

The Hillbilly



Publication of Watchung NJ Airstream Club

www.airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj June 2025

President's Message



Camping season is upon us, I hope everyone is getting out doing what they enjoy. Some of us had an opportunity to attend the Kentucky Derby themed Region 2 Rally in Center Hall, PA. The company and the games made it a wonderful experience. Next year's Region 2 is at Pocono Raceway, May 14-17, 2026 keep an eye out for more information.

Thank you to the Cullens who are pulling together a rally for June at Triple Brook Campground, Hope, NJ. I am sure we are all looking forward to it.

It's never too early to start thinking about next year. J.R.R. Tolkien said, the greatest adventure is what lies ahead. Let us start planning our adventures for next year. Steve Germansky is looking for places to go to next year. If you have a favorite place or location you would like to share with us reach out to Steve to add it to the 2026 calendar. We all are happy to help with any arrangement questions.

We are recruiting for someone to fill the role of Club Historian. Lea Plant who has been our historian for many years, is moving on.

Leslie

Hillbilly Cooking

This month's recipe is a little different: it's not from Leslie DeHerde's kitchen but instead from her garage. It helps to improve holding tank odor.

In a gallon jug mix:

8 oz of Calgon Ageless Pearls

40 oz of Pine-Sol

Fill the rest with water

Gently swirl or shake to allow the foam to settle.

After a tank is emptied, add between four and eight ounces in the empty tank depending on tank size: four ounces for a 20 gallon tank; eight ounces for a 39 gallon tank.

ACI Executive Council Election

The 2025–2027 Airstream Club International Executive Council Election

It's that exciting time once again — when Airstream Club International members have the opportunity to shape the future of our organization through the power of their vote. The 2025–2027 Executive Council Election is officially underway, and this year brings a fresh new way to get informed, get involved, and make your voice heard.

Meet the 2025–2027 Candidates

This year's candidates represent a dynamic mix of experience, perspectives, and dedication to the Airstream community. These individuals are stepping forward to lead the Airstream Club International with integrity, vision, and passion.

To explore their backgrounds and platforms, head to AirstreamClub.org/IBTCandidate. Each candidate profile includes written statements and, coming soon, recorded one-on-one interviews.

Your Voice, Their Answers

NEW THIS YEAR: The Recruitment and Oversight Committee is conducting in-depth interviews with each candidate. Candidate videos will be released mid-May on the ACI YouTube channel. Then, mark your calendars for a live, interactive experience:

The Hillbilly

Live "Ask the Candidates" Webinar, May 21, 7 p.m. ET Join the ACI community for this open forum where candidates will answer your submitted questions and take live questions via chat. Can't attend? The webinar will be recorded and available afterward on the ACI YouTube Channel.

Key Election Dates

Stay engaged with the full election timeline:

- Mid-May – Candidate interviews published on ACI YouTube channel • May 21 – Live “Ask the Candidates” webinar at 7:00 PM ET
- May 27 – Deadline to request a paper ballot
- June 1-15 – Voting period open to eligible ACI Members
- June 18 – Election results announced (pending receipt of paper ballots)
- July 17 – New International Officers announced
- August – New Executive Council officially seated August 1 and installed at the International Rally Make Your Vote Count

The Executive Council is a vital part of the International Board of Trustees, driving key initiatives and shaping impactful member programs. Now, it's your opportunity to help select the leaders who will guide this important work.

Voting will once again be held through ElectionBuddy, a secure and confidential platform. All members with an email on file will receive a ballot on June 1, 2025. To ensure you receive yours, confirm your email in the Member Dashboard or Membership Directory. Prefer to vote by mail? Contact Club HQ at 937-596- 5211 by May 27 at 4:00 PM ET to request a paper ballot. Completed paper ballots must be postmarked by June 15, 2025.

This is your club. Your vote matters.

Review the candidates, submit your questions, and take part in this important process. Let's chart the road ahead — together!



Missed Something?

**Past issues of *The Hillbilly*
going back to January 2021
are online at
<https://airstreamclub.org/watchung-nj/newsletter-hillbilly>**

Announcements

Sunshine Report

No cards were sent this month so here's hoping everyone is good!

