



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER of the
NY FINGER LAKES AIRSTREAM
CLUB

THE GRAPEVINE—June 2022

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

Volume 21, Issue 6

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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 June 10

THERE WILL NOT BE A JULY OR AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Remember to Vote!

By now you should have received at least one email about voting for 2023 WBCCI positions for elected officials. Please take a moment to cast your vote.

But, we also need you to vote on the proposed changes to the WBCCI Constitution. In order for our club (NYFLAC) to be represented at least 20% of our membership are required to vote. **That is A MINIMUM of 23 club members who must vote.** As of this moment 11 members, or 10%, have voted. If we do not reach 20% NYFLAC voices will not be heard. Every, single WBCCI member has one vote!! ***Let your voice be heard!!***

If you need additional information before voting please refer to recent issues of the Blue Beret, links in the May edition of the Grapevine, or watch these additional references as provided below:

- 1) Link to recorded Zoom meetings for the 2 Amendments on the Airstream YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMOW7edcbNdO7Hehq2qyQmw>
- 2) Executive Committee Restructure website that includes links to all the recordings is here: https://airstreamclub.org/EC_Restructure_Proposal
- 3) June Blue Beret has published pro/con opinions on pages 14 & 17 for consideration.

The link for our club online JotForm voting can be found at: <https://form.jotform.com/221284862819060> Voting open until early July.

The President's Corner

The drive from Webster to the Region 2 Rally in Delaware was a huge success! We were able to reconnect with friends that we were only able to see at Zoom meetings and make new ones. The highlight was the band Friday night!



What a show Malpractice put on for us. The band was very similar to Nik and the Nice Guys. Suzanne and I actually danced the night fantango burning off dinner.

Continued on page 2.....

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club
2022 Officers and
Committee Members

President: Gary Russo
fulloflife123@yahoo.com
585-967-6636

1st V.P.: Dick Saxton
saxtonrg@aim.com

2nd VP: Chris Cappelletti
ccapp68@me.com

Treasurer: Ted Smith
Ess18294@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Charlie Kirk

Directors: Jim Gillio (1 yr.)
Charlie Kirk (2 yrs.)
John Andersen (3 yrs.)

Membership Chair: Randy Hill
randy_diane_hill@me.com

Caravan Leader: Ray Wagner
rwagner2722@outlook.com

Safety: John Hussar
hushearts@greygoosegraphics.com

Media: Liz Kirk
002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

Sunshine: Suzanne Russo
suzanne.russo21@yahoo.com

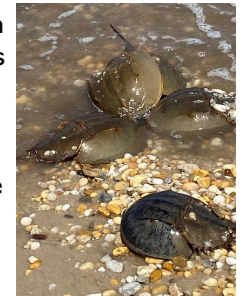
President's Corner continued.....



One day Suzanne and I were able to do a Surf and Turf trip. At the fairground they were having a 4H event. We were able to see cattle and goat competitions. It was fun to watch a 4-foot-tall competitor move a goat that wanted to go in a different direction or a 1800-2000 lb. cow.



We then took a drive to Fowler Beach. The beach was empty with the exception of Horseshoe Crabs in the surf and beach. It was mating season and they were doing..... There was a homeowner on the beach, and she explained that Horseshoe Crabs are related to the arachnid family. Suzanne was brave enough to help flip one over that was having trouble getting right side up in the waves.



We also stopped at Dogfish Head Brewery for some local tasting and a tour. They had this very cool tree house that we had to get a group photo with!

For those planning to attend the International Rally in Fryeburg, ME we are working on a Regional get together scheduled for July 26. At this point in time, we are considering multiple options. Stay tuned!

See you at Sampson,
Gary

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

OR
find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1472017733005344/>



**Gloria & Lester Fish
Edgewater, NJ**



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.

ATTENTION NEW CLUB MEMBERS!!

ALL rally campsite fees will be covered by the NYFLAC for ANY NEW MEMBER WHO HAS NEVER ATTENDED A RALLY. New members will be still be responsible for any additional costs associated with a rally. This offer does not apply to individuals who have transferred to our club AND have attended a rally elsewhere. This is only offered to members and affiliates of the NYFLAC.

<p>June 23rd—26th</p> <p>Register now at: https://airstreamclub.org/sampson-state-park-rally</p>	<p>Sampson State Park Romulus, NY Host: Gary & Suzanne Russo Co-hosts: Jim & KC Gillio</p>
<p>July 1st—5th</p> <p>Register now at: https://form.jotform.com/221516116988158 or call Gary Russo directly.</p>	<p>Zoar Valley July 4th Bash Hosts: Dawn and Boyd Wibl</p> <p>RSVP by June 15th!</p>
<p>July 23rd-30th</p>	<p>65th Annual WBCCI International Rally</p>
<p>3 ways to register:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Direct link to JotForm registration at https://form.jotform.com/2212840900151422. ACI link at https://airstreamclub.org/oktoberfest-rally-letchworth-state-park3. Paper form in May Grapevine	<p>Oktoberfest at Letchworth State Park Castile, NY Hosts: Dick & Cora Saxton Co-hosts: Jenn & Chris Cappelletti</p> <p>REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!</p>

Zoar Valley registration is now open. If you want a really great weekend - this is it!! But spaces are limited to 12 trailers so do not delay. JotForm registration is preferred but, if you don't have computer access please call Gary Russo directly to register.

