



The Caravanner



February 2021

Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club

President: Wayne Berkebile

1st VP: Ingrid Berkebile

2nd VP:

Recording Sec.: Wayne Berkebile

Corresponding Sec.: Alex Jacobs

Treasurer: Jonathan Jacobs

Membership: Jonathan Jacobs

Newsletter, Web & Directory: Alex Jacobs

Trustees: Joan Broomall
Karen Lea

Past President: Jonathan Jacobs

Addresses, Phone Numbers and E-mails not listed are located in the MAAC Members 2021 Directory.

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...AND More

<https://airstreamclub.org/mid-atlantic>

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Send suggestions, articles & changes to the **Newsletter Editor, Alex Jacobs** at 053info@airstreamclub.net



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MAAC President's Message



Hello MAAC's!

Well, it's January 31 and it's snowing outside. Looking out the window reveals a beautiful scene but it makes me want to stay inside and keep warm. I imagine many of our members feel the same way!

I attended the Region 2 virtual meeting about two weeks ago. It is clear that all the clubs in our region are confronting the issue of resuming in-person rallies. I was hoping that the arrival of the COVID vaccines would soon allow us to rally together.

But it seems that hope is rapidly diminishing in the face of the vaccine distribution fiasco. My county, Montgomery County, MD, has just begun receiving the vaccine and giving it to the most vulnerable populations. At this rate it will take several months to complete the vaccination process. And the slow rollout is showing its effect among our members. I sent out an email asking our 40+ member units if they would be willing to attend the Region 2 rally in York, PA in June. A total of two units responded that they would be willing to do so. That indicates serious skepticism that the pandemic will be ending anytime soon. It also indicates it is too soon to resume in-person rallies.

So, it puts even more emphasis on our offering virtual meetings to our members. This month is February and we will be having a virtual Valentines' Day meeting on Sunday, Feb 14, at 4:00 PM via our WEBEX page. In keeping with the Valentines' Day theme, I plan to do something a little different. I will be asking each participant to describe how they first met their significant other, how they fell in love, and how they decided to spend their lives together. I have always enjoyed hearing these stories from my friends and neighbors. I find it helps me understand them a little better and reminds us of what is important in life. I hope each participant will be willing to share their story!

I love old western movies and TV shows. Do you remember who said/sang: "Happy trails to you, until we meet again"?

Wayne Berkebile
WBAC 3828





Welcome NEW Members



Patsy & Greg Felthousen from Westover, MD with their 2019 27 ft Airstream Globetrotter.

Carl & Jacob Triplett from Oxon Hill, MD with their 2021 22 ft Airstream Caravel.



We hope to meet you all soon! ... at least virtually 😊

February Birthdays & Anniversaries



8 Ralph Forrester
14 Luke Brennecke

6 Betty & Bob Clark



Let's go shopping MAAC

At last, our members can now order all club apparel from Mike's Embroidery, owned by Cody Klingler (Al-Mon-O PA Airstream Club). Please visit the store at:

<https://stores.inksoft.com/maac>



Alex Jacobs



On top of that, our talented Christina Torcaso created her own web store Benander (combination of her children's names!) with Airstream themed kitchen towels, decorative pillows, garden flags, and clocks. Visit and shop at:

www.benander.net





February Valentine's Day Virtual Party



Sunday, Feb 14, at 4:00 PM
via our WEBEX page



Prepare to talk about:

- ♥ describe how you first met your significant other
- ♥ how you fell in love
- ♥ how you decided to spend your lives together

From our Members

We picked up our Airstream in August 2019 from a person in Richmond, Va. It was in great shape, 2010 Flying Cloud 28ft. It was hardly used at all. We are still trying to learn everything about it and how to back it up :-)

We had a chance to take it out a couple of times in 2020 to state parks in MD and VA, even crossed the Bay Bridge and the Sky Bridge down in southern MD.



Now we are planning for a couple outings this year – of course, all depending on the COVID-19 situation.

Our airstream is next to the garage and has power. We spent Christmas Eve out in the airstream watching the Christmas Carol movie and then again New Year's Eve watching It's a Wonderful Life. We take our cat out with us and he enjoys exploring. Haven't taken him on any trips yet.

Mike & Kitty Knuppel
WBAC 30984





February Region 2 News

The Mid-Winter IBT meeting held in Sarasota, FL January 18-22 has concluded, and it was a successful blend of in-person and Zoom attendees. This hybrid model of meeting has proven to be excellent and continues to be improved upon by our staff at Headquarters and the team of on-site club member volunteers. It was reported that 58 rigs were camped at the Sarasota Fairgrounds where the meetings, Club Officers and members were hosted by Region 3. Our travel plans changed, and I attended and participated in the meetings via Zoom. I want to thank our R2 1st VP RJ Marquette and R2 2nd VP Gary Russo for participating by Zoom as well.

There will be several Constitutional Amendments up for approval at the International Rally Delegates Meeting in July, to include continued efforts to simplify the Constitution and move some sections to Bylaws and Policy where they belong. There will be one to simplify the Amendment process and one to allow for electronic or mail ballots for electing International Officers. That motion will eliminate the need for Delegate Meetings at the International Rally unless there are Constitutional Amendments proposed. One of the results of our push to increase Member Benefits was the approval of a motion to add an additional paid staff person at Headquarters, in the position of Marketing and Communications Director. A permanent charter was granted to the new Indie Streamers Intra-club. More info can be found at <https://airstreamclub.org/indie-streamers>. There was one local club name change and several logos and flags approved. Due to the recent membership dues increase and persistent low interest rates, the Lifetime Membership fund was re-analyzed and an increase in the one-time fee will take effect August 1st. If you have thought about becoming a Lifetime Member of the Airstream Club, now would be an opportune time to do so and save some money.

