

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj February 2025

President's Message



With the holiday season behind us it is time to plan our next adventures. The charity I chose for this year's collections is [Covenant House](#), a nonprofit organization supporting at-risk, homeless teens up to age 21. They have street youth outreach programs, residential living—allowing youth to attend public schools—medical care, and meals. These important programs can make an enormous difference in a life. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

I hope your holidays were incredibly special and you can relax, regroup, and plan your next adventures in your Airstreams. The January luncheon had strong attendance. The schedule is filling up nicely for 2025; do not be afraid to step up to host something at one

of your favorite places. Check in with Steve and Heidi to get on the schedule your fellow club members will support you.

Over the weekend of February 15 & 16 a Watchung group organized by Lea Plant will be at Colonial Airstream to provide information on the Watchung Airstream Club. Please contact Lea if you have any availability, I hear it is great fun and it has been successful in recruiting new members!

I enjoy cooking and hate to give that up while traveling but taking the time out of a day meant to explore a new area can make preparing a home cooked meal a challenge. I have found some great ways to be able to continue to prepare fun appetizers or meals I can share that save time and space. I plan what we may want to eat while we are planning our trips. I start prepping a bit at a time over a few weeks before we leave. I prepare as much as I can and freeze as flat as possible in a zip lock. On the zip lock I write the cooking instructions then stack a few entrees in the freezer. If I am making a salad or coleslaw, I cut up all the veggies and put them in containers. Mix up the dressing and put it in a container. This saves space as you do not have to bring all the ingredients. You also save valuable vacation time by prepping ahead of time. After a busy day hiking or sightseeing you can step in your camper and prepare a meal in less than 30 minutes!

Check back next month for a recipe. Leslie DeHerde

Region 2 President's Message

February 2025

Hello from the Sunny FROZEN North,

Right now, it is a cool 14⁰ F or, for Canadian members, a cool -10⁰ C, not including the wind chill temp. Brrrrr. Earlier today when looking out my window I could only see about 50 yards beyond the patio door due to the falling snow.

Headquarters will be sending out a notice searching for Executive Council candidates to fill the slate for elected positions. I want to encourage members to take the time to read about the candidates, get acquainted with them, and reach out to their local Club President or the Region officers if they have any questions while making their voting decisions.

Registrations for the Region 2 Rally at the Center County Grange Fairgrounds, the Sampson State Park Taste of New York and New England Rally, and the Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York are now open. The links are below. We have limited space for seating at the International Luncheon in York so do not delay!

Region 2 Rally at Center County Grange Fairgrounds registration

<https://form.jotform.com/243194535933159>

Sampson State Park registration <https://form.jotform.com/243194600769159>

This rally has a limited number of sites so don't delay your registration. Last year we had a wait list for this event.

Region 2 International Rally Luncheon at York registration

<https://form.jotform.com/250156206580148>

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. If you are interested in volunteering as a Region officer, please contact me, Patti Galupo or Matt Moore to join this dynamic team!

Debbie Wood is looking for people to fill the roles of Tour Chair and Community Service Chair at the International Rally in York, PA. Both of these roles will report to Sherrye McCabe, who works out of the Jackson Center office. Debbie is also looking for people to support the Meals & Refreshments committee. The descriptions for these roles are separately attached to this newsletter. Please review both attachments from Jackson Center. [*Editor's note: these job descriptions have been emailed to club members via Google Groups.*]

In addition to these two leadership roles, we have multiple other opportunities to help at the York Rally. If you see an area of support that interests you, contact (Primary): Debbie Wood, 704-430-9196, dwood@airstreamclub.org, (secondary): Sherrye McCabe, 937-722-1436, smccabe@airstreamclub.org. They are looking for club members to assist with the following:

1. Provide local information for International Club's Marketing/Communications including:
 - Identify contributors to write articles for club publications about the rally locale,
 - Best routes to the rally site,
 - Camping suggestions for enroute to the rally through the region,
 - Staging areas near the rally site for members to meet up before entering rally site (for parking together),
 - Suggestions for local vendors to participate in the exhibitor show, and
 - Other local information specific to the region and rally site that is useful to members traveling in the area.
2. Ambassadors. These are volunteers from the local clubs in the region who will:
 - Answer questions, including providing directions to events in the park and being that enthusiastic presence ready to offer a smile and some assistance.
 - Attend an orientation session at the start of the rally to be briefed on the rally logistics and other information as needed, and to set up the rally event app and learn to use it.
 - Wear special vests provided by the rally that identifies them as Rally Ambassadors.
 - Work at strategic locations around the rally site to assist members with questions, directions, or local information.
 - Secure the doors to the Exhibitor Hall before opening hours to allow only exhibitors to enter.
3. Identification of local
 - Community Service programs
 - Tourist attractions

If you see an area of support that interests you, please step up.



