

THE BIG BENDER

**BIG BEND FLORIDA
UNIT 153 REGION 3**

**AIRSTREAM CLUB
INTERNATIONAL**



**VOLUME 42
NUMBER 10
OCTOBER 2016**

bigbendfl.wbcci.net

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GREETINGS FROM A HURRICANE SURVIVOR

By Bill Coleman

For all of you that were in Hermine's path, we hope you remained safe with no or minimal property damage. I am aware that that some of you had damage to your properties on the coast. Our hearts go out to you with hopes that soon all we be resolved. A personal thanks to Jim and Pat Hentz who kindly lent us a generator.

Thank you to all who attended the September Rally and special thanks to Sandy Wood who prepared a sumptuous sausage/biscuit and fruit breakfast on Saturday and to Martina Pelley, Mary and Chip Adams, and Ann and David Tripp who brought our Sunday breakfast treats. Big thanks to John Duncan for arranging our Georgia Olive Farms Tour and to Craig Brinkley who then led us to Horse Creek Winery for lunch. Note to future hosts: Big Benders love to take little tours, dipping fragrant breads and sipping "special" slushies.

The rally season just wouldn't be the same without yet another change in venue! Due to unusual circumstances, the Unit Installation of Officers has been *moved back* to November. Greetings from a Hurricane Survivor is continued on page two.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued . . .

Hosts Anderson's and Coleman's are working on a great weekend at Live Oak Landing so if you've not yet made a reservation please do and inform your hosts. It's a gorgeous facility and we have reserved the pavilion for the entire weekend.

Let's not forget our upcoming at October Rally at Emerald Lake RV Resort. If you have not already done so, please let your hosts the Duncan's and me know if you are planning to attend. Friday evening the campground offers dinner from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. with a special Seafood Buffet for \$21.99 (or you can order off the regular menu). Saturday should be a fun day. Breakfast is no longer served at the campground so pack your own eats. We plan to dine at the Tarrer Inn at noon for the lunch buffet. We have 21 going to see the 2:00 p.m. matinee of a new and delightful "Swamp Gravy" performance. I have purchased the tickets so please reimburse me. With my Airstream repairs I need every cent! The tickets are \$20 each. Sunday, we will say our goodbyes over coffee in the Bull Pen at 9:00 a.m. Feel free to bring a breakfast treat to share.



Emerald Lake RV Resort



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Eagles Roost RV Resort

By Monica Brinkley

How do you decide if you are going to attend a rally? Do you wait to see if your friends are going, the location, or if your calendar is clear? Truthfully, Craig and I often times will let location be our deciding factor.

To camp at Eagle Resort in Lake Park, GA wasn't high on our list of places to go. However, we wanted to attend the September Rally as it was the first one after the summer break. Boy, am I glad we attended! The campground was very quiet, lots of shade, roomy sites, and a nice club house.





RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Eagles Roost RV Resort continued . . .

Friday night we enjoyed a great pot luck dinner and we welcomed a new member, Jason Friedrich. After dinner, Johnny Duncan energetically shared information about the opportunity he had arranged for us to go on a Georgia Olive Oil Farm Tour in Lakeland, GA. Craig then announced that he would like to go to Horse Creek Winery in Sparks, GA and invited others to go along.



Craig Brinkley, Mary & Chip Adams, Sandy & Don Wood, John and Gayle Duncan

Monica Brinkley, Katherine Kamiya, Jim Weilhammer, David & Ann Tripp, Karon & Tom Beyer



Saturday morning, the Woods generously prepared a delicious breakfast of sausage gravy and biscuits along with fruit.

Then *off we go* touring . . .



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Eagles Roost RV Resort continued . . .

Did you know that olives have been grown in Georgia since the 1880's? The farm was gorgeous and the tour guide shared a wealth of information. We then had an olive oil tasting. Many of us enjoyed the oil so much that we purchased some to take home. In addition to olive oil, there were lotions and soaps made with extra virgin olive oil that were available for purchase.



Monica Brinkley listens to the tour guide and waits patiently for the tasting. Tom Beyer and Martina Pelley can be seen in the background.



RALLY SPOTLIGHT: Eagles Roost RV Resort continued . . .

From the olive farm several traveled to the winery for lunch. Martina was super excited to go to the winery to have their wine slushy. Several members did a wine tasting and went home with some favorites. Saturday evening we ate at the Farmhouse Restaurant. After dinner, we invited folks to a porch party to have leftover banana pudding. What an enjoyable day!



Members of the group walking to the winery for lunch

Sunday morning several ladies volunteered to provide breakfast and it was a delicious spread. For a no host rally, all meals were well covered and no one went home hungry. We are learning that flexibility is key and host doesn't have to work all weekend preparing meals. The old KISS method (keep it simple stupid) works very well.

What a great rally! I can't believe we would have missed out on this great rally just because it wasn't a location we wanted to go. Therefore, I encourage you to look at the 2016-17 schedule and make plans now to attend the rallies. You never know what might be in store. Our leaders put a lot of time and energy into preparing for the rallies. Do your part and attend and enjoy the fellowship of fellow Airstream members. You are missed when you aren't there!

Hope to see you on down the road.



RALLY RECIPE: Hillbilly Baked Beans

By David Tripp

This was one of the many delicious dishes at the Friday night pot luck dinner.

Ingredients:

½ pound ground chuck
½ cup chopped onion
1 ½ cups barbecue sauce
1/3 cup packed light brown sugar
½ cup water
1 (15-ounce) can kidney beans, drained
1 (15 ounce) can butter beans, drained
1 (16 ounce) can of pork and bean, not drained
½ cup crumbled cooked bacon
½ cup chopped green pepper
Red pepper flakes, to taste

Directions:

1. In a 5-quart slow cooker, combine the chuck, onion, barbecue sauce, brown sugar and water; mix well. Stir in all remaining ingredients, except green peppers and red pepper flakes.
2. Cover and cook on low setting for 6 hours or on high setting for 4 hours.
3. Fifteen minutes before the end of the cooking time, stir in chopped green pepper. Taste and add red pepper flakes if desired.
4. At the end of cooking time, serve immediately.

