



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER of the
NY FINGER LAKES AIRSTREAM
CLUB

THE GRAPEVINE—Dec. 2021

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

Volume 20, Issue 12

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The President's Corner

We are midway through December and Santa's elves have been busy packaging together a number of events for this upcoming camping season. I can now say we have reserved sites at the below New York State Parks! I will highlight each park/event as we get closer to the start of the season.

Before I talk about New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club's camping season, Region 2 has booked the Regional Rally at the Delaware State Fair Grounds in Harrington, Delaware, May 18-22 to start things off.

That said, the New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club's camping season begins with:

Watkins Glen, June 9-12.

Sampson, June 23-26.

Zoar Valley, July 1-4 at the Boyd and Dawn Wible Estate.

Letchworth, September 8-11.

The hosts for the NYFLAC rallies are looking for more helpers to assist with the flow during the event.

So, you can see we have a packed camping season. Add to that the International in Fryeburg, Maine and you have not 1, but 6, prepackaged rallies under the tree to unwrap!

From the 8 brave souls that ventured out to Skaneateles for the Dickens Christmas event, they were not disappointed. Yes, we had a breeze, but no rain during our time out. As you can see by the photos, we met a number of the Dickens characters!



We met Jacob Marley, the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present and took a group photo with Father Christmas. (see above)



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 Jan. 10th

See page 8 for update on Membership Directory distribution.

Continued on page 2.....

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club 2022 Officers and Committee Members

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Charlie Kirk (2 yrs.)
John Andersen (3 yrs.)

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The President's Corner continued.....

There was caroling at the gazebo where different sections of the audience were given 1 of the 12 Days of Christmas "movements" to perform! Our part was the 8 maids-a-milking. We met the Queen of England and she gave a brief speech to the people of Skaneateles. We practiced 'God save the Queen' before her arrival to welcome her to Skaneateles. Charles Dickens was introduced at the gazebo. Ebenezer Scrooge was in the crowd and was overheard saying Bah Humbug, 'Every idiot who goes about with Merry Christmas on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart'.



We stopped to shop in a number of stores. Suzanne had to stop in the local candy store to get chocolate covered orange rinds and a bar of Hammond's Pigs N' Taters. This should be interesting -- it is milk chocolate with bacon flavored bits & potato chips!

Don't forget our next outing is at Bristol Mt. for downhill/cross-country skiing **Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022**. If you don't have equipment, Bristol has equipment rental (skis, boots, poles) and private lessons. This again is a kid friendly event. So, bring them along! They won't miss screen time for a day.

See you down the road!
Gary Russo, President



OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS IS:
<https://newyorkfingerlakes.airstreamclub.net/>

OR
find us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/1472017733005344/](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.

There is no need to make reservations at this time.

Sampson, Watkins Glen and Letchworth State Park each have 20 assigned sites for our group.

If you plan on attending you may contact the rally host directly of your interest.

PLEASE NOTE: You will not be registered until you have submitted the registration form & fees

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022	A Day of Snow at Bristol Mountain Host: Dick Saxton
TBD - Sat., Mar. 19th or 26th	Wagner's Winery/Brewery Host: Gary Russo
May 18th-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 Co-hosts: Jim & KC Gillio
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!



Gary and I had a great Thanksgiving -- a small family gathering but always lots of fun and laughter and way too much food! We hope yours was pleasant too.

Now on to Christmas and 2022! Our decorations are up, the candles are in the windows, and the train is chugging around the tree.

We are anxiously awaiting a reunion with our whole family.

Gary is busily working on next year's rallies. Is anyone as eager as I am for the season to arrive?

Happy birthday to:

Mary Sweeney December 2
Anna Ganz December 8
KC Gillio December 23
James Gillio December 26
Dorothy Curtis December 26
Mary Farmer December 31



Happy anniversary to:

John & Trina Kelley December 26



As always, if your birthday or anniversary was missed, let me know so that I can update my list (Suzanne.Russo21@yahoo.com).

We know that some of you have left us for more temperate climes. Enjoy the warm sunshine and bring back stories to tell around campfires next summer!

Happy Holidays and best wishes for a Very Happy New Year!!!

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



Introducing Our 1st VP... Dick Saxton

Hello Fellow Club Members!

I'm Dick Saxton, newly elected 1st VP NYFLAC. My wife Cora and I bought our 2018 International Serenity 25 RBQ in June 2018. In July that year we attended our first rally where we met Tye Mott who signed us up with our BRN 8477 (members at large). In the summer of 2019 we met many of you at the International at Doswell where at happy hour we won a bottle of wine! When the pandemic wiped out 2020 we camped about 20 nights (or as Wally said, "trailered"), with the highlight being Jackson Center for warranty work.

While at the 2021 International at Lebanon, we became reacquainted with Gary and Suzanne Russo (current NYFLAC President and first lady). My wife and I have always lived in the beautiful Finger Lakes region and we realized NYFLAC is where our membership belongs.

