## KEYSTONE KOURIER









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As you pack up that last holiday ribbon and put away the tree, I hope at least some of you are heading south and able to use your Airstream this winter. Since I have a few months left, I will have to live vicariously through our winter traveling members!

This month, given many new members, I wanted to tell you about the Mothership! Also known as Airstream Headquarters in Jackson Center, Ohio. Some of you have been out there, but this was a first for me. In the fall, facing warranty repairs that required major surgery and a small accident, I made the pilgrimage. Yes, it's about a 9 hour drive, but it was very easy drive and it was worth every mile.

I stopped at a Harvest Host Farm just inside of Ohio on the way. Between the gracious hosts, gorgeous setting, and fall air I curled up with a good book and enjoyed the afternoon and evening more relaxed than I had been since I faced the reality that my rig needed to be completely rebuilt.

My appointment was for Monday morning, so I arrived at the Terraport (the campground at the Airstream Service Center) Sunday afternoon so I could get a shower and stow a lot of my things in the truck. Arriving at Jackson Center is a lot like stepping into a 1970's bubble. People are friendly, there isn't much there, and time just seems to stand still. There's a sense of "we're all in this together", which was a good thing because I had no idea how things worked.

#### Know when you go:

• The Terraport was built for old style trailers with the sewer hookup in the back. You'll need about 25-30 feet of sewer, water, and electric hose/cord to make it work. There is also a dump station if you forget.

My trailer was backed up to another camper I became fast friends with and he graciously explained the Monday morning process. At 7 am (and not a minute later), you walk across the parking lot to the service center. If you wait in your truck, people will beat you to the door, but in retrospect, this really doesn't matter. You line up for a service advisor and they will quickly give you a number to put on your trailer jack. You then go attach the number, disconnect your hoses and cord, and wait by your trailer for the tractor to come get it. Within minutes (they are serious about 7 am), a guy on a big John Deer will come out, hook up your trailer, and take it to the service center. They are lightning fast. You then return to the waiting area to wait for your service advisor to call your name and review what needs to be done. They've got a great system, but no signs to tell you how it works.

The waiting area is full of cushy overstuffed couches, work areas, a self-serve snack area and a parts shop. There's plenty of room for dogs, relaxing, and socializing and there are lots of helpful displays (think high school bulletin boards) and home made flyers of things to explore in the area. It's old-school but quite comfortable and you won't mind being there as time seems to fly as you meet the other Airstreamers. My new friend showed me the ropes...where the charging outlets are and the most comfortable place to work.

I spent 4 days there the week I dropped Fort Grace off (staying in a hotel because my rig was disassembled), flew home for a week, and spent a week back in the rig when I came back while they finished it. Somehow between work, socializing and exploring, I kept busy and it was quite pleasant.





## President's Message cont. Jennifer Eggers BRN 4825

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While I was in town, I explored the Airstream Museum, with a fantastic history of the company, restored trailers that belonged to Wally Byam, and caravan history. It provides a very real sense that this Airstream thing is "bigger than you". There is also an Airstream Supply Company gift shop that is worth a visit for the swag alone. Both the travel trailer and coach factory tours were outstanding. Seeing how these things are made was an incredible learning experience and the new trailer factory is a real treat to see.

The travel trailer tour is offered daily at 1 pm and the coach tour is offered on Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am. You do need reservations, but the tour is free. The museum is free if you are having work done on your rig and is right there at the new factory. The ACI office is also right down the road and was fun to stop by.

There are three restaurants in Jackson Center and while they are all decent, options are limited. Nearby towns of Sydney, Wapakoneta, and Bellfontaine have more choices and in the summer, nearby Indian Lake and other state parks would be fun to explore.

The service center works until 4 pm so around 3:45 your tech will come out, give you an update and answer any questions. Almost instantly after that, the tractor will take your trailer back to the Terraport for the night, where you can hook it up and stay in it until they come for it at 7 am. If you're there for more than one night, you can leave your cords and hoses in your spot with a cone to reserve it.

My conclusion is this. The way Airstream works, guys with a lot of experience in manufacturing floor get pulled to work at the service center. This place is staffed with the best and they know what they are doing. They also collaborate with each other well when they need help. In addition, any parts you need are within a quarter of a mile...even those that need to be fabricated. Is it a long drive? Yes. But it's a trade-off. The drive is easy and the team at Jackson Center will do their absolute best to solve problems for good, and they know how to do that.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Valentine's luncheon in February in Emmaus!

