

Southeastern Camping Times

Volume 22, December, 2017



Notes From Nancy

What started out as the "Tellus About Your Holiday" rally quickly became the "Whiteout" rally, then shortly thereafter the "Boon Docking" rally. But we SECU campers don't let a little snowstorm get in the way of our fun! Campfires, propane heaters, and the warm feeling of being with friends kept the chill at bay. Being flexible and adventurous, we had to revamp some initial plans since museums and restaurants were without power, too. So instead of learning about rockets, the stars, or geology, we learned about how to keep our trailers warm without using electricity, keeping our batteries strong so that lights and furnaces can remain on, and how to ration our water usage for showers and the all-important morning coffee. The thing is, we did it together, learned from each other, and had a wonderful time without any sacrifices.

Lisa Forsyth equipped us with hand warmers. Between the Hackneys and the Harrisons, we had a campfire going day and night. Beth Hackney and Pam Tate built a snowman and deemed him our newest member, right before Pam's lab Dozier decided to eat the snowman's ear. Bill and Robin Harrison went all out with great Christmas decorations for their trailer. Carol Stephens

made Grinch drinks, the Gores provided hot chocolate. Jerry O'Connell helped provide generator boosts to batteries. Most of us who had signed up for the rally were able to stay for the entire weekend. We had the park virtually to ourselves. I enjoyed spending time with members I had not camped with before. Dave and Janet Kittinger came all the way from Mississippi to join the fun and camp with us for the first time, and for Janet it was her first time in snow!

This is what makes our unit great. We work together well and play together well. We roll with the unexpected, and have fun doing it. In today's world where so many people need television, movies, or any of the entertainment that the Internet provides, we had a fabulous weekend, sans electricity, just enjoying the company and conversations of our fellow campers. If you haven't done it before, I encourage you to create a rally. This rally was proof positive that a great rally can be had with very little planning, since the little planning I did in advance was whited out by the snow. SECU has the advantage of having a large membership, so we should be able to have a myriad of rallies throughout the year.

As noted in this newsletter, we have rallies planned over the next few months. There is still room available for the Farm Life Rally in February and the St. Patrick's Day rally in Hiawassee in March. If we don't have a rally convenient to you, create one of your own! If you create it, we will come. We have an awesome unit, and I feel honored to be a member of a group of such caring and fun-loving people. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and I look forward to seeing you down the road.



SECU Members

Braving the elements



Whitey

Baby it's cold outside?



Sharon and Greg Staples

All decked out for the "Tellus About Your Holiday" Rally, including generator

Membership - Beth Hackney

As our membership keeps growing, I wanted to share with you some of the unit's history. In August of 2013 we requested a charter with 26 members wanting to start a new unit. When we were granted a charter by WBCCI in January of 2014 there were 35 members and Roy Beavers stepped up to be our first president. We have grown steadily over the past 5 years and will finish this year with 122 regular members and 54 affiliates. However not everyone has renewed at this point. Beginning in January we will lose 24 regular members. A few of those I have heard from have told me that they are not renewing, but many choose to renew late for various reasons. Our membership for this year covers 15 states from Alaska, Oregon, South Dakota, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas, and all states in the Southeast.

SECU Through The Years

Here is a quick recap for all the new members and affiliates of what our previous Presidents look like today. Keep an eye out for them at upcoming events, as they are known to get around the USA.



SECU Flag



Roy Beavers - January 2014



Craig Stephens - October 2014



Joe Conoly - October 2015



Ed Overcash - October 2016



Nancy Gore - October 2017

Upcoming Rallys

Canopener 2018

When

Thursday, Jan. 4th, 8am to Sunday, Jan. 7th, 12pm

Where

West County Highway 30A Santa Rosa Beach, FL

More information

Special event rally, SECU Hosted by Annette and Joe Conoly

Farm Life 2.0

When

Wednesday, Feb. 7th, 12pm to Sunday, Feb. 11th,
12pm

Where

Land O' Lakes, FL, United States Land O' Lakes, FL

More information

Rally electric and water only. Limit 50 trailers, current tally 27 with a potential group bringing in 10 more. This is an Airstream only rally. **Breaking news ... Antsy McClain will be performing.**
Hosted Lisa Forsyth

GA Mountain Air - St. Patrick's Day Edition

When

Friday, March 16th, 8am to Sunday, March 18th,
12pm

Where

1311 Music Hall Road Hiawassee, GA

More information

Friday icebreaker, Saturday morning brunch, Tour of Trailers, Saturday evening potluck, campfires. Area 2 B,C,D,E & F
Hosted Matt Hackney

Region 3 Rally

When

Wednesday, April 25th, 12pm to Sunday, April
29th, 12pm

Where

6001 U.S. 17 Business Myrtle Beach, SC

More information

For reservations call 1-800-722-1451. The block of sites is listed under Airstream Region 3 Rally .

KY Derby Rally at Stone Mountain

When

Thursday, May 3rd, 12pm to Sunday, May 6th,
12pm

Where

4003 Stonewall Jackson Drive Stone Mountain, GA

More information

1-800-385-9807 mention KY Derby Rally, sites 160-168, 163a-167a, 140a-144a
Hosted Robin Harrison

Getting To Know You - One of Our Charter Members

Irene and Jerry O'Connell are charter members of the Southeastern Camping Unit, and became charter members because they liked the SECU mantra Making Camping Fun. They certainly found the right place, a unit whose flag was designed by an artist - Antsy McClain; Happy Hours at rallies, a kitty that got a \$1.00 added every time the expression, "that's the way we have always done it" was uttered. Oh, they also liked the charter members.

When quizzed specifically about the SECU, the Escape Rally held at Bolding Mill Campground September 2013 on Lake Lanier was high on their list. The campground had large sites (site 50 was where everyone congregated), awesome people - 9 rigs were in attendance, boating and biking, and we were moving the club forward. Two memorable caravanning experiences with WBCCI included the week long Blue Ridge Parkway Caravan led by Matt and Beth Hackney in September 2012 and the Southwest Adventure Caravan led by Jay and Elna Thompson.

Asked about their wish list for the unit as the club continues to mature, is a desire for a SECU caravan lasting 2 weeks; to keep rallies happening; and a destination caravan to Yellowstone would be great!

I think Irene summed it up perfectly, "The best thing about Airstreaming is the friends we have made."



Safety

Smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, propane tank leak detectors, and fire extinguishers. These are all items we hope to never need, but should always be in working order. Changing the batteries twice a year is a good habit to develop. In reference to fire extinguishers the Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a recall on some Kidde Fire Extinguishers.



Kidde Recalls Fire Extingui...

www.cpsc.gov

Consumers should immediately contact Kidde to request a free replacement fire extinguisher and for instructions on returning the recalled unit, as it may not work properly in a fire emergency. Note: This recall includes fire extinguisher models that were previously recalled in March 2009 and February 2015. Kidde branded fire extinguishers included in these previously announced recalls should also be replaced. All affected model numbers are listed in the charts above. Recall information for fire extinguishers used in RVs and motor vehicles can be found on NHTSA's website.

Safety - Winter Weather

It is important to know the temperature outside when working with your water hose. In the event that the temperature will drop below freezing, you will want to fill your water tank, shut off the spigot, and disconnect the hose from both the Airstream and spigot. With "frost proof" spigots (the kind with a large lever as opposed to a knob), the water will then draw down below ground to prevent the spigot assembly from freezing. This enables us all to be responsible caretakers of campground resources. Once the temperature climbs above freezing, you can reconnect.