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!!!

Regards, Gary Russo

Announcements

Sunshine Report

The club sent a sympathy card to Saskia Schmidt following the passing of her father.

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 be at a later date.

This Month's Birthdays

Mike Richards
Rich Short
Erika Beddiges
Michael Koczwar
KJ Feury

WELCOME

Please welcome our newest members:

Christine Kukel

Jeff and Gail Pearsall



2025 Watchung Airstream Club Rally and Luncheon Schedule

From First VP Heidi Cullen:

Just a quick reminder that we still have two months that need hosts and cohosts: the June and September rallies. Please do not be discouraged from doing this because you are new. If you think you might be interested in hosting, please just reach out to me at 973-945-3406 (text or phone) or email at heidi.watch.air@gmail.com, so that we can discuss the many ways in which you will not be doing the program on your own! We will help and guide you and get it done with you. It will be fun! Many of us have hosted during our first year with the club and the support we received was wonderful:)

| DATE | WHAT/WHEN | HOSTS | COHOSTS | VENUE |
|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| February 2025 | Recruiting drive/Feb 14-15 | Contact Lea Plant | NA | Colonial Airstream, Millstone Twp. |
| March 2025 | Luncheon/March 15 | Frank and Leslie DeHerde | Ken and Nancy Egan | Knights of Columbus 130 Main St. Woodbridge NJ |
| April 2025 | Unbutton-your-rig rally/April 24-27 | George and Linda Kiesel | Saskia Schmidt and Brian Stein | Holly Acres Campground, Egg Harbor, NJ |
| May 2025 | Region 2 Rally/May 1-4 | Washington DC Unit | NA | Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair, 169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall PA 16828 |
| June 2025 | Club Rally/ | Host Needed | CoHost Needed | |
| July 2025 | Club and Buddy Rally/July 11-14 | Steve and Cynthia Germansky | Lois Wagner/Derek Conley | Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudon, New York |
| August 2025 | International Aug 23-28 | WBCCI | N/A | York, PA |
| September 2025 | Club Rally/ | Host needed | CoHost Needed | |
| October 2025 | Club Rally/Annual Business Meeting October 3-5 | Pat and Florence Attanasio | CoHost needed | Kymer's Camping Resort, Branchville, NJ |
| November 2025 | Luncheon/TBA | Barbara Taylor and Michael Koczwarra | CoHost needed | TBA |
| December 2025 | Installation Luncheon/TBA | Heidi and Brian Cullen | Leslie/ Frank DeHerde | TBA |

January Luncheon



It was a beautiful sunny afternoon on January 25th, members of the Watchung Airstream Club gathered at the Princeton Soup and Sandwich Company. Located in Cranbury, NJ just 13 minutes from Colonial Airstream. Now there's a place to stop by to have a delicious bite to eat on your way to or from visiting Colonial.

The Luncheon was hosted by Cynthia and Steven Germansky and co-hosted by Heidi and Brian Cullen. Both couples joined the Watchung Airstream Club just over a year ago. We had a wonderful turnout of 25 adults and one child. Thank you to our latest new members, Ceyan Birney, his young lad Christian, and Christine Kukel, for joining their first luncheon themselves.



Cynthia and Steven Germansky prepare for the charity raffle. Photo L. Wagner.

The January 2024 luncheon was Cynthia & Steve's first event hosting. A luncheon is a great way to get your feet wet as a new host. The club has many seasoned members that have hosted or co-hosted



Rebecca Glick won the raffle beret. Photo L. Wagner.

events and are here to help. It was a great pleasure for them getting involved to have hosted this luncheon and next, their first rally, the upcoming July 11-14, 2025 Rally – Croton Point On-Hudson, NY. If any of you wish to host a luncheon or rally, there are plenty of us to support you.

A final shoutout to Lisa and Alex Ruddy at the Princeton Soup and Sandwich, Co. for making this work for our club. They offered a comfortable

environment, welcoming service and accommodated our dietary needs with a good choice of tasty items from their menu.



