



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER of the
NY FINGER LAKES AIRSTREAM CLUB

THE GRAPEVINE—November 2020 Website: <https://newyorkfingerlakes.airstreamclub.net/>

Volume 19, Issue 10

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THE GRAPEVINE
will not
be published in
DECEMBER.

We'll see you in
January 2021!!



On the lookout for WBCCI
Membership renewals

HAVE YOU RENEWED??

The membership dues renewal process has changed this year. Renewals are now online at: <https://airstreamclub.org/current-members/membership-renewal>

OR

Call 937-596-5211

NOTE: Renewals must be received by Dec. 31, 2020 to be included in the NYFLAC Membership Directory

Previously, renewals were all handled by the unit treasurer. If you prefer, you may contact our treasurer, Ted Smith, and he will be happy to assist you with a paper renewal form. Members who joined between July 1st & Dec. 31st pay a pro-rated amount for International dues for the current year and the full of the next year.

NY Finger Lakes Airstream Club 2020-2021 Officers and Committee Members

President: Randy Hill
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1st V.P.: Gary Russo
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2nd VP: OPEN & recruiting

Treasurer: Ted Smith
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Recording Secretary: OPEN & recruiting

Directors: John Dona (1 yr.)
Jim Gillio (2 yrs.)
Charlie Kirk (3 yrs.)

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Membership Directory: Liz Kirk
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Sunshine: Diane Hill



The President's Corner

2020 What a Year

As this year is coming to an end, I just want to say "it's been year has been like no other." Some of you have not felt comfortable traveling, and your Airstream has spent the summer parked. Others have found new ways to your Airstream, taking local trips or just adventuring out to see your family. We also had many new members join our club this year - some of them are even first-time Airstream owners! We want to say "Welcome" - we are glad you joined us.

Even though our rally schedule was canceled this year, our club found ways to get together safely and enjoy each other's company. In the spring when we all were stuck at home, we met on "Zoom" meetings. It was great to be able to connect with our members - no matter where you were, for a Virtual Happy Hour and see that everyone was safe and healthy.

During the summer months when New York State started opening and we could go camping again, we had meet-ups at local state parks throughout the Finger Lakes and Western New York regions. The schedule for these events was very open, allowing each family to plan activities during the day. At the end of each day, we found time to meet up during a happy hour or campfire. When our number of attendees got larger, we split into two small groups so we could continue to maintain our social distance and still enjoy each other's company.

Even with everything going on this year, our club found ways to improve. In December, we had our first web-based vote to update the name of our club to include "Airstream Club" in our name. This spring, we moved our in-person business meeting to Zoom. We also created a Facebook Group for club members to keep in touch with each other. This Facebook Group was put to good use organizing our meet-ups each month.

Next year is just around the corner, and like 2020, it looks to be filled with uncertainty. One thing we do know for certain, our club's leaders are looking for ways for us to safely enjoy our Airstreams and each other's company.

We will continue to host Virtual Happy Hours on Zoom during our off season so we can check in on each other and we plan to have more club meet-ups across the state again next summer, so that more of you can attend. To fill the void of not having formal rallies, we could do such things as plan themes for these meet-ups - Christmas in July anyone?

For now, we wish all of you a great and safe holiday season.

Randy & Diane
30876

NYFLAC Member Surveys

Our survey is open and waiting to hear from you. If you have already completed your survey then “Thank You!” If not, what are you waiting for? Your voice matters - please complete the surveys before Thanksgiving .

Sunshine Survey—*The Sunshine Survey only needs to be filled out by one member of each household.*

This survey is to update our records with our club members demographics. We are asking for your preferred name, address, preferred phone numbers, preferred emails and a little bit about your Airstream - nothing you haven't already shared with WBCCI when you joined or renewed. This information will also be used to update our club directory.

We are also asking for birthday and anniversary dates so we can bring back the “Sunshine” tradition of recognizing our members’ “Birthday” or “Anniversary” each month in the newsletter.

Member Satisfaction Survey—*Every member is encouraged to take this survey and share their opinions.*

This survey is to identify what our members like, or would like to see changed, about our local club. Your replies will be used to help us better plan future events - like rallies, meet-ups, luncheons, etc. We will keep your responses anonymous. The information collected will only be used by our local club and will not be shared with WBCCI or anyone outside this group. A high level overview of the survey results will be shared in future newsletters.

