



NEWSLETTER

December 2019

Much of the Holidays have come and gone! What a vibrant and active community we live in. NTAC was alive with energy throughout the month, including the Ladies Tea, the Christmas Stroll and Progressive Dinner, and our new board and Membership Dinner, to name a few. We also extend a warm welcome two new shareholders, Marve and Darel Ball (featured this month), and Pamela and Allen Faulk (we'll get them in January). The sense of community is amazing and this year's decorations and activities stepped things up.

Thank you to all our photo contributors this month, especially Douglas Carr Cunningham for capturing the Ladies Tea and Membership Dinner, along with Mike Mack for Membership Dinner photos. Others, who contributed, include Amy Van Artsdalen, Jim and Karen Rester, Channing and Phyllis Fell, Jenn Hicks, Sheila Lewis, Debi Rich, and others. Please keep them coming. I apologize for not including everything sent to me, but try to keep the length of the newsletter manageable. I will upload most if not all to the website for everyone to see.

From the 2019 NTAC President:



Welcome to our 29th annual membership meeting and the board of directors meeting following.

We have enjoyed another great year; we are financially stable, and continue to have strong rally and individual reservations on our Terraport.

We have 31 committee chairpersons and with them and their committee members, are doing an amazing amount of volunteer work here at NTAC.

I am so impressed with our newer members who have stepped up and joined various committees and have fit right in with our community.

We have added an Infrastructure Standing Committee, co-chaired by Steve Woodward and Steve Holland. This committee, while still in its' infancy, will provide us, and to the board for approval, long term, workable solutions to our infrastructure, roads, buildings, draining, water, etc.

We have also added a Rally Welcome Committee chaired by Tom Collier. Tom or one of this members greets the rally wagon masters to provide a point of contact for anything they might need during their stay here.

Another new committee this year is the Webmaster Committee chaired by Scott Graham. We welcome his involvement in helping with the website, domain name systems, e-mails, etc.

Gary Copeland has agreed to be the chairman of the Flag Protocol Committee to make sure we are following proper flag protocol in the lowering and raising of the flags at proper times; and replacement of the American flag and WBCCI flag when needed.

Scott Graham, Amy Van Artsdalen & John Van Artsdalen are co-chairing the Solar Eclipse 2024 Committee to deliver the best course of action during the Eclipse event in 2024.

Wow, that says volumes about our community and its' members.

Let's not forget to mention Jennifer Nekola, our manager, a special thanks to her for doing a stellar job in making good decisions on managing the day to day activities here in the park. Thank you, Jenn.

I believe our founders would be proud to see us carrying out the vision they created: Bylaws: "The purposes for which the corporation is organized are to acquire, develop, and operate a private park for the enjoyment of its' members.

Preamble: North Texas Airstream Community, Inc., was conceived with the intent to provide a place where members who enjoy "airstreaming" can be together in fellowship and participate in social activities. It was founded with the goal to establish and maintain the finest possible Airstream Park."

I know Vickie and I have chosen the right place to live.

I sincerely appreciate all the support I have received from all of you over the past year.

In closing...

Thank you

Jim Courtney
2019 President, NTAC Board of Directors

2020 NTAC Board Meeting Dates

January 20th
February 24th
April 27th
September 14th
October 19th
December 12th

Validation Period for
Annual Membership Meeting
30 September - 30 October

Annual Membership Dinner
Saturday, December 12th

NTAC Life

NTAC Board of Directors 2020

Elections completed and new officers were installed on 14 December. Congratulations to the newly elected Board members. Steve Holland was then selected as Board President. Below is your 2020 NTAC Board of Directors: Please give them your full support.

- Steve Holland – NTAC Board President
- Steve Zeringue – VP Operations
- Steve Woodward – VP Maintenance
- Jim Courtney – NTAC Treasurer
- Debi Rich - Secretary
- Channing Fell
- Scott Graham
- Jennifer Hicks
- Ken Mitchell
- Richard Turner

Ladies Tea



The annual Ladies Tea captured the interest and elegance of NTAC, the 14th of December in the clubhouse, and what a wonderful treat for the community. Hosted annually by the Ladies Club, NTAC features a themed event and invites members of the

Hillsboro and neighboring communities to meet and visit. Those from outside NTAC look forward to attending, meeting new members and learning just a bit of what NTAC is all about.



