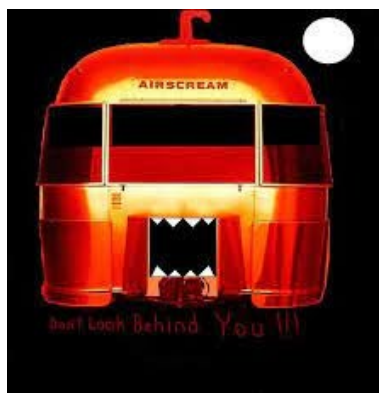


# The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club (<https://watchungnj.airstreamclub.net/>)

October 2021

## President's Message

### Why We Rally

When Laura and I first joined the Watchung Airstream Club we knew nothing about rallying. We thought of camping in our Airstream as something we did as a couple, not as a group, or a herd if you will. However, we soon learned that the best part of "Airstreaming" is meeting other camping folks, seeing how they do it, learning from their accomplishments and mistakes, and sharing road adventures. It's not like there is an Airstream immersion school that one goes to upon taking ownership of a big shiny aluminum rig. (Although that would be kind of cool... Camping Camp!) What happens at rallies is an opportunity to transfer knowledge and experience.

Last month we went to the Alumapalooza rally at the Mothership in Ohio. If you haven't gone I suggest you give it a try. It is on a smaller scale than the International rally and is a very different vibe. Because there are fewer people it is actually easier to get to know your rally neighbors.



We made fast friends with Tim (Parking Boss) and his partner-in-hilarity Mona (Past President of WBCI) from the second we arrived. This couple had us in stitches with their stories and great sense of humor! Tim is also a master at fixing all things pertaining to an Airstream! Tim and Mona's rally neighbors, Mark and Paola soon became our friends because that's how a rally works, your friends become my friends and mine become yours! Mark is as handy as Tim, and is right there beside him when something needs a fixing! His wife Paola is a fantastic knitter and knows a great deal about essential oils. She came to the rescue when Laura had



an allergic reaction to a wasp sting during the rally. We also had the pleasure of hanging with the future WBBCI President Eric McHenry and his wife LaVern. Eric was always tooling around on his bike and seemed to pop up everywhere I was, so I guess we were destined to be buddies! I have to say that after spending the week at this rally it was difficult to say goodbye to this group. I am sure we will cross paths again, but I already miss them! And this my friends, is why We Rally!

Fondly,  
Your President and First Mate  
Meg and Laura #28240

## Updated Watchung Directory!

Now the [Watchung Directory](#) had been updated with pictures! Also, you can find our brand new "Directory of Past Members section. If you would like update or add photos please send the information to Lea Plant.

## Watchung Charity 2021

If you haven't had the chance to read up on our new charity, please visit the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation, [jbjsf.org](http://jbjsf.org). The mission of this foundation is to break the cycle of poverty, hunger, and homelessness. They provide affordable housing in 11 states and also provide healthy, organic meals to those in need in New Jersey. There are two ways for us to contribute;



1. Send a check to our treasurer with JBJ Soul in the memo.
2. Visit the JBJ Soul kitchen in Redbank or Toms River for a meal. Each meal you purchase supports a second meal to go to a local person in need.

## Region 2 notes from the President

The big news this month is that I want to tentatively announce the Region 2 Rally for next year: May 19-22, at the Delaware State Fair in Harrington, Delaware.

As of this writing, we do not have a contract signed, so I'm mentioning it with some hesitation, but the other problem is that many clubs are trying to plan for their 2022 camping seasons, so I want to

get word out and hope for the best. I'm confident we'll be able to get this contract in place soon, though.

We have a special treat for this one: The Vintage Airstream Club wants to hold a rally in our region, and they've agreed to join forces with our Region 2 rally planning. This means we'll be able to offer more for everyone, and we may attract more WBCCI members from other regions as well. I'm excited for this rally - I think we're going to have a great time, and I hope you can join us. We'll have more details coming in the future.

