



## Get ready, get set, go camping!

The 2018 camping season is underway for the members of the Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club, and as of presstime, two rallies are under the belt!

The first was the "Take Me Out to the Ball Game Rally" on April 6-8 with nine rigs attending at Road Hog Park in Fayetteville. The group dined at the popular Catfish Hole and watched the UofA Razorback baseball team defeat the Auburn Tigers, 13-2.

A dusting of snow one morning and cool temperatures were no match for warm smiles and hot fires while tailgating at the Road Hog pavilion.

The second rally of the 2018 season was the "In The Willows Springs Business Rally" at Willow Beach Park near Scott. For most, this was their first time at Willow Beach and from the comments, it won't be the last. The park is sandwiched on land between the Arkansas River and an oxbow lake. Everyone agreed it offers some of the most beautiful sunsets.

There were 14 rigs attending. Some of the activities included a shrimp boil, a tour of the Plantation Agriculture Museum at Scott, some fishing, and a tasting at Rock Town Distillery.

At the business meeting, club members voted to amend the constitution and bylaws to reflect the club's name change from *Arkansas Razorback Unit* to *Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club*, and to purchase 100 decals with the new name, and 25 club flags.

The next event is Strawberry Jam Rally set for May 17-20 at Bald Knob. The boondocking rally is at a music festival ... Arkansas' version of the 1969 Woodstock.



**PEEL 'EM AND EAT 'EM** - What is better than shrimp, corn on the cob, potatoes and onions boiled with Cajun spices served on newspapers? That was on the menu at the Willow Beach Park rally last month, cooked by head chef and Vice-President Jason Landrum. Members brought side dishes and desserts.

### Region 6 plays host to three rallies in October

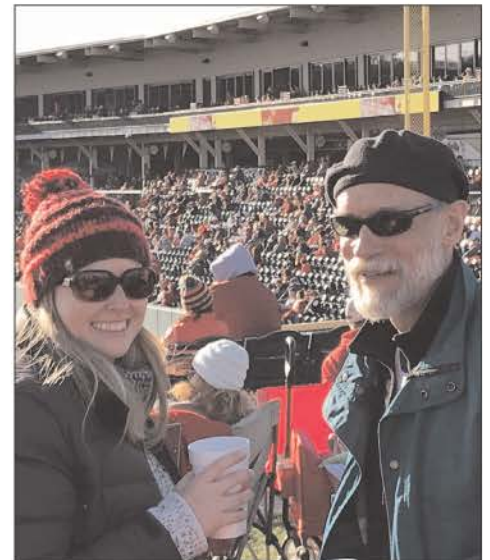
There will be three rallies held in Region 6 this October which attract Airstreamers from all over. The first is Oct. 2-7 in Athens, Ala. at the 52nd annual Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention. Ricky Skaggs is among the entertainment. It is sponsored by the Alabama Unit, waiting on IBT Special Event approval for next year. For more information contact [athens-airstreamrally@gmail.com](mailto:athens-airstreamrally@gmail.com).

The second is the International Storytelling Festival Rally, an IBT Special Event hosted by the East Tennessee Airstream Club, Oct. 4-7 at the Appalachian Fairgrounds in Gray, Tenn. For registration information, contact Harry Herrmann at [harry22222@gmail.com](mailto:harry22222@gmail.com).

The third is the Region 6 Fall Fun in Lebanon Rally, Oct. 15-20 in Lebanon, Tenn. A registration form is in this issue of *Riveted Razorback*.



# Hog rally is season opener for club; home run!



Razorbackers attending the Take Me Out to the Ball Game Rally April 6-8 included Paul Greene and Terri Murdoch, Jeff Dalrymple and Cindy Kugel, Dave and Laura Wessinger, Trent and Jennifer Roberts, Paul Moore, Michael and Judy Shelley, Charles and Jan Heavener, Mark Magie and Annette Murray, and hosts Tim Welch and Amanda Pace-Welch.

This was the second annual baseball rally held at Road Hog Park for the group, which apparently brought good luck to the Hogs -- they won all three games in a series against the Auburn Tigers.

The park pavilion was perfect for a pregame luncheon with what else ... grilled HAMburgers and hot dogs!