January Luncheon, cont'd



Attending the January luncheon, back row left to right: the Walkers, Rich Short, Brian Cullen, Lea Plant, the Richardsons, Rebecca Glick, the Morans, the Attanasios; middle row: Kathi Short, Heidi Cullen, Lois Wagner, the Germanskys, Dottie DeCota; front row Lynda Kresge and Glen Roth, the DeHerdas, Christina Kukle, Dave deCota.

LET'S MAKE HISTORY!
AIRSTREAM CLUB 66 INTERNATIONAL RALLY
AUGUST 23-26, 2025

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!
Visit the Rally2025 Website to Register:

AIRSTREAMCLUB.ORG/RALLY2025

<https://airstreamclub.org/2025-international-rally> (login required)

March Luncheon



Hosted by: The DeHerdes and the Egans

Come celebrate St. Patricks Day with a corned beef meal with all the sides!

BYOB

Saturday March 15th 1 PM-4:30 PM

Knights of Columbus
130 Main St
Woodbridge, NJ

Price: \$21 PER PERSON

March Luncheon

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____ x \$21 per person = total \$ _____

Mail check to:

Leslie DeHerde 22 Hissim Rd, Great Meadows, NJ 07838 or pay through Jot Form.

Unbutton Your Rig, April 2025

Holly Acres Campground
218 S. Frankfurt Ave. Egg Harbor City NJ 08215
609-965-5055

Hosts: George & Linda Kiesel 908-930-0550 Brian Stein 609-992-7006

When: **Thursday April 24th thru Sunday April 27th, 2025** Hosted by George and Linda Kiesel.
Cohost Saskia Schmidt and Brian Stein.

Where: Holly Acres Campground. Egg Harbor City NJ 08215

Schedule

Thursday: arrivals, Official check in time is any time after 12pm.

Friday: Enjoy the day on your own. Many activities in the area. Happy hour 5pm. Hot dogs and Hamburgers 6pm. Bring your own plates and utensils to **all meals**. Campfire weather permitting

Saturday: Breakfast 8:30-9:30, Blueberry pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice. Enjoy day on your own. Many activities in and around the area, see activities list attached.
Happy hour 5pm, Dinner 6pm, Catered dinner, Lasagna, Chicken Marsala, Green salad and dessert. Charitable auction/ collection for Covenant House following dinner. Campfire weather permitting. Executive board meeting 7:30 pm

Sunday: Continental Breakfast 8:30-9:30. Business meeting 10am.
Cleanup and departure. Check out time is 11am, but no later than 1pm.

Please note that you are asked to not bring your pet to the pavilion during happy hour / mealtimes. Thank you.

Please call the campground directly for reservations. If you pay for Friday and Saturday, the campground will give you Thursday for free!! Mention the Airstream Club to Hailey.

Name _____ Email _____ Cell# _____

Rally Fee per adult; \$20.00 x number of adults = \$ _____ (no fee for Kids)

Make checks payable to; Watchung NJ Airstream Club or pay online with paypal

Mail checks to Lois Wagner 29 Colony Court New Providence NJ 07974

Unbutton Your Rig Rally

Activities in the area

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge - 11 miles, 18 minutes

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/edwin-b-forsythe>

Forsythe Wildlife Refuge, 800 Great Creek Rd, Oceanville/Galloway, NJ 08205-0072, (609) 652-1665

Atlantic Audubon Bird Walk - Spring Migration Walk at Forsythe Wildlife Refuge (Free) -

- 11 miles, 18 minutes

Saturday, April 26, 8:00am – 12:00pm (Weekly on Saturdays, until May 31, 2025)

Wharton State Forest and Batsto Village - 12 miles, 22 minutes

<https://dep.nj.gov/wharton>

31 Batsto Road, Hammonton, NJ 08037, 609-561-0024

The Historic Towne of Smithville - 9.2 miles, 14 minutes

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

Route 9 &, E Moss Mill Rd, Smithville, NJ 08205

Tuckerton Seaport - 20 miles, 25 minutes

<https://tuckertonseaport.org/>

120 West Main St, Tuckerton, NJ 08087, Main Office: 609-296-8868, Information Desk: 609-296-8868

Wading Pines Camping Resort - 18.2 miles, 25 minutes

CANOEING & KAYAK TRIPS

<https://wadingpines.com/canoe-and-kayak-trips/>

85 Godfrey Bridge Rd, Chatsworth, NJ 08019, (888) 726-1313

Brigantine Bay and Beach - 21 miles, 32 minutes (may see red foxes at night)

