

THE BIG BENDER

**BIG BEND FLORIDA
UNIT 153 REGION 3**

**AIRSTREAM CLUB
INTERNATIONAL**



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OFFICERS 2015 - 2016

President

Bill Coleman

1st Vice President

Jim Weilhammer

2nd Vice President

Tom Beyer

Secretary

Katherine Kamiya

Treasurer

Martina Pelley

Trustees

Bill Worthington

Carol Montague

Craig Brinkley

Hugh Cowart

Membership

Mary & Chip Adams

Historian

Chris Duncan

Directory/Webpage

RoseMarie Anderson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



IT'S BEEN A PRIVILEGE

By Bill Coleman

I can hardly believe my year as your President is coming to an end. It's been a true privilege serving and representing you. Of course I couldn't have completed my year without your help and support. A special thanks to Katherine Kamiya who besides crafting killer newsletters has kept me advised of all things official and has been a wonderful advisor. Frankly, she has made me look good time and again. Thank you Jim Weilhammer and Tom Beyer (1st and 2nd VP's) for being my partners along this journey. To Chip and Mary Adams a big thank also for their great recruiting as membership chairpersons. To Martina Pelley-well you've been simply terrific as our Treasurer. Finally, thank you RoseMarie Anderson for your excellent work on the website and our beautiful Directory.

Before my final goodbye, I must also thank the Duncan's for setting up our October Rally site and Tarrer Inn reservations. We hope everyone enjoyed the Swamp Gravy performance as much as Linda and I. An additional thanks you to those who provided us with our Sunday goodies.

Our final rally of the year is our Installation Rally at beautiful Live Oak Landing in Freeport, FL. It's Been a Privilege is continued on page two.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued . . .

We, along with the Anderson's, are planning a fun weekend so if you haven't already done so please let me know if you plan to attend so we can make appropriate meal plans.

Jim Weilhammer and Katherine Kamiya have planned an exciting 2017 for us. With the help of a great board/team it is sure to be fun and as always destined to be filled with warm Big Bend fellowship. Linda and I can't wait!

Our very best to you and your families for a lovely holiday season.

INSTALLATION RALLY SCHEDULE: Live Oak Landing, Freeport, FL

By RoseMarie Anderson

Friday November 4, 2016

4:30 p.m. Social Time. Bring drink of choice.

5:30 p.m. Open Grill. Bring meat of your choice and a side dish to share.

Saturday November 5, 2016

8:30 a.m. Coffee.

9:30 a.m. Breakfast of French toast casserole and fruit.

5:00 p.m. Installation of Officers & Social Time. Bring drink of choice.
Dinner immediately following the ceremony. Menu includes smoked pork chops, sweet potatoes, applesauce, broccoli salad, bread & butter, dessert and iced tea.

Sunday November 6, 2016

9:30 a.m. Coffee & muffins.

NOTE: All meals are **Central Standard Time**. Please bring eating utensils and dishes.
All meals are in the clubhouse.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Emerald Lake RV Resort

By Jim Hentz

“Tell me your story and I’ll tell you mine.”

Lyrics from The Storytelling Song performed at Swamp Gravy



Harvest clock in Colquitt

It has been almost two years since Pat and I were able to participate in a Big Bend Florida Unit rally. We were eager to get back into the swing of things and visiting with long-time friends. A nice breeze, perhaps related to Hurricane Matthew, welcomed us as we arrived early afternoon Friday. The campground owners suggested we not park under the large pecan tress due to the potential of falling limbs. John and Gayle Duncan, assisted by Bill and Linda Coleman, planned a fun-filled weekend. Pat and I were eager to get started. So here is my story.

Friday afternoon was devoted to greeting Big Benders as they arrived at the campground. As usual, setting up camp was interrupted by welcoming hugs and socializing.

Joining us for the weekend were: Gayle and John Duncan, Bill and Linda Coleman, Chip and Mary Adams, Sandy and Don Wood, Carol and Winston Montague, RoseMarie and Gary Anderson, Bonnie and Jim Lewis, Annette and Charlie Hurst, John White, Jack White, Jason Friedrich, Jim Weilhammer and Katherine Kamiya. The campground has a restaurant on-site and served a seafood buffet of shrimp, crab legs, cheese grits, and salad. Some chose to order a grilled pork chop. Following dinner, most retired early to their Airstream to be ready for a full day of activities on Saturday. For myself, I had to take a tour of the Anderson’s brand new 30’ International Airstream. What a beautiful and well laid out RV. Congratulations to Gary and RoseMarie. . . now I want one!

