

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj April 2024

President's Message

Our March 16th luncheon was a fun 'green' event. We had the honor of having several Red Badges attending*. It was a great turnout with people filling each other in on what has been going on during the winter months. For example, who is going on the Alaskan Caravan, who bought a new Airstream and who bought a new house. Not mentioning any names - you will have to 'come on out' to get filled in on the news. Thanks to Leslie & Frank DeHerde, Laura & Meg Riley and Ken & Nancy Egan.

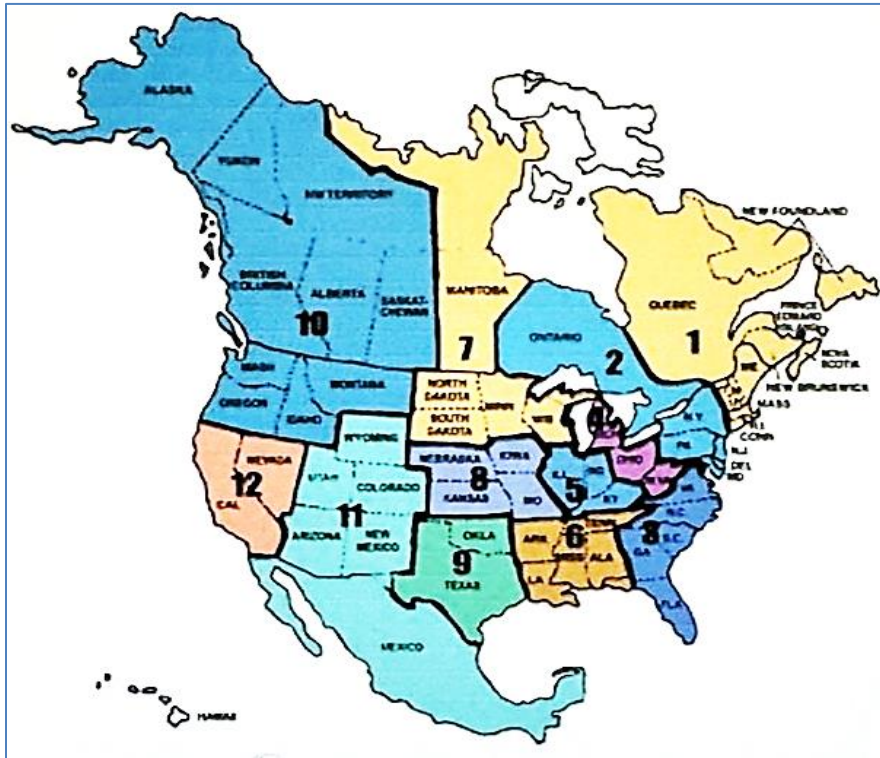
Gary Russo filled us in on the news from Headquarters. He stressed the importance of voting. On May 15th there will be a Fireside Chat regarding the upcoming vote on a Constitutional change. The voting will take place between June 1 - 15. Please take a few minutes to review this ahead of time, at:

<https://airstreamclub.org/international-board-trustees/2024-special-election>

Gone are the days of one landline phone and 'snail mail' only (I am dating myself). There are so many avenues of communication these days. I know with so many emails, some important ones can get overlooked. Please keep your eyes on this one. I will be reminding you, as time gets closer.

Gary also passed out a 'larger than life' handout listing our club Membership Benefits & Discounts. As the list keeps growing, log on and keep checking back.

Our next adventure is the Unbutton Your Rig Rally at Camp Carr in Annandale, NJ. We will have our first meetings of the year and the turnout looks great!



How many Regions have you been to?

Lea #2256

* Red Badges = Region 2 Officers. Gary and Suzanne Russo, current Region 2 President, and First Lady. Our very own Rich and Kathi Short, Past Region 2 President and First Lady

Welcome New Members!

Robert Phillips

Jennifer Phillips

Bruce Walker

Lauren Lee Walker

Region 2 President's Message

Your Vote Counts!

The topic that I will be talking about in this letter is the responsibility of a WBCCI member to vote! Two years ago, there was a change in the voting process. Previously, voting was done using delegates. Each Club/Unit in Region 2 would hold a meeting, and the decision was brought to the International Rally via a delegate.

As stated above, the voting process has changed. We no longer have delegates.

It is now 1 person 1 vote. The Constitution calls for an overall voting percentage to be 20% of the total WBCCI membership with 2/3 of the vote needed to approve a motion. In the last election cycle, Region 2 had only 15-18% voter participation depending upon the club/unit. This means that approx. **311 people** voted out of approx. 1730 people.

Jackson Center sends out a notification for a vote by email with the response being an electronic voter response. The office will send out paper ballots if they are requested. However, this requires a lead time to mail paper ballots. Please take this fact into consideration when you receive a notification about an upcoming vote.

