

Keystone Kourier

Keystone PA Airstream Club #092
Region 2 - WBCCI

President's Message



Happy Halloween Keystoneers! I hope the ghouls, ghosts and goblins were good to all of you! They were certainly on their good behavior at the Chown's Installation Rally last weekend. The weather was spectacular, the turnout good, food was plentiful and tasty, and comradeship heartwarming. I want to again thank Linda and Chuck Chowns for hosting this event at their lovely property. They went out of their way to make this rally one of the year's best.

We had 6 rigs and 17 members on Saturday. Friday night began with a hamburger fest followed by Smores and marshmallow treats around an impressive campfire built by Chuck. In addition to the Chowns, Mergelkamp's,

Dietz's, Quinn's, Harringtons, Jennifer Eggers, and the Fitzgerald's, we were joined by new members, Katherine and Brian Mulligan. The new Keystoneers were presented with Berets, license plate and a warm welcome from all.

We began Saturday with a pancakes and sausage breakfast cooked to perfection by Kathleen and Jennifer. We were joined at midday by Barry and Lesley Heckenswiler and Jerry and Barb Hillegass. The Saturday buffet was a delicious spread of salads, desserts and sides brought by the group to accompany the pieces de resistance: smoked brisket, Arry's lasagna, and Linda's roast chicken. Chuck had tended the brisket as it smoked overnight and it turned out perfectly.

Lunch was followed by a presentation on fire prevention and the use of fire extinguishers by our own resident fireman (and Pasteur) Don Harrington. His informative presentation included a live fire demonstration of how to use a fire extinguisher. Barry Heckenswiler then performed the Installation Ceremony for the new full slate of officers, led by Howard as President, Jody as 1st VP, and Jennifer as 2nd VP. See the full list in the side panel. The Club continues to be in good hands following the outstanding leadership of Kathleen the past year. Thank you Kathleen for a great year!

We closed the business portion of the meeting with a presentation by Howard summarizing the results of the recent survey concerning travel interests of the group. This led to a fruitful discussion of ideas for next year's travel schedule. See the section on page 5 for details.

The weekend wrapped up with another cozy campfire and Sunday morning continental breakfast. It was a beautiful weekend! On to the Season Finale Rendezvous at Trap Pond State Park in Laurel, Delaware on November 4-6 and the Keystone Holiday Lunch at the Plumsteadville Inn on December 10!

Howard



Upcoming Events

Nov 4 - 6

Season Finale Rendezvous

Trap Pond State Park
Laurel, DE

Dec 10 - Noon

Keystone Holiday Lunch

Plumsteadville Inn
Pipersville, PA

Stay Connected

Keystone on the web

<https://Airstreamclub.org/Keystone-Pennsylvania>



Follow us on
Facebook

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

Airstream Club Int'l

<https://AirstreamClub.org/>

2023 Officers

President

Howard Mergelkamp

1st Vice President

Jody Dietz

2nd Vice President

Jennifer Eggers

Treasurer

Rick Pitts

Secretary

Arry Mergelkamp

1 Year Trustee

Pat Quinn

2 Year Trustee

Don Harrington

Immediate Past President

Kathleen Quinn

Membership

Don Harrington

Sunshine

Karen Kushto

Kourier – Web Pages

Andy & Rick Pitts

Sunshine Report

Aside from a few bruises to the shins from our hitches there isn't much to report!

Let us know of illnesses, surgeries, friends needing a kind word - and better yet, recoveries.

Karen (kkushto@comcast.net or cell 215-266-2410)

Happy Birthday to:

November

Cindy Yerk (13th)

Karen Kushto (15th)

December

Pat Quinn (20th)

Chris Boland (30th)

Happy Anniversary to:

November

None to report

December

Sue & Jody Dietz

Barry & Lesley Heckenswiler

Bud & Clare Vogt

We have, and like to celebrate many birthdates and anniversary months but if we've missed you please email Rick/Andy (r_pitts@verizon.net).

