

Official Newsletter of
the DelMarVa
Airstream Club,
#026

April 2022

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THE DELMARVA BEACON



Bass River State Forest Campground, Bass River New Jersey: Photo by Denis Clements BRN#19490

WBBCI: Wally Byam
Caravan Club International Inc.

Airstreamclub.org

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DelMarVa
Airstream Club #026

delmarva.airstreamclub.net



DelMarVa Airstream Club, Unit #026 Officers and Volunteers

President.....
Andy Dowell

1st Vice President.....
Ashley Hitzig

2nd Vice President.....
vacant

Recording Secretary.....
Betty Schwarz

Treasurer.....
Laurie Pullman

Trustees.....
Chuck Helwig
Katharine Dowell

Member Engagement

Membership Chair.....
Roger Sansom

Webmaster.....
Andy Dowell

Newsletter Editor.....
Denis Clements

Unit President

By Andy Dowell, President, BRN# 06684,
DelMarVa Airstream Club



Hello DelMarVa Members:

I thought March was supposed to come in like a lion and go out like a lamb...it seems to

be the other way around this year. Oh well, this cold snap will make us a bit more grateful for April's warmth.

Are you ready for the Maintenance Rally? Have you sent in your coupon? Do you have your questions ready for Chuck??? The Maintenance Rally is a great opportunity to ask questions and get additional help to make sure your Airstream is ready to hit the road.

So what maintenance tasks do I need to do? And when or how often do I need to do them? Great questions. And like most things in life, everyone you ask will give you a different answer. Katharine, bless her heart, asked herself these same questions, got very disparate answers, and took it upon herself to put together what we think is a very comprehensive list of tasks, and when to do them - every trip, every month, every year, etc. I will ask her to bring some extra copies to share. No sense in reinventing the wheel. And after looking it over, you might have a thing or 2 to add to it. She's happy to email a copy to you as well. Just ask.



Hilton Head RV Resort & Marina,
South Carolina



Wilderness Edge Campground,
Maine



Pohick Bay Regional Park,
Virginia

Send your campground photos to
the Newsletter Editor,
Denis Clements at:
denis.clements@gmail.com

We will have (hopefully a short) business meeting at the Maintenance Rally. One item we need to address is approving a Delegate and Alternate to represent our Club at the International Rally this July in Fryeburg. Katharine and I filled these positions last year, at the Lebanon Rally, but we cannot attend the Rally this year, as much as we would like to. So, if you are attending the International Rally this year, please consider representing your - our - Club as Delegate or Alternate.

And have you signed up for the Region 2 Rally at the Harrington Fairground in May? We would love to go, but we will be overseas. I drive past the Fairgrounds several times per month. Its not much to look at.....but recently, I was heading to Milford from the Bay Bridge, took route 14 through Harrington and Milford, and was pleasantly surprised.....there's more to these 2 towns than what meets the eye when driving down 13 or 113. See for yourself sometime. I do hope the Rally goes well, that the weather cooperates, and that our Canadian Airstreamers will be able to join us. We miss them!

See you at the Maintenance Rally!

Andy Dowell,
President, DelMarVa Airstream Club

DelMarVa Club Calendar

- April 8-10, 2022
 - Maintenance Rally
 - Centreville 4H, MD
 - Contact: DelMarVa Club
- May 19-22, 2022
 - Region 2 Rally
 - Delaware State Fairground, Harrington, DE
 - Contact: Region 2 WBCCI
- June 17-19, 2022
 - DelMarVa Club Rally, Informal
 - Tall Pines Harbor, Temperanceville, VA
 - Dowells (standard back-in site)
 - Make your own FHU site reservations
- July 23-29, 2022
 - International Rally
 - Fryeburg, ME
 - Contact: WBCCI
- August 21-26, 2022
 - DelMarVa Club Rally, informal
 - Kiptopeke State Park, Cape Charles, VA
 - Contact: Ashley Hitzig, Chris Clawson, Site C17
 - Make your own site reservations
 - <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/kiptopeke>
- September 9-11, 2022 (Tentative)
 - Rally
 - Crisfield American Legion, Crisfield, VA
 - Contact: Roger Sansom
- October TBD
 - DelMarVa Club Installation Meeting/Rally
 - Location TBD
 - Contact: DelMarVa Club

Region President

By RJ Marquette, BRN# 13270, President, Region 2 Airstream Club



Hello, everyone!

