



# March 2021 Delmarva Beacon



2019: The Dowells prepare to enjoy a waterfront site at one of our upcoming 2021 Club rally sites: Cherrystone Family Camping on Virginia's Eastern Shore



Visit our Delmarva Club website:

[Delmarva: Delaware, Virginia and Maryland Eastern Shores | Part of the Wally Byam Airstream Club](#)

- Contents
  - Page 2: Presidents Message
    - Welcome New Members!
  - Page 4: WBCCI Region 2 News
    - Message from Rich Short
    - Introducing New Region 2 President, RJ Marquette
  - Page 10: Getting to know each other
    - Member Profile: Deidre Matthews
    - Member Directory: please contribute your pictures
  - Page 12: Revised Club schedule
  - Page 13: April's Maintenance Rally Coupon
  - Page 14: Central PA Club Rally invitation
  - Page 15: Register for the 2021 WBCCI International Rally

## President's Message



Spring arrives before long -- on March 20! And rallies begin next month in April. Warmer weather and the chance to safely camp in our own trailers or motor homes/vans and gather while keeping at Covid-safe distances can hardly come soon enough, I daresay. It is good to see lots of new and upcoming Club opportunities this year to rally, caravan or gather and 'camp with friends' as you feel inclined. As always, feel free to pass along pictures or news of any of your travels or events.

Importantly, our Maintenance Rally is coming up -- April 23-25. You will see a coupon to register on page 13. This is our annual joint rally with the Mid Atlantic (MD) MAAC Club, and Keystone Club (PA). For those new to the Club it is an opportunity to camp together, socialize, and receive expert advice, assistance, plus supplies for working on maintenance tasks as you work through a maintenance checklist for your rig. You'll find you can ask any or all your Airstream questions as well. There will be one joint meal this time, and members may either pick up their food to return to their trailers, or eat socially distanced in either the dining hall or choose the open air pavilion. New or prospective members -- if you joined since the last Maintenance rally, you attend as guests of Delmarva -- with no rally fee due.

In addition, you'll find a couple of new invitations to join fellow WBCCI members: 1) a new Caravan departing in May -- 'Old National Road Caravans', 2) an invitation to our Club from the Central Pennsylvania Club to join their rally in September, and 3) a note about the Region 2 Luncheon being planned for the International Rally.

Happy Spring!

### **Welcome New Members!**

Joined since our last newsletter:

- Stan Divorski and Nancy Staisey; BRN #1292
  - Lewes, DE 19958
  - [lingroucho@earthlink.net](mailto:lingroucho@earthlink.net) and [nlstaisey@gmail.com](mailto:nlstaisey@gmail.com)



## **WBCCI Region 2: News and Introduction of Incoming President**

Editor's Update on Rich Short's February message below: Pursuant to a meeting of Region 2 Club Presidents on February 11, the decision was made to skip a Regional Rally this year and plan instead for 2022. Following the meeting, Rich, our outgoing Region 2 President wrote two emails from which I condense for you additional information relevant for Club Members

*Like last year, the decision to cancel the 2021 R2Rally was not an easy one, but was the right thing to do. The health and safety of our members is paramount. Their reluctance to participate during uncertainties of the lingering pandemic are understandable.*

*On another note, we have 66 rigs from Region 2 currently registered for the 2021 International Rally in TN.*

*I am forwarding a message from the leaders of the Old National Road Caravans. This looks like a fun time and a unique way of linking three (3) short caravans. Join one, two or all three of the Caravans. Check it out...*

*From: Tom Ketchum <tvketchum@gmail.com>*

*Date: Wed, Feb 10, 2021 at 7:49 PM*

*Subject: Old National Road Caravans*

*To: <Region2President@airstreamclub.net>*

*Since I cannot find a Facebook presence for Region 2, I would appreciate any promoting you can do for the Old National Road Caravans beginning April 29, 2022, and departing from Ramblin Pines Campground in Woodbine, MD.*

