

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj

March 2023

President's Message



Hello everybody. I hope all of you are doing well and enjoying the relatively warm winter we've been having. Although I'm sure some of you are reading this from sunny Florida or other points south. The last time Northeast PA had a warm winter we got 30 inches all at once on March 17th! So, we'll see.

I don't know if you all heard that the February luncheon was cancelled. But it was no fault of Frank and Leslie. The date was Superbowl Sunday, at the Warrenside Tavern. Well, after confirming our menu choices with the restaurant, Frank mentioned that we would probably have had a better turnout if not for the Big game that day. Upon hearing that, the Warrenside said "Big game? Superbowl Sunday?" Oh, we're closed that day!!.... And so went the February luncheon.

But do not despair for long fellow Watchungers, there is still time to sign up for the March 25th lunch at Scottos in east Windsor NJ. Hosted by Rich and Kathi Short and Lea Plant.

<https://airstreamclub.org/watchung-march-2023-luncheon> It should be a good time.

It won't be long before it's time to unbutton our rigs as they say, and head down to Delaware for the season opener at Trap Pond State Park in Delaware. You'll have to make reservations directly with the camp ground, but here is a link with the rally coupon and signup information. <https://airstreamclub.org/watchung-april-2023-rally>

Last month I wrote about some of the member benefits that the WBCCI has provided to us members. Linda's Honda CRV is in need of new tires so I decided to try out the Michelin Advantage program. It's not hard at all really. It took a little leg work on my part to find a Michelin dealer who could order through the national program but with the help of Michelin's website and a guy we know who set up this program, I was able to save approx. \$55.00 per tire under what the best price I could find at a local shop or Tire Rack for Michelin Defenders. That's real money.

That's it for this month. Keep the rubber side down. See you down the road! President George.

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is a quiet voice at the end of the day saying, "I will try again tomorrow." —Mary Anne Radmacher

Colonial Airstream Next Adventure Sales Event

Submitted by Jean Dillon and Lea Plant

John and I, Kathi and Rich, Linda Kresge, and Lea manned the Watchung NJ table on the first day of Colonial's 2nd Annual 'The Next Adventure Sales Event'. Our club was invited back after the event's successful 2022 debut. This year, Watchung donated a Give-Away basket filled with mugs, coffee, hot chocolate, Biscotti, and



The Friday Girls (l-r): Lea, Kathi, Jean, and Linda

handmade coasters by Kathi. All weekend visitors to Colonial were eligible for the drawing.



The Prize Basket

Friday's weather didn't stop everyone from enjoying all the activity. It was fun answering questions for prospective buyers and potential new club members. The Watchung backpacks were a nice surprise (Watchung backpacks are given to members who volunteer in the interest of our club).



The Saturday Crew. Front, Rich and Lea. Rear, Kathi and Gail. Ken not shown

Saturday's weather was more inviting for visitors to Colonial to come out to tour Airstreams. Our Saturday Crew included repeat volunteer, Ken Egan, Gail Lloyd, Kathi, Rich, and Lea. Another fun day of talking about our Airstreams, tow vehicles, Watchung and WBCCI.

Several of us, visited the store and bought some 'must haves' for the upcoming season, visited the Service Department and peeked in the Airstreams on display. JoAnne and Stayla stopped by with their new puppy to say hello. Thanks to Colonial Airstream for inviting us again to be a part of their 2023 'The Next Adventure Sales Event'. A special thankyou to those club members who signed up to help promote our love of Airstreams and the Watchung New Jersey Airstream Club.

March Birthdays

Carolyn Hagman Lea Plant
Angie Ratliff Gary Brink

If you would like to have your birthday month acknowledged in the newsletter please send an email to dconley1810@gmail.com

Ken Egan Named Parade Grand Marshal

The Woodbridge New Jersey chapter of the American-Irish Association has appointed long-time Watchunger Ken Egan as the Grand Marshal of its annual St. Patrick's Day parade, to be held March 12, 2023.



The Woodbridge St Patrick's Day parade is the largest in New Jersey.

Ken traces his Irish ancestry to County Tipperary in Ireland. Ken and his wife Nancy grew up in Woodbridge.

Ken is a past president of the Woodbridge Irish American association as well as director, parade chair. He has also been Irish Man of the Year. For many years Ken has been responsible for organizing the marching bands and other parade entertainment, a job that takes the better part of a year to put together.

Ken and Nancy are currently directors of the Watchung Airstream Club.

Congratulations Ken!

2023 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon and 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 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 below.