# Willow Beach beautiful setting for business rally



Club members attending the Willow Beach rally April 19-22 included Arnie and Eleanor Jester, Jeff Dalrymple and Cindy Kugel, Melissa Anthony and her grandchildren Juliana (9) and Tully (3), Terry O'Brian and Martha Moore, Rick and Debbie Perryman, Paul Greene and Terri Murdoch, Michael Loveless and Carol Talbot, Bob and Dorothy Cooney, Trent and Jennifer Roberts, Paul Moore, Patty Kymer and B.J. Davis, Charles and Jan Heavener, Mark Magie and Annette Murray, Tim Welch and Amanda Pace-Welch, and hosts Jason, Dana, Jane, Henry and Charlie Landrum.





# Museum, distillery give taste of past and present





# 2018 Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club rally calendar

## Events remaining ...

### Reserve your campsites early!

### Instructions below

#### **STRAWBERRY JAM RALLY (Boondocking) / May 17-20, 2018 / Grayson Farms, 241 Prince Cemetery Rd., Bald Knob**

Live music, vendors and Millennials make this Arkansas' version of Woodstock, which in 1969 attracted 400,000 "free spirits and hippies" to a dairy farm in New York State. Last year's event was a last-minute add-on rally and it took a tractor to pull the Airstreams out of a muddy field due to rain which caused the Jam to end early. Even so, everyone who attended had so much fun they want to go again this year. Not recommended for children due to the free spirits.

**RSVP and reserve a site with Paul Moore at [paul@ark.us](mailto:paul@ark.us)**

#### **BUDDIES, BIKES & BREW PUBS RALLY / June 8-10, 2018 / Downtown Riverside RV Park, 50 Riverfront Dr., North Little Rock**

This rally is chock-full of fun! Patio supper overlooking the Arkansas River at Restaurant 42 at the Clinton Library, breakfast at the River Market where you can also shop at the Farmers' Market, a visit to three local breweries in a Pub Crawl, a 16-mile bike ride along the Arkansas River ending at the Capital Hotel Bar & Grill with valet parking for bicycles! Sites are along the river. Campground is 50-amp. Take a 30-amp adapter if required.

**Call Verna at 501-340-5312 by May 1 to book. RSVP to Michael Shelley at [michaelalanshelley@gmail.com](mailto:michaelalanshelley@gmail.com)**

#### **OLD TIME FIDDLE WEEKEND RALLY / Aug. 9-12, 2018 / Ozark RV Park, 1022 Park Ave., Mountain View**

This rally coincides with a fiddle weekend at Ozark Folk Center, which you can walk to from your campsite. The weekend includes nightly concerts featuring some of the premier fiddlers in the world as well as a good ol' fashioned fiddle contest at the Ozark Folk Center State Park, home to more than 20 craft artisans. Fun for all ages. \$28 per night 30 amp, \$32 per night 50 amp.

**Reserve a site by calling Ozark RV Park at 870-269-2542. RSVP to Jan Heavener at [bassnjan@gmail.com](mailto:bassnjan@gmail.com)**

#### **UP, UP & AWAY! FALL ELECTION RALLY / Sept. 6-9, 2018 / Shady Oaks Campground, 960 Hwy. 206 E., Harrison**

This rally coincides with the 22nd Annual Arkansas Hot Air Balloon State Championship. The festival starts on Friday evening with the Hare and Hound Balloon Race. Plan on a business meeting Saturday morning. Saturday evening events begin with balloons tethered to the ground for the exciting balloon glow. Tethered rides are \$5/person on Saturday. The event continues through Sunday with several Balloon Race Competitions for all to enjoy.

**Call Melissa at (870) 743-2343 to book a site. RSVP to Mark Magie at [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com)**

#### **AIRSTREAMS ON THE SQUARE (Streetside boondocking) / Sept. 20-23, 2018 / Downtown El Dorado**

First-ever in Arkansas, urban camping around the Union County Courthouse square in El Dorado. Urban camping is the new craze and we're going to give it a try. Restaurants, coffee shops, bars, shops, Murphy Arts District, churches ... all within walking distance. You'll have 110-electricity to keep your batteries charged. No generators and you shouldn't need an air conditioner in September. Water is available before parking, and a dump station is nearby when leaving.