Atlantic City Casinos, Restaurants, Bars, Beach and Boardwalk - 20 miles, 25 minutes

Ocean City Beach & Boardwalk - 24 miles, 28 minutes

Walking Bird Farm - 3.5 miles, 7 minutes <https://www.walkingbirdfarm.com/>

250 S Mannheim Ave, Egg Harbor City, New Jersey 08215, (609) 808-4420

Fluffy Farms - Organic produce, fresh-baked sourdough bread

Egg Harbor City/Galloway area <https://fluffyfarms.grazecart.com/store>

Hammerbacher Bakery - 3 miles, 6 minutes - www.hammerbacherkitchen.com,

[@hammerbacherkitchen](https://www.facebook.com/hammerbacherEHC/), <https://www.facebook.com/hammerbacherEHC/>

Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 3 - 6pm 40 Boston Ave., Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215

Renault Winery Resort & Restaurants - 5 min., 2.3 mi.,

72 N Bremen Avenue Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215

Tour & Tasting - Renault Winery: <https://renaultwinery.com/winery/> **Renault Winery**

Restaurants: Café la Fleur and Taste Restaurants -<https://renaultwinery.com/dining/>

Garden State Beer Company - 8.8 miles, 14 minutes

247 E White Horse Pike, Galloway, NJ 08205

<https://gardenstatebeerco.com/>

Hidden Sands Brewing - 10.2 miles, 16 minutes

6754 Washington Ave suite b, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

<http://hidden.sands.com>

Firehouse Bar & Grill - 3.4 miles, 6 minutes

105 Philadelphia Ave., Egg Harbor City, NJ

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

Celina's Mulberry Market & Grille - 5.7 miles, 10 minutes

<http://celinascafe.com/>

68 W Jimmie Leeds Rd, Galloway, NJ 08205

Sweetwater Marina & Riverdeck Restaurant - 9.7 miles, 15 minutes

sweetwaterriverdeck.com

2780 7th Ave, Sweetwater, NJ 08037, (609) 668-1545

The Inn on St. Louis - 2.6 miles, 6 minutes

446 St Louis Ave, Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215

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

No.79 Bar, Restaurant & Liquor Store - 8.5 miles, 12 minutes

4423 S White Horse Pike, Hammonton, NJ 08037

[No.79 Bar Restaurant & Liquor Store](#)

Items for the newsletter?

Send them by the 25th of each month to: dconley1810@gmail.com

Interested in joining the Watchung NJ Airstream club?

Contact:

Membership: George Kiesel (gkiesel861@gmail.com)

President: Leslie DeHerde (lesairstreaming@gmail.com)

Region 2 Rally June: Kentucky Derby Days

Sponsored by: Washington DC Unit

Location: Centre County Grange
Encampment & Fair, 169 Homan Lane, PO
Box 271, Centre Hall, PA 16828

Dates: May 1-4, 2025

Cost: \$230 per trailer, plus \$60 per person
rally fee (children under age 12 are free)

Early Check-in: 11:00 am, Wednesday,
April 30th is the only available option due
to other activities at the venue. If you plan
on arriving April 30th the cost is \$48.30.
This fee needs to be paid with your registration below.



Check-in: 11:00 am, Thursday, May 1st (parking volunteers arrive at 11:00 am)

Departure: 3:00 pm, Sunday, May 4th. There is no option to extend the departure date this year due to another event scheduled at the venue.

Rally Reservation Limit: unlimited sites available

Additional Information:

- All sites have electric and water service.
- Water pressure is HIGH so bring a pressure regulator.
- There is a waste station on the Fairgrounds.
- Coin operated shower facilities (\$2 for 4 minutes).
- Restroom facilities onsite.
- Each trailer will receive a welcome bag.
- If bringing a pet you must be able to present up-to-date valid immunization paperwork. Pets must on a leash at all times and owners are responsible solely for cleaning up after their pets.
- As with any campsite, you are responsible for securing all food, beverages and valuables.
- Link to park website <https://www.grangefair.com/>

Planned activities include:

- Catered breakfast - Saturday morning
- Saturday catered buffet dinner followed by Run for the Roses, games and Derby Party!!!
- Music by our own Party Girl Dancing Patty G.
- Sunday continental breakfast

RALLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 20th.