This year's theme, Gingerbread Dreams, included decorations of gingerbread houses, Airstream trailers, winter scenery, against a backdrop of holiday decorations. Everyone chipped in with decorating, cooking, baking, and true to tradition, the gentlemen from NTAC helped with parking and serving during the event.



Over 70 attended the Tea, including 35 community guests all enjoying the festivities and entertainment. Dr. Caleb Chang and the chorus at Hill College were welcomed and add great fun and music to the event.

Thanks to everyone who contributed their time and talents to making this year's event a success. A special thanks to Douglas Carr



Cunningham for the photos. While only a few of the photos are can fit in the newsletter, a separate collage is included at the end, and most of the photos have been uploaded to the NTAC Website.

Christmas Stroll/ Progressive Dinner

Debi Rich

What a fabulous and festive evening, strolling through the streets of NTAC to see the holiday lights and enjoying food and conversations with our neighbors. Nearly perfect weather for strolling made this an evening to remember.



First stop, a visit to Jennifer Hicks' new to her place @ 907 Ave F.



Jenn kicked things off with appetizers & beverages. Nearly 50 people filled her new home, which was decorated wonderfully, many marveling at her Christmas Village. On to John & Amy Van Artsdalen's home @ 904 Ave F, to see their new to them home.

Visitors enjoyed two soups; Amy's Chicken Noodle, and Tortellini Soup prepared by Vickie Graham. The soups were amazing with little left for later.



Next stop took everyone to the Courtney's @ 410 Ave B, where Jim and Vickie had a spread of sandwiches everyone raved about as new visitors arrived. Not sure how many people were inside and outside their villa, but there was hardly room to turn around. Finally, wrapping up the evening the merriment strolled down the street to David and Beverly Thorne's new Villa @ 324 Ave B. A beautiful new villa and an amazing spread of deserts served with coffee and libations.



What an incredible event; this year's stroll was filled with laughs, incredible food, and wonderful community fellowship. It is no wonder NTAC is such a great place to both live and visit.

Save the Dates!!!

For the planners, don't forget these key dates:

	New Years Eve Potluck and Party	31 Dec 5:30PM
	Long Range Planning Meeting	4 Jan 9AM
	Board Meeting	20 Jan
	WBAC IBT Las Vegas	20-24 Jan

Welcome New Members - Marve & Darel Ball

Darel, a native Texan, was born here, raised here, never left. He also says he only speaks one language – Texan. He is a Texas A&M grad, Class of '79, BS – Recreation and Parks; and University of Houston, grad, Class of '87 – MBA. Darel spent his entire professional career with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, starting as a Reservoir Ranger in 1980 at Coletto Creek Reservoir in Goliad County. Other positions held include Chief Water Tender and Chief Operator in Calhoun County, Plant Manager at the San Marcos water treatment



plant, Division Manager of Hays & Caldwell counties operations, Lower Basin Operations Manager, and currently Executive Manager of Operations.

Marve (pronounced Marvey), is also a native Texan, as well as a

Texas A&M University grad, Class of '80, BS - Recreation and Parks (which explains how they met). She worked in variety of fields, but mostly as a substitute teacher. While she has had many hobbies, her current favorite activity, other than airstream adventures, is enjoying their first granddaughter Willow, who is about 20 months old.

Married on October 3, 1981 and began their camping experiences, they made several trips into the Ozarks with Ardell and Martha Mayton, canoeing rivers such as the Mulberry, Jacks Fork, Buffalo, and Indian Creek (all pre-Airstream). Visits encompassed many Texas rivers including the Guadalupe, San Marcos, Blanco, and Medina. They also also camped and hiked in several parks including Big Bend (national and state), Caprock Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Valley of Fires, and the Grand Canyon. And, oh yes, they remark, Palo Duro Canyon, which led to purchasing their first Airstream from Harry and Liz Rogers. But there is not enough space in this short article for that story at this time. The Balls's have two children; Summer Ball Mann (husband Jesi and granddaughter Willow) and Brett Ball. Hobbies include "Airstreaming" (of course), hiking, kayaking and canoeing, reading, and shooting.

