

President's Message

Spring is just around the corner? Even with the ice on the driveway today, the sun out right now makes it seems like spring is on the way.

Soon we'll all be getting our Airstreams out of storage or finishing up winter projects, and making travel plans. Looks like a busy schedule ahead for 2020—Hudson-Mohawk unit rallies, Region 2 Rally in Canada, International Rally in Colorado, as well as personal travel whenever we can squeeze it in.

Just a thought, many of the WBCCI Units are changing their names to include "Airstream" in the Unit Name. Something to think about and discuss when we get together.

We're looking forward to our upcoming luncheons in March and April, then the kick off rally, hosted by Sally Kerr, in Marathon, NY, in May. I'm hoping to see and meet as many of you as possible at some of our 2020 events.

Stay healthy and safe travels,

John Vettovalli, President

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Officers

<u>President</u> John Vettovalli

1st Vice President
Dan Steen

2nd Vice President
Gary LaMothe

<u>Treasurer</u> Wendy Vettovalli

<u>Secretary</u> Barbara Schultz

Director (1year)
Bill Schultz

Director (2year)
Bob Abraham

Membership Geoff Whittle

<u>Storekeeper</u> Wendy Vettovalli

<u>Historian</u>

Dan Steen

Webmaster
Dana King

Newsletter Barbara Schultz

Activity Chair
Sue Whittle

Schedule of Events

February 1st, 2020 11:30am	Cabin Fever Luncheon Olive Garden 178 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12205	Geoff & Sue Whittle whittleg06@gmail.com 518-783-1606	
March 21st, 2020 12:00 noon	Luncheon Foster's 6411 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572	Cindy Davis cindylvdavis@aol.com 845-227-8301	
April 18th, 2020 12:00 noon	Luncheon Hyde Park Brewing Company 4076 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538	Ken & Maria Volpe 845-679-4008	
May 15-17, 2020 w/option to add on the 14th	Fun and Games Hudson Mohawk and Finger Lakes Joint Rally Country Hills Campground, Marathon, NY	Sally Kerr stskerr@optonline.net 1-845-489-5010	
May 21-25, 2020	Region 2 Rejudication Rice Account and Market Rice Acc	Ontario Canada Airstream unit	
May 28-31, 2020	Buddy Rally Lake George RV Park Lake George, NY	Geoff & Sue Whittle whittleg06@gmail.com	
June 20-27, 2020	International Rally, Loveland, CO	WBAC	
July 16-19 2020	Nickerson Park Campground 378 Stryker Road Gilboa, NY 12076	Bilodeau/Volpe tacobelle12@yahoo.com kjvolop1@gmail.com	
August	Lake Lauderdale Cambridge, NY	Dana & Sue King godogs@frontier.net	
September 17-20	Installation Rally Fish Creek Pond Public Campground 4523 State Route 30, Saranac Lake, NY	John & Wendy Vettovalli wendymv1@yahoo.com	
October 2-4	Dry Camping Rally 101 Canty Road, Greenfield Center, NY 12833	Gary LaMothe g0828@aol.com	
November 7th, 2020 12:00noon	Fall Luncheon Mahoney's Irish Pub & Steakhouse 35 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601	Cindy Davis cindylvdavis@aol.com 845-227-8301	
December	Holiday Party	Gary LaMothe g0828@aol.com	

Looking Forward to 2020

CELEBRATING MARCH HAPPY APRIL

3rd Bridget Beebe 11th Diane Bergquist 23rd Randy Boelsems 30th Bob Stevens

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

4th John Vettovallí

Happy Anniversary

April 6th Alan & Joyce Bartlett

April 7th Bill & Barbara Schultz

April 22nd Eric & Connie Pearson

April 27th Bob & Joan Stevens



Welcome New Members

Dan & Lianne Fenn 6289

Don't be shy, join us at an event soon!





Submitted by Rich Short, Region 2 President

Region 2 News February/March 2020

The Mid-Winter IBT meeting held in Las Vegas last month is now in the rearview mirror and the kickoff of Spring camping season is up ahead and coming on FAST. The calendars of our local clubs reveal many, many camping opportunities to look forward to. Maintenance Rally, Unbutton Your Rig Rally, Spring Rendezvous... whatever your club calls it...mark up your calendar now and start counting down the days to that first outing. I know I am!

