

Keystone Kourier

Keystone Unit #092
Region 2 - WBCCI



President's Message



Hello All. Sue and I hope you had a Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year!!

I am honored to be the unit president for the 2020 year. The Keystone unit has a long history of being a fun and friendly unit chocked full of great people to enjoy camping with. Part of the unit's success is knowing our fellow Keystoners are always willing to pitch in.

In the spirit of the season let's give a huge thank you to all of our officers past and present, to Andy our Award winning Kourier editor and Web designer, and especially our 2019 (2 time) past president Howard. I don't believe I've ever seen Howard without a smile. Thank You for a great year.

In addition Thank you to Peg and George for hosting the festive Christmas Luncheon at the Plumsteadville Inn on Dec. 15 where the food was good, drink refreshing and fellowship pleasing. It was nice seeing you all. Thank you PIP Barry for installing the 2020 officers. If you missed it this year the good news is Barb and Jerry Hillegass have volunteered to host the 2020 Christmas Luncheon also at the Plumsteadville Inn. Mark your calendars.

In the Kourier you will find the 2020 schedule of events with first up being the February 8th Font Hill Castle tour and Public House luncheon. The scheduling for the tour and Luncheon are as follows, meet at Font Hill for an 11:00 tour. Tours are about 1 hour. Luncheon immediately following at the public house approx 12:30-1:00, minutes away. Peg and George Hosting. RSVP to Peg, pspahn1@verison.net (info at: <https://www.mercermuseum.org/about/fonthill-castle/> and <http://www.wycombepublichouse.com/>)

Coming up March 21 is the picnic. March can be touchy weather wise. If foul weather is forecast the location will change from Ironstone Park to Dietz Cabinetry only a few minutes away. More on this in February Kourier.

Jumping to the May 1st Lums Pond rally due to urgency. This place fills up. If you are interested, **reserve now**. This is a pretty cool place with great restaurants along the canal and with several units participating, has the making of a rally not to be missed. **Reserve now**. There are only 6 RV sites left.

There ya go. Just when you thought you didn't have anything to do in 2020 the Keystone unit fills up your year. All of this happens because of willing volunteers. What a good feeling.

As always keep sending in pics and stories of your travels. They make our Kourier complete.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, Feb 8

Valentines Get Together
Tour of Font Hill Castle &
Lunch at Wycombe
Public House

Saturday, March 21

Spring outing at
Ironstone Park,
Boyertown

Important Recall Information

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Stay Connected

Keystone on the web
<http://KeystonePA.airstreamclub.net>



Follow us on
Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeystoneUnit/>

That's all for now. Be Safe, Be Cool,
Happy travels!

Jody Dietz

December Holiday Lunch.

Holiday luncheon at the Plumsteadville Inn: Great food, fellowship and Installation of Officers. Thank you Peg & George Spahn for hosting. Also



Chuck & Linda Chowns, Wayne & Sharon Fitzgerald, Barry & Lesley Heckenswiler, Jim &

attending the lunch and meeting were outgoing President Howard Mergelkamp and First Lady Arry, incoming President Jody Dietz and First Lady Sue, incoming First VP Don Harrington,



Janice Hicks, Jerry & Barb Hillegass and Will & Karen Kushto. The generous collection of toys will be taken to FISH by the Heckenswiler's. Thank you for your holiday spirit.



Sharing

Adventures

After the National Park adventures **Howard & Arry Mergelkamp** headed east and **Rick & Andy Pitts** continued their rambling through the southwestern states. Some of the highlights included Saguaro NP, Lake Havasu City, Monument Valley, Grand Canyon NP, Death Valley NP and San Diego. What fun!

