

Happy  
New Year

THE  
OKIE  
STREAMER

Tri-Yearly Newsletter

JAN 2021

WBCCI REGION 9

Unit 88

Oklahoma Airstream  
Club

[oklahoma.airstreamclub.net](http://oklahoma.airstreamclub.net)

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Upcoming Events

Spring Rally Kaw Lake

May 6-9

International Rally Tennessee

July 17-24, 2021

Arkansas Fall Rally Caravan

TBA

OKLAHOMA AIRSTREAM CLUB



OUR FLOCK ROCKS

Welcome New Members!

A very warm welcome to new members who have joined our group since the last newsletter:

**ANN AMME** OKC, 1997 30' Limited  
See page 3 for a detailed bio.

**BILL AND GINA POTEET**, OKC, 2015 28' Flying Cloud

*We are Bill and Gina Poteet, of OKC, OK, and now 3rd generation AS owners having recently purchased a 2015 FCRBT, named Jenny. We have 5 grown kids, 2 grandgirls and will be traveling with 2 labradoodles. Looking forward to retiring and traveling in 2021! Can't wait to meet everyone!*

**RANDY BROWN**, Sasakwa, 1972 31' International Sovereign

**LONDON AND LINDA HOLMAN**, OKC, 2021 27' Flying Cloud

**JOHN AND NORMA WAGNER**, Sand Springs, 2021 16' Bambi

Registration is now OPEN for the 64th Annual Wally Byam Airstream Club International Rally in Lebanon, Tennessee, just 30 minutes from Nashville. The Rally is set for July 17 to July 24, 2021. More details can be accessed at [airstreamclub.org/Lebanon](http://airstreamclub.org/Lebanon).

**EVERYONE:** Don't forget to send Patty a closeup face pic and your trailer information for the directory. It is going to be HANDY!

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Dear Okie Streamers,

This marks my first correspondence as your President of the Oklahoma Airstream Club. This also marks the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wally Byam's opening of the first Airstream factory in Culver City, California. Thank you Mr. Byam for providing Airstreamers all over the world with such an impressive legacy.

I hope everyone has stayed safe and healthy riding out the COVID storm. The Nutt family had wonderful holidays with friends and family (following all safety protocols). Cliff and I winterized Tulsa Steamin' in late November, but we continue to visit her from time to time and reminisce of our past outings and planning for our 2021 trips. I hope as the COVID vaccine becomes more available we all can continue to travel and of course have our club rallies.

Efforts continue in getting our new club banner made. The design was approved at our fall rally. Next steps include approval of the design by the Region 9 group and the International committee. A large shout out to Patty Eaton for all her help finalizing the design. This has been a slow process but hopefully this year we will be able to have our banner on display this camping season.

Winter is a good time to check out all the components of your Airstream. Give it a good cleanout, wiping down cabinets and storage compartments. Maybe think about a good refresh of décor as well. Check electrical and plumbing systems, gas and batteries. And of course check those tires, including the spare.

I hope everyone has renewed their memberships. It is easy to do online at [www.airstreamclub.org](http://www.airstreamclub.org). You may have to type this into your browser to pull it up. I would also like to welcome all our new members. Hope we can meet up in the future.

Plans for our Spring Rally are underway with Barbara Wilder as our wagon master, or is that mistress? It will be at Kaw Lake, Coon Creek Campground near Ponca City, May 6-9, but some may come the 5th. Everyone needs to make their own reservations in campsites 22-40. More details will follow in an email. Also, for a Fall Rally, Larry Walters is thinking about a Caravan/Rally in the fall to Arkansas, Hot springs, Mountain View, and Eureka Springs. As the year progresses we will have more information.

We have an awesome club and I hope everyone will volunteer to make it even better. We need rally and caravan help, photos and articles for our newsletter, or any suggestions to help our members. All will be greatly appreciated.

My wish is for 2021 to be the best it can be, that we can come together to share our love for the outdoors, fellowship and all things Airstream.

Let's Get Camping!!

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth



# LAKE TENKILLER STATE PARK

By Patty Eaton

In November, Jimmy and I could be found exploring the shores of Lake Tenkiller, where we had never been. We camped at Lake Tenkiller State Park, but did much exploring for future visits. We really enjoyed seeing some of the campsites at Pettit Bay, Cookson Bend and my personal favorite, Strayhorn Landing. At Strayhorn landing, there is a horseshoe shaped area of campsites at the top of a hill with a view of the lake all around the horseshoe. Not easy access to the water, but total water views. Fall foliage viewing was not as prolific as we had hoped, but still provided many tranquil and colorful spots.