Keystone Bits

. Helen Alden, a Keystone affiliate, is selling her 2020 22' Bambi. In mint condition, if you or someone you know is interested contact Helen. Info at <https://www.airstreamclassifieds.com/2020-airstream-bambi-21-pennsylvania-366633>

. Save the Date: The 2023 Region 2 Rally will be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, June 2-6. A great venue and opportunity to camp again with our region Airstreamers. More details to follow.

. For many folks it's time to pay dues, see the note below...



Introducing

It's a pleasure to introduce the newest members of our club:

Brian & Jill Muck, #19355, from Malvern with their 1973 25' Tradewind

Alice Fei & Mike Holt, #19320, from Coatesville with their 27' International

Karl & Elizabeth Schubert, #13305, from Wellsville, members of the #164 Central Penn club, joining as Affiliates.

WELCOME – We look forward to meeting you on great camping weekends, rallies and caravans!

Keystone Installation Rally



Linda & Chuck Chowns graciously hosted the Keystone annual meeting and installation rally again this year at their home in Barto. Fall weather cooperated and there were great times for campfires, welcoming new members and enjoying (as always) Keystone food! Thanks to **Howard & Arry Mergelkamp** for assisting big time on the host, and for all who chipped in to make the annual meeting rally a success. The annual meeting elected and installed 2023 officers, reviewed the club's financial position and enabled a great discussion on plans for next year's rallies and events.



Your officers for next year, installed at the rally by WBCCI Past President and Keystone member **Barry Heckenswiler**, are:
President: **Howard Mergelkamp**
1st Vice President: **Jody Dietz**
2nd Vice President: **Jennifer Eggers**
Treasurer: Rick Pitts Secretary: Arry Mergelkamp
2-yr Trustee: Don Harrington 1-yr Trustee: Pat Quinn
Immediate Past President: Kathleen Quinn



Upcoming Keystone Fun

The **Season Finale Rendezvous** is set for Trap Pond State Park in Laurel, DE, on November 4-6. There are still a few sites left. Book online now at ReserveAmerica for this last-gasp, 'I don't wanna pack it away' get together.

The annual holiday luncheon will be held at **Plumsteadville Inn** on December 10 at noon. **Barb & Jerry Hillegass** are coordinating for the club. Please let them know if you are coming (gaugeguy2@gmail.com or 610-462-4881) so we can give the restaurant an expected count. You will be able to pay your own bill so there is no kitty fee for the luncheon. Again this year we'll collect voluntary contributions of unwrapped stuffed animals or toys for kids. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated in advance.

Keystone Komedey Korner



WK: I just burned 2000 calories! And that's the last time I leave brownies in the oven while I take a nap.

Why can't you take a turkey to a Keystone rally? – Because they use fowl language!

Oscar Wilde: After a good dinner one can forgive anyone; even one's own relatives

Please send **your** best quips to Rick & Andy for a future issue of the Kourier.

National Storytelling Rally

Rick & Andy Pitts headed to Jonesborough, Tennessee for the National Storytelling Rally. The rally was wonderfully hosted by Harry Herrmann and the Eastern Tennessee Airstream Club. The 3-day festival that takes over the small historic town, thrilled all with tales from the likes of Bil Lepp, Bill Harley, Kevin Kling, Doloris Heydock, Josh Goforth, Elizabeth Ellis, Donald Davis, Jay O'Callahan and many more. We were treated to a hilarious 45-minute story on hiking up-and-down the Yosemite Falls Trail; an hour musical adventure (audience participation included) on why 'Build Me Up Buttercup' is the best song ever; humorous and poignant heart-to-hearts on growing up in the late 1900's; and much much more. If you like stories, put this on your list of rallies for next year!