It's late March and the weather is slowly improving - which means it's soon time to start camping.

Don't forget to sign up for the Region 2/VAC rally May 19-22 at the Delaware State Fair in Harrington. A number of people have already registered, but we need more to make this a viable rally! We have a great slate of events lined up, including a taco bar meal, a band, a DJ, and breakfasts. Go here to book your spot at the rally: <https://airstreamclub.org/region2/2022-region-2-rally>

We've planned our rally schedule for the summer, and we've booked rallies with several different clubs through the summer and fall. My goal of visiting every club is proving harder than I expected, though. It turns out the clubs tend to schedule rallies on the same weekend - one weekend in particular - we had a choice of four rallies from four different clubs to pick!

We're looking forward to the International Rally in Fryeburg, Maine. Region 2 First Vice President Gary Russo (BRN #1061) has found a vendor for our region luncheon. We'll get registration set up for that in the coming months once we have the plan settled.

Until next month...

–RJ Marquette (#13270)

The Campground Corner

(Tell us about your interesting experience at a campground or in a region to share with our members)

Camping in the Hilton Head Island Area; Denis Clements BRN #19490

Liz and I have enjoyed travelling to the Hilton Head Island, SC/Savannah, GA area for several years. We usually go in the winter during the Christmas/New Year's holidays as that is when this region is tolerable. Summer is sweltering, hot and very humid.

We have camped several times at the Hilton Head RV and Marina Resort, one time each at Hunting Island State Park and Fort McAllister State Park. We have not camped at the new Hilton Head National RV Resort.



Hilton Head RV and Marina Resort, SC

<https://www.hiltonheadharbor.com/>

Several years ago, reserving a site at this resort was not an issue, however that changed when a new management company took over the resort. Simply put, there is an ongoing struggle between the site owners and the resort owner. The resort owner manages the rental of sites when an owner is not occupying their site. Suffice it to say, this has caused issues for folks wanting to rent a vacant site. The limitation imposed by the resort owner is that bumper-pull travel trailers may be no longer than 35', no wider than 8' and have no slide-outs. The issue for Airstreams is the width restriction, I realize there are some Airstreams out there with slide-outs, they are not accepted. I had an in-depth conversation with the resort owner folks about the width. They said they measure at the front bottom of the trailer, in my case, it is exactly 96" wide. I know it is wider at the beltline but that is not where they measure. I also spoke with the Airstream Factory, they will only state publicly that the "clearance" width is 101.5" The resort manager will not say publicly that all Airstreams are welcome, however, unofficially, they are. At the time we were there, earlier this year, there were no less than 9 Airstreams on the property, one of which belongs to a site owner. In fact, the resort is now looking to sponsor Airstream rallies. So, what does this mean, there is little risk in booking a stay at this RV Resort. There are other state and local parks in the region (we stayed at one of the GA state parks in the region, quite nice) that have RV sites, and there is a new RV resort nearby in Bluffton, SC that will open next month (now open). We have stayed at Hilton Head Harbor RV Resort in the past and enjoy the great foliage and the concrete pads, it is very nice and very well maintained, has two pools, a nice restaurant, and is on Hilton Head Island, making it

very convenient to access Hilton Head Island attractions. Note that there is a Motorhome-only RV Park on Hilton Head Island, not sure of the details as we have not checked it out. Photo from the resort photo album.



