



Texas Highland Lakes Unit

Special Vintage Rally Edition

Texas Vintage Rally News

With assistance from our sister units, Texas Highland Lakes Unit has just hosted one of the largest WBCCI rallies that will be held in 2009. Our rally is larger than most region rallies.

We had 102 Airstreams on site at Braunig Lake RV Resort, just south of San Antonio. Forty seven of these Airstreams were vintage and have been plying the roads for more than 25 years.

Thirty nine THLU member rigs were in attendance; this was certainly the most THLU rigs at a rally in recent years and, perhaps, at any time.

Joe Gardener and Donald McQueary were on site Monday to park non-vintage rigs. Other workers were on site by Tuesday afternoon to assemble the welcome packets, ribbons, and other material. Thanks to our Registrar, Elaine Jackson, this work went smoothly.

By Tuesday evening, a day before the rally officially started, there were as many Airstreams already on site than at any unit rally I have ever attended.

Pat McDowell, our Region 9 Vintage Chairman, brought three vintage trailers. A partially disassembled demonstration trailer, a trailer for our guest, PeeWee Schaumberg, and his own trailer.

By Wednesday evening, empty parking sites were rapidly disappearing, although a few rigs came in as late as Friday. Although the park had promised us a solid block of sites, empty sites were scattered and the parkers were challenged to find empty sites.

Hill Country Unit ably assisted us by setting up the dining room and handling refreshments.

Thursday brought the first seminars. It was also potluck night with ham furnished by the rally. The din-

ing room was filled to capacity with over 200 Airstreamers. The array of food folks brought was absolutely mind boggling. Our guest, Wally Byam's cousin, Dale "PeeWee" Schaumberg, completed the evening with a question and answer session on early Airstream history. PeeWee, as a teenager, was a scout on the Carpetown to Cairo Caravan.

Friday brought more seminars, both inside and outdoors. The Friday evening meal was Cajun food specially cooked for us by Vince Saltaformaggio, Tom Beebe, and a host of kitchen helpers. We were treated to more early history from PeeWee.

Saturday was the Concours de Elegance and public open house. There was quite a bit of bribing going on to gain the coveted "People's Choice" award. Dennis Waterman was the hand's down winner with two south sea's lassies plying the public to Pina Coladas and beer. Dennis also had the top vintage trailer with a 98% perfect score from the judges.

Presentation of some great door prizes from Camper Clinic, Bill Thomas, Airstream Life, Bayer Motors, Roger Williams, NTAC, and others ended the formal part of the rally.

Camper Clinic was on site with four new trailers, their yellow vintage trailer, and a vintage trailer to stay in during the rally (also for sale). Camper Clinic had 3 technicians at the rally to make minor repairs to attending rigs for the cost of materials only. I understand that over 40 such repairs were made. Many thanks to Camper Clinic for providing this valuable service.

There were a few glitches here and there, but the glitches were quickly ironed out by Rally Chairman, Gayland Stephens and his able crew.

John Irwin

Vintage Concours d'Elegance

The Concours d'Elegance was a judged event for the Vintage Airstreams and Argosys held on Friday afternoon. The judging criteria consisted of 20 detailed items grouped into four major categories; 1) Exterior, 2) Interior, 3) Undercarriage and 4) Overview. A maximum score of 100 points could be scored. An Awards Ceremony was held Saturday evening at which time the following Awards were presented.

Best of Show Award: This award is given to the Airstream or Argosy receiving the highest judged score. There were two outstanding trailers both of which received identical and nearly perfect scores. Therefore we had two Best of Show Awards.