#### **Stay Connected**

<u>Facebook – Keystone Pennsylvania Airstream Club</u>
<u>Keystone on the Web</u>
<u>Airstream International Website</u>

Interested in joining the club? Contact Jennifer Eggers <a href="mailto:jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com">jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com</a>

#### **Club Officers**

President, Jennifer Eggers jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com

1st VP, Brian Mulligan mulligansix@rcn.com

2nd VP, Lori Pfahler loripfahler88@gmail.com

Treasurer, Richard Pitts r\_pitts@verizon.net

Secretary, Kathleen Quinn kathleenquinn56@icloud.com

Immediate Past Pres., Jody Dietz Jdietz4361@gmail.com

1st Year Trustee, Katherine Mulligan mulligansix@rcn.com

2nd Year Trustee, Joel Burkholder jpburkholder@verizon.net

In addition to our officers, Keystone's bylaws provide the option of adding additional positions or committees to handle specific tasks. I would like to recognize those that have agreed to continue to serve and a few new ones. If you would like to help, please let any of us know!

**Returning Positions Include:** 

**Website** - Andy Pitts **Sunshine** - Karen Kushto **Newsletter** - Bill Earle

Facebook Administrators - Jennifer Eggers & Jody Dietz

New Positions for 2025 Include:

Historian - Jody Dietz

Membership - Kathleen Quinn



## **New Member Spotlight**

The Keystone Unit continues to grow. Let's all extend a warm welcome to all of our new members for 2024. Some of you have already joined us at the Maintenance Rally or Lums and we hope to meet all of you soon.

January	2024

Scott & Mary Lou Anton - Home

BRN 14462

#### March 2024

Tabb & Ruth Adams - Affiliate

BRN 5561

#### April 2024

Steven & Bonnie Farrell - Home

BRN 9392

#### May 2024

Brenda & Charles Como - Home

BRN 4306

#### June 2024

Darren Westenberger - Home

**BRN 10374** 

Krishna & John King - Home

BRN 13510

#### July 2024

Allen & Sharlene Moyer - Home / Renewal

BRN 12046

#### August 2024

Robert & Erin Stokes - Home

BRN 11323

#### September 2024

Michael & Christine Godshall - Home

BRN 18045

#### November 2024

Jerry & Carol Barlow - Affiliate

**BRN 19975** 

#### December 2024

Michael & Diane Bradley - Affiliate

BRN 07093



## **News & Items of Interest**

#### **New Keystone Logo**

Look for an email update sometime in the near future.

#### **Need Money Scam**

Just to be clear because it's still happening and I'm getting questions. If any of you get an email from any of us (likely Rick or me) asking for help with a payment or needing to pay something for the club, these are a scam. DO NOT give anyone any money. It is not us. If money ever needs to be exchanged, I suggest we do that by phone so we can identify voices, but I cannot think of a single reason why it would ever need to be. So if you get a text or an email saying anyone needs help paying a Keystone bill, please ignore it.

These guys are convincing and they are pulling emails from the website. I don't exactly know how they emulate us, but somehow they do. Be careful out there!

Thanks, Jennifer

#### **Holiday Luncheon Toy Donations**

All toys donated at the Holiday Luncheon have been donated to the Pennridge FISH Organization and were distributed as part of their Christmas Toy Distribution. We did this on behalf of Keystone and in Leslie's honor as this was the charity she collected them for for years. They were most greatful when we dropped them off, so thank you to all who participated.

#### **Keystone Rally and Event Schedule**

We are looking for feedback on the 2025 schedule along with volunteers to host/co-host. Please reach out to Jennifer Eggers. <a href="mailto:jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com">jeggers@leadershiftinsights.com</a>

#### **Kourier Content**

As you consider submissions, please give some thought to things that would interest you and possibly benefit others. I'm always available to answer specific questions you may have regarding the newsletter.

The deadline for content for the upcoming issue is the 25th of the month prior to publication. Please send all submissions to Bill Earle, Newsletter Editor via email: <a href="mailto:info@occasionalrv.com">info@occasionalrv.com</a>

#### **Sunshine Report by Karen Kushto**

George Spahn, Cindy Yerk and Arry Mergelkamp had health issues requiring hospitalization this month and are wished speedy recoveries. Leslie Heckensweiler passed away in her sleep. The cause is believed to have been a fall. Leslie was predeceased by Barry, her husband of 59 years whom passed away on October 25, 2024. Please keep their family in your prayers.

