



NEWSLETTER

May 2023

FROM THE EDITOR

Where did May go? Seems we just put out the April newsletter and now it's nearing the end of the month again. Already many of our neighbors have hit the road. Some are attending local rallies hosted by the many units represented at NTAC. Others are off to summer homes, road trips, and caravans, and won't be back until fall. Still others are holding down the fort at 200 Walnut Hill Avenue. How wonderful is it living in such a dynamic community? We always have interesting stories to hear and tell—and follow on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, if that's your thing. Even



better, it's a microcosm of our larger community, the ACI/WBAC/WBCCI, only NTAC is somehow still getting by with just one acronym.



Sorry Kim, that one won't fit in the Airstream!

After an April of rallying and camping with neighbors, Kim and I are wrapping up an 11-day solo trip to Austin and points south. As usual, our Austin days were filled with live music and catching up with old friends. Our niece even came down from Fort Hood...I mean Fort Cavazos...for an overnighter. Then we spent Kim's birthday amidst the lapping waves and copious birdlife at

Goose Island State Park. The roseate spoonbills were particularly striking, a much deeper pink—dare I say flamingo-like?—than when we saw them in February.

We're home now, taking care of some business before heading off to the 66th International Rally in Rock Springs, WY. I'll be volunteering again at logistics (AKA the shipping container) and helping to lead the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Rally Welcome
- Safety Inspection
- Shareholder Listing
- Shop Building
- Social Media
- Solar Eclipse 2024
- Sound Equipment
- Terraport
- Tractor Mowing
- Website Administration

7 AM (ugh!) bike excursions while Kim will be joining the choir (what a treat!). Looking forward to seeing our NTAC contingent there.

PARK PERSONALITIES

Farewell Sue Essary! Keep in touch!

As you probably already know, one of the treasures of our community is turning a new leaf. This beautiful lady has left a mark on our hearts that will always be there. While we will miss her, we are happy for her and the new path she has carved out for herself. To compose this article, I posed some questions to her and this is her response:

What's your favorite color?

Sue: Blue-Red, I guess purple then.

What's your favorite pastime?

Sue: Uh - - - YOGA!!!!

What's your favorite place to visit?

Sue: Every place I have been has a beauty of its own, but I love waterfalls. So, high on my list of favorite places is Niagara Falls. My favorite of all time though are the waterfalls of the Hawaiian Islands. I have not seen all of them, but still hope to see them in the future.



When did you move to NTAC or how long have you lived at NTAC?

Sue: Marvin and I bought our villa in October 2014 and moved here July 4th, 2015. So, 8 years this July 4th. It seems longer and shorter at the same time.

What's your favorite activity to participate in at NTAC?

Sue: ICE CREAM.

What's your favorite memory of NTAC?

Sue: My favorite memories of NTAC will be all the people. Each and every one of the unique individuals I have been privileged to share time with has been special. I am so happy our lives crossed. I hope to keep these memories forevermore.

Talk about your future plans.

Sue: My husband of 60 years, Marvin, wanted to move to NTAC. His reasoning was so I would be closer to our son and daughter and I would be in a safe place if anything happened to him. Marvin loved our Airstream Club and dearly loved NTAC for the short 3 years he lived here. He passed away July 22, 2018. I have been here 5 years without him safe as can be. I feel the time is right to make changes while I still have the wits to do so.

Any other topics to cover or messages you want to convey in the NTAC newsletter?

Sue: My new address will be:

37 Snowhill Rd. Coldspring, TX 77331 (806) 340-1811

We offer electrical for overnight parking and I want everyone to come see me. Until then, I will miss you and I love you!