I'm writing this on the last day of a Washington, DC Unit rally at the Outer Banks. I visited the Outer Banks with my parents several times in the 90s, and when I joined the WBCCI in 2005, the Outer Banks rally in 2006 was the first rally I attended, so this rally is always a must for me. We've had a great week of sunsets, sunrises, bicycling, exploring, beaches, food, and time with our Airstream family. Bill Graham (#3278) took the attached picture of Erica, Sulley, and I watching a sunrise. Thanks, Bill!

Coincidentally, Metropolitan New York Airstream Club President Colleen Ahlers and her family were camping here as well (not part of the rally). Erica and I met Colleen and her husband Jerry at International, so it was a fun surprise to run into them here.

Until next month...

--RJ Marquette, Region 2 President





# Thoughts From Fred

## **Where have old time Airstreamers Gone**

This morning I heard an old song: "Where have all the flowers gone? Long time passing." It reminded me of "Where have old time Airstreamers Gone?"

With the "retirement" of Bill and Betty Lou Walker, I went to some old member directories and it struck me how many names have disappeared off our rolls since we joined Watchung in 2005. Quite a few names have gone because they just did not review their membership or they sold their unit. Then there is the list of members who have passed away. Do you remember Andy Myers or pat & Ed Brunner? They were charter members! Of course, there were Dick & Anne Best, Don Bookholt, Joe & Betty Devine, Artie & Dotty Erikson and who can forget Joe Fodor or the clock master Hank Hiirschmann and wife Betty.

Members we have lost are Robert & Betty Halsy, who as our longtime treasurer, Gene & Elaine Morgan, Peter Nauta, Steve Nehlig, Warren Passmore, Jim Plant, Fred & Bessie Spencer, William & Anne Toole and Bill Wooding. There were all great Airstreams and all folks to spend a weekend with. This does not take away from our current active memberships. Last year was a challenge and not great to be out together and meeting one another.

Let's get back to weekends and luncheons together to renew our friendships and strengthen our club!

Fred Brugmans #5638

## **To Switch or Not to Switch**

Since 1990 we have owned 4 Airstream and a small Winnebago. Every time we switched it was for a newer model or a larger unit. Our last upgrade was to a 2009 25ft Flying Cloud with twin beds. Just the unit we love! Two years ago, we had trouble with the hot water unit. We could not get a hot shower! During 2020 there was no camping and so no need for repairs. This year, things were looking up and we brought the Flying Cloud to Colonial for those needed hot water repairs. I read about on demand hot water units one called AquaGo Comfort and it replaced the old-fashioned gas hot water furnace. Colonial told me they could install this new unit but it had to be a special order which could take 4 weeks to be shipped from the supplier and an additional week to install.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> we picked up our trailer with the upgraded hot water system and was ready to start the camping season! Trailer ready, tow vehicle read, Occupants...Not so ready. Ever since the pandemic I have had problems with my urinary tract. Frequently having to stop to go to the bathroom plays havoc with my driving ability.

While on a camping trip, I have the bathroom with me but when I'm driving it's not in the truck, it is in the trailer behind us. By the time I can stop, walk to the rear of the trailer, unlock it, and make it to the bathroom, it's too late. I need my bathroom closer. The only way to do this is to switch to a Class B or Class C motorhome. Easier said than done, because we have to trade in our Flying Cloud. This will be an opportunity for a club member to upgrade to a larger or newer unit. We cannot switch until we have sold our current unit. Meanwhile, camping is delayed, again.

Fred Brugmans #5638

# Camping Recipes

By Angie Ratliff #5070

**Life with Pie Iron.** It's now cool enough that having an evening campfire is a necessity and not just a lovely way to wind down. For me, I love to use our pie iron for sandwiches and treats! If you don't have one, check out a [Rome Pie Iron at REI](#). Simple rules for a pie iron are to butter bread of choice to line the pie iron (butter sides down) and fill with anything you want! I like dessert the best and LOVE Monkey Bread so try these out!

This was super delicious, but burns easily. Go slow and keep turning, checking often as the sugars can easily burn if you aren't careful. But once you learn how, it is worth repeating.