2023 March Luncheon: March 25, 2023, 12:00pm at Scotto's Ristorante Italiano, 400 Abbingdon Dr, East Windsor, NJ. Hosted by Rich & Kathi Short and Lea Plant. See Coupon below.

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

2023 May Rally: Anyone interested in holding? **Host & Co-host Needed.**

2023 June Region 2 Rally: June 2-6, 2023 Niagara Falls, Ontario. See the Region 2 website for additional information. <https://airstreamclub.org/region-2/2023-region-2-rally>

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 information below.

2023 September Rally: September 15-17, Pine Creek Campground in Newfield, New York. Hosted by Mark & Angie Ratliff and Cohost Rebecca Glick. See information below.

2023 Octoberfest Rally & Business Meeting: Rich & Kathi Short and Lea Plant. See information below.

2023 November Luncheon Hosted by Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwarra and cohosts Cathy and Jay McCarthy.

Instructions for event registration and payment are on page 8.

March Luncheon

March 25, 2023

Join us for lunch at:
Scotto's Ristorante Italiano
400 Abbington Dr.
East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-443-6410

www.scottospizzaristorante.com



Scotto's is located in the Twin Rivers Shopping Center just off Rt. 33 Eastbound and just minutes from Colonial Airstream. Come on out for lunch and then let's go check out the new 2023 Airstreams!

12:00 pm
\$35.00 per person

Fixed Menu Includes:
Appetizer (Antipasto, Bruschetta),
Garden Salad
Penne Vodka
Chicken Francese
Eggplant Parmigiana
Bread, Soda, Coffee, Dessert

Do not delay, register by: **March 17, 2023**

Hosts:

Rich and Kathi Short
rcshort49@gmail.com
c – 609-618-0355

Co-Host: Lea Plant
tenlea@aol.com
c – 973-477-0289

***** Coupon *****

Name _____ BRN: _____

Number of people _____ Total amount (\$35 pp) _____

Sign-up/pay online at: AirstreamClub.org/watchung-nj (scroll to bottom)
OR
Mail coupon & check (Payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club) to:
Rich/Kathi Short
402 Sentinal Dr.
Forked River, NJ 08731-1650



**April Rally
Unbutton Your Rig
Trap Pond State Park, Delaware
April 28-30**

Hosts: Lois Wagner, Derek Conley, Lynda Kresge
Link to Trap Pond State Park information:
<https://destateparks.com/TrapPond>

Trap Pond State Park has four RV site loops, A through D. While the D loop may be fully booked there are still some sites available for this weekend in other loops, all of which are close by. The rally hosts will be at D10 and D12.

The planned rally schedule (may change due to weather, etc) is below. All activities are at sites D10 and D12 unless otherwise noted:

- Friday:** 1 PM (and after) check in. Dinner on your own.
5 PM Happy hour. Please bring a small appetizer to share, your own beverage, and chair.
8 PM campfire, weather permitting. (Time approximate)
- Saturday:** 8:30 to 9:30 AM Continental breakfast: Coffee, quiche and muffins. Bring plates, mugs, and utensils.
9:45 depart for tour of Goose Nest Weavers. No charge. Please join us for a tour of this local weaving shop to see their many antique looms and examples of the fabrics they produce.
Noon to 2 PM Lunch on your own
2:45 PM First pontoon boat tour of the northernmost bald cypress swamp (see Trap Pond photo above). Boat maximum 16 passengers, \$8.00 per person. We have reserved the entire boat for two trips in the afternoon. Meet at the boat ramp (on the other side of the pond from the campsite).
3:45 PM Second pontoon boat tour of the swamp.
5 PM Happy hour. Please bring a small appetizer to share, and your own beverage.
6 PM Dinner. Pulled pork, Cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans (vegetarian), corn bread, pasta salad (v) lemon & garlic broccoli (vegan). Dessert. Bring beverage, plates and utensils.
8 PM Campfire, weather permitting.
- Sunday:** 8:30 AM Executive Board meeting
Continental breakfast. Coffee, pastries, yogurt, fruit. Bring plates, mugs and utensils.
9:30 General meeting

Noon: Checkout for those leaving on Sunday

Rally fee: **\$20 per person** Pontoon Boat Swamp Tour: **\$8 per person.**

Number of Attendees: _____ Preferred tour (choice not guaranteed) 3:00 tour: _____ 4:00 tour: _____

Total Rally Fee: \$ _____ Total Boat Tour Fee: _____

Names of attendees: _____

Deadline for receipt of payment: April 1, 2023

Pay by **Paypal** or make checks payable to Watchung New Jersey Airstream Club.

