

# The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

[www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj](http://www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj)

June 2022

## President's Message

Hello, Watchungers. The winter is officially over. We can predict our Jersey spring will be short, summer will be here quickly, and we will be touring with our Airstreams. Don't forget to check the trailer lights, tire pressure, windows, vents, and other equipment to prepare for travel. To prevent having a tire blowout, inspect tires for wear and cracks. If the trailer has two axels, the trailer can be controlled to a safe stop. A single axle trailer will be more difficult. How could a good-looking tire have a blowout? When the tire explodes, it can cause significant damage to the Airstream. One thing overlooked is to check the tire manufacture date on the tires. Trailer tires have a life of 6 to 7 years and need replacement regardless of how good they look. You will not see a detailed date when you look for a date. It is essential to understand how to interpret the codes on the tire to find the date of manufacture on the tire. Tires have a uniform DOT code that will show the year's week, and the year they were produced.

The tire below has on it the number 4708. This number indicates the manufacturing date of the tire. It was manufactured during the 47<sup>th</sup> week of 2008.

A must-have item is a tire pressure monitoring system. This system will continuously give you the live tire pressure and temperature of your tires. The high summer temperatures and tire temperatures will cause the older tires to blow out. For everyone's safety and our babies we tow, please check the date & replace the tires every six years.



As of this writing, our June rally will not take place. I look forward to seeing everyone at International.

The International Rally, July 23-29, 2022, and our check-in date is July 20; currently, 16 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 ballpen at Fryeburg. Still, time to register.

We now have an October rally which 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. After booking the camping site, complete the coupon in this newsletter.

The club needs members to host or co-host a rally or luncheon for 2023. We need to finalize next year's schedule as soon as possible. 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's email is [tenlea@aol.com](mailto:tenlea@aol.com).

To everyone, safe traveling to happy memorable times.

Frank DeHerde – President

## Region 2 notes from the President

The Region 2 Rally was a success! We had good weather with a turnout of 42 Airstreams. We had at least four people that were at their first-ever WBCCI rally, and I think we made a good impression on them. The food was good and the band was excellent. Skymed did a great presentation about an upcoming Alaskan cruise they are planning, and 2nd International Vice President Per Hamnqvist (#154) gave an informative overview of the two amendments and answered questions. Region 2 Newsletter Editor Bob Curran (#2025) has written a great article that will appear in the August issue of the Blue Beret, so look for that when it comes out in a few weeks.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way, and there are quite a few of you. Sometimes we don't know in advance what we'll need, and someone always steps up. For example, "drummer" was definitely not a position I thought we'd need, but rally first timer Rebecca Glick (#7585) of the Watchung Unit stepped up to the job! I also want to thank Peggy Shafer of Skymed for generously sponsoring the rally, and I want to thank everyone for coming!



I sent the check off to the Delaware State Fairgrounds for the final payment, and as we hoped, they cut us a break on the costs. We move the rally around to different parts of the region, but we'll definitely keep them in mind for the future. The region did lose some money on the rally, but not as much as it would have been had they held us to the contract we signed, and we're still solvent, so there's not much to do but move forward.

In general, I'm looking for feedback about the region rally. Is this long weekend format good? What about the time of year? Would fall be better? I know quite a few people couldn't attend because they were on

various caravans, for example. We'll run into conflicting events no matter when we rally, but is there a time that would be better, in general? Maybe everything is fine as is; that's a valid answer, too. I just want to make sure the rally is available to the most region members possible. If you have thoughts and ideas, please let Patti, Gary, or I know.

We're working on the plans for the region 2 luncheon at International. As I mentioned at the rally, the official caterer would be rather expensive, and I don't think many people would be interested. We have a few ideas we're working on; stay tuned. We've also started discussions about next year's region 2 rally, and I think we'll have dates for that locked down soon.



I want to call your attention to Region 2 Caravan Coordinator Kerry Mattila's (#5417) Maritimes Caravan, which has open space available this year. Please see this page for more information! <https://airstreamclub.org/region2/2022-maritimes-caravan>

If it hasn't happened already, your club president will be asking you for your votes on the two amendments before the club. Please be sure to vote on these amendments, for or against. As Per said, abstaining tells the IBT nothing about how you're feeling about how they are doing.

See you next month!