—Sue Essary #402

TRAVEL STORIES

Here's the second installment of last summer's European caravan. Let's rejoin our intrepid adventurers in France. —Editor

Motorhome Touring in Europe

by Amy Van Artsdalen

France



Mont Saint Michel, France - Photo by Amy Van Artsdalen

France was our next stop, which included a tour of the Champagne region to the famous Mercier Champagne cellars in Epernay, France. In 1858 Eugène Mercier perfected the process of making champagne at the age of 20, creating affordable champagne for everyone! The next day, Paris!! We spent two short days in Paris, but it was enough to see the Eiffel Tower, a city tour of Paris with an excellent guide, and a free afternoon during which we sailed up and down the Seine River. Delicious food was to be had everywhere! This part of the tour included a trip to Chateau de Versailles, followed by a tour of the Musee Memorial de la Bataille de Normandie which included lots of interesting WWII history. The following day was filled with more

WWII history, traveling to Utah Beach beautiful drive along the Normandy night along the coast, near Utah Beach.

From Utah Beach, our destination was Medieval town situated on an offshore town is surrounded by water. Wally one of his European Caravans as well. amazing, the food, delectable! We Valley to the picturesque town of Vinci. We toured the most beautiful Chenonceau and from there went to the Limoges. Finally, we ended our tour of region. A tour of the underground in St. Emilion was followed by wine family-owned winery.



Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

with tours of Mulberry Harbor and a landing beaches. We spent the



Keith Wilson and Jim Cousins with their cassettes in Samoreau, France. – Photo by Mary Beth Comer

the impressive Mont Saint Michel – a rock. When the tide comes in the toured Mont Saint Michel during Mont Saint Michel's beauty is continued through the lovely Loire Amboise, the home of Leonardo Da castle in the Loire Valley, Chateau Bernardaud porcelain museum in France with a visit to the Bordeaux UNESCO World Heritage cathedral tasting and dinner in a centuries old

And here's something very up-to-date from Jenn Hicks. The North Texas club's newsletter editor asked Jenn for this review and Jenn was kind enough to share with us. For those in the NTxAC unit, I hope we don't scoop them! If Jenn's review catches your fancy, here's a link for the 2024 caravan— <https://airstreamclub.org/cruzin-natchez-trace-caravan-2024> —Editor

Cruizin' Along the open road...or the Natchez Trace, in this case

by Jenn Hicks

With a phone call from a fellow club member as motivation, I logged onto the club website and registered for the inaugural Cruizin' the Natchez Trace caravan. Then I looked up the caravan to see what I had committed to, as the traveling with my Airstream friends was enough to get me to sign up, but I was curious as to what they'd gotten me into. Seventeen days to drive 444 miles? With 5 stops? Geez, this was gonna be a slow one...

Which is just how the Natchez Trace should be appreciated. Slowly and leisurely. No commercial traffic. 50 mph speed limit, which is rigorously patrolled and enforced by the National Park Service Police. Ample options to pull off the route and park for picnics, waterfall hikes, historical sites, ancient burial mounds, small towns full of character and history ... SOOO MUCH TO SEE!

We travelled the Trace from south to north, same as the Kaintuck would have done in the early 1800's – it's much easier to walk back home after floating your flatboats of goods for sale in the big cities of Natchez or New Orleans than fight the downstream currents. Starting in Natchez, we got an overview during lunch in an antebellum mansion (complete with tour). The next day was a tour of the Longwood House, an octagonal home never completed after the death of the original designer and the Civil War interrupting construction. That did not deter his wife from raising her children in the semi-finished basement level, and two more generations of the family living there, as well! When donated to the Natchez Garden Society, the donor stipulated the house was to remain in the same state of semi-completion as it had been lived in for all those years ... to preserve it for all it was as it was.



Then our first day driving up the Trace. The Driver's Guide stated "96 miles – approximately 5 hours" ... what?!?! This is when we learned that staggering our departures would allow everyone parking at the various stops along the route ... most lots were large enough for 3-5 rigs, but not all 22 at once. The route is clearly marked with "site ahead 1 mile" signs, then larger signs at the sites. The Emerald Mound is the 2nd largest burial mound in Mississippi, built by the Natchez starting in approximately 1350, and in use until the early 1800's. One basket at a time. On foot. To honor their culture, peoples, and history. It's overwhelming.

Second stop: Vicksburg, MS. Here we had a walking tour of the historic parts of downtown by a descendant of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, and a bus tour of the Battlefield, and the Cairo gunboat remains at the Visitor Center. Sobering history, balanced by the tangible remnants of the siege such as dented front gates and patched ceilings and floors due to cannonballs!