Marvin and Annie Fisher – 1979 Argosy

Dennis and Mary Watermann – 1977 Sovereign

Decade Awards: Awards were given for each trailer receiving the highest score and second highest score within each decade, i.e. 50s, 60s 70s and 80s. Awards were presented to the following:

50s Awards:	1 st Place;	Bill and Candy Fisher – Flying Cloud
	2 nd Place;	Ivan Ard – 1953 Flying Cloud
60s Awards:	1 st Place;	Robin Collard – 1966 Caravel
	2 nd Place;	Carter and Karmen Younts – 1961 Bambi
70s Awards;	1 st Place Tie;	Marvin and Annie Fisher – Argosy
	1 st Place Tie;	Dennis and Mary Watermann – 1977 Sovereign
80s Awards;	1 st Place;	Gayland and Ella Faye Stephens – 1982 Limited
	2 nd Place;	Jim and Raisin Schwerdfeger – 1984 Excella

Best Engineered Feature Award: An award was presented to the trailer judged as having the best engineered feature. Wally Byam said "Let's not make changes – let's make only improvements".

This award was given to Bill and Candy Fisher for the unique way they installed and vented an ordinary home window air-conditioning unit under the bed to preserve the vintage look of their 1954 Flying Cloud.

People's Choice Award: A special award was presented to the trailer receiving the most votes during the Open House. Who says hula girls and pina colodas can't sway votes. The award went to Mary and Dennis Watermann in their 1977 Sovereign.

We would like to thank all those who entered the Concours and allowed us to view and judge your unit. We will be mailing the judging form soon. As vintage owners we are always looking for ways to improve our trailers. Please accept these forms constructively and as just a third set of eyes looking at your unit, a little paint and a rivet here or there can make a difference.

Vintage Rally Door Prizes

Bayer Motor- Dublin, Texas – Lamont Freeman

1. RV Sewer Hose Kit 15' - Winner, James and Carolyn Joy
2. Trailer Aid/Ramp-Winner, Ken/Sandy Sands
3. RV Sewer Hose Kit 15' w/adaptor- Winner, David and Marilyn Blakey

NTAC-Hillsboro, Texas- Jim Haddaway

1. Gift Certificate- 2 nights @Entac- Winner, Andy Oliver and Jennifer Hoskins
2. Gift Certificate-2 nights @Entac-Winner, Dennis & Janice Grisham
3. Gift Certificate- 2 nights @Entac- Winner Donald and Dorothy McQuery
4. Gift Certificate-2 Nights @Entac- John and Susan Sheridan

Roger Williams-Weatherford, Texas(Robert Haberzettle)

1. Set of Stainless Steel Replacement covers for Water Heater, furnace and Stove Vent, Winner-Mike and Jill Barnes

Camper Clinic II-Buda, Texas- Tom Kaminski(Also supplied the Airstream Display Trailers

1. Gift Certificate - \$25.00(Exp. 5-1-09)- Winner, Harvey Craig
2. Set of 2- Pink Flamingos-Winner, Doug & Terry Rowbottom
3. Gift Certificate-\$25.00 (Exp 5-1-09) Winner, Bruce and Carolyn Coonrod
4. Set of 2- Pink Flamingos-Winner, Bill Stallworth
5. Gift Certificate-\$25.00 (Exp 5-1-09) Winner, Don & Pat Hardman
6. Set of 2-Pink Flamingos-Winner, Jimmy and Diane Lohrke
7. Gift Certificate-\$25.00 (Exp 5-1-09) Winner, Ardell Mayton
8. Set of 2 Pink Flamingos-Winner, Michael Smith and Frank Saenz
9. Midland 2 Way Radio W/recharger-Winner, Marvin and Lebbey Crane

Donated by Airstream Life-Rich Luhr

1. Miniature Airstream-Winner, Catherine Reynolds
2. Miniature Airstream –Winner, Tom & Kim Williams

Donated by Jerry & Elaine Jackson

1. Set of two Flamingos-Winner, Bruce and Muriel Stephens

Most photos by Harvey Craig. See all of
Harvey's rally photos at
<http://eharv.multiply.com/photos/album/9>



Nautical theme



Carter and Karmen Yonts



Some of 102 Airstreams at Braunig Lake



Pat McDowell Restoration Seminar



Axle Seminar by Dennis Waterman



A Sea of Aluminum



Restoration Seminar



Rapt Attention!



Flamingos and mirror polished aluminum abounded.



Riveting Seminar



Nice Interior. The older Air-streams have an aura of quiet comfort not found in the newer models.