## SALIDA, COLORADO

By Claire Griggs

Hi, Streamers! I am a little late getting this in to the newsletter, but thought y'all might enjoy checking out Four Seasons RV just outside Salida, CO. We were determined to take this trip because several other of our vacations got cancelled due to COVID. We were so excited that CO would let us visit without quarantining, so our plans were underway. We booked this trip January 2, 2020, originally to Carbondale KOA, so we were really hoping it would pan out. Two weeks before our trip, a large forest fire at Glenwood Springs closed I-70 and made the air quality at Carbondale too bad to visit. Luckily Four Seasons (where we were booked the night before our arrival to Carbondale) could accommodate us for the week! We were thrilled until news of Hurricane Laura. It was to hit our city of Shreveport (yes, we are the lone Louisianans in the Okie Streamers) the morning we were leaving with 50 MPH winds! Luckily, we could just leave the next morning. Our trip out was great with a beautiful drive into Salida along the Arkansas River on scenic HWY 50. Four Seasons RV is a nondescript campground that has back in camping for smaller trailers—perfect for our 19' Bambi International—right along the Arkansas River. It is a crowded campground, but the spots along the river are nice. The campground is a little over a mile outside of downtown and bicycle friendly as this turned out to be our mode of transportation after we had to have our tow truck hauled to Colorado Springs for emergency work! We are the Griswolds of RVing no matter the RV we are in! Salida is a small community with lots of history. It was very COVID friendly as the town blocked off the main street and the restaurants moved their tables/chairs into the street for al fresco dining. Salida is close to Leadville, Buena Vista, Aspen through Independence Pass, and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park with a beautiful drive through Monarch Pass. All accessible for day/side trips. HWY 50 from Pueblo passes right by the Royal Gorge Scenic Railroad which is definitely worth a visit.









# BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

By Larry and Rebecca Smith  
Thanksgiving 2020 with oldest son and his family

Our trip started with a stop-over at Pecan Valley RV Park and Farms near Junction, Texas. A working Pecan Farm with a small number of RV sites set along the banks of the North Llano River with an amazing amount of wildlife. The owner/hosts are very friendly folks and made sure to make us feel welcome.

Next was a 6-hour haul to Tin Valley Retro Rentals located 12 miles off Highway 188 near Terlingua, Texas. There are a small number of RV sites with 50 amp elec. Onsite potable water and dump site are available – a very small inconvenience for the beauty and remoteness of the place. Each site has amazing views of the desert and mountains and solitude. We had several evenings around a campfire with family and beautiful sunsets. The thing we most liked about this place is the desert solitude.

We made several day trips into Big Bend National Park which included:

Balanced Rock Trail – a 1.9 mile out and back trail – all the boulder formations have a magical feel to them – nice short hike.

Santa Elena Canyon – a 1.7 mile out and back trail starts with crossing Terlingua Creek then a steep climb and decent into the Rio Grande riverbed and into the steep-walled canyon. Sunlight on the rocks and river makes this hike special.

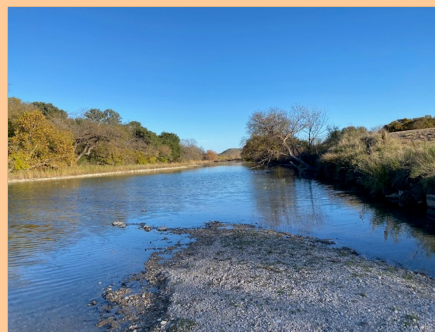
Lost Mine Peak Trail – 5 mile out and back trail – rated by some authors as the best or second best hike in the park. The trail starts at 5600-ft. elevation and thru a series of switchbacks up to 6850-ft. The views up in the Chisos Mountains are great.

This was our second trip to Big Bend National Park, so we were looking to cover ground we did not cover on the first trip. Just driving through the park and into Chisos Basin is worth the trip.



Campsite at Pecan Valley RV Park

North Llano River



Family hiking along Lost Mine Trail



Big Bend National Park continued...



