

EXIT 13



Electric Road Warriors Susan & Jenn hit the highway.

Taking Charge



Ladies, looking to attract a fella? If the answer is yes, get a Rivian! Wherever we go, guys swarm us asking about our electric truck. Yes, it's a man-magnet. And never was this more evident than at our first Airstream Rally for the eclipse held in Lampasas, Texas, northwest of Austin. The air was practically sparking as we drove in and saw 140 other Airstream trailers.

Once at our site, we hadn't even gotten out of the truck when 8-9 people were already crowding around. It's rare to see an electric vehicle pulling an Airstream, but a Rivian pulling a 30-footer? By two old ladies? Crazy! However, it was satisfying to know when they realized this was an all-

female crew, we caused some fist pumps and cries of "Yes!" from the wives in the group.

While at the rally, we met Sam and his wife, a new Cybertruck driver pulling a small Airstream. Though a Rivian R1T was his first choice, he purchased a Cybertruck because it was available immediately. He drove it over to our site so we could make a comparison. Both have lots of storage space but are very different shapes (if you've seen a "Beast," you know what we mean).



The Cybertruck has an oversized truck bed but a very small "frunk." Sam let Jenn take the Beast for an outing, and it was fun to drive. While his has a large info screen in the center of the dash, the Rivian has a second screen in front of the steering wheel with all the information the driver needs – speed, mileage, battery, obstructions, etc. A good comparison of the Ford Lightning, the Tesla Cybertruck, and the Rivian R1T is in the latest edition of Motor Trend magazine, and Rivian wins out in all but one category.



The Rivian has three displays – the driver, the information center touchscreen, and the rear for passengers. The center screen has multiple windows and gives you a world of information. One main screen in the example below shows the total mileage, the tow mileage, weight of the trailer, tire pressure, engine temperature, the highest and lowest elevations driven, etc.

After the eclipse, we moved on to Austin, and then made the long trek over to Las Cruces, New Mexico for a gorgeous stay at the KOA there with views of the city lights at night. From there, we spent two restful weeks at the Monticello campground at Elephant Butte State Park on the reservoir, another man-made body of water in the Rio Grande to provide water and

electricity to New Mexico and west Texas. We were right next to Truth or Consequences with a ton of hot springs spas. And yes, we partook often.

After T+C, as it's known, we made our way up to Edgewood, just over the Sandia Peak east of Albuquerque.

Tip of the Month – If you want to really see the country, once in a while get away from commercial campgrounds. In Texas, we stayed at a winery. Here in Edgewood, we're at a horse farm. More on this gem next month.

