

NEW YORK  
FINGER LAKES  
AIRSTREAM CLUB



# The Grapevine

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2023

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Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor at [002newslettereditor@wbcci.net](mailto:002newslettereditor@wbcci.net)

Articles must be submitted to the newsletter editor by the 10th of each month.

## President's Corner

Dick Saxton, President



Dick Saxton

Hello Fellow Airstreamers!

We just returned home after a great rally put on by our club jointly with the Ontario Canada Club. Fifty-nine (59) trailers took up a whole loop at Sampson State Park and over 120 members camped and ate and drank. Thank you to all that attended and volunteered it was a great time.

We have two more rallies left in our '23 schedule. You will find them in our newsletter.

We had an Executive Board Meeting while at the rally. All previous officers were nominated to hold their positions for a second year. Charlie Kirk being the exception, as Cora Saxton accepted the nomination as Recording Secretary. Charlie ends his 3 year term this fall and Diane Hill has agreed to be nominated as a Director.

At this time, our club members and I, would like to THANK! Ted Smith for his 20 years as Treasurer. Ted and his wife Donna have served this club since it was chartered in 2003. Ted has expressed his desire to step down and hand the reigns over to Linda Ferguson. This transition will take place over the course of several months.

We also have other BIG news. Gary Russo, Past Club President was sworn in at International as Region 2 President! Congratulations Gary! It's good to know people in high places!

Safe Travels,

Dick Saxton



WBCCI: Wally Byam Caravan  
Club International, Inc.  
[Airstreamclub.org](http://Airstreamclub.org)



New York Finger Lakes  
Airstream Club #002  
[airstreamclub.org/new-york-finger-lakes](http://airstreamclub.org/new-york-finger-lakes)

# 2023 NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club Events

**Dates:** August 24-27, 2023  
**Event:** Meet-Up at Lakeside Beach State Park  
**Location:** Lakeside Beach SP, Waterport, NY  
**Hosts:** Diane & Randy Hill  
**Reservations:** [Lakeside State Park, New York - Camping & Reservations | ReserveAmerica](#)  
**Registration:** <https://form.jotform.com/230475812247153>

**Dates:** September 22-24, 2023  
**Event:** Oktoberfest at Hamburg Brewery  
**Location:** Hamburg Brewing Company, 6553 Boston State Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075  
**Hosts:** Dick Saxton  
**Other:** Boondocking—no hook-ups.  
**Registration:** <https://form.jotform.com/231174391441148>

**Dates:** October 5-10, 2024  
**Event:** 67th International Rally  
**Location:** Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia MO  
**Registration:** Registration opened August 1, 2023

**Dates:** August 23-28, 2025  
**Event:** 68th International Rally  
**Location:** York Expo Center, York, PA  
**Registration:** More information to come  
**Other:** Region 2 will be hosts

It's a pleasure to introduce the newest affiliate members of our club. We look forward to meeting you on great camping weekends, rallies and caravans!

**Ray & Vida Barrick**  
 Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

**Charles & Laura Fritz**  
 Cicero, NY

**LOOK!**

To OUR NEWEST MEMBERS....

Campsite fees will be covered by the NYFLAC for any NEW member who has NEVER attended a rally whenever you are ready!! New members will still be responsible for any additional costs associated with the rally (ex. food or entertainment). This offer is open only to new members and affiliates of NYFLAC.

\*This does not apply to transfers to our club and have attended a rally elsewhere.

# Cora's Sunshine Corner

Cora Saxton, Sunshine Chair



Such a busy summer! A great selection of rallies are available and lots of wonderful places to explore. Hope your camping season is going well. Many interesting trips have been shared on Facebook and around the campfire!

*“Earth and sky, woods and fields, lakes and rivers, the mountain and the sea, are excellent schoolmasters, and teach of us more than we can ever learn from books.” —John Lubbock*

## Birthdays this September:

Shirley Trubia	September 26th
Donna Smith	September 29th
Suzanne Russo	September 30th



## Anniversaries this September:

September 14th	James and KC Gillio
September 16th	Randy and Diane Hill
September 16th	Mark and Mary Sweeney



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My winter project will be contacting club members to see if you are interested in sharing your birthdays and anniversaries. If you would like to reach out to me sooner than later, my email is [saxtoncora@gmail.com](mailto:saxtoncora@gmail.com). Safe travels!

Cordially yours from the First Lady,  
Cora Saxton

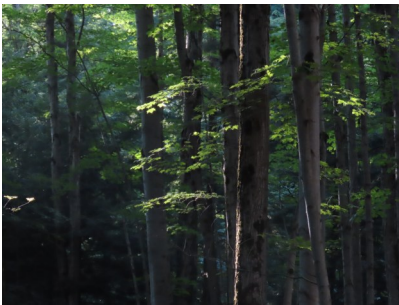
# DID WE HAVE A GREAT RALLY OR WHAT ??