Campsite at Tin Valley Retro Rentals



Sunset at Tin Valley Retro Rentals



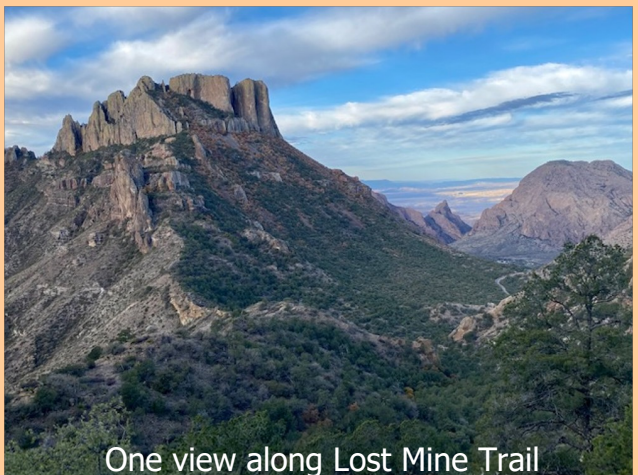
Rebecca and the Willie Nelson Bus



Balanced Rock



Santa Elena Canyon



One view along Lost Mine Trail



## The Darby Journey

by Martha Harden Darby

Greg loves seafood so we decided to head to Florida for a week at the Gulf Shores after Thanksgiving. The weather was perfect but didn't realize how much damage was done by Hurricane Sally. They were still in the process of cleaning up, but the campground was very nice and the food awesome.

We had been thinking about going bigger on our airstream after our long summer trip. We didn't full time in 2020 but used it over about 1/3 of the time. I found a 27FBT in Georgia but it already had an offer on it. As we were leaving Alabama we got the call their sale didn't go through. Greg, of course, wanted to turn around and go look but we decided to come back to Oklahoma and drop our trailer. We then headed back east the next day. The trailer was perfect and the couple we bought it from was so nice. On the way back we camped on the Mississippi in downtown Memphis, which was a great place to wake up in our new home away from home.

I posted our 23FB on several websites and luckily it sold in a week. We felt pretty silly having two of them parked out front for that week but a couple with our same last name "Darby" bought it, so we felt it was meant to be.

We are heading south to the Florida panhandle in early February for a couple of weeks. We will be staying in two different campgrounds since it was hard to get anything of length booked these days. We can't wait to get familiar with our new trailer for our longer trips this summer.

Just wanted to mention we do offer courtesy parking here in Broken Bow (a single spot on a one acre lot with water and electric) if anyone wants to get away and stay socially distant. We also hope to offer courtesy parking on our lot in Colorado once it opens back up after the spring "mud season".

Hope everyone is keeping safe and let's wish that 2021 will be a much better year than 2020.





## NEUROHR STREAMING

by Karen Neurohr

My first introduction to Airstream was decades ago. My aunt and uncle (retired Air Force) had a beautiful trailer at one time, and I thought it was the coolest thing ever! Fast forward to the 1990's when George's widowed mother Ruth remarried Leo McCurdy who, in his previous life, proudly owned a 1973 Sovereign. He lived in his Airstream for five years, travelled all over the West, and loved reminiscing about his travels. His favorite place to camp back in the day was in Mesa, AZ.

George and I bought our 2008 25' Safari Special Edition in 2011. Since we are both still working full time, our travels mainly have been occasional long weekends in Oklahoma and Arkansas. Until 2020 and COVID, we always camped at least once a year at [Lake Dardanelle State Park](#) in Russellville, 260 miles from our home in Stillwater. You see, Leo, who grew up in Pine Bluff, relocated to Russellville after George's mom passed away. He is very special to us and our last living parent. Here are some of our favorite things to do in the area: A major reservoir on the Arkansas River, Lake Dardanelle features a nice state park with 57 campsites. The lake hosts fishing tournaments, and the visitor center has a little nature center, and canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards for rent. The campsites are nice; staff are friendly and helpful, and the bathhouse has always been clean and well-maintained. There are many attractions in the area that we routinely enjoy. We always take a day trip to [Mount Magazine State Park](#). Near Paris, Mount Magazine is Arkansas's highest point, and the stately timber lodge overlooks the Petit Jean River Valley. You can dine at Skycrest Restaurant. In the park you might catch a glimpse of bears or deer, soaring eagles or hang gliders. The park hosts an annual international butterfly festival, and park rangers offer programs, workshops, and tours. Another fun outing is wine tasting at [Post Familie Vineyards and Winery near](#) Altus. Nearby is the beautiful and historic [Saint Mary's Catholic Church](#), built in 1902. [Wiederkehr Wine Cellars](#) with its funky little Weinkeller Restaurant is another interesting stop. The restaurant features German food, of course.