Speaking of the Mid-Winter IBT Meeting, much was accomplished during those 3 days in January. Congratulations to the clubs who had their name changes approved, including our own Al-Mon-O Pennsylvania Airstream Club. I know of several more in our Region who have or are in the process of voting on a name change. Over 75% of the local clubs in our WBCCI have made the change so far. There were several motions approved that make continued improvements to our Constitution and Bylaws, with the intent to "clean up" verbiage and complete the reformatting of the documents. The goal is to have a clean, "searchable" Constitution and By-Laws on our Club website, with policy and procedures separated from the basic foundational documents. Those approved motions will be presented for Delegate voting at the International Rally this summer out in Loveland, CO. A full slate of International Officers will also be presented for Delegate voting as current Region 1 President Per Hamnqvist #285 has accepted nomination to the office of International 3rd VP. Congratulations, Per! Additionally, the IBT voted to approve the new colorful AIC (Airstream Club, Int'l) marketing logo as one of three (3) official emblems available for club use. Look for that new logo and brand guidelines to be available for widespread download on airstreamclub.org soon.

At our Region Officers forum, I was proud to have presented a discussion paper titled "The Airstream Club's Brand and Member Benefits". Written in collaboration with Mid-Atlantic Airstream Club President, Jonathan Jacobs #2784, the paper put forth for discussion the need to increase our Airstream Club's member benefits. I presented and discussed our ideas on how to expand Member Benefits and add value to our Club brand. The paper and the ideas proposed were well received, stimulated some critical thinking and prompted a lot of good questions. We will continue to push for expanding the benefits of Club membership by offering and promoting those ideas such as product and service discount programs, insurance partnerships, travel services, a branded rewards credit card and educational opportunities, to name a few. I want to thank Jonathan for his help and contributions to the effort.

The new Club website continues to fill out, with more content and additions to the calendar of events. Remember, all local clubs are responsible for adding their planned activity info directly to the website. I recently sent out a reminder and included instructions on how to access and edit your calendar. Any questions on that procedure, please let me know. Transitioning our local club websites over to the new web format will begin this Spring and will be done in waves. There will be three modern, easy to implement brand-consistent templates for both Region and local clubs to use in updating their websites.

Work on the new membership data base and other items included in Phase 2 of website improvement is also under way, including a self-service member portal. Members will be able to create and input/change/update

info in a "log-in, member only" secure personal member profile. Also in the works is a new process for signing up for Caravans, including secure online application and registration, plus a centralized banking and payment process. It was reported that there are twenty (20) National Caravans being offered in 2020, the largest number ever offered by the Airstream Club!

The biggest take away from the meetings in Las Vegas is that our Airstream Club is in the midst of its largest modernization and transformation in years. We are fortunate to have a dedicated core of talented members, all volunteers, who work countless hours to the benefit of our Airstream Club and its growing membership. Lori Plummer, our Corporate Manager, and her staff do an awesome job, day in and day out, for our members. It is exciting and impressive to see the improvements being made and those in the pipeline soon to come. Stay tuned!

I am pleased to introduce Lea Plant #2256 as our new Region 2 Membership Chair. Lea is a Past-President of the Watchung NJ Airstream Club and is also Past-Editor of their club's award-winning news-letter, *The Hillbilly*. Lea will be working to help our local clubs by acting as a liaison to Headquarters and by bringing information and ideas for club growth. I know she will do a great job and I thank her for volunteering. I am also pleased to say I have spoken with several people interested in becoming Region 2 Officers. I am confident that we will install a 1st VP in May at our Region 2 Rally in Kingston Ontario, Canada and then a 2nd VP by the end of the year. I am grateful for those who have stepped up and expressed interest in continuing our efforts to **Renew Region 2** and are dedicated to making our Region and Club the best it can be.

Finally, an update on our 2020 Region 2 Rally. On January 15th, we stopped taking registrations and started a waiting list as we were at capacity and had filled all 108 sites at Rideau Acres Campground. Since that time, we have been given a few more sites, had some cancellations that we then filled from the wait list and are now at **119 rigs registered**! Thank you for the tremendous response to the Rally and many thanks to the Ontario Club #124 for all their work and support. It is going to be awesome!

Roll on, Airstreamers! Rich Short #1512







Wally Byam Airstream Club



Airstream Club, Int'l

No matter which name you use There is only one Airstream...and one Airstream Club!

Cabin Fever Luncheon City Caveler ITALIAN RESTAURANT ®

On Saturday February 1st we met at the Olive Garden in Albany NY for the Cabin Fever luncheon. Hosted by the Whittle's with the Steen's, Crandall's, Bergquist, & Cindy Davis & Bill Levy attending. It was wonderful to see Camille. She is doing so great & Art is so supportive.

The lunch was delicious, the conversations varied, & the laughter healing.

