

Keystone Kourier

President's Message

Keystone Unit #092
Region 2 - WBCCI



Hello Keystoners.

It's Memorial Day, a time to remember the cost of freedom and to express our sincerest gratitude to all those who have paid the ultimate price to preserve our way of life.

Our Airstream way of life was on full display at the recent Eastern PA Opener rally at Lum's Pond State Park, Delaware. Our thanks to the Central Penn Unit for organizing and hosting this successful new event. Carey Boland, Central Penn's President, did an exceptional job in setting this up as did our Rick and Andy Pitts who outdid themselves by organizing breakfasts for both days and arranging an outdoor movie night. The campground was beautiful with large campsites and spacious, well-manicured open areas. Our unit was well represented with 6 rigs attending. The rally was so successful that campsites are already being reserved for next year's encore. More about this below.

Right after Lum's Pond, Arry and I took off on a 2-week trip to London, England, my old stomping grounds. The picture right is a selfie taken in front of Westminster Abby which as many of you know is jam packed with tombs, memorials and crowds of people. Highlights of our trip included Windsor Castle, Stratford-upon-Avon (Shakespeare's birthplace and the home of his wife, Anne Hathaway), Leeds Castle, Canterbury, White Cliffs of Dover, Winchester Cathedral, British Museum (Elgin Marbles) and an Airstream sited on the way to Hampton Court (Henry VIII's favorite palace). As you can see from the picture, someone has crammed the Silver Bullet into a spot in front of a pub and converted it into a Mac 'N Cheese eatery. I must say, Airstreamers do get around! We even took in a delightful performance of the Lion King near Leicester Square. We stayed at a fantastic, cozy guest home/bed and breakfast in North London and dined on delicious fish and chips, Indian cuisine, Korean street food, pub grub and even a pizza. Whoever said English food is second rate! The weather was great as were the people who were exceedingly friendly and helpful. The only negative we encountered was the London traffic which was terrible and exacerbated by the many round-a-bouts and the fact the English drive on the wrong side of the road. Wonderful trip. Wonderful country.



Two days after we returned from the UK we're off to Florida for my grandson's graduation and when we come back from that we're going straight to the Region 2 rally. It's a busy year for us. We hope to see many of you at the Regional.

Safe travels.

Howard Mergelkamp

Upcoming Events

June 6 - 9

Region 2 Rally

Biglerville Fairgrounds
Biglerville, PA

July 20 - 27

62nd International Rally

Meadow Event Park
Doswell, VA

Sept 5 - 8

PA State Rally

Grange Fairgrounds
Centre Hall, PA

Stay Connected

Keystone on the web

<http://KeystonePA.airstreamclub.net/>



Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeystoneUnit/>

Eastern PA Opener Rally



Following on the hitches of a great maintenance rally, Keystoneers joined with members from the Central Penn and Penn-Lehigh units for the spring opener rally at Lum's Pond State Park in Bear, DE. 32 rigs were in attendance with joiners from MAU, DelMarVA and WDCU. The event began with a welcoming 'doggie roast' sponsored by Penn-Lehigh on Friday evening, with a campfire to follow, of course!



Keystoneers prepped a delicious breakfast on Saturday featuring scrambled eggs, sausages and pancakes.

In attendance from Keystone were Howard & Ary Mergelkamp, Jody & Sue Dietz, Don & Phyllis Harrington, Jerry & Barb Hillegass, Will & Karen Kushto, and Rick & Andy Pitts.

Debbie & Mark Hammer, and Rich & Kathy Short from Region joined in the festivities!



Saturday was open and kids enjoyed cards and scavenger hunts while adventurous adults (and youngsters) went 'Ape' on the park's ziplines. Central Penn treated all to a great chicken dinner Saturday night with kid's movie and club campfire following it.

As luck would have it, the rain joined us overnight so breakfast was 'damp'. But Keystoneers rose to the task and provided their great signature waffle breakfast, this time with a tasty glazed apple accompaniment (and cinnamon French toast to boot!). What fun!



