



NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Welcome to another decade, the "New" Roaring '20s!. Following various Facebook threads and posts on the internet, everyone seems to be geared up to revisit those times again. I look forward to the many activities NTAC will offer, and hopefully will hear from many of you regarding your 2020 adventures. Can you believe January is gone?

With each issue of the newsletter, I find it a bit of a challenge to keep it "fresh", interesting, and visually inviting. So, starting off this year, I hope to change up the format a bit, maybe changing some colors, and hopefully providing content of interest to the community. I welcome your ideas and submissions. I will do my best to include what you pass along, and hopefully keep everyone informed, if not mildly entertained.

2020 NTAC President:



As I walk around the park with my dogs, I am encouraged by the many things I see going on in our community. There is new construction

and people renovating their existing structures. The landscaping and facilities look nice even in our winter climate.

In other matters, there are only four properties for sale. We finished the past year with a budget surplus even with the major water leaks we experienced. There were 49 people present for our long-range planning meeting and many of them were new members who participated actively. We just finished a Heart of Texas camping unit rally which had 79 HOTC and NTAC members present at a Friday night function. The open houses which the HOTC members toured led to many positive comments regarding the state of our community and the friendliness of its members.

How did we get in this shape? Well, I believe it was by the vision of our founders and the continuity of leadership we have had since the inception of NTAC. They faced challenges which we are not in at the present time ranging from large numbers of unsold properties to differences in vision and thoughts about how this park should go. They persevered and help lead us to what we enjoy today. I hope in the future that park residents can say the same of us.

I would like to recognize some of our committee chairmen who have decided to turn leadership of their committees to others: Bob Kaemmerer, Health and Wellness; Jim Haddaway, Public Relations and Advertising; Charles McFarland, Information Technology, Janie Haddaway, Mentoring New Members; and David Roper, Roads and Grounds/Lees Creek. We wish to thank them for their many years of service and hard work.

When I met with the Membership committee for an interview about becoming a resident, I was asked what I had to offer the community. I thought, well, I can pay the assessment fee. I

On a personal note, I want to extend my thanks to everyone in the park for their well wishes this last month. The cards and willingness to help Vickie and I with the dogs is very much appreciated.

I was visiting with Linda Ward this past weekend during our Sunset Happy Hour and then later walking with Rayne Armour while out with the pups. Collectively, but in each different conversation, we all noted the true sense of community at NTAC, an interest in looking out for and taking care of each other; lending a helping hand when necessary is a true benefit of living at NTAC.

While not everyone gets to use the newsletter to say Thank You, as editor I will take advantage of doing so.

didn't realize at the time how big a part volunteerism is of this park. The untold hours that our members spend fixing things, planting things, and helping each other makes this community what it is. If you are not a part of a committee and would like to be, give me a call 254-883-7223 or an email, stevefec@outlook.com and I'll see what we can do to make you a part of a committee.

*Steve Holland
2020 NTAC Board President*

2020 NTAC Board Meeting Dates

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

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 submissions in a future edition. As always, please submit your ideas, articles, and photos to the NTACNewsletter@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members – Allen & Pamela Faulk

Allen and Pam Faulk have left the coastal plains of Texas to become NTAC residents! They are the new owners of Lot and Villa 704. Welcome!!

Allen called the Freeport/Lake Jackson community, about 50 miles south of Houston, home for all but the first two years of his life. Pam, born in Freeport, lived in the area until high school when she and her family moved to southeast Houston. Although they remember being in the same classes together in their early school years, they hardly spoke to one another!

A little over five years ago, through the “magic” of social media, they re-discovered each other! Pam living in Nashville, teaching school, and Allen was living in Lake Jackson after a management career in the petro-chemical industry. In early 2014, Pam and her four-Greyhound-family moved to Lake Jackson where she and Allen married in late December. They still hardly speak to each other! (not really) LOL!



Speaking of Greyhounds, Pam's original four “crossed the Rainbow Bridge” and are no longer around. Gabby, generally considered a “smaller Greyhound”, was rescued from racetrack life after Pam and Allen married. She's a graceful beauty you may see leading Pam or Allen up and down the avenues of NTAC from time to time.

The other four-legged members you may see escorting Pam and Allen around the park are Phoebe and Lucy (Shih Tzu mixes), and Max, a 15 year old Jack Russell Terrier.

Pam, a veteran camper, tent-camped as a young woman for many years. At one time she owned a pop-up camper and roamed the mountains of New Mexico, where she lived at the time. Allen did his camping at Howard Johnson and Holiday Inn.....not a very adventurous experience, but nonetheless he did learn of his love for travel.

