



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER of the
NY FINGER LAKES AIRSTREAM
CLUB

THE GRAPEVINE—Nov. 2021

Website: <https://newyorkfingerlakes.airstreamclub.net/>

Volume 20, Issue 11

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The Grapevine

The Grapevine will be published **at least** 8 times/year (Feb/March, April, May, June/July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov) or as needed.

Newsletter Editor is Liz Kirk.

Next deadline is Dec. 10th

See page 8 for update on Membership Directory distribution.

The President's Corner

Fall is upon us in the Finger Lakes when pumpkin spice drinks of all kinds, and turkey with complete fixings, are the highlight in grocery ads. Fake snow for Christmas toys and clothing are on TV ads. And don't forget the candy ads for Halloween are everywhere! So, if you walk into any of the retail stores, you won't know what season it is.

With fall approaching we have been working on some exciting ideas to keep people engaged during this lull in the camping season, as mentioned in the last newsletter. Some of you are planning, or have planned, your getaway to the south or warmer climates. But if you plan to stick around in the Finger Lakes region from December to March before the camping season starts again we have activities for you! Right now, we are looking at 3 outings to pull you away from that warm fire, your lounge chair or that video screen.



The first tantalizing event to get you into the seasonal spirit -- how about meeting in downtown Skaneateles, NY for **Dickens Christmas in Skaneateles?**

Step back in time and enjoy the holidays the old-fashioned way with a Dickens Christmas, as Skaneateles Area Businesses give a gift to the public for their continued support throughout the year. Plan now and join the Village of Skaneateles, located in the beautiful Finger Lakes region of Upstate New York, this holiday season.

This annual tradition, from noon to 4 pm has Charles Dickens and his cast of over 50 characters interacting with residents and visitors in the streets, stores, and restaurants. Don't miss lively acts at the library, live music, unique shopping, wonderful food and horse and wagon rides around the Village.

Join the full cast of Dickens Christmas Characters at the Gazebo at Cliff Park at 2pm each day for singing and fun. Bad weather location is the Hannum House Porch.

Continued on page 2.....

The President's Corner continued.....

We will gather on **Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021 at 12:00 PM** at one of the free parking areas (TBD). **Please contact me by Dec. 5th if you plan to attend.** Below is a map of the area. Good walking shoes and warm clothing are highly recommended. This is a kid friendly event so if you have children or grandchildren, bring them along!



The next event is **Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 on the snow-covered hills of Bristol Mountain**. Who does not want to feel the rush of excitement swooshing down a snow-covered hill, or that quieter moment as you glide along a groomed cross-country path followed by a warm cup of a beverage inside a lodge? Well, get your equipment ready for Bristol Mountain and, if you don't have equipment, Bristol has rentals (skis, boots, poles) and private lessons. This is a kid friendly event so bring the whole family along! They won't miss screen time for the day.



NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club
2021—2022 Officers and
Committee Members

President: Gary Russo
fulloflife123@yahoo.com
585-967-6636

1st V.P.: Dick Saxton
ccapp68@me.com

2nd VP: Chris Cappelletti
ccapp68@me.com

Treasurer: Ted Smith
Ess18294@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: OPEN

Directors: Jim Gillio (1 yr.)
Charlie Kirk (2 yrs.)
John Andersen (3 yrs.)

Membership Chair: Randy Hill
randy_diane_hill@me.com

Caravan Leader: Ray Wagner
rwagner2722@outlook.com

Safety: John Hussar
hushearts@greygoosegraphics.com

Media: Liz Kirk
002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

Sunshine: Suzanne Russo
suzanne.russo21@yahoo.com

The President's Corner continued.....

Our last pre-camping event will be held in March -- date TBD. It all depends upon when the Ginny Lee Café opens for the 2022 season. Right now, we have a tentative date at **Wagner's Winery/Brewery on either Saturday, Mar. 19 or 26**. So, if you like the taste of the grape or the grain we've got a glass for you.



