



The Itchy Hitch



Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Airstream Club
Unit 091

March-April 2021

PENNSYLVANIA AIRSTREAM CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

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2nd Vice Pres.: VACANT (Please Volunteer)

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Immed. Past Pres: Bill Woodford (as above)

- Directors:**
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 2. Doug Field #16432
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Photos by Mike Flesch

PENNSYLVANIA AIRSTREAM CLUB (PAC) PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- Ms. Mary Wilson, PAC President

“FIRE! FIRE!”

Those are words that instantly bring forth the scents and visions of nightmares. Yet, how many of us tempt fate every single day by simply forgetting the most basic of best practices?

In February, husband Mark and I ordered our first pizza in many moons, which was delivered in time to save us from starvation, or so we thought. Without any forethought, we placed it on our cold ceramic stovetop, the pizza box corner apparently hitting one of the burner knobs in its descent. Taking our platters of pizza and salad to the family room, we had taken our first few bites of bliss when the smell of something hot drifted across the room. We looked at one another and screamed in unison, “FIRE!” The bottom of the pizza box was smoking like a chimney, and the house had already filled with an acrid haze. The heat from the electric burner torched the underside of the box, the flame becoming evident when Mark swooped up the box. Flamin’ Frisbees!! He threw it like a Spartan shot putter out the back door into the snow! Thank goodness, only our pizza was lost, but it could have been so much worse.

Our home has smoke detectors. Why had none of them sounded?! They chirp when the batteries get low, so what happened? After some quick research, we had our answer.

...continued next page

Our popular ionization-style detectors use an ionization chamber and a source of ionizing radiation to detect smoke. Inside is a tiny amount of americium-241 (maybe 1/5000th of a gram), which smoke disrupts, causing the alarm to blare. This chamber is always active, so the material does degenerate over time. The life expectancy of such standard detectors is about ten years. How old are yours? Take a look. Take them down, turn them over, and look for the actual manufactured date stamped on the bottom. (See photo below) Consult your brand's guidelines; but, as a rule, add ten years and then TOSS THEM OUT! In our case, they said "2001." YIKES!

Remember, changing batteries is not enough to protect your precious property. Take it from two starvin' marvins who now know better.

- Mary Wilson #16801



Photo by Mary Wilson

**PENN WOOD CAMPGROUND ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021**

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**PENN WOOD CAMPGROUND ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

Hello Penn Wood Campground Members,

Just a friendly reminder that Spring clean-up will take place on April 17-18th. We will be meeting near the office at 9:00 a.m. Please plan to attend so we can get the park ready for a great season.

The park officially opens May 1st. Penn Wood is opened for off the road traffic this season.

Our first meeting of the season will be May 1st., starting after the Unit meeting.

See you soon.

Regards,

Rory Fagan #4326
President, PWCA
roryfagan106@gmail.com



REGION 2 NEWS

APRIL 2021

RICH SHORT #1512

I never thought I would be so happy to see Spring roll around as I am this year. The daffodils in the yard never looked so bright...or so it seems. I guess all that talk about "pent up demand," having "cabin fever," going "covid crazy," or whatever you want to call it, is hitting...big time. I cannot wait to get out and get rolling in the shiny 1512. By the time you read this, our Airstream will be de-winterized, washed, waxed, the water heater, furnace and a/c systems checked, water tank sanitized, etc., etc., etc. I know many of our local clubs will be holding their first-of-the-year rallies in April; and many combine the rally with maintenance and safety checks. What a great way to start the camping season. Taking the time and making the effort to go over your rig pays dividends in safe travel. And what better way than to have an extra set of eyes and helping hands go over things on your Airstream at a Maintenance Rally! Start the travel year off right and spend some time on your rig. And do not forget the great discount programs now available in the Member Only section of our airstreamclub.org website. Save money on car/trailer-care liquids at Griot's Garage, on campground fees with Passport America and Harvest Host memberships and enjoy big dollar savings on tires with the Airstream Club-Michelin Advantage Program.

