

NEW YORK
FINGER LAKES
AIRSTREAM CLUB

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The Grapevine

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2024

President's Corner

Dick Saxton, President

Hello Everyone Near and Far,

We as a club had a fun January "Flamingle" at Pittsford's River Bend Park, January 27th. Mary (2nd VP) and Ron Silco (webmaster NYFLAC and Region 2) hosted a great tradition, Trivia! Teams have had more fun going for the difficult answers, a few prizes and bragging rights than just sitting around talking! We've had 5 rallies now with Trivia related to our location. Mary does the research and tallies the scores and Ron "helps" her.

New member, Mike Bellamy of Silver Lake (Perry, NY) joined us. He recently bought an Airstream for his family's travels. Terry Sheally also visited with us from The Carolinas Airstream Club. Just about like any of the rallies or socials we've had in the past someone from out of the area joining us!

We are patiently waiting for The Ontario County website reservation service to come online so we can register for our opening rally. They say any day now! As with all of our rallies the registration info is right here in our newsletter.

Important: The Region 2 Rally in Centre Hall, PA is now open for registration. It's going to be a good one! We went two years ago to the Delaware State Fairgrounds and had a great time. We missed last year 'cause we were heading to International.

Please keep Diane Hill in your thoughts as she is recovering from hospitalization. Randy has her back to the trailer and she resting comfortably (with Monte and Zephyr by her side)!

That's it for this month!
Dick Saxton, Pres. 8477



2024

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club Events

SAVE THE DATES!!

NEW RALLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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: <https://form.jotform.com/233605413531144>

Dates: May 10—13, 2024
Event: NYFLAC Season Opener
Location: Ontario County Park, Naples, NY
Hosts: Mary Fein-Silco and Ron Silco
Registration: Registration pending opening of Ontario County Park website!!

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 IS CLOSED.
 WAITING LIST ONLY

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>

2 SPOTS REMAIN

Dates: August 1—5, 2024
Event: A Taste of New York—New York State Rally
Location: Sampson State Park, Romulus, NY
Hosts: Gary Russo
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/240374986998177>



REGISTRATION IS
 NOW OPEN

Dates: August 22—25, 2024
Event: NYFLAC/Washington DC Joint Rally
Location: Knobeles Amusement Park and Campground, Elysburg, PA.
Hosts: Ron Silco & Mary Fien-Silco (NYFAC), RJ and Erica Marquette (WDCU)
Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/233633845991164>

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

Cora's Sunshine Corner

Cora Saxton, Sunshine Chair



So wonderful when the sun occasionally shines during the long winter season. Not much cold weather to report so far and hats off to our affiliate members in Punxsutawney as that chunky little groundhog didn't see his shadow!

A good travel day for those who could attend the January Flaming! So great to see old friends and make new friends! Thank you to Mary and Ron Silco for hosting with great plans and providing all the necessities. King's Bend was a wonderful sight and the club members and affiliates provided wonderful snacks, GREAT PRIZES and a delicious meal.

Last month I listed the January and February information and plan to provide a repeat of the current month and the next month in advance so you aren't finding out about a birthday after the fact. I have not accomplished anything with updating my list, but that is how retirement goes and I still plan to do so.

Birthdays we celebrate this February and March



| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Dorothy Curtis | February 5th |
| James Gillio | February 12th |
| Ted Smith | February 18th |
| Ross Perry | March 18th |
| John Dona | March 26th |
| Valerie Davis | March 30th |

Below you will find the obituary for Willard Toivo Heikkila which was shared by Ted Smith. Willard and his wife Marlene joined the club in 1993 and were members until selling their trailer in 2018. They co-sponsored rallies with Jack and Trina Kelly at the Fireman's field on Keuka Lake in Hammondspport. We are working to trying to secure the area for a future Finger Lakes rally. Willard was an Army Veteran and married to Marlene for 64 years!

<https://obits.seawindsfh.com/obituary/willard-heikkila?lud=3D6EA2C974C096F2C3B2C66EFCF5325F>

Be sure to check out this month's issue of the Blue Beret! The awesome cover shot is Devin Bowman's trailer. Many of you may have met Devin last August at the Finger Lakes "Circling the Wagons" rally in Sampson State Park. An inspiring article provides additional details of the family airstream legacy.

Congratulations are in order for affiliate member Veida Barrick on her retirement after many years in the chocolate business! The fruit of her labor will be greatly missed, but we wish her well on the next chapter!

"Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you; spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life." —Amy Poehler

Cordially yours from the First Lady,
Cora Saxton



RALLY UPDATES

WE HAVE LOTS OF INFORMATION TO SHARE!!