Leo is 93 years young, and George and I will plan a camping trip this year to visit him after the pandemic subsides. Time spent with loved ones in the shadow of your Airstream makes for special memories!

**Year 2013 photo.** Left to right, George's brother Glenn and wife Kim Neurohr. George and Karen Neurohr. Son Chris with wife Libby and their sons Grant and Evan. Seated right to left...Leo McCurdy and his dear friend Sue Stallings.



**Christmas 2019 photos.** George and Leo at Mount Magazine.



Setting up camp at Lake Dardanelle State Park



## KEEP ROAMING

by Cara and Dillon Orr

*Hey Y'all! First and foremost, we are thrilled we were invited to write this article for our fellow Okie Streamers! I'll start off with a quick introduction- we are Cara and Dillon Orr, the crazy dreamers and doers behind Roaming Restorations. Dillon and I have been married for (almost) 13 years, we have 2 great kiddos and 2 fur babies. We also have a slight addiction to remodeling and restoring a little bit of everything!*

*Here is a quick backstory, so I don't end up writing an entire novel....*

*We LOVE tradition. We LOVE family. We LOVE making memories and starting traditions that we hope our kids will pass on to their kids, and so on. Dillon has dreamt of being an "airstream family" for as long as he can remember and he passed that big, wild dream onto me nearly 16 years ago when we started dating...and camping! For most of Dillon's childhood, his grandparents had an Airstream Argosy (actual photos below). They would take it every summer and camp for months! My Father-in-Law has been to EVERY National Park on the map. The stories of family vacations and memories built over decades, are what initially sparked our love for camping and Airstreams.*



*We have been casually looking for YEARS for a vintage Airstream of our own, but we never found one that we were ready to "pull the trigger" on. Enter COVID-19 and Quarantine mandates in March 2020. We needed to get OUT. We wanted to EXPLORE. We checked multiple RV/Camper rental websites and could not find a single Airstream (or any other cool vintage camper) to rent for a roadtrip. That was our sign. It was time for us to really start honing in our search more seriously and find an Airstream of our own.*

*We spent MONTHS trying to find the right one and had no luck. The used Airstream prices started skyrocketing. The Airstream dealerships were running low on inventory for both new & used. We couldn't afford to buy a brand new one, and honestly we didn't really want to. We knew that in general, RVs don't appreciate. But, a vintage Airstream that's been fully renovated and remodeled? They DO appreciate in value... And they appreciate quite a bit. Vintage Airstreams are like owning an elegant sailboat. They are sought after and admired. This was an investment and we had envisioned a vintage model for a long time. We wanted to love the Airstream and getting something significantly older (and cheaper) would allow us to do a custom renovation exactly how we wanted it. In all reality, we knew that even a newer Airstream (or any other camper for that matter) would have issues. So, if we could find an ideal candidate, we would have an opportunity to do a full restoration down to the studs and replace everything inside and out for less than what a used 5-10 year old Airstream would cost.*



*So, here we are. In August 2020, we bought a 1975 Airstream Sovereign that we found on Facebook Marketplace. We honestly didn't know much about what to look for, other than the outside shell needed to be in decent condition and the frame/tires/hitch needed to be in working order (for the most part) enough that we could tow it off the lot and on the road 30+minutes to get it home. We set up an appointment and went to look at. It was a BIG project and it needed A LOT of work, but in true Orr "Remodelaholic" Fashion – we were drooling over the potential and we could see a clear vision of possibilities that could make it not only functional, but beautiful! We honestly didn't care much about the interior because we had essentially planned on taking it down to the shell anyway. We knew we would need to do that in just about anything we purchased for restoration because we wanted to have updated electrical, plumbing, and design anyway. So, this interior didn't scare us in the least bit!*



Photos of the Airstream on FB Marketplace listing – looks like quite the project, huh?!

