

THE BIG BENDER

BIG BEND FLORIDA UNIT 153 REGION 3



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Gary Anderson

1st Vice President

Jim Hentz

2nd Vice President

Bill Coleman

Secretary/Webmaster

RoseMarie Anderson

Treasurer

Not Filled

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Amy Waymire

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Membership

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A few words from Gary.....

Here comes Spring. Get your planning calendar open. The Buddy Rally at St. George Island was a busy weekend enjoyed by all. Jim, Katherine and Martina did another fantastic job of hosting. In addition to our hosts, in attendance were: Coleman's, Spenard's, Rush's, Jim Hentz, Allen Gallina, Vicky Hooks, Anderson's and Gordon Johnson. Guests during the weekend were Stefanie and Sarah - Daughter and Granddaughter of the Spenard's, Bob and Sue Heist, Airstreamers from Lincoln NE. John Schaffer from Tallahassee visited on Saturday afternoon. Hot soup, stew, many side dishes and desserts were enjoyed at the rec center on Friday night, a Ranger talk on Gulf of Mexico shells on Saturday morning and a dinner at the Blue Parrot Saturday evening highlighted the weekend.

A board meeting was held Friday afternoon followed by a general membership meeting Saturday afternoon. The Big Bend Directory was one topic of the meeting as it currently consumes 40% of our membership dues income. Jim Hentz, Katherine Kamiya and RoseMarie Anderson agreed to form a committee to explore and report back potential options for future directories.

On to Sarasota - at least ten Big Bend members attended Alumaflemingo. It was a very active week with plenty to do and see at Alumaflemingo and the Sarasota area. Our Region 3 Officers conducted an informative meeting that discussed the Region, IBT meeting and the positive direction of WBCCI. I am sure there will be more at Ashville.

Upcoming events:

- **Georgia Veterans rally** will be held March 21,22,23 followed by the **Antebellum Trail Caravan**. Do not forget to check out the SAMS shortline railroad while attending this Rally.
- Quite a few Big Benders are heading to the **Key West Florida Rally** the first week of April.
- **Reed Bingham Rally** April 25,26,27 followed by the **caravan to Region 3 Rally** site near Ashville. RoseMarie has previously forwarded the route and reservation information. If you have not received this and are interested in participating in the caravan to Ashville please contact RoseMarie or me.
- **Rocky Bayou Rally** in May will bring our Spring Rallies to a close. Start accumulating your extra items for the Rocky Bayou Big Bend Auction. If by the May Rally Big Bend does not have a treasurer for next year this may also be the time to have a treasurer lottery. One could not ask for a better trainer then Jim Hentz. Please think about volunteering for this position.

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Join us for the March Rally!!

Georgia Veteran's State Park

March 21 - 23, 2014

Locations for the below events will be determined upon our arrival. We hope to camp close to the pavilion and be able to use it for the events. Otherwise, it will be at our campsite.

- Friday 4:30pm Happy hour. Bring beverage, snacks and chairs.
- Friday 6:00pm Dinner. Barbeque pork, baked beans, cole slaw and key lime pie. Bring tableware, beverage, and chairs.
- Saturday 8:00am "Breakfast in a bowl". Bring a bowl, utensils and chairs. Coffee refill available.
- Saturday Lunch on your own.
- Saturday 4:30pm Happy hour. Bring beverage, snacks, and chairs.
- Saturday 6:00pm Dinner at Lake Blackshear Lodge
- Sunday 8:00am Continental breakfast. Bring tableware and chairs. Coffee refill available.

A train ride from Georgia Veterans SP to Plains is available Friday and Saturday. Cost is \$29.99 per person. Go to www.samshortline.com for further information.

The Cypress Grill has music and dancing beginning at 9PM Friday and Saturday.



*Our Unit Caravan, "Following the Georgia Antebellum Trail" will begin on Sunday with 13 hardy souls from the Big Bend unit who will travel from Georgia Veterans State Park to Macon & Athens, Georgia. Expectations of eating great food, visiting beautiful southern homes and touring the countryside will be met by our caravan leaders Jim & Pat Hentz. **It's not too late to join us, so either e-mail or call Jim Hentz. ASAP!***



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At the February St. George Rally Ginger Uhrich-Spenard brought yummy banana bread. Here is her recipe in several different quantities.

PUMPKIN BREAD From: Ginger Uhrich-Spenard

Makes 2 loaves or 1 Bundt

INGREDIENTS:

2 Loaf	4 Loafs	6 Loafs	
3 cups	6 cups	9 cups	Sifted Flour
1/2 tsp.	1 tsp.	1 ½ tsp.	Baking Powder
1 tsp.	2 tsp.	3 tsp.	Baking Soda
1 tsp.	2 tsp.	3 tsp.	Nutmeg (go light)
1 tsp.	2 tsp.	3 tsp.	Ground Cloves
1 tsp.	2 tsp.	3 tsp.	Cinnamon (best -- stick cinnamon toasted then crushed)
1/2 tsp.	1 tsp.	1 ½ tsp.	Salt
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3 cups	6 cups	9 cups	Sugar
1 cup	2 cups	3 cups	Vegetable Oil
3	6	9	Eggs
1 can	2 cans	3 cans	Pumpkin (2 cups puree)
1 cup	2 cups	3 cups	Chopped Walnuts

In medium bowl, sift dry ingredients, spices, & salt. In large bowl, mix sugar, oil, & eggs. Stir until well blended. Stir in Pumpkin. Gradually add dry ingredients, stir well after each addition. Fold in nuts.

Bake 1 hour & 15-20 min (about 1 hour for loaves) @ 350 degrees in **WELL GREASED** Bundt pan or 2 loaf pans. Cool for 10 min or more.

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February Rally at St. George Island



Many thanks to photographer extraordinaire Bob Heist from the Nebraska Unit for all the photos.

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Unbeknown to us, our illustrious rally hosts had planned a special Valentine Treat for us....a kissing contest....with chips on our lips. What a hoot!  
Martina, Jim and Stephanie volunteered to be judges...which also proved to be fun!