Ganette Hill Season Opening

We're still looking forward to the Ganette Hill Season Opener. As of this publication the reservation system is still not working. The Ontario County Offices have indicated they anticipate to "go live" with the new reservation system on February 12th. We will continue to update everyone as we get more information Submitted by Mary Fien-Silco

Knobles Amusement Park

Registration is open and waiting for you! The NYFLAC and WDCU have joined together to enjoy Historic Knobles Amusement Park, situated in Elysburg, PA, August 22-25, 2024. Pre-Registration is only open to members of these two clubs at this time. Pre-registration is to let the hosts know of your intention to attend. No payment is required at this time. We are still waiting on Knobles 2024 rates. Once avrates and rally fees are available full registration will open. Please pre-Register at

<https://form.jotform.com/233633845991164>.

After club members have had the chance to sign up, registration will open for affiliates and non-members, dependent on availability.

Buddy Rally Update

This rally takes place at Lakeside Beach State Park in Waterport, N.Y. Folks have started to register and will be in Loop E . There are no sites being held for the rally, all are on a "first come basis" to be reserved. For now, this rally is not being posted on the ACI website to give club members first chance at getting the best sites in the loop. If you are thinking of attending, please get you and your buddy to reserve your sites soon. Lakeside tends to fill up for the weekends during the summer.

P.S Don't forget to fill out the JotForm once you reserve your site.

P.P.S. You don't need to bring a buddy

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



RALLY UPDATES

WE HAVE LOTS OF INFORMATION TO SHARE!!

Zoar Valley Bash

Going, going, almost gone!! There are still only two sites left for this event. If you prefer smaller, informal gatherings then this is the one for you!! In a quiet country setting you will be able to see the stars and wake up to misty mornings. You get to “do you” at this event. There’s no fee but we often donate 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) This is first come, first serve by registering at: <https://form.jotform.com/233436786224158>.

A Taste of NY

Tired of looking at your trailer in storage or the driveway?

If you attended last year’s Sampson Rally, we hope you have fond memories. This year the theme is ‘A Taste of New York’. The New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club along with the Hudson-Mohawk and Metropolitan New York Airstream Clubs have partnered together to add to those fond Airstream rally memories or to create new ones. We plan to showcase the taste of New York. On Friday we plan to have tastings under the tent. The tastings will include wines and craft beers from the region. Each trailer will be provided with a Charcuterie Board box (enough for 2 people) and a bag of decadent popcorn, both provided by local vendors.

Last year the event started with check-in on Thursday and check out on Monday morning. This extended time was a real hit with the Canadians because they have a long weekend. So, add your trailer to the August 1-5 shindig. As in the past, we have sites already reserved at Sampson State Park for the event (limited now to 97 sites), a larger meeting tent, and a live band. Cost information and registration using the JotForm : <https://form.jotform.com/240374986998177>



Gary Russo



RALLY UPDATES

WE HAVE LOTS OF INFORMATION TO SHARE!!

Region 2 Rally

Who wants to start off 2024 with a great Region 2 Rally event? The Region 2 team has been working hard to organize this event. Now we need you to sign up!

Registration is now open!

May 2-5, 2024

The Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair better known as 'The Grange Fair' is the location for the 2024 Region 2 Rally. The area is best known as the home of Penn State University. From beautiful waterfalls to historic buildings to caverns to museums -- they are all in Centre County to explore! Old Eagle State Park is one of the most-visited state parks in the area. With 1,730 acres and Sayers Lake you have plenty to explore on a walk.

If you are into trains, 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.

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!

We are working hard to ensure that this will be a memorable Rally. Registration and Payment is now available on the Region 2 ACI website entitled 2024 Region 2 Rally or you can use the following link:
<https://form.jotform.com/233605413531144>

We have 100 sites available with water and electric, no pump outs are provided. Dump stations are on the fairgrounds. Our trailer rate is \$47 per night + kitty for food \$65.00/PP. The kitty covers 1 hot breakfast, 1 hot buffet meal and 1 continental breakfast. On Saturday night we have a specular band scheduled to play. The Rally is from May 2nd to May 5th, but the 'core' will be from Friday May 2nd to the Sunday May 4th.

Notes for Canadians, the rally is in the USA, so you may want to review the rules for visiting the USA. See <https://www.cbp.gov>travel>international-visitors> for more information. In general, please note:

You will need a passport.

There are restrictions on the food you can bring in.

There are restrictions on firearms and other weapons, including things like pepper spray.

If you are bringing pets, please review appropriate requirements. Note there are restrictions on the amount of pet food you can take across the border as well.

