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Secretary Sheryl Wylie

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1 Year Director Dan Marek

2 Year Director Gary Shelton

2 Year Director Linda Shelton

Past President Shannon Wylie

President's Corner

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Mid-Winter IBT meeting in Rayne, Louisiana had 75 rigs present with approximately 175 Airstreamers in attendance. The Greater New Orleans Unit did a superb job of preparing and serving Cajun meals. For a full report of the meeting please check out the Region Niner where Region President Andy Selking has reported on the business conducted. Our Unit had an excellent turn out. Attending were International President Jim Schwerdfeger and First Lady Raisin, Gayle Ketchum and Joe Long, Doug and Sheryl Wylie, Shannon Wylie, me and Affiliate Members Myron and Kathryn Fischer. Region Nine was well represented.

The area had heavy rains the Friday before the event which made parking at the grass sites very slippery. Significant rain again arrived on the Thursday night before departure. Yours truly had to use 4 wheel drive twice, once after parking and again Thursday night when moving to firmer ground. While some rigs had problems with the mud upon arrival and had to be towed there were no reports such on the day of departure.

A true special highlight of our rally was gathering with unit members and friends around the fire pit one evening. Our unit presented First Lady Raisin Schwerdfeger with a beautiful Cardinal quilt designed and sewn by Gayle Ketchum. First Lady Raisin was deeply moved. We love you Raisin and Jim.

Besides attending all the business meetings we still had time to tour the area. The city of Rayne is known as Frog City as well as the Frog Capitol of the World. There are frog statues in front of many of the stores as well as a huge frog statue on the way into town. There are frog murals throughout the city. One excursion found us in Abbyville to have lunch at Shuck's. After lunch our group of Region Niners headed to the Tabasco Plant at Avery Island. Yes, true to form we took a back road and did not heed the "Bridge Out Ahead Sign" and did the famous "U'ie". We successfully arrived at Avery Island. The plant was closed for tours but the gift shop and café were open. After shopping and lounging

outside in the warm sunshine we headed to New Iberia. There was only a slight goof in navigation which again required a “U-ie” before we arrived at the Conrad Rice Mill. Graciously we were afforded the opportunity to view their video and then enter the mill and learn about rice milling. It is the Oldest Rice Mill in America on the National Registry of Historic places. Konriko is their brand. Their company store is not original to the sight. Of course we enjoyed shopping inside before heading back to Rayne.

In every organization there are individuals who truly make a difference. Howard Lefkowitz, Chairman of the Airstream Tech Help Group, was one of these individuals. His dedication to the WBCCI is noteworthy. He will be sorely missed. I feel blessed to have known him. God Bless you, Howard.

Our rally this month will be in Luling. I hope you will join us as we celebrate our Unit’s 50th Anniversary. Our Texas Hill Country Unit will be ready for distribution. Come for the rally or come for a day.

See you down the road.

Joan Ermis, President



Some of the murals and statues in Rayne, LA. Such a pretty place to visit.



March & April Rally

The March Rally will be the Region 9 Rally in Shawnee, OK March 14th to the 20th.

Our next Rally will be April 14—17 at Brazos Valley RV Park, 2190 Texas Hwy 21, Caldwell, TX 77836.

Please let me know if you will be attending.



Jim Schwerdfeger running the show in Rayne, LA. He did an amazing job! Keep up the great work Jim. Your Unit loves you!!



Raisin Schwerdfeger and Joane Ermis in the audience at the Mid Winter IBT Meeting.



The Gang is all there to support Jim and Raisin in Rayne, LA. Joane Ermis, Joe Long, Gayle Ketchum, Sheryl Wylie and Jim Schwerdfeger in the back row. In the front row is Doug Wylie, Shannon Wylie and Raisin Schwerdfeger.



The Tabasco Country Store and grounds was beautiful just wish they were giving tours of the factory.

