



November 2021

Delmarva Beacon



Installation Rally Sunset (K. Dowell)

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President's Message

Greetings DelMarVa Airstreamers!

I went back and looked over the November 2020 Beacon, with Katharine's first President's Message, looking for some inspiration. Wow...what a difference one year makes! I fondly remember those 2 months working at Cape Henlopen State Park, and the last Installation Rally where everyone was masked and we were all worried about how to have our business meeting and dinner indoors and still keep everyone safe. This past Installation Rally seemed much more relaxed....I believe everyone who attended was vaccinated and in good health. Even the fairgrounds seemed more alive - folks camping Friday night had the opportunity to watch youth horseback barrel racing. Saturday we enjoyed the Garden Tractor Pulls - what a hoot! Young kids to seniors, stock to heavily modified lawn tractors, roaring to life, trying to pull a heavy sled down the track.....when I left, the record was some 115 feet....wow!

In keeping with Katharine's vision, I would like to see the club offer activities all of our members can enjoy. Last year we had retiree rallies - mid-week activities that avoided weekends; and weekend activities for those still working. I think it worked well. We still are not scheduling indoor activities over the winter months...hopefully these will pick up again when the pandemic eases up. The calendar I proposed lists the "big rallies" - the Maintenance Rally in April; the Region 2 rally in May; and the International Rally in July. June and August are open, and the Installation Rally is not yet scheduled. I will appreciate your ideas and suggestions for places to go. There is a possibility of a joint rally in August with the Washington DC club. More to follow.

Well, fall is now well underway, I'm sure lots of you, like Katharine and I, are trying to fit in one more jaunt before putting the Airstream to bed for the winter. Or maybe you're getting ready to head south. Wherever your journeys take you, Stay Safe, and send us pictures!



President Andy enjoying last year's Crisfield Rally.

Welcome New Members and Associate Members!

Joined since our last newsletter:

New members

Travis Brissey and Ellen Platte; BRN 05362

- Queenstown, MD
- Onetonfun350@yahoo.com and eplatte@gmail.com

Ernie DeAngelis, JR and Jayme Murphy; BRN 05462

- Lewes, DE
- cubmasterernie@gmail.com and jayme.maley@gmail.com

H. Truitt Sunderland and Valerie Sunderland; BRN 03924

- Wittman, MD
- truittsunderland@gmail.com and valeriesunderland@gmail.com

New Associate Delmarva Club Members and their home clubs:

Barry and Lesley Heckenswiler BRN 00147

- Perkasie, PA; Keystone Pennsylvania Unit
- heck257@gmail.com

Dennis and Barbara Hackett BRN 07355

- Greensboro NC; Carolinas Club
- dhackett@triad.rr.com and bhackett@triad.rr.com

Jonathan and Alex Jacobs BRN 02784

- Severna Park, MD; Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club
- crossing_gates@hotmail.com

Kevin McLaren BRN 01405

- Bellingham, WA; British Columbia Airstream Club
- kmclaren1955@gmail.com

“Old” Business...

In 2021, WBCCI changed its name to Airstream Club, and we changed our name from Delmarva Unit of WBCCI to DelMarVa Airstream Club.

In keeping with the name change, we created a new logo and put that logo on decals, which any member can get at any Club activity; and on a new flag, which then-Club President Katharine Dowell proudly carried in the International Rally opening ceremony.

We - Katharine and I, past and current Presidents - inherited a collection of patches, banners and flags carrying the Delmarva Unit name, which we feel are now obsolete.

If anyone has any ideas on what we should do with these items, please contact Katharine or myself. Or, if anyone wants any of these items, please reach out to us, and we will get them to you as soon as we can.



