



# NEWSLETTER

## August 2023

### FROM THE EDITOR

Well, here's the August newsletter, such as it is. We've been on the road all summer (more about that in the **Travel Stories** below) so we've been somewhat detached from local happenings, apart from a few NTAC email blasts and what's been posted on the NTAC Facebook page.



Nobody submitted any content, so this month I'm afraid it's all about us. Or mostly about us. If *that's* not motivation enough for youse guys to send something—*anything*—interesting to [NTACNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:NTACNewsletter@gmail.com) for next month, then I don't know *what* is (I'm talking to *YOU* Alaska Caravan!).

Thankfully, we still had one more installment of Amy's European Adventure to publish. And I cribbed a couple items from **NTAC Communications** emails (Thanks Marne and Bob!). Anyway, Kim and I will be back in the park before Labor Day. Maybe next month will be more interesting.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Allen says, "Hi." Editor says, "Afraid we're getting this issue out too late for Allen's usual contribution (mea culpa). We look forward to hearing from him next issue."*



### TRAVEL STORIES

*After a month's hiatus, we finally get to find out how our European adventurers completed their trip. Thanks, Amy, for this fascinating series on an RV journey most of us will probably never do, but are nonetheless very curious about. —Editor*

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- Shop Building
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- Terraport
- Tractor Mowing
- Website Administration

## **Motorhome Touring in Europe**

by Amy Van Artsdalen

### **Switzerland (with a quick detour back into France)**

Interlaken was our first stop in Switzerland which included a visit to a Swiss cheese factory and a visit to the alpine town of Gruyeres. As we drove past lush green fields and pastures, I loved hearing the beautiful bells of the Swiss cows as they walked along. One of the highlights of this tour was a trip to the mountain peaks. The highest railway station in Europe is called Jungfrauojck and is nick-named, "The Top of Europe." The station sits at 11,000 feet between two of the region's highest mountain peaks. Another nearby attraction is the Schilthorn-Piz Gloria. This location was the site of a James Bond movie, "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," and offered spectacular views of Swiss mountain peaks. Both

locations were easily accessed by cog wheel trains and mountain gondolas. Later that day we enjoyed cheesy fondue at the end of a perfect day.



*Statue of Liberty Replica, Colmar, France - Photo by Amy Van Artsdalen*

After our visit to Interlaken, we proceeded to Bern where we had a guided walking tour of the city, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. We tasted chocolate and learned the story of the famous Lindt chocolate truffles. We observed the famous Zytglogge (Clock Tower), where, every hour, on the hour, something unique happens in Bern: medieval figurines appear. The dancing bears, fool and crowing rooster have been a joy for the public every day for centuries.

After Bern we returned to France and visited Colmar in the Alsace region for another guided walking tour. Colmar is the birthplace of Bartholdi, the creator of the Statue of Liberty. The city is full of beautiful, medieval half-timbered houses and cobblestone streets.

We traveled back to Germany to return the motorhomes and pack our belongings for the trip home. The trip was an amazing adventure filled with wonderful, warm memories. It truly was the trip of a lifetime!



*Zytglogge, Bern, Switzerland - Photo by Amy Van Artsdalen*

## **The Road Less Travelled**

by David Majkowski

Already it sounds like a 5th grade composition assignment. "Alright class, today we're going to write a theme about what we did over the summer break. Penmanship counts." Well, Miss, we travelled. A lot.

Sometimes I feel like we take the road less travelled. Shortly after International, when 1300 or so Airstreams scattered to the four winds, it wasn't long before you would see attendees posting photos in the Rock Springs Rally Facebook group featuring other Airstreams they encountered on the highways to their next destinations.

We didn't see any at all, at least not until we were several days and hundreds of miles from the exodus. I guess part of the reason is because we stayed on at the rally grounds until the following week. But so did a couple dozen others. Come to think of it, I don't recall seeing any on the way to the rally either, at least not until we got to Wyoming. Of the few Airstreams we did see over the summer, only two had Big Red Numbers—one at the city beach in Sandpoint, ID, and one on our penultimate travel day on TX Highway 70, just south of Sweetwater.

Is my theme correct then? Is it because we take older, slower roads, less travelled? Or is it because others are headed toward National Parks and such while we look to avoid population centers and more well-known waypoints—especially during the high season? Do our compatriots stick mainly to the interstates (another map feature we tend to stay away from)? Truth is, I don't know. Could just be the short driving days we lay out to spare our cats the part of our lifestyle they dislike the most.

If I'm wrong about any of this, then I've just spoiled my theme and I have no story (and you have no August newsletter). So, just humor me while I highlight some interesting or beautiful things we saw on the U.S., state, and local roads that you may have missed on your own road trips. If some of you come back and tell us ([NTACNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:NTACNewsletter@gmail.com)) that you didn't know about this or that, we'd be glad to hear it because we've shared something new with you. Always nice to learn something new, don't you think?