## Ingredients

- 2 rounds of refrigerated biscuit dough, cut into quarters
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- Butter
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon pecans, chopped

## Instructions

1. Combine the cinnamon and sugar in a small bowl.
2. Melt a little butter in your iron, covering both sides.
3. Sprinkle your brown sugar in the butter and add your pecans.
4. Roll each biscuit dough quarter into cinnamon sugar and place in pie iron on top of the brown sugar and pecans. Close and cook until the dough has puffed up and has turned lightlv brown.

# 2021 WATCHUNG AIRSTREAM CLUB OFFICERS

**President:** Meg Riley  
**1st Vice Pres:** Frank DeHerde  
**2nd Vice Pres:** George Kiesel  
**Corr Sec:** Laura Riley  
**Rec Sec:** JoAnne Elacqua  
**Treasurer:** Lois Wagner  
**Directors:**  
    **1 YR.:** Erika Beddiges  
    **1 YR.:** Roger Kriz  
    **2 YR.:** Derek Conley  
    **2 YR.:** Linda Kiesel  
**Membership:** Lea Plant  
**Directory:** Chris Forster  
**Web Master:** Mark Ratliff  
**Sunshine:** Linda Kiesel  
**Newsletter:** Angie Ratliff  
**Blog:** Lois Wagner  
**Quartermaster:** Jason Pomerleau

## Welcome our Newest Watchung members!

Elisabeth Reiss of Merion Station, PA and her 16ft  
2020 Basecamp

Gail Caputo and Lori Galiano of Medford Lakes, NJ  
and their 25ft 2013 Eddie Bauer

Laura Raymond of Keansburg, NJ and her 22ft 1964  
Safari

Affiliate Members, Michelle and Ron Aldrich of  
Greenville, WI and their 24ft 2021 Grand Tour 4WD



## WBCCI Headquarters New email addresses!

Blue Beret: [blueberet@airstreamclub.org](mailto:blueberet@airstreamclub.org)

Caravans: [caravan@airstreamclub.org](mailto:caravan@airstreamclub.org)

General Information: [info@airstreamclub.org](mailto:info@airstreamclub.org)

Membership: [membership@airstreamclub.org](mailto:membership@airstreamclub.org)

Rallies: [rally@airstreamclub.org](mailto:rally@airstreamclub.org)

For Certificates of Insurance or 990N filing  
information: [info@airstreamclub.org](mailto:info@airstreamclub.org)



# 2021 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon & Rally Schedule

**2021 October Not a Rally**, Oct 6- 11, 2021. Jersey Shore Haven, 728 Dennisville Road, South Seaville, NJ 08246. Call (609) 861-2293 to book.

**2021 November Luncheon** **Hosts and CoHosts Needed.**

**2021 December Initiation & Holiday Luncheon**, December 5, 11:30am to 1:30pm. JBJ Soul Kitchen, 207 Monmouth St., Red Bank NJ 07701. Hosted by Frank & Leslie DeHerde and Laura & Meg Riley. Please see attached coupon.

# 2022 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon & Rally Schedule

If you are interested in hosting or cohosting a rally or luncheon, please see the list below and let George Kiesel know.

**2022 January Luncheon & Business Meeting:** Ken & Nancy Egan **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 February Luncheon:** Mark & Angie Ratliff **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 March Luncheon:** Host Lea Plant, Cohosts Rich & Kathi Short

**2022 April Unbutton Your Rig Rally:** Hosts Meg & Laura Riley, Cohosts Lois Wagner & Derek Conley

**2022 May Rally Region 2:** **Tentative** May 19-22, Delaware State Fair Grounds Harrington, DE.

**2022 June Region** **Hosts and CoHosts Needed**

**2022 July International Rally:** July 23-29, 2022, Fryeburg Fair Association, 1154 Main Street Fryeburg, ME [Sign up here!](#)

**2022 August Rally** George & Linda Kiesel **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 September Rally** Mark & Angie Ratliff **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 October Rally** Chris & Erika Beddiges **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 November Luncheon** Hosted by Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwarra **CoHosts Needed.**

