

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj

March 2022

President's Message

Hello everyone, March brings us our last luncheon on March 26 and one month closer to our first rally. After the luncheon, we will have a tour of Colonial Airstream. If you are thinking about joining please register, you will have an enjoyable time. While we are at Colonial, consider bringing that list of things and repairs you need or questions about your Airstream. The coupon for the luncheon is in our newsletter.

July 23-29 is the International Rally at the Fryeburg Fair Grounds in Fryeburg, Maine. As of this letter, we have 15 Units going. Our scheduled arrival date is July 20. We will have members in the area and others caravanning from NJ. I will be in Maine the week before International if anyone knows of a location where we can meet, send me an email. We will finalize a meeting location. If you are going to the International Rally, let me know, and I will add you to our list.

We need still need assistance in hosting our June and October 2022 Rallies. George has the task of finding a host and co-host for the 2022 rally schedule. He will assist anyone who will host a rally. The rally does not need to be an elaborate event you can keep it simple. Contact George at gkiesel861@gmail.com

Lea is in the process of finding a host and co-host for our 2023 luncheon and rally schedule. Please reach out to her if you would like to host or co-host one. Lea email is tenlea@aol.com

This year's charity is BraveHearts Trails to Zero. BraveHearts Trails to Zero provides equine therapy services to veterans with PTSD and prevents veteran suicide. Every day, many of our veterans commit suicide. BraveHearts Trails to Zero goal is to reach veterans battling suicide thoughts, letting them know that they are not alone and offering them equine therapy that can help. The veteran's administration approves Bravehearts Trails to Zero.

I can't wait to get together again!

Frank DeHerde – President



Region 2 notes from the President

We finally have the registration for the Region 2/VAC rally activated. It's been an amazingly long road to get to this point, but we're finally here.

Here's the direct link to the registration form: <https://form.jotform.com/220014616485147>. And here's the Region 2 webpage with more information. <https://airstreamclub.org/region2/2022-region-2-rally>. We're also working on a flyer that we'll get out shortly.

We are looking for volunteers to help with things like parking, set up, clean up, serving food at meals, excursions, and probably a few other things I've forgotten. Volunteers can either contact me directly or note it on the registration form.



Thanks for your support!
– RJ Marquette, Region 2 President

February Luncheon Killarney's Public House

By Fred Brugmans

Somewhere in New Jersey, somewhere in Mercer County, somewhere in Hamilton is a place called Killarney's Public House. Well, it took us some time but we found the place. So, had 11 other Airstreamers. It was the place of our second luncheon this year. The room was nicely decorated with balloons for Valentine's Day with lots of candy on the tables. The hosts Angie Ratliff and Laura Raymond had gone all out to make the luncheon a success. Besides the table decorations, there were little jars with Hershey's Kisses, small paper bags with surprise gifts, homemade sugar cookies and heart confetti sprinkled all over. Laura made silver cardboard "Bambi" cut outs for more decorations along the walls.

Everyone had found the bar and had a pre-lunch drink. The kitchen was ready with the entrees and platters of Fish and Chips, Sheppard's pie and Burgers were served. Everyone dug in and for a while you could hear nothing but the clicking of teeth. After lunch, Angie and Laura raffled off were 5 identical paper bags. Some of the raffle prizes were great and some were fun. \$70.00 was collected for BraveHearts Trails to Zero.

On each place setting there was a small sealed paper bag. We were prompted to open the bag and discover what was hidden inside. Valentine's Day socks! They did not fit my feet by my grandchildren will look pretty dressed up in them. All I can say is the luncheon was a success. It was great to have a meeting after almost two years vacany due to Covid. It was also great to meet new members John and Jeanne Dillon, Laura Raymond and a guest, Rebecca Glick. Of course, Kathi & Rich, Frank & Leslie, Lea Plant, Mark & Angie, Laura, Mark & Angie, Jeanne and I are very happy to be able to meet again. Let's make the year 2022 a great year!