We awoke to a beautiful and sunny Saturday morning. Expectations were high that this would be a fun-filled day. Breakfast was provided at the on-site restaurant. Scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, toast, biscuits and gravy were among the tasty and enjoyable dishes. Following breakfast all retired to get ready for a great buffet at the historic Tarrer Inn. At about 11:30 all gathered to caravan to the hotel/restaurant. It was a bustling place as many different groups had reservations for lunch prior to the Swamp Gravy performance. Our reservations were for 12:30 so many had time to wander the town square, view the building murals and work up an appetite.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Emerald Lake RV Resort continued . . .



Some of the murals of Colquitt with someone (Katherine Kamiya) trying to be part of the action.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Emerald Lake RV Resort continued . . .



John White, John Duncan, Winston Montague and me waiting OUTSIDE the Tarrer Inn



Sandy Wood, RoseMarie & Gary Anderson, Carol Montague and her granddaughter Amanda and Bonnie Lewis waiting INSIDE the Tarrer Inn



Carol Montague, Mary Adams, Jim Lewis and others STILL WAITING.....



.....and FINALLY
we get to eat!

The buffet was fantastic - my kind of southern cooking. I can't begin to describe all the different dishes but fried chicken was at the top of my list along with many different vegetables and of course southern desserts such as banana pudding. It was all you can eat and did I ever take advantage of it.



Annette & Charlie Hurst and John & Gayle Duncan
enjoying the food.

I think it would be fair to say we all 'waddled' over to the Cotton Hall Theater to take in the Saturday matinee performance of Swamp Gravy.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Emerald Lake RV Resort continued . . .



Swamp Gravy

The theme for this year's Swamp Gravy performance was the story of life, southern folklore at its finest. Both my grandparents were Mississippi farmers and I could certainly relate to the story presented by outstanding actors and actresses. The presentation included southern humor as well as some sadness that brought tears to many in the audience. The death scene was especially poignant. The scenes and songs were professionally performed and I think remarkable for such a small town as Colquitt – truly an enjoyable production.

Following the performance all returned to the campground for a business meeting and social hour in the shade of the pecan trees. President Coleman made several announcements and 1st VP, Jim Weilhammer, presented the slate of officers for the 2017 year and the list of 2017 rally sites. The nominees for 2017 were voted on and all were approved by members present.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Emerald Lake RV Resort continued . . .

Those not present will be given an opportunity to vote by email ballot. We are all looking forward to another outstanding year for the Big Bend Florida Unit. Jim and Katherine surprised Bill and Linda by presenting them with appreciation gifts from the unit recognizing their leadership and hard work as the outgoing President and First Lady. While this is normally done at the Installation Rally, Jim is having shoulder surgery in early November and may not be able to attend the rally. All joined me in extending Jim our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Sunday morning we gathered in the Showcase Room to say our goodbyes over coffee, yogurt, donuts and blueberry and apple spice coffee cakes. It was a great end to another great Big Bend Florida Unit Rally.

Pat and I intend to be at the November Installation Rally. We hope to see you and I promise to listen as *“you tell me your story.”*



Parking at Emerald Lake RV Resort



RALLY RECIPE: Creme Cheese Pound Cake

By John White

This recipe was handed down from John and Jack's mother. John has won two awards for this tender and delicious cake. John says one of the secrets is careful measurement of ingredients and the other is to talk to the cake with a sweet soft voice as you are mixing the ingredients. Judy says he is a cake whisperer!

