



## Election rally is this weekend in Maumelle Park

BY MARK MAGIE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

More than 30 campers are signed up for the Arkansas Razorback Unit's fall election rally set for September 17-20, 2015 at Little Rock's Maumelle Park. The address is 9009 Pinnacle Valley Road, Little Rock, Ark., 72223.

On Thursday, unit members and guests will begin arriving. The only activity is Happy Hour at 4 p.m.

Friday's schedule includes a *Tour of Homes on Wheels* at 3 p.m., where those who want can open their Airstreams for others to visit, followed by Happy Hour at 4 p.m., and a dinner at 5 p.m. catered by Corky's Ribs & BBQ restaurant. A game of *Airstream Trivia* will be played at 7 p.m. with prizes for winners.

Saturday's activities begin at 9:30 a.m. with the unit business meeting and the election of officers to serve from Oct. 1, 2015 through Sept. 20, 2016. There will be punch and cookies following the meeting honoring new members and officers.

At 11 a.m., campers will caravan to Lost Forty Brewing for lunch and a tour, followed by Happy Hour at 4 p.m. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. featuring some entrees prepared in Dutch ovens.

At dusk, there will be ice cream and a movie.

On Sunday, campers will depart. A complete schedule with additional information is on Page 2 in this issue of *Riveted Razorback*.

Those with questions can contact rally organizers Mark Magie and Annette Murray in site B22.



**EURKEA SPRINGS** - Also known as "The Little Switzerland of America" is one of the stops for campers taking part in the Razorback Unit's Caravan next May.

## 2016 caravan to explore NWA, campers can 'come-and-go'

BY PAUL MOORE

RAZORBACK UNIT CARAVAN CHAIRMAN

The Arkansas Razorback Caravan will be Thursday, May 12 to Sunday, May 22, 2016 beginning in Fort Smith, then to Rogers, then to Eureka Springs.

The format will be a "come-and-go" caravan, where campers can do the whole caravan or any part of it. There will be a \$10 non-refundable caravan fee.

There will be plenty to do and also plenty of time to just relax:

*In Fort Smith* - Visit the barbershop where Elvis Presley got his first Army haircut, ride a restored rail trolley, tour the original and second Fort Smith, tour Judge Isaac Parker's courthouse, jail and gallows, visit the cemetery where most of the executed criminals are buried, visit a real

"bawdy house," and tour Fort Smith's Museum of History.

*In Rogers* - Visit the Daisy Airgun Museum, tour the Walmart Museum - Sam Walton's 5 & 10 cent store, tour Crystal Bridges - art gallery & museum and grounds, tour Pea Ridge Civil War Battlefield, tour Wild Wilderness Safari, visit War Eagle Mill, and tour War Eagle Cavern.

*In Eureka Springs* - visit Thorncrown Chapel, tour a local winery, visit the Christ of the Ozarks, take The Holy Land tour, see the Great Passion Play, and tour Eureka Springs.

Participants must make their own reservations and pay their own way. Anyone interested should e-mail me at [paullrarausa@yahoo.com](mailto:paullrarausa@yahoo.com) for details.



## Arkansas Razorback Unit of WBCCI

### **FALL ELECTION RALLY**

September 17-21, 2015

Maumelle Park

9009 Pinnacle Valley Road

Little Rock, Ark. 72223

Organizers – Mark Magie, 501-684-4794, [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com)  
Annette Murray, 501-681-2071, [annettem61@att.net](mailto:annettem61@att.net)

To reserve a campsite, call 877-444-6777 or visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (Ask for Loop B)  
Rally fee – Adults, \$20 / Children, \$10

#### Thursday, Sept. 17

Arrive and set up

4 p.m. – Happy Hour at the canopies in Loop B – BYO beverages, snacks, chairs  
Meet and greet new members and guests

5:30 p.m. – Dinner and evening entertainment on your own

#### Friday, Sept. 18

Breakfast and lunch on your own

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Tour of Homes on Wheels

4 p.m. – Happy Hour at the canopies in Loop B – BYO beverages, snacks, chairs

5 p.m. – Catered dinner at the canopies in Loop B – BYO beverages, chairs



7 p.m. – Airstream Trivia at the canopies in Loop B – great prizes!