-RJ

## Region 2 Rally- May 2022

*By Judy Cahall*

The Region 2 Rally was held at the Delaware State Fairgrounds with 42 trailers in attendance. Several Watchung members were there also in attendance: Kathy and Jay McCarthy, Laura Raymond, Rebecca Glick, Angie and Mark Ratliff, and Judy and David Cahall. Angie was not even there an hour and threw her back out so went home and Lea Plant's cat was very ill (it passed away) and she couldn't come. Laura came and stayed in a hotel as there was something wrong with her trailer. Way to persevere! Otherwise the Rally was such a breath of fresh air! Some of us had not been out in our Airstreams for two years so it was a great celebration to be out. Everyone was so happy!!

The Fair setting was mostly treed with grass and the facilities were close and also very nice. The weather although warm the last two days was breezy and the event room we used was huge with air-conditioning. And - there was ice cream, a food truck serving crab cakes, a taco bar and desert so we were well fed and our creature comforts were well taken care of. We were also treated to two days of Future Farmers of America and 4-H shows if we wanted to watch and many animals: cows, goats and sheep being walked along the street and being groomed in an adjoining parking lot.

The participants at the Rally found many activities to fill their days with biking, hiking, kayaking visiting friends and some even went to the Dover Air Show. The favorite activity though was meeting with new and longtime friends. There were actually four people for whom this was their first time at a Rally.

The Band (Malpractice started by lawyers and doctors) at the Rally was excellent and got many out on the dance floor most to the night. At the beginning of the evening the band leader asked if anyone could play the drums as their drummer didn't show up. Our own Rebecca Glick (a lawyer) volunteered and played the bongos first and then many pieces on a full set of drums!! Way to go Rebecca!

There was an informal meeting to discuss the two amendments to be voted on at the International Rally. Per Hamnqvist, 2<sup>nd</sup> International Vice President gave an overview and answered questions. He encouraged everyone to read or listen to information being offered about the amendments and most importantly VOTE! Bob Curran (R2 Newsletter Editor) will have an article in the August Blue Beret on the subject.



Rebecca Glick, Rock Star

There was also a presentation by Skymed which was very informative and also highlighted an upcoming Alaska Cruise. The AS Mothership provided many give aways for the Rally. Many thanks to them and especially to Region 2: AJ Marquette, Pres, Gary Russo, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, & Patti Galapo 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

A Region 2 get together at international is being planned. Hope to see you there!  
Judy Cahall

## Meandering the Maritimes: A Region 2 Caravan August 18, 2022 to September 25, 2022

*By Kerry Mattila, BRN #5417*

After a cancellation in 2021 due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, we are holding this caravan later this year. Meandering the Maritimes will be a 38-day exploration of the beauty and history of Canada's three Maritime Provinces: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. We will launch at the north end of Cape Breton Island and wind our way through each of the Provinces. You will experience the history of the colonizing groups of French, English, Irish and Scottish settlers and their interactions with the indigenous populations. The history of the region was shaped by European conflicts but much remains today in the form of Gaelic, Acadian and Irish music, languages and traditions. The landscape is simply spectacular, from the highlands of Cape Breton to the awesome tides of the Bay of Fundy and the red sands of PEI, there are vistas everywhere. Lots of seafood too! This will be a relaxed caravan with time off to explore, hike, shop or visit sites with particular interests. It is a prototype caravan with the intention of becoming a recurring part of the Airstream Club National Caravan program. We have a few vacancies at this time, so don't hesitate to contact us for more information. The kitty fee is \$4500 Cdn for an Airstream with 2 people, \$3400 for a solo traveler. Contact: **Kerry Mattila, BRN #5417, maritimescaravan@wbcci.net 613-258-2842**

## Welcome our Newest Watchung members!

Gail Lloyd  
of Neptune, NJ and her 25' 2022 Globetrotter

Conrad Bahlke and Roxane Orgill  
of Dobbs Ferry, NY and their 21' 2021 Bambi

Thomas and Margaret Noble  
of Pennington, NJ and their 23' 2022 Flying  
Cloud



## Tips from the Turnpike

I'm always trying to get the most bang for my buck when it comes to products in the trailer. I've been looking and looking for **must have** cleaning products and thought I would share my list with you!