Ingredients:

3 sticks of butter
8-oz. cream cheese
3 cups of sugar
6 large eggs
3 cups of flour, sifted three times
Dash of salt
1 ½ tsp. vanilla extract

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Lightly butter and flour a bundt or tube pan (or use non-stick spray).
2. Cream the butter, cream cheese and sugar together until well blended.
3. Add eggs, one at a time, to butter mixture.
4. Incorporate the flour, salt and vanilla.
5. Pour batter into the prepared pan. Bake for 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Serves 12-16 people



ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

By Bill Coleman

By vote of members present at the October 8, 2016 business meeting and email ballots from members not in attendance, the following members have been elected by unanimous vote to serve as officers and trustees of the Big Bend Florida Unit for 2017.

OFFICERS

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| President: | Jim Weilhammer |
| 1 st Vice President | Tom Beyer |
| 2 nd Vice President | Craig Brinkley |
| Secretary: | Katherine Kamiya |
| Treasurer: | Martina Pelley |

TRUSTEES

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Second Term: | Gary Anderson John Duncan |
| First Term: | Linda Coleman Jim Lewis |
| Emeritus: | Bill Coleman |

Congratulations to the new officers and trustees. Thank you for volunteering your time and sharing your talents with the unit. We offer our help and support and look forward to another great year.

MEMBER NEWS

By Mary and Chip Adams

It is time to renew your membership. The annual dues, including membership in the Big Bend Florida Unit, are \$75.00. There is a new online process that is quick and easy. To renew online go to: <http://wbcci.org/component/rsform/form/12-renew-your-wbcci-membership>. If you would prefer to renew by mail, please contact Martina Pelley to request the renewal forms and for instructions on processing procedures.



BIG BEND FLORIDA UNIT

Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 10, 2016

at Noon at

Marie Livingston's Steakhouse

2705 Apalachee Parkway

Tallahassee, FL 32301

MENU

Choice of Entrée: Ribeye Steak, Shrimp or Grilled Chicken Breast

All entrees served with a house salad, baked potato and homemade rolls

Chef's Choice Dessert

Choice of Beverage: Coffee, Iced tea or Soda

COST \$28.80 per person including tax and gratuity

R.S.V.P. by December 2nd by calling Katherine Kamiya at (850) 894-4416 or by email at katherinekamiya@hotmail.com.



Please support Toys for Tots by bringing a gift of a new, unwrapped toy or book for a child birth to 12 years of age.

Following the luncheon, you are invited to a Sweet Table at Jim and Katherine's home.



"Life is uncertain,



eat dessert first."

Earnestine Ulmer, American writer

*Carol and Winston's granddaughter,
Amanda DID JUST THAT!*



BIG BEND AIRSTREAM CLUB

UNIT 153 REGION 3

2016 RALLY SCHEDULE

BILL COLEMAN, PRESIDENT

Last Updated: 10/28/2016

Please email Bill Coleman at ourplantation@gmail.com and the rally hosts to confirm your participation and site number.

| DATE/HOST | PLACE | ATTENDEES | SITES |
|--|--|---|---|
| November 4-6 | Live Oak Landing 229 Pitts Avenue Freeport, FL 32439 (877) 436-5063 | Bill & Linda Coleman RoseMarie & Gary Anderson Chip & Mary Adams Tom & Karon Beyer Jason Friedrich Lamar & Amy Waymire Martina Pelley Jim & Bonnie Lewis Carol & Winston Montague Pat & Jim Hentz John & Gayle Duncan Jack & Sherry White John & Judy White Dick & Ursula Glenn (guests) David & Laurie Fredrickson (visitors) | 59 57 32 30 58 31 27 54 53 51 7 4 3 55 |
| Hosts: RoseMarie & Gary Anderson and Linda & Bill Coleman | Rates will be adjusted based on the total number of units participating. Five to nine units will be given a 15% discount; 10 to 25 will be given a 20% discount. | | |

2017 RALLY REGISTRATION IS OPEN

It is not too early to reserve your campsite for the 2017 rallies. Registration is now open for the January, February, March, April and May rallies. For more information on each rally site, check the website at <http://bigbendfl.wbcci.net/>. At private campgrounds ask for the Big Bend Florida Unit rate when making your reservations. State and federal campgrounds fill up early, cancellation costs are nominal, and transferring your reservation to another party is possible if your plans change. If you are interested in hosting or co-hosting a rally and designing the schedule of activities, or if you have any questions, please contact Jim Weilhammer by calling (850) 894-4416 or writing to j.weilhammer@gmail.com.