

May 2017 –The Alamo Winnies did a two-part mini caravan in May. Dave and Elaine Davis were the hosts. Eight rigs met in San Angelo, TX at the San Angelo State Park for four days. The weather was perfect the entire time. We spent one morning at the International Water Lilly display at the local city park. Who would have thought such a park existed in this town? There was a variety of beautiful flowers at this free park with attentive staff caring for them and answering questions. The next day we took a one-hour boat ride on the Tule Princess on Lake Nasworthy. The boat is a wood burning steam engine paddle wheel boat. The boat only carried fourteen passengers and twelve of them were from the Alamo Winnies! It was a fun way to see the lake with a lot of faster and sleeker boats speeding past us while waving and pointing at our 'little engine that could!' We ate most of our meals at the campsite except for COOK'S NIGHT OUT. For that evening, we chose the number one rated San Angelo restaurant as listed on Trip Advisor – the Zero One Ale House where we could pick our favorite entrée along with sampling a large selection of in-house brewed beer. Now you may think that this was a fun trip in itself, but it was only the "jumping off" place to our next adventure. Six rigs proceeded on to Palo Duro Canyon State Park, the second largest canyon in the United States, with only the Grand Canyon being bigger. It is located just outside of Amarillo and you can actually drive into the canyon and we camped at the canyon bottom. Wild turkeys and roadrunners visited us daily. One night had a full moon and we were serenaded by coyotes howling around midnight. A group took a three-hour 'jeep' tour (actually, customized open-topped Suburbans were used). Guides explained the terrain, animals and plants we saw, and regaled us with the history of the canyon, including the cowboys, Indians, and the cavalry. This was one of the highlights of the trip. During the summer, there is a musical depicting some of the history of the area. We also visited the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, TX. The exhibits are well maintained and very interesting. We drove through the Buffalo Lake Wildlife Refuge where we saw a variety of birds and the fastest ornamental box turtle we've ever seen, though the lake has disappeared. Our last night at the park included a trip to the Jack Sizemore RV Museum where there's a large display of various types of RVs, from tag alongs (tow behinds) from the 1930s to early Winnebagos. One of the motorhomes from the movie "RV" with Robin Williams was on display. We then went to Amarillo's Big Texan Steakhouse—if you can eat a 72-ounce steak and all the accompanying sides, your meal is free. No one from our group even tried to do it, but we still had a fun meal.