Dates: July 1st – 5th. Come for a few days or stay the entire time.

Arrival July 1st after 2:00 pm

Depart morning of July 5th

- **Location:** 7635 Zoar Valley Rd. Springville, NY 14141
- **Cost: Free**
- **Limit - 12 Airstreams**
- This will be a dry-camping event - come with your water full and black/grey empty - limited trickle electric will be available for a few trailers at a time
- Generators will be allowed
- Well behaved pets welcome

Amenities include -

- Wood-fired pizza oven - bring your own ingredients to make your favorite pizza - Saturday night
- Swimming Pool (un-heated)
- Evening Happy Hours and Nightly Campfires
- Many nearby hiking trails
- Close to the towns of Zoar Valley and Ellicottville for shopping and dining
- Boyd is working on lining up another wonderful field trip

DO NOT DELAY.....RSVP is by June 15th and it's FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. If needed, we will have a waiting list.

JotForm reservation is preferred at <https://form.jotform.com/221516116988158> or call Gary Russo directly.

DIY Corner with Dick Saxton

Hello everyone! Cora and I are back from the Region 2 Rally at the Delaware State Fairgrounds. We traveled down Caravan style with the Russo's and met the Kirk's there. Met a ton of nice people and had a great time.

While we were there we had very little hot water (low pressure). As soon as the word went out, I had many opinions on how to solve our problem.

We pretty much sourced the problem to the mixing valve on the back of the hot water tank.

I called Jackson Center and spoke with our Service Advisor (Kevin) and he immediately knew that the problem was, a clogged screen on the tank before the mixing valve.

Working in the small space, as we all know, is no easy task, disconnecting the supply lines and wrenching off the mixing valve and then removing the threaded nipple to get to this screen. It was plugged solid.

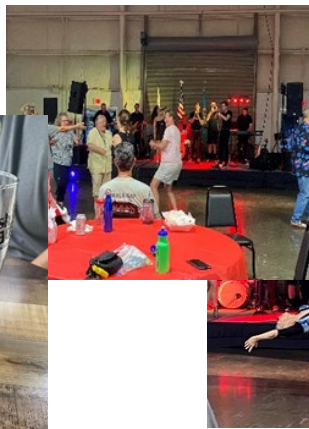
A good soaking in Lime-a-way and put everything back together and it works like a charm! So, just because you flush your tank out, it goes to show that a little screen buried deep in the system can be the culprit!!

Suzanne's Sunshine Corner

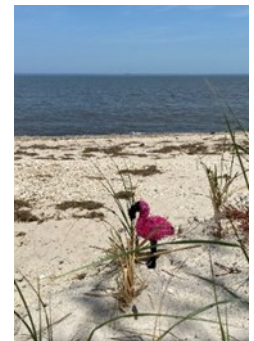
Camping season has arrived!

Our first rally is in the books. The Region 2 Rally was held in Harrington, Delaware on May 19-22. The weather was great, and catching up with old friends and making new ones was delightful. If you weren't there, you missed a good weekend!

Several of us visited Dogfish Head Brewery in nearby Milton to take a tour and learn about the art of brewing beer (and tasting). A couple from Michigan pulled into the parking lot with their Airstream. They're not WBCCI members yet, but we made sure they had all the information needed to join! Who knows? We may see them down the road!



Friday evening was filled with lots of laughter and dancing! The musical group Malpractice was excellent and kept us all on our feet. Even Frank got playing bongo drums.



Gary and I drove to Fowler Beach on Saturday afternoon so that I could dip my feet into the Atlantic. The weather and water was nice and warm. (Frank is really getting around.)

Happy Birthday to:

- Randy Hill June 5
- Paula Babcock June 12
- Ray Hoxie June 15
- Rich Peebles June 23
- Cathy Andersen June 24



Happy Anniversary to:

- Dick & Cora Saxton June 1
- Boyd & Dawn Wible June 5
- Gary & Suzanne Russo June 12
- Geoffrey & Lisa Marshall June 22

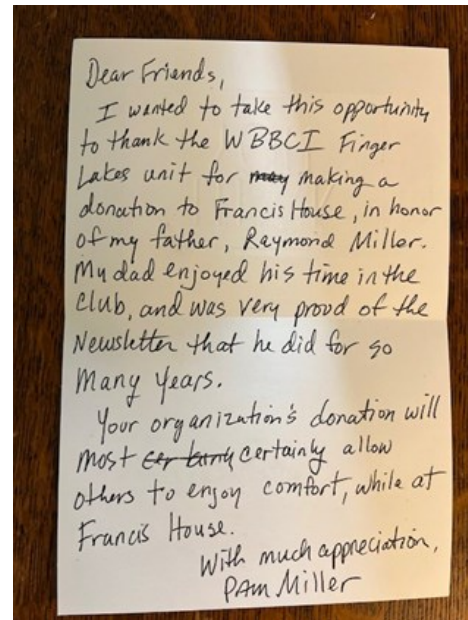
Didn't see your birthday or anniversary?
Let me know so that I can update my list
(Suzanne.Russo21@yahoo.com).