As my term as Region 2 President winds down, Kathi and I are making a push to get out and camp with some local clubs we haven't been able to visit this past year. We hope to see many of you in April, May, and June. Meanwhile, I am working with our incoming Region 2 President RJ Marquette and 1st VP Gary Russo to put together a great luncheon for those attending the International Rally in Lebanon, TN this July. With over 60 rigs from Region 2 expected at the

Rally, we should have a great turnout. It will be wonderful to see so many of our Airstream friends in one place again! There is more info posted here, or go to our Region 2 website at airstreamclub.org/Region2 and click on the Region 2 Luncheon tab. You will be able to register, make your meal choices, and pay online with PayPal. You will be able to choose from hot or cold box lunches. Enjoy a meal on-site with us in the socially distanced space of the East/West building or get it to-go...for dining at your trailer or outside with friends. There will be a drawing for door prizes, and you will get to meet and greet your Region Officer hosts. Come on out! If you would prefer to bring your own lunch, please feel free to do so. Come, join us, and share the Region 2 camaraderie. The luncheon runs from Noon to about 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 21. We hope to see you there.

There are some changes coming in the voting process for our Airstream Club International Officers. Electronic voting will be enabled as will a mail-in paper ballot. There are three (3) Constitutional amendments to be voted on and that will require the traditional Delegate voting at International. Local Clubs will be receiving their Delegates Packages by email as you read this. It will contain information and full instructions. I will be reaching out to all our local club Presidents in the coming weeks regarding voting and local club Delegate responsibilities.

Speaking of club business and voting, I will be inviting all R2 local club Presidents to attend a Region 2 Business meeting. It is time to vote and install a new slate of Region Officers for 2021-2022. Unfortunately, it will not be in-person at a R2 Rally but via Zoom, as we did last year. While we are still hoping for a volunteer to step forward to fill the 2nd VP position, the 2021-2022 slate of Region 2 Officers is:

- R2 President - RJ Marquette #13270
- R2 1st VP - Gary Russo #1061
- R2 2nd VP - <open>

- R2 Recording Secretary – Judith Cahall #4058
- R2 Corresponding Secretary – Erica Marquette #13270
- R2 Membership Chair - Cody Klingler #3937
- R2 Blue Beret News Editor - <open>
- R2 Webmaster - Lawrence Northway #17410
- R2 Caravan Coordinator - Kerry Mattila #5417
- R2 Treasurer - Will Kushto #2518

Please publish the above slate of Officers in your newsletters, present the slate for a vote at a meeting and be prepared for your local club to be represented at the R2 Business meeting later this Spring. Club Presidents will be given ample notice of the scheduled date and agenda for the R2 meeting.

I will bring additional news and info as provided by Headquarters regarding the upcoming Constitutional Amendments and will provide guidance as needed. My responsibilities as our Region 2 President officially end after the first of the two IBT meetings held at the International Rally, and I will report on the proceedings of that meeting. Region 2 will be ably represented at the second IBT meeting of the Rally (first for the new term) by RJ and Gary. I am greatly confident our Region is in excellent hands. We have accomplished much these past few years, and I believe the future of the Airstream Club Int'l and our Region 2 is bright and vibrant. Let's keep our Region and the Airstream Club rolling!

Kathi joins me in sending best regards to all members of the 15 local clubs that make up our great Region 2 of the Wally Byam Airstream Club.

Stay well and travel safe.

Rich #1512



Rich and Kathi Short, Region 2



A WORD FROM OUR UPCOMING REGION 2 PRESIDENT, MR. RJ MARQUETTE

Hello! My name is RJ Marquette (#13270), and I am your incoming Region 2 President.

I joined WBCCI in 2005 as a member of the Washington, DC Unit (WDCU) after buying an Airstream B190, a small Class B motorhome made by Airstream between 1989 and 2000. However, this was not my first experience with Airstreams or WBCCI. My parents are also Airstream owners (#03270) and members of the same club. As a teenager, I attended several Central Pennsylvania Unit rallies in the early '90s with my parents.

I admit I had some hesitation about joining the club after buying my B190 because my impression was that

the club members were entirely old people. (Hey, I was 30 at the time.) But, I was convinced to give it a try. It's cliché, but we have gained great friends and countless great memories with the club. Getting together at a rally is like seeing our second family.