*Come with us, as we explore the historic National Road, on a journey through the lives and fortunes of the men and women who built America.*

*The National Road runs from Baltimore, MD to Vandalia, IL*

*There are three caravans covering this route, with each a nine day format. This will allow younger club members with jobs and families to experience what the Airstream Club was founded to do. The former name, Wally Byam Caravan Club International says it all- the Caravan experience, traveling to enjoy the history, hospitality, and friendship of our host communities, and making new friendships as part of Airstream ownership.*

*Old National Road East starts in Baltimore and ends in Washington, PA.  
Start April 29, 2022 End May 7, 2022*

*Old National Road Central starts in Washington and ends in Richmond, IN.  
Start May 7, 2022 End May 15, 2022*

*Old National Road West starts in Richmond and ends near Vandalia, IL.  
Start May 15, 2022 End May 23, 2022*

*The segments are each a full nine day caravan, and run consecutively, making it possible to enjoy just one segment, two segments, or all three.*

*Register online at <https://airstreamclub.org/current-members/caravans>! There are a total of only 22 units for each segment, and the online enrollment process time stamp decides the order of the wait list after the available spots are filled.*

*Once you register online, you will be contacted by email regarding kitty fee payment dates and amounts. Please note, the \$25 caravan administration fee the club charges will be charged once if you are booking two or all three segments as the administration fee, and credited to the kitty fee for the other segment(s).*

*The link to the Facebook group is:*

*<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1516515115215585/>*

*Thank you, and hope to see you down the road!*

*Sent from my iPad  
Tom Ketchum  
Vicki Ketchum  
#5809*

Region 2 News

February 2021

Rich Short #1512

The Mid-Winter IBT meeting held in Sarasota, FL January 18-22 has concluded, and it was a successful blend of in-person and Zoom attendees. This hybrid model of meeting has proven to be excellent and continues to be improved upon by our staff at Headquarters and the team of on-site club member volunteers. It was reported that 58 rigs were camped at the Sarasota Fairgrounds where the meetings, Club Officers and members were hosted by Region 3. Our travel plans changed, and I attended and participated in the meetings via Zoom. I want to thank our R2 1<sup>st</sup> VP RJ Marquette and R2 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Gary Russo for participating by Zoom as well.

There will be several Constitutional Amendments up for approval at the International Rally Delegates Meeting in July, to include continued efforts to simplify the Constitution and move some sections to Bylaws and Policy where they belong. There will be one to simplify the Amendment process and one to allow for electronic or mail ballots for electing International Officers. That motion will eliminate the need for Delegate Meetings at the International Rally unless there are Constitutional Amendments proposed. One of the results of our push to increase Member Benefits was the approval of a motion to add an additional paid staff person at Headquarters, in the position of Marketing and Communications Director. A permanent charter was granted to the new Indie Streamers Intra-club. More info can be found at <https://airstreamclub.org/indie-streamers>. There was one local club name change and several logos and flags approved. Due to the recent membership dues increase and persistent low interest rates, the Lifetime Membership fund was re-analyzed and an increase in the one-time fee will take effect August 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have thought about becoming a Lifetime Member of the Airstream Club, now would be an opportune time to do so and save some money.

One of the highlights of the IBT meeting for me is getting to listen to Justin Humphreys, the VP of Sales at Airstream, Inc. give an update on Airstream and the RV industry. His assessment of the sales environment, in one understated word, was BUSY! With no slow down in sight, dealers are literally sold out of product and have hardly any inventory in stock. Airstream is faced with fulfilling thousands of retail sold orders. Although the expansion of the manufacturing plants in 2019 and early 2020 was worrisome when the pandemic hit, it turned out to be perfect timing. The expansion, the largest in the company's history, now includes a 700,000 sq. ft. trailer manufacturing facility, a 230,000 sq. ft. motorhome facility, and a Base Camp shop whose size was increased by 50%. There are now almost 1100 employees in Jackson Center and the company is looking to hire another 200 to 250 people by July! Our Airstream Club is reaping the benefit, with new memberships being added at record pace. Please, take advantage of the efforts of our Membership Chair, Lea Plant. Reach out to those new Airstream owners in your area. Invite them out to a rally, to have some fun and learn about their Airstream and what the Airstream Club can offer them.

