

# 'Riveting' describes 2017 events

Now is the time (if not already too late) to drag out the calendar and begin planning camping adventures for 2017. The Arkansas Razorback Unit's schedule of events is chock-full of opportunities that offer breathtaking beauty and adventure across "The Natural State."

And don't forget the bimonthly luncheons. The first luncheon of 2017 is Feb. 2 in Little Rock for pizza lovers. Others ahead include a new location for the unit - Heifer Ranch in Perryville in April, a Founder's Day luncheon in June in Little Rock, back to the state capital in August for barbecue lovers, Wiederkehr Weinkeller near Altus in October to kick off the second-annual Arkaluma, and finally, a December Christmas luncheon at an unnamed location. Santa hasn't decided.

"Because of distance and jobs, it's difficult for some to attend, but those who do manage to go enjoy visiting, catching up on news and exchanging travel stories," said Mark Magie, unit president. "Your Board of Directors has arranged for locations based on the first-Thursday-of-every-other-month tradition, but dates could be changed to accommodate members who prefer a Saturday if there is enough interest," Magie said. The president would appreciate any feedback on making luncheons more accessible to everyone.

Unit Treasurer Paul Moore has arranged a Sunken Lands Caravan in east Arkansas in April with stops at Lake Charles State Park near Powhatan, Lake Poinsette State Park near Harrisburg (and close to Johnny Cash's boyhood home), and ending at Village Creek State Park outside Wynne. The "come-and-go" caravan is designed for those who can participate in only a few days or the entire event.

The first opportunity for camping this year is for baseball lovers. A "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" rally is in April at the Road Hog Park in Fayetteville. The week-



**Baum Stadium** - The unit's first 2017 rally is in Fayetteville in April. Batter up!

end coincides with a tripleheader of games between the Arkansas Razorbacks and LSU at nearby Baum Stadium. "We are supporting our namesake!" Magie said.

The Spring Rally will be in April at the final destination of the Sunken Lands Caravan, Village Creek State Park near Wynne.

Head west to the other side of the state for the next unit camping opportunity, convenient to the northwest Arkansas members, at Devil's Den State Park in June. It is a buddy rally so members may invite other campers who are not Airstreamers.

After the scorching hot summer months, camping resumes in September at the Aux Arc Campground at Ozark Lake, the site of the Fall Election Rally.

Those who attended the first Arkaluma at Mulberry Mountain in northwest Arkansas in 2016 can attest to the fun and excitement of boondocking. Get ready for the second annual Arkaluma in October, dubbed "Burning Mouse" by last year's boondockers at a late, late-night campfire.

The year ends with a return to the Buffalo National River for a weekend rally

at Buffalo Point. Campers enjoy the beauty of the cliffs and bluffs that define the national river.

"The schedule has a lot of variety and we're looking for other opportunities that offer out-of-the-box camping and fun times. If we can find an agreeable downtown, we will try an Urban Air campout, parking our rigs along a city's Main Street for a night or two. May is an open month, so stay tuned," Magie said.

A page included in this issue of *Riveted Razorback* has dates and contact information for all the scheduled events. Reservation periods will occur throughout the year, so look for emails, news items in the *Riveted Razorback*, and check the unit website and Facebook page for those announcements. It is advised to book as early as possible. "One thing we've learned in planning the 2017 calendar is that we should be working farther out on 2018," the president added. "We have tried to offer many fun adventures this year, so many in fact, that it would be a challenge to attend everything. Enjoy as much as you're able!" the president encouraged.



# Shelley's soulful voice heard with Duke, Alabama

BY MARK MAGIE  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Editor's Note:** *Arkansas Razorback Unit member and director Michael Shelley was one of 50 business leaders featured in a recent issue of Arkansas Business. The article originally appeared Jan. 18, 2016. The "Exec Q&A" is shared here, with permission from the journal.*

Michael A. Shelley is state president of U.S. Bank in Arkansas. He plays piano for relaxation, sings in the Immanuel Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir and with the River City Men's Chorus and has performed with the music group Alabama and with Duke Ellington.

**Arkansas has seemed to be an outpost of your company, yet U.S. Bank is the 11th largest by deposits of 129 banks doing business in the state. What has been your strategy for gaining market share?** With 42 branch locations and 43 ATMs in the state, Arkansas is an important market for U.S. Bank. We have gained market share in Arkansas through building skilled teams to provide first-rate customer service in consumer as well as commercial and commercial real estate banking. What we do really well in Arkansas is provide credit to consumers and businesses. In 2015, we provided over \$315 million in new commercial, consumer and mortgage loans.