#### Saturday, Sept. 19

Breakfast on your own

9:30 a.m. – Unit Business Meeting at Pavilion No. 4

Election of officers to serve Oct. 1, 2015 – Sept. 30, 2016

Reception, punch and cookies, for new officers and new members

11 a.m. – Caravan to Lost Forty lunch and tour, 501 Byrd St., Little Rock



4 p.m. – Happy Hour at Pavilion 4 – BYO beverages, snacks, chairs

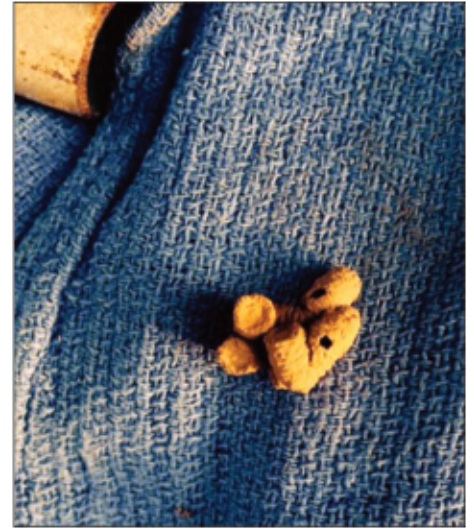
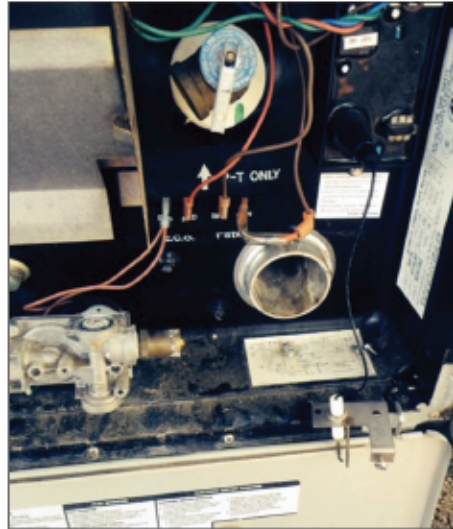
5 p.m. – Dutch Oven owners are cooking dinner! If you are not cooking, bring a side dish.

Dusk – Movie night and ice cream at the canopies in Loop B

#### Sunday, Sept. 20

Depart for home. Happy and safe travels to all!

# Don't let pesky insects interrupt a hot shower



**WATER HEATER FIX** - Left, clogged burner orifice. Center, water heater assembly. Right, insect nests removed.

**BY LARRY MADDEN**  
RAZORBACK UNIT PRESIDENT

If you had to describe that sound a modern Airstream's hot water heater makes while heating the six or eight gallons of water, a blow touch would be appropriate. It's a sound we have all become familiar with and is a good indication the system is working as designed. While our Airstreams have many different systems integrated into them for our comfort, the hot water tank is the one that has always impressed me the most.

Our particular model of hot water tank holds six gallons of water and while some models have dual heating options (gas or electric), ours is gas only. Over the years we have had good service from our water heater, continually supplying us with ample amount of hot water for all our needs.

While these hot water heaters are not technically classified as "on demand systems," they offer many of the benefits associated with on demand systems. We have never run short of hot water while showering or for other requirements.

With wife Terry's blessing, I hooked up "Lucy" and made my way up to Bull Shoals for seven days of fishing and just some time to relax. As I settled in this beautiful state park, I could feel a sense of relief; everything seemed to be working properly and I had time to do some fishing before sunset.

As an afterthought I flipped on the water heater so I could have hot shower when I returned from an early evening of fishing. As I was leaving, it dawned on me I could not hear the rushing noise normally made by the hot water tank when it is operating.

As I opened the exterior access door to the water heater controls, I could see a very lazy gentle flame that was mostly red and yellow. While I was relieved to see the system turned on properly and was burning, clearly there was a problem. Normally there is a blue



heater.

Reviewing the operation and maintenance manual, I found on page five a paragraph titled: Preventative Maintenance. It begins with: "spiders, mud wasps and other insects can and will build nests in the burner tube," followed with the symptoms of such an obstruction. I felt this was the answer to my issue and began the process removing a nest if any.

I decided to go a step further than the procedure outlined in the manual (It's a guy-thing ladies. We like to take stuff apart to see how it works). I removed four sheet metal screws and removed the burner orifice and pilot assembly. For me, it was a much easier way to see into the tube and clean it by removing it.