Closing Thoughts

Happy Father's Day to all our dads!
Until next time, best wishes for good health
and safe travels!
Suzanne

In Memoriam

As you know from last month's newsletter, Ray Miller had passed away. Our Club sent a donation to the Francis House in his memory. We received this kind note from Pam, his daughter.



Region 2 News

RJ Marquette, Region 2 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 Marquette, #13270

"The Future Of The Past... A Celebration Of The Mothership & The New Airstream Heritage Center 91 Years Of Travel Adventure" And we were there!!!

Submitted by Mary Fahner-Vihtelic

Quite a while ago, we were all given the chance to attend the 90th Year Celebration at the Heritage Center in Jackson Center. As "newbies" we knew little about the infamous Jackson Center, but were very interested in anything having to do with Airstreams. The format was a lottery from which sixty-five names would be pulled. Even though we knew the odds were low, we submitted our name and were absolutely thrilled when we received our invitation!



The event, scheduled for 2021, was postponed - of course. Finally, it was held this past Memorial Day Weekend. A healthy rainstorm greeted us as we pulled into the employee parking lot. There were 40+ rigs parked with us, and at least 15 personally owned vintage trailers parked in the visitors' lot.

We experienced all sorts of treasures over the next couple of days. One of the most incredible was a tour of the manufacturing facility. To see all of those silver trailers take shape from the inside out; with the parts and furniture and fabrics and gadgets in their own particular spot - organized and catalogued precisely. As you can imagine, the room was HUGE; with many break rooms, vending machines full of safety equipment, a viewing mezzanine, and much more. It was absolutely riveting - I know - that was on purpose! Anyway, the included picture does not even begin to show how immense and impressive it is.



"The Future Of The Past... continued

The Heritage Center officially opened to the public on June 1, 2022. So everything we were experiencing was a "first". The tour of the Heritage Center Museum was fascinating. There were many pictures, artifacts, and stories about Wally Byam's life; his vision, creed, and accomplishments.



Many more vintage trailers (years of construction ranged from 1938 - 1984) are on permanent display in the museum, many in their original state and others which have been restored (for example: Wally's famous white Airstream from the European Caravan). In addition, there are historically significant displays such as the NASA Apollo 11 Quarantine collaboration. A few exhibits are just plain quirky, like the 1984 Funeral Coach - yes, very strange! Adding to the charm are a cozy fire pit surrounded by camp chairs, collections on loan from caravan travelers, and several amazing pieces by Airstream artists Michael DePraid and Frank DeBona. The wonder that is Airstream is evident in every corner of that beautiful space!

Jackson Center itself is very quaint. It is a small community that obviously has a lot of pride in their town and its role with such a prestigious company. It was fun to spot trailers in various stages of completion here and there around town. We attended a viewing of Alumination at the local theater - another treasure. This is a recently completed documentary by Eric Bricker and Lisa Hughes. It was fascinating and really well-done. It can be viewed now on a few streaming services, and will probably be available on DVD in the fall.

The event really was a celebration; live music each night, food trucks, a Vintage Trailer Open House each evening, and presentations on various topics during the day. There was also daily access to the Heritage Center with its café, gift shop, and comfortable places to sit and chat.

The whole weekend was a wonderful display of beauty, history, commitment, and love of the Airstream way of life. What a privilege it was to participate in this "once in a lifetime" celebration!

Region 2—Caravan Opportunity

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

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 colonising 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



Bits & Pieces

Where have you been????

Tell me about your “hidden gems.” What are your favorite places in New York State and around this great United States.

Do you have a favorite campground? Secret spot? Hiking trail? Local or National Park? Restaurant? AS dealership? Storage location? Good place to take kids?

If you're like me, I keep a list (a very long list!!) of places that people tell me NOT TO MISS!!! I only hope to be able to visit all of these spots.

Everyone is welcome to contribute!!
Please send your submissions to Liz Kirk at
002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

Submissions may be shared on our website unless you specifically request not to share publicly.

There may, or may not, be an issue of the Grapevine in July or August!!

As many of you know, Charlie and I will be on the Viking Trail Caravan to Newfoundland. There are places we will be boondocking without any service.

I'll do my best to keep up—but no promises.

Gary Russo will have access to 002newslettereditor@wbcci.net should he need to share information during my travels.

If you've ever wondered what a caravan is like or would just enjoy following our Viking Trail Caravan adventures on Facebook you can request to join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/345046097424464>

If you ask to join please drop me a line and let me know so I can approve your request.