Amateur Radio License Class Update

John Green is delaying the start of class, for those interested in pursuing their Amateur Radio Licensure, until this coming March. He noted everyone's busy schedule and an upcoming trip for he and Rita as the primary reason. Look for more information on class start dates and times in upcoming newsletters and other communications.

So far John has had four individuals express their interest in pursuing licensure. He plans to start classes in early March with completion by the end of May, including administering the licensing exam. It is not to late to sign up, so if this change in dates accommodates your schedules better, please contact him jwgreen@mtoo.com or 309.657.3102.



Get your Facebook fix here. "Like" our site and "Follow" for updates and new photos... then thank Debi and Amy for moderating our site.

Photographer Donates Equipment To HHS, More Donations Sought

Reprinted with permission from the Hillsboro Reporter

A longtime photographer and teacher who recently made Hillsboro his home is already taking an active role in the community by sharing his love of photography with local students.



Douglas Carr Cunningham and his wife, Cheryl, moved to Hillsboro in October 2018 from Charleston, South Carolina. They fell in love with Hillsboro after hitting the road in their Airstream and stopping at North Texas Airstream Community.

Cunningham said that he and his wife found Hillsboro to be extremely welcoming and friendly and ultimately decided to make it their home.

After discussions with Hillsboro High School teacher Kyle Bodeker, Cunningham decided to donate much of his photography equipment from his darkroom in Charleston to the school to help create a darkroom to teach students about analog photography.

While digital photography is the new norm, Cunningham believes that it is important to teach analog in support of digital trends.

"Every photographer should have film in their toolbox," Cunningham said. "Anyone with an aspiration to become a professional needs to know the history of photography."

Cunningham says the real magic happens when a photographer can avoid the urge to satisfy their curiosity by seeing the final product right away.

"You pre-visualize, shoot and then the satisfaction comes from seeing what you pre-visualized," Cunningham explained.

Cunningham has plenty of experience producing photographs in that way. He was a Navy photojournalist for almost 20 years before working in civilian photography and teaching photography classes.

In Charleston, he operated a dark room for the public and displayed his work in exhibitions, including "Charleston: One City, One Soul." The project featured images of people he and another photographer captured around Charleston over a 15-month period.

"I love photography," he said. "I love teaching it, and I love when people absorb the old ways."

In addition to his own donation, Cunningham is seeking other generous donors in the community who would be willing to donate photography equipment for classes.

Some of the items needed are pre-owned (but in great condition) 35mm cameras with manual operation, film, a print washer and other ancillary items.

To donate to the Hillsboro High School project, contact Cunningham at 843-442-7424

New NTAC Email Address

This past October, the NTAC Board approved migrating current "Hotmail" email service used by NTAC office to a domain owned email. This change reflects a much more business oriented approach to our community and will help with marketing what a great place NTAC is to live and visit. Changes will occur gradually over the next few weeks, but there are some things our membership can and should do to make sure they don't miss anything.

The main new NTAC email account is NTAC@ntaci.com. This new email will eventually replace the current ntacmgr@hotmail.com account. This email is the one Jennifer, our office manager, uses day to day and how our business is conducted via email. In order to make sure you don't miss any emails from her, all members should take a few moments to make sure their spam/junk email folders accept any email from @ntaci.com. If you find you are not receiving emails from the new addresses, but neighbors are, please let Jenn or Scott know, as we may have an error in the email address on file. We are working hard to keep the transition as accurate as possible, but some patience may be necessary, though if you have questions please ask.