It was inevitable that they would merge their travel interests and become RV'rs. Their first Airstream was a 2018 Flying Cloud 25RTB. Although they loved that trailer, it became clear they needed more room to accommodate their canine travel companions, Lucy, Phoebe, and Gabby. So they now enjoy a 2019 Classic 30, aka Casa Alumina.

Pam's many varied interests include; volunteering with canine rescue groups, painting, wine and mead making, fly fishing,

continuing education via on-line courses, reading, and of course, Airstreaming!

In addition to travel, Allen's enjoys music, especially playing guitar – a hobby he has been “picking at” since he was 9 years old. After participating in typical garage bands during his Jr High school years, he decided to channel this talent towards church music ministry; a “calling” he has tried to answer, for over 50 years (that's a lot of Kumbaya!).

Allen and Pam were first attracted to NTAC because of the community's open, friendly nature. After a week-end visit on the TerraPort, it became clear this community provided the two with opportunities to downsize, travel far or not so far, enjoy a secure home-base, and live among fellow travelers, all within the beautiful rolling hills of Texas. How could they not seek a way to get here?

Welcome New Members – Adam and Gloria Beltran

Adam and Gloria are the relatively new owners of Lot 314. Hailing from Houston, and full-timing, they visited NTAC this past October. Something must have felt right, as after meeting many of the residents during Happy Hour in the Pavilion and Potluck, they made the commitment before once again hitting the road.

Adam is a retired firefighter, and the both enjoy a very active lifestyle. Airstreaming since 2018, they enjoy running marathons (which is how they met), weightlifting, cycling, hiking, and yoga. Both are certified yoga instructors and have a keen interest in the practice of minimalism.

Future goals include travel and work toward nutrition certification. Who knows when they will be back through, but we certainly look forward to getting to know them.

Amateur Radio License Class Update

John Green has new dates for the Amateur Radio License Class. He has set the first class for Tuesday, March 10, at 1:00 PM in the Library/card room. Classes will then be every Tuesday until completed.

The class duration is 3 hours (until 4:00 PM) with a break in the middle of class. Five NTAC residents are currently enrolled for the class, so there is room for one or two more. The class instructor has 2 ARRL License Manuals available for additional students at a cost of \$35 each.

Upon completion of all classes, exams will be scheduled at NTAC. In addition, a licensing exam session is also planned during the International Rally in Loveland, CO in June.

If you have questions or need more information, contact John at jwgreen@mtoo.com or 309.657.3102.

Directory

Jennifer Hicks

All the cards/information were returned and Jennifer made up the first draft of the new directory. Along with her committee she will verify WBCCI dues are paid and the task of proof-reading is at hand to help ensure accuracy and correct any typing errors.

Look for the directory sometime in February. Hopefully accurate records reflect all who requested a digital copy in addition to their printed one. Please allow a day or two after distribution of the printed directories before digital copies are sent to the email address indicated on your card.

Activities Committee News

Even though February is the shortest month, NTAC will be busy with the many activities:

- 🏈 Super Bowl Party on Sunday, Feb. 2
 - 🏈 4:00 PM Bean Bag Baseball
 - 🏈 4:15-5:15 Football Pool (\$1.00 per square/chance)
 - 🏈 5:00 PM Food/EAT
 - 🏈 5:30 KICK OFF.
- Celebrating Jan & Feb Birthdays at the Feb. 4th Tuesday Pot Luck dinner at 5:30 PM.
- "Dinner & Movie" Tuesday, Feb. 11
 - Pot Luck at 5:30 PM and
 - The new movie "Downton Abbey" at 6:30 PM. Bring your set-ups, drink, food dish and a comfortable chair for the movie.
- ♥ Valentine's Sweetheart Lunch Friday, Feb. 14th is in the planning stage. More info TBA
- Sunset Happy Hours scheduled in the Pavilion
 - Sat. Feb. 8th at 5:30 PM
 - Sat Feb 29th at 5:30 PM.
- Great American Pie Month Social Sunday, Feb. 23rd, 5PM.
 - Bring your favorite pie
 - NTAC will provide ice cream for Pie- a`- la- mode.
- Check out the Leap Year 2016-time capsule during the Leap Year 2020 Pot Luck on Tuesday, Feb. 25th at 5:30 PM.
 - Let's read what was written 4-years ago by members.
- Karaoke on Friday, Feb. 28th at 6 PM, TBD.

Along with cards, games, and more to be added. Look for calendar updates in the office or on the website

There is just no reason to ever hear anyone say, there is nothing to do around NTAC.

Please check out the website for upcoming calendars or changes. The webmaster tries to keep the current month, plus one available.

