

Keystone Kourier

President's Message



**Keystone PA Airstream Club #092
Region 2 - WBCCI**



Hello Keystoners! As I mentioned in last month's Kourier, Arry and I started off the camping season with a trip to Virginia Beach to visit relatives. We had intended to then travel to Woodbridge, VA (south of D.C.) to visit my sister. Instead, we had to cut our trip short and return home which is the third time in the last year

that our travels have been interrupted by an unforeseen event. This time our converter box shorted out with serious sparks that almost caused a fire. This was a new converter that had been installed just a few months earlier because we had a similar problem on our Canadian trip. At this point we decided that it was time to replace our 2014 International. We had gotten good use out of the trailer but were continuing to deal with serious mechanical issues. In fact, following our trip out West to the Rose Bowl Parade we had to spend big bucks to replace the fresh water tank, water pump and other things. So, we threw in the towel and purchased a new 28' International Rear Bedroom Queen. This also had the floor plan that we much preferred to the Front Bedroom International we had. We were fortunate that Colonial happened to have this one immediately available so the day after we returned from Virginia we were at Colonial. We took our inaugural trip with our acquisition when we attended the Hickory Run State Park rally in mid-April. We were joined there by Andy and Rick Pitts, Sue and Jody Dietz, and a new Affiliate couple, Julie and Bill Graham. We all had a nice time as mentioned below. Our thanks to Andy and Rick for organizing and hosting this event.

As I write this, several club members are attending the Joint Maintenance Rally in Centreville, MD. This annual event which is sponsored by the Delmarva, Mid Atlantic and Keystone clubs is a great way to start the season and prepare our Airstreams for the upcoming travels. Next up on the calendar, May 5-7, is the Eastern PA Opener at Lums Pond State Park, Delaware. Keystone has been attending this rally, hosted by the Central Penn Airstream Club, for the past several years. The park is beautiful with large, nicely maintained campsites. There are many activities available including kayaking, boating, and hiking.

Be sure to review the attached 2023 Activity Schedule and sign up for those events you can attend as soon as possible. We have many fun trips lined up and hope to see you there.

Howard

Upcoming Events

May 5-7

Eastern PA Opener

Lums Pond State Park
Bear, DE

June 2-4

Region 2 Rally

Jellystone Park
Niagara Falls, ON

June 2-4

Stayed at Home Rally

(Chester County Blues BBQ)
French Creek State Park
Elverson, PA

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Airstream Club Int'l

<https://AirstreamClub.org/>

2023 Officers

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Howard Mergelkamp

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Jody Dietz

2nd Vice President

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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

Nothing to report with our early maintenance and outings!

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:

May

Kathleen Quinn (8th)
George Spahn (15th)
Phyllis Harrington (25th)
Will Kushto (29th)

June

Barry Heckenswiler (14th)
Sharon Fitzgerald (25th)

Happy Anniversary to:

May

None to report

June

Howard & Arry Mergelkamp
Rick & Andy Pitts
George & Peg Spahn
Your Keystone Club!

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

. From International: **Flag your calendars for June 1** when you will receive an electronic ballot asking you to vote for the nine (9) candidates for the 2023-2025 Executive Council who you feel will make long-lasting, positive contributions to the future of your Club. There are 30 candidates for these 9 nine spots! Make your voice, and your informed decisions, heard with your vote!

. Mark your calendars now –the **2025 International Rally** will be held in **York, PA**, at the Expo Center, August 23 – 28!

Keystone Komedie Korner



. Middle age is when work is a lot less fun, and fun is a lot more work.

. I told my wife to embrace her mistakes...she gave me a big hug!

. Albert Einstein: "Two things are infinite – the Universe and Human Stupidity, and I'm not sure about the Universe."

Thanks to Will K for new quips! Please send **your** best quips to Rick for a future issue of the Kourier.

Hickory Run Rally



Jody & Sue Dietz, Howard & Arry Megelkamp, Rick & Andy Pitts and affiliates **Bill & Julie Graham** rallied at Hickory Run State Park on a fine April weekend. The weather gods were kind with a mix of hot and cool weather and storms that paused for breakfast and dinner. Keystone waffles with homemade blueberry syrup and sausages; brats and burgers with sides kept everyone well fed. Campfires Friday and Saturday provided plenty of time for sharing camping stories, trailering ideas and maintenance suggestions. And the group christened the Mergelkamp's brand new 28' International.