## YES WE DID!!

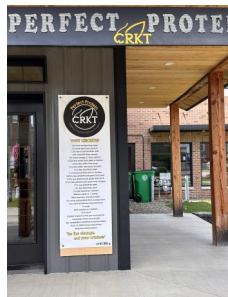
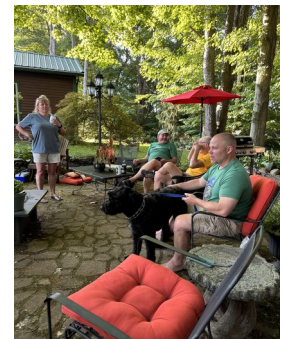
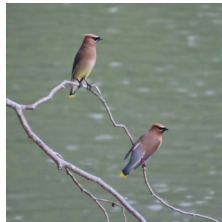
Since our July Grapevine was published we have had two fantastic rallies!! One of the reasons Charlie and I wanted to be home this summer was to catch a few local rallies—and we hit the jackpot.

### RALLY at DAWN & BODY WIBLES'

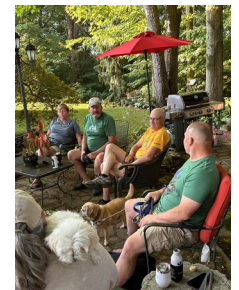
First we had a spectacular, picture perfect, relaxing weekend boondocking courtesy of our gracious hosts, Dawn & Boyd Wible. Their property is a destination all by itself!! Whether relaxing by the pool, hiking (or 4-wheeling) into the Zoar Valley, enjoying a wood-fired pizza dinner, getting a personal tour of Springville and all it has to offer, or the long happy hours we shared—you just can't go wrong here.



Lush forests leading up to the river with a historic cabin at the waters edge. Cedar waxwings enjoying the day.



No trip to Springville is complete without a visit to Perfect Protein cricket farm (co-owned by the Wibles')



Enjoying "pizza night" and the outdoor wood-fired pizza oven Dawn built!!



In addition to Perfect Protein we were given a guided field trip (thanks Boyd) of Springville including a visit to the local Heritage Museum, Pop Warner Museum, carriage house and the Art's Café.



## DID WE HAVE A GREAT RALLY OR WHAT ??

### YES WE DID!!

#### RALLY #2—CIRCLE THE WAGONS AT SAMPSON STATE PARK

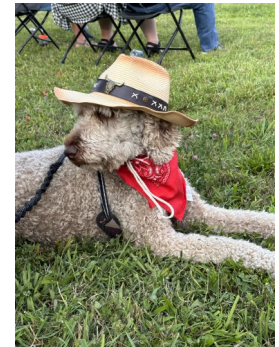
This was our 1st joint rally with our Ontario Airstream neighbors and, WOW!!, what a fantastic turnout! There were 23 trailers each from NYFLAC and Ontario. We also had folks attend from Hudson Mohawk, NY Metro, Virginia, Maryland, and Cape Cod Clubs!! 59 trailers in one loop at Sampson SP was certainly a wonderful sight. There were lots of other campers taking a look at our shiny homes.

Gary & Suzanne Russo put their heart and soul into making this an extraordinary event! We owe them a HUGE THANK YOU for all of their work. (I bet they slept for 3 days straight when they got home!!). A big shout-out to all of the other folks who helped cook, welcomed travelers, served and cleaned up, and built the evening bonfires!! Many hands are needed for an event this size!

We had food. We had music. We had campfires and happy hours. Best of all, we met friends, new and renewed!! Being able to reconnect with several of our friends from the Viking Caravan last year!! When you travel with folks for 57 days straight you get to know them pretty well. It was great to see our NYFLAC friends as well.

And I LOVE that there were so many NYFLAC faces at Sampson!! Our club continues to grow and strengthen through the friendships and bonds we make together.

Liz Kirk



## Membership Renewal Info

**Members MUST be logged into the member-only portal to renew online.**

**International New Member Dues** - International Dues for new members are \$75 per year. The membership period is on an anniversary year which is based on 12 months from the member's original join date (Example: If member joined on May 1, 2023, the membership is good until May 1, 2024). HQ will collect one year of Local Club dues.

**International Legacy Renewal Dues** - International Dues are \$75 per year. Most of our LEGACY members expiration date is Jan. 1. HQ will collect one year of Local Club dues.

