

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj

May 2022

President's Message

We enjoyed our Unbutton Rally at Camp Carr. Our host Meg & Laura co-hosts Lois & Derek made a great joint effort for this event. All had fun during happy hour, nightfall campfire, fishing, hiking, and games. If you could not have made this rally, please plan on making it one of our future rallies.

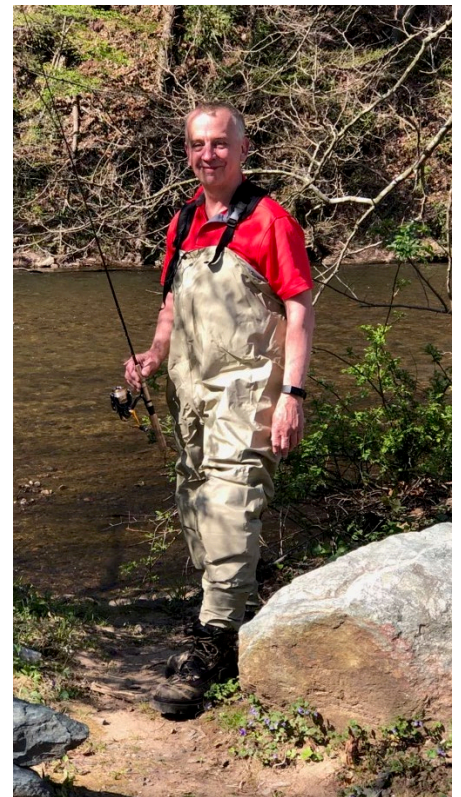
We now have an October rally will be at Camp Carr. It will be hosted and co-hosted by the Elacqua and DeHerde families. The dates for the rally are October 7 – 10. You will need to go on "Camp Carr's" website to reserve a site. We are still looking for a host and co-host for the June rally. Don't hesitate to get in touch with George Kiesel at gkiesel861@gmail.com. He will assist anyone who needs help planning a rally. Let us not have June go dark.

There is still time to register for the Region 2 rally on May 19-22. We have 7 Big Red Numbers (BRN) going. Club members going should be able to reserve a camping spot for future arriving members. Use this link to book your site at the rally: <https://airstreamclub.org/region2/2022-region-2-rally>. I have created a list of attendees. An email went out to attendees, and they are making their travel plans as small groups or as individuals. If you are going and have not received the email, send me an email at deherde@gmail.com. You will be added and in communication with the others.

The International Rally, July 23-29, 2022, and our check-in date is July 20; currently, 14 BRN are attending. Half of the group made reservations for the night of 7/19 at Kampfires Campground near Brattleboro, VT. We will travel from there to the International on July 20. You can make a reservation at Kampfires and then travel with us to Fryeburg on Wednesday the 20th. You can also meet us in the area of Kampfires Campground or along our route to share the journey towards Fryeburg or meet at the bullpen at Fryeburg.

To everyone, safe traveling to happy memorable times.

Frank DeHerde – President



Upcoming Amendments to Constitution

DATE: Wednesday, May 4, 2022

TO: All Membership

FROM: Airstream Club International Headquarters

SUBJECT: Constitutional Amendments #1 & #2

INTRODUCTION: Headquarters has compiled the following memo to the pros and cons regarding Constitutional Amendments #1 and #2. Each item has been thoroughly researched and verified through factual operating evidence to help our members gain a complete understanding of the proposed amendments and their impact.

These amendments have been passed by the International Board of Trustees (IBT) to membership for an all-member vote to be brought by local club delegates to the IBT meeting on July 27, 2022.

Constitutional Amendment #1

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED CHANGE?

Current Constitution Delegates Meeting	Proposed Constitutional Amendment Process
Meeting must be held during the International Rally	Remove requirement to have a Delegate meeting at the International Rally
Votes are reported in person by a delegate at the meeting.	Each member would have the opportunity to receive an individual ballot to vote
Local Clubs responsible for collecting vote of each member	Headquarters will collect the vote of each member
No standardized method for Local Clubs to collect its members' votes	Headquarters sends electronic ballot to each member (or paper for those with no email)
Local Club responsible for finding a delegate or alternate delegate and sending them with its members' votes to the International Rally.	Votes are no longer filtered through the delegate process.

WHY IS THE CHANGE BEING PROPOSED?

- Gives all members the opportunity to vote on proposed amendments
- Removes the job of collecting votes from the local clubs
- Decouples Club business from the International Rally
- Allows for a shorter timeline to process a Constitutional Amendment

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT TO ALL MEMBERS?