Hilton Head National RV Resort, Bluffton, SC

<https://www.hiltonheadrv.com/>

While we have not stayed here, it is the closest RV park to Hilton Head Island. This RV-park is brand new as of this spring. The developer purchased Hilton Head National Golf Course and has redeveloped half of one of the two 18-hole golf courses that exist on the site.

I did ask some folks about the park and was told that it is quite nice, however, there is minimal shade due to the newness of the RV-park area. It is a very large facility and has every amenity imaginable. Not really anxious to stay there as the on-island RV resort and the two local state parks are totally satisfactory.

However, we prefer the on-island resort as it is close to all of the Hilton Head beaches and provides great flat biking trails all over the island.

This photo is from the resort photo album.



Hunting Island State Park, east of Beaufort, SC

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/hunting-island>

We are pretty avid birders and we discovered this state park when researching good areas for birding. The park got hit pretty hard by a hurricane several years ago and suffered a great deal of damage. Most all of the damage has been repaired and the park is now in very good condition.

There are many hiking trails in the park area, and as I mentioned, there are very good birding opportunities. There are woodland trails, marsh trails, and beach trails providing a variety of habitats for local and migrating birds.

This photo is a view from the lighthouse on the state park property. It is open to the public for limited hours and days. The photo is from the state park photo album



Fort McAllister State Park, south of Savannah, GA
<https://gastateparks.org/FortMcAllister>
This is a very pleasant state park campground. We discovered this park when we first encountered the controversy regarding travel trailer restrictions at the Hilton Head RV and Marina Resort. We prefer to stay at state parks when one is available in the area of our planned stay.

When searching for a photo, I was unable to find one that I liked. So I went onto the Fort McAllister State Park web site and discovered this photo in their photo album. Interestingly, it is a photo I took

when we were camped at the park. Not sure how the photo would up in their photo album.

Meet the DelMarVa Airstream Club Officers and Volunteers

Being new to the DelMarVa Airstream Club myself, I thought it would be great to publish photos of our Officers and Volunteers at the beginning of the year so you might be able to pick them out at the upcoming meetings and rallies.



**Andy Dowell, President
And Webmaster**



Ashley Hitzig, First Vice President
(center in photo)



Betty Schwarz, Recording Secretary
(with Blaine)



Laurie Pullman, Treasurer
(with Bob)



Chuck Helwig, Trustee
(with Maggie)



Katharine Dowell, Trustee



Roger Sansom, Membership Chair
(with Celeste)



Denis Clements, Newsletter Editor
(with Owen Arthur, officemate)



Contact #'s: Chuck Helwig 302-270-7618, Malcolm Comstock 302-724-0654



Joint Maintenance Rally

April 8-10, 2022

Delmarva - Keystone - Mid Atlantic

4-H Park Centreville, MD



\$65 Rally Fee Includes:

- Two nights camping with water and electric.
- Dump station available on Sunday
- Dinner Saturday

Following covid protocol we will be serving only one meal.
 You will have the option of eating in the dining hall, observing social distancing.
 Or, picking up your meal and returning to your Airstream to eat.

- Supplies for working on maintenance tasks; torque wrench, propane leak detector, battery tester, fluids, etc. will be provided.

You may also arrive on Thursday, after 1:00 (\$25 extra night fee)

Return this coupon by April 15 to Malcom Comstock:
e-mail: malvermont63@yahoo.com,

Or mail to Malcolm Comstock, 570 Banning Rd., Camden De. 19934

Rally fee \$65, payable by check at the rally.

Make check payable to: Delmarva Airstream Club

Rally Coupon

Name(s): _____

Club: _____

Address: _____

E-mail _____ Cell# _____

Early Arrival Y___ N___ Airstream: (trailer or coach) Length: _____

Specific maintenance questions or topics you would like covered at the rally.



Delmarva Maintenance Rally Schedule 2022

Friday

Arrive at noon or later.

Upon arrival, before parking, trailers will be given a safety check. Hitch chains, emergency break switch, lights, etc., will be checked.

