

THE POINT



AL-MON-O PA AIRSTREAM CLUB

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

January has proven to be an interesting month from a weather standpoint here in Western PA. We've seen days in the 50s and days in the teens. It's been up and down, but as we move into February, I think winter has finally come upon us.

There is still time to sign up for the Valentine's luncheon hosted by Toby and Abby Meyer (see rally coupon) as well as make sure you check out the other events we currently have on the schedule for this year. We are still in need of rally and luncheon hosts for a few months. These are listed on page 8 of this newsletter.

I want to thank David Hewett for his article on internet for your RV and Matt Moore for his update on the PA State Rally.

I don't have too much more to report other than, for most campgrounds in this area, there are only 74 more days until camping season. So hang in there and I hope to see all of you next weekend for the luncheon.

Cody



Stay Connected

Al-Mon-O on the web

<https://airstreamclub.org/al-mon-o-pennsylvania>

Follow us on

Facebook

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



FEBRUARY 2023

Show off your Al-Mon-O Pride!

Order your club apparel today!

Order all club apparel from Mike's Embroidery, owned by Cody Klingler. Please email Cody at cwk5292@gmail.com to order.

You can also find WBAC goods at <http://store.wbcci.org>



BIRTHDAYS



ANNIVERSARIES



FEBRUARY

7 Cindy Field
7 Cody Klingler
20 Don Clayton

10 Dan & Linda Moore
12 Robert & Pamela Arnhold

NEWSLETTER IDEAS!

Hello WBAC members of the Al-Mon-O Airstream Club. Without news, there is no newsletter. Without rallies and luncheons, there is nothing to write about. Or is there? Some believe this is a time where we need one another even more. Please share articles, anecdotes, photos, recipes, jokes, member interviews, anything Airstream related that will let us feel connected. Throw out a prompt like "What is your new favorite small appliance?" or "Adventures with our first camper."

Please send your offerings to Cody Klingler (cwk5292@gmail.com) no later than the 25th of each month. Thanks!!!

2023 Officers

President

Cody Klingler

Treasurer

Craig Jansen

1 Year Directors

Julie Jansen

Sandi Labuda

1st Vice President

Matt Moore

Secretary

Vinny Rossitto

2 Year Directors

Toby Meyer

Dave Hewett

2nd Vice President

April Weber

Immediate Past President

Julie Jansen

Social Media Admin

Paul Labuda

Membership Chair, Webmaster & Newsletter Editor

Cody Klingler

REGION 2 NEWS

Preparations for the 2023 Region 2 rally are well underway, and it's shaping up to be a good time. We'll get registration open soon, and I'll alert the club presidents and newsletter editors when it opens. I'm happy to report that Can-Am RV Centre in London, Ontario is giving us a generous donation that will cover many of the expenses for the rally, lowering the registration fee drastically. If you haven't booked with the campground, please contact Greg at +1 (800) 263-2570 to book your site. The rally is being held June 2-6 at Jellystone Park, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

If you are crossing from the United States to go to the rally, you will need your passport. Also, note there are restrictions on what we can bring across the border. In particular, firearms and ammunition are not allowed. There are also restrictions on food, and if you are bringing pets, you will want to check the rules for them. We have more info on the 2023 Region 2 Rally page here: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-2/2023-region-2-rally>

We're starting to think about the 2024 Region 2 rally, too. We have lists of fairgrounds, but I know there are private campgrounds out there that could hold 75-100 of us. If you know of a campground that might be interested in hosting a region 2 rally, please drop me a line at rjm1@yahoo.com. If your club is interested in hosting next year's region 2 rally, please let me know!

Until next month!

--RJ Marquette (#13270)



A NOTE FROM 1ST VP GARY RUSSO

Greetings! This is for the newsletter editors of Region 2....Gary Russo has asked that I distribute this request on his behalf. He is working on filling the positions of his pending Region 2 President position. He is in need of a Region 2 member volunteer to manage the Region 2 website. He has asked that you send out a "call" for a volunteer in your next newsletters. I have included the official description of the position below which was provided by RJ to Gary. Thanks so much!