#### Blue Compass buys more Airstream Dealerships

Blue Compass RV has expanded its footprint by acquiring two Airstream dealerships in New England, bringing its total number of Airstream locations to 12. The company has acquired Airstream of New Hampshire in Nashua and Airstream of Maine in Lebanon. Click additional details for more information.



# **Keystone Pennsylvania Airstream Club 2025 Rally and Event Schedule**

More information available in our private Facebook group Keystone Pennsylvania Airstream Club <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/keystonepaairstreamclub">https://www.facebook.com/groups/keystonepaairstreamclub</a>

Date	Event	Location	Host(s)
February 15	Valentine's Luncheon	Jennifer Eggers' Home	
March 15	St. Patrick's Luncheon	Sharon and Wayne Fitzgerald's home	
April 25-27	Maintenance Rally Joint rally with Delmarva Unit Details will follow	Queen Annes County 4-H Park Centreville, MD	
May 2-4	Season Opener with Central Penn	Lum's Pond State Park	Rick Pitts
May 15-18	Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival	Granite Hill Camping Resort	Jennifer Eggers
June TBD	Jersey Shore Special	Jersey Shore Haven	Sharon Fitzgerald
July 11-13	Explore the Upper Delaware	Soaring Eagle Campground Equinunk, PA	Jennifer Eggers Wayne Fitzgerald
August 23-28	International Rally "Let's Make History"	York Fairgrounds York, PA	TBD
Sept. 19-21	Bald Cypress and Eagles	Trapp Pond State Park Loop C	
October 17-20 & 20-21	Dark Sky and Canyon's Mini- Caravan	Grand Canyon of PA (Twin Streams Campground) New Moon at Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park (Ole Bull State Park)	Jennifer Eggers
November 14-15	Country Acres Campground Gordonville (Lancaster County), Pa. Luncheon at Bird in Hand Restau- rant	Bird in Hand Restaurant, Lancaster Country Acres Campground	
December 6 Noon	Holiday Luncheon	Plumsteadville Inn Plumsteadville, PA	Jerry Hillegass Jennifer Eggers

Wanted: Hosts or co-hosts for all rallies! Please let Jennifer know if you can help.



## **2024 Event Spotlights**

### **Holiday Luncheon**

All toys donated at the Holiday Luncheon have been donated to the Pennridge FISH Organization and will be distributed as part of their Christmas Toy Distribution. We did this on behalf of Keystone and in Leslie's honor as this was the charity she collected them for for years. They were most greatful when we dropped them off, so thank you to all who participated.









## **2025 Event Spotlights**

#### Trap Pond Cypress and Eagle Rally - September 19-21 2025

As you probably saw on the 2025 schedule, we will have a rally at Trap Pond in Delaware next September 19-21 (2025).

Trap Pond is a fantastic state park we've been to before and fall is the perfect time to camp there. They open up for reservations a year in advance, so if you want to get a jump on things, you can begin making your reservation now. Trap Pond has water and electricity. To snag a spot head to the Delaware State Parks Reservation site: <u>Click here for reservations.</u>

It's a big park, so we will try to cluster on C loop. Once you get a spot, please post it on the event page on Facebook so we can keep up with who will be attending and where you are. Obviously, the earlier you book the better chance we have of being together and this place does fill up. The cancellation fees are nominal, so book if you think you might want to go.

If you've not been there before, Trap Pond has a beautiful lake full of cypress trees that make for great fishing, birding, kayaking and canoeing. Their "boat" rental concession should still be open at this time. They also have a pontoon boat ride we can do as a group. Last year, they also offered a wagon tour of the park free from the office and we did that, too. We'll keep you posted closer to the time to sign up for these things as you'll need to book them individually. Not to mention, it's a gorgeous place to sit and read a book and there are numerous trails to hike as well.

We'll figure out the rally stuff closer to the time (anyone want to cohost?), but I'm sure it will be low key with optional happy hours, campfires, and other fun gatherings.

See you there! Jennifer



68th Airstream Club International Rally - August 23-28, 2025



## On the Road

#### **Southern Rambling**

Andy and Rick Pitts BRN 27489



After the Campfire Rally we turned south to grab a few lingering days of warmth before having to winterize.

Our first stopover was at Pedro's Campground, South of the Border. Although the stores are in a bit of disrepair we were nicely surprised to find the campground in very good shape, well-maintained and full of travelers. There is easy access to/from I95 and SOB has gas, a restaurant and lot's of chajchas.







