

NEW YORK
FINGER LAKES
AIRSTREAM CLUB

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The Grapevine is published a minimum of 10 times per year by the New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club, Unit #002.

Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor at 002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

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



The Grapevine

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2023

President's Corner

Dick Saxton, President

Hello fellow Airstreamers,

Gary Russo, our new Region 2 President, has been busy communicating with all the club presidents, membership chairs and webmasters to streamline the region rally schedules and functions. Members can find the information not only through our newsletter, but also at the ACI (Airstream Club International) website.

Locally we are working to streamline our rally reservation process with Jotform and Paypal. We hope to make attending, or hosting, a rally an easier process.

For any new members who have questions or would like additional information, please feel free to reach out to myself or any board member.



Happy Holidays!
Dick Saxton

2024

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club Events

SAVE THE DATES!!

NEW RALLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Dates: January 27, 2024
Event: Winter Meet-Up—Flamingo with NYFLAC
Location: Lodge at Kings Bend Park, 170 Jefferson Road, Pittsford, NY.
Hosts: Mary Fein-Silco, Ron Silco, Dick Saxton, & Cora Saxton
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/233436427002144>

Dates: May 2-5, 2024
Event: Pursue Your Happiness in Pennsylvania—Region 2 Rally
Location: Centre County Grange Encampment, 169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall, PA 16828
Registration: Registration will open at the beginning of 2024. Stay tuned for more information

Dates: May 10—13, 2024
Event: NYFLAC Season Opener
Location: Ontario County Park, Naples, NY
Hosts: Dick & Cora Saxton
Registration: Watch for more information to be announced

Dates: June 13—17, 2024
Event: Watkins Glen Harbor Fest Rally
Location: Watkins Glen State Park, NY
Hosts: Dick & Cora Saxton
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/233456506987166>

REGISTRATION OPEN ONLY TO NYFLAC MEMBERS AT THIS TIME DUE TO LIMITED SITE AVAILABILITY

Dates: July 11—14, 2024
Event: Wible's 4th Annual Zoar Valley Bash
Location: 7635 Zoar Valley Rd. Springville, NY 14141
Hosts: Boyd & Dawn Wible
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/233436786224158>

Dates: August 1—5, 2024
Event: A Taste of New York—New York State Rally
Location: Sampson State Park, Romulus, NY
Hosts: Contact Gary Russo
Registration: Coming soon.

Dates: August 22—25, 2024
Event: NYFLAC/Washington DC Joint Rally
Location: Knoebles Amusement Park and Campground, Elysburg, PA.
Hosts:
Registrations

2024

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club Events CONTINUED..... NEW RALLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Dates: September 5—8, 2024
Event: Lakeside State Park Buddy Rally
Location: Lakeside State Park, Waterport, NY
Hosts: Diane & Randy Hill
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/233435998832167>

**REGISTRATION OPEN ONLY TO NYFLAC
MEMBERS & AFFILIATES DURING JAN/FEB**

Dates: September 19-22, 2024
Event: Hamburg Oktoberfest Rally
Location: Hamburg, NY
Hosts:
Registration: We're working on it!

Dates: October 5-10, 2024
Event: 2024 International Rally
Location: Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia MO
Registration: NOW OPEN at [International Rally 2024 | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](https://www.airstreamclub.org/international-rally-2024)

Dates: October 11-14, 2024
Event: Columbus Day Rally
Location: Green Lakes State Park, Manillus, NY
Hosts:
Registration: We're working on it!

BIG NEWS FOR 2024

We're trying something new next year!!

For many years our members have been paying annual dues and our coffers have grown. The Executive Committee has decided it's time to give back. For our 2024 local rallies (i.e. Season Opener, Watkins Glen Harbor Fest, Lakeside Buddy, Hamburg Oktoberfest, and Columbus Day rallies) the club will cover the cost of kitty fees for our membership, including affiliates (up to \$10 per person per event). If rally fees exceed \$10pp there may be a small cost. **You will still need to pay site fees in full.**

Non-members are welcome to attend but will be responsible for paying the full kitty fee.

January 27, 2024

Let the 2024 NYFLAC Season Begin!!