Medications: In particular, bring the prescription and over-the-counter medications in the original containers.

Start your camping season at this Airstreamers rally!

Region 2 President's Update—February

Winter In New York

We finally have snow in New York!

Time to pull out the snow shoes and the skis. The Buffalo area is leading the snow race now, but Rochester has the snow making machine of Lake Ontario turned on and the cold winds of the north are dropping lake snow here in copious amounts. So, Buffalo you better watch out -- Rochester is coming on strong!



Right now, the registration for the Region 2 rally in May is live. So, do not wait. Here is just a tease as to what we have scheduled:

Building # 14 on the fairgrounds will be open to us every morning where coffee and tea will be available Friday-Sunday mornings.

Saturday night we have Nittany Catering providing a scrumptious buffet dinner, plant-based options will be available.

Do not forget to bring your dancing shoes to burn off those dinner calories because we have the Malpractice Band returning to play on Saturday night.

Sunday, we have a continental breakfast with coffee and tea.

Sign up now and reserve your site!

Region 2 will have a booth at the Sedalia WBCCI International Rally. To showcase Region 2. I am looking for photos from events your club/units had during the 2023 year for a poster. Please send one or two photos to me by email. Then do not forget to stop by the booth and say Hi while in Sedalia. If you would like to volunteer to assist at the booth, please contact me and I can schedule time.

We are planning to have a get together at the International Rally for Region 2. I have reserved the Missouri Electric Cooperatives facility (MEC1) at the Fairgrounds. We have access to that room from 11:30am to 1pm. Stay tuned for what we have planned.

Just a friendly reminder. The Region 2, ACI website has multiple rallies already posted for 2024. Please check the ACI site as some of the rallies are already filling up because they are now available to any WBCCI member. We have seen members from the south who are traveling north to get relief from the southern heat.

See you down the road!
Gary Russo
Region 2 President



Region 2 President's Update—March

Spring is Just Around the Corner

I have been getting multiple emails as to when the registration for the Sampson Rally will start. The rally team has been working to get all the moving pieces together, and I am enclosing the awaited link to the JotForm.

<https://form.jotform.com/240374986998177>

The theme this year is 'A Taste of New York'. We have secured 97 trailer sites at the Sampson State Park. Which means the 1st 97 trailers will not need to use the Reserve America website to register. We have done that work for you! The rally this year is being hosted by the following Region 2 clubs: New York Finger Lakes, Hudson Mohawk New York, and the Metropolitan New York Airstream Clubs.

Last year the rally had trailers from multiple regions. That is why we have expanded the number of sites available. We are planning multiple activities at the park and we have an even larger tent to accommodate the number of people we are expecting.

This next story started back in Rock Springs, Wyoming at the Airstream International. There was a presentation by Leslie and Steve Lovett from the Piedmont North Carolina Airstream Club. The title of their presentation was Equipment and Tools for Dutch Oven Lifestyle. Leslie and Steve made Dutch Oven biscuits. If you ask Suzanne, I love biscuits! The year before while camping in the Adirondacks I attempted to make Dutch Oven Jambalaya ala the Boy Scouts of America cookbook. The Jambalaya cooking was well...interesting. Bottom line the rice was underdone. The biggest issue I had was maintaining the heat during the cooking time. I did not have my briquette technique down. The Dutch Oven was open to the air which I now know is a large part of the cooking technique, with the oven.

That is where Leslie and Steve's presentation of making biscuits, comes into play. I decided to give Dutch Oven cooking another try. Steve had what I would call a portable cooker. This cooker kept the heat from the briquettes focused below and around the Dutch Oven.

During the presentation I took multiple photos of what I would call this Rube Goldberg device. After searching/Googling the web, I found a YouTube video titled How to Make a Dennis Cooker for my Dutch Oven.

Well, yesterday I got my parts for a homemade Cooker stove and started to assemble the Cooker. I followed the instructions from the YouTube video.

I did make 2 changes to the design: 1) My roof flashing was 18 inches tall vs 24 inches; 2) I used #6 machine SS screws vs a steel pop rivet.

Any volunteer(s) who wants to be my testing guinea pig?

See you down the road!
Gary Russo
Region 2 President



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Announcing new members

Phyllis Rosello Mercurio

Brewster, NY

HEADS UP FRIENDS!! The March newsletter is going to be published a bit later than usual. Charlie and I are taking a vacation and we won't be back until March 18th. My plan is to publish a shortened version of The Grapevine after I get home.

Guess where we're going????

Liz Kirk, Editor



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A big THANK YOU to
Ron Silco for
volunteering to be our
next webmaster!!



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