We need to know who is interested in each event so we can work with the facility or to identify a meeting site as in Skaneateles for parking. I am the point of contact for the Skaneateles and Wagner's Winery/Brewery events. Dick Saxton is the point of contact for the Bristol Mountain event.

See you down the road,

Gary Russo

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS IS:

<https://newyorkfingerlakes.airstreamclub.net/>

OR

find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1472017733005344/>





NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club 2022 Activities

All activities are subject to change.
Please refer to upcoming issues of The Grapevine Newsletter for current activities. You can also find activities listed on our website.

Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021	Dickens Christmas in Skaneateles noon to 4 pm Host: Gary Russo RSVP by Dec 5th
Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022	Skiing at Bristol Mountain Host: Dick Saxton
TBD - Sat., Mar. 19th or 26th	Wagner's Winery/Brewery Host: Gary Russo
May 19th-22nd	Region 2 2022 Rally Delaware State Fairground Harrington, Delaware
June 9th-12th	Watkins Glen State Park Watkins Glen, NY Hosts: John & Cathy Andersen
June 23rd—26th	Sampson State Park Romulus, NY Host: Gary Russo
July 1st—5th	Zoar Valley July 4th Bash Hosts: Dawn and Boyd Wible
July 23rd-30th	65th Annual WBCCI International Rally Fryeburg, Maine
September 8th-11th	Letchworth State Park Castile, NY Hosts: Dick & Cora Saxton

Suzanne's Sunshine Corner

Hello Everyone!

Welcome to November -- a month to give thanks for all the great memories and friends we have made during the past year's travels.



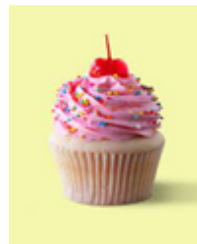
Gary and I have been busy taking care of any outdoor work that needs to be done before the you-know-what arrives. This year we decided to make our lives easier for the future by having curbing installed around our gardens and

replacing mulch with stone. Less time weeding and more time traveling!



Who's blowing out candles this month?

Mary Fahner-Vihtelic November 15th



Who's drinking champagne to celebrate an anniversary?

Ted and Donna Smith November 30th

If your birthday or anniversary was missed, or if you recently joined NYFLAC, drop me a line with your information so that I can update my list (Suzanne.Russo21@yahoo.com).

Gary and I hope to see you at the Dickens Christmas event in Skaneateles, NY on December 11!



Happy Thanksgiving!!!



Until next time, best wishes for good health and safe travels!

Suzanne Russo

Message From Your Treasurer—November 2021

Ted Smith

Greetings Fellow Airstreamers,

It would appear that our New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club is following the trend seen across the United States as Airstream sales reach an all time high. It has been a busy time for Amanda at membership as they try to process renewals and sometimes it takes two weeks to get updated information.

According to an August 2021 membership audit by WBCCI we had 58 regular members in our New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club. According to my records, as of November 1st, we now have 70 members! I know we have gained 18 new members in 2021 either through transfer from other clubs, new Airstream owners or new affiliate members. I know of three members who have sold their Airstream trailers this year.

Which brings me to the next topic.... If you are a legacy member it is dues renewal time for your membership. All legacy memberships expire on December 31, 2021.

If you recently joined for the first time after July 1, 2021 your anniversary renewal date is one year from the date you joined.

52.8% of our membership has renewed as of November 1, 2021 and renewals have been coming in weekly. Membership and I thank those of you who have renewed. This is a reminder that you can still renew on-line, by mail, or through me. The total dues for 2022 are \$85.00, which includes our unit dues of \$10.00. Previous newsletters have had instructions on how you can renew as well as one of our unit renewal forms. As of this writing there are still 33 members I have not received renewals from.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly or Amanda at WBCCI Membership.

Ted Smith Treasurer NYFLAC

PS: Donna and I are still planning to leave for our winter home in Florida in early December. I would like to wrap-up the treasury/accounting as much as possible before we leave. I would greatly appreciate it if you would help me out by getting your dues in as soon as possible.