*OK, so this one's not so obscure, and it's off I-84 no less. But hey, it's Wally Byam!!! This exhibit was put together with help from Pee Wee Schwamborn at the Baker Heritage Museum in Wally's hometown of Baker City, OR.*



*Kim staring in wonderment at Balanced Rock in Buhl, ID. There's a spectacular county park in the canyon a mile up the road.*



*If you detoured off I-80 at Laramie and took the US-30 loop (the old Lincoln Highway) to Arlington, you could have visited the Medicine Bow Museum in Medicine Bow, WY, and learned about Owen Wister, author of "The Virginian." There's a surprisingly grand early 20th-century hotel in town, aptly named "The Virginian."*





*This is a WBCCI Courtesy Parking plug. Our sheep farmer hosts in Buhl, ID, talked us into staying a couple extra nights so we could join them at the Idaho Club's installation rally in Picabo. They named us their honorary co-hosts.*



*Here's an obligatory cat photo. The guys are watching a chipmunk at Vedauwoo Glen Road dispersed camping in the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. Sure, you can see I-80 in the distance out the other window, but you have to endure a mile of washboard dirt road to get here.*



*If you blow down I-84 along the Columbia River to Portland, you might miss the Port of Arlington RV Park. Arlington is hometown to Doc Severinsen, Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show" bandleader.*



*If you drive the less popular Washington side of the Columbia River, you can make a stop at Maryhill Stonehenge, a WW I memorial.*

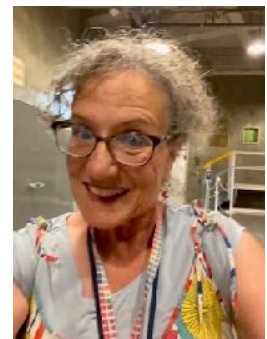


*I'd be surprised if anyone told me they've stayed at Lemhi Hole Access in Salmon, ID. I'd have to ask the osprey family above our Airstream for confirmation.*



**(L)** Perhaps THE most interesting stop was the Experimental Breeder Reactor-I (EBR-I) Atomic Museum in Butte County, ID. Part of the Idaho National Laboratory, it was the first power plant to produce electricity using atomic energy ... IN 1951!!!

*If you're lucky you'll get a fascinating tour from a wacky nuclear physicist and "Star Trek" fan who will take your picture at various locations in the plant after warning you that you WILL end up with her selfie on your camera. **(R)***



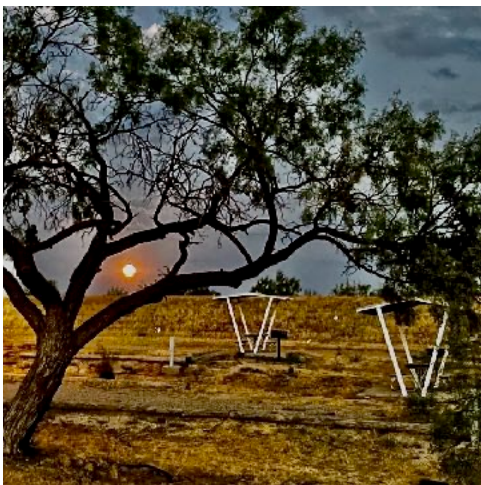




We love city parks. 3 examples: Tourist Camping, Odessa, WA (3 nights free, park on grass, shared water and 20 amp); Karrer Park, McCook, NE (3 nights free, 50 amp at site, shared water, dump station); Hugo Railway Park lot at the Hugo, CO city park (dry camping, must love trains—the tracks are RIGHT THERE!)



We also love quirky little museums. 3 examples: Colorado Model Train Museum, Greeley, CO (awesome layout); Cimarron Heritage Museum, Boise City, OK (huge collection of everything); Waylon Jennings Museum inside Waymore Liquors, Littlefield, TX (two of our Austin musician friends who are Waylon fans didn't know about this one; it's run by Waylon's brother)



Two more favorites where we've stayed multiple times.

**(L)** Elm Creek Reservoir / W. Lee Colburn Park, Winters, TX (8/30/23 supermoon & blue moon)

Crow Valley Family Campground in Pawnee National Grasslands, Briggsdale, CO **(R)**



## FROM OUR MEMBERS

### Pool Table, part II

from David Majkowski

This one's an oversight following on last month's oversight.

Did I mention that Richard Redding was kind enough to buy us a new cover for our repaired pool table?

Why ... NO!!

Well I'm mentioning it now. Thanks Dick! May you find the right pocket for all your balls.

### Paw Pals Garage Sale

from Kim Majkowski

Paw Pals will be holding their annual garage sale Saturday,

9/23, and Sunday, 9/24, at the Hillsboro outlet mall. Normally scheduled for October, this is the largest fundraiser of the year for our local animal shelter. Come

have some fun finding something you need—or maybe even something you didn't know you needed—while raising money for a worthy cause.

