

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj September 2024

President's Message



We have another great rally under our belts. The weather was 'iffy' most of the weekend but only rained at night. Attending were Regular Members, Affiliate Members, and Buddies.

Pictured is our Watchung NJ Airstream Club 'ceremonial' flag. I brought it to the rally but forgot to take a picture of it while set up. These days, it is only taken out at Internationals when it is proudly walked down the aisle during Opening Ceremonies. Inquiring minds wanted to know what those banners hanging from the top signified.

'2003 – 2016 – Superior Merit Award Under the leadership of every single president*, our club received the 'Superior Merit Award', resulting in a gold banner to be hung from our unit flag. This award was weighted on such things as: Member communication (Newsletter), Rally / Luncheon Schedule, Officers, Member Retention, Community Service (a form was completed twice per year by contributing members, tallied up by hours volunteered and money/value of items donated to thrift stores/food pantries during each six month period). We would also add our group contributions as well, including Toys for Tots, food bank, and the various charities throughout the year'. Go to: airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj to see more of our Club History.

On my way home from the rally, an incident occurred which made me think of the good old days. As I was entering a highway from a rest area, an 18-wheeler who could not move over, 'blinked' at me to let me know that he/she was going to let me enter the highway. How considerate! Of course, I opened my window and gave a wave. Many years ago, when I drove from New Jersey to Ohio for college, it seemed like giving you a blink to let you know that it was ok to move over was the norm. Was it because back then I was a young, blond, collegiate? Maybe. In recent years while towing, I have experienced some similar situations, but nowhere

near how it used to be.

Our next rally is at Lums Pond State Park in Delaware. It sounds like we will have a good turnout. Also coming up is our October Rally which will include our Annual Business Meeting. See the coupon, elsewhere in this issue.

Lea #2256

* 2003-Bob Halsey, 2004-Joe Fodor, 2005-Steve Nehlig, 2006-Fred Spencer, 2007-Lea Plant, 2008-Warren Pasmore, 2009-Loretta Nauta, 2010-Fred Brugmans, 2011-Ed Brunner, 2012-Dave Morrison, 2013-Joe Fodor, 2014-George Kiesel, 2015-Jane Layman, 2016-Rich Short

Tips from the Turnpike

In the past, people sent in good things/hints to know which was called 'Tips from the Turnpike'. The pictured items have come in handy for filling bike tires, charging electronics and jump-starting a car battery! There are many brands out there. -- Lea



Region 2 President's Message

August was a full month, with attending the Taste of New York Rally hosted by the New York Finger Lakes, Metro New York and the Hudson Mohawk clubs on Seneca Lake. What a fun time! The rally had people attending from California, Texas, Florida, Region 1, and Region 2 was well represented. Attendance was 130 people with 67 rigs. The three clubs put on quite the event! I've included some pictures from that rally.



On August 22, 2024 a 4-hour IBT meeting was held where we covered many topics. I'm going to hit only the highlights from the meeting.

- 707 East Pike remodel is on budget, and the staff plans to move in late October after the International Rally.
 - To accomplish this, there was a high level of volunteer labor.
 - PPG and Sherwin Williams donated paint supplies and material.
- Harvest Host Courtesy parking benefit is now available to all members.
 - Currently there are 350 host members.

- JotForm for the parking is being updated with the following:
 - NO fee to use the 350 sites.
 - Pictures of the sites.
 - Services that are available at the site.
 - Jackson Center sites will be on the Harvest Host Courtesy parking.
 - There will be a Harvest Host representative at Sedalia MO.
 - Boondocking sites TBA
- During the IBT meeting Alan Rabb, the International Financial Director, gave a deep dive into the financial health of WBCCI.
 - After his presentation, he and the financial committee made the motion to raise the annual membership rates to \$99.00.
 - The committee recommended that the membership fee be reviewed to stay in line with the inflation rate, which was one of the reasons the fee fell behind.

I know this was a hot button for many of the Region 2 membership, and I heard from both sides of the discussion. I was in favor of an increase of \$10.00 to \$85.00 with the caveat that the financial committee continue with a line-item review of the budget. If, after the review, an increase was still needed, then we would go forward with the rate increase to \$99.00.

Another assumption I heard was that the rate increase is due to the purchase of 707 East Pike. A breakdown of the membership fee showed the building purchase accounted for only \$4.00 of the increase. The inflation rate was the biggest cause for the increase. One example of inflation was that a senior coffee in December of 2023 was \$1.07 at a McDonald's in Rochester, New York. That same cup of coffee is now \$1.72. That is a 61% increase in less than 1 year.

