST	PLACE	DIRECTIONS/NOTES
Fri. November 16- Sun. November 18, 2018	<i>Installation Rally</i> Sugar Mill RV Park 4857 McMillan Road Ochlocknee, GA Reservations: 229-227-1451 http://www.sugarmillrvpark.com/	Rate: \$25.38/night Advise "Big Bend Airstream" when making reservations.

MEMBER NEWS

By RoseMarie Anderson

An updated copy of the Membership Directory, dated September 1, 2017, was sent out to all members. If any of your contact information changes, please make sure to let me know so I can keep unit records current and make sure to keep communication flowing.

I have made a good start on posting photos of members on the website. This new feature is particularly helpful for new members. Check out the photos at <http://bigbendfl.wbcc.net/2017-directory/>. This section of the website is password protected. I am missing photos for about half of the members. If your photo is missing or you would prefer another photo, please send me a digital photo in .JPEG format. I will continue to post photos as I receive them. Thanks for your help.

LOOKING FOR TECHNICAL TIPS AND STORIES

The Big Bender is more interesting with article from many members. Do you have a technical tip that will help others with a safety or maintenance issue? Perhaps you have a great Airstream story or adventure you would like to share. Do you have a wonderful place you would recommend to others for a future visit? Write it up and send it with photos to katherinekamiya@hotmail.com. Your articles, feedback and ideas are always welcome!



Anderson's, Montague's and Skippers at sunset



"It is good to have an end in mind but in the end what matters is how you travel."

*Orna Ross, Irish author and advocate for
creativism*