Health and Wellness

Sue Essary

Bob Kaemmerer resigned as Chairman of this committee. We all owe our thanks to his years of service. Not only has he provided great information to all our residents, but he is a true role model.

Sue Essary stepped up as our new Health and Wellness Chairman. Welcome Sue, we look forward to you sharing. Sue started out with a reminder for all to be mindful of your periodic health exams. She notes her overall responsibility is to promote activities and make information available to encourage a healthy lifestyle for all NTAC residents, and looks forward to attempting to do the same as a welcome opportunity.



This month Sue reminds everyone: As the years come and go, health and wellness becomes more of concern for us all. As chairman of this committee I feel a need to remind you of the importance of periodic or annual checkups, as recommended by your doctor. Some of the most important:

| | |
|--|---|
| Physical Well Being <ul style="list-style-type: none">• heart• lungs• blood pressure• blood studies• dental• hearing | Cancer Screenings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• colon• breast• prostate• skin |
| Eyes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cataracts• glaucoma• age related macular degeneration | Quality of Life Improvements through healthier habits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical exercise: walking, cycling, yoga, weight lifting.• Mental exercise: puzzles, reading, hobbies, games• Eating well for healthy body and brain. |



Sue shared, during the 28 January Potluck a great "alert" tool for all residents. Called Vial of Health, this "project" is an endeavor to help those with medical issues, alert first responders of critical medical information. This is a free program, and Sue can provide additional information, or you can visit their website at: <http://www.vialoflife.com/>. Lots of good information is available.

As a healthcare professional your editor also sees value in this program and idea for anyone with any health condition which might help a first responder act quickly on your behalf, not just for seniors. In fact, this may also be worth considering while traveling.

Dog Park News

Mike Mack

Mike Mack, Chair of the Dog Park Committee, conducted a meeting with interested shareholders on 22 Jan to share updates on the Dog Park and community concerns. He plans an article for each newsletter, so look for periodic updates. And, if you have questions or thoughts you think need to be addressed, send them to the newsletter at NTAC Newsletter@email.com, and I will send them to him.

Mike notes, "We have had more people in the past year, not only Airstream people but Terraport guests as well, using our park. It has become quite well known and popular reason guests visit NTAC."

Some notes of interest from the 22 Jan meeting:

- Your help is very much needed regarding dog waste.
 - o Bags need to be disposed of in the containers provided or the dumpster and not over the fence or compost area.
 - o While noted at the January Board Meeting and Town Hall, as well, it seems ludicrous to know owners may simply toss their pet waste in areas where it does not belong, especially when within yards of an appropriate receptacle.
- Mike implores everyone to be conservative when using dog waste bags.
 - o He asks everyone to please carry their own and not rely on the park to furnish.
 - o Bags cost around 0.7 cents each and at a rate of 600 per month cost the community nearly \$500 per year; budgeted funds which could go to many other areas.
- Please do not take pets into the pavilion.
- Also of note, some owners may not be vaccinating their pets, especially for rabies. This is a concern for all, especially if you are visiting the Dog Park and or allowing your pets to socialize with other pets, whether from NTAC or those visiting on the Terraport.
 - o **Notably the Texas Rabies Control Act** (Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 826), requires all pet owners to vaccinate (and keep current) their pets against the deadly rabies virus after four months of age. This is a Class C Misdemeanor with up to \$300 fine.
- Mike is soliciting ideas to mark the 10 year celebration of the Dog Park founding. Please share your ideas with him.

Social Media Happenings

Debi Rich

Our Facebook page realized 280 Likes as of 1/14/2020 –an increase of 6% from December 2019. Debi dug a little deeper to see whether visitors simply “Liked” the NTAC Facebook page in general, or a specific item. If an overall “Like”, an invitation to like our page was sent. She is hoping this method will increase the number of “Likes” and visitors to our page.

Did you know, people selecting “Like” for our page can also be tagged in photos? We discovered there may be some issues on the Facebook side with photo tagging. A request is open to

address the issue but based on research it doesn't look like this is a priority with Facebook.

We also recently adopted a new hashtag, #NTACLife, used for labeling or calling attention to items. Use of the hashtag will drive additional posts to the North Texas Airstream Community – NTAC page (thanks for the tip, Mona!).

Our December Shareholders Dinner Facebook posts were seen by 1.4 thousand visitors and engaged 400 people. In addition the post with the most Reactions, Comments and Shares was the 2019 Ladies Tea.

In digging into our Facebook demographics, 58 percent of our followers are women; 40 percent are men. Not surprisingly, our largest demographic group is 55+, though 1 percent are in the 25 – 34 age group (maybe our kids checking up on us?). As expected, the majority of our followers are from the US, but we do have some from the UK, Canada, France, Greece and Australia; maybe friends or those we encounter on the road.