- After the discussion, the voting majority felt that it was better to raise the membership fee once, instead of going back to the membership the following year. I voted **against** the rate increase.
- The \$99.00 increase will take effect in September 2024.

The Region 2 luncheon at the International Rally is still open for registration. Mike Giunta, the new Region 1 President, has reached out to us to see if we could have a joint luncheon because we share the same time and are in the adjacent room. I agreed with this proposal. Doing this will allow us both to have great food options at the event.

- Monday October 7, 2024
- 11:30 am-1:00 pm
- Missouri Electric Coop
- Bldg. MEC 2

The link for the luncheon is below:

<https://form.jotform.com/240456396910157>

Don't forget to stop by the Region 2 table during the Sedalia rally.

Can you believe that we are already adding rally dates to the 2025 calendar?!!!

- May 1 to 5 Region 2 Rally, Grange Fairgrounds PA
- July 31 to August 4 Sampson State Park NY
- August 23 to 28 International Rally, York PA

See you down the road.

Gary

Announcements

Sunshine Report

No cards were sent this month. That's a good sign!

Would you like to have a card sent to another club member to wish them well or mark a milestone? 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

September Birthdays

Tom Feury
Mark Ratliff
Lynda Kresge
Robert Cucci



August Rally Report

By Linda Kiesel

The weekend of August 16-18, 2024 at Lake Glory Campground in Catawissa Pennsylvania was shaping up to be a rainy one. Fortunately, the meteorologists got it all wrong, and while we had clouds, the only rain was overnight Friday night. That meant that it did not interfere with our campfires, (thanks Derek!), dinners, breakfasts or ability to enjoy the weekend. Despite several cancellations, we still had 15 trailers present, including three buddies, one whom we hope to be able to recruit to join Watchung. Some of us had been to Lake Glory, conveniently located very close to Knoebel's amusement park, the year before. Knoebel's is America's largest free admission and parking amusement park. It opened in 1926, has a neat museum explaining the history of the park, and offers plenty of places to eat, people watch, and only pay for the individual rides.



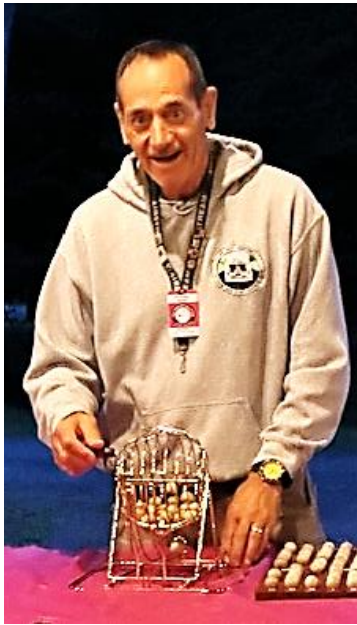
Making the Saturday morning blueberry pancakes are hosts Linda and George Kiesel and co-host Jay McCarthy. Not pictured, co-host Cathy McCarthy. Photo R Short

We were happy to be joined by Jenny and Rob Phillips, Nancy and Dave Deibert, and Michelle and James Gonzales and their daughter. The Dieberts were able to redeem their complimentary rally fee certificate this weekend. We were joined by Tom and Linda Reagan, (buddy), Tony and Sarah Frodelly, (buddy), and Gail Brown and Jeff Pearsall, (new owners of the Kiesel's vintage Argosy). Linda Ward gets the long- distance award, attending the rally all the way from Texas, leaving her Airstream home, and tent camping, the way many of us began this camping adventure.



Watchung president Lea Plant shares a laugh with Linda Ward. Photo R. Short

We had pizza from a local pizza shop in Catawissa, trying a different place from last year. Sorry, but it is not Jersey pizza! Saturday, we had a pancake and sausage breakfast, which has become our signature rally breakfast. Saturday was left open to explore the area, relax at the campground or visit with friends. Saturday night was our potluck dinner, and despite running rallies for years, learned that improvements can always be made. Next time we will request that all contributions be labeled and include ingredients. Following the meal, we had a raffle to support St. Jude's, and an impressive \$307 was added to our tally. Thank you everyone for your generosity!



Rich Short called Regifting Bingo Saturday night. Photo L. Wagner

Sky Med came to do a presentation during the Friday night dinner, and they contributed \$200 toward our rally, and raffled off some Amazon gift cards. A decision was made to donate the \$200 to the Susan B Komen Foundation, after we found out that a Sky Med employee had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Saturday night, we played a game of regifting Bingo. The Watchung unit had played this a number of years ago, and it can result in a lot of laughs, especially when one gets to “steal” the bingo prize from someone else. Sunday morning we had our continental breakfast, Executive and General meetings, and stressed the need to fill the 2025 Rally schedule, along with the need for a second VP, and Director. Thanks to Jay McCarthy, the Director position has been filled.