Use this link to register: <https://form.jotform.com/243194535933159>

Refund policy:

Before March 30th - 80% refund

March 30th - April 20th - 50% refund

After April 20th - No refund

July Rally

Watchung Airstream Club July BUDDY Rally* - Croton Point Park & Pleasantville Music Festival Friday, July 11th – Monday, July 14th, 2025



Where: Croton Point Park, Croton Point Ave, Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520

Details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/croton-point-park>
www.pleasantvillemusicfestival.com

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/6W6GMwcGDP9hXSSz7>

Hosts Cynthia & Steve Germansky Cohosts: Lois Wagner & Derek Conley (sites #14 and #16)

Book your spot for the Croton Point & Pleasantville Music Festival Rally. Croton Point Park is a 508-acre park, the largest peninsula on the east shore of the Hudson River. Arrive Friday, stay to Monday if you desire. **Twenty sites are being held for Watchung AC until February 28th.** Currently eight sites are booked. **Available remaining sites reserved for Watchung AC through Feb 28:** 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 21, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39

Reservations by phone only, call 914-862-5290

ACI Website Link: [Watchung July 2025 Rally | ACI](#)

RV Site – full hookups: \$60/night (see park website for map and be sure to read the park's rules and regulations. For example, no alcoholic beverages and no "ground fires". Solo stoves are apparently OK.)

Please email Steve Germansky your arrival/departure dates and site # egerms@verizon.net 973-495-1067

Group meals: To be collected at the rally, details to follow

* Buddy Rallies allow Watchung members to invite non-Airstream owning friends to camp with the club.

Things to do in the area

Nearby on Saturday the 19th Annual Pleasantville Music Festival goes from 1:30 to 9:00 PM. Shop for crafts, feast from the food trucks, quench your thirst in the beer garden and of course enjoy the live music. Pleasantville Music Festival \$75 after Feb 1st, \$80 2-weeks prior, \$85 at the gate

Sunday, take a leisure day to enjoy the scenic views of the Hudson River. You can paddle out renting a kayak, stand-up paddleboard or a Hobie pedalboard from the campground. Visit the Croton Point Nature Center housing exhibits on local flora, fauna and Native American history. Hike, bike & relax. Sit by the scenic river beach, toe or more in the water.

Tours

Old Dutch Church and Burying Ground, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/old-dutch-church/>
Philipsburg Manor, Sleepy Hollow, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/see/philipsburg-manor/>
Rockefeller State Park Preserve, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/rockefeller-state-park-preserve/>
Guided walking tours of Sleepy Hollow, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/see/historical-society/>
Kyukit, the home of John D. Rockefeller, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/kykuit/>
Sleepy Hollow Cemetery Tours, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/plan/sleepy-hollow-cemetery-tours/>
Sleepy Hollow Lighthouse tour, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/sleepy-hollow-lighthouse/>
Sunnyside, the home of Washington Irving, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/sunnyside/>
Faraway Alpaca Farm, <https://farawayfarmalpacas.com/about-us>
Wolf Conservation Center, <https://nywolf.org/>
Lyndhurst Mansion, <https://lyndhurst.org/>

Gardens

Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Gardens, <https://www.hammondmuseum.org/>
Ladson Park and Arboretum, <https://www.ladsonpark.org/>

Hiking and Biking

North Country Trailway (shown on Google Maps as Empire State Trailway), <https://www.visitwestchesterny.com/things-to-do/outdoors/trailways/north-south-county-trailway/>
Old Croton Aqueduct Trail, <https://visitsleepyhollow.com/see/old-croton-aqueduct-trail/>
Croton Gorge Park, <https://parks.westchestergov.com/croton-gorge-park>
Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway, <https://www.visitwestchesterny.com/listing/briarcliff-peekskill-trailway/123/>

Shop/Eat/Drink

Pleasantville Farmers Market, 10 Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville, NY <https://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org/>
Sing Sing Kill Brewery and Tap Room, Ossining, NY <https://www.singsingkillbrewery.com/>
The Boathouse Restaurant, Ossining, NY <https://ossiningboathouse.com/>
Muscoot Farm Park, <https://www.muscootfarm.org/visit-us/>
Westchester Craft Beverage Trail, <https://www.visitwestchesterny.com/things-to-do/dining/craft-beverages/trail/>

Entertainment

Pleasantville Music Festival, July 12, 2025, <https://www.pleasantvillemusicfestival.com/#19th-pmf-winter-ticketfest> Tickets are on sale now.
Blue Mountain Reservation, <https://parks.westchestergov.com/blue-mountain-reservation>

October Rally and General Meeting

Hosts: Pat & Florence Attanasio pjattanasio@yahoo.com fcattanasio@yahoo.com Cell: 201-859-7481

When: Friday, October 3rd – Sunday, October 5th. Early arrival, Thursday, October 2nd.