We now are also on **Instagram**. An NTAC page on Instagram was just recently created, titled **#ntaclife**. Marilyn Holland is the administrator of the page. Everyone is invited to go out and post some photos of you and your friends having fun in this great place to live!

NTAC 2024 Eclipse

The first meeting of NTAC residents interested in helping or sharing ideas regarding the 2024 Eclipse is **THIS FRIDAY, 31 JANUARY @ 9AM** in the Rally room.



As a reminder, 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.

Our new committee needs your help to ensure we identify the myriad of subcommittees and volunteers to assist in making this a memorable event. Many of you experienced the last eclipse and may have ideas or recommendations for consideration: Security, Marketing, Parking, Vendor Relations, and Community Outreach, just to name a few are already on the docket to discuss. Please bring your additional ideas and or experience to help.

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.

Keeping NTAC Looking Great

Steve Zeringue

The Landscape Committee was busy during the months of December / January. The area outside the fence along South Park Street was mowed and several trees trimmed. The area was also cleaned of all paper, cans, bottles and other trash related items. Janet Turner worked in the front gate entrance flower bed.

Wood chips and a pile of limbs were removed from the south end of Avenue C. The wood chips were placed in the Butterfly garden and the limbs were chopped into mulch to be used later in the year. Several plants were planted in the Butterfly garden including a Magnolia Saucer, a hydrangea and others.

27 trees were planted around the park. Of the 27 trees, 10 trees were planted on the north side of the Terra Port. An additional 17 trees were planted in the pasture along Walnut Hill Ave. starting just north of the dog park heading towards Lee's Creek.

Some of the trees included Sugar Maples, Red Oaks, Scarlet Oaks, Silver Maples, Dogwood, and other trees whose leaves will provide color each fall. All trees were obtained and planted at no cost to NTAC. Thanks to Steve Woodward for the donation of 9 oak trees.

Compost Update:

- Bin 1 is currently taking items to be composted.
- Bins 2 and 3 are closed.
- Bin 4 is accepting bags of leaves and lawn clippings.

New Landscaping Committee Members:

If you would like to be a part of the Landscape Committee please contact Steve via his email. The committee is always looking for more volunteers, and there certainly is shortage of areas needing attention.



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

Long Range Planning (LRP) Update

The LRP Committee conducted its community meeting on January 4th, 2020 in the rally room at NTAC. 47 members attended with nearly half participating for the first time.

The group divided into 6 tables, and participants listed items they would like to see the park pursue in the future. With lots of lively discussion the groups rank ordered their choices and then shared with everyone. Each participant then received three votes to further rank order what they felt were the most important priorities. The following reflects the results and are ranked from most votes to fewest, with total votes for each item noted in the second column.

There were many excellent selections by the group and Steve

looks forward to the board, chairman of committees, and the park population to fulfilling many of these selections. The committee wishes to thank the park for their participation in this endeavor.



The 2017 repaving of Southpark Ave is a great example of the value of LRP.

| Rank | Votes | Topic | Examples |
|------|-------|---|---|
| 1 | 42 | Infrastructure | Roads Clubhouse Sidewalk Clubhouse Foundation |
| 2 | 15 | Government Relations | Attend City Council |
| 3 | 14 | Community Garden | Raised Beds |
| 4 | 11 | Terraport Enhancements | Trees/Shade Picnic Tables |
| 5A | 7 | Storm Shelter | |
| 5B | 7 | Workshop Enhancements | |
| 6A | 6 | Additional Dog Park Areas | Large & Small Dog |
| 6B | 6 | Exercise/Community Space | |
| 7A | 5 | Package Room | |
| 7B | 5 | Nature Walk | |
| | 4 | Pet Limitation (Limit of 2) | |
| | 3 | Movie Night Continuation | |
| | 3 | Clubhouse Refurbish | |
| | 3 | Directory w/ pictures & Online (private access) | |
| | 3 | Increase Amenities | |
| | 3 | Increase Promotion of Park | |
| | 2 | New Clubhouse Chairs | |
| | 2 | Enforce Building Codes | |
| | 2 | Additional "Dead" Storage | |
| | 1 | NTAC New Member Manual | |
| | 1 | Straighten Fence | |

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, 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.
- *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, 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
 - Feb. 6, 2020 7:30 PM
- 🎭 The Don Diego Trio
 - April 7, 2020 7:30 PM

Hill College Players

- 🎭 Working (2012 revised version)
 - March 11, 12, & 13, 2020 7:30 PM
- 🎭 Performing & Fine Arts Student Showcase
 - 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.