Region Web Site Chairman:

1. The Region Web Site Chairman shall develop and maintain the Web page highlighting the Officers and events within the Region. This person should possess knowledge of the workings of the World Wide Web and the process of transferring files to and from the local web server.
2. The Region Web Site Chairman would work closely with the Region President to publish information on the Region 2 Web Site, of interest to WBCCI members. This includes information about the region rally and caravan.
3. The Region Web Site Chairman would also set up registration forms for region events, such as the Region 2 rally or luncheons at International.

INTERNET ACCESS IN AN AIRSTREAM

by David Hewett

Reliable Internet access in an Airstream has become increasingly important with the proliferation of remote work. The beautiful, aluminum monocoque of the Airstream trailers, unfortunately, acts like a faraday cage preventing the cellular signals from passing through, therefore, we have an additional challenge to overcome, particularly when the cellular signals are not the strongest.

In areas where there is a strong cellular signal, your cell phone acting as a hotspot or a dedicated hotspot router may be sufficient. Most campgrounds don't have strong cell signals, so effective remote work with video calls, Zoom meetings and VPNs requires some additional technology.

The least expensive upgrade option is to purchase a hotspot device that can support an external antenna. Personally, I have a Verizon Jetpack MiFi 8800L that has two ports that can be used with an external Netgear antenna. This antenna uses suction cups and can be placed on any window to optimize the signal strength. Not all hot spots can work with external antennas so make sure to check before signing a contract.



The next option on the cost spectrum would be to add a signal booster. There are many options in this category and they all suffer, from one extent to another, with limited range due to signal loops between the inside antenna and the outside antenna. My recommendation is to use a directional antenna, such as the weBoost Destination RV. Not only does it have a better antenna, the directional nature of the antenna helps to reduce the signal looping and will provide a stronger signal to your phone or hotspot—the closer the device to the internal antenna, the better. Depending on the type of cable, the satellite port on the side of the Airstream can be used to make connecting the antenna easier. These boosters are not magic, if there is no cellular signal, they can't make one appear, but they can take an otherwise unusable signal and make it functional.

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Taking things even further up the price and functionality spectrum is a dedicated router with a roof mounted antenna. I have a Peplink MAX BR1 Pro 5G mounted permanently in my 2021 Globetrotter 25FBT. There is a Mobilemark 7-in-1 antenna mounted on the roof—I am currently only using 5 of the antennas since that is what the factory pre-wire came with. This specific antenna requires a metal ground plane to be most effective and the Airstream is the best possible ground plane to help boost the signal. Like a hot spot, this router requires a dedicated SIM card from a cell carrier and an appropriate data plan. This is where things can get complicated with finding a plan that is compatible. I tried multiple plans before purchasing a 5G Verizon MiFi that would allow me to activate the service and then I transferred the SIM card into the router—purchasing a may no longer be necessary now that Verizon has fully certified the router.



Having a dedicated router in the Airstream means that Internet connected home automation can be used. Micro-Air makes a thermostat that can be accessed on your phone; Victron GX devices for monitoring batteries, inverters and solar can be connected to upload to the Victron VRM site; pet monitors or security cameras can be used. This router can be used while traveling—I’ve had a strong enough signal in my truck while driving that I could work while someone else is doing the driving.



One option that is increasingly popular is Starlink. Starlink uses an external antenna and cable to connect to a router inside the Airstream. The current challenge with Starlink is that the portable plans are deprioritized and that means that the service can struggle in more congested areas. Combine this with the need to have a clear view of the sky to have uninterrupted communication with the satellites, I don’t feel it is a good primary option for most people. A few years from now, when there are more satellites, Starlink will be a much more viable option.