**You'll be retiring at the end of January. What are you proudest of achieving at U.S. Bank?** The team we have built. The bank gave me the entrepreneurial freedom to create and mold business units to meet the needs of our communities in Arkansas. You cannot find that sort of creative freedom at other large companies. The ability to identify, hire and mentor people and then to see them succeed and grow has been the best part of my leadership role.

**How has technology changed banking during your career?** Technological changes in banking transformed the man-

ner and speed of processing transactions and the manner in which we interact with customers. Many customer encounters are now electronic, and that requires robust systems and frequent technology updates.

**You've been active in the community in central Arkansas. What will retirement look like for you?** It looks pretty busy. In planning for retirement, I moved off some boards and in most cases had some of my senior staff replace me. Baptist Health has always had a special place in my heart; I am moving to a more active role on that board in 2016. We love to ride bicycles, so you can look for me to be on the River Trail quite a bit. I also hope to spend more time at the piano and with my grandchildren.

**Tell us about your performances with Duke Ellington and Alabama. Duke Ellington and his band came to Dallas to perform his jazz mass in 1973. I was a college music student and**



**Camping friends** - Michael Shelley, standing, visits with Robert Anthony last fall at the unit's 50th anniversary celebration at Bull Shoals State Park.

singing this with them. The song was a hit and is found on their "Cheap Seats" and "Greatest Hits III" albums. I ended up singing three different background parts and my voice was doubled, so there are six of me on the song. My wife, Judy, and our youngest son, Aaron, also sing on the recording. Aaron is in the music video as well. We performed the song live at June Jam in Fort Payne, Alabama, before about 50,000 fans.



ner was selected to sing the tenor solo in the performance. Duke told me I "had a lot of soul for a white boy," the highest musical compliment I could have received. In the 1990s I had the good fortune to serve as banker to the band Alabama, and we became friends with band members Randy Owen and Teddy Gentry. Teddy called me from a recording studio in Nashville and said they were looking at a new song, "Angels Among Us," and Randy said he "could hear Michael"

**Background:** Shelley is responsible for commercial, consumer and trust banking throughout Arkansas. He has more than 30 years of experience as a commercial banking executive, corporate CFO and CPA. Shelley is a member and director of Fifty for the Future, a trustee of Baptist Health, has served as president of the Baptist Health Foundation and now serves as a member of that foundation's advisory board.

**Education:** Shelley earned a BBA in accounting at the University of North Texas and is a Certified Public Accountant.



# Rust can be a hidden nuisance that's preventable

BY LARRY MADDEN  
RAZORBACK UNIT PAST PRESIDENT

During the Arkaluma Rally at Mulberry Mountain, one of our members had some bad luck. Both of their Airstream batteries failed during this dry camping event. Had shore power been available, battery failure would have been more of a nuisance than the big inconvenience it turned out to be (driving to Sears in Fort Smith for replacement batteries). Dry camping necessitates the need for battery power to operate everything that runs on 12-volt DC.

Depending on your Airstream's configuration, the batteries can be somewhat difficult to access; you know the old saying, "out of sight, out of mind." I decided to give our batteries a good look and to hopefully avoid falling into darkness like our friends did.

During the inspection of the batteries I found the electrolyte was at the prescribed level, the state of charge (voltage output) was 12.70

volts, all good so far. Although the date stickers reflect the batteries are now four years old, I am feeling pretty good at this point. However, I took note of some pretty serious corrosion build up around the battery terminals which needed my immediate attention.



I decided to remove the batteries from their storage compartment to make the cleaning process a little easier. It was at this point I discovered the bottom of the battery compartment had some substantial rust damage.

Our Airstream (Lucy) is eight years old, and the last time I had the batteries out was four years ago when I replaced them. The batteries sit in a plastic cradle which insulates them from the steel compartment floor. I have no idea how long this rust has been eating the metal, but if I had done a better inspection four years ago, I am sure I would have avoided the damage and aggravation.

While the rust damage was substantial, I caught it before it became a necessity to replace the battery box. What it did require was a few hours of scraping rust with a putty knife in combination with a drill-mounted circular wire brush for cleaning the metal to a rust-free condition. Then a small investment of cash buying a rust inhibitor, paint and a spray can of Flex Seal.

I want to make something very clear to our members and anyone who might read this installment of Squeaky Wheel. Corrosion on battery terminals is due to hydrogen gas being released from the acid (electrolyte) in the battery. Hydrogen gas is very explosive, just like the bomb! It is imperative you are extremely careful when working around batteries because any errant spark can send you and the battery "to the moon Alice!" for those of you who watched the Honeymooners on television years ago.

Once I finished removing the rust from the metal, I applied a rust inhibitor, followed by a coat of Flex Seal to coat the battery box with a water and fume-proof seal. The final step was to apply two coats of Airstream's pewter gray frame paint, ensuring everything matched



**HIDDEN RUST** - Damage from rust discovered under batteries.



**AS GOOD AS NEW** - "A" frame finished paint job.

perfectly. After cleaning the battery terminals, I then applied a corrosion protectant to them. Reinstalling the batteries was the last step.