Friday, dinner is on your own.

At 7:00 a meeting will be held in the kitchen to review the trailer maintenance jobs to be completed on Saturday.

Dessert will be served.

Saturday

Breakfast on your own.

8:30 - Noon working on trailer maintenance.

Noon - 1:30 Lunch Break.

1: 30 - 4:00 Trailer maintenance.

4:00 - 4:30 Business Meeting

5:00 - 5:30 Happy Hour in the Kitchen, bring drinks, no food required.

5: 30 Dinner will be served in the kitchen.

Please bring your drinks and eating utensils.

Lasagna (meat and veggie), salad, homemade bread.

Dinner will be followed by a brief meeting to review the day's activities, and dessert.

Sunday

Breakfast on your own.

Depart at your leisure.



2022 Region 2/VAC Rally

Here is a message you may have received from RJ regarding the Region 2/VAC Rally. Wanted to get this out again in case you missed his emails.

From RJ Marquette

Hello Everyone:

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>

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.

The Delaware State fair registration system is not the easiest to understand. I've thrown together a quick guide for it.

Also, there is a \$1 booking fee per night. I'll add that to the page.

Thanks for your support!

--RJ

2022 International Rally



FRYEBURG, MAINE: JULY 23RD TO JULY 29TH **65th International Rally**

Sign up now for the FRYEBURG MAINE event! Six days of fun, friendship, and all things Airstream at the 65th Airstream Club International Rally. Visit the website at <https://airstreamclub.org/fryeburg>.

There will be six days of fun-filled events, seminars, social gatherings, tours, food, and entertainment. Fryeburg is located between North Conway, New Hampshire, and Bridgton, Maine, on the west side of the state. Fryeburg also offers a variety of recreational opportunities. Including the White Mountains National Forest, the Saco River, and numerous ponds and lakes nearby. Other sites of interest include Jockey Cap Rock, Fryeburg Farm Museum, and the Fryeburg Historical Society and Museum.

Conway, New Hampshire is a short drive with outlet stores, many restaurants, museums, golf courses all with the friendliness of a small town. Fryeburg also offers restaurants and shopping opportunities that include farm stands with local produce and products, craft beers, wines, and locally made crafts.



Hemlock Covered Bridge
Fryeburg Maine,
photograph by Elizabeth Dow

The Looking for Information and Advice Corner

If you would like to post a question or comment for the DelMarVa Airstream Club folks, please let me know.
Looking for nuggets that would be good info for our club members.
Looking for questions that you would prefer to keep in the club.

Here is a great nugget from Charlie Michels, BRN# 1208:

I currently use the Truck Systems Technologies (TST) model TM-507SE tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS) with my 1968 Globetrotter. 19' B2B with a single axle. (My system does not show the psi on the caps)

On my way down to the Crisfield Rally last fall (in the rain!), my TPMS monitor started chirping with low pressure by about 15 psi on my driver's side tire. I had verified the correct pressures the day previous. I pulled over, got out and checked the tire pressure which was legit at 65 psi.

I had previously replaced the small batteries in the 3 TST valve stem caps (which is a PITA), so I knew that should not have been the issue.

I called TST in hopes of purchasing a new valve stem cap. The tech guy said it could be the valve core.... and to take a valve core tool or mini needle nose pliers and slowly unscrew the core until air began to escape, the tighten until hissing just stops. Apparently, the valve core at times does not exert enough pressure on the TST cap to read accurately. It did the trick!

Editorial Review

The DelMarVa Beacon is published monthly by the DelMarVa Airstream Club Inc., #026.

The Wally Byam Airstream Club Inc. (WBAC), is a recreational club of Airstream owners. All rights reserved. Editors of other WBAC publications may reprint material if credit is given.

Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor, Denis Clements: denis.clements@gmail.com

Articles submitted for publication must be sent to the newsletter editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication. Kindly use AIRSTREAM NEWSLETTER in the email subject line.