Something I haven’t touched on is the cell data plan that you need. This is a constantly moving target with a lot of plans grandfathered in as long as they stay active. For example, I have a Verizon prepaid unlimited data plan on my MiFi 8800L—this plan existed for a short time a few years ago and is truly unlimited. My Peplink router has a 150GB postpaid Verizon data plan. There are two main differences between these plans. My prepaid plan is limited to LTE while the postpaid plan supports 5G. The other difference has to do with the priority of the service. The Verizon postpaid plan has the highest priority on the Verizon network, with the prepaid plan being the next tier down. Other services that use the Verizon network will be even lower priority. I experienced this first hand at the Alive Music Festival at Atwood Lake in Ohio. With 16,000 people in attendance, my Peplink router worked reasonably well, my Mifi 8800L was ok for really basic services, and a friend who used Mint Mobile had no functional service at all.

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And you may have noticed that I didn't touch on campground Wifi. The simple reason is that it doesn't work in the vast majority of cases. With my Peplink router, I can connect to a campground Wifi and all of the devices can use the same Wifi network regardless of using the campground Wifi or a cellular signal.

As someone who has worked remotely for more than 10 years, I've experienced a lot of different scenarios. I've been in Montana where I had a strong cellular signal, but the tower didn't have enough bandwidth to even load email most of the time, to a remote county park in Wisconsin with enough bandwidth available for both my son and I to stream video plus do my work. There is no magic solution that will work everywhere, and it can be good to have a couple of options, such as a router on Verizon and a hotspot on AT&T. I've included some resources below that can help find the right solution for you. One I will call out is Campendium, which includes cell signal information in their campground reviews, which has helped me to find good campgrounds when I need to work.

Resources:

Mobile Internet Resource Center <https://www.rvmobileinternet.com>

Mobile Must Have <https://mobilemusthave.com>

Campendium <https://www.campendium.com>

Right photo:

Doug and Cindy
Field with their
1961 Overlander
in TAHI



PA STATE RALLY UPDATE

by Matt Moore

After speaking with a few members of the club and asking for their opinion for meals ideas we have decided on a menu for the rally.

Friday: Hamburgers, hot dogs, sides provided. Ice cream social

Saturday Breakfast: Eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes

Saturday Dinner: Stuffed Chicken Breast, Roast Beef catered by O'Neails Quality Food, Shippenville PA
Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or desert to share.

Sunday Continental Breakfast

We have also decided on a fee for the rally. In addition to the camping fee there will be a \$10 per person Rally fee. This is to help cover the cost of building rental. In addition to the \$10 we are asking for a donation from each rig of items for the local Tri-County Animal Rescue Center. We will add a list of needs and suggestions for donations that the Rescue Center is in need of.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

David & Tina Burns—BRN 29986—118 August Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108—2023 28' Pottery Barn

2023 RALLY SCHEDULE

We are looking for hosts for the 2023 Rally Schedule. If you would be interested in hosting a luncheon or rally, please see the list below and reach out to Cody Klingler.

April Rally or Luncheon

June Rally

September Rally

October Rally or Luncheon

November Luncheon



DIRECTORY CHANGES/UPDATES

Please update that Joel and April Weber now have a 27' International.

Please update that Dan and Linda Moore now have a 2007 19' Bambi.



Valentine's Party

HOST: Toby & Abby 4125960222 (cell)

When: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 AT 11:30 AM ET

Where: Meyer Home...302 Crystal Lake Ln Coraopolis, PA 15108

Note: Please join us for a fun and festive lunch. We'll enjoy lunch and sweet treats together and share stories. Send your favorite camping recipe in advance to Abby (abaird1088@gmail.com).

If the Cherrington plan gate is closed, simply press the red button to enter. Feel free to park in our driveway or on the woods side of Crystal Lake.

Please RSVP by Feburary 3rd.

Al-Mon-O PA Airstream Club

Jackson Center Caravan and Rally

CARAVAN WILL LEAVE THE EMLENTON TRUCK PLAZA (I-80 EXIT 42) AT 10 AM ON MAY 4



The Al-Mon-O Airstream Club is planning a Caravan to Jackson Center, Ohio. Tentative dates are May 4-7 2023. The Caravan will commence on May 4, 2023, at the Plaza Restaurant and Truck Stop, I80 Exit 42, and continue to Jackson Center. Thursday night will be spent at the Airstream Factory Terraport. Friday plans are being made for a factory tour and a meeting at The Club headquarters. Friday night thru Sunday morning we plan to camp at Indian Lake State Park which is about 11 miles east of Jackson Center. Sites there range from electric only to full hookup. Reservations can be made 6 months in advance. More on the reservation process and website/phone number will follow.