In addition to the ntac@ntaci.com, we are implementing a second email address, ntaccomms@ntaci.com, to help facilitate communications around the park. The editor of the newsletter, benevolence committee, Ladies Club, and others struggled in the past to send email in mass to our membership, often having to send as many as 7 emails to reach everyone. This new address eliminates this problem and streamlines notifications for any committee or event we may need to use if for. Those who may need to use this address for mass notifications, please contact Scott Graham for access to the account.

As we transition, we will continue to maintain and use ntacmgr@hotmail.com, likely through the next number of months, so don't be alarmed if you receive correspondence from any of the addresses currently in use. We also maintain three other email addresses, currently managed by Scott Graham and all with gmail.com suffixes. These addresses are: NTACWebcontent@gmail.com, used to facilitate website updates and notices by the Webmaster Committee; NTACNewsletter@gmail.com, which most are familiar with in providing articles and historically used to send out the newsletter; and NTAC76645@gmail.com, solely used by the office and Board for managing the Terraport and office calendar.

NTAC 2024 Eclipse

North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC) lies within the path of totality of the April 8, 2024 total eclipse of the sun, just 2.5 miles from the center-line path. This total eclipse will be the last many of us will experience in Texas during our lifetime, providing a unique opportunity for our community.



A December Board Meeting report on this event already is generating interest around the event. Learning from lessons garnered from participants in the last North

American total eclipse, NTAC Board of Directors established a committee to provide oversight, coordination, and facilitate NTAC involvement and support.

Committee co-chairpersons Amy Van Artsdalen, Scott Graham, John Van Artsdalen, and Vickie Graham will help lead the effort, but as Amy and John note from past experience and viewing the 2017 eclipse, we have much to do, and the event can be quite overwhelming if we don't plan accordingly.



The Eclipse Committee established three overarching event goals, and the help of anyone interested is very much needed. The committee will:

- Seek to develop a cost strategy for the use of the NTAC Terraport and NTAC in general.
- Plan and coordinate events if possible, with the City of Hillsboro, and the Hillsboro Community in general.
- Regularly report progress to the NTAC Board and seek Board approval where needed.

They already identified some important deliverables in order to put NTAC in the most favorable light, including establishing processes and management to "control" the inevitable onslaught of visitors and activities associated with this "once in a lifetime" event. Specifically and likely not all inclusive:

- Market and "sell" NTAC to Eligible WBCCI members as:
 - o A great place to live
 - o A great place to winter
 - o A great place to visit when traveling through the area
- Capitalizing on our sense of "community" and knowledge assist civic partners in coordinating events leading up to and during the eclipse
- Serve Airstreamers as priority participants
- Define a revenue stream and raise revenues for infrastructure repair or replacement and within our 501C7 Tax status, or make recommendations accordingly

This new committee will need a myriad of subcommittees and volunteers to assist with things like: Security, Marketing, Parking, Vendor Relations, and Community Outreach, just to name a few. Everyone knows this will be a complicated event, requiring project management skills and tracking, along with the help of any NTAC residents willing to contribute their expertise or assistance.

The committee plans to hold kick-off meetings next month (January 2020), for anyone wanting to help get an early start on planning. Please contact one of the co-chairs if interested and watch for upcoming announcements.

Long Range Planning Committee Seeks Community Input

Steve Holland, NTAC 2020 Board President, is planning a meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee on January 4th at 9 AM in the Rally Room. He is interested in hearing from the community about their thoughts, concerns, and ideas as input on the long term park goals.

The committee, along with board members will sit at tables to help facilitate discussion. They then plan to share the results with the new board and the community at large. Further details are planned for distribution via email and written notes approximately one month and again one week prior to the meeting.

Social Media Report

As of early December our NTAC Facebook page had 260 likes, and 271 followers, continuing a month after month climb. While many of our residents "Like" and "Follow" our Facebook pages, we also have many followers from the Airstream community in general. It is not uncommon to meet visitors to our Terraport who found us by our Facebook site, and then linked to our website.

Our goal for the NTAC Facebook page is to inform our members, guests, and potential guests, of the many variety of activities offered within our park and community; and to spread the word of what a great place this is to live and to visit.