Flamingle with NYFLAC

The beginning of our much anticipated 2024 season will be here soon. Ron and I, along with Dick and Cora Saxton, are hosting our Winter Meet-Up. The theme is "Flamingle with NYFLAC". This event will take place on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at Kings Bend Park in Pittsford, New York. We have reserved the North Lodge, which is equipped with picnic tables, a large fireplace and a kitchen.

We are asking members who attend to bring snacks to pass, as well as a dish to pass for the meal. There are plenty of plugs for crockpots, etc. You might want to bring a camp chair for more comfortable seating.

"Alumination" is a documentary film by Eric Bricker. "In 1929 Airstream founder Wally Byam built his first travel trailer in the backyard of his California home. Nearly a century later Airstream continues as the oldest travel trailer company in the United States and an iconic brand. For many, the word "Airstream" signifies more than just the image of a silver bullet gliding down the highway; it also evokes the spirit of innovation, adventure, resilience, and dynamism. Byam didn't just create a tool for travel — he created a blueprint for modern nomadic living.

Narrated by Kate Pierson of The B-52s, ALUMINATION, an independently produced, feature-length documentary will undoubtedly stir the age-old desire to pack up and discover what lies beyond the next range of hills."(<https://www.aluminationmovie.com/about-4>)

If you are a member who has not attended a rally yet, this is a great opportunity to meet the other members and your Executive Council. We have seen tremendous membership and affiliate growth and would love to see more of the membership at our events.

We look forward to welcoming all of you to the 2024 season.

Mary Fien-Silco



The agenda is as follows:

- Noon-12:30 Arrival and snack set up
- 1:30-2:00 Trivia Contest
- 2:00-3:00 Games for those interested
- 3:30-5:00 Dinner (dishes to pass)
- 5:00– 6:15 "Alumination" movie screening

Members are welcome to stay and visit after the movie.



**REGION 2
RALLY**

Pursue Your Happiness in Pennsylvania

May 2-5, 2024

Centre Hall, PA

The Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair better known as 'The Grange Fair' is the location for our 2024 Region 2 Rally. This area is best known as the home of Penn State University. From beautiful waterfalls to historic buildings, caverns to museums -- they can all be yours to explore in Centre County!



Nearby Bald Eagle State Park is one of the most-visited state parks in the area. The 1,730-acre lake laps the flanks of Bald Eagle Mountain, surrounded by forests, fields, and wetlands. Here you can find boating, fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing. <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/BaldEagleStatePark/Pages/default.aspx>

If you are into trains or biking, there is the abandoned Coburn Railroad Tunnel. The abandoned Coburn railroad tunnel was constructed as part of the Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Railroad in the 1870s, and was in service nearly 100 years until it was officially abandoned by the Penn Central Railroad in 1970. <https://pabucketlist.com/exploring-the-abandoned-coburn-railroad-tunnel-in-centre-county-pa/>



Penn's Cave in Centre County offers the only cavern tour in the United States that is conducted completely by boat. Woodward Cave contains 5 large rooms, hundreds of yards of tunnels and passageways and the largest stalagmite in Pennsylvania! <https://www.pennscave.com/>

So, think about kicking off your camping season with your fellow Airstreamers at this rally!

JULY 11—14, 2024

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Wible's 4th Annual Zoar Valley Bash

More fun than you can imagine!!

Let me tell you...this one is already on my calendar. And, it should be on your calendar as well!! Charlie and I have had the pleasure of being at two of the rallies and I'm hoping to be able to attend again for this year!!

Big events are fun, but so are smaller gatherings. If you're someone who enjoys being able to set your own pace then this is the event for you.

The Wible's are so very gracious in sharing their property for this event. You have the the pleasure of boondocking on a spectacular location! The wood fired pizza is amazing. You can hike (or 4-wheel) around the stunning property. There are SO MANY great local activities nearby. And the evening campfire and Happy Hours have the opportunity to be epic!!

Only TEN (10) lucky trailers will be able to attend. First come, first serve using the Jot-Form registration. After that, you will be placed on a waiting list. To Register: <https://form.jotform.com/233436786224158>

There is no fee but there's often a donation to a local organization. Please know that you will be dry camping but generators are OK. Well behaved pets are welcome (there are dogs on the property).