The motion to be voted on (see page 14 of this newsletter) requires a Constitutional change and will be put up for a full WBCCI membership vote.

It is vital that everyone reads the document and votes at the appropriate time. This is your club – make your voice heard! There will be a Q&A Fireside Chat from the International President on this topic on May 15, 2024.

LOGAN COUNTY TORNADO RELIEF

I am reaching out to you to help those affected by the recent tornado in Logan County, Ohio. Most of the members of your Executive Council and International Board of Trustees experienced the tornado alongside the residents of Logan County, especially the towns of Lakeview and Russells Point.

To help with the relief efforts, the Logan County United Way has been set up to receive and distribute donations. Since it is a 501C3 organization, all donations will be tax deductible. The link for the Logan County United Way is uwlogan.org. If you choose to donate, please indicate you are a member of Airstream Club International.



This was an EF2 tornado with winds of 120 mph, and none of us will forget it. All the workers for Airstream, Inc. were affected. It's time to unite as a community to help our fellow Airstream workers and all those who need to rebuild!

Thank you in advance for your generosity to this cause.

I've included a photo from the home next to the AirBnB where some of our Region Presidents were staying and rode out this tornado.

Gratefully,

Gary Russo




Announcements

Sunshine Report

A Get Well card was sent to Jeanne Brugmans following a fall. She is on the mend.

Would you like to have a card sent to another club member to wish them well? Please send a note to Linda Kiesel our Sunshine Director at lkiesel@ptd.net.



How to Find, Sign Up and Pay for an ACI Event Online

- Log on to <https://airstreamclub.org/>
- Click on the EVENTS tab
- 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.
- Find the event you wish to sign up for and click on the associated pin.
- A text box giving a brief description of the event will be displayed. Click on the arrow in the orange box that says More.
- 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.

April Birthdays

Chris Beddiges
Jean Tanis
Jay McCarthy
Andrew Dunkinson
Stayla Elacqua
Ohilda Breen



2024 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon and Rally Schedule

DATE	WHAT/WHEN	HOSTS	COHOSTS	VENUE
April 2024	Unbutton Rally/Business Meeting/April 25-28	Frank and Leslie DeHerde	Joanne Elacqua and Stayla Elacqua	Camp Carr, 1 Camp Buck Rd. Annandale, NJ 08801
May 2024	Region 2 Rally May 2-5	NA	NA	Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair, 169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall PA 16828
June 2024	Club Rally			
July 2024	Club Rally/July 19-21	Chris and Joanne Forster	Lois Wagner Derek Conley	Mt. Greylock Campsite Park, Lanesborough, MA
August 2024	Club Rally/TBD	George and Linda Kiesel	Jay and Cathy McCarthy	Lake Glory Campground 96 Eisenhower Rd., Catawissa, PA
September 2024	No Dilly-dally Rally/Sep 6-8	Meg and Laura Riley	Mark and Angie Ratliff	Lums Pond State Park, Delaware
October 2024	International Rally/October 5-10	WBCCI	NA	MO State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO
October 2024	Club Rally			
November 2024	Luncheon/TBD	Michael Koczwara and Barbara Taylor		TBD
December 2024	Luncheon/Officer Installation/TBD	Leslie DeHerde	Lea Plant	TBD

March Luncheon Recap

Watchung NJ Airstream Club held a March Luncheon at the Knights of Columbus in Woodbridge, NJ. Thank you to Ken Egan for providing the venue. The luncheon was arranged on short notice by Laura Riley and Leslie DeHerde with assistance from Ken.

It was attended by 26 members and the theme was St Patrick's Day, corned beef, cabbage, carrots and rye and soda breads. It was nice to see so many familiar faces and meet some new members.



We were very fortunate to have AirBoardShop join us and show us many of their finest items. You can shop at AirBoardShop.com; take a moment and check them out.

I was a bit hesitant to take on a last-minute luncheon, but it went smoothly and really was not difficult. Laura and I spoke frequently, and Ken was our consultant making it fun. If you are considering hosting an event don't be shy just pick an open date. Let us know and start planning. This group is fun and everything else falls in place.

--Leslie DeHerde

April Rally Information

April No Frills Unbutton Rally

At YMCA Camp Carr

2 Camp Buck Road

Annandale, NJ 08801

Hosts: JoAnne Elacqua and Frank and Leslie DeHerde (lesairstreaming@gmail.com)

Located on a bend of the South Branch of the Raritan River across from hundred-foot granite cliffs in rural Hunterdon County, YMCA Camp Carr's 20-some sites are all right on the river, a favorite of trout anglers. All sites have water and 30-amp electric. The campground has a full-time host who will deliver firewood to your site, a bath house, pavilion, and dump station. You hardly know you're in Jersey! Please let JoAnne or Leslie know your site number so they can plan. So far we have thirteen rigs coming.