Our next day of driving was the longest, at 216 miles ... but also included a stop for lunch in French Camp, an historic town that is the present-day site of an academy for underprivileged kids, where they live and learn life skills in the pottery shop, bakery, store, farmlands, and other businesses. The Trace also provided more opportunities for waterfalls, historic stands (what the travelers called inns), and the Mississippi Craft Center.



Stop #3 was Tupelo, birthplace of Elvis Presley. We also toured a Buffalo Zoo animal sanctuary. More light-hearted than Vicksburg and Shiloh (next stop). The campground was also a spectacular state park where we had 12 of the sites that lined a peninsula into a lake with a beautiful shoreline and fantastic scenery. Our second "caravan dinner" was at this park – where our kitty fee covered the cost of a meal prepared by members of the group. On a personal adventure, after stopping at the hardware store where "Miss Gladys bought her son his first guitar," I had lunch with caravan mates at a restaurant that met their criteria: 1. must not be a national chain, 2. must contain someone's



name (if they're willing to tell you who is responsible, it must be pretty good!), and there must be ample parking. Kermit's Outlaw Kitchen fit the bill. Have you ever had a hamburger made from barbequed brisket? There are no words. I suggest you go explore the downtown and taste for yourself!

Another 100-mile day to Pickwick Landing State Park, which put us mid-way between Shiloh National Battlefield (which we were directed to self-tour using the National Park Service app with driving tour) and Corinth, TN. Corinth was pivotal in the establishment of control of supplies in the Civil War, as it is a railroad town with crossed tracks, allowing goods to come in from multiple directions. Both the Union and the Confederacy wanted this seat of importance. Eventually it went to the Union. The town has done a great job of preserving the history and highlighting other important cultural and historic sites of importance.

Our last day on The Trace was only 180 miles, with another town at the mid-point to stop for lunch and some shopping. There were many fantastic points of interest along the route this day, including a memorial to explorer Meriweather Lewis (of Lewis & Clark fame), where he died. The final part of the drive is post-Trace and along interstates through/around Nashville to the campground near The Grand Ole Opry. The contrast between Elvis' modest beginnings in Tupelo, and then a back-stage tour and explanation of the history of The Grand Ole Opry showed the breadth of musical culture and history in America, and this caravan provided a way to learn of both. Even if neither are your preferred musical genre, the cultural significance of one man and one industry were impressive, and fun to see. Our show was also fantastic, and fun to be a part of the longest running radio program still on the air weekly! Our last day was the tour of President Andrew Jackson's home and gardens, followed by a final dinner and slideshow of the journey. Again, a great balance between history, culture and fun.



There will be some revisions to the route and timing based on comments from the participants this year, but this was a fantastic caravan. Just under three weeks allows for people to fit it into schedules, and not to become too overwhelmed by too many tours, or too much time spent with the same people. Roy & Charlotte (with help from Johnny & Cissy Thibedeaux as co-leaders) put together a great adventure to highlight a little-

known part of American history, layered with some sobering Civil War sights, light-hearted zoos and musical venues, through a part of the country strong in its own culture and personality.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

Hill College Visual & Performing Arts 2023–2024 Season

from Marne Kaemmerer

For you early planners, Marne would like to share the 2023–2024 Hill College Visual & Performing Arts season calendar.

- October 26–28, 2023, *Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe* by Eric Coble (small fee)
- November 16, 2023, Hill College Fall Band & Choir Concert (free)
- November 30–December 2, 2023, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* by Ken Ludwig (small fee)
- March 6 & 7, 2024, Spring Musical (small fee)
- April 16, 2024, Spring Band Concert (free)
- April 23, 2024, Spring Choir Concert (free)
- May 2, 2024, Visual & Performing Arts Student Showcase (free)

Hillsboro Arts League (HAL)

from Cheryl Moniz

The next big event for the Hillsboro Arts League is the Bond's Alley Art Festival. Don't miss it if you're in town. <https://allevents.in/hillsboro/bonds-alley-art-festival/80001965991098>



Bond's Alley Art Festival: June 2, 5pm–9pm & June 3, 9am–4pm.