See you all down the road! Geoff & Sue Whittle







Important Information

<u>President</u> John Vettovalli (4391) jvettovalli@gmail.com

<u>Vice President</u> Dan Steen (1389) dmsteen@gmail.com

<u>Treasurer</u> Wendy Vettovalli (4391) wendymv1@yahoo.com

<u>Secretary</u> Barbara Schultz (5666) hudsonmohawknews@gmail.com

Web Page hudsonmohawkny.airstreamclub.net

NEWSLETTER IDEAS OR SUBMISSIONS?

I welcome any comments and suggestions for articles you'd like to read. I would like to make the newsletter informative, entertaining and accurate. So, please feel free to send your suggestions or a story you would like to post.

Thank You, Barbara

Send pictures, rally reports and club information to:

hudsonmohawknews@gmail.com for the newsletter.

Pictures can also be sent to Dana King at:

godogs@frontiernet.net for our web page.

Would love to see your pictures on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/528607020682777/





LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

https//www.facebook.com/groups/528607020682777/

Newsletter Deadlines

January Issue—December 15 July Issue—June 15

March Issue—February 15 September Issue—August 15

May Issue—April 15 November Issue—October 15

Is it Spring Yet Luncheon? Happening In Saturday March 21st, 12:00 noon March



Please RSVP to Cindy Davis/Bill Levy 845-235-9473

cindylvdavis@aol.com

6411 Montgomery St , Rhinebeck, NY, 12572 http://www.fosterscoachhouse.com/index.html

> SPRING LUNCHEON Saturday April 18th, 12:00 noon

Happening In

Please RSVP to Ken Volpe

845-679-4008

kjvolpe1@gmail.com



located in beautiful and historic Hyde Park, NY directly across from the F.D. Roosevelt Home,

Library and Museum.

Menu and directions available at

WWW.HYDEPARKBREWING.COM

Are you tired of winter and looking forward to getting your Airstream ready to go again?





The Fun and Games Rally is going to be packed full of all types of games that are suited for everyone. I recently looked up how to play Bunco on You Tube. Although there are different rules depending on where you play, the concept is the same. The very next day after watching the video, I found that a church was sponsoring a Bunco night, so I joined them to see how it was done. It was lots of fun and all you have to really know is how to roll the dice. The fun part is that you keep changing tables so you get to enjoy others.

At one of the International Rallies, the Regions competed in Beanbag Baseball. I am hoping to have the board built so we can enjoy it at our rally.

There will be different outdoor games, most of what can be brought inside if needed. Please feel free to bring any that you have including table games that you like to play with a small group.

Fishing in the pond may be done but the fish have to be released. Friday morning, we will leave the campground and carpool to Ithaca and take the short easy walk to Taughannock Falls. This is handicap accessible.

It is always great to meet new people so time will be planned for small groups to get together and meet new people. If you have new members in your club, this will provide a great opportunity for them to get to know the people in your club as well as others in the state. Because of all my interactions with other Airstream members, it is great to meet them again at Region and International Rallies.

Remember, that you need to get your reservation to Sally Kerr by April 15 as the reservations have to be made at the campground. After that, the sites will be released to the public. It is first come, first served. When the available sites are filled, you will be notified that you are on the waiting list.

Thank you, Sally

Fun and Cames Joint Raby, May 14-1

Dam Play

Fishing Only

Not a Swimming Area

Play

Pla



FUN & GAMES JOINT RALLY May 14-17, 2020



Hudson Mohawk & Finger Lakes Airstream Clubs Country Hills Campground 11365 Muckey Road, Marathon, NY

Come enjoy the fun and meet new people from NY and possibly other areas. We will have inside facilities with heat if needed.

There will be a variety of inside and outside games provided but would love you to bring some of your favorites.

There will also be some group games or contests involved!! The theme is fun and games after all!!

For those who haven't been to Taughannock Falls State Park, we will likely visit on Friday morning, weather permitting. It is a beautiful, easy, and flat walk. In order to become better acquainted with each other, we will have a small Get Acquainted Meetings in the beginning (also known as a GAM if you've ever been on a caravan!!)

An agenda will be shared as we get closer to the date.

If you're going on to the Region 2 Rally in Kingston, Ontario you can elect to stay until Monday at the reduced rate. Wellesley Island State Park is another destination just this side of the border that offers many sites. Not being sure which day we can park at Region 2 this is a good option if you're not planning to go home between rallies.

Country Hills Campground will be providing the following meals (included in the cost):

*Friday Night – Spaghetti & Meatballs with salad and garlic bread

*Saturday & Sunday buffet breakfast (9:00 am). Bring your own coffee or tea. Breakfast is cook to order.