Mail checks to: Lois Wagner, 29 Colony Court, New Providence, NJ 07974

August 2023 Rally

Hello everyone. We are pleased to report that all 22 of the sites that the campground reserved for our August rally have been filled. If you still are interested in participating in the rally but haven't reserved a spot yet some other sites in the campground may still be available. Please contact the campground for more information:

Campsite map <https://www.knoebels.com/download/?id=3370>

Lake Glory Website <https://www.knoebels.com/stay/lake-glory-campground>

Phone: [570-356-7392](tel:570-356-7392) . Tell them you are with the Airstream club.

If you are planning on attending please let us know what site you have booked.

The rally dates are **Thursday Aug 10th thru Sunday Aug. 13th, 2023.**

In the coming months we will put out a list of attendees and a coupon detailing the rally fee, meal planning etc.

Looking forward to seeing everyone. Should be a good time.

Your hosts; George and Linda Kiesel with Laura Raymond.

How to Sign Up and Pay for an Event Online

Our Treasurer writes:

So, I have to admit that when I first tried to register for an event online I had difficulty navigating to the online event forms. For that reason I thought I would share this information just in case others have had the same experience as me.

1. First, log on to <https://airstreamclub.org/>
2. Click on the **EVENTS** tab
3. A map of the US will be displayed containing pins for all the events for all the Airstream clubs. Just above the map on the right side of the screen is the **Clubs** box. Click on the down arrow to display the list of clubs then scroll down to **Watchung NJ Club**. Clicking on this will cause the map to display only Watchung club events.
4. Find the event you wish to sign up for and click on the associated pin.
5. A text box giving a brief description of the event will be displayed. Click on the arrow in the orange box that says **More**.
6. A new page will be displayed. If a registration form has been created for the event this page will give you two options: online registration or mail-in registration using a download of the form. The online form allows payment via PayPal. If you prefer to pay via check download and print the form, which includes payment instructions. If there is no registration form available yet one will be at a later date.

Hope this helps 😊

Lois

September 2023 Rally

Hello everyone,

The Ratliff's and Rebecca Glick will be hosting the September rally at [Pine Creek Campground](#) in Newfield, NY from September 15 - 17. It is situated a little south of and about 1/2 way between Watkins Glen and Ithaca. Some of you will remember visiting the campground some years ago for a Region 2 rally. It's a nice campground in a convenient location for exploring the areas around Seneca and Cayuga lakes.

Here is the link to their [Campsite Map](#).

So far we have seven rigs signed up. Please give Pine Creek a call to make your reservation. You can call the main number 607-273-1974 or call Martha directly at 305-438-8823.

Sites are available with varying amperages, different lengths, and pull-through convenience at varying costs. If you want to stay for extra days, feel free to arrive earlier and/or leave later. If you cancel one week in advance they will refund all but one night's stay. You have to pay the total amount at the time you make the reservation.

We will develop an itinerary in the coming months. But to give you an idea of what we are thinking about:

- Rebecca Glick has friends in the area and has suggested we could go for a cheesemaking tour and horseback riding.
- I am familiar with a few wineries in the area and could organize a tour.
- There are all kinds of great places to go for a hike
- We know of good places in the area for food and drink
- I hear that the Tin Can Tourist rally is the same weekend at Sampson State Park. Maybe we could go visit the vintage trailers.

We hope you will join us.

--

Mark Ratliff

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Coco Cay, Bahamas February 2023

SUNSHINE

A get-well card was sent to Howard Eldridge following 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 Derek Conley by the 20th of each month! (dconley1810@gmail.com)

October 2023 Rally

AUTUMN IN THE POCONOS

: Oktoberfest Rally : Reserve your Site!

Oct 5-9, 2023
**Arrive Early-
Stay Late**

**Columbus
Day Weekend**

**Peaceful
Woodlands
Campground**

*Located in the heart of the Pocono Mountains, Peaceful Woodlands is family owned/operated and sits on 50 acres at the base of the Dixon Miller Recreation Area (Elevation 2212 ft). **This is a Buddy Rally and a Business Meeting.** We have 15 Full Hookup sites reserved at a discounted price of \$48.45/night. B3, B7, D9, D11, D13, D14, F3, F5, F7, F8, F11, F13, F14, S3, S5. Check their website and camp site map to view the sites. **CALL NOW AND RESERVE! EMAIL RICH WITH YOUR SITE #.***

Peaceful Woodlands Family Campground
114 WT Family Blvd, Blakeslee Pa, 18610
570-646-9255 <https://www.peacefulwoodlands.com/>

Rally Hosts: Rich & Kathi Short and Lea Plant
rcshort49@gmail.com



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