

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

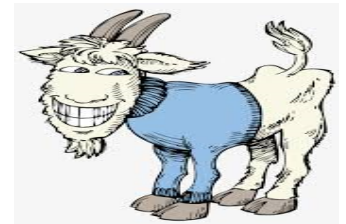
www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj

January 2023

President's Message

Happy New Year everybody! Hope your Holidays were bright and healthy .

I'd like to say thank you to all the members for entrusting me to be your president once again. I hope I can bring some useful experience to the position and carry us forward into the new year. A big thank you to Frank Deherde for his leadership this past year.



This year our charity will be St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital \(stjude.org\)](http://St.JudeChildren'sResearchHospital(stjude.org)) No family ever receives a bill from St. Jude for treatment, lodging or travel. They are one of the leading pediatric cancer centers in the world, and they share all their research with other scientists across the world. 82 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to patient care, which unfortunately cannot be said for many other charities. Their name is derived from St. Jude Thaddeus, the patron saint of lost causes. While we are a small club, I know we can help make a difference in the lives of these children. Charitable donations are usually collected at lunch or camping rallies, so please help if you can. Also speaking of charitable donations, the Flemington Area Food Pantry sent us a wonderful thank letter for all food donations Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwara arranged for the November luncheon. Thanks to everyone who brought food and to Barbara and Michael for making it happen.

Looking forward into the new year, we have a full slate of new officers. (Thank You all for stepping up), and a healthy rally/lunch schedule to carry us through. The International Rally in Rock Springs Wyoming is sold out already! (1200 trailers), and there is now a standby list. While that is unfortunate for those who were planning on going, it does open up the possibility that we may be able to do a rally in July. Even if it's just a popup rally at JSH or anywhere you may want to roam. Anyone interested in hosting, please let me know. The January lunch will be at Cryan's in Clinton NJ, and as far as February will be at the Warrenside Tavern Feb.12th. Please see our website for sign up information.

I'd also like to thank Derek Conley for stepping up to be the new Newsletter Editor. Derek is really helping out the club by taking this job over. We always need Watchung members to step in to volunteer and one way is to host or cohost a rally or luncheon! New changes for the new year! Thank you Derek! - George



December 12, 2022

Air Stream Club
Barbara
Watchung, NJ

Dear Barbara,

On behalf of the Flemingington Area Food Pantry's 420 volunteers and over 4,000 clients, we would like to take a moment to thank you and Air Stream Club for your donation of 108 pounds of groceries on 11/07/2022. If you are looking to value your donation, we use the Feeding America estimate that the average wholesale value of a pound of groceries is worth \$1.74.

Thank you for your all your support! We have experienced our highest number of visits ever since March of 2022. Food and gas prices have skyrocketed and increased the financial pressures on all our families. It is a struggle to maintain our inventory due to rising prices and supply chain issues. We have seen the impact on families in our community and, without your support, we could not have met their increasing needs.

Again, we thank you sincerely and express great gratitude for your donation to our organization. We look forward to your continued support. Take care and be well.

Kind Regards,

Jeannine Gorman
Executive Director

Kristin Stockwell
Office Manager

Your donation may be tax-deductible and no goods or services were provided in return for the donation.
For your records, our tax ID is 22-3061060.

PO Box 783 Flemingington, NJ 08822
info@flemingtonfoodpantry.org
908-788-5568

December Luncheon and Officer Installation

Hi fellow Watchunger's

I don't know about you but for us this year has flown by faster than ever! Could it be our new found freedom. Freedom once again to live the gypsy life! Freedom to travel and explore as Wally had intended.

December not only marks the end of 2022, it is also time to pass the candle to our newly selected officers. Over the years traditions have relaxed and Installation has gone from a huge banquet with a band and formal attire to dressing down and enjoying a wonderful meal with our fellow members. Although much has changed over the years there is one tradition that we still recognize. The Candle Lighting Ceremony continues to be the center of our yearly transition. Watchung is one of the few clubs that still keep the tradition of Wally's Candle Light Ceremony alive.



Why do we hold on to this tradition? That's easy, it's so we never forget our founding fathers. When you forget the past, the future is lost. The color of each candle has a special meaning as our new officers pledge to uphold their elected position.

The Silver candle is lit by the current President Frank DeHerde and First Lady Leslie DeHerde who passes Leadership to George Kiesel and Linda Kiesel for 2023. They will in turn light the purple candles to accept the responsibility. Purple signifying Nobility and Leadership. Gold candles are next in the chain of command lit by Lea Plant and Leslie DeHerde and spouse to accept the responsibilities of 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents. Gold signifying warmth and steadfastness. The Blue candle is then lit by Richard Short, Linda Kiesel and their spouses for Recording and Corresponding Secretaries as they pledge their responsibility to our members. Blue signifies Truth. The Green Candle is lit by our Treasurer and spouse signifying strength and continued growth



of Watchung. Last but not least are the White Candles lit by our Directors and spouses pledging to support our members. White signifies Loyalty.

When Chris & I first became members I didn't fully understand the significance of the candles. Simply thought it was just a cool way to Install our new officers. I soon realized that it is so much more. It is about standing together as a team to provide opportunities of Fun and Fellowship. To walk down the path that Wally Byam has paved for us. The opportunity to meet new people and enjoy the beauty of our world.