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

David Cahall

John Dillon

Howard Eldridge

Karen Smith

Lois Wagner

Joanne Elaqua

Fred Reinhardt

Jeanne Brugmans

Linda Kiesel

**Help
Wanted**

The WAC will be holding a barbecue for our club members at the International Rally. We need volunteers. If you would like to help out, please contact Heidi Cullen at 973-945-3406 or Heidi.watch.air@gmail.com.

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



2025 Watchung Airstream Club Rally and Luncheon Schedule

DATE	WHAT/WHEN	HOSTS	COHOSTS	VENUE
June 2025	Club Rally/June 6-8	Heidi and Brian Cullen	Leslie and Frank DeHerde	Triplebrook Camping Resort, Blirstown, NJ
July 2025	Club and Buddy Rally/July 11-14	Steve and Cynthia Germansky	Lois Wagner/Derek Conley	Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson, New York
August 2025	International Aug 23-28 and club business meeting	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 Koczvara	CoHost needed	TBA
December 2025	Installation Luncheon/TBA	Heidi and Brian Cullen	Leslie/ Frank DeHerde	TBA

In addition to the club and International rallies, ACI also offers National Event Rallies. Find the [complete list of National Event Rallies on AirstreamClub.org](#).

ACI Code of Ethics

To be ever mindful of our responsibility to Wally Byam Caravan Club International, Inc., and through conduct, indicate to the public that membership in this organization is an assurance of our courtesy on the road and good will to all peoples and countries. To be ever mindful of what we say or print with respect to the effect on others so as to avoid disharmony and ill feelings among club members and to dedicate ourselves to the work of cementing together the members of WBCCI in bonds of good fellowship and mutual understanding. To conduct ourselves in a manner to inspire others engaged in recreational vehicle travel to a full appreciation of the intent and meaning of this code. To maintain our camps in an orderly manner and leave them in the same way.

Regional Rally Report



And a good time was had by all! Left to right WAC president Leslie DeHerde, past-president and Most Vibrantly Dressed winner Frank DeHerde, first vice president Heidi Cullen, Brian Cullen, Dave and Nancy Diebert, Kathi Short and Region 2 past-president and WAC recording secretary Rich Short.

By Heidi Cullen

The Region 2 Rally at the Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall, PA got off to a fun start. Although as promised, it rained on and off all weekend, we managed to do everything we had planned on doing in the surrounding areas. There are plenty of small towns including a nice brewery and lovely scenery to explore. Penn State has a beautiful campus and a fun town surrounding it so



Trivia winner certificates for the WAC team. Photo Brian Cullen

there was no shortage of restaurants to enjoy. Of course, we had to sample "the creamery" on campus since it is known for amazing ice cream. Although it was very good, to be honest it did not surpass our favorite local spots.

Saturday ushered in the main event of the rally. The afternoon brought games and music, all based on the Kentucky Derby theme. Frank was by far the most well-dressed gent there, as you can see. The



Left to right: Nancy Diebert, Heidi Cullen, Kathi Short, Leslie DeHerde. Photo Brian Cullen

attire for the rest of us was anywhere from casual to dressy, with many people wearing lovely or funny hats. And Yes, there were Mint Juleps and betting and a really good catered dinner! Although we understand that this year had a smaller turnout than in past years, the atmosphere was festive and lively, and a fun way to meet fellow Region 2 folks. In keeping with Watchung tradition, we managed to have our club happy hours, complete with *snacks*. Our Watchung participants were the Shorts, the DeHerdes, the Deiberts and the Cullens. And we proudly won

the Kentucky Derby Trivia Game! As always, attending any rally gives us a chance to get to know different members of our own club, a little more each time. That alone is worth four hours in the car (each way)!

The next Region 2 rally will be at Sampson State Park, New York, from July 31 through August 4. For more information on the rally contact region 2 president Gary Russo at fulloflife123@yahoo.com or 585-967-6636. To register use this link: <https://form.jotform.com/243194600769159>. The registration deadline is July 13.