*Saturday Evening Supper – BBQ chicken dinner, baked beans, cold salad, drink and dessert

The campground requires that I pay for everyone. Reservations are on a 1st come 1st serve basis.

The campground MUST be notified by April 15th in order to reserve the sites.

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION TO: Sally Kerr, 31 Hashrouck Drive, Poughkeensie, NY 12603 RY APRIL 12th

TELASE SEIND TOOK KESEK	VATION TO: Sally Kerr, SI	Thusbroack brive, Foughkeepsie, NY 12003 by AFRIE 12th
Name:		
Address:		·
Phone Number:	Email	l:
WBCCI #:	Lengtl	h of trailer or vehicle:
Thursday – Sunday:	Full hook-ups Water & Electric only Additional meal(s)	If arriving on Thursday the cost only covers 1 attendee. \$147 \$122 \$7 (for each additional meal)
Friday – Sunday:	Full hook-ups Water & Electric only	\$109 \$99
Sunday-Monday (extra):	Full hook-ups Water & Electric only	\$31 \$26
	TOTAL ENCLOSED:	\$

NOTE: Additional Rally Fee TBD. You will be notified in advance and can pay at the rally.

23rd ANNUAL BETTY & DON WHITTLE MEMORIAL BUDDY RALLY

May 28 - 31, 2020

Lake George RV Park, Lake George, NY Hosted by Geoff & Sue Whittle

Thursday: 7:30 Campfire

Friday: On your own

Friday: Happy Hour Heavy Hors d'oeuvres bring a dish to

share

Friday: Campfire and goodies

Saturday: 8:30 Pancake & Sausage breakfast followed by

meeting

Saturday: On your own

Saturday: 4:00 Happy Hour

Saturday: 5:30 Pot Luck Dinner bring a dish to share

Saturday: 7:30 Campfire

Sunday: Pack up and leave

Reservations & checks made to Geoff Whittle 87 Southgate Rd. Albany NY 12211

(518) 783-1606 email whittleg06@gmail.com

RESERVATION FORM

Name	
Address	
WBCCI #	
Number of nights @ \$74 per night	
Rally fee \$ 8 per trailer	
TOTAL DUE	

July 16 - 20, 2020

Nuri, Henry Bildeau / Ken, Maria Volpe July 2020 Rally

info@nickersonparkcampground.com

Nickerson Park Campground July 16, 2020 Thursday - July 19 Sunday

Contact Gina

website https://www.nickersonparkcampground.com/

Looking at site map to the right is more morning sun conversely to the left is afternoon sun sites 500 are closer to swimming pool and playground so they are more active sites. Sites 100 - 200 are quieter

\$52.00 nightly includes electric, water, sewer and cable.

Activities that weekend is a car show.

If we all want to be in one row we can have sites 157 - 168 (spot 161 is not available to us)

Please call Gina to reserve your spot at (607) 588-7327, if you prefer to be somewhere else at the Campground let Gina know. You can book online, in the remarks section on line let them know that you are part of the Hudson-Mohawk Rally or if you speak with Gina.

I have made my reservation for site #159, Nuri will be on #158. Please review their cancellation policy that I thought was very liberal, I would encourage everyone to make a reservation early if we want to be in the same area. It was easy to reserve on line section 175 - 168.

We are yet to come up with a theme but will in the coming weeks.

Looking Forward to a Good Weekend I am sure we will have a good time.



378 Stryker Road, Gilboa, NY

(607) 588-7327

https://www.nickersonparkcampground.com/



Hudson-Mohawk Installation Rally 2020

September 17-20, 2020

Hosted by John & Wendy Vettovalli

Fish Creek Pond Campground

4523 State Route 30 Saranac Lake, NY

Reservations must be made through *Reserve America*.

Reservations can be made starting on 12/17/2019

To see site information, including photos of each site, go to www.Fishcreekpond.com

Go to "Campsite Photo Guide" tab, then, click on "Choose Site" on left side of page.

We're going to try for the sites on the peninsula, sites A1-A22. They are the inner sites. Shoreline sites along the peninsula are walk-in sites only during our rally days. I believe that means that although you cannot reserve those shoreline sites, if you've reserved an inner site, you might be able to trade that reserved inner site for a shoreline site when you get there, if there's one available.

Watch the trailer length of the site you pick. Most A sites are up to 40 foot trailers, but a few are 30 foot and Site A20 says only up to 20 foot. I'm going to try for site A18, to try to get in the middle of things.