"Why stop there?" I asked myself. I have the time and materials, so I decided to also rehab the "A" frame. It was showing some wear with chipped paint and surface rust. I removed the propane tank holder and everything else mounted on the frame, then sanded the frame starting with 220-grit and working up to 440-grit for an extra smooth finish ready for paint.

Once finished, I stood back to admire my work; it almost looks new! My investment in time, energy and money was worth it. In the future, I will inspect the battery compartment at least a couple of times a year. While satisfied with the repair, I know once rust shows up, it's a sure bet it will be back.



## Christmas luncheon features private showing of Basecamp



**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** - Gathered at Cajun's in Little Rock on Dec. 1 are from left, standing: Paul Moore, Jason Landrum, Melissa Anthony, Arnie Jester, Amanda Pace-Welch, Laura Wessinger, Martha Moore, Jerry and Brenda Nelson, B.J. Davis and Jacqui Lincoln. Seated: Dana Landrum, Annette Murray, Jane and Jim Pankey (with Flat Wally), Ivy Lincoln, Mark Magie, (another Flat Wally) and Dave Wessinger. Not pictured: Bill Shirey and Karen Franks of Crain RV.



**NEW MODEL** - Above, Crain RV in Little Rock displays its new Basecamp Airstream at the luncheon. At right, Jason Landrum and Ivy Lincoln inspect the Basecamp interior.



**GETTING AROUND** - Unit member Carole Barton introduced Flat Wally to Airstreamers on the Southeast Coast Spectacular caravan in October and November. Flat Wally was invited to the Halloween costume party (back row on the far left side). Another celebrity was Barry Bell, WBCCI International 2nd Vice President, and his wife Karen, also members of the caravan. He is pictured at right, the pirate with the big sword and she is dressed as a witch. Barton is fourth from the left, not counting Wally!







*Don't stop. Keep right on going. Go someplace you've heard about where you can fish or hunt or collect rocks or just look up at the sky. Find out what's at the end of some country road. Go see what's over the next hill, and the one after that, and the one after that.*

-- WALLY BYAM

## 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)

Feb. 2, 2017 Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., U.S. Pizza, 2710 Kavanaugh Blvd., Little Rock.  
RSVP to Susan Gill, [gillpine@yahoo.com](mailto:gillpine@yahoo.com) or (501) 309-5480.

Apr. 6, 2017 Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., Heifer Ranch, 41 Union Valley Rd., Perryville.  
RSVP to Arnie Jester, [ajester2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ajester2002@yahoo.com) or (501) 889-2616.

Apr. 7-9, 2017 Take Me Out to the Ball Game Rally - Road Hog Park, 1159 W. 15th St., Fayetteville.  
Razorbacks v. LSU in Baum Stadium. Make reservations through Tim Welch, [timwelch85@hotmail.com](mailto:timwelch85@hotmail.com) or (870) 451-2388.

Apr. 20-27, 2017 Sunken Lands Caravan - Contact Paul Moore, [paul@ark.us](mailto:paul@ark.us) or (501) 993-2148.

Apr. 27-30, 2017 Village Creek State Park Spring Rally - Reserve site at [arkansasstateparks.com](http://arkansasstateparks.com).  
Contact Jason Landrum, [jdlandrum@mac.com](mailto:jdlandrum@mac.com) or (501) 837-0001.

May 19-22, 2017 Rally - To Be Announced

June 1, 2017 Founder's Day Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., BJ's Brew House, 2624 Shackleford Rd., Little Rock.  
RSVP to Robert Anthony, [antjori@sbcglobal.net](mailto:antjori@sbcglobal.net) or (501) 350-7793. (WBCCI: 6/21/1957, ARU005: 6/27/1966)

June 8-11, 2017 Devil's Den State Park Buddy Rally - Reserve sites 52 - 67 at [arkansasstateparks.com](http://arkansasstateparks.com).  
Contact Jeff Dalrymple, [fdcaptjd@gmail.com](mailto:fdcaptjd@gmail.com) or (479) 549-8601.

July 22-28, 2017 WBCCI International Rally - Escanaba, Mich.

Aug. 3, 2017 Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., Corky's Ribs & BBQ, 12005 Westhaven Dr., Little Rock  
RSVP to Michael Shelley, [michaelalanshelley@gmail.com](mailto:michaelalanshelley@gmail.com) or (501) 944-1330.

Sept. 14-17, 2017 Fall Election Rally - Aux Arc Campground at Ozark Lake, 1314 Aux Arc Park Road, Ozark.  
RSVP to Mark Magie, [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com) or (501) 687-4794. Reservation details to follow.