Delmarva Unit Banners (we have 2 of the rectangular banners). Also, a “Hobo Rally” banner, and bunch of jacket patches



President and 1st Vice President flags



Delmarva Unit flag

Rally Reports

Trap Pond Rally October 1-3

A group of 5 rigs enjoyed time together at Trap Pond State Park in Delaware. Charlie Michels, Andy and Katharine Dowell, Roger and Celeste Sansom and Dave Ziara arrived by Thursday night and Ashley Hitzig and Chris Clawson joined the group for Friday night. In addition to the usual campfire gatherings and visits from family and friends, attendees enjoyed kayaking, hiking the park and outdoor cooking along with live Irish music. The Dowells also enjoyed kayak trips to nearby Broad Creek in Laurel, plus Trussum Pond, as well as on Trap Pond.



Charlie Michels colorful set up (Katharine Dowell)



Trap Pond scene (Charlie Michels)



Camp cast iron outdoor cooking – it's what's for dinner (Katharine Dowell)



Late afternoon view from our campsite at Trap Pond (Katharine Dowell)



*Irish Music at the Campfire featuring Andy Dowell and visiting friends Brad Stevens and Meri Holden.
(Katharine Dowell)*



Campfire with Dave's homemade peach ice cream! (Katharine Dowell). L-R: Andy Dowell, Nate Sansom, Dave Ziara, Roger Sansom. Missing from picture: Celeste Sansom.



Trussum Pond haul-out (Katharine Dowell)

Installation Rally October 22-24

The 2021 Installation Rally was held at the 4H Park in Centreville, MD, as has been the recent tradition. A small group of campers was joined at the dinner and meeting by additional members. RJ Marquette, Region 2 President, attended to meet our Club members and install Andy Dowell as President and Katharine Dowell as a Trustee. Newest member, Travis Brissey and his son Marshall camped with the Club for the first time. As always, Chuck Helwig, along with Malcolm Comstock and Maggie Helwig put together a fantastic dinner spread.

We thank Donna Field for her 4 year service as Recording Secretary. Additional officers not present at the Rally will be sworn in at a later date (Complete officers list is on page 20).



RJ Marquette, Region 2 President, and Andy Dowell, incoming Delmarva Airstream Club President.



Malcolm and Chuck announce: Dinner is Served!



Top: Mike and Sarah Cooksey, Mike and Donna Field and Raul and Kim Reyna-Galindo share company.

Middle: Fire Pit time is always popular!

Bottom: Malcolm Comstock, Charlie Michels, Andy Dowell, Maggie and Chuck Helwig and RJ Marquette share a table.

Minutes of the Installation Rally

DelMarVa Airstream Club #026
INSTALLATION RALLY
Queen Anne County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD
October 23, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Katharine Dowell at 4 p.m.

Reading of the Minutes:

Minutes of the April 2021 meeting were published in the May 2021 Beacon.
Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

Treasurers Report:

Malcolm Comstock reported that there was \$4300.00 in the treasury.
Treasurers Report was accepted by unanimous vote.

Region 2 President, RJ Marquette installed new President Andy Dowell. The other officers will be installed at future meetings/rallies.

OFFICERS FOR 2021-2022

President	Andy Dowell
1st Vice President	Ashley Hitzig
2nd Vice President	vacant
Treasurer	Laurie Pullman
Recording Secretary	Betty Schwartz
Corresponding Secretary	vacant
Trustees	Mike Field
	Bob Pullman
	Chuck Helwig
	Katharine Dowell

Old Business:

Our new flag made its "maiden voyage" to the International Rally in July. The new decals will be handed out to anyone in attendance at Club events who wants one. The club thanks Shannon Stevens for his help in creating our new logo. The Club spent \$240 for the new flag, and \$84 for 50 decals.

New Business:

The following motions were approved:

The Club will make a donation to the 4-H Park for \$400. (Chuck)

The Club will work with the 4-H Park maintenance staff to procure and install shelves in the new bathhouse shower stalls. \$200 will be allocated. (Chuck and Andy).

Katharine Dowell will order additional decals - \$84 for 50 decals.

The meeting was adjourned by President Katharine Dowell.

New President Andy Dowell opened the meeting.

President Andy Dowell reviewed the proposed calendar for 2022.

Andy mentioned he and Katharine will be traveling the months of May, August, September and October, and requested members help with the May Region 2 Rally.