It was announced that the 2022 Mid-Winter meeting is now scheduled for 01/17-21/2022 in Savannah, GA at the Creek Fire RV Resort. More info will follow later in the year. The 2021 International Rally to be held this July 17-24 in Lebanon, TN is still a "go", with over 550 rigs registered to date. There is still time to register and reserve your spot. The 2022 International Rally is scheduled for Fryeburg, ME and it was announced the 2023 Rally is now planned for Yakima, WA. I love how our Int'l Rally moves around the country, providing more opportunities to travel and see this great land. Get out the maps and start planning a trip!

Speaking of planning, your Region Officers are still working on a plan to hold our Region 2 Rally at the York Expo Center in York, PA June 10-13. Concerns regarding the pandemic persist and we are hopeful the release of the vaccines will allow more of our members to feel comfortable to come out and attend. To that end, your local club Presidents joined a Region 2 Zoom meeting I conducted on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the R2 Rally and get some feedback. To successfully plan and hold a safe, enjoyable Rally will take a commitment for participation and cooperation by our local clubs. The expense cannot be borne by only 40 or 50 rigs. We will need about 75 rigs in attendance for it to be feasible, with a reasonable Rally fee to cover expenses. Your local club President will be polling you shortly and looking for an indication of your interest in attending. This Rally will be designed with an eye on current local health protocols and best practices to provide a safe environment, with an emphasis on outdoor activities, meetings, and gatherings. Instead of a rock & roll dance band in the building on Saturday night, think about a 4-piece Bluegrass band under a large, open tent in the late afternoon, a delicious, individually boxed Food Truck meal, and a nice Cream truck! How about a Corn Hole Tournament, with each local club fielding a team? How about a walk around Flea Market, where you post your items outside your own trailer? Group bicycle rides and small group walks or hikes at outdoor attractions in the area are great ways to have fun and stay healthy, regardless of current health concerns. The health and safety of our members is paramount. As I said at the meeting...this is not something we have to do but it is something we want to do. But we need to know if we plan it, you will come! Please give your honest assessment to your local club President when given the opportunity. **Our next R2 Zoom meeting will be held Feb 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.** Invites to local club Presidents will go out soon.

As I reminded everyone at the Zoom meeting, Region 2 will need a 2<sup>nd</sup> VP to step up and join the leadership team, as my term as your President ends this Spring. Please consider volunteering to continue the efforts of these past few years to Renew Region 2. We have made great strides, have able leaders in RJ, Gary, and others on the Executive Committee but we need a full slate by Spring. With so many talented and enthusiastic members, I am confident someone will step forward. Please feel free to call me anytime to discuss what you can do for the Region. Thank you.

Kathi joins me in sending our best regards to all the members of our 15 local clubs in Region 2.

Rich Short

#1512

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**Introducing the Incoming Region 2 President: RJ Marquette**

Hello! My name is RJ Marquette (#13270), and I'm the incoming region 2 president.

I joined WBCCI in 2005 as a member of the Washington, DC Unit, after buying an Airstream B190, a small Class B motorhome made by Airstream between 1989 and 2000. However, this wasn't my first experience with Airstreams or WBCCI, as my parents are also Airstream owners and members of the club (#3270). As a teenager, I attended several Central Pennsylvania Unit rallies in the early 90s with my parents.

I admit I had some hesitation about joining the club after buying my B190, because my impression was that it was entirely old people (hey, I was 30 at the time). But I was convinced to give it a try. It's cliché, but we've gained great friends and have countless great memories with the club. Getting together at a rally is like seeing our second family.