**RSVP and book a site with Mark Magie at [mark.magie@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.magie@yahoo.com)**

#### **ARKALUMA & GOATS! (Wagonwheel boondocking) / Oct. 4-7, 2018 / Heifer Ranch, 55 Heifer Road, Perryville**

Coincides with the Arkansas Goat Festival on Saturday. Goat parade, costume contest for goats, goat races, "Nannies at Night" Goats in Lingerie fashion show, live music, food, vendors and goats, goats, and more goats!

**RSVP and book a site with Arnie Jester at [ajester2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ajester2002@yahoo.com)**

#### **BUFFALO RIVER RALLY / Nov. 1-4, 2018 / Buffalo Point Campground, Yellville**

We're back this year for our annual rally on the river (the park was closed last year). For those who want to, we can winterize our Airstreams since this is the final club rally before winter hits. Plan on a potluck meal with Dutch oven delights!

**Reserve a site in Loop C at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) RSVP to Jason Landrum at [jdlandrum@mac.com](mailto:jdlandrum@mac.com)**

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## **RAZORBACK NEWSMAKERS**

#### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

5/1 Jennifer Gulley  
5/17 Larry Madden  
5/18 Minnie Bridges  
5/21 Mark Magie  
5/24 Katie Gulley

#### **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

5/6 J.W. & Marie King  
5/14 Bob & Dorothy Cooney  
5/15 Jim & Jane Pankey  
5/27 Jason & Dana Landrum  
5/29 Herbert & V.J. Carter

#### **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

6/2 Bill Allen  
6/5 Jane Landrum  
6/5 Amanda Pace-Welch  
6/7 Terry Madden  
6/12 Donna McNair  
6/15 Bill Barton

#### **JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

6/11 Dave & Laura Wessinger  
6/26 Charles & Emogene Duran



# Round and round we go, deciding on best tires

BY LARRY MADDEN

RAZORBACK UNIT PAST PRESIDENT & REGION 6 2VP

In our nearly ten years of Airstream ownership, I have heard and read more about tires than about any other single topic. I think there are more opinions about tires than Airstreams on the road today!

As any new owner of an Airstream will attest to, there is a tremendous amount of information to digest as you begin your Airstreaming experience. With all there was to learn about our new Airstream, I



paid little or no attention to the tires, with the exception of maintaining the proper tire pressure. Tires seem to be on the bottom of my list for educational purposes. I felt confident of my knowledge base when it came to

tires until I was surprised one Sunday morning on a return trip home from Branson, Mo.

As we stopped for a break I did my usual walk around, looking for any potential problems. It was at this point I noticed one of the tires was so worn I could see part of the steel belt protruding from it. I was very concerned that a tire with so few miles on it could deteriorate in such a manner. I soon discovered we were very lucky that the tire did not come apart and damage our trailer as many Airstream owners have experienced.

Thus started my quest to find a tire that would be safe and reliable. Scouring for hours, weeks and months on Air Forums and other informative websites, I did my best to come to an educated conclusion based on the experiences and expertise of the many thoughtful posts I had read. What I discovered was for every well-intended article, there were three more opposing points of view to it.

There was nothing left to do but figure it out on my own. Armed with some knowledge I had gained, I began talking to different tire dealers asking very straight forward and pointed questions. One whom I have done business with for many years told me he stopped stocking the Goodyear Marathon tires because of their failure rate. As our Airstream was originally equipped with the Goodyear Marathon tires, I started looking for an alternative replacement.

There has been much discussion about replacing "trailer tires" on our Airstreams with light duty truck tires, again both sides of an endless argument. Like most of you, I would love a definitive answer from an "expert," but I was unable to find anyone who would or could tell me what I wanted to hear.

A new trend in the Airstream community is to convert from the 15-inch rims that most of our trailers came equipped with, and retrofit to taller 16-inch rims and 16-inch tires ... the benefit being greater ground clearance. However, there is also the challenge of proper clearance in the wheel well area and the possibility some modifications may be necessary.