The proposed calendar was approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned by President Andy Dowell.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Field", written in a cursive style.

Donna Field
Recording Secretary

2022 Club Calendar

Month	Date(s)	Location	Host(s)/sites	Event
April	8-10	Centreville 4H, MD	Delmarva Club joint with MD/ PA Clubs	Maintenance Rally
May	19-22	Delaware State Fairground, Harrington, DE	Region 2 WBCCI	Region 2 Rally
June	TBD	Tall Pines Harbor?	Temperanceville, VA	Rally
July	23-29	Fryeburg, ME	WBCCI	International Rally
August	TBD	Possible joint rally with WDCU club	Floyd, VA	Rally
September	9-11 Tentative	Crisfield American Legion, MD	Roger Sansom	Rally
October	TBD	TBD	Delmarva Club	Installation Meeting/Rally

Region 2 President, RJ Marquette's Message

The IBT (WBCCI's International Board of Trustees) 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

Passing of Member John W. Chromy, Jr. By Malcolm Comstock

Writing about a Delmarva member whose longevity covered four decades is difficult. Where to begin? When I joined Delmarva (2003), John was a senior member and mentor to newbies.

John joined the club in 1980. He was one of Delmarva's greatest assets. Some of his accomplishments were:

- Club President two times.
- Audited the club's financial books.
- Serving as grievance chairman and trustee numerous times.
- Attending many International Rallies.
- Participating in the ham radioclub at Internationals.

Despite growing up in New York City, he developed a love for nature, camping, and the "great outdoors." In High School, he rode the subway every day to attend classes. The city was

balanced by belonging to the Boy Scouts. And also working in the Catskills Mountains at a relatives camp, during the summers.

After graduating from engineering school, he moved to Delaware to take a job with Dupont. In the "countryside" of Sussex County John's love for camping and hiking flourished. Then he discovered Airstream. In the ensuing years, he covered most of North America plus a caravan to Europe.

John was always ready for a good conversation or a great meal. He was a good friend. We will miss him a great deal.



John and Millie Delmarva Luncheon

John and Millie: Lewisburg, WV International

Services are scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2021, 10:00 a.m. at Limestone Presbyterian Church, Limestone Road (Rt. 7) above Kirkwood Hwy (Rt. 2), Wilmington, Delaware.

Obituaries

TODAY'S OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES				
Name	Age	Town, State	Death Date	Arrangements
Anderson, Tyaira	29	Wilmington	25-Sep	Bennie Smith Funeral Home
Boyer, Margaret H.	99	Millsboro	18-Oct	Watson Funeral Home, Millsboro, DE
*Brown, Leona J.	94	Newark	19-Oct	-
*Chromy Jr., John W.	91	Wilmington	17-Oct	Doherty Funeral Homes, Inc.
*Cunningham, Mack	64	Wilmington	15-Oct	Bennie Smith Funeral Home
*Farris, Lorraine H.	83	-	23-Oct	McCreary & Harris
Garofalo, Bradley Gene	29	Rehoboth Beach	19-Oct	Watson Funeral Home, Millsboro, DE
*Haas, Henry "Hank"	84	Punta Gorda	10-Sep	Krienen-Griffith
Hamm, Cole J.	68	Elkton, MD	23-Oct	Hicks Home for Funerals, PA
Hollantaugh, Cynthia	62	Camden-Wyoming	21-Sep	Bennie Smith Funeral Home
Ken "LuAnn", Lucia Ann	65	Townsend	21-Oct	Mealey Funeral Homes & Crematory
McCoy, Jr., Richard K.	44	Rising Sun, MD	17-Oct	Mealey Funeral Homes & Crematory
*McWilliams, Ruth V.	-	Wilmington	12-Oct	Bell Funeral Home
*Mengden, Joseph "Dave"	81	Jacksonville, FL	21-Oct	St. Johns Family Funeral Home & Crematory
*Montgomery, Anita	83	-	22-Oct	Shano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
*Pachavilla, Ronald Charles	64	New Castle	21-Oct	Spicer-Mullikin Funeral Homes & Crematory
*Reign, William H.	96	Hockessin	23-Oct	Doherty Funeral Homes, Inc.
*Taylor, Dr. Charlotte P.	94	Kennett Square	21-Oct	McCreary & Harris
*Toller, Arnold R.	93	Middletown	21-Oct	Spicer-Mullikin Funeral Homes & Crematory
Vignola, Margaret Baldwin	80	Cape May Court House, NJ	19-Oct	Doherty Funeral Homes, Inc.