The next stop was a quick overnight at the Georgia/Florida border at RV SelfPark (Kingsland, GA). A new concept, you reserve online, pick your site, note when you will arrive and how many hours you want to stay. On arrival at the designated time you pull into your pull-thru and there's a green light indicating all full hook-ups are operational. It's nothing fancy (and Kingsland is still under construction) but it's easy and super convenient!

Our first stay in Florida was at Jetty Park in Port Canaveral. The campsites are right on the waterway for cruise ships (we watched 7 depart during our stay). There is a rugged beach to lounge on and from the pier you can see Cape Canaveral and its launches (we missed a SpaceX takeoff by a day).











#### On the Road cont.

#### **Southern Rambling**

Andy and Rick Pitts BRN 27489



We shifted west to Fort Wilderness at Disney World since we hadn't been there for several years. The sites are still a good size and very well maintained. With the holidays upon us nearly all sites had decorations, some which rivaled the decorations in the theme parks! Having forgotten to pack any along, we sported a nice red & green table cloth.









After maxing out several credit cards on the Mouse we began the trip home with a stay at CreekFire RV Resort outside of Savannah, a nice campground with lots of amenities. In addition to taking in the wonderful sites of downtown, we spent a day at Fort Pulaski National Monument. The Fort is one of 30 coastal forts constructed after the war of 1812 and was believed to be impregnable. However, as our docent walked us through the fortress he described how, in the first use of 'rifle' cannons in 1862, the Union army bombarded the fort from Tybee Island and forced the Confederates to surrender leading to the blockade of Savannah.







After Savannah we headed north stopping in Hope Mills, NC and Emporia, VA before arriving home for winterizing.



## **Region 2 Spotlight**

#### **Submitted by Gary Russo**

I can't believe I'm saying this, but it's 2025! Happy New Year!! Some of you are already digging out of 2-3 feet of Lake Erie snow.



The search is on. My term as Region 2 President will be coming to an end on July 31, 2025. The Region 2 team is looking for a 2nd VP. Region 2 covers the following areas: Ontario Canada, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Washington DC, Delaware, and Maryland. The region and clubs run on volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering as a Region officer, please contact me directly, Patti Galupo or Matt Moore.



I have good news. The Region Rally team just finished up the final touches for the Region 2 Rally on May 1-4, 2025. This year's theme is Kentucky Derby Days. We will be showing the race live on Saturday. Do not forget, women, and of course men to make sure to wear your finest head coverings for race time! The Washington DC Unit is sponsoring the rally. Matt Moore, our Region 2 2nd VP and Joy Spahr, President of the Washington, DC Unit have various fun events planned during the rally.

You can't have a rally without great food and music. If you came last year, you were not disappointed. Again, this year, we were able to get Nittany Catering to provide breakfast and dinner on Saturday. Remember to bring your dancing shoes for after the race. This year we have our own Party Girl Dancing Patti G. playing the tunes!

Registration for the rally starts January 6th. So don't be left in the gate. The registration link is below.

https://form.jotform.com/243194535933159

#### International Rally at York PA update



Debby Wood is still looking to identify chairpersons for the Community Service and the Tours committees. They typically look for someone in the host region as they are more familiar with options available. Let me know if you have suggestions for these positions, and I will forward them to Debby.



## Region 2 Spotlight cont.



Let's make History at the 68th Airstream Club International Rally located in York, Pennsylvania: August 23-28, 2025. Registration is now open. Go to the Airstream Club website today and don't miss out seeing old friends and making new ones at the event. This event is in our Region -- let's show them how to have fun!!!



#### Resources

#### **Courtesy Parking is Live on Harvest Hosts**

The new courtesy parking powered by Harvest Hosts is live on the Harvest Hosts site. Please take a few minutes and read the details. Click here for all of the details.

If you would like to be a Courtesy Parking Host and haven't yet filled out our survey to get listed in the Summer of 2024 database, please <u>click here</u> to get started! (ACI member login required)

#### **Airstream Club Member Discounts**

A reminder that Airstream International club members have access to some great discounts. Click on the following link for details. (ACI member login required) <u>Airstream Club member discounts</u>

#### **Loves RV Stops**

Conveniently located at Loves Travel Stops across the country, Love's RV Hookups and RV Stops provide the RV traveler with a safe, clean and well-maintained place to stop on their journey.

Click this link: Loves RV Stops