After all the debate and sleepless nights, I decided to purchase Michelin Defender LXT M/S 235/75R15 tires for our Airstream. This

tire is slightly wider than the stock tires, but gives more rubber on the road and fits perfectly on our current 15-inch rims.

Our trailer's max gross weight is 7,300 pounds. This number is very important to be certain the tires I bought have a weight rating sufficient enough to safely handle the weight of our Airstream. The Michelin Defender XL (extra load) is rated at 2,271 pounds per tire at 50-psi. This calculates to 9,084 total pounds for four tires. This puts the total load carrying capacity up 1,784 pounds over our gross weight and a number I feel very comfortable with. Another metric to consider is the tire speed rating. The Michelin Defender speed rating is 118-mph, not that I will ever even come close to that!

In comparison, the new upgraded Goodyear Marathon 225/75R15 trailer tires are rated at 2,150 pounds per tire at 65-psi, which calculates to 8,600 pounds for all four tires. The difference between the gross weight of 7,300 pounds and the max tire weight of 8,600

pounds for all four tires is 1,300 pounds. These numbers reflect that the Michelin Defender XL exceeds total weight capacity over the Marathon by 484 pounds. As to the speed rating of the tires, there is another significant difference: the Marathon speed rating is 65-mph. The Michelin tire is also backed by a 70,000 tire mileage warranty and it's manufactured in America!

It's important to address one particular part of the tire buying experience. First, you must insist that your new tires are balanced.



A sight Airstream owners do not want to see -- steel belts outside their tires.

Second, you should educate yourself and anybody installing tires on your Airstream on the proper jack points. Most technicians will just default to jacking it up using the axles, which is incorrect. Your Airstream has clearly marked jack points located on the frame. There is also a square piece of sheet metal riveted to the exact jacking point (refer to your owner's manual).

Third, the cost (well it is a consideration for sure). I purchased the tires at Discount Tire. In addition to a \$50 instant rebate, I received a mail-in rebate for \$60 by applying for their credit card, and a generous military discount which was \$50. The total discount was \$160. My final cost for the four tires was \$457.23.

We bought the tires in late November and have been on a couple of outings, one being the Cajun Caravan. The tires are performing extremely well, and with the lower air pressure of 50-psi instead of 65-psi, we have noticed a much smoother ride. Safe travels!





# *Fall Fun in Lebanon*

## **2018 REGION 6 RALLY**

**October 15 - 20, 2018**

**James E. Ward Ag Center, 945 Baddour Parkway, Lebanon, Tennessee**

WBCCI #

UNIT #

NAME

SPOUSE / PARTNER / GUEST

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIPCODE

PHONE

EMAIL

**Early parking begins Monday, Oct. 15. Check-in is Tuesday, Oct. 16.**

**Make parking reservations through John Rylee (see address below).**

For additional parking days beginning Saturday, Oct. 20, call the arena at (423) 490-0078.

Parking sites are two-point (30-amp electricity and water. **BRING EXTRA sections of electric and water lines.**)

**Dump as you enter at the on-site dump station.**

There are three buildings with showers for a total of 12 men and 12 women facilities.

**Handicap parking required: YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_**

*Rally fee includes 3 breakfasts, 2 dinner meals, 2 nights of entertainment.*

**Parking site \_\_\_\_ Nights @ \$22 = \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Airstream with 2 adults @ \$85 = \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Airstream with 1 adult @ \$50 = \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Guest(s) \_\_\_\_ @ \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL FEE \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Full refunds up to Sept. 16, 2018.**

Make check payable to **Region 6 WBCCI**

Mail this form and check to

**John Rylee, WBCCI Region 6,**

**485 Winding Wood Rd., Wetumpka, AL 36093**

**Golf at Pine Creek** Thursday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. (pay at the course) # people \_\_\_\_

**Ladies Luncheon** Thursday, Oct. 18 (approximate cost \$15 per person) # people \_\_\_\_

**TOURS** (Watch for additional tours to be added)

*Please indicate the tours you are interested in and the number of persons*

**Hermitage** (\$17 per person) Wednesday a.m. \_\_\_\_ Friday p.m. \_\_\_\_

**Belle Meade Plantation** Wednesday p.m. \_\_\_\_ Friday a.m. \_\_\_\_

(Individual mansion tour \$20, group mansion tour \$18 with wine tasting, grounds only \$12)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
**MARK MAGIE**  
ARKANSAS RAZORBACK  
AIRSTREAM CLUB