We would like to express our thanks to Cathy and Jay McCarthy for being such wonderful co-hosts, it was a pleasure to plan with you. Thank you to everyone who came out to rally with us!



Unit President Lea Plant presents new member gift certificates to Jennifer and Robert Phillips and Nancy and Dave Deibert. The club gives new members attending their first rally gift certificates that discount the fee for the second rally they attend.

Hillbilly Cooking

This month's short-and-sweet recipe was submitted by our 2025 President Leslie DeHerde who made it for the Berkshire Rally in July where it was very popular. Please send your favorite recipes to the editor (dconley1810@gmail.com).

Bourbon Slush

This recipe makes about sixteen 8-ounce servings.

2 Cups very strong tea

1 (12 oz) Frozen lemonade thawed

1 (6oz) frozen OJ thawed

1 Cups Sugar dissolved in 6 Cups water

2 Cups Bourbon

1 liter of chilled Sprite or Club Soda to serve

1. Make Tea. Add sugar water, then the rest of the ingredients except for the Sprite or club soda.
2. Pour into container and freeze. The bourbon will keep the mixture from freezing solid.
3. When ready remove from freezer, place in a bowl, and chop/crush into a slushie mixture.
4. To serve, ladle into a cup and add an ounce or two of chilled Sprite or club soda for effervescence.

Left over slush will refreeze.



2024-5 Watchung Airstream Club Luncheon and Rally Schedule

DATE	WHAT/WHEN	HOSTS	COHOSTS	VENUE
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 and Annual Business Meeting/Oct 24-27	Rich and Kathi Short	Lea Plant, Brian and Heidi Cullen	White Oak Campground, Quarryville, PA
November 2024	Luncheon/Nov. 16	Michael Koczwara and Barbara Taylor		The Little York, Milford, NJ
December 2024	Luncheon/Officer Installation/December 8 at 12:30	Leslie DeHerde	Lea Plant	Chimney Rock Inn, Flemington, NJ
January 2025	Luncheon	Steven and Cynthia Germansky	Brian and Heidi Cullen	TBD
February 2025	Luncheon			
February 2025	Special Event/Feb 14-15	Contact Lea Plant		Colonial Airstream, Millstone Twp.
March 2025	Luncheon	Frank and Leslie DeHerde	Brian Stein and Saskia Schmid	Knights of Columbus 130 Main St. Woodbridge NJ
April 2025	Unbutton-your-rig rally/April 25-27	George and Linda Kiesel	Brian Stein and Saskia Schmidt	Holly Acres Campground, Egg Harbor, NJ
May 2025	Region 2 Rally/May 1-5			Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair, 169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall PA 16828
June 2025	Club Rally/			
July 2025	Club Rally/			
August 2025	International Aug 23-28	WBCCI	N/A	York, PA
September 2025	Club Rally/			
October 2025	Club Rally/Annual Business Meetings			
November 2025	Luncheon/	Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwara		
December 2025	Installation Luncheon	Laura/Meg Riley	Leslie/ Frank DeHerde	TBA

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

October Rally Information



<https://www.whiteoakcampground.com/>

White Oak Campground
3156 White Oak Rd.
Quarryville, Pa 17566 (717) 687-6207
October 24-27, 2024

YOUR HOSTS: RICH & KATHI SHORT **1512**, LEA PLANT **2256**, and BRIAN & HEIDI CULLEN **22024**

October 24 (Thursday) **All activities will be in the Rec Hall**

Campground Check in time: 1:00

Happy Hour: 5:00 Bring an appetizer to share **BYO** plates, utensils, chairs, and beverage

Dinner: On Your Own

October 25 (Friday)

Explore the Area: <https://www.whiteoakcampground.com/localguides>

Happy Hour: 5:00 Bring a light appetizer to share **BYO** plates, utensils, chairs, and beverage

Dinner: 6:00 (Smoked Brats and Hot Dogs on the grill, sides, dessert)

Campfire: weather permitting

October 26 (Saturday)

Breakfast: 8:30 - 9:30 (pancakes, sausage, juice) **BYO** plates, utensils, chairs, and coffee

Explore the Area (see link above)

Happy Hour: 5:00 - Bring a light appetizer to share.