Serves 8 people

NOTE: The recipe can be made in a traditional oven using a 3-quart casserole dish. Cover and cook in a 350 degree oven for 1-1/2 hour or until hot and bubbly.



DESTINATION POINT: Charleston Tea Plantation

By John Duncan



Last year my brother and his wife took an organized tour of Charleston, South Carolina. He said one of the most interesting points was the tour of the Charleston Tea Plantation located at 6617 Maybank Highway, Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina, (843) 559-0383.

Based on his recommendation, Gayle and I took a trip to the plantation. We learned that 99 percent of all tea grown in the world comes from Asia, Africa, and South America. Tea is the most popular beverage in the world after water. The United States is the only county where iced tea is popular. It takes five pounds of raw tea leaves from the field to produce one pound of finished tea.

The Charleston Tea Plantation was founded in 1987 by tea expert and third generation professional tea taster, William Barclay Hall. He started the concept of harvesting mechanically with the “Green Giant.” Without this machine there is no way the millions of tea leaves that grow on the tea bushes every summer could be gathered. It would take 500 employees to complete the harvest.

It is the new growth of tea leaves, known as the “flush” (two leaves and bud) that is harvested and processed into tea during a six month period from May through October.

One of the most popular things to do at the Charleston Tea Plantation is to take the factory tour. The elevated walkway allows you to see the tea processing process. They have a great Gift Shop where hot and cold Charleston teas are served complimentary to visitors throughout the day.

A trolley ride is a great experience. It offers a chance to see hundreds of tea bushes stretching over two hundred acres. It takes about 30 minutes and includes a stop at the greenhouse where thousands of new tea plants get started. Hope you get a chance to take in the Charleston Tea Plantation on your next visit to Charleston area.





REMEMBERING DICK MARTINY 1938-2016

By Elna and Jay Thompson



We met Judy and Dick Martiny in April 1966 when we both moved to Northeastern Pennsylvania to participate in the construction and start-up of a new Procter and Gamble (P & G) paper mill. The Martiny's came from Green Bay, Wisconsin and we from Perry, Florida. Immediately we became close friends and our families started traveling and camping together, Thompson's in our pop-up and Martiny's in their 12' box camper. We camped in New York state parks, Cooperstown, Gettysburg, and many other spots in the Northeast.

Dick and I shared an office at P & G, joined the local volunteer fire department and traveled together on business many times. Both of us transferred to other P & G locations, but in 1987 got back together again. They were living in Andersonville, Georgia and we moved to Tallahassee, Florida. After 9/11 we wanted to buy an Airstream and asked them, "Why don't you get an Airstream so we can camp together again?" They answered, "Come down to the barn and look at what we have." *It was an Airstream.* After a brief search, we found one and the rest is history. We took off traveling together on caravans, first the Polar Bear then at least one or two a year. Even when we couldn't go, Dick and Judy continued, piling up friends galore with their winning ways. Dick and Judy were assistants on Baja and Landmarks West caravans and wound up going on more than twenty caravans.

After being active in our local units, in 2010 Dick and I were asked to be Region 3 officers. We served together until he had to resign the First Vice-Presidency in 2014 because of illness. Dick continued as the Region 3 Membership Chairman implementing new ways to contact and welcome new owners into the Airstream owners club. He was a sincere, honest, and straight-thinking person who spoke his mind to get a job done.

We had a great and long family relationship, as we traveled and worked together. Dick will be missed by all who held him in high regard and respected his many talents.



Antelope Canyon in Arizona on the SW Adventure Caravan

*"Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful,
we must carry it with us or we find it not."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson



BIG BEND AIRSTREAM CLUB

UNIT 153 REGION 3

2016 RALLY SCHEDULE

BILL COLEMAN, PRESIDENT

Last Updated: 09/30/2016

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

DATE/HOST	PLACE	ATTENDEES	SITES
October 7-10 Hosts: John & Gayle Duncan	Emerald Lake RV Resort** 698 Enterprise Road Colquitt, GA 39837 (229) 758-9929 www.emeraldlakerv.com Suggested activities: Walking tour of Colquitt murals, Tarrer Inn, 15 S. Cuthbert Street, Colquitt, (229) 758-2888. ** Please reserve your sites through the hosts and <u>not</u> the campground. *** Indicates attending Swamp Gravy	Bill & Linda Coleman*** John & Gayle Duncan*** RoseMarie & Gary Anderson Katherine Kamiya & Jim Weilhammer Pat & Jim Hentz*** Sandy & Don Wood*** Mary & Chip Adams*** Bonnie & Jim Lewis*** Carol & Winston Montague & guest*** Charlie & Annette Hurst*** Martina Pelley*** Jack White John White	
November 4-6 Hosts: Rosemarie & Gary Anderson and Linda & Bill Coleman	Live Oak Landing 229 Pitts Avenue Freeport, FL 32439 (877) 436-5063 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.	Bill & Linda Coleman Rosemarie & Gary Anderson Jim Weilhammer & Katherine Kamiya Chip & Mary Adams Tom & Karon Beyer Jason Friedrich Lamar & Amy Waymire Martina Pelley Jim & Bonnie Lewis Dick & Ursula Glenn (guests)	



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. Registration will open for the September rally in mid-October. 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 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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, December 10, 2016
Noon Luncheon at
Marie Livingston's Steakhouse
Tallahassee, FL