Thanks to Karen Kushto, Dennis Ober (CP) and Alexandra Jacobs (MAU) for so many pics for here and even more on the unit website/facebook pages!

- **And** planning is in the works for next year May 1-3, again at Lum's Pond State Park, so make campsite reservations now (several of us already have, as it is again likely to be the weekend NASCAR invades Dover, rally site is likely #41)!



Upcoming Rally Fun:

Region 2 Rally at nearby South Mountain Fairgrounds, Biglerville, PA, the extended weekend of **June 6 – 9**. Rally coupon on unit website. We're planning on unveiling your new Keystone '10 x 20' rally tent, with happy hour BYO & hors d'oeuvres...

There are many things to do in the area (Gettysburg, farm markets and local dining). Come join the fun!

62nd International Rally – this year in nearby Doswell, VA at the Meadow Event Park, birthplace of Secretariat. **July 20 – 27**.

<https://wbcci.org/home/caravans/rallies/international-rally/2019-doswell-va/doswell-registration>

In addition to collecting donations of pennies, aluminum tabs, pet food & supplies and personal care items, the Doswell rally is collecting for the Richmond based **Home Again** charity which assists homeless shelters for families, single women and operates the Veterans Transitional Home. Items needed are new towels & washcloths; twin-size blankets, bed-sheets and standard-sized pillows; new and gently used furniture; school & craft supplies; kitchen & cooking supplies; men's adjustable belts; and household cleaning supplies. Check page 36 of the *May Blue Beret* for more information.

Sunshine Report



Nice to report that our folks are on the mend. Barb and Jerry Hillegass are recovering, opened the rig at the Lum's Pond campout and looking forward to summer

Safe travels this spring. Keep the shiny side up!

Let us know of illnesses, surgeries, friends needing a kind word - and better yet, recoveries.

Karen (kkushto@comcast.net or cell 215-266-2410)

Happy Birthday to:

June

Keystone PA Unit #092 – 1994!

Harvey Arter (11th)

Barry Heckenswiler (14th)

Sharon Fitzgerald (25th)

July

Vaughn Brayton (12th)

Melissa Goins (14th)

Bud Vogt (28th)

Sharon Keefe

Happy Anniversary to:

June

Rick & Andy Pitts

Howard & Arry Mergelkamp

George & Peg Spahn

July

Bud & Cheryl Cattell

Don & Joan Weaver

Wilson & Cindy Yerk

We have, and like to celebrate many birthdates and anniversary months but if we've missed you please email Rick/Andy (r_pitts@verizon.net)

2019 Officers

President

Howard Mergelkamp

1st Vice President

Jody Dietz

2nd Vice President

Don Harrington

Treasurer

Rick Pitts

Secretary

Arry Mergelkamp

1 Year Trustee

Arry Mergelkamp

1 Year Trustee

Barry Heckenswiler

2 Year Trustee

Andy Pitts

Legislative

Jody Dietz

Membership

Don Harrington

Sunshine

Karen Kushto

Unit Supplies

Karen Kushto

Historian

Caryle Brayton

Kourier – Web Pages

Andy & Rick Pitts

Staying in Touch with our New Members

It's time for rigs to hit the road – Some pics from our new members:



Sue Walton & 'Herc' can't wait to escape the 'Outlaw'...and are traveling to Lancaster County and then on to the Biglerville rally

Ted & Mary Newnam picked up their new Flying Cloud 25 FB on May 4th and drove directly to French Creek State Park. They spent the first few nights getting acquainted and making sure everything was working, and were joined by Kathleen Quinn, their new Keystone Airstream friend, at the adjoining site.

Chuck & Linda Chowns continue to travel the west and sent these 'bucket list' pictures from Utah and Arizona. (There are more pics on our Facebook page)



Yes, it is mid-May...in Bryce Canyon NP!

Chris & Melissa Goins continue their west coast glamping and are hoping to join us at the State rally in Center Hall this fall.