Both surveys take about 15 minutes or less to fill out . Please complete these surveys **no later than Nov. 26th.**

Please use the links below to start the surveys:

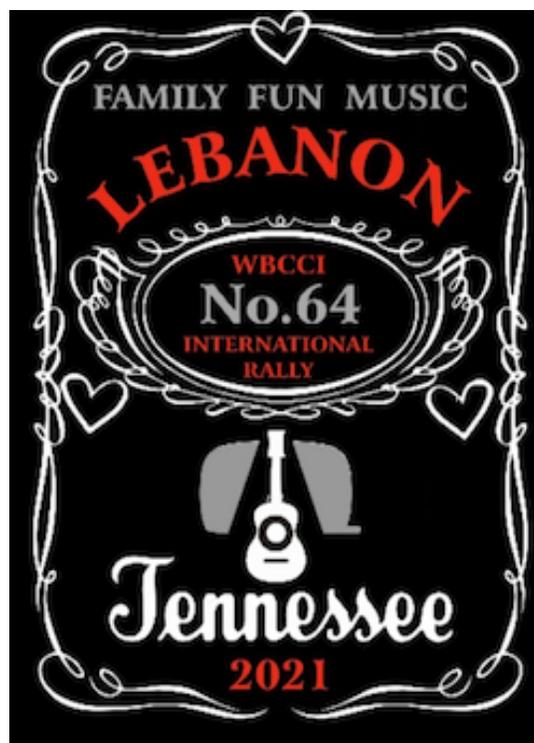
Sunshine: <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/HKq7rC>

Member Satisfaction: <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/Bh5gsR>



Introducing our newest member
Jessica Casey

Trumansburg, NY



Diane's Sunshine Corner



As we celebrate 'Veteran's Day' this month, we want to say "Thank You" to all of our members that have served past or present in our US military. We also want to say "Thank You" to our members who have loved ones that have served or are currently serving, and to those members who have had loved ones serve and given their lives, which has allowed us in the United States to enjoy the freedoms that we currently have.

We want to wish the following members a very "Happy Birthday" or "Happy Anniversary."

November

Birthdays: Lynn Britt (11/6), Bonnie Hass (11/22)
Anniversary: Ted & Donna Smith (11/30)



December

Birthdays: Mary Sweeney (12/2), Anna Ganz (12/8),
KC Gillio (12/23), Jim Gillio (12/26),
Dorothy Curtis (12/26)

Anniversaries: Ken & Marla Brady (12/15), Jack & Trina Kelley (12/26)

We also want to recognize the following members who are transferring to new units in 2021. We wish them safe journeys and hope to "See You Down The Road".

Rosanne Babcock and Bonnie Haas #13856 will each be joining the Florida Unit - Rosanne and Jim Babcock joined WBCCI in 1967 and Rosanne has continued her membership after Jim passed away in 2017, and she has been a member for 53 years. Rosanne and Jim offered courtesy parking in both NY and Florida. Ted and Donna Smith remember meeting them both when they courtesy parked at their farm in Sherman, NY in 2015 on their way home from the Southwest caravan - Ted says "I still remember Rosanne's apple pie!"

Bonnie Haas joined our unit in 2009 and has been a member for 11 years. She also offered courtesy parking in Florida for unit members.

Tom and Debbie MacWilliams # 8592 have been members since 2014, and Deb had served as a director in the Niagara-Genesee Unit. They are transferring to an Arizona unit where they have been wintering for several years.

I want to wish all our members and their families a very "Happy and Safe" holiday season and we will see you next year.

Stay well and safe journeys if you are traveling!

Diane Hill
Sunshine Chair
30876



Newsletter Editor note—For those members who plan to transfer to another home club but still want to continue receiving New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club newsletters.....just drop me a note and I'll keep you on the mailing list. 002newslettereditor@wbcci.net

Region 2 News

Who Knew Geocaching Could Be So Much Fun?

Back in May I had the bright idea that Charlie and I should start Geocaching. The thinking was once we mastered finding hidden “treasures” it would be a great way to start introducing our young grandson, Henry, to outdoor activities. What we didn’t know is how much we would enjoy it!!! We have had so much fun and just this morning we logged our 50th find!.

So just what is geocaching? “Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location.”

And just where are these hidden containers? They are all over the world. Geocaches are hidden all around you and you don’t even know it. We have found geocaches in our local and state parks, along the Erie Canal, hidden next to libraries. This picture shows all the geocaches in this little county park near us. The Happy Faces are ones we’ve found and logged. The green and orange dots represent geocaches we still have to locate.



What’s the benefit of geocaching? There are SO MANY benefits I don’t know where to begin.....

- People who hide geocaches often include information about the history of the area. We have learned so much about the area we are in because of geocaching. We learned about Civil War sites in Ohio, old mining history of our local park, the history of Lake George, NY, and the family histories of people placing the cache.
- If you like solving puzzles you will love geocaching. Geocaching challenges your problem solving skills. As time goes on you get a “geo-sense” where the cache might be hidden. In this picture Charlie had to climb up on a stump to reach a string to pull the cache out of this old tree. They can be as tiny as 1” or as large as a gallon mayonnaise container. This funny looking green geocache required us to problem solve with marbles to get to the log. We found this at Green Lakes SP that Gary talks about on the next page.
- It helps you stay physically active. We love that we can hike and geocache, or bike and geocache. Some geocaches are reached only by water. Sometimes we just go out and geocache for no other reason than to be outdoors.
- Geocaching is Covid friendly! It’s a great activity as you do it socially distanced from others.
- You become more aware of your environment. You discover a tree, a bench, a rock formation, unusual geography, an old cemetery, or a memorial plaque you had never noticed before. You may have walked past these places 100’s of times but didn’t give them a second thought.
- The thrill of the find is HUGE!!!! Especially if you had to work for it. Sometimes we’ve looked at an area for up to an hour before we nabbed our find.