Where: Kymer's Camping Resort, 69 Kymer Road, Branchville, NJ 07826 **Office:** 973-875-3167

<https://www.njcamping.com/kymers/index.htm> kymers@NJcamping.com

The October Rally brings us to rural Northern NJ and the last weeks of the Fall colors. Kymer's Camping Resort will be home base for daily excursions to surrounding parks, museums, antiques and adult beverage purveyors. Or simply stay on site and enjoy your Airstream. Kymer's will place us as close together as possible while optimizing their site-to-RV size placements. Your hosts will be in Oak-5. The campground will accept your reservation at any time, but to ensure optimal placement please reserve as soon as possible, preferably before March 1st. Refer to their web site (above) for current pricing.

Site Fees:

- 30 amp, electric, water, cable TV (no sewer): \$70
- 30 amp, above plus sewer: \$80
- 50 amp, electric, water, cable TV and sewer: \$85

Rally fees include breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings as well as a catered dinner Saturday night. Please consider contributing a dessert to Saturday's dinner.

Rally fees will be calculated and collected Sunday morning after we have totaled our actual expenses. We're estimating at least \$25 per person.

To attend this event,

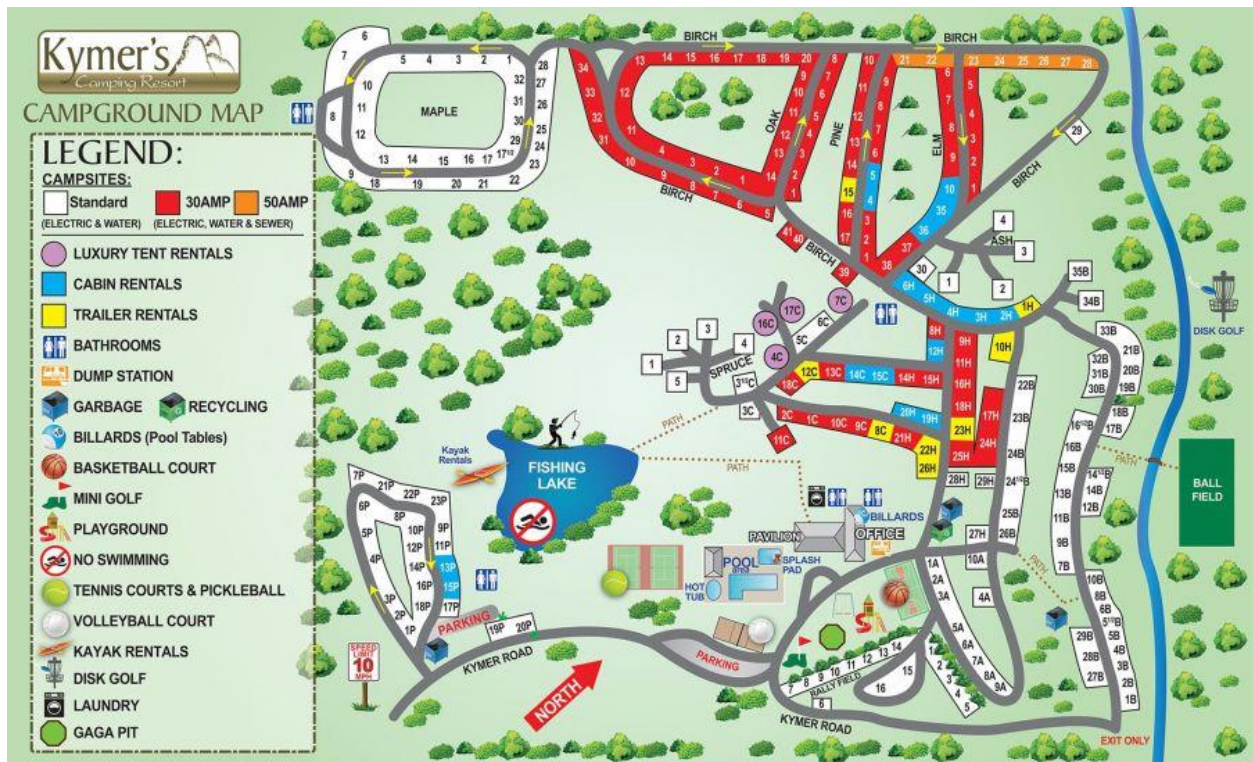
- Call the campground, tell them you're with this group and reserve your site before March 1st,
- Email pjattanasio@yahoo.com with your BRN, site number, days attending and number attending. Please note any dietary restrictions or accommodations so that we can plan appropriate menus.