Dates: Check-in Friday April 26th – check-out Monday April 29th

Registration opens on January 23rd, please use the Camp Carr reservation link to make your reservation: <https://bookings10.rmscloud.com/Search/Index/10728/90/>

- Friday:** Happy Hour at 5 pm. Dinner on your own. Campfire weather permitting.
- Saturday:** Continental breakfast 8:30 to 10:00am Continental: Muffins, Bagels and Fixings, coffee etc. Bring your plates and Utensils.
Happy hour 4pm.
Dinner: Pulled pork and salads each camper please bring plates and utensils.
Collection for charity
- Sunday** Continental breakfast 8:00 to 9:00. Please bring your plates and utensils.
Executive board meeting 9:00. General meeting to follow.
Happy Hour Dinner on your own
- Monday** Breakdown and Checkout

Sign up with Jot Form or mail coupon below to Lois Wagner 29 Colony Court, New Providence NJ 07974 with check payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club.

Name _____ Cell _____ BRN: _____

Site Number of your reservation _____

of People x \$15.00 per person = _____

Region 2 Rally Information

May 2-5, 2024

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!

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!

Bald 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 link below:

<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 spectacular band scheduled to play. The Rally is from May 2nd to May 5th, but the 'core' will be from Friday May 2nd to Sunday May 4th.

Start your camping season at this Airstreamers rally!

Gary Russo

July Rally Information

July in the Berkshires Rally
Mt. Greylock Campsite Park
15 Scott Road, Lanesborough MA 01237
July 19-21, 2024

Hosts: Joanne and Chris Forster. Cohosts: Lois Wagner and Derek Conley

You can now make your reservations for July's rally at this link: [Mt Greylock Campsite Park Reservations](#).

The reservations are for Friday and Saturday night, July 19 and July 20. **If you would like to go earlier and/or stay later, please call the campground (413-447-9419) rather than using the link, and mention you are with the Watchung Airstream group.**

So far we have 13 rigs signed up.

Note that you reserve by rig size rather than specific site. All sites have water, electric, and gray water hook-up. Black water can be dumped as you exit the campground.

We have sites 30 through 38B reserved (see map on website) and they are all very nice sites. Lois and I are in sites 31 and 35, which is where we will have our group tent set up.

Mt Greylock Campsite Park is an award-winning park in the foothills of the Berkshires. Visit the website to see all the amenities: <https://www.mtgrelockcampsitepark.com/>. Be sure to check out the *Activities and Events* page as well as the *Nearby Attractions* page, which you can access by clicking on the hamburger (≡) in the top left corner of the home page. Mount Greylock Campsite Park is about 220 miles/4 hours from central New Jersey, most of it on I-287, I-87, and I-90.

We will send out the coupon and more information on this rally as we get closer to the date. Feel free to email (joanne.rf55@gmail.com) or call me (908-209-3490) if you have any questions. And **please email me if you sign up** so I can keep a running tally of who is going and monitor if we need to add more sites.



Campsite at Mt. Greylock Campsite Park. Photo from the website.

August Rally Information

August at Lake Glory Campground—Buddy Rally

96 Eisenhower Rd. Catawissa PA 17820

570-356-7329

So far we have 16 trailers coming.

When: Friday August 16th thru Sunday August 18th, 2024. Hosted by Linda and George Kiesel. Cohosts Jay and Cathy McCarthy.

Where: Knoebels Lake Glory Campground 96 Eisenhower Rd. Catawissa PA 17820. 570-356-7392. Knoebels.com

Come join us for a relaxing fun-filled weekend. The campground runs a no-cost shuttle to Knoebels amusement park which is dog-friendly. Other attractions in the area include the Pioneer Tunnel Coal Mine tour in Ashland PA, Geyser Big Mine Run, and several covered bridges in the area.

Twenty sites have been reserved for the club. Lake Glory will hold this block of sites for us for 90 days (till 3/13/24) so please call them soon and reserve your spot. The cancellation fee is only \$5.00 if you cancel more than seven days prior to your arrival date. Please do not delay. The campground will sell out before summer.

We have reserved the following sites (see link below for the campground map): Sites KD116 through KD136; Site LC02 through LC12.

All sites are full hookup, 30-amp electric. There are a limited number of 50-amp sites in the LC group available.

To reserve, please call [570-356-7392](tel:570-356-7392) and tell them you are with the Airstream Club. This number is direct to Lake Glory.

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

<https://www.knoebels.com/stay/lake-glory-campground> - website

Please let George Kiesel know what site you have booked so he can keep a tally of who is where: gkiesel861@gmail.com.