The HAL Gallery is located in downtown Hillsboro on the courthouse square at 54A West Elm. Follow them on Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/222612256518219>.

Hosting Caravans on the Terraport

from Mike Mack

Sometimes you hear about things that used to be, but aren't any more, and you wonder if it might be a good idea to make them happen again. I was talking to Mike the other day and he was telling me how NTAC used to host the start of the *Gone to Texas* national caravan on the Terraport. We would provide a spaghetti dinner in the Rally Room for the caravaners before they headed off on their circumnavigation of our state (remember that, Bruce?). It was a nice opportunity to share some NTAC hospitality and Airstreamer goodwill. It also promoted NTAC as a great place to stay if you were traveling through Texas. Some of our resident club-level officers have done a great job bringing unit rallies here. Could we extend that to a wider audience via caravan starts/finishes? Should we? What do you think?

COMMITTEE NEWS

Activities Committee—Isaac and Elaine Holmes, Co-chairs

Via Debi Rich's post to our private Facebook group. —Editor

What a fun day we had in Cleburne yesterday! (May 16 — Editor) Big thanks to Isaac & Elaine for planning the day for us. A big surprise was a nice man in the restaurant paid for all 18 of our lunches!! The Chaf-In Restaurant was good and the Dillon Depot was interesting and fun with yummy ice cream.



Here is the link to the full post with comments and more pictures

— <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthTexasAirstreamCommunity/permalink/952768102584258/>.



IT Committee—David Majkowski, Chair

If you missed the last two board meetings, you may not have heard that we now have a [FreeConferenceCall.com](https://www.freeconferencecall.com) account so you can attend board meetings remotely when you are not able to attend in person. If you are dialing in by phone, call **(605) 313-5698** then, when prompted, enter the meeting code **6061572#**. If you are joining by computer or tablet, download the FreeConferenceCall app or navigate to [FreeConferenceCall.com](https://www.freeconferencecall.com) via a web browser, click join, then enter the meeting code **ntac9**. Scott Graham, our webmaster, has posted a copy of the full participant guide to our website. See the links under *NTAC Board of Directors September 2023 Meeting Information* in the *Member Only Access* area (login required). The participant guide has detailed instructions for all modes of accessing the meeting, plus a section on etiquette.

The NTAC Newsletter is for informing and improving member awareness. Articles may not be republished, distributed, or shared in other media or forums without permission from the Newsletter Editor or NTAC Board of Directors.

AROUND THE PARK

Memorial Day

Here at NTAC, we respectfully celebrate Memorial Day. In what has become a tradition, Ed Landers, our Flag Committee chair, played *Taps* near the flagpole in front of the clubhouse on May 29th at 3:00. About 15–20 people witnessed the brief, though moving, ceremony to honor and mourn military personnel who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.



Later that evening, a sizable crowd gathered for potluck. Activities co-chairs, Isaac and Elaine Holmes, decorated the room patriotically and provided a table where residents could display their mementos of family who served and sometimes died for their country. One by one, after dinner, members rose and told us the stories of the people behind the artifacts.

Thank you Elaine Holmes, Tom and Norma Collier, Cheryl Moniz, Douglas Cunningham, Ginger Zeringue, Jim Courtney, Michelle Wright, David Harris, John and Amy Van Artsdalen, and Richard Redding for honoring your loved ones from World War I all the way down through Desert Storm.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy June Birthday!

Patricia Fischer (3rd); Vanette Harris (4th); Mary Ellen Cribbs & Cindy Lethem (7th); Sue McLaughlin (9th); Jim Rich & Michelle Wright (10th); Arthur Broad (11th); Roy Bertalovitz (13th); Dan Lowther (16th); Diane Bailey (23rd); Isaac Holmes (27th); Sandra Buresh (29th).

Happy June Anniversary!