Membership Renewal

Renewal processing has begun for January members. The WBCCI/ACI website is processing all WBCCI renewals and related club member and club affiliate memberships, and has sent out renewal emails. Please head to the WBCCI/ACI site, sign-in and select the renewal tab on the 'Current Members' page. Remember to select Keystone as your home club. Dues have remained the same, \$75 for WBCCI/ACI and \$15 for Keystone (Lifetime members must renew this way, but pay only the Keystone dues). For members with dates other than January, headquarters will send out renewal notices about 3-months prior to your date. Note that only members who are current with their dues on January 1 will be listed in the 2023 Membership Directory.

Keystone Alumni: you have a January renewal date. Headquarters will not process your renewal so just send a \$15 check payable to 'WBCCI Keystone Club' to Rick Pitts (930 Stoney Run Dr, West Chester, PA, 19382) by January 1.
Thanks all!

Winterizing Tips



It's that time of year! There are helpful articles on the WBCCI site on winterizing and storing your rig for the winter. Just go to the main site and search on 'Tech Documents' then select the drop-down menu where you'll find a selector for winterizing.

Or you could just hitch up and head south or southwest.....



2022 Activities Schedule

November 4-6 (Fri-Sun) – Back to Nature Season Finale Rendezvous - Trap Pond State Park
33587 Bald Cypress Lane, Laurel DE

December 10 (Sat) – Keystone Holiday Luncheon - Noon, Plumsteadville Inn, 5902 Easton Road, Pipersville, PA
Coordinator: Barb & Jerry Hillegass

Very Preliminary 2023 Activities Schedule

In order to help with your travel planning for next year we're adding the rallies that have already been scheduled. Be sure to check the [Blue Beret](#) and [Airstream.org](#) site for dates for other International and National Caravans and Events.

May 13-15 (Fri-Sun) – Eastern PA Opener w/ Central Penn and Penn Lehigh – Lums Pond State Park, Bear DE (a few sites left)

June 2-5 (Thur-Sun) – Region 2 Rally – Niagara Falls, Ontario (details to follow)

June 24-30 – International Rally – Rock Springs, Wyoming (registration open on [Airstream.org](#))

Keystone 2023 Activity Survey

The results of the travel survey recently routed were presented and discussed at the Installation Rally. The objective of the survey was to obtain club members' interests in type and length of rallies as well of specific places they would like to include in next year's travel schedule. There were 15 respondents. The results of the survey are summarized below:

- Number of rallies likely to attend next year: 3 Or 4
- Preferred length of rally: 3 to 5 days (5 most) lasting from Thursday to Monday
- Willing to travel on a weekend: 100 to 200 miles
- Would be interested in a rally or caravan lasting at least a week: even split
- Saturday dinner: preferred catered meal at \$20/person although did not discuss other alternatives such as going out or doing one's own thing
- 6 people expressed interest in hosting a rally

The questionnaire asked about interest in the travel ideas discussed at the picnic held at Kathleen and Pat's home. The top ideas selected were:

- Lancaster Balloon Fest
- Hickory Run State Park
- PA Grand Canyon
- French Creek Rendezvous
- Pine Grove Furnace State Park/US Army Heritage Trail
- Jim Thorpe

An excellent discussion led to the addition of several other possibilities to consider:

- Winterthur (camping or day trip)
- Cowtown Rodeo (camping at fairgrounds)
- Longwood Gardens (with Winterthur)
- Gettysburg
- Scranton Railroad
- French Creek Rally with Blues Festival in June.
- Cherry Springs campground (Coudersport, night sky)
- Beacon Hill in April (Intercourse, mud sales)
- Doom and gloom caravan
- Shady Grove (Rick's Campground near Lancaster with mud sale)
- Altoona Railroad

Howard presented a draft schedule with the original survey preferences. Another draft will be circulated after additional discussions to narrow down the choices. Anyone having additional ideas are encouraged to let Howard know, asap (howardsan70@gmail.com).

Andy and Rick Pitts
930 Stoney Run Dr.
West Chester, Pa. 19382



INTERESTED IN JOINING THE KEYSTONE CLUB

Contact:

President: Howard Mergelkamp
howardsan70@gmail.com

Membership: Don Harrington
pastordkh21@aol.com

Keystone Courier



November 2022