The Next Adventure Sales Event held by Colonial Airstream, Feb.18, 19, 21, 2022

by Lea Plant

In the words of Rich Short:

'We had a great time over the President's Day Weekend at Colonial Airstream where Ken and Nancy, Meg, JoAnne Elacqua, Angie Ratliff, Lea, and I participated in their first President's Day Open House Sales Event. Our volunteers did a great job representing the Watchung Club. And...for their time there, talking with people about the Airstream Lifestyle, they were surprised/rewarded with new Watchung backpacks. (Many thanks to our Special Agent of Opportunity and Procurement (Angie), and our resident Seamstress Extraordinaire (Kathi) for their efforts! The backpacks are awesome.) I think our volunteers may have stirred up a few new members at the event as well.'



The first day began slowly because of the morning weather. As the day progressed, it became clear, but still windy. The Colonial Airstream Team staff were very welcoming and several team members came by to thank the Watchung New Jersey Airstream Club for coming.



Our 'go to guy', Alex

A couple of our newest members stopped by to meet some of their fellow club members. It was nice to put a name with a face. Thank you to Lynda Kresge and Paul & Laurie Braun for seeking us out.

How fun it was to talk about our club, WBCCI and everything Airstream to people who hadn't heard it before!

Hearing comments about the pictures, what are those Big Red Numbers, what do stars mean, what is a Caravan, what can I expect at International? Were just some of the questions we fielded.

Do we have some tweaking to do? Absolutely...already started my list.



Ken & Nancy are ready for Monday!



Rich Short and Lea Plant



March Anniversaries

Kim Sheppard & Steve Tancer

March Birthdays

Carolyn Hagman
Lea Plant
Angie Ratliff
Gary Brink
Robert Creekmore
Lori Sacks



SUNSHINE

A Congratulations card was sent, to Kerri O'Connor & Luke Eilbacher on the birth of their daughter Adelaide, who is now several months old.

Just a reminder that the Sunshine Committee was traditionally to send "Get Well/Thinking of You/Sympathy Cards to our members. While we still do that, we think it is nice to recognize other occasions as well, such as New Home/Baby/Retirement/Graduation, etc. Please notify Linda Kiesel if you wish your club members to be made aware.

Thank you.

Tips from the Turnpike

It's all about the "D"...as in Dewinterizing! After a long and cold winter, it's time to unbutton those rigs and head out for adventure! The first thing to do is review the First Five of dewinterization.

1. **Wash that Rig!** Being Parked for the winter may have cut down on road debris but not dust, dirt and ick that can scratch your polish job or clear coat. Give your rig a good bath and move inside to wash down all surfaces, cabinets and appliances.
2. **Battery Check.** Make sure you reinstall and charge your battery and take a look for cracks or damage.
3. **Flush, flush and Flush Those Pipes.** Drained pipes to be thoroughly flushed to remove any antifreeze before your first outing. Watch for leaks and make sure your hot water heater is working.
4. **Got Gas?** Reconnect your propane tanks and give them a review. They should be in good working order and no fraying hoses or leaks.
5. **Are Your Tires Tired?** Winter sun and temperature fluctuations can weaken older tires so make sure yours are safe and at the correct pressure. For more on the be "De" winterizing see [The Five Steps to Dewinterization - Airstream](#)



Camping Recipes

By Angie Ratliff #5070

Date and Chickpea Stew with Couscous

I know you are going to read this recipe and say “Dates in a stew?! What?! But trust me you will love this! The dates lend a slight sweetness that mellows the tomatoes. The spices add a nice warm kick. Delicious! You may see this at Unbutton!

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 15-oz can diced tomatoes
- 2 15-oz cans chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup pitted dates, sliced
- Juice of one lemon
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 cup couscous
- 1/2 teaspoon salt



Instructions

1. At home, combine spices in a spice jar or zip-top bag.
2. Heat oil in a large pot. Add onion and cook for about 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Stir in garlic and spices and cook for about 30 seconds. Add tomatoes, chickpeas, and 1/4 cup water. Cover and simmer for about 10 minutes. Stir in dates and lemon juice.
3. Meanwhile, bring 1 1/2 cups water and salt to a boil. Stir in couscous, remove from heat, and cover. Allow to sit while the stew finishes cooking.
4. When you're ready to serve it, fluff the couscous with a fork. Spoon the couscous into bowls and top with the stew and a sprinkle of cilantro.

Welcome our Newest Watchung members!

Rebecca Glick & Anne Hoskins of Hamilton, NJ and their 23ft 2014 Flying Cloud!