Phil & Peggy Spruell (3rd); Brad & Sandra Buresh (4th); Jack & Lodon Dobbs (5th); Steve & Georgina Woodward (7th); Jim & Elizabeth Flores and Mark & Michelle Wright (10th); Eddy & Sheila Lewis (15th); John & Janet Calvin (18th); John & Anita Gilley (21st); Ken & Kathi Mitchell (22nd); John & Rita Green (23rd); Bruce & Denise Morrow (26th); Bill & Patricia Fischer (28th).

NTAC ONLINE

Please visit our Social Media and Internet Web sites frequently for updates. Don't forget to share with others!

NTAC Website—www.ntaci.com

NTAC Public Facebook Page—<https://www.facebook.com/AirstreamCommunity/>

NTAC Instagram Account—<https://www.instagram.com/northtexasairstreamcommunity/>

NTAC Twitter Account—<https://twitter.com/NTAirstreamComm>

NTAC Private Facebook Group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthTexasAirstreamCommunity>

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

There is a lot to do in Hillsboro and the Hill County area. Here are some links to explore. We will check these periodically to ensure they are still active and have not moved. If you find dead links, please report them to the editor at NTACNewsletter@gmail.com.

Hill County

Home page—<https://www.co.hill.tx.us/>

Appraisal District—(254) 582-2508, <https://hillcad.org/>

Office of Emergency Management—(254) 582-2023, <https://www.co.hill.tx.us/page/hill.Emergency> or <https://hilloem.com/>

Tax Office—(254) 582-4000, <http://hilltax.org/>

Hillsboro

City of Hillsboro—<https://www.hillsborotx.org/>

Hillsboro Arts League—<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089085022912>

Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce—(254) 582-2481, <https://hillsborochamber.org/>

Hillsboro City Library—(254) 582-7385, <https://www.hillsborotxlibrary.org/>

Hillsboro Reporter—(254) 582-3431, <https://hillsbororeporter.com/>

Hill College

Home page—<https://www.hillcollege.edu/>

Athletics—<https://www.hillcollege.edu/Athletics/index.html> (click on each sport for links to the current schedule)

Continuing Education—<https://www.hillcollege.edu/JobTraining/index.html>

Performing Arts Series—<https://www.hillcollege.edu/CampusLife/PerformingArts/PASeries.html>

Texas Heritage Museum—<https://www.hillcollege.edu/Museum/Index.html>

@NTAC (Activities Calendar Highlights)

For the latest updates, please check the [online version of the calendar](#) in the *Shareholder Resources* section of our website, or the printed copy posted in the hallway of the clubhouse.

North Texas Airstream Community Activities Calendar						
June-23						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1-Jun	2-Jun
					10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga
					2-4 Canasta Card Rm	10A Bridge - Card Room 5P Shop Talk - Pavillon
4-Jun	5-Jun	6-Jun	7-Jun	8-Jun	9-Jun	10-Jun
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
4:00 Ice Cream	2-4P Canasta Card Rm	5:30P Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavillon	2-4 Canasta Card Rm	10A Bridge - Card Room	5P Shop Talk - Pavillon
4:30 Bean Bag Baseball		Joker - After Potluck				
11-Jun	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga		Flag Day 6/14/2022		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
	2-4P Canasta Card Rm		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	10A Bridge - Card Room	
4:00 Ice Cream		5:30P Potluck	10:15 Ladies Club Card Rm	2-4 Canasta Card Rm		5P Shop Talk - Pavillon
4:30 Bean Bag Baseball		Joker - After Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavillon	Santa Fe SAMs Rally		
18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	22-Jun	23-Jun	24-Jun
	June Teenth 6/19/2022		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga			2-4 Canasta Card Rm	10A Bridge - Card Room	
4:00 Ice Cream	2-4P Canasta Card Rm	5:30P Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavillon			5P Shop Talk - Pavillon
4:30 Bean Bag Baseball		Joker - After Potluck				ACI Rally
25-Jun	26-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun	29-Jun	30-Jun	
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
4:00 Ice Cream		5:30P Potluck	10:15 Ladies Club Card Rm			
4:30 Bean Bag Baseball	2-4P Canasta Card Rm	Joker - After Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavillon	2-4 Canasta Card Rm	10A Bridge - Card Room	
Airstream Club International Rally - Rock Springs WY						