THE GRAPEVINE

WATKINS GLEN HARBORFEST

Watkins Glen, NY **NYFLAC Members Only** June 13-17, 2024

Stay tuned folks...details are on their way. Dick was able to grab only 11 sites (by bypassing ReserveAmerica) and are holding them as available for NYFLAC members first!! We will let you know once reservations are open. Dick will be assigning the sites. As typical in NYS, all sites are electric. There will be a site fee, but no kitty fee. Plan on having a potluck dinner and light breakfast. Members can register at: <https://form.jotform.com/233456506987166>

But wait... The Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival will be celebrating 31st year on Saturday, June 15th from 11am—8pm. You can enjoy the popular Cardboard Boat Regatta, or feast on local foods, shop craft and non-profit vendors along the Harbor Parking lots and grass. There are also free Children's Activities, check out the boats and all of the fun. There will be local band playing for those who love music. And if you prefer to hike and chill...go for it.

NYS Rally

August 1-5, 2024

► Sampson State Park
Romulus, NY

A Taste of New York

Experience the beautiful eastern shore of Seneca Lake. This lake is located in the Finger Lakes of New York State. This region is noted for award-winning wines and views. The rally this year is being hosted by the three New York State clubs. This park site has been host to numerous rallies over the past years and has grown in size and scope over time. The theme this year is 'A Taste of New York.' At the event you will have the opportunity to experience some of the sights and tastes of the area. On Saturday evening we will have your feet a dancing to music. Come and share this time with your fellow Airstreamers.

If you are coming from the West, North or South do not pass up this gem and add this rally to your route as you travel this area.

Costs and registration information will be forthcoming.

Sept. 5-8, 2024

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Lakeside Beach
State Park

Buddy Rally

Currently open to only NYFLAC members and affiliates.

If you are like us - when you return home from a weekend of camping during the summer, your friends and neighbors always ask "Where did you go?" You tell them that you were at a Airstream rally with our local club and you share stories of our famous Happy Hours, Campfires and Potluck Dinners. They give you a look of: " I wish I had bought an Airstream and not this Some Other Brand RV (hence forward known as an **SOB**) and could go on one of these rallies with the Airstream Club."



Well, one of your friends is in luck this summer. We have decided this year to turn our fall rally at Lakeside Beach State Park on September 5-8 in to a **Buddy Rally!** What is a **Buddy Rally?** It is an Airstream Club rally where you can invite one of your friends that owns an **SOB-RV** to join us for the weekend. *That's right, we are letting the SOB's join in on the fun!* We are opening up the rally so that one of your friends that does not own an Airstream, can bring their non-Airstream RV to the rally as your guest.

So how does this work? You and your buddy will need to make your own reservations with the park for the weekend - we will be using loop "E" as the rally base. Go to newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com and reserve your campsites for the weekend. Loop "E" is pet friendly and offers both sun and shade campsites (the first 20 sites are mostly sunny - the next 20 are in the woods). Once you have both of your campsites reserved, fill out the JotForm for both you and your buddy. This way, we know who's coming, and we can keep you both updated on what is happening.



At this time, we have not finalized the weekend agenda, but you can expect our famous Happy Hours, Campfires and Potluck Dinner will be part of the weekend. There are also farmers markets, restaurants, lights houses, and many other attractions close by to visit with your buddy. There will most likely be a small rally fee (TBD) to cover any additional expenses.



Reservations for the park are now open, you are going to want to make your reservations soon, so you and your buddy can be close to all the fun. The club is not holding back any sites - so when all the sites in loop "E" are gone, they are gone.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you there and meeting your buddies. This should be a lot of fun and a great opportunity to share that it with your buddy. Of course, if you don't have a buddy for the weekend, you are always welcome to attend solo.

Who knows, maybe after this rally, Airstream sales will spike as all our Buddies trade in their **SOB** for an Airstream. If you have any questions on the rally, feel free to reach out to us with them.