2020 Officers

President

Jody Dietz

1st Vice President

Don Harrington

2nd Vice President

Open

Treasurer

Rick Pitts

Secretary

Sue Dietz

1 Year Trustee

Sue Walton

2 Year Trustee

Mary Newnam

Legislative

Jody Dietz

Membership

Don Harrington

Sunshine

Karen Kushto

Kourier – Web Pages

Andy & Rick Pitts



Grand Canyon Nat'l Park



Artist Drive at Death Valley Nat'l Park



The Mittens at Monument Valley

Upcoming Keystone Fun

Valentines Get Together – Saturday, February 8

George & Peg Spahn are hosting a tour of Font Hill Castle (525 E Court St, Doylestown, PA) and lunch at Wycombe Public House (1073 Mill Creek Rd, Wycombe, PA). RSVP to Peg. pspahn1@verizon.net (site info at: <https://www.mercermuseum.org/about/fonthill-castle/> and <http://www.wycombebepublichouse.com/>)

Keystone Spring Picnic – Saturday, March 21

Jody and Sue Dietz are coordinating our spring outing at Ironstone Park, 141 Gristmill Rd, Boyertown, PA. Bad weather location is at nearby Dietz Cabinetry.

Joint Maintenance Rally with DelMarVa and MAU in Centreville, MD the weekend of **April 24 – 26**. DelMarVa is hosting and Will & Karen Kushto are coordinating for Keystone.

Eastern PA Opener with Central Penn and Penn-Lehigh at Lum's Pond State Park, Bear, DE the weekend of **May 1-3**. Book now as sites are going fast (this is the same weekend as NASCAR event in Dover). This promises to be a fun weekend with rigs from our unit, Central Penn, Penn-Lehigh, MidAtlantic, DelMarVa and more.

Tea Party Festival Rally with DelMarVa in Chestertown, MD Memorial Day weekend of **May 22-25**. Jody Dietz is coordinating for Keystone.

2020 Region 2 Rally

May 21-25, Rideau Acres Campground

The 2020 Region 2 Rally will be held in historic Kingston Ontario Canada. **Check the Region 2 website region2.airstreamclub.net now for more info and to register for the 2020 Region Rally.** There is information on the site about the region caravan that will leave the rally for the International Rally in Loveland.

Sunshine Report

Sounds as though we are all doing pretty well during the early winter season. Here's wishing all a happy, healthy new year filled with Airstream adventures!

Let us know of illnesses, surgeries, friends needing a kind word - and better yet, recoveries.
Karen (kkushto@comcast.net or cell 215-266-2410)

Happy Birthday to:

January

Howard Mergelkamp (8th)
Tim Bell (31st)

February

Lesley Heckenswiler (19th)
Dan Keefe

Happy Anniversary to:

January

Don & Phyllis Harrington

February

none to note

We have, and like to celebrate many birthdates and anniversary months but if we've missed you please email Rick/Andy (r_pitts@verizon.net)

Important Recall Information

Airstream is recalling 1,888 model year 2019-2020 Sport, Nest, Flying Cloud, International Serenity, International Signature, Classic, Globetrotter & Tommy Bahama trailers, and model year 2020 Basecamp, Bambi and Caravel trailers.

Due to improper welding, the Demco ball coupler installed on the travel trailers may not provide enough clamping force on the tow ball, potentially causing the coupler to separate from the tow ball.

If the coupler separates from the tow ball, the trailer can detach from the tow vehicle, posing the risk of a crash.

What to do

Airstream will notify owners, and send a temporary use adaptor that can be slipped over the ball portion of the coupler to allow owners to tow their trailers.

For the final remedy, dealers will add a shim plate to the backside of the ball coupler clamp to put it in position to apply the required clamping force on the tow ball free of charge.

The recall is expected to begin December 20, 2019.

Owners may contact Airstream customer service at (877) 596-6505 or (937) 596-6111 extension 7401 or 7411.

Some Additional Information on the Recall:

The **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)** lists the following years and models that could be affected:

2019 - Sport, Nest, Flying Cloud, Tommy Bahama, International Serenity, International Signature, Globetrotter, Classic.

2020 - Sport, Nest, Basecamp, Bambi, Caravel, Flying Cloud, International Serenity, International Signature, Tommy Bahama, Globetrotter, Classic.

Approximately 50% of the 1888 potentially involved models could be affected.