Our Facebook page is a great way to keep up with things happening around the park. Frequent updates by Debi and others ensure fresh content and helps draw people to visit the Facebook pages many times over. In fact, over this past month we saw posts of our Halloween Pot Luck with some fabulous costumes; photos of the very informative and helpful CPR Class taught by the Hillsboro EMS; a fun day with our ladies decorating Gingerbread houses for the Ladies Tea; our NTAC Thanksgiving celebration: Clubhouse Christmas Tree decorating, and an informative post about visiting Waco while staying at NTAC.

December is always a very busy time, and with all the activities planned please watch for more Facebook updates and pictures of all the fun events. Remember, you too, can post your pictures of NTAC interest by tagging, or "checking in" to North Texas Airstream Community-NTAC on Facebook. Your comments and likes also helps with the activity of the page and extending its reach to more people.

Having trouble locating the page.....the link is at the bottom of PAGE 3 if you are viewing this online. Just give it a click and you should be taken right to the front page!

Remember this newsletter is all about you and your neighbors.

Articles and photo submissions are certainly welcome from everyone, especially photos of members, on the road or not; your favorite pictures, special campground discoveries, great deals, or a unique recipe. I do request you include a brief description of any photo and I will try to include any submission in a future edition. As always, please submit your ideas, articles, and photos to the NTACNewsletter@gmail.com.

BYLAWS

Looking back over this year the Bylaws Committee accomplished a number of important updates. In conjunction with past year's committees, we reviewed, proofed, incorporated many changes and reprinted updated Bylaws, Rules, Regulations and Policies booklet. These documents are available in the office and on our website. Please be sure to verify changes as the website does not contain the "official" documents. You should always verify with the office master.

In conjunction with the Architectural Control Committee and others, detail was added to our policies and regulations which address the installation and necessary guidelines for installing solar power. It remains important for any resident interested in pursuing this option to follow the guidelines and submit architectural control documents in a timely manner.

This past year the Board also approved a Revised the Winter Texan Policy. Revisions included clarifications and phrasing to assure full compliance with our Bylaws, Rules, Regulations and Policies.

As Chair of the Bylaws committee, Jim Courtney extend a big thank you to the committee: Steve Zeringue, Jenn Hicks, Charles Scott, Charles McFarland, Vickie Courtney. Their contributions consisted of many hours compiling and proofing the above documents.

December Dog Park Report

Mike Mack, Chair of the Dog Park Committee notes the popularity of the Dog Park, by both residents and visitors. This area remains busy every day, seemingly regardless of the weather or temperatures!! Multiple rally dog owners have told Mike, they enjoy coming to NTAC, just for the Dog Park, it is one of the best ones around.



He extends his appreciation and thanks to everyone in helping to maintain the Dog Park, with special thanks to Tom Collier for his contributions. This includes work by Steve and his crew for fixing the many water leaks in the Dog Park. Committee members purchased 6 new chairs and fertilizer for the area, along with the usual supply of dog bags for all the stations. They also applied weed killer along the fence line and pathway. Finally, landscaping and the trees in and around the Dog Park seem to be holding their own. As a result the grounds and entire area are in healthy condition, while looking great!

Mike is already looking toward enhancements for 2020 with plans to look into solar lights, along with some other projects. He hopes to plan a meeting in January for any interested Pet Owners to discuss the Dog Park and NTAC pet accommodations. Mike is also seeking a volunteer and/or pet owner to be in charge of Paw Pals donations. This person would possibly oversee drives for pet food or supplies needed in 2020. Anyone interested please contact Mike for your ideas.

Finally, as a reminder, everyone needs to help with upkeep of the Dog Park in particular, and NTAC overall, by picking up after your dog and properly disposing of waste.



Directory

Jennifer Hicks

Jenn received 80 percent of the cards requested to be returned for the membership directory update. She is now focusing her efforts on contacting those who did not respond. She offers a big Thank You, to everyone who has provided timely support by returning their cards already. If for some reason you have forgotten or misplaced your card, it is not too late to get things updated.