**Renewal Forms** – Paper renewal forms are available by request only. Contact HQ at 937-596-5211 to request a paper renewal form. You can also select electronic or paper in the member-only portal.

**Affiliate & Intra-Club Memberships** - Members can join online anytime or when they are joining or renewing their membership.

**Lifetime Membership** - Lifetime Memberships **MUST** go through the renewal process to let HQ know the Lifetime Member is still active and is in good standing with their Local Club.

**Member Emails** - To access your membership dashboard each member must have a valid email address on file with HQ. This also enables members to vote in the election of International officers and amendments to the constitution. Each member needs to have an **individual email** on file even if you share an email address with your partner. If your current email address is not on file, contact [assist@airstreamclub.org](mailto:assist@airstreamclub.org) or call HQ at 937-596-5211.

**Local Club, Affiliate Dues & Intra-Club Dues** - Local Club, Affiliate dues & Intra-Club dues received by HQ will be paid to the Local Club.

**Auto-Renewal** - Auto-Renewal is now available. You can select this option online anytime or when renewing your membership online.

**Published Membership Directory** – Legacy members must renew before Dec. 31 to be included in the published membership directory.

**Do Not Publish** - You have the option of not having contact information published in Club directories. Do not publish means your name(s), region, local club and Big Red Number will be listed without any contact information.



## Region 2 President's Update

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Greetings from your new Region 2 President just back from Rock Springs!

My wife (Suzanne) and I were on the road for 3.5 months in MaryAnn II, our 25' Globetrotter, BRN 1061. Staying in 15 states and eight National Parks, what a summer adventure.

I want to give those who do not know me a thumbnail outline of my background. We live in Webster, NY. I belong to the New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club (NYFLAC). I was the President of the NYFLAC and the Region 2— 1<sup>st</sup> VP last year. We have been members of WBCCI since 2016. We were tent campers for 16 years before making the jump to a 2016 22' Airstream Bambi FBQ. We found if we were to be on the road longer than two weeks we needed just a little more room. We are both “retired”. Suzanne has been working one day a week for the last year and I've been career retired for eight years. I have two adult children and one grandchild.

This monthly newsletter is multi-purposed from my prospective....

Increase the enthusiasm within each club in the Region.

To keep the Region 2 members up to date with rallies within the Region.

To keep the Region 2 members up to date with decisions at the international level.

Continue with the team building that RJ started at the Region leadership level and to expand it down to the club president level. Club presidents are a vital part in the information chain. I plan to invite all club presidents to monthly Zoom meetings. Also, to have an open door, and ear, to all members of Region 2.

Please feel free to reach out and contact me at [fulloflife123@yahoo.com](mailto:fulloflife123@yahoo.com).

All of our clubs run on the shoulders of volunteers, so many hands make light work for all -- even if only setting up chairs at a rally.

With that said, safe travels and see you down the road!

Gary Russo, Region 2 President





# ONE LAP OF THE US

RANDY & DIANE HILL

Our "One lap of the US" - We spent eight months away from home, towed our Airstream over 10,000 miles, traveling into 22 states, staying at 60 different campsites including two national forests, with visits to seven national parks, three national monuments, and a big party with 1,200 other Airstreams!

Last year once we decided to attend this year's Airstream International Rally in Rock Springs, WY being held in June, we started making plans for our winter trip. We first thought we would go to Florida for the winter months, come home, and then travel west to Rock Springs for the rally. After talking about this for a while, we made the decision we would just do one long trip and call it "One Lap of the US".

Our adventure began on November 28th making several stops on our way south including a stop in Myrtle Beach, SC finally ending up in Florida where we spent the months of December and January. During our stay in Florida, we had the chance to spend time with family and friends (including Jim and KC Gillio), visited a couple of tourist stops including Disney Springs, Celebration, FL and Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, and lastly we spent several days at the Tampa RV Show!



We left Florida at the beginning of February, and made our way through Alabama - with a stop to tour Techno RV - then a few nights in Mississippi and Louisiana before stopping in Texas for a few days at one of the "Escapee's" Park to visit some friends. While traveling through Texas, we also took a few days to visit "Big Bend" National Park - while there, we took the "Scenic Drive" down to the Rio Grande River and also did the hike up to "Balance Rock."

Leaving Texas, we made our way into New Mexico where we revisited "Carlsbad Caverns" and "White Sands" National Parks. If you've ever been to White Sands or plan to visit in the future, be sure to get a "coaster" to slide down on the dunes - is a lot of fun!! After we left New Mexico, we spent two months in Arizona spending time at several county parks in the Phoenix area, as well as a stay in Lake Havasu right along the ...