*The process of renovating a vintage Airstream trailer is not one for the weary. While we are new to the Airstream/RV/Camper ownership, we do have a fair amount of expertise and experience in renovations overall. Our hope is that we can share the process of the restoration, the lessons we learn along the way, the challenges we encounter and the solutions we find. Ultimately, we hope to show you a beautiful & functional finished project! Please feel free to follow our restoration process on social media (@RoamingRestorations) and/or our website:*

[www.roamingrestorations.com](http://www.roamingrestorations.com)



## KEEPING UP WITH THE STREAMERS

**Ann Amme** wrote in late October: *Hello to the Airstream Family. My name is Ann Amme. I grew up in Kingfisher, OK, went to OSU for college, and have managed Food-service Facilities in Oklahoma (mostly OKC) for my adult life. I retired in May after managing the F&B at the Lazy E in Guthrie for 5 years. I bought my 1997 30' Airstream Limited in March right before Covid went crazy. It was sold as a package deal with a 2013 Ford F250. I love both. I updated the interior of the Airstream as I was recovering from my right knee replacement (June). The left knee was done in December. I am now as good as new. The bionic woman.*

*On September 11, 2020 I left on my journey. My plan is to travel the US and go to states I have always wanted to visit. In the Hospitality industry you never really get to go too far from home for an extended time so before I get too old, I am going to follow my dream. I have started a blog so my friends can keep track of*

*me. [Livinthedreams.blog](http://Livinthedreams.blog) Please follow my travels and let me know what you think. I am traveling with my 2 French Bulldogs, Waylon & Willie, and my Persian Cat, Huie. I should be back in Oklahoma in March/April so maybe I might meet some of you then. I am going south for the winter and after Oklahoma I will start making my way North.*

*I look forward to the next chapter of my life and new experiences and places to see. I appreciate any feedback and recommendations on places to visit. Just in my short time on the road I have met many Airstream folks. We seem to have a common bond and the conversations start easily. I am in Tennessee today and leave for Alabama tomorrow with the intent of making it to the Gulf before it gets too cold. Keep the hurricanes away and this will be a great winter.*

**Barbara Wilder and Teresa London** each had a knee replacement in October. It seems they do everything together! LOL Brings back memories of the Bobbsey twins! Both have successfully pushed through rehab and are doing well. Barbara also commented that she and Ron got their first Covid shot and had no reaction....not even a sore arm! Also, they are expecting their first great grandchild in June.

**Joseph Leonard** wrote: *Good news, seems I have fixed the last nagging problem of our 2019 23 FB when main cabin lights would sometime work and often not come on. When at dealer, the lights would come on as I left it with them then they would come on for them. When Covid 19 hit, dealer moving X2 etc occurred no repair occurred after a couple of months. I had checked out switch finding no issue with it then I contacted customer service at the mothership and they called me back and helped me find where a ground wire connector had been connected (approximated) but not crimped and was in intermittent service. Took about 15 minutes to repair. So now it seems everything is now working. Now we got our first Vaccination and maybe this new year will be better than the horrors of the last. Everybody be safe!*



**Bill and Gina Poteet** wrote: *We've received our official Airstream Name registration and our baby is named "Jenny". We'll be installing our medallion on her as soon as it gets warm. We've also received our Big Red Numbers which are #26159. Gina's mom & dad's airstream number was #6159 and since the numbers don't go high enough for us to be #61592, we settled for #26159. We're third generation Airstreamers and hope to encourage a fourth and fifth generation as well!!*

*We have a rear bed twin(rbt) and are currently modifying one side to include a wider bed. That way we can sleep more comfortably together, while our two 70lb+ Labradoodles sleep on the other bed. Twin beds were not made for two adults!!! Many more mods to come!!*

**Mike Harris** contracted Covid-19. After a hospital stay of 28 days, he was grateful to make it home just before Christmas. He has just started physical therapy this week. I bet he has tied a lot of fishing ties by now!

**Teresa Harris** wrote: (about Mike having Covid) *Hi Patty! Thanks for all you do! This doesn't have to be in the newsletter because it is pretty uneventful! But we do want to tell everyone thank you for all the thoughts and prayers and calls and cards while Mike was in the hospital. His recovery was truly a miracle! We are so thankful for this loving and caring group. Mike continues to recover, he is still on oxygen for some of the day and night but is able to do some things without it. Baby steps! Looking forward to the Spring Rally so we can thank everyone in person! See you soon!*

**Shelley Shrader** wrote Jan. 10: *I'm in Tucson while my 2nd home is being remodeled! As far as Max, our Classic Airstream, he's being held captive at Camping World - OKC Airstream while they try to figure out why his arms don't work.*

**Jimmy and Patty Eaton**, like many of you, have done very little. We do keep our ricks of wood loaded in the racks by the house so we can feed our wonderful fireplace that often heats our whole abode; and we remain religious in feeding our deer and birds. They really need us this time of year! Of course, our fur baby, Ralphie, helps too! We are grateful to be staying healthy and look forward to seeing everyone!



**UNTIL NEXT TIME:** As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

---John F. Kennedy