

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj March 2024

President's Message



That's what I am talking about in response to my request for volunteers to sit with our table at Colonial's The Next Adventure Sales Event. Many of you 'cooperated' and answered my plea. What did not cooperate was the weather. Several members were not able to attend, but safety first. Thank you all.

In conversations with members at Colonial, 'Watchung Apparel' came up. Although you can shop around, years ago several Watchung members ordered various items with our logo. If interested, you can contact Cody (Al-Mon-O) at cwk5292@gmail.com. We did not have to order in bulk.

I have sent out emails, taking a poll of who will be attending the Region 2 Rally, May 2 - 5 in Centre Hall, PA:

<https://airstreamclub.org/region-2>

and the 67th International, October 5 - 10th in Sedalia, Missouri:

<https://airstreamclub.org/rally2024>

As of the February 14th Membership Fireside Chat, attendance for Sedalia is up to 1,170.

BTW also mentioned was the 2025 International in York, PA (August) and working on the 2026 International in Minot, ND (targeted for August).

If you have not yet responded to my "Poll" please do so. It would be nice to know who is going.

Our next scheduled event is the March 16th luncheon. Please sign up online and/or see the coupon in this issue. Leslie/Frank DeHerde and Laura Riley were able to get us a great price, with a little help from fellow members, Ken and Nancy Egan. Can't wait to don my St. Patrick's Day attire.

We still have some months open for hosting rallies. Please contact Leslie DeHerde or myself if you have questions or to volunteer host.

Lea #2256

Colonial Airstream's Next Adventure Sales Event

ed: The Hillbilly Mystery Correspondent was on assignment and filed this report....



L - R: Gail Lloyd 1583, Watchung NJAC President Lea Plant 2256, Cynthia and Steven Germansky 8531, Kathi and Rich Short 1512. Photos courtesy R Short.

For the third consecutive year our Watchung NJAC was invited to attend and participate in Colonial Airstream's Presidents weekend sales promotion. This year's open house was dubbed the *Next Adventure Sales Event* and was a mini-RV show designed to highlight the full lineup of Airstream trailers and coaches.

As in the previous three years, our Club's participation was spearheaded by now President Lea Plant 2256. Working with Colonial's Creative Marketing Manager, Alex Rivera,

President Lea organized and scheduled our Watchung club volunteers to cover the 2-day event held February 16th and 17th.

Our table was set up with member photos, brochures, copies of our Hillbilly newsletter, and the Blue Beret...all to showcase the Airstream Club, our local Watchung NJ Club, and the Airstream lifestyle. Others participants included vendors such as Equal-i-zer Hitches, Fastway Trailer Products, representatives from AirBoard, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to name a few.

Lending Lea a helping hand and spending time around our table were Gail Lloyd



Figure 1 L - R: Watchung NJAC President Lea Plant 2256, Ohilda (Red) and Thomas Breen 21919, Kathi and Rich Short 1512..

1583, Ken and Nancy Egan 19840, Steven and Cynthia Germansky 8531, Brian and Heidi Cullen 22024, Rich and Kathi Short 1512, and Tom and Ohilda "Red" Breen 21919. On Saturday, new Affiliate members Ed and Nancy Mellina 14457 stopped by to chat. It was nice to meet and spend time with them. In addition, Lea and Kathi worked on a gift basket that was donated on the Club's behalf to a raffle conducted by Colonial for event attendees.

Once again it was a great weekend, unhampered by a few inches of overnight snow, of greeting and engaging people. It is always fun talking about Airstreams and introducing the Club to current, new, and future Airstream owners. As a bonus, it was reported that our club may pick up a few new members as a result of the weekend.



President Lea thanks all of the Watchung members who volunteered their time to make this event such a great success. *L - R: Kathi Short 1512, Ken and Nancy Egan 19840, Watchung NJAC President Lea Plant 2256.*

If you have never been to Colonial Airstream, you owe yourself a visit to their beautiful facility on RT. 33 in Millstone Twp. Airstreams on display indoors included a Basecamp 20X, a 30' Globetrotter, an Interstate touring van, an Atlas Coach, and the latest addition to the Airstream van lineup...the Rangeline B-van, built on the Ram ProMaster 3500 chassis. The outdoor lot was filled with Airstreams of all sizes, models and trims including the beautiful Pottery Barn Edition and the brand new off-road capable, boondocking equipped, Trade Wind. Both the indoor space and the outdoor lot were also populated by Winnebago vans and motorhomes as Colonial is an award-winning top selling Winnebago store as well as an Airstream dealer. Between the two brands, there were more than a few trailers and vans that perked the interest of our Watchung volunteers as they explored the showroom and lot. Overall, it was a great weekend of Watchung NJ Airstream Club friendship and fun.

Welcome New Members!

Leandro Cavallim

Critchley Tureta



Chris Manley of the Pennsylvania Airstream Club found "Cocovan", on the island of Providenciales in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Originally a barn rescue from Missouri it is now a kitchen that serves up what Chris says are the best fish tacos and smashburgers on the island.



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.

Region 2 President's Message



Spring is just around the Corner

I have been getting multiple emails as to when the registration for the Sampson Rally¹ will start. The rally team has been working to get all the moving pieces together, and I am enclosing the 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 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 again plan multiple activities at the park, and we have an even larger tent to accommodate the number of people we are expecting.

¹ Editor's note: Three New York State clubs are hosting a rally at Sampson State Park, New York, August 1-5.

This next story started back in Rock Springs, Wyoming at the Airstream International Rally. 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.

- My roof flashing was 18 inches tall vs 24 inches.
- I used #6 machine SS screws vs a steel pop rivet.

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

Gary Russo



Announcements

Sunshine Report

We sent a get-well soon card to David Cahall who had knee-replacement surgery in January.

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.

March Birthdays

Lea Plant

Gail Lloyd

Gary Brink

Carolyn Hagman

Angie Ratliff

2024 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon and Rally Schedule

DATE	WHAT/WHEN	HOSTS	COHOSTS	VENUE
March 2024	Luncheon March 16 noon.	Leslie DeHerde	Meg Riley	Knights of Columbus, 130 Main St. Woodbridge NJ
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 Koczwar and Barbara Taylor	Patty Ciak and Sam Kessel	TBD
December 2024	Luncheon/Officer Installation/TBD	Leslie DeHerde	Lea Plant	TBD

March Luncheon Information



Hosted by: Laura Riley and the DeHerdes

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a corned beef meal with all the sides!

Saturday March 16th 12n-3:30p

Knights of Columbus
130 Main St, Woodbridge, NJ

Price: \$16 per person

Sign up online with Jot Form and email Leslie to let her know you are attending or mail coupon below to **Leslie DeHerde 22 Hissim Rd, Great Meadows, NJ 07838**. Please make check payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club.

March Luncheon Coupon

Name(s): _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$16 ea. Total \$ _____

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.mtgreylockcampsitepark.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

Holding sites until March 13!

August at Lake Glory Campground—Buddy Rally

96 Eisenhower Rd. Catawissa PA 17820
570-356-7329

So far we have 16 trailers coming and six reserved sites still available till March 13.

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

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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)



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		