Oct. 5, 2017 Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., Wiederkehr Weinkeller, 3324 Swiss Family Dr., Wiederkehr Village.  
RSVP to Mark Magie, [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com) or (501) 687-4794.

Oct. 5-8, 2017 Second Annual Arkaluma - 4117 Mulberry Mountain Loop, Ozark.  
Make reservations through Jason Landrum, [jdlandrum@mac.com](mailto:jdlandrum@mac.com) or (501) 837-0001.

Oct. 18-22, 2017 Region 6 Rally - Camp Jordon, East Ridge, Tenn.

Nov. 9-12, 2017 Buffalo Point Rally - Buffalo National River. Reserve sites C39 - C48 at [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov).  
Contact Jason Landrum, [jdlandrum@mac.com](mailto:jdlandrum@mac.com) or (501) 837-0001.

Dec. 7, 2017 Christmas Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., location to be announced.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
**MARK MAGIE**  
ARKANSAS RAZORBACK UNIT

## And we wait ...

Christmas decorations are boxed and stored, New Year's has been properly observed with black-eyed peas and greens for luck in 2017, and we wait. Unless you are one of those who venture south to avoid the often-times frigid temperatures in our state, we wait. And on those occasional 70-degree days in January, we wish we were not waiting, but instead out enjoying nature with our Airstreams. But we wait. Patiently.

Some use the winter months for making repairs to their rigs while waiting. Others block off days on the calendar for camping when the weather is nicer ... while waiting.

Martin Luther King Day ... waiting ... Valentine's Day ... waiting ... Presidents' Day ... waiting ... Daylight Savings Time change ... waiting ... St. Patrick's Day ... waiting ... April Fools Day ... almost there!

The first camping adventure for 2017 for our unit is one we've never tried before -- a *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* rally in Fayetteville, April 7-9. It is an opportunity for our northwest Arkansas members to camp closer to home, and a chance for everyone else to experience a new campground, Road Hog Park. The Arkansas Razorback men's baseball team will play the LSU Tigers in a triple header, and those who wish to do so can attend any or all the games. Transportation is available to Baum Stadium though it is only a short walk from the campground. Unit member Tim Welch has volunteered to make the arrangements (thanks Tim!) and his contact information is on the Save The Dates page in this newsletter.

But, the first opportunity for everyone to get together is right around the corner at the unit luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 2 at U.S. Pizza in Little Rock. There are several U.S. Pizza locations, so be sure you go to the one listed on the Save The Dates page. Unit director Susan Gill is hosting (thanks Susan!) so let her know if you will attend.

There are many opportunities to camp with fellow Riveted Razorbackers this year. Annette and I hope to see you along the way. In the meantime, while you're waiting ... safe travels!

*Mark Magie*

## Cooking around the campfire

Ever notice how food tastes especially wonderful when enjoyed with friends around a campfire? Many times, people ask for recipes for a dessert or appetizer or entree they taste at a rally, but everyone goes home and the recipe is forgotten.

No longer! Please use this space to share recipes for all to see. Simply email them to the newsletter editor at [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com)

The recipe below for Sweet 'n Sour Beans is one Terry Madden cooked at Arkaluma this past fall, and it was a hit.

### Sweet 'n Sour Beans

**INGREDIENTS:**

8 bacon strips, diced  
2 medium onions, thinly sliced  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup cider vinegar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon ground mustard  
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder  
1 can (28 oz.) baked beans, undrained  
1 can (16 oz.) kidney beans, rinsed and drained  
1 can (15.5 oz.) pinto beans, rinsed and drained  
1 can (15 oz.) lima beans, rinsed and drained  
1 can (15.5 oz.) black-eyed peas, rinsed and drained

**DIRECTIONS:** In a large skillet, cook bacon until crisp. Remove to paper towels. Drain, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings. In the drippings, saute onions until tender. Add brown sugar, vinegar, salt, mustard and garlic powder. Bring to a boil. In a slow cooker, combine beans and peas. Add onion mixture and bacon; mix well. Cover and cook on high for 3 to 4 hours or until heated through. **YIELD:** 15-20 servings.

## RAZORBACK NEWSMAKERS

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/4 - Laura Wessinger  
1/17 - Ian Artz  
1/26 - Charles Duran

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/16 - Bill & Charlene Allen

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/8 - Melissa Anthony  
2/11 - Mary Gulley  
2/16 - Herbert Carter  
2/17 - Martha Moore  
2/23 - Charlene Allen  
2/25 - Bill McNair

### FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2/14 Happy Valentine's Day to all the love birds!



Save your tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Turn them in at an upcoming rally.



Remember to pack Flat Wally wherever you travel. Take and send your photos to the newsletter.