One of the highlights of the IBT meeting for me is getting to listen to Justin Humphreys, the VP of Sales at Airstream, Inc. give an update on Airstream and the RV industry. His assessment of the sales environment, in one understated word, was BUSY! With no slow down in sight, dealers are literally sold out of product and have hardly any inventory in stock. Airstream is faced with fulfilling thousands of retail sold orders. Although the expansion of the manufacturing plants in 2019 and early 2020 was worrisome when the pandemic hit, it turned out to be perfect timing. The expansion, the largest in the company's history, now includes a 700,000 sq. ft. trailer manufacturing facility, a 230,000 sq. ft. motorhome facility, and a Base Camp shop whose size was increased by 50%. There are now almost 1100 employees in Jackson Center and the company is looking to hire another 200 to 250 people by July! Our Airstream Club is reaping the benefit, with new memberships being added at record pace. Please, take advantage of the efforts of our Membership Chair, Lea Plant. Reach out to those new Airstream owners in your area. Invite them out to a rally, to have some fun and learn about their Airstream and what the Airstream Club can offer them.

It was announced that the 2022 Mid-Winter meeting is now scheduled for 01/17-21/2022 in Savannah, GA at the Creek Fire RV Resort. More info will follow later in the year. The 2021 International Rally to be held this July 17-24 in Lebanon, TN is still a "go", with over 550 rigs registered to date. There is still time to register and reserve your spot.





February Region 2 News

The 2022 International Rally is scheduled for Fryeburg, ME and it was announced the 2023 Rally is now planned for Yakima, WA. I love how our Int'l Rally moves around the country, providing more opportunities to travel and see this great land. Get out the maps and start planning a trip!

Speaking of planning, your Region Officers are still working on a plan to hold our Region 2 Rally at the York Expo Center in York, PA June 10-13. Concerns regarding the pandemic persist and we are hopeful the release of the vaccines will allow more of our members to feel comfortable to come out and attend. To that end, your local club Presidents joined a Region 2 Zoom meeting I conducted on Jan. 14th, to discuss the R2Rally and get some feedback. To successfully plan and hold a safe, enjoyable Rally will take a commitment for participation and cooperation by our local clubs. The expense cannot be borne by only 40 or 50 rigs. We will need about 75 rigs in attendance for it to be feasible, with a reasonable Rally fee to cover expenses. Your local club President will be polling you shortly and looking for an indication of your interest in attending. This Rally will be designed with an eye on current local health protocols and best practices to provide a safe environment, with an emphasis on outdoor activities, meetings, and gatherings. Instead of a rock & roll dance band in the building on Saturday night, think about a 4-piece Bluegrass band under a large, open tent in the late afternoon, a delicious, individually boxed Food Truck meal, and an Ice Cream truck! How about a Corn Hole Tournament, with each local club fielding a team? How about a walk around Flea Market, where you post your items outside your own trailer? Group bicycle rides and small group walks or hikes at outdoor attractions in the area are great ways to have fun and stay healthy, regardless of current health concerns. The health and safety of our members is paramount. As I said at the meeting...this is not something we have to do but it is something we want to do. But we need to know if we plan it, you will come! Please give your honest assessment to your local club President when given the opportunity. **Our next R2 Zoom meeting will be held Feb 11th at 7pm.** Invites to local club Presidents will go out soon.

As I reminded everyone at the Zoom meeting, Region 2 will need a 2nd VP to step up and join the leadership team, as my term as your President ends this Spring. Please consider volunteering to continue the efforts of these past few years to Renew Region 2. We have made great strides, have able leaders in RJ, Gary, and others on the Executive Committee but we need a full slate by Spring. With so many talented and enthusiastic members, I am confident someone will step forward. Please feel free to call me anytime to discuss what you can do for the Region. Thank you.

Kathi joins me in sending our best regards to all the members of our 15 local clubs in Region 2.


Rich Short, R2 President
WBAC 1512

Read the [NEWS](#) online





Rally Schedule 2021

Activity Dates:	February 14 @ 4 pm		
Activity Location:	Virtual (click the logo)		
Type or Theme of Event:	Valentines Party		
<u>Directions how to join meeting</u>			
Activity Dates:	March		
Activity Location:	Virtual	<i>TBD</i>	
Type or Theme of Event:	Spring Get-ready		
Activity Dates:	April 23 - 25		
Activity Location:	4H Park		
Type or Theme of Event:	Joint Maintenance Rally with Keystone & Delmarva		
Directions to Activity:	Centerville, MD		
Person to Contact:	Jonathan Jacobs		
Email:	crossing_gates@hotmail.com		
Activity Dates:	May 14 - 16		
Activity Location:	Lums Pond State Part		
Type or Theme of Event:	Eastern PA Opener Rally		
Directions to Activity:	Bear, DE		
Reservations:	<u>DE state parts - Lums Pond</u>		
Activity Dates:	June 10 - 13		
Activity Location:	York Expo Center		
Type or Theme of Event:	Region 2 Rally		
Directions to Activity:	334 Carlisle Ave, York PA 17404		
Activity Dates:	July 17 - 24, 2021		
Activity Location:	Lebanon, TN		
Type or Theme of Event:	<u>64th International Rally</u>		



NEW **MAAC** MEMBERS:



OUR UNIT WILL COVER ALL YOUR **FIRST MAAC** RALLY FEES!

DON'T WAIT, COME JOIN US IN THE AIRSTREAM FUN





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