## Airstream spirit is infectious

At each rally, I am reminded of why I love Airstreaming and especially the Arkansas Razorback Airstream Club: smiles, hugs, laughter, great food, campfires, sunsets, a willingness to help fellow campers, snowy mornings and travel stories. These are just some of what I have experienced so far this year! Some call it "aluminitis" and the only cure is becoming an Airstreamer.

Many thanks to Tim Welch and Amanda Pace-Welch for hosting our group in Fayetteville at the baseball rally, and to Jason and Dana Landrum for hosting the Willow Beach rally. Your hard work made it fun for the rest of us.

And Paul Moore has coordinated our return to Strawberry Jam in Bald Knob later in May, and Michael and Judy Shelley are hosting Buddies, Bikes & Brew Pubs Rally in June. That's just the first half of the year!

Our club has a packed rally schedule this year and we are beginning to work on 2019's plans. I welcome any ideas and feedback that will make our club more enjoyable. I also encourage you to attend a Region 6 rally or caravan if you have the opportunity.

Before the next *Riveted Razorback* goes to press, many from our club will have journeyed west to Salem, Ore. for the 61st annual WBCCI International Rally. Once again, the helpful spirit will be alive as they volunteer on various committees to help run the event. And once again, new friendships will be made with Airstreamers from all across the United States. Wally Byam would be proud!

Annette and I hope to see you along the way. In the meantime ... safe travels!

*Mark Magie*

### **Campsite reservation tip --**

This website keeps checking for availability for you when all the sites at a campground are booked:

**[www.wanderinglabs.com](http://www.wanderinglabs.com)**

Go to [wanderinglabs.com](http://wanderinglabs.com) and enter your information. The website will automatically check for openings and let you know when a site is available. It is free, but you can make a donation if you like the service.

## *Bon Appetit*

### **Apple Pecan Dressing**

Submitted by club member C.J. Tinkle  
*This treat is good anytime, not just the holidays!*

#### **Ingredients**

1-lb loaf of bread diced, stale  
1 pound sage pork sausage, cooked and drained  
8 tablespoons butter (1 stick)  
2 yellow onions, diced  
8 celery stalks, diced  
2 apples, peeled, cored and diced  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1 cup apple juice  
1 cup pecans, toasted and roughly chopped  
1 tablespoons dried thyme  
1- 1/2 tablespoon dried sage  
Salt and pepper to taste  
2 - 2 1/2 cups chicken or turkey stock

#### **Method**

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Butter a deep casserole or baking dish.
2. In a large fry pan over medium heat, melt 4 Tbs. of the butter. Add the onions and celery and sauté, stirring occasionally, until tender and golden, 10 to 12 minutes. Transfer to the bowl with the bread.
3. Melt the remaining 4 Tbs. butter in the pan and add the apples. Sprinkle with the sugar and cook, stirring occasionally, until the apples are tender and beginning to brown, 5 to 6 minutes. Add 3 Tbs. of the apple juice and simmer, stirring to scrape up the browned bits, until the liquid is reduced to a syrup, about 4 minutes. Transfer the apples to the bowl with the bread, and add the cooked sausage.
4. Pour the remaining apple juice into the pan, set over medium heat and simmer until reduced by one-third. Pour the apple juice over the bread mixture. Add the pecans, thyme, sage, the 2 1/2 tsp. salt, the 1 tsp. pepper and 2 cups of the stock to the bowl and stir gently to mix. Let stand, stirring occasionally, until the stock is absorbed, about 5 minutes. If the dressing seems dry, add more stock as needed. Adjust the seasonings with salt and pepper.

Transfer the dressing to the prepared baking dish and bake until browned and crispy, about 50 minutes.



### **SAVE YOUR TABS!**

Bring them to a luncheon or rally and they will be turned in at the next International Rally. The tabs benefit Ronald McDonald House.