DUES are Due

You may pay through your
“members-only” self-service
portal at ACI

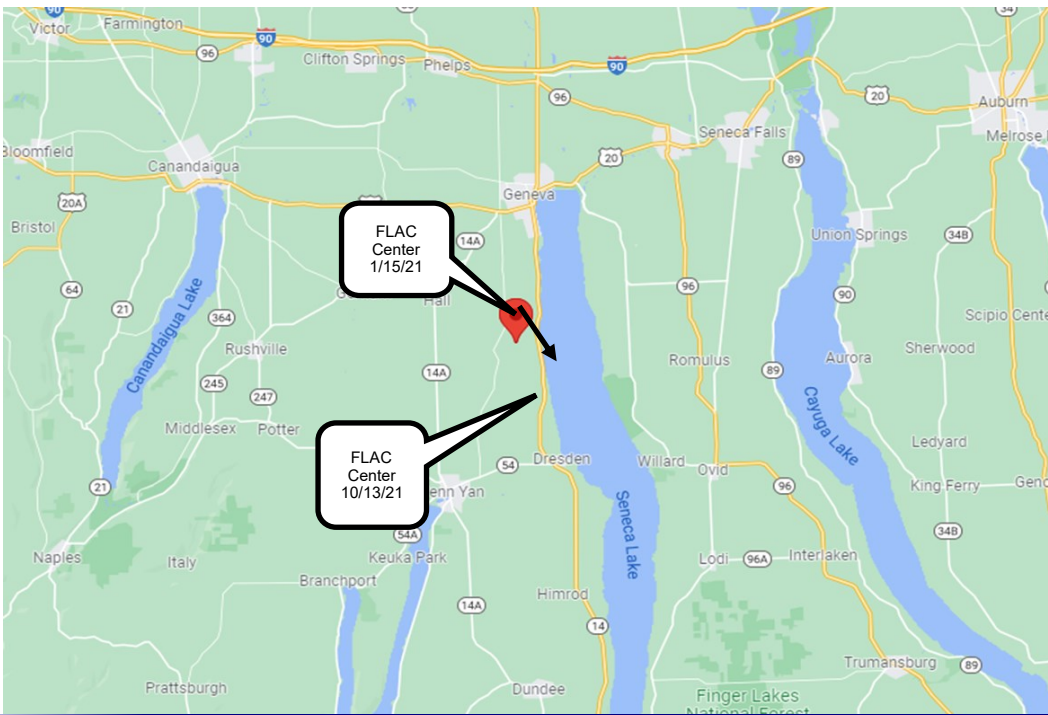
<https://airstreamclub.org/renew>

Bits & Pieces

Our Annual “Center of NYFLAC” Map

For the last year or two I’ve asked Charlie to plot out the “center of our NYFLAC membership.” It continues to be extremely consistent despite our growth from all over NYS and adjacent neighbors.

Why do we do this? To identify the location that is the closest to ALL of our members.



It doesn't mean we plan all rallies and events based on this information.

It does give us a point of reference when event planning.

As you can see the center of our membership doesn't shift very much!!

The area around Geneva continues to be geographically central to our club. Good thing there is SO MUCH the area offers.



Let's offer a warm welcome to our newest NYFLAC members

Chris & Renee McNiffe
Pittsford, NY

Peter & Ginny Gordon
Central Square, NY

Linda & Bruce Ferguson
Syracuse, NY

Region 2 News

RJ Marquette, Region 2 President

The International Board of Trustees (IBT) had a discussion on October 21st 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), a 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

Our Membership Directory will look different in 2022!!

As you know, our club has "legacy" members who pay dues by Dec. 31st and we have "new" members who renew on their anniversary date. This makes it difficult to maintain an accurate annual membership directory. Putting together the directory takes a lot of time and effort so we have decided to try a new approach for 2022.

The Airstream Club International (ACI) provides current membership information that is easily accessed on-line, can be downloaded and converted to a pdf file. The beauty of this is the ACI information should always be current and is easy to access. The plan is to distribute the NYFLAC Membership Directory on a quarterly basis. The first Directory will be made available in January 2022. It may not be as pretty as in the past but it will still contain member names, email addresses, home address and Big Red Numbers.