<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/rcl/2019/RCLRPT-19V753-9253.PDF>

Winter Planning

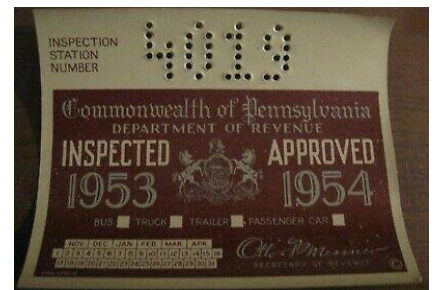
So while you're sitting at home by the fire why not pull out the calendar, a pen and a pad and begin planning for your upcoming Airstream adventures! The airstreamclub.org site has plenty of interesting activities for you to consider (including our own Keystone ones of course!) More are added frequently so come back to this site often.

Here you will also find helpful maintenance ideas (follow the Current Members; How-to Articles link).

And while you are on the net, take a look at airforums.com for hands-on airstream advice.

As many of you have already found other helpful sites, please forward them to Rick & Andy so we can share them with everyone.

And don't forget to schedule your annual inspection as required by PA code (Title 067, Chapter 175, section 130 – we have a short pdf of the section if you are interested). No need to have to explain why your trailer sticker is outdated or missing should a stop be made!



Preliminary 2020 Activities Schedule

We have an interesting year lined up and we encourage all of you to participate as much as you can. We are still looking for **coordinators** and travel ideas so please let us know your suggestions.

February 8 (Sat) – Valentines Get Together, tour of Font Hill Castle (525 E Court St, Doylestown, PA) and lunch at Wycombe Public House (1073 Mill Creek Rd, Newtown, PA)
Spahn's hosting

March 21 (Sat) – Spring picnic at Ironstone Park, 141 Gristmill Rd, Boyertown, PA
Dietz's coordinating

April 24-26 (Fri-Sun) – Joint Maintenance Rally with DelMarVa and MidAtlantic
Queen Anne's 4-H Park, Centreville, MD – Kushto's coordinating for Keystone

May 1-3 (Fri-Sun) – Eastern Pennsylvania Airstream Opener Rally with Penn-Lehigh and Central Penn
Lum's Pond State Park, Bear, DE – Pitts' coordinating for Keystone
Reserve your site now as this is NASCAR weekend in Dover, DE and sites are already very limited
<https://destateparks.com/PondsRivers/LumsPond>

May 22-25 (Fri-Mon) – Tea Party Festival Rally with DelMarVa, Chestertown, MD
Dietz's coordinating for Keystone

May 21-25 (Thur-Mon) – Region 2 Rally at Rideau Acres Campground, Kingston, Ontario
??? coordinating for Keystone
Registration now open: <https://region2.airstreamclub.net/files/2019/10/2020-R2Rally-flyer-v3.0.pdf>

June 20-27 (Sat-Sat) – International Rally, Loveland, CO
??? coordinating for Keystone

July weekend tbd – possible picnic or informal weekend (Jersey Shore Haven?) for those not traveling to Loveland
Dietz's coordinating for Keystone

August 8-22 (2-weeks) – Caravan to New England - Let's find out what makes them tawk so funny?
Keystone Unit Caravan, Dietz's coordinating

September tbd – Pennsylvania State Rally, Central Penn hosting
??? coordinating for Keystone

September 26-Oct 4 – invitation to join 58th Annual Swiss Festival National Rally, Sugarcreek OH
Not yet listed on International webpage, but we think these will be the dates

September 30-Oct 5 – invitation to join Storytelling Festival Special Event Rally, Jonesborough, TN

October weekend tbd – possible installation rally and maintenance support at French Creek State Park
Deitz's coordinating

November 6-8 (Fri-Sun) – Time to Pack It In Rally, Harpers Ferry, WV
Dietz's coordinating

December tbd (Sat) – Holiday luncheon, Plumsteadville Inn;
??? coordinating

Andy and Rick Pitts
930 Stoney Run Dr.
West Chester, Pa. 19382



INTERESTED IN JOINING THE KEYSTONE UNIT?

Contact:

President: Jody Dietz

092info@airstreamclub.net

Membership: Don Harrington

pastordkh21@aol.com

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January 2020