1. A good multipurpose cleaner. Try to get one that is antibacterial for cleaning high touch areas like door knobs.
2. Holding tank treatment. You don't want to be **that** Airstream now do you? Keep your holding tank fresh as a daisy!
3. Glass cleaner and long handled window squeegee. Road dust, dirt and occasional bug can block your view.
4. Fabric/Carpet cleaner. Accidents will happen and they usually sticky and leave stains on the couch.
5. Stick or Handheld vacuum. Sand anyone? The handheld vac are excellent for sucking up stink bugs too!
6. Microfiber cloths. Why use paper towels? Throw these in the washer after use and enjoy your lint and streak free Airstream live.
7. Disposable gloves. You will thank me the next time your stinky slinky leaks.
8. Collapsible bucket. I use mine for everything from washing dishes while boondocking to gathering kindling.
9. Bleach tablets. These are great space savers. And a bleach table can be dissolved in a bucket of water for use on cleaning outside tables and chairs.
10. Powered Tide laundry detergent. Get the smallest box you can and use 1 teaspoon in a gallon of water to clean EVERYTHING! Floors, countertops, even wash your airstream!



## SUNSHINE

A congratulations card was sent to Chris Forester on his Retirement

A Get Well card was sent to Angie Ratliff following a back injury

and a Thinking of You card was sent to Lea Plant on the passing of her beloved cat Bo.

Send the Sunshine Committee all joys and concerns you would like to share with our club!

Please notify Linda Kiesel!

Thank you.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month!



# 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



## June Anniversaries

David & Judy Cahall  
 Rich & Kathi Short  
 Barbara Taylor & Michael  
 Koczwarra  
 John & Flora Pomerleau  
 Derek Conley & Lois  
 Wagner



## June Birthdays

Jeanne Brugmans  
 Betty Lou Walker  
 Howie Eldridge  
 Linda Kiesel  
 JoAnne Elacqua  
 Lois Wagner  
 Fred Reinhardt  
 David Cahall

# 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 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 Coupon in Newsletter.

**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 Joann and Stayla Elacqua and CoHosts J Frank & Leslie DeHerde. Business Meeting and election of officers will be held. See Coupon in Newsletter

**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

August 25<sup>th</sup> thru August 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Thursday** Early check in. Dinner on your own.
- Friday** On your for the day. Happy Hour 4pm. Dinner of Baked chicken and Lasagna and salad at 6pm. Bring plates and utensils. Charity collection for BraveHearts Trails To Zero. Campfire, weather permitting.
- Saturday** Breakfast 8:30 to 9:30. Pancakes and sausage, coffee etc. Bring plates and Utensils  
Happy hour 4pm. Dinner on your own. Campfire, weather permitting.
- Sunday** Continental breakfast 8:00 to 9:00. Bring plates and utensils. Executive Board meeting 9:00. General meeting at 9:30am. Break down, clean up.

Just a reminder; Pennsylvania State Parks **“Officially”** prohibit Alcohol. So....

**Things to do in the area;** Saturday night Chris Stapleton will be playing in Hershey PA. some tickets still available. Check online. <http://www.hersheyticketoffice.org/tickets/5043304/chris-stapleton-elle-king-morgan-wade>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_

# of People x \$12.00 per person = \_\_\_\_\_

Contact; George and Linda Kiesel 908-930-0550 or Frank and Leslie DeHerde 908-419-4978

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.

Hope to see you there! Link to reservation-- [Reservations](#)



# No Frills October Rally at Camp Carr

- When** October 7- October 10
- Thursday** Early check in. Dinner on your own.
- Friday** Dinner on your own for the day. Happy Hour 4pm.  
Charity collection for BraveHearts Trails To Zero.  
Campfire, weather permitting.
- Saturday** Continental Breakfast 8:30 to 9:30: Muffins, Bagels & Fixings, coffee, etc. Bring plates & Utensils  
Happy hour 4pm.  
Dinner Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Each camper bring a side or dessert to share.  
Wear your Best Halloween Costume and join us for a fun.  
Campfire, weather permitting.
- Sunday** Continental breakfast 8:00 to 9:00. Bring plates and utensils.  
Executive board meeting 9:00. General meeting 9:30am.  
Break down, clean up.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Carr Site Number \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner will you bring dessert \_\_\_\_\_ or Side \_\_\_\_\_

# of People x \$12.00 per person = \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: Watchung NJ Club, WBCCI and send to, Lois Wagner. Lois' direct address is:

Lois Wagner  
29 Colony Court  
New Providence, NJ 07974

Please see [Camp Carr reservations](#) to sign up for a site as space is limited

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