Dinner: 6:00 Potluck **BYO** plates, utensils, chairs, and beverage

After dinner: St. Jude's charity raffle

Campfire: weather permitting

October 27 (Sunday)

Continental Breakfast: 8:30 - 9:30
coffee

BYO plates, utensils, chairs, and

Executive Meeting: 9:15
Annual Business Meeting (Members): 10:00
Explore the Area (see link above)
Dinner: On Your Own

October 28 (Monday)

Continental Breakfast: 8:30 - 9:30
coffee

BYO plates, utensils, chairs, and

Campground Check out: 11:00

***** CUT HERE AND SEND WITH CHECK IF NOT REGISTERING ONLINE *****

Name _____

Email _____

Cell# _____

Rally Fee per adult; \$15.00 x number of adults _____ = \$ _____

- Pay and register ONLINE

or

- Make checks payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club. Mail check and coupon to:
Lois Wagner, 29 Colony Court, New Providence NJ 07974-2332

****Please do not bring your pet(s) to Happy Hour/Mealtimes. Thank you.****

Rich Short

1512

609-618-0355

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)

November Luncheon Information



November Watchung Airstream Luncheon
Saturday, November 16, 2024 at 12:00 Noon
Location: The Little York, 569 Spring Mills Rd, Milford NJ

Hosts: Barbara & Michael Koczwarra Contact: allofus1989@gmail.com or 609-947-6789

Entrée Choices – Please Select When Signing Up for Luncheon

- Grilled All-Natural Chicken Caesar Salad with Ken’s Tableside Caesar dressing, garlic croutons and parmesan cheese
- Chicken Parmesan Sandwich with homemade tomato sauce and melted mozzarella cheese
- Fried Onion Smashburger with Cooper Cheese served with hand cut beef tallow fries

Luncheon Includes: Pizza Appetizers, Pitchers of Soda on the Table, Coffee and/or Tea, and Assorted Mini Desserts

Cash Bar is Available

Please Bring a Donation for Our Food Drive (Flemington Area Food Pantry)

RESERVATION DEADLINE: November 3, 2024
Maximum of 30 attendees – please sign up early!

Name: _____ WBCCI #: _____

Email: _____ Telephone #: _____

of People: _____ @ \$35.00 per person = Total \$: _____

Food Choice: ___ Caesar Salad ___ Chicken Parmesan Sandwich ___ Smashburger

*** Signup online at our website ***

–OR–

Mail check and completed form to Barbara Taylor, 44 Titus Mill Rd, Pennington NJ 08534
Make Checks payable to Watchung NJ Airstream Club

AIRSTREAMERS GIVING BACK IN SEDALIA

Whether you are attending this year's International Rally or not, you can participate in our community service project for 2024. Airstream Club International is partnering with the [Bothwell Foundation](#) to support their Pinktober campaign. Airstream Club International members have two ways to make a difference:



1. [Buy a Pinktober T-shirt](#) in support of all people who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Missouri, in October, has a lot of autumn colors, but **PINK** is the color that will make a difference in a lot of people's lives. Non-rally attendees can purchase T-shirts using the link below and have them mailed for a small fee (\$5).

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/bothwellregionalhealthcenterfoundation/event/rally2024/>

The broader Sedalia community will be out wearing "Blue Jeans for Bothwell" on Wednesday, October 9. Rally attendees can join in the fun on Wednesday, by wearing Pinktober T-shirts, along with blue jeans. During that evening's rally entertainment, a group picture will be taken at the Airstream Club International band and choral concert. (Please feel free to wear your Pinktober T-shirt and blue jeans all day!)

2. This Community Service project with the Bothwell Foundation is also targeting the renovation of the Bothwell Regional Health Center patient rooms. The Bothwell Regional Health Center was built in 1985 and needs updates and modernization. With every \$10,000 donated to this effort, a patient room will be dedicated with naming rights in the donor's honor.

We plan to have a patient room at the Bothwell Regional Health Center dedicated to the 67th Airstream Club International Rally! Even if you are not attending this year's rally, you can contribute to this project by [clicking this link](#).

If you haven't read the article in the Blue Beret, Spring issue, page 44-46, about the 2024 community service project, [please check it out now](#).

If you have questions, or if you want to volunteer to help distribute the Pinktober T-shirts at the rally, please contact Rose Garland (BRN #6566) at 314-484-1272.

And, P. S., please continue to collect aluminum tabs for the Future Streamers Intra-Club's effort to support the Kansas City Ronald McDonald House.

Thanks to everyone who has made even the smallest contribution to the success of the 67th Airstream Club International Rally in 2024 in Sedalia, Missouri!

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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		