My wife, Erica, and I are both past presidents of the WDCU. To date, we've attended two International rallies, Lewisburg and Doswell; and, we are planning to go to Lebanon, Tennessee, this summer. We also worked on the survey that was done on the membership in 2017. We have three cats and a dog that travel with us in our 1995 Classic 30' trailer, and, I am working on getting the B190 back into operational condition in my spare time. I'm hoping it will make an appearance at some club events this year! (I've been saying that for a few years, though.)

I volunteered for the Region 2 President office because I wanted to give back to the organization that has given me so much. Also, I want to help bring the younger perspective to the larger group. There are many members of WBCCI who are still in the workforce, such as Erica and me; and, I wanted to help make sure working Airstreamers had a voice at the international level.

Speaking of region officers, we are going to need a new Region 2 Second Vice President. This is your chance to help shape the Region. While it looks like a six-year commitment, the work does not really get going until just before you actually become the region president. Until then, it's mostly learning what happens and being available for some discussions with the other officers. Our new 2nd VP would serve as Region 2 President from 2025 to 2027. If this calls to you, please contact me at rjm1@yahoo.com. No prior experience required.

The Region has several officers that help keep things running smoothly. I want to thank all of the outgoing officers for their service, and offer thanks to the

people who have agreed to serve another term or who have already volunteered to fill open positions. The list of officers is at the end of this article. As you will see, I still need volunteers to serve as our 1) Region 2 newsletter coordinator and 2) Region 2 secretary. Please contact me at rjml@yahoo.com, if you are able to help us.

I want to especially thank Richard Short for his help and support in getting me up to speed so quickly and for his hard work as the Region 2 President. In addition to the work he did for our Region, Richard was also in charge of implementing the new discounts available for WBCCI members, such as for Michelin tires. His contributions will improve the quality of the club for years to come. Thank you, Rich, from all of us!

Over the next two years, we intend to join a rally or other event for every unit in the Region; and, we are looking forward to meeting you!

Thank you!

--RJ Marquette #13270
rjml@yahoo.com



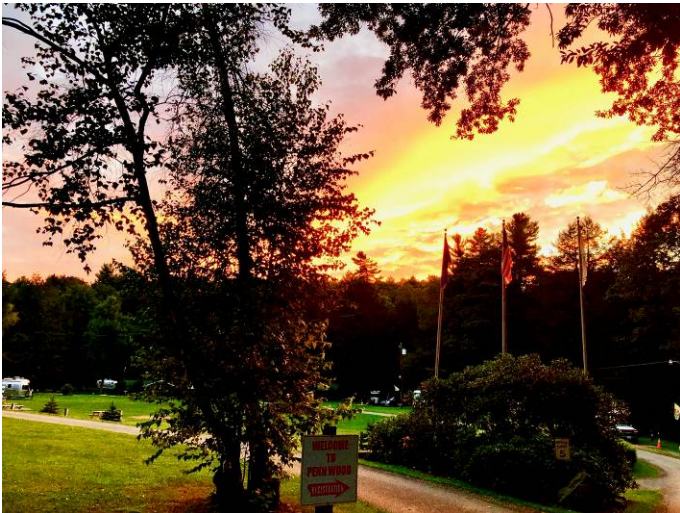
Northern Hospitality

Have you ever wondered what to do when something significant happens in one of our members' lives or your own, such as a wedding; a loss of a loved one; an illness or hospitalization? The Pennsylvania Airstream Club wants our members to know that we are thinking of them during any important life event; and our "Sunshine Lady," Ms. Leslie Williams, is always prepared to take action. Please let Leslie know of any events that you believe the Club should be made aware of. Leslie will make sure that an appropriate card is sent or other response is offered to the member or their family. We want them to know that we are thinking of them.

LeslieWilliams: willavilla999@gmail.com.

WBCCI ONLINE STORE IS OPEN. GO TO
<https://store.airstreamclub.org/collections/all>

TO CHECK OUT THE RALLY PRODUCTS YOU MAY
HAVE ON YOUR AIRSTREAM SHOPPING LIST, OR
<https://business.landsend.com/store/airstreamclub>
FOR CLOTHING AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS



Some PA Regional News

From the Central Penn Airstream Club:

PA State Rally Flyer for 2021 can be found on page 9.