2022 WATCHUNG CLUB OFFICERS

President: Frank DeHerde
1st Vice Pres: George Kiesel
2nd Vice Pres: Lea Plant
Corr Sec: Laura Riley
Rec Sec: Rich Short
Treasurer: Lois Wagner
Membership: Lea Plant
Directory: Chris Forster
Web Master: Mark Ratliff

Directors:
1 YR.: Derek Conley
1 YR.: Linda Kiesel
2 YR.: Ken Egan
2 YR.: Nancy Egan
Sunshine: Linda Kiesel
Newsletter: Angie Ratliff
Quartermaster: Jason Pomerleau

Bits and Pieces

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

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 March Luncheon: Mar, 26, 2022 at 12:00pm, La Terrazza 680 Route 33 East & Twin Rivers Drive, Suite 1, East Windsor, NJ. Hosts: Lea Plant, Cohosts Rich & Kathi Short. Please see attached coupon. Possible tour of Colonial Airstream.

2022 April Unbutton Your Rig Rally & Business Meeting: April 29-May 1, 2022 at Camp Carr. Please see [Camp Carr reservations](#) to sign up for a site. Hosts; Meg & Laura Riley, Cohosts Lois Wagner & Derek Conley. Please see attached coupon.

2022 May Rally Region 2: May 19-22, Delaware State Fair Grounds, 18500 S. DuPont Hwy, Harrington, DE. Event Contact: RJ Marquette, rjm1@yahoo.com, [Region 2 Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](#)

2022 June Rally: 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 & Business Meeting: August 25-28, 2022, Gifford Pinchot State Park, Lewisberry, Pa Hosts George & Linda Kiesel, Cohosts Frank & Leslie DeHerde. See write up below for info.

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 Hosts and CoHosts Needed. Election of officers

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

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

Unbutton Rally

April 29-May 1, 2022, YMCA Camp Carr,
1 Camp Buck Road, Annandale, NJ



We are back to "Full Frills" rallies this year!!
Catered breakfast and dinner, happy hour,
games, prizes, and general shenanigans!!
Camp Carr has one small RV site left so please visit
[Reservations at Camp Carr](#) to book or email
Kristin Heimall kheimall@hcymca.org with questions.

It is time to send your Rally Fee Payable to:
Watchung NJ Airstream Club
Please mail your check/coupon by April 1st to:
Lois Wagner 29 Colony Ct, New Providence, NJ, 07974