To my delight, I found the problem. It was an insect nest of some sort and it was blocking the entire burner tube. One good shake of the tube and the nest fell to the ground. I reassembled the water heater components and proceeded with an operational check. The water heater has returned to normal operation.

This fix took me fewer than 20 minutes. The manufacturer's manual was an invaluable tool to help educate me and resolve the issue. As I returned to fishing, all my thoughts and concerns were replaced with a renewed focus on catching dinner!

flame shooting out from the burner tube into the heat exchanger similar to a B1 Bomber's afterburner! The problem was there was no force behind the flame.

Not sure what was causing the issue, my first thought was the possibility of low propane pressure. I verified that the propane tanks were both opened all the way, then turned on the stove - it was working as advertised. Comfortable that the lack of propane was not the issue, I dug out the Atwood spec sheet for the hot water

# Wally Byam: No changes, only improvements

Reflecting on this past year, I found it to have been a very busy and exciting one. It was full of opportunity for me to grow and better understand the operations of WBCCI.

Admittedly, I was somewhat overwhelmed with the "Blue Book" and all the processes necessary for a club the size of WBCCI to function. I am a long way from grasping all the ins and outs, but slowly making headway.

During this year's International Rally, Terry and I took full advantage of the many seminars, which we found to be very helpful. We also found time and engaged in conversation with a variety of long time WBCCI members and newer members as well. We left the International Rally with a feeling there are new ideas in the air. A mindset that the time has come to evolve with the new demographic of Airstream owners, while maintaining the great traditions of WBCCI.

Jim Schwerdfeger, our new International President, will be leading the effort. He has outlined five initiatives he will pursue:

1. Encourage the formation of more caravans, more special events and national event rallies and a new category, special rallies not linked to a specific event.

2. Encourage Units and Regions to plan rallies designed to attract and retain new members.

3. Pursue expansion of the Club into countries where there is a significant Airstream presence.

4. Strengthen the Club's ties with Airstream and with Thor.

5. Initiate dialogue and perhaps shared events with other RV organizations.

Wally Byam's philosophy in the manufacture of Airstream Trailers was to "make no changes, only improvements." I think this is a fitting approach to the WBCCI Club as well.

Live long and prosper.

Larry Madden

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**LARRY MADDEN**  
**RAZORBACK UNIT**

## 2016 membership dues now payable

Razorback Unit treasurer Carole Barton reminds Arkansas Razorback Unit members that it is time to pay 2016 dues.

"I am requesting that your dues be sent to reach me no later than October 25, 2015, if you wish to be listed in the 2016 WBCCI Membership Directory," Barton said. WBCCI dues must be paid through the unit.

\$70 cash or checks made payable to the Arkansas Razorback Unit may be given to Barton at the Fall Election Rally or mailed to 1178 Cliff Road, Russellville, AR 72802.

Barton's Sept. 2, 2015 email sent to all current members has a WBCCI form attached for information and changes, to accompany the dues.

## NEWSMAKERS



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/2 - David Gulley  
9/15 - Dorr Moore  
9/21 - Rick Perryman  
9/29 - V.J. Carter

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

9/5 - Jonathan & Katie Gulley  
9/17 - B.J. & Donna McNair  
9/18 - Ron & Susan Johnson

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/5 - John Sturdy  
10/17 - Carole Barton

### OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/9 - Carl & Joyce Fitzhugh

The next Arkansas Razorback Unit luncheon will be different! It will be on **Saturday, Oct. 3**, at 11:30 a.m. at the Mount Magazine State Park lodge in the Skycrest Restaurant. This is more convenient to the NWA members and lodging and camping are options.

## SAVE THE DATES -

For the latest information on upcoming events, check the Razorback Unit website at [www.arkansasrazorback.wbcci.net](http://www.arkansasrazorback.wbcci.net)



- ++ SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2015 - Razorback Unit Fall Election rally, Maumelle Park, Little Rock  
- Make reservations in B loop at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (Please RSVP to Mark Magie)
- ++ **OCTOBER 3, 2015 - Unit luncheon, Mount Magazine State Park lodge, Skycrest Restaurant**
- ++ OCTOBER 13-17, 2015, Pine Cones & Pearls Region 6 rally, Picayune, MS
- ++ NOVEMBER 5-8, 2015, Razorback Unit buddy rally, Buffalo Point National Park  
- Make reservations in area C at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (Please RSVP to Jason Landrum)
- ++ DECEMBER 3, 2015 - Unit luncheon (dates, location to be determined)