- Each member can be involved in the discussion of any proposed Constitutional Amendment

- All members would individually receive a ballot to vote on any Constitutional Amendment

Constitutional Amendment #2

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED CHANGE?

Current Executive Committee (EC) Structure	Proposed Executive Council (EC) Structure
President 1 st Vice President 2 nd Vice President 3 rd Vice President Secretary Treasurer Past International President 7 total positions	President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Non-officer Council member 1 Non-officer Council member 2 Non-officer Council member 3 Non-officer Council member 4 Non-officer Council member 5 Past International President 10 total positions
One-Year term	Two-Year Term
Terms not consistent with Region Officers	Terms consistent with Region Officer Roles
Five Year Commitment	Two Year Commitment
ALL Vice Presidents are expected to successively ascend to President	Council members DO NOT have to ascend to President
Members elect Officers through the delegate process	Region Presidents and Executive Council (collectively referred to as the IBT) elect Officers
No term requirements to be an Officer	Eligibility after two years of IBT service
Elections every year	Elections every two years

WHY IS THE CHANGE BEING PROPOSED?

- The current structure is antiquated and flawed to meet the needs of the growing membership and business of the Club today.
- Allows members the opportunity to serve on the Council who want to give to the Club but are not necessarily interested in becoming President and/or unable to make a 5-year commitment.
- The new term would require two years of service. Current Executive Committee members' total commitment is five years.
- Allows Council members to perform and complete goals after the first-year learning curve by continuing on a second year.
- Easier to recruit for a short-term commitment.
- Provides voting choices to general membership during the election for Executive Council Members rather than offering up a single choice for Officers, as we do now.

- Training for Council members on collaborative team building is needed in today's business
- The current process no longer meets the needs of our growing Club, as it is more complex than in past years.
- Invites more input from our membership on our leadership by requiring ALL Council members to be elected by the general membership every two years (with exception to the Past International President) vs. the current automatic incumbent succession.
- Lessens the disruption of good service to our Club by allowing Council members to serve more than one term IF the membership votes them in.
- Eliminates the expectation for Committee members to ascend to the Presidency.
- Two-year terms would allow for better long-range strategic planning for the Club
- Utilizes the expertise of Region Presidents to represent the best interests of their members along with personal knowledge of their fellow IBT members when voting for Officers
- Enlists a larger team to provide a more diverse set of skills and knowledge that our leaders are not currently required to have.
- Provides an up-to-date structure to conduct long term strategic business operations instead of starting on a new goal each year.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT TO MEMBERS?

- Member participation in Club business without a long-term commitment
- Add additional talent to expand and assist standing committee, International Club needs and local clubs with programs such as:
 - Preserve and promote Wally Byam and the Airstream Club
 - Caravans
 - National Rallies
 - Communication
 - Technology support
 - Marketing
 - Financial skills
 - Event coordination
 - New member campaigns and member retention
 - Membership benefits
 - Outreach to help local clubs with any help they need – Officer recruitment, membership retention, better rallies, etc.

Click [here](#) to read the full language of Constitutional Amendment #1.

Click [here](#) to read the shortened version of Constitutional Amendment #1.

Click [here](#) to read the full language of Constitutional Amendment #2.

Click [here](#) to read the shortened version of Constitutional Amendment #2.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Airstream Club International Headquarters by emailing comments@airstreamclub.org or contact your Region Officers.

Unbutton Rally, April 29-May 1, 2022

By Leslie DeHerde

Another fun Unbutton rally is in the books, thank you Lois, Derek, Meg and Laura for pulling it together. The purpose of this rally is to ensure your camper is ready to the camping season. Frank and I discovered we forgot chairs, thank you to Chris and Erica for helping us out. This happens to be a favorite rally of mine the weather is getting warmer but the nights are still cool making the campfire a necessity and pleasant to sit around. Friday, we learned that you can toast a Peep and make a s'more with them Angie challenged some to try this feat.

Camp Carr is a lovely campground the sites are spacious and the river runs right behind the site creating a relaxing soundtrack for the weekend. There was plenty of opportunity to view wildlife deer, ducks, heron and even an eagle.



We had about 16 campers and started the weekend with a happy hour where we were able to catch up with old and make some new friends. Saturday some members hiked and Frank and I fished. Frank was able to catch a nice trout for his Sunday breakfast. The festivities continued Saturday with another happy hour which included 2 rounds of Bowie Bingo. I was amazed by how many people are Bowie experts! It was great fun, Meg was an awesome announcer.