### Hill College Concert

from Bob & Marne Kaemmerer

Hill College is presenting its first FREE concert of the season on Thursday evening, September 7th, at 7:30 PM at the Performing Arts Center on campus. Doors will open at 7 PM. This is particularly exciting because this is a celebration of

the Centennial of Hill College and the 30th Anniversary of the Performing Art Series.

*ELEVATION* is a "dynamic group ... which combines high-energy vocal and instrumental performance with choreography and lighting effects to provide a unique evening of entertainment. The group covers

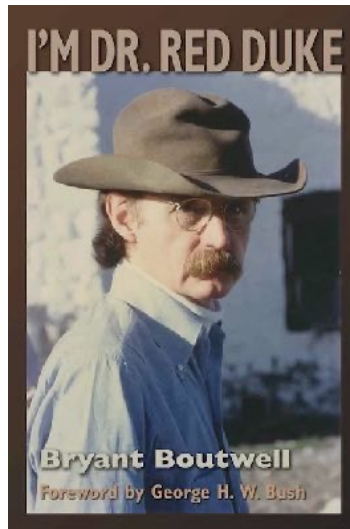
a variety of musical styles and eras that engage audiences of all ages."

We have found that these concerts rarely disappoint. Oh, and did you know, the Performing Arts Center has been newly renovated over the summer?

### September Book Club

from Marne Kaemmerer

Book Club will have its first meeting in a couple of weeks ... Thursday, Sept. 7th at 1 PM (the Thursday after Labor Day). We will be discussing *I'm Dr. Red Duke*, by Bryant Boutwell. This is a biography of a fascinating local man, Dr. James Henry "Red" Duke, Jr. who was born in Ennis TX, raised right here in Hillsboro, did his college studies in the Metroplex, and spent most of his medical career at M.D. Anderson



in Houston. He was an ordained Baptist minister, a medical missionary to Afghanistan, a dedicated conservationist, as well as a skilled surgeon. He developed *Life Flight*, one of the first helicopter EMS programs in the nation.

Whether you've read the book or not, you might want to come—the Card Room is air conditioned and it's one of the few indoor activities going on right now.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Happy September Birthday!

Frank Steed (4th); Becky Grey & Judy Schwarz (5th); David Brandon (10th); David Smith (11th); David Majkowski (15th) (mid-September is a good time for Davids); Eglina Schmitt (16th); Douglas Cunningham (19th); Carol Sajovich & Deb Stuneck (21st); Bruce Nutt (22nd); Lodon Dobbs & Debbie Landers (24th); Debi Rich (25th); John Green (26th).

### Happy September Anniversary!

Tom & Norma Collier (1st); Mark & Mary Glasnapp (3rd); Norm & Linda Beu and Steve & Danna Pohler (5th); Ray & Eglina Schmitt (10th); David & Beverly Thorne (23rd).

### Share Transfer

Lot 105 transferred from Sills to Brandon on August 11.

## @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						
September-23						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1-Sep	2-Sep
					8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga 10A Bridge - Card Room	
					Fischer Rally	
3-Sep Labor Day	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga 2-4P Canasta Card Rm	5:30P Potluck	9-10 Yoga	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311 Book Club 1-2 p	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga 10A Bridge - Card Room	
Fischer Rally		Joker - After Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavilion	2-4 Canasta Card Rm		
10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep	15-Sep	16-Sep
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga		9-10 Yoga	9:30 Board workshop Card Room Closed	8:30A - Weights	
4:00 Ice Cream 4:30 Bean Bag Baseball	2-4P Canasta Card Rm	5:30P Potluck	10:15 Ladies Club Card Rm	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311 2-4 Canasta Card Rm	9-10A Yoga 10A Bridge - Card Room	5P Shop Talk - Pavilion
		Joker - After Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavilion			
17-Sep	18-Sep	19-Sep	20-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga 2-4P Canasta Card Rm	9:00A Board Meeting	9-10 Yoga		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
4:00 Ice Cream 4:30 Bean Bag Baseball		5:30P Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavilion	10 Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311 2-4 Canasta Card Rm		5P Shop Talk - Pavilion
		Joker - After Potluck		Lonestar FMCA Rally		
24-Sep	25-Sep	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep
	8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga		9-10 Yoga		8:30A - Weights 9-10A Yoga	
4:00 Ice Cream 4:30 Bean Bag Baseball	2-4P Canasta Card Rm	5:30P Potluck	10:15 Ladies Club Card Rm	10A Knitting & Such @ Mary Ellen's 311	10A Bridge - Card Room	5P Shop Talk - Pavilion
Lonestar FMCA Rally		Joker - After Potluck	5P Ladies Social Hr Card Rm & Shop Talk- Pavilion	2-4 Canasta Card Rm		

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## 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](http://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>

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## 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](mailto: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>