* Additional information in display obituaries

Obituaries appear in print and online at <https://www.delmarvabeacon.com/obituaries>.

John W. Chromy Jr.

WILMINGTON - John William Chromy Jr. passed away peacefully October 17, 2021, in Wilmington, Delaware with family at his side. John was born June 17, 1930 in NY City, NY to the late John William Chromy and Louise M. Chromy.

He graduated from Cooper Union College as a Civil Engineer through a scholarship and began his 39-year career with the DuPont Company in 1952. The same year, on May 23, John married Rosemarie Susan Le Pore (deceased), also of New York City.

John was an active Amateur Radio Operator, K3CNI since 1957 and communicated with people around the world. He was extremely proud of his involvement and his accomplishments throughout the years. He also shared a love of the outdoors. His favorite activities included hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking. John also enjoyed wood working when time allowed.

Retirement came for John on January 31, 1991, which he 'thoroughly enjoyed' for 30 years. During that time, he and longtime companion and friend, Millie Brown made countless cross-country trips with their Airstream trailer including several trips as far as Alaska.

John is survived by his children, Susan Anderson of Wilmington, John William Chromy III (Nancy) of Redstone Colorado; grandchildren, Erica Darkes (Kevin) of Wilmington, Shawn Anderson (Melissa) of Newark, Ryan Wolfe, Jack Wolfe (Molly) and great grandson, Leon Bishop Wolfe of Redstone.

A viewing will be held at Limestone Presbyterian Church, 3201 Limestone Road, Wilmington on Monday, November 1 from 10:00-11:00AM. Funeral services will begin at 11:00AM, followed by interment in Silverbrook Cemetery, Wilmington.

Flowers are welcome or the family suggests memorial donations to The MDS Foundation (www.mds-foundation.org).

For a more detailed obituary for John, visit www.dohertyfh.com



Leona J. Brown

NEWARK - Leona J. Brown, age 94, of Newark (DE) entered through the gates of paradise on 10/19/2021 to meet Jesus whom she loved and served since the age of 17. She passed away at home surrounded by her loving family.

Leona was born in Coatesville (PA) to the late Robert A. and Madeline Maitland. She was preceded in death by her 1st & 2nd Husbands Hamilton Evans and Leighton Brown, two sons John and Hamilton Jr., brother Robert Maitland and sisters Doris Lamb and Iris Smith.

She is survived by her sister Marie Fehl, daughter Leona J (Mimi) and son in law Jim Bonk, daughter in law Elsie Evans, also five grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Leona graduated from Upper Chi-Chester High School as president and valedictorian of her class. She enjoyed preaching as a certified lay speaker of the United Methodist Church and was very active in the Methodist community.

Leona worked in the secretarial field until she received her license and became administrator of two nursing homes in Media (PA). She was appointed the 1st female administrator to The Methodist Country House Retirement Home in Wilmington (DE).

In her retirement Leona enjoyed going to the beach and spending time with her family, which she loved immensely.

Services will be held on November 20th, 2pm at Christ the Cornerstone, Elsmere Campus, 6 North Clifton Avenue Wilmington DE 19805.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Sunday Breakfast Mission at <https://sunday-breakfast.org/>

Joseph "Dave" Mengden

JACKSONVILLE, FL - Joseph "Dave" Mengden, 81, passed away October 21, 2021, in Jacksonville.



Getting to Know Each Other

Member Profile: Chuck and Maggie Helwig , BRN 2868



Where are you from originally? Maggie is from Silver Spring, Md and Chuck is from Lanham Md.

Where do you live now? Dover, DE.