DelMarVa Maintenance Rally



Karen & Will Kushto and **Sue Walton** handled the Dover NASCAR traffic, weather and soggy grounds to enjoy the weekend DelMarVa maintenance rally. Despite the rain, fun was had by all and the rigs are now ready to roll!



Introducing

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



Matt & Colleen DiStefano, #2336, from Exton with their 30' Flying Cloud

Terry & Rosanne Maher, #2493, from Philadelphia with their 22' Bambi Sport

Robert & Barbara Livingston, #2684, from Downingtown with their 27' Globetrotter

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

Upcoming Keystone Events

Always fun, the Spring Opener with the **Central Penn** and **Penn-Lehigh** clubs is the weekend of **May 5-7**. Held at Lums Pond State Park in Bear, DE this is a sell-out but if you are interested let Rick know should there be any last minute cancellations.

Following the Opener you can plan a trek north to Niagara Falls, Ontario for the **Region 2 Rally June 1-6** at Jellystone Park Campground; or **Stay-at-Home** for the annual Chester County Blues BBQ with rally camping at nearby **French Creek St Pk, June 2-4**.

2023 Activities Schedule

May 5-7 (Fri-Sun) – Eastern PA Opener w/ Central Penn and Penn Lehigh – Lums Pond State Park, Bear DE
Keystone contact: Rick Pitts (r_pitts@verizon.net)

June 1-6 (Thur-Tue) – Region 2 Rally – Jellystone Park, 8676 Oakwood Drive, Niagara Falls, Ontario
Campground reservations at Jellystone now open: call Greg Amadio at Jellystone: 1-800-263-2570
Rally registration info to follow (core rally activities Jun 2-4)
Keystone contact: Rick Pitts (r_pitts@verizon.net)

June 2-4 (Fri-Sun) – Stayed at Home Rally (Chester County Blues BBQ) – French Creek State Park, Elverson, PA
12th Annual Blues BBQ, 2-7pm Saturday, June 3rd (\$ entrance fee) at nearby Wyndors Farm
Coordinator: Pat & Kathleen Quinn (kathleenquinn56@icloud.com)

June 24-30 – International Rally – Rock Springs, Wyoming (registration – **sold out**, waitlist only, boondocking available)

July 14-16 (Fri-Sun) - Jim Thorpe Rally, Jim Thorpe, PA
Coordinators: Jennifer Eggers (jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com) and Don & Phyllis Harrington

August 11-13 (Fri-Sun) – PA State Rally hosted by AlMonO – Whitehall Camp, Emlenton, PA

Aug 20-26 (Sun-Sat) - Western PA Caravan to tour: Johnstown Flood Museum, Flight 93 Memorial, Altoona Railroad Museum, Carlisle Army Heritage Center, Harrisburg sights
Coordinators: Howard Mergelkamp and Rick Pitts

September 14-17 (Thu-Sun) - Lancaster Balloon Festival Rally, Bird-In-Hand, PA
Mill Bridge Village & Camp Resort, 101 South Ronks Rd, Ronks, PA 717-687-8181, **Reserve now!**
Coordinators: Jennifer Eggers (jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com) and Don Harrington

Oct 20-22 (Fri-Sun) - Keystone Installation Rally - Beacon Hill Campground, **Reserve now!**
128 Beacon Hill Road, Intercourse, PA, 717-768-8775 (Cabins available for those not towing, 2 night minimum)
Club luncheon buffet at Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant, 2760 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird in Hand on Sat 21st
Lunch will begin at 1:00 pm in the Robin room, the annual meeting and officer installation will follow at 3:00
Coordinators: Jennifer Eggers (jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com) and Jerry Hillegass

Dec 9 (noon) - Keystone Holiday Luncheon - Plumsteadville Inn, 5902 Easton Road, Pipersville, PA
Coordinator: Barb & Jerry Hillegass

Be sure to check the **Blue Beret** and Airstream.org site for dates for other International and National Caravans and Events. Here are just a few that club members have enjoyed in the past:

Aug 6 – 12: Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Galax, VA

Sept 23 – Oct 1: Swiss Festival, Sugar Creek, OH

Oct 4 – 8: National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN

Dec 29 – Jan 2: Rose Parade Rally, Pasadena, CA (this year the West Chester U. Golden Ram Marching Band will attend!)

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



May 2023