

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstramclub.org/watchung-nj

November 2021

President's Message

Let's Give 'em Pumpkin To Talk About!

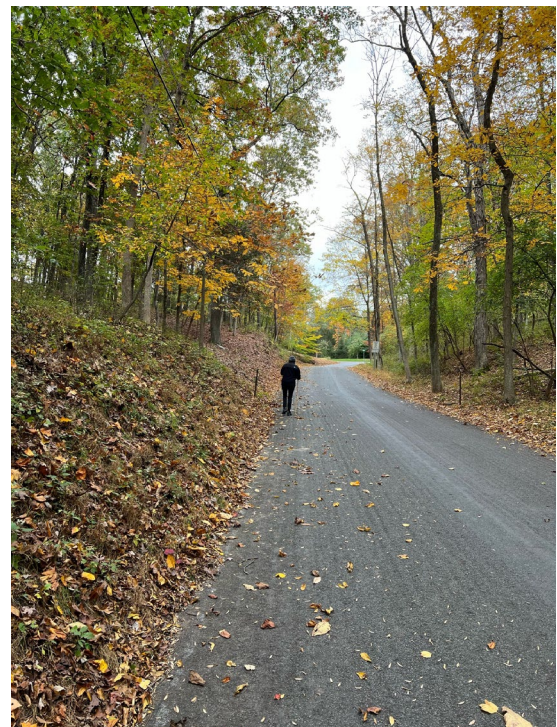


Hey folks, it's Sweater Weather!

With a sneaky whoosh summer left us and fall arrived. My First Mate Laura and I spent a long weekend at Camp Carr with a few other Watchung Club folks. Despite the occasional rain it was a lovely fall weekend and perfect weather for long hikes.

A nightly campfire was provided by George K, an impromptu potluck meal was spread on the Keisel's picnic table, and the Ratliff's later mastered grilled cheese sandwiches cooked in the fire using Pie Irons...so yummy! As always, evening shenanigans ensued 'round the campfire 🍷, but what happens at camp stays at camp 🤫!

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. 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 IBT had a discussion on October 21, with a few updates on things being proposed for the club. In general, I think these are great changes for the club to consider, even if we don't adopt them.

There was a discussion about removing the International Rally date range from the Constitution. The problem is that there are limited venues that can support the International Rally and provide the services members request, like 30 amp electric, so the proposal is to allow the International Rally to be scheduled at a different parts of the year, so we could, for example, have International in the South in the fall when it's not as hot.

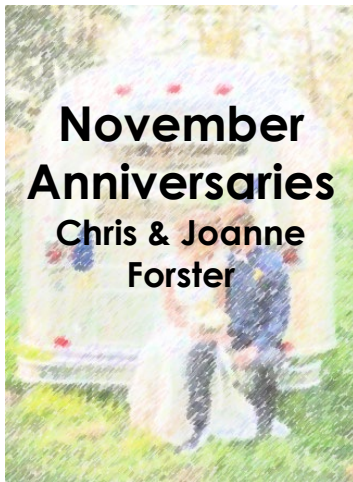
Tom Smithson, head of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, described the possibility of allowing constitutional amendments to be voted upon by members directly, instead of via delegates.

The other topics were realigning the officer terms to match the fiscal year of the club (Aug 1-July 31), the committee investigating longer terms for the International officers has begun their work, and a proposed schedule for a quarterly IBT meeting (replacing the current mid-winter and summer meetings).

Region 2 rally update (May 19-22, 2022): As of this writing, we do not have a contract signed. However, we're in agreement with the fairgrounds on the details of the contract, so now we just need to get ink on paper. Once we get that done, we'll start planning the details. Several clubs and members have already reached out to offer help, and I very much appreciate that! We'll be putting out a call for volunteers soon.

Mid-Winter IBT in Savannah: If you are planning to go, make sure you book the campground and register for the rally itself. Lori Plummer indicated they have many campground sites booked, but few registrations. Link: <https://airstreamclub.org/2022-mid-winter-international-board-trustees-meeting>

See you down the road!
--RJ Marquette, Region 2 President



Happy Birthday



Happy Camper



Tips from the Turnpike

Oh, to Winterize. There are several schools of thought on how and when to winterize and it comes down to either of two way:

1. Using an are compressor to blow out water or
2. pumping RV antifreeze through the system via the water pump.

Check out both methods on Airstream's blog at:

<https://www.airstream.com/blog/how-to-winterize-an-airstream-travel-trailer/>

November Birthdays

Kathi Short
Barbara Taylor
George Kiesel
Valerie Nehlig



64th International Rally, July 17 – July 24, 2021

Farm Bureau Exposition Center

Lebanon, TN (Angie forgot to include this!!! I'm so sorry Lea! I forgot!)

By - Lea Plant #2256

Toward the beginning of the year, people were wondering if this International Rally would be canceled, as last year's Loveland, Colorado one was due to COVID. Those of us who had signed up were happy that it wasn't.



On Wednesday, July 14th we followed Rich and Kathi Short into the Bull Pen. Shortly after, 5 Watchung trailers were parked together. Most of us had no problems getting set up. There were exchanges of leveling blocks (BTW it would be a good idea to put your name/BRN on your stuff). No number of blocks or help from the rally volunteer 'Parkers' could help JoAnne and Stayla Elacqua. They ended up having to park perpendicular to us and ordering a new electrical cord. While signing in, it was fun to hear the 'First Timers' bell ring for Meg and Laura Riley and Andy Dunkinson.

Saturday, July 17 was the official opening of the rally. Several Watchungers participated in the Flag Ceremony. I was honored to carry the Region 2 flag, our very own Rich and Kathi Short, for their last walk as Region 2 President and our President, Meg Riley carried the Watchung flag.