Plans are already underway for next year's Region 2 rally. Here are the details, with more to follow later:

May 14-17
Pocono Raceway
1234 Long Pond Road
Long Pond, PA



Nancy and Dave Diebert. Photo Brian Cullen

June Rally



TripleBrook Camping Resort
58 Honey Run Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825
908-459-4079
<https://triplebrook.com/>

Hosts: Heidi and Brian Cullen, Leslie and Frank DeHerde

Dates: Friday June 6 and Saturday June 7 (2 nights)

To book a site, go to [Triplebrook.com](https://triplebrook.com), then tap on *Book Now!* in the top right corner. Scroll down to the reservation form and fill it out, referencing Heidi Cullen and Watchung Airstream Club under the special requests section. Someone will phone you back within a day or two to get you all set up and take your deposit. We have sites in the area of 67-76. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or Leslie. We hope to see you there! Heidi Cullen 973-945-3406 Leslie Deherde 908-797-3387

Planned Schedule

Friday: Check in 3 to 9 pm
5-6 pm Happy Hour followed by potluck dinner (bring a dish)

Saturday: 8-9:30 am Breakfast: egg bake, oatmeal bake, bagels
5 pm Happy hour followed by BBQ burgers and dogs, salad, etc.
8 PM Entertainment provided by the campground at the pavilion, no charge.

Sunday 8:30-9:30 Continental Breakfast including hard boiled eggs, yogurt, fruit, muffins
***please let us know if you have any food allergies or sensitivities**

- Check out by noon
- Rally fee will be collected Friday evening--roughly \$20 per person
- We will be collecting for our charity on Saturday evening

Selected Things to Do in the area

- Historic Moravian buildings, [shops](#), and [antiques](#) in the center of Hope.
- [Glider rides](#) at [Blairstown Airport](#).
- [Restaurants](#), [museums](#), and [farmers market](#) in Blairstown.
- [Lakota Wolf Preserve](#), 89 Mt Pleasant Road, Columbia
- Hiking in [Worthington State Park](#)
- Kickoff to Summer Festival at [Tranquility Farms](#)
- Free live music Saturday afternoon at [Brook Hollow Winery](#)

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 until Monday if you desire.

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.

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 on 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
- 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 -

Executive Council Candidate

Rachel Miller



I'm honored to run for the ACI Executive Council and offer my experience as an executive and board member because this community has truly shaped my life and I'd love to help shape its future. As a full-timer, I've found friendship, wisdom, and joy through rallies and meetups, and I've tried to give back by creating the Airstream Full Timers Facebook group. Our weekly check-ins and in-person gatherings have helped fellow travelers feel a little less alone on the road.

Professionally, I run a small business, have served on nonprofit and international boards, and bring a background in psychotherapy. I prefer to lead with clarity and compassion valuing consensus, clear communication, and collaboration over ego. ACI is evolving, and that's exciting. I want to help us adapt while staying true to our roots by offering more flexible ways to get involved, strengthening member-leadership communication, maintaining a good relationship with Airstream, Inc. and making space for solo travelers, digital nomads, and the next generation of Airstreamers.

I love this community - not just the trailers or the travel, but the people. If elected, I'll bring big-picture thinking, grounded leadership, and a genuine belief that our best days are still ahead. Thank you.

ACI 70th Anniversary Commemoration

To commemorate the [70th Anniversary](#) of the club, there's a special [anniversary store](#) that's open now and a special issue of the Blue Beret coming in August that you can contribute to. The store features 70th anniversary drinkware, accessories, and apparel for everyone. The August Blue Beret will be a commemorative edition focused on the club's rich history, multi-generational member stories and more and ACI is hoping for your participation.

- **[Share Your Story](#)**: Tell us about your family's history with the club, your favorite Club traditions, craziest Club adventures, and more!
- **[Share Your Photos](#)**: Show off your best club adventure photos – select photos will be used throughout the issue and maybe even grace the cover!
- **[Leave Your Mark](#)**: Buy a 70th Anniversary Message that will be included in the magazine. You can choose a text only message for \$25 or text with photo/logo for \$100. All proceeds will be donated to the WBCCI Historical Center.

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2024 Watchung Club Officers

President	Leslie DeHerde
1 st Vice President	Heidi Cullen
2 nd Vice President	Steve Germansky
Correspondence Secretary	Frank Deherde
Recording Secretary	Richard Short
Treasurer	Lois Wagner
Directors	Rebecca Glick
	Cathy McCarthy
	Jay McCarthy
	Pat Attanasio

Other Club Roles

Membership	George Kiesel
Sunshine	Linda Kiesel
Web Master	Mark Ratliff
Directory	Chris Forster
Newsletter	Derek Conley
Quartermaster	Jason Pomerleau