Name _____ Club _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____

Indian Lake Site # _____ Joining Caravan Y___ N___

Special Considerations/ Dietary needs/ Food allergies?

INDIAN LAKE STATE PARK RESERVATION For Jackson Center Caravan

Reservations for the May Caravan to Jackson Center at Indian Lake State Park can be made 6 months in advance. For this event, you can begin making reservations on November 5. We will be staying here from May 5-7, 2023. Please visit the following link to make the reservation:

<https://ohiocamp.usedirect.com/OhioCampWeb/#!park/105>

We are hoping that everyone can book in area D. See the below photos.

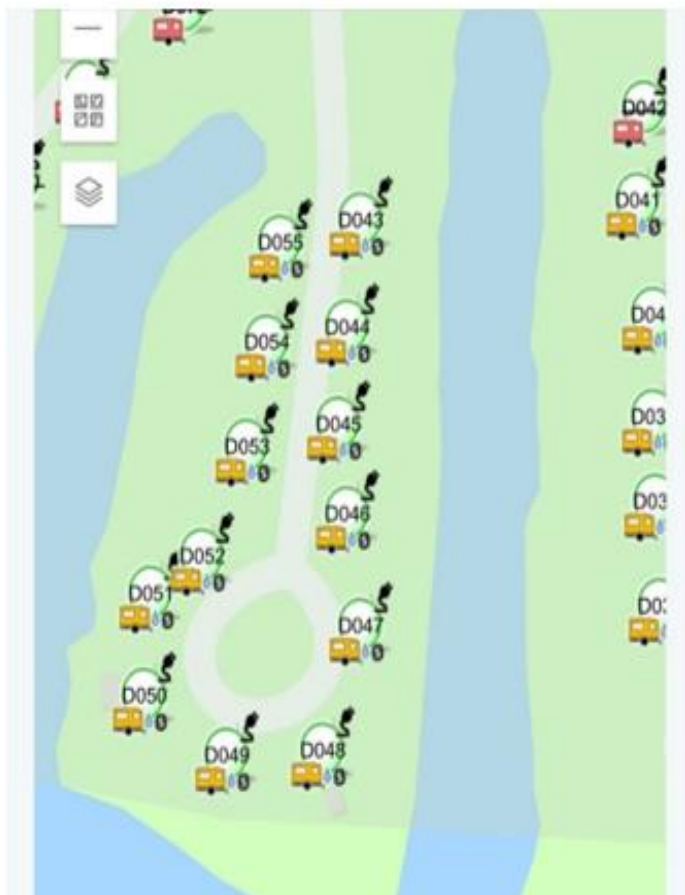
If these sites fill up, there are many other full hookup sites available at the park.

Indian Lake Campground D Area

Starting at \$30.00

✓ [Next available date](#)

[Notify Me!](#)



66TH AIRSTREAM CLUB INTERNATIONAL RALLY JUNE 24-30, 2023

SWEETWATER EVENTS COMPLEX ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

Seminars ♦ Exhibits ♦ Socials ♦ Entertainment

AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023

#ACIRALLY2023



Personal Information*

**BIG RED
NUMBER:** _____

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Address

City, State/Province

Zip/Postal Code

Phone Number

Phone Number

☐ I am/We are FIRST Time Attendee(s)

*Permanent changes to membership files cannot be made from this form. Please contact HQ to make those changes.