Thank you to all who have stepped up to keep our club strong and moving forward in 2023.



I hope the the significance of our traditional Candle Light Ceremony is better understood. Where did all of this happen? Chelseas Restaurant & Pub in Lebanon, NJ. We gathered in their cozy and sunny greenhouse room. A place that some of you are familiar with as we have had several events there. In all 35 members were in attendance. Unfortunately, there were a few members who had to cancel due to illness. To those unable to attend, know you were missed and we hope your downtime was short.

December is also a time when we hold charitable donations for Toys For Tots. Our Watchung members always step up and open their generous hearts for those who are less fortunate. This year was no exception. I have no doubt we put a huge smile on many faces. Thank you all for your participation.

Lastly, I would like to reach out to our members to think about stepping up to take over our much revered Hillbilly Newsletter. I can't stress enough how important our Newsletter is. It keeps us informed of upcoming charities and events, but also keeps our seasoned members in touch with a very significant part of their lives they are no longer able to be active in. Sparking up memories and keeping in touch. Angie has done an amazing job over the past years and needs to step down for personal reasons. Please consider stepping up for the position of Hillbilly Editor. Help Watchung continue to tell our story to others.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all

Chris & Erika Beddiges
Past President & First Lady



Region 2 notes from the President

Hello, everyone! I'm writing this just a few days before Christmas, and I hope you all had a great holiday season.

I struggled with topics to write about last winter, but this month I have great news to share: You can now book the campground for the Region 2 Rally! The campground is Yogi Bear's Jellystone Camp Resort in Niagara Falls, Ontario, [Best Camping in Niagara Falls | Jellystone Park™ Niagara Falls \(jellystoneniagara.ca\)](https://www.bestcamping.com/niagara-falls-jellystone-park).

Contact Greg Amadio at +1 (800) 263-2570 or email him (yogibear@jellystoneniagara.ca) and leave a message. Greg will call back to get registration details. You can cancel up to two weeks before without penalty. Our group rate is \$62/night plus taxes.

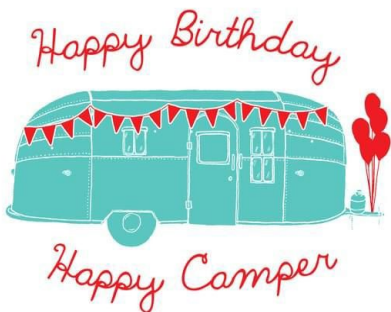


The official rally dates are June 2 through June 6, 2023.

Registration for the rally will be available soon. The Ontario Club is preparing an event to remember!

See you next month!

–RJ Marquette, Region 2 President, #13270



January Birthdays

Linda Ward
Harry Sacks
Robert Hagman

2023 WATCHUNG CLUB OFFICERS

President: George Kiesel
1st Vice Pres: Lea Plant
2nd Vice Pres: Leslie DeHerde
Corr Sec: Linda Kiesel
Rec Sec: Rich Short
Treasurer: Lois Wagner
Membership: Lea Plant
Directory: Chris Forster
Web Master: Mark Ratliff

Directors:
1 YR.: Ken Egan
1 YR.: Nancy Egan
2 YR.: Linda Kiesel
2 YR.: Kathi Short
Sunshine: Linda Kiesel
Newsletter: Derek Conley
Quartermaster: Jason Pomerleau

SUNSHINE

A sympathy card went out to JoAnne & Stella Elacqua following the passing of their beloved dog Rosie
And a Get Well cards went to Steve Tancer following knee surgery and Kimberly Sheppard after her surgery.

Please notify Linda Kiesel with all your joys and concerns!!

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 20th of each month!



2023 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.

2023 January Luncheon: January 14, 2023, 12:00 noon at Cryanns Tavern, 2 Beaver Ave, Annandale, NJ. Hosted by Nancy & Ken Egan. See Coupon in Newsletter.

2023 February Luncheon: February 12, 2023, 12:00 noon at Warrenside Tavern, 511 Rt. 173, Stewartsville, NJ. Hosted by Frank & Leslie DeHerde and Gail Lloyd. See Coupon in Newsletter.

2023 March Luncheon: Hosted by Rich & Kathi Short and Lea Plant.

2023 April Rally: April 28-30, 2023, Trap Pond State Park, Hosted by Lois Wagner & Derek Conley and Lynda Kresge. See update in Newsletter. [Trap Pond - Delaware State Parks \(destateparks.com\)](http://Trap Pond - Delaware State Parks (destateparks.com))

2023 May Rally: Anyone interested in holding? **Host & CoHosts Needed.**

2023 June Region 2 Rally: June 2-6, 2023 Niagara Falls, Ontario [Region 2 | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](http://Region 2 | ACI (airstreamclub.org))

2023 66th International Rally Wyoming: June 24 – 30, 2023
<https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023>

2023 July Rally: **Host & CoHosts Needed.**

2023 August Rally: August 10- 13, 2023, Lake Glory Campground in Catawissa PA. Hosted by George & Linda Kiesel and Laura Raymond. See update in Newsletter.