What kind of work do or did you do? Maggie was a stay at home mom. Chuck was in the Auto and insurance industry; his last job was a claims manager for Nationwide Insurance

How long married? 54 years

Is the Airstream your first RV? No we had three SOB's before the Airstream.

How many Airstreams have you owned? 3

Have you been camping/RVing long? Since 1968

What prompted the purchase of an Airstream as opposed to something else? Quality and not so much plastic off-gassing.

Where have you traveled in your Airstream? All 49 states on the continent and all of the provinces and some of the territories of Canada.

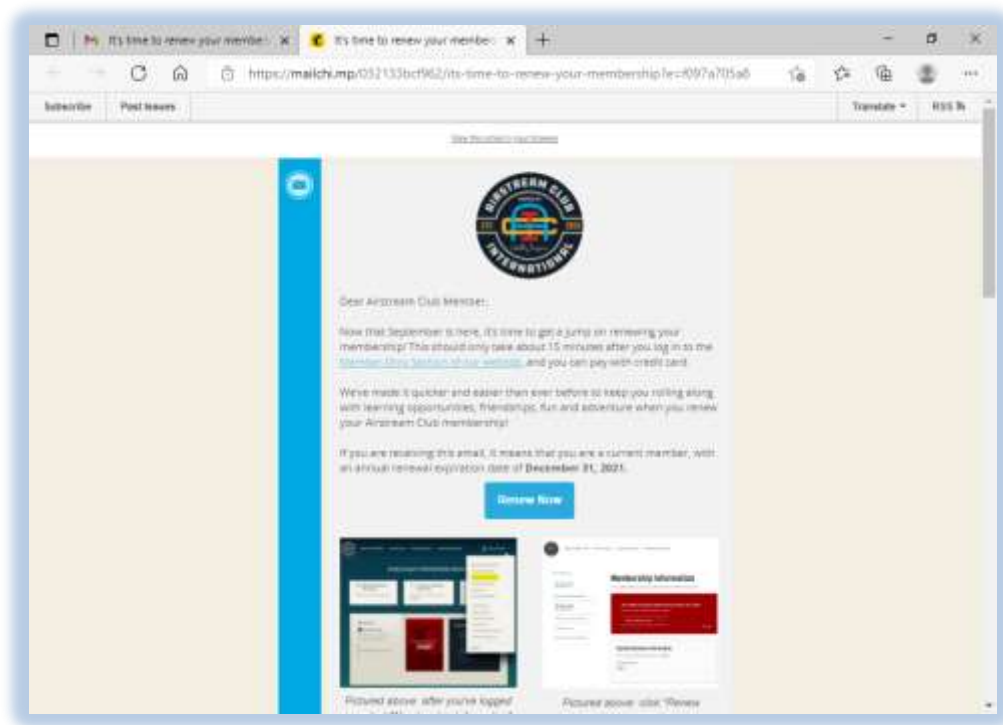
Have you attended any major rallies, e.g., Regional, International? Any caravans?
Nine International Rallies, several Regional Rallies and 14 national caravans.

What prompted you to get involved with Airstream Club? How long have you been a member? We decided to try it out and met many wonderful people and enjoyed the opportunity to travel . We have been a member for fifteen years.

It's Membership Renewal Time for Annual Renewal Expiration Date of December 31, 2021

Members who have a year-end renewal date: you should have gotten your reminder email -- just like the one below and can easily renew online.

To date at least 13 members have renewed. Thank you!



Club Renewal Reminder Email for year end date memberships

Club Officers

President.....Andy Dowell
1st Vice President.....Ashley Hitzig
2nd Vice President..... vacant
Recording Secretary..... Betty Schwarz
Treasurer.....Laurie Pullman
Corresponding Secretary..... vacant
Membership Chair.....Roger Sansom
Webmaster....Andy Dowell
Trustees.....
Mike Field
Bob Pullman. Jr.
Chuck Helwig
Katharine Dowell
Newsletter Editor..... Katharine Dowell
Newsletter Layout and Design: Ashley Hitzig