**2022 December Initiation & Holiday Luncheon** Hosted by George & Linda Kiesel and Frank & Leslie DeHerde

# August Rally at Interlake RV Park

It seems like a very long time since the Watchung Club has gotten together. We were able to remedy that this past August. It was fantastic to once again see familiar faces and a few new ones. :) A total of 14 rigs met up for this buddy rally in Rhinebeck, NY. Friday night we all came together for a "weenie" night. Here we were once again able to "break bread" with our friends. All events were held outdoor as we still are being cautious with Covid lurking. Our weekend hosts included George and Linda Kiesel and Rich and Kathi Short. What a wonderful job they (and all those who helped) did!

The cooking continued on a rainy, Saturday morning with a pancake breakfast. Volunteers were armed with umbrellas, rain gear, and smiles as they worked in earnest to feed everyone. A shout out to all of those umbrella holders out there! A vital role as they kept all the cooks and grills dry.



During the day Saturday, we had time to explore the area. Some went to the County Fair and others to the Red Hook Aerodrome for an air show. So much to do in this area!



Saturday night happy hour started at 4 and went until late in the night as there was so much catching up to do.

On Sunday we again joined together for a Continental Breakfast immediately followed by our Club General Meeting. We had much to discuss and vote on. So many changes are currently taking place that if you were not at the Rally may we suggest you review the minutes online to get the updates.



After the meeting, the Club held a raffle with many wonderful prizes donated to the club by the members. A special thank you to all who donated these items. Proceeds from the raffle came to a total \$190.00. This money will be added to our JBJ Soul Kitchen charity.

By Lois Wagner #16003





THE JBJ SOUL FOUNDATION

# JBJ SOUL KITCHEN

*Community Restaurant*



## December Instillation & Holiday Luncheon 2021

Please join Laura & Meg Riley and Frank & Leslie DeHerde for the 2021 Officers Instillation and Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am 1:30pm. The luncheon will be at the JBJ Soul Kitchen in Red Bank, NJ.

**JBj Soul Kitchen  
207 Monmouth St  
Red Bank NJ 07701**

RESERVATION DEADLINE: October 28, 2021 Maximum of 25 attendees – please sign up early! \$25 per person (includes tax and tip)

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

WBCCI #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

# of People: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 per person = Total \$: \_\_\_\_\_



Please contact Meg Riley with your coupon information: [vespameg@yahoo.com](mailto:vespameg@yahoo.com) or (973) 979-2240

Mail Checks Payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club to:  
Lois Wagner  
29 Colony Court  
New Providence NJ 07974



# SUNSHINE

A Sympathy card was sent to Chris and Erika Beddiges on the loss of their brother-in-law, a Thinking of You card was sent to Linda Ward's mother Frances, who is recovering from a mini stroke, and a Sympathy card was sent to Lois Wagner, following the loss of her brother.

Please keep Linda Kiesel up to date all Sunshine events: sad & happy so she can send a card.

# Bits & Pieces



**Watchung is in Need!** We are looking for an additional webmaster to help with our website. Please contact Mark Ratliff if you are interested.

**Hosts and CoHosts needed for 2021 events!** Contact Frank De Herde at [deherde@hotmail.com](mailto:deherde@hotmail.com) and sign up today!

**Check out the new Region 2 website at** <https://region2.wbcci.net/>

**Need to contact the Club?** Email [0068@wbcci.net](mailto:0068@wbcci.net)

**Items for the newsletter?** Send them to Angela Ratliff by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month!

## Tips from the Turnpike

If your Fantastic Fan inexplicably stops working there is a small, cylindrical reset button that you can push to make it "magically" work again! Ask me how I know 😊 – Meg #28240



## October Birthdays

Braith Eldridge  
Tourrahn Kriz  
Frank DeHerde  
Kimberly Sheppard  
Flora Pomerleau



## October Anniversaries

Mike & July Richards  
Robert & Tracy  
Creekmore  
Howard & Braith Eldridge





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**The Hillbilly  
Watchung, NJ Airstream Club  
Angela Ratliff – Editor  
117 Buckingham Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618**