I'm looking forward to the many events and camping weekends NYFLAC has planned. We are also excited about Fryeburg, Maine this summer!

I am available by email at saxtonrg@aol.com.

With regards,
Dick Saxton
BRN 8477

Region 2 News

RJ Marquette, Region 2 President

Hello, everyone. I'm getting my notes out a bit late this month, so I apologize for missing any publishing deadlines.

By this time, most people have winterized or moved south to warmer climates. I mentioned before that winterizing is always a bit sad for me, but at least this year we're taking a trip in January (to the mid-winter IBT meeting in Savannah, Georgia).

In travel news, the border between the US and Canada has reopened. A relative told me that I-81 had more RVs than trucks, which is pretty amazing, if you've spent any time on I-81. Cross your fingers that it will remain open for next year's events.

Erica and I wish you and your family a happy holiday season!

See you down the road!

RJ Marquette, Region 2 [President](#)



Bits & Pieces



It's Time to Get those Dues Paid!!

The deadline is December 31st for all "legacy" members.

If you joined in 2021 your dues deadline will fall on your anniversary date.

If you are NOT planning on renewing please let either Ted Smith or Liz Kirk know. It will be very helpful to have that information as we begin work on our 2022 Membership Directory.

OUR OLD WEBSITE IS GONE...

You will no longer be able to access our old club website.



OUR NEW WEBSITE IS UP AND ACTIVE!

Our new club website can be found at:

<https://airstreamclub.org/new-york-finger-lakes>

The website contains rally information, past copies of the Grapevine, photos, and our officers. You can search for events hosted by Region 2, other clubs, along with caravan opportunities.

In the future you will be able to register for our events directly through the website.

You may have one **BRN** but each family member has their own access and log in. I encourage everyone to log into their account at: <https://airstreamclub.org/> to update your member profile.

Hello.

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

Alan & Karen Durston
Cazenovia, NY



Zephyr Travels and Wanderings

During our recent stay at Picacho Peak State Park, we decided to visit one of the local attractions “Rooster Cogburn Ostrich Ranch”. Fortunately for us, it was not very far from the campground, so we were able to ride our bikes. We could even have walked if we were real ambitious - but we weren't!

There was an admission fee of \$12.00, plus if you wanted to feed the stingrays, that was an additional \$3.00 - which we did. Once you paid the admission fee, you were given 2 cups - one full of food pellets to feed the donkeys, the deer, the ostriches, and the goats, plus a second one containing a small cup of nectar to feed the birds, a piece of asparagus to feed the tortoises, 3 coins to purchase food for the rabbits and the ducks, and 2 additional chips to purchase food for the stingrays.

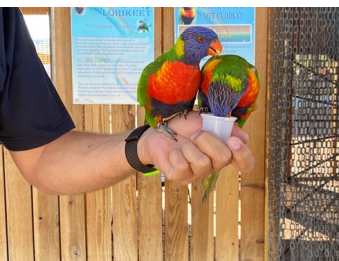


The first stop was the donkeys who just loved the food that we fed them - you put the food in the palm of your hand and all the donkeys just gently eat the food from there. The same was true for the deer and the goats. Also in the park was another system used to feed the goats where the goats were placed in an enclosed “Goat Penthouse” located many feet off the ground and a conveyor belt system with small cups where food was placed and run up on a conveyor belt and dumped for the goats to eat. To feed the ostriches, you placed the food pellets in metal containers attached to the inside of the fence - there the ostriches scrambled to get some of the food - it was a real frenzy!!



Our next stop was the huge pen where the rabbits lived - the food for them was purchased with one of the coins that was given to you. Some of the rabbits were sleeping, but the ones that were not were very happy to hop over to the fence and gently take the food from you - only one piece at a time! We stayed there for quite a while as the bunnies were so cute!

After the bunnies, we went to where the birds are kept - I'm pretty sure they knew that anyone entering the area had a treat for them and soon I had two very pretty birds land on me ready to eat up the nectar that was in the little cup - I have to admit that I was quite startled when they first landed on me - the same thing happened to Randy! Our next stop was the pond where the ducks were swimming - to feed them, we used another coin to purchase their food. The method you were told to use to feed the ducks seemed quite simple, but these ducks seemed quite hungry attempting to eat our fingers as well as their food, so we simply just tossed the food at them and into their pond!!



Following the duck pond, we headed over to the tortoise pen - their food was the piece of asparagus. Now I have to tell you, these tortoises have an extremely strong bite! If you wanted to, you could go right inside the tortoise pen, but we chose to stay on the outside.

Our final stop was the pool where the stingrays live, and like I said, you pay a little extra to feed them. I don't remember the name of these stingrays, but they were small. Randy was a bit more daring about feeding them - I'm not sure where my food went!

We really enjoyed our visit to the ranch which is open year round. We visited during the off season in November so it wasn't too busy. The ranch is located north of Tucson right off of Interstate 10 on your way to Phoenix!

Randy & Diane Hill
#30876
YouTube Channel “Zephyr Travels”