With all that was going on, Tuesday was the only day we could get everyone together for our Official Watchung Happy Hour. It was great to see Gary and Lynn Brink. Before moving to Virginia, Gary was Watchung Past President (1984). They are still Associate Members, and we are glad they are. It was fun to talk about 'old times' and 'old timers'. We do not get to see Bill and Traude Ellert much, since they live in New York. It was nice to meet Gail Caputo and Lori





Galiano. I guess we did not scare them off, as they have since transferred to Watchung. Other honored guests were RJ and Erica Marquette (current Region 2 President) and vendor, 'The Michelin Man', John.

Grupio was the App of choice to keep us updated on such things as entertainment, seminars, attendees, exhibitors, presentations, inspiration, missing dogs, staying extra night, pump out announcement and other general information. The 'Airstream Club International 2021 International Rally' Facebook page was also available.

At the 'Airstream Update' Presentation, Rich won an Airstream Gift Certificate for \$100.00. During the intermission of the WBCCI band concert, Tye Mott officially announced and presented the 2022

At the Region 2 Luncheon, RJ presented Rich with an appreciation plaque for serving as Region 2 President.



I have gotten in the habit of taking a picture of 'Trip A' as soon as I pull in my driveway.

65th International Rally in Maine complete with drone footage. The next day, registration began, both online and in person.

Friday saw the Flea Market, more Seminars and Closing Ceremony/Installation of officers. It was a bit sad to see people leaving and the landscape 'empty' of Airstreams. Looking forward to cooler temperatures in Maine next year. By - Lea Plant #2256



The only time grass should grow around your tires is at an International.



Camping Recipes

By Angie Ratliff #5070

Bourbon Spiked Apple Cider

Fall has fallen and there is nothing like a warm drink around the campfire. Most of us are winterizing and storing our Airstreams away with hopes of warm camping weather. But this recipe goes well around a campfire whether its outside your camper or at home.



Bourbon Spiked Apple Cider

Serves 2

Ingredients

- 2 cups apple cider
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 2 tablespoons mulling spices, (or blend of cloves, nutmeg, star anise, allspice)
- ¼ cup orange juice
- 3 oz bourbon

Instructions

1. Pour apple cider, cinnamon sticks, mulling spices, and orange juice in a pot. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer. Simmer the cider for at least 10 minutes to allow the flavors to mingle. (If you love the taste of bourbon but not the alcohol, add the bourbon with the apple cider and the alcohol will evaporate when the apple cider boils.)
2. Add the bourbon, then stir to combine. Pour through a strainer into two glasses and enjoy immediately.

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

Bits and 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.

Check out the new Region 2 website at <https://airstreamclub.org/region2>

Items for the newsletter? Send them to Angela Ratliff by the 20th of each month!

WBCCI Headquarters Email addresses!

Blue Beret: blueberet@airstreamclub.org

Caravans: caravan@airstreamclub.org

General Information: info@airstreamclub.org

Membership: membership@airstreamclub.org

Rallies: rally@airstreamclub.org

For Certificates of Insurance or 990N filing information: info@airstreamclub.org

2021 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon & Rally Schedule

2021 November Luncheon Hosts and CoHosts Needed

2021 December Instillation & 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: Tentative Feb, 12, 2022 at 12:30pm Coopers Riverview,
Trenton, NJ Mark & Angie Ratliff & Laura Raymond

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

2022 April Unbutton Your Rig Rally & Business Meeting: 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: Sept. 23-25, 2022, Bayshore Campgrounds, Rock Hall, MD. Mark
& Angie Ratliff and Cohosts Meg & Laura Riley Contact BayshoreCamping.com directly for
sites and mention you are a member of Watchung Airstream.

2022 October Rally & Business Meeting 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

October Rally at Jersey Shore Haven

By Braith Eldridge #12156

October 6th - Oct 10th.

The camping season of 2021 is coming to an end and nothing would do but one last gathering at Jersey Shore Haven in South Dennisville, NJ. The weather was just great!

Things got under way Wednesday when the first rigs arrived.

Actually, new some members arrived very early to JHS. Elsje Reiss and Laura Raymond were there to greet all us old timers. They were so eager to start getting to know all of us! Thursday, more rigs started trickling in and Friday another influx came.

There was nothing official planned because it was a “non-rally” but happy hour seemed to spontaneously happened. Gathering at Shorts trailer was common and they were the ultimate hosts as they are so often. A couple of us were out in the field, Lea Plant and our rig. Lois Wagner and Derek Conley were nearby in a site. Of course, some with permanent site holders came visiting, the Kiesel’s and the Ratliff’s. We all got to connect with new members, the Dillion’s.

Welcoming the new members into the club with such a small rally was nice because they were not overwhelmed with meeting a lot of people at once. There were only 10 rigs signed up for the “non-rally”. It was not an active organized time, just fun and friendship. It was good to catch up with some Airstreamers again.

Lois collect \$135 for our designated charity, the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation.

Now we all look forward to our indoor lunches during the holidays. Enjoy the fall activities camping and we will see you all in December.

Welcome our Newest Watchung members!

Charlie and Gabriela Chiodo of Roslyn, NY and their 27ft, 2019 Globetrotter!



SUNSHINE

A Get Well card has been sent to Kathi Short who had knee surgery; please wish her well. A Sympathy card was sent to the family of Johanna Bookholt, who was First Lady of the Watchung Unit's 1991 President Don Bookholt, and passed away earlier this month. She was known for hosting Watchung gatherings at their house, while we worked together to construct a Watchung float for the Region parade, as well as finding local charities that we collected needed items for. Although she had not been a member for a number of years, a number of members fondly remember camping with Jo and Don.

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

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 5th 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 or (973) 979-2240

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



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