2023 September Rally: Hosted by Mark & Angie Ratliff and Cohost Rebecca Glick.

2023 October Rally & Business Meeting: Rich & Kathi Short and Lea Plant.

2023 November Luncheon Hosted by Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwar **CoHosts Needed.**

2023 December Installation & Holiday Luncheon: Hosted by George & Linda Kiesel and Lea Plant.

WATCHUNG NJ AIRSTREAM CLUB

JANUARY LUNCHEON – SATURDAY, 1/14/2023 @ 12PM

CRYANNS TAVERN – 2 BEAVER AVENUE, ANNANDALE, NJ

HOSTS: NANCY AND KEN EGAN (STEAMENRR@COMCAST.NET / 908-720-8073)

MENU

(PLEASE SELECT ONE EACH FROM THE FOLLOWING / SODA, COFFEE, AND TEA INCLUDED – CASH BAR)

APPETIZERS

POTATO SKINS _____ BACON BOMBS _____ FRIED PICKLES _____ IRISH PRETZELS _____

ENTREES

FISH N CHIPS _____ SHEPHERDS PIE _____ GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST _____ PENNE VODKA _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE: 12/31/2022

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO KENNETH M. EGAN, 95 W. KELLEY STREET, METUCHEN, NJ, 08840

YOU MAY ALSO EMAIL FORM TO NHE815@COMCAST.NET, BE SURE TO INDICATE FOOD PREFERENCES

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WATCHUNG NJ AIRSTREAM CLUB

MAXIMUM OF 30 ATTENDEES – PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY!

NAME _____ WBCCI# _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE # _____

OF GUESTS _____ x \$35 PER PERSON TOTAL \$ _____



February Luncheon

Hosted by: Leslie and Frank DeHerde and Gail Lloyd

Where: Warrenside Tavern

511 Rt. 173, Stewartville, NJ

When: 2/12/2022 @ 12n

Menu:

House Salad

Entrée choices:

1. Chicken Saltimbocca served with rice and veggie of the day
2. Tender tips Marseillaise served with rice and veggie of the day
3. Broiled cod with butter lemon caper sauce served with rice and veggie of the day
4. Harvest salad mixed greens with pecans, goat cheese and cranberries

Includes Soft drink or Coffee

Desert will be served

Cost: \$28 per person

Name: _____

Chicken _____

Tender Tips _____

Baked Cod _____

Harvest Salad _____

Return coupon to Leslie DeHerde 22 Hissim Rd., Great Meadows, NJ 07838 or pay on line by February 1st
By Lois Wagner

April 2023 at Trap Pond State Park

Hello everyone, we know it's early to be thinking about **APRIL**, but due to the very challenging camping environment we are in, we have to act early if we plan on having group rallies next year. (What George said) LOL We have chosen Delaware in hopes of finding better weather for that weekend.

The April, Unbutton Rally will be held at **TRAP POND STATE PARK**, located in Laurel, DE.
<https://destateparks.com/TrapPond>

The dates are: April 28th, 29th, 30th. (Feel free to come early, or stay late, as the availability allows.) We would like to have as many rigs as possible in LOOP D, which has all pull throughs.

We need to act quickly if our group is going to be able to stay together. Reservations are made through Reserveamerica.com

Each site has water and electric. The dump station is on the way out. Please check the length of the site you wish to reserve as each site fits different rigs. Each rig needs to make their own reservations. Please act quickly as no sites are being held for our use.

Your hosts for this rally are Derek & Lois Wagner-Conley and Lynda Kresge. Our sites are D12 and D10. After you have made your reservation, please send Lois an email at airstreaminglois@gmail.com and give us your site number. As a reminder, this will be a Meeting Rally.

August 2023 at Lake Glory Campground

Hello everyone, I know it's very early to be thinking about next summer, but due to the very challenging camping environment we are in, we have to act early if we plan on having group rallies next year. Linda and I visited 8 campgrounds in the last few weeks, some were too small or just not suitable. 2 very nice campgrounds were already sold out for August 2023, or only had a few scattered sites available. That being the case, we are happy to announce that **Lake Glory Campground in Catawissa PA**, being part of the Knoebel's Amusement family was willing to hold 20 sites for us for 90 days. Which means that we have until mid-January to make reservations and leave a deposit. After that, they release the sites to the general public. If you make an early reservation and need to cancel, you will only lose \$5.00 of your deposit if you cancel more than 7 days from arrival date. I have attached a map of the campground, and a link to their website for your review.

The dates will be; **Thursday Aug 10th thru Sunday Aug.13th, 2023.**
Please refer to the campground map. We have reserved the following sites;

Sites 2 thru 12 **Sites 38 thru 48 minus site 44** **Sites 116 thru 136 minus site 118 and site 128.**

Please call [570-356-7392](tel:570-356-7392) and tell them you are with the Airstream Club if you are planning on attending. Please let us know what site you have booked.

Campsite map <https://www.knoebels.com/download/?id=3370>
Lake Glory Website <https://www.knoebels.com/stay/lake-glory-campground>



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Watchung, NJ Airstream Club
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