

THE BIG BENDER

BIG BEND FLORIDA UNIT 153 REGION 3



Volume 40

Number 6

May, 2014



A few words from Gary.....

President

Gary Anderson

1st Vice President

Jim Hentz

2nd Vice President

Bill Coleman

Secretary/Webmaster

RoseMarie Anderson

Treasurer

Not Filled

Trustees

Martina Pelley

Chip Adams

Amy Waymire

Wally Welch

Membership

Jim Weilhammer

Historian

Chris Duncan

Spring has provided an abundance of activities with still more on the way. The April Rally at Reed Bingham SP in Adel, GA was hosted by Chip and Mary Adams and John Duncan. Unit members in attendance were Anderson, Beyer, Coleman, Cowart, Hentz, Johnson, Hurst, McCauslin, Pelley, Spenard plus Stepanie and Sarah, Thompson, and Weilhammer. Those that arrived Thursday April 24 were treated to Jay's stew and Jim's Rum Cake, both cooked outdoors. Friday evening everyone enjoyed plenty of food with fantastic pot luck. Saturday Chip put his talents into action with tasty catfish and hushpuppies.

On Sunday April 26 five units (Anderson, Cowart, Hentz, Hurst and Pelley) left for the Region 3 Rally at Fletcher, NC just south of Asheville. They made stops at two beautiful campgrounds before pulling into the WNC Ag Center. In Asheville our little caravan was joined by Jay and Elna Thompson, Winston and Carol Montague and David and Ann Tripp. If you are traveling in the NE section of GA be sure to check out Fort Yargo SP at Winder GA and Watsadler COE at Hartwell GA. Ask one of the group about our Police Escort at Fort Yargo – a memorable story.

Opening ceremonies at Region 3 took place on Tuesday April 30 at 7:00 p.m. and the activities did not stop until we headed for home on Sunday May 4. Seminars, breakfasts, dinners, hikes, sight-seeing, rodeos and the list goes on. Our Region 3 Officers – Jay and Elna, Dick and Judy, Matt and Beth and the volunteers they enlisted worked hard and the result produced a very worthwhile experience for all. Big Bend took charge of the Saturday Steak Barbecue, worked our tails off and was rewarded with many accolades. We did work hard but it was fun.

Attendance continues to grow for our Rally at Rocky Bayou May 16 – 18, and unfortunately the campground is full. Several non-camping members will be attending Saturday for the activities of the day – business meeting, sock hop and auction. The club will be voting on three constitutional amendments that are to be presented at Gillette for our delegate, Jim Hentz to cast our votes. Each amendment will be a separate vote and Jim will then use the percentage of our yes/no votes to cast Big Bend votes on a yes/no percentage basis based on number of Big Bend members on June 01, 2014. It is important to note that each trailer has one vote. Eg: Gary and RoseMarie have one vote for unit #9181.

Continued on next page.....

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A few words from Gary....(cont.)

Big Bend by-laws allow for electronic voting. Any member that wishes to vote in this manner can cast their vote by e-mailing me at gander2@comcast.net with a cc: to Jim Hentz at jdhentz@nettally.com. Identify subject line as Vote. I will not open these e-mails until Sunday night May 18 at 8:00 CDT. At that time they will be added to the appropriate tally. Either vote at Rocky Bayou or electronically, **not both**.

These are very important amendments so please take time to think about your vote. Summarized they are:

1) Allow unit charters outside of U.S and Canada. This is being presented due to expansion and sales in Australia, S. Korea, British Isles, and Europe.

2) The period for holding the International and Delegates meeting will be between June 20 and July 30. This proposal strikes the words July 1, Canada Day, and July 4 from the meeting requirements. The intention of this is to allow flexibility in determining location and end cost of Rally.

3) The Constitution states: Payment of annual Unit and International dues is a prerequisite to membership. What has been struck from this is "Payment of dues must be made to a Unit." This will allow the possibility of future electronic payments thereby reducing the workload of the unit treasurer and ease of payment for members. This amendment must pass before the IBT can start planning for electronic payments. If you want to look in depth at these amendment changes go to: www.region3.wbcci.net. Look under the proposed amendments heading.



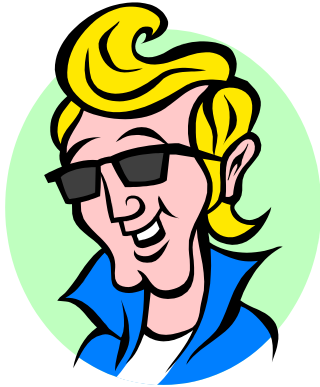
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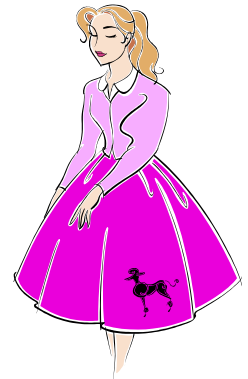
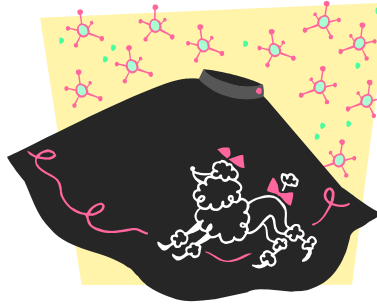


May Rally is a Sock Hop!

May 16, 17, 18 at Rocky Bayou



Dust off those loafers, scarves and poodle skirts and join in the fun on Saturday afternoon at 4pm!



Weekend Menu

Friday

5:30pm: Spaghetti, Salad & Bread

Saturday

9:30am: French Toast, Breakfast Meat, Strawberries & Yogurt

4:00pm – Sock hop! Bring snack to share and drink of choice.