2015 COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Caravan	
Constitution & By-laws	Joan Ermis
Devotional	
Leader	Zephyr Marek
Ethics	Raisin
& Grievance	Schwerdfeger
Golf	Harry Harkey
Historian	
Hospitality	Sheryl Wylie
Legislative	
Membership	Shannon Wylie
Parliamentarian	
Photographer	
Public Relations	
Publicity	Shannon Wylie
Webmaster	Shannon Wylie



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www.wbregion9.org

A Quilt for International First Lady 2015-2016 Raisin Schwerdfeger

By Gayle Ketchum

Having observed for several years, at International, that First Ladies seem to have quilts prepared for them either at their request or as a surprise. And since I have started quilting this year, I approached our THCU 2014-15 President Shannon Wylie, and asked if the unit would like for me to make a quilt for “our” International First Lady. And so, the task began.

Having completed one (1) baby quilt, I started looking at quilt patterns and buying material. I found some material with cardinals which I thought fit the color and theme selected by Raisin. Next was to find the blue and do you know how many shades of blue there are? White was easy or so I thought. Finally, the colors and material were selected; now for the design and the size of the quilt.

I started with the cardinal material and was suddenly learning to “fussy” cut. This brought about all types of decisions—horizontal bird, vertical bird, facing right or left or both, what size, how many birds and oops I need more bird material. Finally, I had all the birds cut and ready; now, how do I place them?

Okay, I have the rectangle size now to work in the blue and white. Horizontal strips, vertical strips, blue over white, white over blue, two (2) strips, three (3) strips; this resulted in experimenting with various combinations all the while trying not to waste material.

Now I have the blue and white rectangles and it is time to work the design. Count the birds; I have four (4) different ones, so how do I place them so I don’t have to “fussy” cut anymore birds. Well, maybe a couple more. Time to start sewing them together; I’ll make individual rectangles into rows and then sew the rows together. With six (6) rows sewn, I have an “aha” moment; I need to add a decorative, embroidery stitch to enhance the blue and white rectangles. And so I start with the rectangles in the six connected rows. This step took time and patience. The remaining half were easy since they were still individual rectangles.

This completed it was time to add the borders which brought out the navy and a touch of red—also Raisin’s colors, and to prepare for pinning of the three layers.



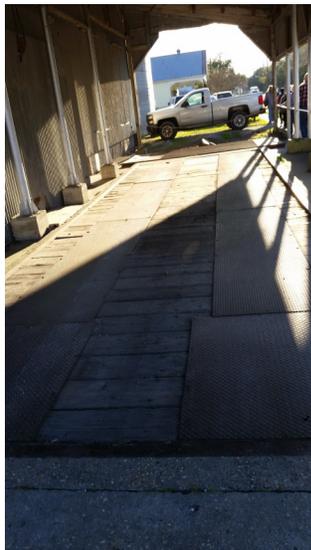
At this time, I will mention the Floresville United Methodist Quilters where I go each week to quilt and socialize. This is a group of ladies numbering 5 to 10 with novice to expert quilting experience. These ladies helped me to pin the quilt and they followed along with each step providing suggestions and encouragement throughout the process.

Now comes the time for machine quilting; more decisions and practice time. Finally, it is time for the hand stitching of the binding and at last, a quilt for Raisin so let's get it presented.

I had hoped to have the quilt ready for presentation to Raisin at the December THCU rally; that way Raisin could have it for mid-winter IBT in Rayne, Louisiana. However, the best laid plans do not always work out; namely, Joe broke his hip and we did not attend the December rally. I was, however, determined to attend mid-winter IBT and deliver the quilt. While at IBT, Joan Ermis, the THCU 2015-16 President, had difficulty getting the International President and First Lady and the THCU members together for the presentation but it finally happened.

Raisin, I am very happy to have been able to make this quilt for you as International First Lady. I did enjoy the total process and I do thank the 2014-15 and 2015-16 officers and the THCU membership for allowing me to do this for you. It was an act of love and happiness for me to do this so that you will have a memory quilt of your year as International First Lady.





The Konriko Rice Mill was a very interesting place. These are pictures of the scales used when the delivery trucks come.



Sunshine Report

Texas Hill Country Unit is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. If you have any stories or pictures you would like to include in the newsletter please let me know. We would love to hear them.

Shannon Wylie is healing nicely from her shoulder replacement. She continues with rehab and moving her shoulder more and more each day. Thank you for the thoughts and prayers!

If you have any happy news you would like to share with us please call or email Shannon Wylie. We would love to share in the joy with you.



Sympathy and Prayers

Please say some prayers for Arlyn Merrill as she recovers from a broken pelvis. She has another six to twelve months of rehab.