REGISTRATION FEES	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
*RV on Site – Arrival Saturday, June 24		375.00	
Arrive 1 day EARLY – Friday, June 23		50.00	
Arrival 2 days EARLY – Thursday, June 22		100.00	
Arrival 3 days EARLY – Wednesday, June 21		150.00	
Adult (18 and over) per person		125.00	
Youth (13 and up) per person		75.00	
Children (4 to 12) per person		50.00	
Children 3 and under FREE		0.00	
Lifetime Member Discount		-20.00	
TOTAL DUE			
Parking Options (Please check if you would like to park with one of the following groups.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> ADA Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Amateur Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Band <input type="checkbox"/> Boondockers <input type="checkbox"/> Classic <input type="checkbox"/> Future Streamers <input type="checkbox"/> Grapes & Grains <input type="checkbox"/> Vintage <input type="checkbox"/> Indie Streamers			

RV AMENITIES – All RV spaces are full-service camping spaces with water, 50-amp electricity and sewer.

***RV on site** – This is only for RV on site no humans included.

CONFIRMATION & PARKING INFORMATION will be emailed to the email provided above.

CANCELLATION POLICY - Refund requests are to be submitted in writing to rally@airstreamclub.org. Requests received on or before April 28, 2023, will be assessed a \$50.00 fee. Refund requests on or after April 29, 2023, will be assessed a 50% fee. NO refunds after June 10, 2023. **If you might have to cancel after that day, please consider obtaining travel insurance.**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Registration Date: _____ Rec'd By: _____ Registration Source: ☐ Mail ☐ Online ☐ Rally

Payment Type: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card Amt Paid: \$ _____ Check #: _____

Register ♦ Online www.airstreamclub.org/Rally2023 ♦ Mail ♦ Phone 937-596-5211

HOW TO REGISTER – Go to AirstreamClub.org/Rally2023, call HQ at 937-596-5211 or fill out this form and make a check payable to WBCCI, in US Funds Only, and mail to: WBCCI, P.O. Box 612, Jackson Center, OH 45334. Email questions to rally@airstreamclub.org.

ADA ACCESSIBLE PARKING – Special parking, if requested, is near the central rally area for members. We ask that you bring your government/state-issued placard or supporting documentation with you to the rally.

STAGING AREA – The Rally Arrival Team will be ready to park you when you arrive from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Arrivals after 6:00 p.m. may stay overnight in the Staging Area with no hookups until parking begins the next day. If you arrive before your registered date, there is a charge of \$75 per night.

KIDS – Bring them! Our youngest RVers will be treated to programming especially suited to kids ages 4-17. Registration cost covers materials for age-appropriate activities surrounding a daily theme that will keep your kid's busy learning, exploring and having fun!

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

ADDITIONAL GUEST – Members are welcome to bring additional guests for a fee. Include their names on the registration form.

PARKING TOGETHER – If you would like to park with family and friends, you must register to arrive on the same date, and you must arrive together.

CARAVANS – Groups of 5 or more RVs wishing to park together MUST register as a caravan with HQ by May 1, 2023. All caravan participants must register to arrive on the same date. The caravan leader can call 937-596-5211 or email rally@airstreamclub.org to register the caravan. The chair of the Rally Arrival Team will contact the caravan leader and let them know what time to arrive.

DEPARTURE – Departure is on Saturday, July 1.

COVID-19 NOTICE – An inherent risk of COVID-19 exposure exists in any public place where people gather. By attending this event, you understand and assume all risks related to COVID-19 exposure. ACI, its staff, officers, exhibitors, volunteers, members, service providers, and grounds personnel are not liable for any illness, injury, or death from COVID-19 related to your participation at this event.

USE OF IMAGE – I grant ACI, and its employees and agents, an unrestricted right and license to use my image, likeness, name, voice, comments and/or other proprietary or public rights and/or those in any live recorded talks, broadcast, photograph, video, audio, audiovisual and/or other recording taken in connection with this event, for all purposes, in perpetuity and in any and all media now or hereafter known, without compensation.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK & WAIVER OF LIABILITY – I assume all risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I may experience or incur in connection with attending this event. I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless, ACI, its employees, agents, volunteers, and representatives of and from any such claims, including liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to my attendance at this event.

Stay & Play in Rock Springs

International Days



1 day, 1 week or 2 week packages available

Sweetwater
EVENTS COMPLEX

JULY 1 THRU JULY 16, 2023

**AS LOW
AS \$20 PER
DAY**
plus tax

Extend your stay at the Sweetwater Events Complex and explore Sweetwater County and all our recreation opportunities. Visit SweetwaterEvents.com/events/2023/airstream for reservations.