5:30pm – Fire up the barbecue for Hamburgers with all the fixings, beans, chips and root beer floats

6:30pm – Short business meeting and Auction

Sunday

9:00am – Bananas, Yogurt, Muffins

Bring your own plates, utensils and cups. All activities under the pavilion. Clean out the closets and bring those auction items you know someone else will treasure!

The short business meeting will include a vote on the issues coming up at International Rally. Delegate Jim Hentz will carry our votes to Gillette.

Remember to contact Bonnie Lewis (jim-bonnielewis@cox.net) if attending a Rally. Bonnie's updates are a great help in keeping the membership informed and to the hosts in keeping cost of food under control. Thanks to all for making this a active, fun unit.



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Recipes from April Rally

Vegetable Relish Recipe – Sonny & Judy Cowart

Drain and Mix together

- 2 cans - white shoepeg corn
- 2 cans - french cut green beans
- 2 cans black-eyed peas
- 1 red onion - diced
- 1 cup celery - diced
- 1 -4oz jar pimentos

Sauce

- 1 teaspoon each of salt and pepper
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup oil
- 3/4 cup vinegar
- 1 tablespoon water

Mix sauce together with veggies -refrigerate overnight. Great as a side dish or dip.

Creamy Sweet Chili Shrimp – Linda Coleman

- 1/4 cup fresh chives finely chopped
- 1 12oz box Premium popcorn shrimp
- 1/4 cup hot and spicy mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sweet chili sauce
- 2 cups Broccoli slaw mix

- 1) Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Chop chives.
- 2) Cook shrimp according to package directions
- 3) Combine mayonnaise and chili sauce, stir into shrimp
- 4) Spread broccoli slaw over serving platter, top with shrimp and sprinkle chives on top.



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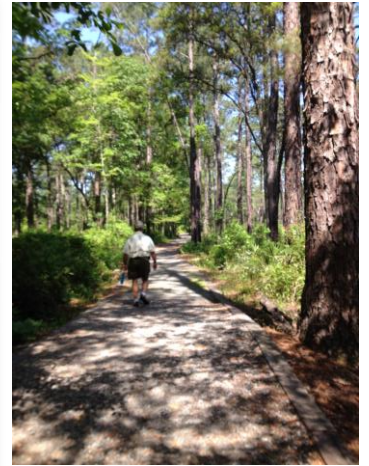
Looking back..... April Rally at Reed Bingham State Park, Georgia

Beautiful Park! Excellent Food! Good company!

Thanks for the hat Jim!



Big Bend Cheerleaders with our Founder Mac McCauslin



Beautiful, restful hiking trails throughout the park



Linda Coleman always has great decorating ideas for the Airstream



The 'guys'



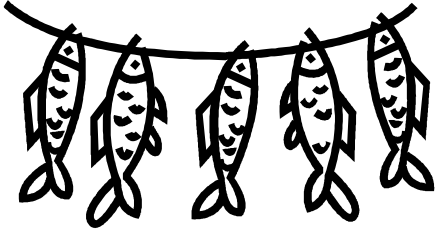
Chef in residence, Chip



Camp visitor-Gopher turtle

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Catfish Dinner Saturday
night by Chef Chip

Cheese grits by John
Duncan



Making
hushpuppies



Pat Hentz loved the
catfish! She had it
for lunch the next
day.



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Region 3 Rally



We are so proud to have a Big Bend member as our Region 3 President



Caravanning to Fort Yargo campsite.

Did I mention we had a park escort?



Our very own MASH Unit.



Flag ceremony

Enjoying the sun on the deck outside the Pisgah Inn

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This is a story about an Airstream Unit that LOVED potatoes.....



They loved washing potatoes....



They loved looking at the oven that would bake their potatoes....



And they especially loved counting their potatoes....



And counting them again....

They loved loading the potatoes in the oven...



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They loved unloading the cooked potatoes so much they did it twice.....



Some of us tried to love the onions also....but it just wasn't like the potato.



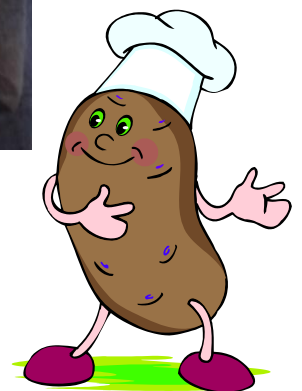
Wrapping the potatoes in foil kept the love fest going...



And of course they loved counting them again and again.....

And that's how you prepare 300 potatoes for a Saturday night steak dinner!

Thank You Big Bend Members!



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Coming to us from Tallahassee, these former motorcycle jocks have hung up their leathers for shiny aluminum. **Sonny & Judy Cowart** are brand new to Airstreaming, but didn't take long to get into the hang of it at April rally and Region 3 Rally.

Sonny is a woodturner and Judy knits and crochets scarves, baby buntings and hats.



Tom & Karon Beyer also hail from Tallahassee and are experienced SOB campers. They visited the March Rally and within a few weeks e-mailed that they had bought an Airstream motorhome and were ready to join the club!

Their first official rally was at Reed Bingham in Adel, GA.



David & Ann Tripp have an address at Crestview, Florida, but in reality they are fulltimers who spend winters in Florida and the rest of the year wherever they want to!

David & Ann joined us at the Florida State Rally and also Region 3 Rally. They are on the road to Illinois for the summer, but they will join us at Top Sail in November.

Be sure to visit our website at www.bigbendfl.wbcci.net

and Facebook Page at Big Bend Club

Photos by Pat &
Jim Hentz and
RoseMarie
Anderson