Randy & Diane Hill
30876

Please register at:

<https://form.jotform.com/233435998832167>

THE GRAPEVINE

Cora's Sunshine Corner

Cora Saxton, Sunshine Chair

*“The color of springtime is in the flowers;
the color of winter is in the imagination.” —Terri Guillemets*

The season of beauty and many activities old and new is upon us. December is such a busy month. Many reflections of the past and the anticipation of a new year, a new journey, is just around the corner. Our trailer is tucked away for the winter as my mind drifts to warmer climates. We are looking forward to the ski season but so far a little snow and then temperatures soar. A friend posted a morning picture of the landscape out her window covered in a blanket of snow and an afternoon picture of the green grass. Fortunately the Finger Lakes scenery continues to be captivating no matter the season (just a little more sunshine Santa, please).



Wishing a Happy Birthday to:

Mary Sweeney	December 2
Kristine (KC) Gillio	December 23
Dorothy Curtis	December 26
James Gillio	December 26

There are no anniversaries for December.

What awaits us in the new year? Many wonderful Finger Lakes rallies to choose from!!! We have a smorgasbord of choices, big and small. Be sure to review and make those plans while there is availability. Hope to see you at the winter social!

Hope you enjoy a happy holiday!

Cordially yours from the First Lady,

Cora Saxton

Region 2 President's Update

'Twas a weekend after our trailer was asleep, when all through the house
No flamingoes were stirring, not even my spouse;

The fresh water hoses were drained and dry,
Ready in anticipation for next year I cannot lie.

Black and gray water tanks are drained and clean
To make sure they were smelling fresh and had a sparkly sheen.

The trailer fresh water lines of which there are many,
Were blown out and clean as a new penny.

Now there was that pink stuff to be pumped to prevent any pipe freeze,
So heading back on the road would be a breeze.

Propane tanks to be turned off, batteries to be disconnected and trickle charger on,
So in the Spring it would not be necessary to call our trusted mechanic, John.

Tow Vehicle, OnStar, Sirius XM along with Starlink put into suspension.
My wife and I sat on the couch thinking of last summer's adventures, too many to mention.

Suddenly we both sprang to our feet,
Realizing that deadlines for next year's travels we need to meet.



This time of year can be slow for camping, unless you are heading South like a winter bird.

During this time, I have been catching up with my reading of the newsletters from Region 2 clubs. There are several well written articles about the adventures that Airstreamers have taken. I was recently talking to Eric McHenry about the Blue Beret. The editorial staff of the Blue Beret is looking for articles for the magazine. The articles provided would be used for hard and electronic issues of the Blue Beret.

It would be great to have several articles from Region 2 represented in the Blue Beret. Some of you have great photos and a terrific back story to go with them. Region 2 has vistas and camping sites that rival the South/West.

Margaret Saylor is the incoming chair of the Publications Standing Committee, and she is from Region 2. I am sure she would be excited to see articles from our Region in the publication. Don't be surprised if she contacts you for permission to print your article.

At the Sampson State Park rally last August we had multiple trailers from 'warmer' parts of the US. They must have been looking for relief from the heat. We also had a strong turnout from the Canadians! Seeing the popularity of that rally event, I've been informed that the three NYS clubs are sponsoring a rally again at Sampson State Park during the same time in August. Last year, due to the popularity, they had to turn people away. This year they have been able to increase the number of sites available for the event. It is my understanding that their theme this year is a Taste of New York. Time will tell what they have planned for the event.

Not to be outdone, the Region 2 Rally at Centre Hall, PA, is also being planned. Registration and information will be rolled out in January of 2024. Pursue Your Happiness in Pennsylvania is the theme for the Region 2 Rally.

We wish you a happy winter season with many celebrations. See you next year on the road – who knows in which locations!

Gary Russo, Region 2 President

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

IT MAY BE CHILLY OUTSIDE BUT WE WISH A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Dena Aravantinos and Matthias

Schnelder

Cherryfield, ME

Affiliates

Andrew Fowlie and Carolyn Collins

Danvers, MA

Jerry and Sam Pilcher

Catonsville, MD

Rebecca Weimer

Punxsutawney, PA