Please continue prayers for Joe Long as he recovers from a fractured hip.

Please continue prayers for Ronnie Ophile as he recovers from another knee surgery.

If you know of anyone that is sick and needing prayers please let me know.

February

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3 Barry McNair
7 Keith Davis
21 Judy Opphile
24 Don Bell
25 Darrell Rogers
26 Dawn Rogers
27 Bea Kaiser



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Texas Hill Country Unit 50 Years
27 Henry & Olajoe Behrens

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
River Bend RV Park & Campground
1881 S. State Highway 80
Luling, TX 78648
830-875-9548 or 866-617-4837

Thursday, February 18....Arrival Day

- 4:00 P.M. Opening Ceremony followed by a Social Hour
5:30 P.M. Potluck Dinner....Games of choice to follow

Friday, February 19....Exploring Luling

Breakfast on your own

- 9:00 A.M. Depart to the Central Texas Oil Patch Museum
421 East Davis 830-875-1922
www.oilmuseum.org

- 11:30 A.M. City Market (Pit cooked brisket, sausage & ribs)
633 E. Davis Street 830-875-9019

- 2:00 P.M. Zedler Mill Museum & Park (A Texas Historic Landmark)
1170 S. Laurel 512-227-1724

- 5:00 P.M. Social Hour followed by heavy hors d'oeuvres

Saturday, February 20

Breakfast on your own

- 9:00 A.M. Pumpjack Zoo Tour of Luling

- 11:30 A.M. Meme's restaurant (Mexican Food, breakfast tacos)
942 Pierce 830-875-6222

Suggested sites to visit in the afternoon:

- Luling Icehouse Pottery 1115 E. Davis 830-875-6282
Green Apple Gardens 104 South Pecan 830-875-2485
Seton EBD Gift Shop 130 Hays Street 830-875-7000
Stanley Theatre Collectibles 719 E. Davis 830-875-6775
Luling Farmer's Markets

- 5:00 P.M. Social Hour and Anniversary Party (Re-gift exchange...one per person)
(Heavy hors d'oeuvres)

Sunday, February 21

- 9:30 A.M. Devotional

Have a safe trip home. See you down the road.

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY UNIT #104
2015/2016 Rally Schedule

December 10-13	Joint Rally Texas Airstream Harbor 6050 IH-35 South 14 Angelina Zavalla, TX 936-897-3686	Hosts: _____ _____
January 10-16, 2016	“Because We Can” Mid-Winter IBT Rayne Civic Center Rayne, LA 70506	No Unit Hosts Needed
February 18-21	Starry Nights River Bend RV & Campground 1881 State Highway 80 Luling, TX 78648 830-875-9548 or 866-617-4837	Hosts: _____ _____
March 14-20	Region 9 Rally Shawnee, OK	
April 14-17	Brazos Valley Living Brazos Valley RV Park 2190 Texas Hwy 21 Caldwell, TX 77836 \$40.50 per night (30 or 50 amp) (979) 220-3007	Hosts: _____ _____
May 12-15	“A Fishing We will Go” Texas Airstream Harbor 14 Angelina Zavalla, TX 75980 (936) 897-3686 Joint Rally	Hosts: <u>Doug & Sheryl Wylie</u> _____
June 28-July 4	“Because We Can” International Rally Lewisburg, West Virginia	

August 20, 2016

Unit Luncheon
Clear Springs Restaurant
1692 Hwy. 46 South
Clear Springs, TX 78130
(830) 629-3075

September 15-18
Business Meeting

Antique Hunting Galore
Columbus RV Park
1011 New World Drive
Columbus, TX 78934
800-657-6108
columbusrvpark.1@sbcglobal.net

Hosts: _____

October 13-16

Halloween Rally
Lazy Longhorn RV
1402 S. Laurent St. (Hwy. 185)
Victoria, TX 77901
877-599-4676 361-485-1598
www.lazylonghornrv.com

Hosts: Linda & Gary Shelton

November 16-20

Thanksgiving/Installation Rally
Ranch RV Park
2231 N. Hwy. 16
Bandera, TX
830-796-4958
skyline@indian-creek.net

Hosts: Doug & Sheryl Wylie

Nancy & Dick Westley



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