

The Southeastern Camping Times

MARCH 2014

ENJOY THE RIDE

ISSUE FOUR



Not So Little Rally, On the Prairie

Annette and I would like to thank all of you who attended the "Little Rally on the Prairie" in Micanopy. Being our first time to host a rally, it was awesome to see the turn out and participation by those there. We have lived in Gainesville for many years, but this was the first time we visited the park other than checking out the campsites for the rally. Makes me wonder what else is close by that we are missing.

Highlights of the rally were a valentines candlelight dinner



on Friday night; a hike on Saturday that put us up close and personal with a very large alligator; great pot luck on Saturday night; Chef Bob and Lia's Sunday morning brunch; and Mondays target practice at the indoor gun range. In between all of that, there

were more hiking on different trails, visits in Micanopy for shopping, the museum, and fantastic lunch places. Pizza at Blue Highway Pizza on Sunday Night.

To us, the best part of the rally was meeting some of our unit members for the first time. We had plenty of time to sit and visit and see how much everybody loves

these things called Airstreams. We really look forward to the next time we can get together.



To join our Facebook Group, go to Southeastern Camping Unit WBCCI (on Facebook) and request membership.



Membership Update

From Beth Hackney

Last month we had a total of 43 regular and 33 affiliates members. February was a banner month. Now we have 48 regular members and 45 affiliates. In fact I was so inundated during the Payne's Prairie Rally and Alumaflamingo rally that I hope I didn't forget to include anyone on our mailing list as affiliate members.

Of the five new regular members for this month are two that switched from Members-at-Large status:

Rick & Tena Clcigoi, Wooster, Ohio,
David & Laura Burns, Chesterfield, VA.

The three others to recently join the club are:

Robert & Ana Jacobs, Ocala, FL
Mike & Diane Cheek, Lakeland, FL
Jim & Pat Strom, Warrick, GA

We welcome our new members. We have grown large enough now that we need to create a membership directory. I am working with Roy to create one on our website for member only access. We are still growing rather quickly, and an electronic file would allow us to keep it up to date. We will have something out soon.

Because of some very generous donations and new members this month, our treasury is now at \$228.03.



A Note from Roy Beavers



Back to back rallies, Payne's Prairie and Alumaflamingo - what a blast! As I write this, we are just returning home from our first camping trip of the year and wish it didn't have to end.

Escaping the Icemaggedon II before it hit made for some quick packing and last minute reservation jockeying, but was well worth it. We arrived at Payne's Prairie a day early, but were greeted by an enthusiastic park staff and several of the unit members who had already begun the fun. I want to thank Joe and Annette Conoly for all they did to make the rally a wonderful experience for all that attended. I also want to thank Vlad and Lia (a.k.a. Bob and Liz) Rizenko for providing a delicious Sunday brunch for the entire group.

The inaugural Alumaflamingo was a huge success with 251 rigs in attendance. Rich, Brett and the entire volunteer staff worked tirelessly to make sure everyone had ample opportunity to have fun at the fairgrounds and also to enjoy Sarasota. Elaine and I are already planning on returning next year to see them top what they did this year.

Now for our next event. While not actually a unit rally, Alumalina is fast approaching. It will be held at Lake Wateree South Carolina March 28-30. The campground is sold out, almost entirely with Airstreams, and from what I hear, the park staff is amazed that so many would grace their campground so early in the season. If you keep up with things on Air Forums, Alumalina will be a Dutch oven chef's delight. Following the different discussions online is already making my mouth water.

Spring Fling will be next. If you are going to be at Lake Chickamauga and are planning to attend the Volkswagon plant tour, make sure you let me know so I can add your names to the list. We are limited to 20 people and I have to turn the names in to the plant in advance.

As always, see you down the road!

Roy and Elaine

Moving WBCCI Forward

Not your typical WBCCI Unit!

Our activities will all be posted on the website at :

<http://secamping.wbcci.net/event/>

In addition, we have a Facebook group. This is a "closed" group so your posts can only be seen by other members. We hope this will become an interactive way to reach other members of the Unit for smaller camping trips. If you want to plan a trip and want company or ideas for locations and ideas, just post. If you haven't already joined the Facebook Group, send a request to the Southeastern Camping Unit WBCCI.



Little Rally on the Prairie



Region 3 Rally in NC

The region rally April 29–May 4 in Asheville, indicates there are 78 rigs already registered which is more than we had last year at this time. The schedule and format will be similar to last year in that it will be informal with four breakfasts being provided by units (looking for volunteer units) and a grill your steak night (food provided by the rally), seminars in the mornings with afternoons and evenings free to enjoy tours and the Asheville area.

As the tours get resolved, they will be listed on the rally webpage and in the next newsletter. When you arrive at the rally, you may sign up for the tours. Possible tours will be:

1. Trolley tour of Asheville,
2. Culinary tour of restaurants
3. Winery and Pub/Brewery tours (2)
4. Hike on Blue Ridge with lunch at Pisgah Inn
5. Shopping tour to Black Mountain
6. Biltmore House, Gardens, and Winery tours (3)

We already have 6 members already signed up to attend. You should plan on attending too! In addition to the planned activities, our unit will add a few of their own.