Sunday weather was amazing and we were able to pack up and head out on a perfect day. Lessons learned, next time we may want to take more pictures to memorialize our trips! It is sad we do not have a picture of Meg announcing bingo..... It should have been captured for all to see.



Tips from the Turnpike

It's time to get rolling and here are my top 10 tips for a safe and happy adventure!

01 Know your towing limits!

I don't mean your tow vehicle's capacity, I mean how long you can sit behind the wheel! Aim for 200 to 300 miles a day. Towing is stressful and will exhaust even the most experienced Airstreamer, so give yourself time to decompress at the end of each long-haul day.

02 Stop the stops!

It's tempting to stop at every tourist attraction along your route but each unplanned stop burns your daylight. Try not to veer too off course when indulging in local delights, and plan your stops whenever possible.

03 More than Cracker Barrel!

It's comforting it stop at familiar places for a meal or a break. Chain stores and restaurants are right off the highway! Ask around while getting gas or use an app like TripAdvisor, Forkit or Yelp to locate local hotspots.

04 Damn that traffic jam!

Once you have towed through rush hour around NYC, Boston or Atlanta, you will never do it again, so plan on leaving late and arriving early if possible. If you have to drive during evening rush hour, stopping for a late lunch/early dinner.

05 Stash a Stash!

Have I ever told you the story of arriving at Highland Haven with no food and all the groceries and restaurants closed? I've learned to keep a stockpile of packaged, high energy foods and snacks like trail mix, beef jerky, peanut butter, and jelly sandwich fixings, and pouches of tuna/chicken. Make sure you keep these in your tow vehicle in case you are stuck in traffic!

06 Prepare for the worst!

Keep a proper toolkit and spare tires, invest in a roadside assistance plan, a fire extinguisher and get keep a well-stocked first aid kit . Next, check your health insurance policy for out-of-state coverage specifics, make a list of medications for all the travelers in your rig and get up to date on immunizations, such as a tetanus shot. Also, ladies consider a [STP devise](#). I am telling you, life changed when I discovered the Tinkle Belle.

07 Beware the weather!

Different areas of the country have different weather even in summer. Be ready for any climate by having winter coats handy year-round as well as sturdy shoes or boots. In the summertime, keep track of triple-digit temperatures, stopping every two to three hours to let your tires cool off. A quick cooldown helps to prevent tires from bursting, so be sure to account for it in your schedule.

08 Secure a good spot!

Always make a reservation at an RV park or campground when possible because first-come, first-served campgrounds and RV Parks could fill up before you arrive . If you're in a strange town and need a safe place to spend the night, make sure you have reviewed [Airstream Member Courtesy Parking](#), [BoonDookersWelcome](#) or become a member of [Harvest Hosts](#) for spots. The lore of big box store parking may be overblown in some areas and could mean a fine or unsafe conditions!

09 Lock tight feels right!

You may be in the middle of nowhere on your journeys but a shiny Airstream will be seen by someone. Make sure you lock your trailer when you are away and invest in a good hitch lock. You get what you pay and [California Immobilizer](#) has amazing products!

10 Keep your stuff tight! The best strategy for keeping parts and pieces secure and at hand is to designate a space for EVERYTHING in your trailer. Keep everything in its place and put it back in the same spot each and every time. Organization limits searching and keeps you safe. Everyone should know where items like bug spray or medications go.



SUNSHINE

A Get Well Card was sent to Fred Brugmans who recently had a hip replacement. We all send our best wishes to him.

Also keep friendly dog, Fritz Kiesel, in your thoughts as he recovers from surgery on one of his front legs.

Send the Sunshine Committee all joys and concerns you would like to share with our club!
Please notify Linda Kiesel!
Thank you.

2022 WATCHUNG CLUB OFFICERS

President: Frank DeHerde
1st Vice Pres: George Kiesel
2nd Vice Pres: Lea Plant
Corr Sec: Leslie DeHerde
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

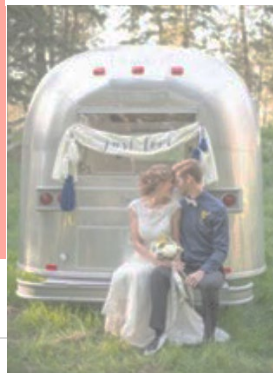
Welcome our Newest Watchung members!

Affiliates Jeanne Tanis and Robert Cucci
of Belford, NJ and their 2017 20' Flying Cloud Bambi!