***** Mail with check *****

Name _____

Phone/Cell _____

Email Address _____

Number of Adults \$26 pp _____ Children \$5 per child _____

Total enclosed \$ _____



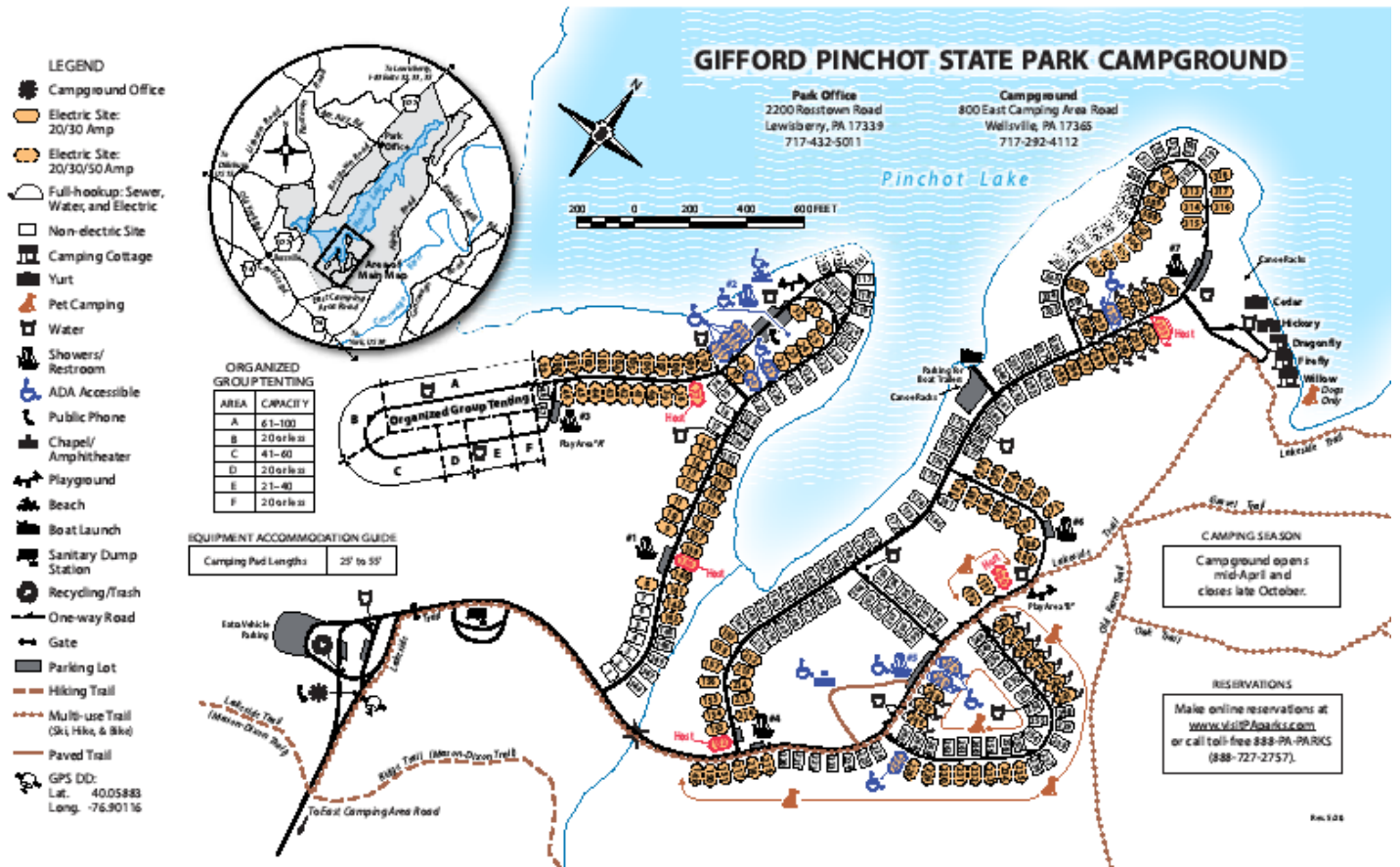
August Rally at Gifford Pinchot State Park

Greetings Happy Campers! We have decided on Gifford Pinchot State Park, Lewisberry, Pa., outside of Harrisburg for the Watchung August Rally. Although most are not thinking about camping at this time, least of all August, sites are filling up quick. The dates are **Thursday, August 25 thru Sunday, August 28, 2022.**

28, 2022.

There are a limited number of full hook-up sites, however full bathrooms and water are conveniently located throughout the campground. When you sign up, and we hope you will, please be mindful of which sites are pet friendly, have electric only and the size rig the site is designed for.

We are focusing on the "B" Loop, (sites 149 thru 340) and not all remaining sites are full hook-up, however additional full hook-up sites are available a short walk away.



The campground cancellation fee is \$10 if cancelled seven days or more prior: or one night camping fee if six days or less. Camping fees are somewhat reduced if over the age of 62, or are a Pa. resident.

Gifford Pinchot has plenty of opportunity for hiking, biking and swimming. Nearby attractions include Gettysburg, Hershey and Lancaster.

PLEASE, if you sign up, notify us, including your site number. Details to follow in the Spring. Hope to see you there! Link to reservation-- [Reservations](#)

MARCH LUNCHEON

March 26, 2022

Join us for lunch at:

La Terrazza

680 Route 33 East & Twin Rivers Drive, Suite 1

East Windsor, NJ 08520

laterrazzanj.com



12:00 pm

\$30.00 per person

Includes: appetizer, salad, dessert, soda, coffee and tea

Choice of Entrée (choose at the restaurant):

Penne Vodka Sauce (plain OR with baby shrimp OR grilled Chicken),

Eggplant Parmesan/Penne,

Grilled Chicken over grilled Veggies

Do not delay, send your money and coupon by: **March 11, 2022**

Host: Lea Plant

tenlea@aol.com

c – 973-477-0289

Co-Hosts: Rich and Kathi Short

rcshort49@gmail.com

***** Mail with check *****

Name _____

Phone/Cell _____

Number of people _____ Email Address _____

Total amount (\$30 pp) _____ Payable to: Watchung NJ Airstream Club

Please mail your check/coupon to: Lois Wagner (Treasurer)
29 Colony Ct, New Providence, NJ, 07974

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