WANT TO BUY/SELL:

Take advantage of this free advertising opportunity in the *Itchy Hitch*. Your unneeded Airstream item may be exactly what a member is looking for, or someone may have for sale what you yourself need. Please send your "Want to Buy/Sell" notice with a brief description and contact info to:

Rich Giardina at richygard@gmail.com.

Wanted to Buy

A reliable, secondhand golf cart, preferably electric but not required. Price TBD. Please contact Mark or Mary Wilson at marywunit91@gmail.com.

WALLY BYAM'S CREED:

To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home.

To provide a more satisfying, meaningful way of travel that offers complete travel independence, wherever and whenever you choose to go or stay.

To keep alive and make real an enduring promise of high adventure and faraway lands... of rediscovering old places and new interests.

To open a whole world of new experiences... a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions.

To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions.

To lead caravans wherever the four winds blow... over twinkling boulevards, across trackless deserts... to the traveled and untraveled corners of the earth.

To play some part in promoting international goodwill and understanding among the peoples of the world through person-to-person contact.

To refine and perfect our product by continuous travel-testing over the highways and byways of the world.

To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end... and thus make your travel dreams come true.

REMEMBER THAT WE ARE NOW NAMED "PENNSYLVANIA AIRSTREAM CLUB," WHICH IS STILL TECHNICALLY WBCCI'S UNIT 91.

2021 PAC (#91) RALLY SCHEDULE

All Pennsylvania Airstream Club rallies are tentatively scheduled as listed below and are conditioned upon there being no remaining state or federal pandemic restrictions. Please consult with the Club's website at:

<https://airstreamclub.org/pennsylvania> for the latest rally status. Rally details and registration info will also follow in future editions of our newsletter.

All rallies are held at the Penn Wood Campground for Airstreams, 999 Kindel Road, in Limestone, Pennsylvania.



MAY 1 – 3 & JUNE 4 – 6

Rallies are canceled due to Covid-19 Caution/PA Restrictions

AUGUST 7 – 9

SEPTEMBER 5 – 7

We hope to see you at Penn Wood!

HAPPY TRAILS!



Photos by Mike Flesch

Pennsylvania State Rally 2021

Hosted by:



September 10-12 2021

Centre County Grange Fairgrounds-169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall, PA
'Exploring State Parks at the PA Rally'

The Centre County Grange Fairgrounds offers a great location with many options for visitors. The camping area is large, open and grassy as well as flat. The campsites will have 30amp electrical service with water hookups and are pet friendly. There is a dump station at the entrance of the grounds and a large hall will be available for our use for meals, activities and demonstrations.

The Centre County area offers a great variety of activities for everyone, such as exploring one of the nearby State Park's to go kayaking (rentals available at Bald Eagle State Park), hiking, biking or wildlife watching. You may also enjoy local wine tasting, relaxing while learning at the H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens in the Arboretum at Penn State, or a visit to a local brewery. The Nittany Antique Machinery Assn. fall show (which includes a large flea market, daily tractor parades, antique car & truck displays, antique small engines & garden tractors, tractor pulls, steam tractors, cider press & apple butter) as well as the Outdoors Sportsman's Club gun show will also be held during these dates. America's oldest antique automobile museum, the Swigart Museum may also be of interest or a visit to the largest cavern in PA or America's only all-water cavern. We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity to explore Centre County where great opportunities and fun adventures await!

Names: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Volunteer? _____ (Yes)

WBCCI#: _____ Unit/Club: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Camping per night (Water/30amp/dump) \$40 a night X _____ nights =\$ _____

-You may arrive on Thursday 9/09/21 NO earlier than 3:00 P.M. and must depart by Noon on

Monday 9/13/21 a MAX of 4 nights. *No open flames will be allowed on the fairgrounds

Rally fee includes two breakfasts, catered dinner, 1 night entertainment

Rally Fee per person (Ages 13 & up, under 13 free) \$50 x _____ =\$ _____

RSVP by: August 3, 2021

Make checks payable to: WBCCI Central PA Airstream Club

Send Payments To: WBCCI Central PA Airstream Club, C/O Roxann Bare, 3551 Holly Road, Dover, PA 17315

Contact: centralpenn164@gmail.com with any questions