Sandlapper has invited all SE Camping Unit members to participate in 2014's Alupalina March 28-30. The campground is full. For more information see: <http://www.airforums.com/forums/f288/alupalina-2014-a-111542.html>



BALD RIDGE AND BASEBALL

August 8-10, 2014

Bald Ridge Creek Army Corps Campground on Lake Lanier

A great campground, large sites, electric and water on beautiful Lake Lanier.

Come enjoy America's favorite pastime - Atlanta Braves baseball at the Ted. The game will be either Friday or Saturday, details to follow.

Lake Lanier will cool us off on the hot August days. (Anyone have a boat?)

Games and food will of course be a part of the weekend. So, join us for fun and fellowship.

Make your reservations. Sites are \$32 (1/2 that if you have Sr pass). We are on site 56 so choose a site nearby or far away - however you feel!

For park website and reservations go to recreation.gov.

Hope to see you there.

Kathy and Bill Narowski and Wiley



Rally Report from February

There were 16 Rigs at Payne's Prairie, even with 3 or 4 cancellations due to weather. We were excited to see so many in attendance. At Alumaflamingo, the Southeastern Camping Unit had 21 Regular Member rigs and 18 Affiliate rigs!

Region 3 and the WBCCI were well represented by our Unit at the information table. Thanks to everyone who helped and for your good work in recruiting members.



The unit Board of Trustees met at Payne's Prairie. Actions taken included directing the Treasurer to establish the Fiscal Year on a calendar basis. This is needed to determine when our Tax Return must be filed. In addition, the Board authorized reimbursement of Roy Beavers for the promotional cards he had printed. These cards can be used to inform potential members of our unit website and activities. Pick a stack up to share in your travels!



**Fun, Friendship, and
Adventure!**
No blue berets required!



Southeastern Camping Calendar of Events

SE Camping Spring Fling



The 2014 SECU Spring Fling will be hosted by Roy and Elaine Beavers at Beautiful Harrison Bay State Park on Lake Chickamauga near Chattanooga April 25-27. <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/harrison-bay>. For reservations, go to <https://tnstateparks.itinio.com/harrison-bay> Let's try to group up in campground C starting at site C14. This will be our Pre-Region 3 rally that will include a caravan to Region 3 on April 28 & 29. Contact Roy Beavers at egrbeav@bellsouth.net.

Virginia Mountains Rally



Memorial Day weekend 2014 (May 23-26), Chuck and Susan Nesbit are hosting the unit at the Virginia Highland Haven Airstream Park <http://www.vahighlandhaven.org/>. Listening to bluegrass music is a tradition on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons in nearby Floyd, Virginia. Timing of the rally is perfect for those traveling to attend Alumapalooza 2014 in Jackson Center, Ohio May 27-June 1. If you plan to attend this rally please let Chuck and Susan know so they will have a headcount for planning activities. Reservations cannot be made on the Highland Haven website. Make reservations by calling the park host directly at 540-651-9050. Tell the host you are with the Southeastern Camping Unit rally as well as the dates you plan to be at the park.

Caravan to the Region 3 Rally in Asheville, NC

Roy and Elaine will be leading a group from the Spring Fling to the Region 3 Rally in Asheville, NC. This will ensure our members are parked together on arrival at the Fairgrounds. The group will travel from Harrison Bay on Tuesday, April 29. Register soon for the Region 3 Rally and let Roy know if you are interested in traveling together.



**Birthday Celebration at
Alumaflamingo**

From Craig Stephens

What a great experience the first Alumaflamingo was. Our unit held a wonderful rally hosted by the Conoly's at Paynes Prairie State Park February 14-17, 2014. Many of those who attended caravanned South to Alumaflamingo in Sarasota immediately afterward. If you haven't had a chance to attend an "Aluma" event, I highly encourage you to do so. This was the third Aluma I have attended and each one has been both unique and extremely enjoyable. The schedule was filled with multiple interesting options including: gastronomic tours of Sarasota, talks by Dale "Pee Wee" Schwamborn on his uncle Wally Byam and the Cape Town to Cairo Caravan, the state of Airstream, Dexter Axle and others. Many of the activities overlapped, which forced one to choose what you wanted to do this time and leaving you hoping THAT the other activity you were interested in would be available next year. Approximately 250 Airstreams were in attendance which provided the chance to make many new friends. After the rally, I needed to return home

to attend to some flying which supports our family's Airstream habit. Others of our unit who are no longer afflicted with the requirement to work (i.e retired) continued on to Caravans and other activities.

The drive home gave me some time to reflect on the event as well as the other great rallies we have had since our unit started, and to look ahead to next year and possible future events. We have had members offer to host events in October of 2014 and February 2015 (just before the 2015 Alumaflamingo). For those of you interested/willing to host a rally I would appreciate it if you would drop me an email at: craigstephens@wbcci.net. My goal is to have some type of event each month from October 2014 through September 2015. While it isn't possible (at least not for someone still working like I am) to attend all of them, it is nice to have the ability each month of the year to gather somewhere with our friends and fellow Airstreamers.

Craig



Southeastern Camping Unit Board of Trustees

<i>President</i>	<i>Roy Beavers</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Craig Stephens</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Nancy Gore</i>
<i>Treasurer / Membership</i>	<i>Beth Hackney</i>
<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Joe Conoly</i>
<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Jerry O'Connell</i>

Region 3 Rally Information

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So far, we have only 6 rigs from the Southeastern Camping Unit registered. Join us for a great time. Registration can be completed at

<http://region3.wbcci.net/region-3-rally-asheville-2014/>