Charlie and I plan on geocaching for a very long time. Someday Henry will be able to join us but until then we will keep on searching.

“It is practically November as I write this and the year has been quite different, to say the least. No need to recap or review all the events and non-events of the year that made it so. I think we have all heard and read enough to understand. Suffice to say I will be both sad and glad to see 2020 end.”

You can continue reading Region 2 Nov. news at <https://airstreamclub.org/region2/region-2-november-newsletter-2020>

Region 2 Nov. Highlights Rich writes about...

- ⇒ Our Airstream Club has added over 475 new memberships in the last 3 months.
- ⇒ We’re looking at several different venues for a possible mid-May or early June Region 2 rally.
- ⇒ We have a new club partnership with Passport America.

Rich Short #1512



It’s never too late to join by sending a friend request to New York Finger Lakes Airstream Club - #002 or find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1472017733005344/>

See You Down the Road.....

Gary Russo, 1st Vice President

What a changeable weather pattern we have had, last week it was 71°F in Webster NY. The week before that we had our first taste of cold and snow (just a trace). Yesterday we had what looked like a killing frost here. Can you believe this weather?? While the spring to fall camping, season is New York has come to a close, we are trying to find safe ways to stay in contact during the winter under the Covid -19 situation.



Last weekend was so gorgeous, and Suzanne had heard so much about Green Lakes State Park near Syracuse, that we decided to take a ride down to see the park. We were not disappointed with the drive and the park. The park is beautiful! Multiple easy trails around the lake and a huge beach area. No power boats are allowed in the lakes, and there are 2 camping areas. (Possible popup meeting area??) We are always on the lookout for new camping sites in the Finger Lakes area.



But as we walked around, I saw multiple signs warning of ticks, which made me remember a lesson I learned over the years. About 8 years ago we were camping in the Adirondacks. On the way home I felt out of sorts, achy and very tired. At that time, I did not think anything about it. About 1 week later I was talking to a friend at work and described the symptoms I was experiencing. He asked if I had any unusual bites. I responded that I had one and it looked odd to me. I showed him the mark and he immediately said to get a doctor to look at the bite site. I did and he confirmed with a test that I had Lyme disease. The bite at that point looked similar to the picture below. I was on a medication for 2 weeks.

So, I thought I would share some simple steps to help prevent tick bites. While it is not possible to completely avoid ticks, here are some ways that can help reduce your risk of being bitten by a tick.



Ticks DO NOT jump or fly onto their victims, but instead, they wait on vegetation and latch onto animals and humans as they brush by. DO not brush against vegetation if you can avoid it; the same goes for pets. I know it is hard to avoid vegetation when you are hiking trails along a stream/ hill/mountain to get that great view/picture.

- ◆ Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts, and tuck the legs into your socks or boots. This helps keep ticks from reaching your skin.
- ◆ Wear light colored and tightly woven clothing. This makes it easier to see ticks.
- ◆ Use repellants that contain 20% or more DEET or 20% Picaridin for 4-5 hours of protection.
- ◆ Permethrin kills ticks and can be used to treat boots, clothing and camping gear. Always follow product instructions, and note that permethrin and some tick preventatives for dogs can actually be lethal to cats.
- ◆ Throw your clothing in the dryer for 20 minutes on high heat after spending time outdoors.
- ◆ Check yourself, your children, and pets at least once per day for ticks. A tick is so small it can easily go unnoticed. Conduct a whole-body check including groin, armpits, belly button, base of hairline, behind ears, and behind knees.

September in Maine

In September we returned for our third visit to the rugged and spectacular coast of Maine. On this trip we combined some of our previous favorite stops with some new unexplored areas.

Camden Hills Star Park

This gem of a park is located on coastal US Rt. 1 just a few miles from the town of Camden. From this location you can explore all 3 of the historic coastal towns of Camden, Rockport and Rockland and their charming harbors. Within the park you can drive or hike to the top of Mount Battie with its panoramic views of the coast stretching north all the way to Cadillac Mt. in Acadia National Park.

Cobscook Bay State Park

This rugged waterfront campground is primitive camping at its best. There are no hookups but all of the sites are very large and spaced so that its difficult to know if there is anyone else camped nearby.

From here you can take a short drive to Quoddy Head Light House near Lubec, Maine “the easternmost point in the USA”. From the lighthouse, hike the cliff trail 150 ft above the Gulf of Maine with views of the Canadian island of “Grand Manan” and the Atlantic ocean.

Wolfe’s Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment

Near Freeport, this is a sustainable farm combined with an oceanfront campground. A fun opportunity to explore a working farm with its varied livestock as well as to paddle some sheltered waters off of the Atlantic.

It was the kind of trip that we were planning our next visit on the drive home.

Jim & KC Gillio