September Rally Information

The No Dilly-dally Rally

Lums Pond State Park
1068 Howell School Road
Bear, Delaware 19701
302-368-6989

When: September 6-8, 2024

Hosts: Meg and Laura Riley

Co-hosts: Angie and Mark Ratliff

We are trying to get all the club in sites 45 thru 62 if possible and there are currently 41 sites open. If you can't get close to sites 45 & 46 no worries! Book asap for best selection!

Use this link to book and view the campground site map:

<https://delawarestateparks.reserveamerica.com/camping/lums-pond-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=DE&parkId=360119>

Once you have your site, please email Meg Riley at vespameg@yahoo.com with your site number and date of arrival. Don't dilly dally or you'll miss the rally!

The hosts and co-hosts will be arriving a day earlier, September 5, so please feel free to join them.



Lums Pond State Park. Photo: Delaware State Parks

FIVE RIVET DEALER
SINCE INCEPTION

COLONIAL AIRSTREAM

AIRSTREAM TRAVEL TRAILERS
MASTER Sales
TO ANSWER ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS

AIRSTREAM FACTORY CERTIFIED SERVICE
• SOLAR UPGRADES
• ACCESSORIES INSTALL
• AIRSTREAM BODY REPAIR
• DE-WINTERIZATION & MORE

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
595 NJ 33, MILLSTONE TWP, NJ 08535

11-TIME RVBUSINESS TOP 50 DEALER

LITHIUM UPGRADES!

CALL US TODAY! 800-265-9019
WWW.COLONIALAIRSTREAM.COM

HUGE INVENTORY!

Items for the newsletter?

Send them by the 20th of each month to: (dconley1810@gmail.com)

Interested in joining the Watchung NJ Airstream club?

Contact:

Membership: George Kiesel (gkiesel861@gmail.com)

President: Lea Plant (tenlea@aol.com)

Proposed Change to Constitution: Establishing the Finance Director Position

What's Happening?

Last Fall, a group within the Elections Policies Special Committee started discussing the idea of introducing a new role called the Finance Director, replacing the current International Treasurer position. This move is prompted by our Club's growth and the increasing complexity of managing its finances.

The text of the proposed amendment can be found via the link below (login required). Scroll to the bottom of the page to download the PDF of the amendment.

<https://airstreamclub.org/international-board-trustees/2024-special-election>

Why an amendment is being proposed?

As our Club expands, managing finances becomes more intricate. The current system worked fine when we were smaller, but now we need someone with broader financial expertise, including forecasting and setting financial policies, not just basic accounting skills.

How Will This Work?

On February 22, 2024, your International Board of Trustees (IBT) approved sending a proposal to amend our Constitution, creating and defining the Finance Director role. Currently, the Treasurer is selected by the IBT from nine eligible members, potentially limiting the pool of candidates with the necessary expertise. The proposed change aims to address this by creating a Finance Director position, who will serve as a non-voting Officer of the Executive Council and IBT, without term limits. This ensures unbiased recommendations to the IBT.

Candidates for the Finance Director will be drawn from our entire membership and vetted through a rigorous process. A detailed job description will clarify expectations, and a Governance Committee, comprising IBT members and experienced Club members, will select the best candidates. The final decision will be made by a vote of the IBT.

When Will This Happen?

The vote on this proposal will occur from June 20 through June 27, 2024. For it to pass, 20% of our members must vote, with at least 2/3 of those votes in favor. Changing the Constitution is a serious matter, but having a qualified Finance Director will benefit the Club's long-term success.

This will be the first Constitutional Amendment considered under the new rules that eliminated delegates' meeting in 2022. Remember, this Club is yours, and your voice matters in decisions like these.

If you have questions or comments, use the avenues below to submit them.

Comment Form

- [ACI Meeting Question & Comment Form \(click to submit\)](#)

Comment via Voicemail

- Call toll free 1-855-675-1955 - Clearly state your name, big red number, local club, agenda item, and comment. Record your comment in 3 minutes or less.

Comment via Email

- Email your comments to info@airstreamclub.org. Include your name, big red number, and comment.



2024 Watchung Club Officers		Other Club Roles	
President	Lea Plant	Membership	George Kiesel
1 st Vice President	Leslie DeHerde	Sunshine	Linda Kiesel
2 nd Vice President	Laura Riley	Web Master	Mark Ratliff
Correspondence Secretary	Lea Plant	Directory	Chris Forster
Recording Secretary	Richard Short	Newsletter	Derek Conley
Treasurer	Lois Wagner	Quartermaster	Jason Pomerleau
Directors	Rebecca Glick		
	Cathy McCarthy		
	Kathi Short		
	Stayla Elacqua		