Send us your pictures, we love to include them in the Kourier!

"Taste of the Blue Ridge" Caravan

Karen & Will Kushto are on the Blue Ridge caravan (May 21 – June 14) as we send this. The WBCCI caravans are very well planned and this one is off to a great start (check Karen's Facebook page for more pics!):



Updated 2019 Activities Schedule

Attached is the Activities Schedule. We have an interesting year lined up and we encourage all of you to participate as much as you can. We are still looking for hosts, just touch base with Howard:

2019

June 6 -9 (Thur-Sun) – Region 2 rally at South Mountain Fairgrounds, Biglerville, PA
Don Harrington to coordinate

June 6-9 – invitation to join NY City Basecamp National Rally, Liberty Harbor Marina, Jersey City, NJ.

July 20-27 (Sat-Sat) – International Rally, Doswell, VA,
Howard Mergelkamp to coordinate

August 8-12 or August 15-19 (Thu-Mon) – Exploring Central PA, Keystone Unit Caravan. Visiting Carlisle, U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center, Indian School, Harrisburg and others.
Coordinator needed.

September 5-8 (Fri-Sun) – Pennsylvania State Rally, Centre Hall, PA (Grange County Fairgrounds)
Penn-Lehigh coordinating. **Keystone coordinator needed.**

September 21 - 29 – invitation to join 57th Annual Swiss Festival National Rally, Sugarcreek OH

October 2 – 6 – invitation to join Storytelling Festival Special Event Rally, Jonesborough, TN

November - Local Day Trip and lunch -- Date & locations to be determined.
Howard Mergelkamp and another to coordinate

December 14 (Sat) – Holiday luncheon at Plumsteadville Inn, Plumsteadville, PA;
Peg and George Spahn coordinating

SCHEDULE FOR REGION 2 RALLY

Wednesday

12.00pm
5.00pm

Crew and Early Birds arrival
Working Happy Hour & Planning

THURSDAY

8.00am
4.30pm
5.30pm
7.30pm

Early arrival, Parking and Registration starting
Happy Hour
Dinner on your own
Ice cream Social\

B Bucher & CO
Location **TBD**

Main Building

FRIDAY

8.00 – 9.00am
9:30 –10.30am
10.00 -
10:00 -11:30pm
able
12.00 – 1.00pm
1.00 – 2.00pm
4.30pm
5.30 – 7.15pm
7:30.
9.00pm

Breakfast/Watchung Unit
Becoming a Region 2 Officer.
Golf-tour -
Cast Iron Cooking

Lunch on your own
Caravan leader's training.
Hassle Tassle
Food Truck(s)
Entertainment
Ice cream Social

Rich Short/Region 2 1st VP
Ted Belleavoine & Steven Tancer
CMU #166 Keith Chinn – Question-

Mark Hammer

Tentative
Some artist/Group

SATURDAY

8.00 – 09.00
9.00 – 10.00
10.00 – 12.00

Breakfast -
Region 2 Business meeting.
Seminar - TBD

SkyMed Continental Breakfast
All welcome

Afternoon free

5.30 - 7.00pm
7.30 –9.30pm

Catered dinner
Entertainment
Ice cream Social

The Willy's

SUNDAY

8.00am

9.00 – 11.30am
Noon.
ner

Watchung Unit -

Flea Market & Silent Auction –
Lunch

Continental Breakfast or
Bagels/Doughnuts
Mark & Debbie Hammer & Ontario
Any leftovers from Breakfast or Din-

Good-bye!
Hope you had fun!

MONDAY

09.00 – 12.00

Final clean-up and crew depart

Andy and Rick Pitts
930 Stoney Run Dr.
West Chester, Pa. 19382



INTERESTED IN JOINING THE KEYSTONE UNIT?

Contact:

President: Howard Mergelkamp

howardsan70@gmail.com

Membership: Don Harrington

pastordkh21@aol.com

Keystone Courier



*Rally Time
June 2019*