Jennifer hopes to have the 2020 Directory out to members by early March. Again this year, each share will receive One (1) printed copy of the directory, with additional printed copies available for purchase from Jennifer in the office, who will charge your NTAC account accordingly. In addition a digital copy is available, free of charge. If for some reason you have not received a card, misplaced your card or need to make a last minute change.....please reach out to Jennifer directly

Landscape Committee Report

Steve Zeringue

The Landscape Committee completed a number of tasks since the October Board Meeting. Some may be obvious, but all are noteworthy and deserve community appreciation and awareness.

Members of the committee continued to attend to the ongoing maintenance of several beds located around the park. Notably the clubhouse, Pavilion, and behind the clubhouse. Work included removal of some plants which were relocated to other areas in the park. In addition Pat Lovelace and Janet Turner freshened up the pots in front of the clubhouse with winter flowers.

In an effort to help with control soil erosion, rye grass was planted in several areas throughout. This is an important part of helping to get our landscape through the winter.

Also, in preparation for colder temperatures, all sprinkler systems were turned off and drained where possible. The committee installed a new water system in the Butterfly garden replacing the soaker hose system.

As a reminder to all, it is important to not drive on grass areas. This is particularly important for those driving golf carts. The committee asks everyone to only park golf carts and vehicles on the pavement and to stay off the grass located near the dumpsters and the entrance. The grass in these areas is in particularly poor condition.

Compost update.

- The compost in **Bin #1** is almost gone. We hope that come spring many beautiful flowers and large vegetables will be grown using this compost mixture.
- **Bin #2** is still accepting donations for items needing composting.
- **Bin #3** is closed to any new items needing composting.
- **Bin #4** is accepting bagged grass clippings, some hedge clippings and any leaves gathered within the park.

NTAC Book Club

Bob and Marne Kaemmerer

Marne and Bob continue leading and sharing their ideas and recommendations for your reading pleasure and future book club discussions. They meet the first Thursday of the indicated month in the Card Room from 1-2PM. The planned book list includes:

Thursday, January 9 1:00-2:00

 **The Alice Network, by Kate Quinn.** A fascinating book, is an historical novel based on the true story of a female spy network which took place during World War I.

➤ *Whether you have a chance to read it or not, you will find the discussion fascinating and other members will be happy to loan you their copy. We hope to see you there.*

Thursday, February 6 1:00-2:00

 **Beneath a Scarlet Sky, by Mark T Sullivan.** Inspired by the real life story of Italian WWII hero, Pino Lella, this book was 10 years in the making for the author, who met Pinot by chance and knew he wanted to tell his story. Based on the true story of a forgotten hero,

Thursday, March 5 1:00-2:00

 **Where the Crawdads Sing, by Delia Owens,** follows two timelines, slowly intertwining the two.

Thursday, April 2 1:00-2:00

 **Ordinary Grace, by William Kent Krueger,** is a novel about a young man, a small town, and murder in the summer of 1961. It is a wonderful coming-of-age story, complete with a small-town atmosphere and a mystery surrounding the quiet, unassuming community of New Bremen, MN.

Thursday, May 7 1:00-2:00

 **Beachcombers, by Nancy Thayer.** The story of three sisters. Nancy Thayer is the author of nineteen novels. Her books concern the mysteries and romance of families and relationships and the humorous adventures of growing older.

P.S. Even if you haven't read the book you're welcome to join in

Arts & Entertainment

Hill College and the Phillip H. Lowe Performing Arts Series

 **My Monkey and Me: A Beatles Tribute Band**

- o Feb. 6, 2020 7:30 PM

 **The Don Diego Trio**

- o April 7, 2020 7:30 PM

Hill College Players

 **Working (2012 revised version)**

- o March 11, 12, & 13, 2020 7:30 PM

 **Performing & Fine Arts Student Showcase**

- o May 7 & 8, 2020 7:30 PM

*All performances are FREE to the public and take place at 7:30 p.m.
(unless otherwise noted) in the Hill County Campus Vara Martin
Daniel Performing Arts Center.*

2019 LADIES TEA