Check-in: 2:00pm

Check-out: 2:00pm

Tentative Agenda:

- Thursday: Arrivals and Free range activities, 1:00pm-5:00pm
- Friday: Breakfast, 8:00am-9:30am
- Arrivals and Free range activities, 9:30am-5:00pm
- Happy hour, 5:00pm-6:00pm, dinner on your own, campfire
- Saturday: Breakfast, 8:00am-9:30am
- Free range activities, 9:30am-5:00pm
- Happy hour, 5:00pm-6:00pm, dinner to follow, campfire
- Sunday: Breakfast, 8:30am-10:00am
- Club Exec/Business Meeting – 10:00am-12:00pm
- Pack out, hit the road (2:00pm checkout), 12:00pm -



Campground Site Metrics

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Full Hook-up sites: | H8 - 32ft | H9 - 30ft | H11 - 30ft |
| | H16 - 28ft | H18 - 30ft | H21 - 28ft |
| | Pine 11 - 25ft | Pine 13 - 25ft | Pine 14 - 20ft |
| | Oak 12 - 30ft | Oak 5 - 23ft | Oak 7 - small |
| | Oak 8 - small | | |
| | Birch 24 - 30ft | Birch 33 - 35ft | Birch 31 - 25ft |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Non Sewer, Maple | Maple 28 - 35ft | Maple 27 - 25ft | Maple 32 - 25ft |
| | Maple 31 - 25ft | Maple 30 - 25ft | |

Things to do; Places to go:

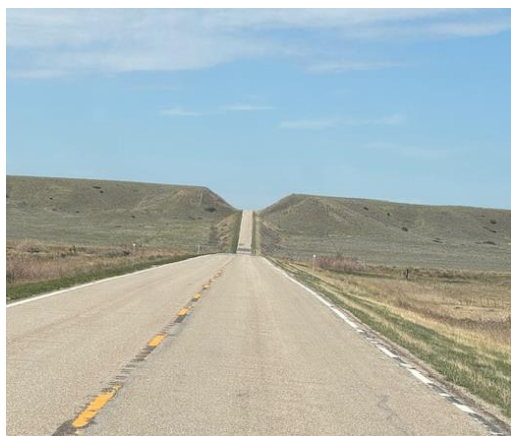
- Stokes State Forest <https://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/stokesstateforest.html>
- Space Farms Zoo & Museum <https://spacefarms.com/>
- Sterling Hill Mining Museum <https://www.sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/>
- Franklin Mineral Mine Museum <https://www.franklinmineralmuseum.org/>
- Milk Street Distillery <https://www.milkstreetdistillery.com/>
- Angry Erik Brewing <https://angryerik.com/>
- Ventimiglia Vineyard (also a Harvest Hosts site) <https://ventivines.com/>
- Lusscroft Farm <https://lusscroft.org/>
- High Point State Park <https://nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/highpointstatepark.html>
- Sussex County Fairgrounds (check schedule) <https://sussexcountyfairgrounds.org/>
- Skylands Stadium (check schedule) <https://skylandsstadium.com/>
- Lafayette Mill Antiques Center <http://www.millantiques.com/>

Spring trip part 4

Northern Montana

In the spring of 2024 we took an 8,267-mile trip from New Jersey to the Oregon pacific coast and back. The June, July and August 2024 issues of The Hillbilly contained articles about our trip. This article picks up where we left off, headed east out of Glacier National Park for the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

Text and photos by Lois Wagner and Derek Conley



Road cut on the High Plains of northern Montana.

Once we cleared the Rocky Mountains we were on a fairly tight schedule to get back to New Jersey. Doctors and other appointments that we had scheduled too optimistically were hard dates and we had unexpectedly lost our live-in cat sitter as our younger daughter had fallen in love and decided to move in with her boyfriend. So instead of exploring further south we decided to make time by heading straight east though the [Montana High Plains](#) on US route 2, which roughly parallels the Canadian border about 25 miles south and following the route of the Hi Line, the Great Northern (now Burlington Northern Santa Fe) rail line that opened the area to development in the 1890s. Most of the towns on US route 2 started life as railroad sidings, and their naming is said to have been determined by a Great Northern official who spun a globe

and gave the new towns the names of places his finger came to rest on: Kremlin, Joplin, Chester, Havre, Harlem, Zurich, and Inverness are some of the tiny towns along route 2.