This is a NY State campground with *dry camping only*. **NO electric, water or sewer hook-ups.** They have a dump station and there are quite a few water outlets available on the peninsula. Generators are allowed up to 5 hours per day from 9am to 11am and 4 to 7pm.

Please let Wendy know that you're coming at — wendymv1@yahoo.com or text to 518-848-8023



So, Just How "Riveted" Are You?

Anthropomorphism the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something nonhuman.

Personification is the humanizing an object when communicating to an audience.

Before I bought my 1966 Airstream Caravel '17 this past June, I read everything I could to become an informed buyer. What struck me at the time was that people in the Air Forums, in videos, on Instagram and in dedicated websites seemed curiously attached to their Airstreams, as if the trailer was family or a friend. Most rigs had been named, were well-loved and extensively photographed, and when work had been done to a rig, everything was so well-documented and analyzed that it seemed like a silver badge of honor. To an outsider, it was "riveting," you might say.

After more than a year of scouring, searching, and rejecting one trailer after another, I stepped into this 1966 Caravel and I knew instantly, "she" was mine...and without really appreciating it then, I fell in line with my fellow "tincansmen," as I started to bring her back to life.

First things first — "she" needed a name. In what quickly became a fiercely competitive naming exercise, family and friends from around the country tendered their picks. From the outside, "she" was fairly well-preserved and oh so petite, and thus the only rule was that "her" name had to be a monosyllabic throwback to the 60's.

As texts and emails flew, with one less riveting pun after another, I kept thinking about the woman I had seen in the 1966 Caravel "Optionals" brochure, posing next to the suspended bunk bed option. With her vintage 60's bob [that can only be achieved with curlers], her sleeveless, button-down shirt and capri pants [pressed, of course], and low heels [apparently not into hiking], I kept thinking, "Flo." But the naysayers, who were lobbying hard for Pearl, Rosie, Lucy and Ethel, took potshots at a name that ubiquitously symbolizes an insurance spokeswoman.

To me, though, the name suited "her" perfectly, and so, I went with the "flow" and officially named her "Flo[w]" – nicknamed, "Flo" – as in go with the flow...





With the naming complete, I launched full-steam into sterilizing Flo, hand-sanding the cabinetry, and replacing the curtains and gaucho cushions...all with an eye on embracing the essence of her 1960's style. As I stripped the clearcoat away, I knew I had found a real gem.

As family and friends climbed on board, they could see the vision, and after finding the "wine fridge," they too were soon talking about Flo, as though she was my new bestie, with some offering gifts they thought "Flo might like." Priceless.

As the 2019 camping season drew to a close, I packed up all of her kitchen, bath and decorative goodies for the winter, and removed both gauchos to discover the source of the leak that developed at the Fall Rally [a poorly patched fresh water tank – bubble gum would have worked better] and the spots of rot I had found.

With a tinge of sadness and a lot of hopefulness, I drove Flo to Plattsburgh for her long-awaited "winter make-over." Though I hated to drive away without her, this had to be done in order to preserve the essence of Flo and my ability to continue to "go with the Flo[w]."





As the first photos of her shell-off "tummy tuck" came across the transom, I gasped, "What have I done?"

Seeing her "bubble" as it was being carted outside on a gurney, where it would be parked in the snow and freezing temperatures until her underbelly was restored, made me want to drive back up there and cover "her" with warm blankets. And that's when I realized I had become full-on attached to an inanimate object, as if she were family, just like so many others before me.





Clearly, Flo was waiting to be rescued...

EWWW!!!! This is the hot mess that lurked deep in her belly, as her skins were removed, upside-down on the rotisserie.



The old rotted floor, used as a template for the new sub-floor, was just plain gross.



AFTER...

And then suddenly, Flo crossed into a new "Flo[w] State" with refurbished steel, all reinforced, and a $1\,x1$ " piece of pipe added to create a frame for the gray tanks!



Another flip on the rotisserie to install the new gray tanks, revealed a shiny steel frame that is oh so much improved and stronger.





She now is sporting a custom spare tire rack that sits on the underside of her chassis, just like the new rigs! And so, within a matter of days, at the hands of some very skilled artisans at Colin Hyde Restorations [including Flo's own "Flashdance" girl welder], Flo is already so much stronger, sleeker, and I am sure much happier!



As we head into March, I am counting down the days until "my girl" is ready "Go with the Flo[w]" once again. Until then, I remain "riveted" to my email as I await new photos, missing her...my sleek silver "sister."

See you down the road, hopefully at the Region 2 Rally in the Finger Lakes, co-hosted by Sally Kerr! Hollie Bart (No. 4597)