May Birthdays

Tracy Creekmore
 Joanne Forster
 Judy Cahall
 John Crawford
 Meg Riley



May Anniversaries

George & Linda Kiesel

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 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 \(airstreamclub.org\)](https://www.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: October 7-10, 2022 at Camp Carr Please see [Camp Carr reservations](#) to sign up for a site as space is limited. Hosts Frank & Leslie DeHerde and CoHosts Joann and Stayla Elacqua. Business Meeting and election of officers will be held.

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

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

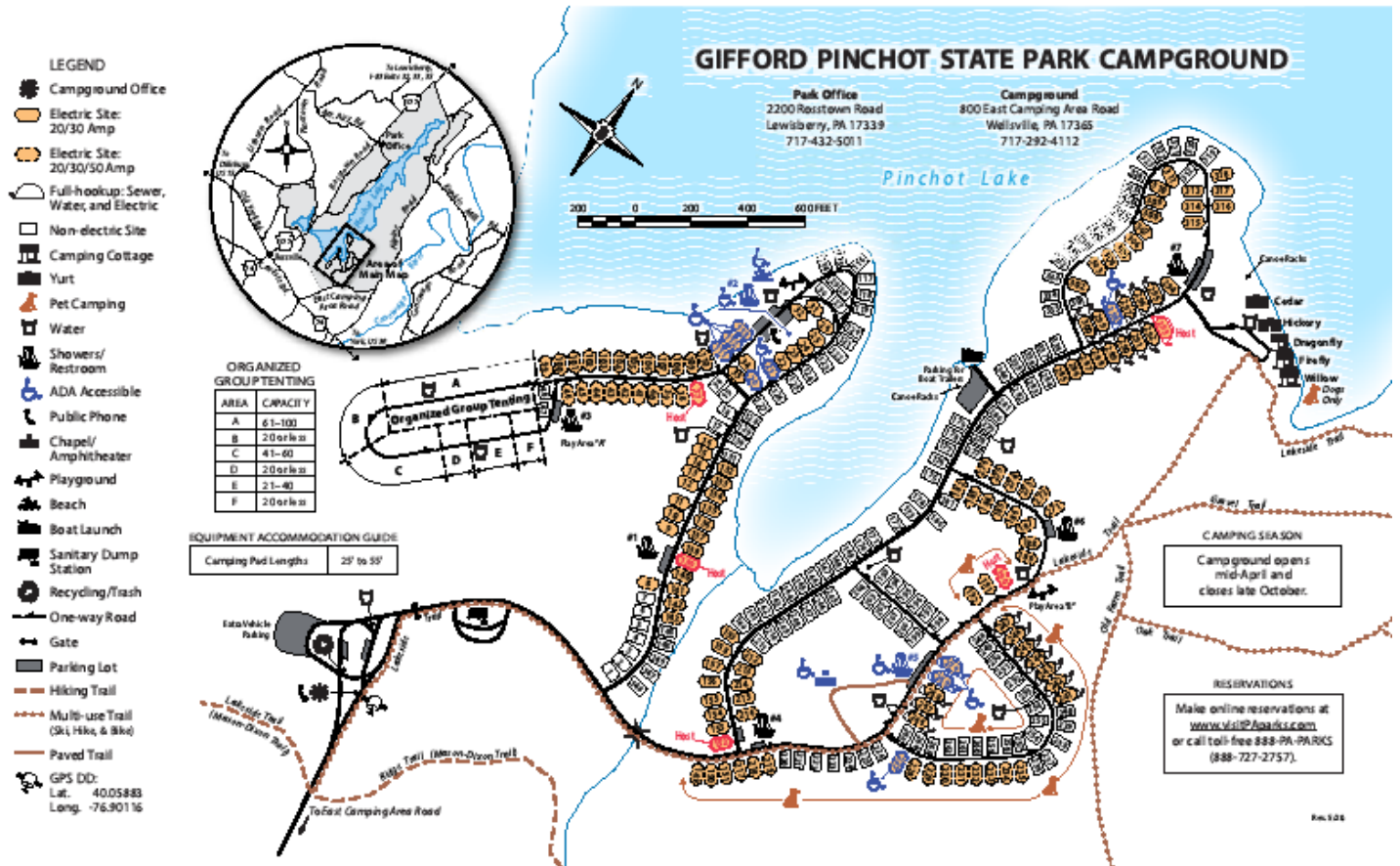


August Rally at Gifford Pinchot State Park

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.**

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](#)

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