Our first stop was another such town, Malta, Montana, population about 1,900. Nearby, members of Butch Cassidy's gang (though not the man himself) robbed a Great Northern train in 1901. However Malta is most famous, at least among paleontologists and dinosaur cognoscenti, for the nearby 2000 discovery of "Leonardo", a fully articulated and partially "mummified" skeleton of a subadult [Brachylophosaurus](#), over 90% complete, uncompressed, and including skin and muscle impressions, parasites and malignant tumors (dinosaurs had cancer too! who knew?), that is considered one of the most spectacular dinosaur finds ever, and is included in the *Guinness Book of World Records*. It is on display at the Great Plains Dinosaur Museum in Malta.



Lower Two Calf Trail Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

We, however, weren't there for the dinosaurs. We, or more accurately Derek, was there to get a taste of the [Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument \(UMRBNM\)](#), and Malta was the closest town on our way east that had access to this remote area. We parked the trailer in a small run-down RV park behind a motel next to the ironically named Milk River

(chocolate milk, maybe) and a busy Hi Line railroad bridge that crossed it. Trains of a hundred or more cars thundered by every forty-five minutes or so throughout the day and night. The only other trailer in the park was occupied by two thirty-something men who blasted country music all night long. We turned the heat pump fan on high to drown out the noise and managed to sleep reasonably well.



Lower Two-Calf Trail, Upper Missouri Breaks River National Monument.

We had debated staying at the [James Kipp campground](#) right at one of the few roads in to the monument, but like most, maybe all, campgrounds run by the Bureau of Land Management it had no electric or water (it did have a dump station) and it was first-come, first served. We knew we would be arriving late in the day and if there were no spots available we would have a 70-mile drive in the dark back to Malta, so caution won out and we stayed in Malta.

The next day we drove from Malta to the monument's east "entrance", actually just a dirt road access point. This drive revealed two things: the James Kipp Campground had only half a dozen trailers in it (out of 24 spaces), so we could have stayed there, but the first 15 or so miles of US route 191 out of Malta, the only road to get to the monument, was completely gone. The former road, US 191, was apparently being widened and all there was to travel on was a wide, undifferentiated dirt path that seemingly had just been carved from the



View of the Missouri River looking west from Lower Two-Calf trail, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

raw earth. Spring is, it turns out, highway maintenance season in Montana and in all we drove at least 80 miles on raw dirt roads, often following an official vehicle with flashing lights and a “follow me” sign, winding through active construction sites and scores of earth-moving equipment. At least the trip from Malta to the monument and back was without the trailer. It was, however, notably, and a bit surprisingly, without cell service.



*Trail's end; at least, our trail's end.
Couldn't get past the first creek.*

Surprising because the west, particularly the Great Plains, is dotted with enormous cell towers, at least 500 feet high, some maybe even close to a thousand feet, and when we were on Interstate we were only rarely, and then momentarily, without a cell signal. Off the interstates, however, there are large gaps between service areas. Where we were, at the eastern end of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, there was no cell service for about 30 miles to the north and 20 miles to the south, and of course none in the monument itself which runs about 100 miles to the west.

Why the Upper Missouri Breaks? The Missouri is America's longest river and starting with Lewis and Clark it served as the gateway to the northwest. Because it is so rugged (“Breaks” denote land broken, or deeply carved, by erosion) the land can't be farmed or ranched. Because it is relatively devoid of sought-after resources such as precious metals, coal, oil, or gas, the area has never been developed. It looks the same, aside from erosion, as it has since the end of the last ice age. The same cannot be said for much of the rest of the country. Also appealing, at least to us, the monument is rarely visited. As the BLM says “Few places offer such a variety of opportunities mingled with the remoteness that is so rare today.”

Our goal was to drive through a small portion of the monument on Lower Two-Calf Trail, one of the [unimproved dirt roads](#) in the Monument. As the BLM says, “take a drive on the wild side”. Well, we did try. Our goal was to do a roughly twenty-five-mile loop along the southern side of the Missouri. Unfortunately, the first creek we came to proved to be unfordable and we had to turn back. Still, we got some good pictures and at least a taste of the experience we were looking for.

The next day we left Malta and headed east for Medora, North Dakota. Next time: the south unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.



Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. Photo Bureau of Land Management.

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