Register ♦ Online www.airstreamclub.org/Rally2023 ♦ Mail ♦ Phone 937-596-5211

2023 Pennsylvania State Rally

Whitehall Camp & Conference Center

580 Whitehall Rd., Emlenton, PA 16373

August 11-13, 2023



Hosts: Al-Mon-O PA Airstream Club

Cody Klingler – President & Matt Moore – 1st Vice President

(724) 504-6884 or cwk5292@gmail.com

Tentative Schedule

Friday, August 11

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Dinner – Hamburgers, hotdogs, sides with an ice cream social

Saturday, August 12

8:30 Breakfast provided – Eggs, bacon, sausage and pancakes

4:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Dinner – Stuffed Chicken Breast & Roast Beef

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share

Live, Local Entertainment (TBD)

Sunday, August 13

8:30 Continental Breakfast provided

Safe Travels Home!

Please send payments & rally coupon to:

Cody Klingler

3055 Oneida Valley Rd.

Hilliards, PA 16040

RSVP to secure the campground by July 9, 2023

Rally Information

General Information: More information to come!

Attendees should use the below form and send to Cody Klingler for signup and campsite reservations.

Meals Included in Fee:

What to Bring: Table service and beverages for all meals. | Snacks to share and your own drinks for Happy Hours.

Directions: Directions coming soon!

There is plenty of activities to do near this venue. We will take an excursion to Foxburg, PA (which has a very nice winery) as well as a trip to the Hardwood Mall.

Also, the Allegheny Bike trail is a couple miles away and people can kayak or canoe on the Allegheny River

2023 Pennsylvania State Rally Coupon

Name _____ WBCCI BRN _____ Club Name/Number _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Rig length _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ You are encouraged to come early and stay late.

Rally fee per person \$10 X _____ = _____

Children 0 to 12 FREE X _____ = _____

Parking per night (to be paid to Cody Klingler as part of the payment) = \$30

**WBCCI Al-Mon-O Pennsylvania Airstream Club (131)
2023 Tentative Schedule**

Date/Time	Event	Location	Host(s)	Contact Info
February 11 11:30 AM	Valentine's Party	Toby & Abby Meyer's Home 302 Crystal Lake Ln. Coraopolis, PA 15108	Toby & Abby Meyer	RSVP using link below by Feb. 3 http://evite.me/R7TVRCaxx3
March 11	Luncheon	Primanti Brothers 200 Executive Dr. Cranberry Twp., PA 16066	Craig & Julie Jansen	Please rsvp to Craig and Julie Jansen by March 3 jucrjansen@comcast.net
May 4-7	Jackson Center Caravan & Rally	Jackson Center, OH (for 1 night) Indian Lake State Park (for remainder) See rally coupon for more details	Cody Klingler & Matt Moore	See Rally Coupon and Reservation Instructions for details Cody— 724-504-6884 or cwk5292@gmail.com
June 2-6	Region 2 Rally	Niagara Falls, Ontario	Region 2	Details to come
June 24-30	65th ACI Rally	Sweetwater Events Complex Rock Springs, WY	International	See rally coupon for details
August 11- 13	PA State Rally	Whitehall Camp and Conference Center 580 Whitehall Rd. Emlenton, PA 16373	Al-Mon-O PA Club	See rally coupon for details
August 18- 20	Bluegrass Rally	Laurel Hill State Park 1454 Laurel Hill Park Road Somerset, PA 15501 (Make reservations online at www.reserveamerica.com)	Multiple Hosts	Please let Cody know if you are coming to this event.

**WBCCI Al-Mon-O Pennsylvania Airstream Club (131)
2024 Tentative Schedule**

Date/Time	Event	Location	Host(s)	Contact Info
October 5- 11	66th ACI Rally	Missouri State Fairgrounds Sedalia, MO	International	Details to come

This schedule is tentative and could be subject to change. If anyone is interested in hosting a luncheon, picnic or rally, please reach out to Cody Klingler.