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Colorado River. One of the interesting things we did during our time in Arizona was to get both dogs to "Rattlesnake Awareness" trained.

While continuing our travel to Wyoming, we stayed in Nevada visiting family, and of course, a visit to Las Vegas where we took in a "Jeff Dunham" show. In between our stay in Nevada, we took a short "side trip" into California where we spent several days exploring "Death Valley National Park", and yes, in May it was "hot" (111 degrees), but our visit there was well worth tolerating the heat.



After our second stop in Nevada, we made our way into Utah where we visited three national parks - "Capitol Reef", "Arches" and "Canyonlands" - we hiked in both Capitol Reef and Arches - both were spectacular, but the one I really felt was well worth the effort was "Delicate Arch" in Arches National Park - the hike is 3.2 miles round trip - very strenuous and at times quite narrow, but once you reach the arch, the hike was well worth your effort! We have heard that "Delicate Arch" is one of the most famous in the world! As an added bonus during our time in Moab, Utah, we had the chance to meet up with Gary and Suzanne Russo and enjoyed a great dinner at one of the local restaurants.

Finally, after Utah, we travelled into Wyoming for a few days at "Flaming Gorge" National Forest before reaching the "ultimate destination" for our extended trip - The "66th Airstream International Rally" in Rock Springs, Wyoming! We spent two weeks in Rock Springs - the first week was spent attending the rally and the many events plus visiting the Rock Springs area - one of the best events is the annual "Pet Show" where both Val Davis and her dog "Marvin" as well as Diana McIntosh and her dog "Winnie" were two of the participants. A great thing about these international rallies is the opportunity to visit with old friends and the chance to make new friends. The second week, we just hung out at the trailer and running errands - the week ended with a spectacular fireworks' display on July 4th that were being set off in all directions surrounding the event center!



We left Rock Springs on July 5th traveling with friends, Bruce and Betsy Frey (members of the Cape Cod Unit) - it also happened that we were traveling part of our way home and staying at the same campgrounds as Gary and Suzanne Russo. While still in Wyoming, we visited "Devil's Tower", before making our way into South Dakota where we visited Deadwood, and the six of us enjoyed a nice meal together. We said our "good-byes" to Gary and Suzanne as the four of us headed to Custer, SD where we visited Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, and Custer State Park where we saw our first herd of Buffalo (Monty's barking scared them). I have to comment that Mt Rushmore was amazing!

Our two Airstream caravan left Custer, we made our way to "Badlands" National Park with a stop at "Wall Drugs" (a must visit)! As we got close to Minnesota, our caravan split up, and we headed to Minneapolis to visit the "Mall of America" for some retail therapy! As we left Minnesota, we cut across Wisconsin and headed to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan where we took the ferry over to Mackinac Island, rented a tandem bicycle to tour the island and rode up to see the "Grand Hotel", and of course, buy some fudge! Our final stop in Michigan was spending the weekend courtesy parking in our friends driveway! Our last stop before arriving home was the RV Hall of Fame in Elkhart, IN where we saw the smallest Airstream at 14 feet! This was the predecessor to the Bambi. After 239 days on the road, our "One Lap of the US" ended on July 25th!! We are already talking about our next big trip... Maybe this time we will go for a year?





## Officers and Committee Members

### President

Dick Saxton  
saxtonrg@aim.com

### 1st Vice President

Chris Cappelletti  
ccapp68@me.com

### 2nd Vice President

Mary Fien-Silco  
msilco112@gmail.com

### Past President

Gary Russo  
fulloflife123@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

Ted Smith  
ess18294@gmail.com

### Membership

Randy and Diane Hill  
randy\_diane\_hill@me.com

### Recording Secretary

Charlie Kirk  
wyokirk@rochester.rr.com

### Directors

Charlie Kirk (1 yr)  
John Andersen (2 yr)  
Val Davis (3 yr)

### Sunshine

Cora Saxton  
saxtoncora@gmail.com

### Media

Liz Kirk  
002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

### Safety

John Hussar  
hushearts@greygoosegraphics.com

### Caravan Leader

Ray Wagner  
rwagner2722@outlook.com

E-mail!

## NEW CLUB EMAIL ALERT

Last month I wrote that we have migrated our club email to a new address. I have finished moving all member contact information to the new account. I am keeping my fingers crossed that it will go smoothly!! Since this is the 1st time using this account I am also going to send a quick message to everyone through the old email account asking if you do not see the newsletter in your inbox (or spam) please drop me a line. I will try to address any bumps along the way.

Any officers wishing to use this account should contact me directly.

Our new club email is: [club002@airstreamclub.org](mailto:club002@airstreamclub.org).