My wife, Erica, and I are both past presidents of the WDCU. To date, we've attended two International rallies, Lewisburg and Doswell, and we're planning to go to Lebanon, Tennessee this summer. We also worked on the survey that was done on the membership in 2017. We have three cats and a dog that travel with us in our 1995 Classic 30' trailer, and I'm working on getting the B190 back into operational condition in my spare time. I'm hoping it'll make an appearance at some club events this year! (I've been saying that for a few years, though.)

I volunteered for the region president office because I wanted to give back to a club that has given me so much. Also, I want to help bring the younger perspective to the larger club. There are many members of WBCCI who are still in the workforce like Erica and I, and I wanted to help make sure we had a voice at the international level.

Speaking of region officers, we're going to need a new region 2 Second Vice President. This is your chance to help shape the club. While it looks like a 6 year commitment, the work doesn't really get going until just before you actually become the region president - until then it's mostly learning what happens and being available for some discussions with the other officers. Our new 2nd VP would serve as region 2 president from 2025 to 2027.

The region has several officers that help keep things running smoothly. I want to thank all of the outgoing officers for their service, and thanks to the people who have agreed to serve another term or who have already volunteered to fill open positions. The list of officers is at the

March 2021 Delmarva Airstream Club 026

end of this message. As you can see I still need a volunteer to write the region 2 newsletters. Please contact me at [rjm1@yahoo.com](mailto:rjm1@yahoo.com) if you are interested!

I also want to thank Richard Short for his help and support in getting me up to speed so quickly, and for his hard work as the region president. In addition to the work he did for our region, Richard was also in charge of implementing the new discounts available for WBCCI members (such as for Goodyear tires), so his contributions will improve the quality of the club for years to come. Thank you from all of us!

Over the next two years we intend to join a rally or other event for every unit in the region, and we're looking forward to meeting you!

Thank you!

--RJ Marquette

Region 2 Officers after installation:

R2 President - RJ Marquette  
R2 1st VP - Gary Russo  
R2 2nd VP - <open>  
R2 Membership - Cody Klinger  
R2 Newsletter - <open>  
R2 Webmaster - Lawrence Northway  
R2 Caravan Coordinator - Kerry Mattila  
R2 Treasurer - Will Kushto

## Getting to know each other

### Member Profile: Deidre Matthews #4529



Photo by Katharine Dowell

**Where are you from originally?** Most of my adult life I lived about an hour north of Philadelphia. After my children became adults, I moved to Delaware for about 5 years before moving to Maryland.

**Where do you live now?** I live just outside of Salisbury, MD going on 11 years.

**What kind of work do or did you do?** In July 2020 I retired from 45 years as a Registered Nurse. Most of that time was spent in hospital-based nursing, but I did spend 8 years working in clinical research at a large pharmaceutical company in PA.

**How long married (if not single)?** I remarried 10 years ago, which is how I ended up in Maryland. My husband is an Eastern Shore native, but does not camp.

**Is the Airstream your first RV?** This is my first RV. I moved up the chain from tent camping (Girl Scouts, concerts) to “vamping” with cycling friends to my current Airstream. Most of my camping has been solo.

**How many Airstreams have you owned?** One.

**Have you been camping/RVing long?** In the past 5 years I have ramped up my camping experience. Prior to that, I only camped very occasionally.

**What prompted the purchase of an Airstream as opposed to something else? 1.)** My uncle had an Airstream in the 1960s. He lived in California. When he would come to visit us (5 kids) he would retreat to his Airstream parked in our driveway. It raised a lot of our suburban neighbors' eyebrows.

**2.)** As I was getting closer to retirement, I was seriously worried about how I was going to spend my time when not working. After attending some RV shows and not being moved by anything in particular, I recalled my uncle and his Airstream. On a whim, I went to look at a used one in North Carolina. I came home, bought a truck and went back to pick it up.

**Where have you traveled in your Airstream?** All of my travel has been within a days travel from home, so far. **Any favorite places?** I really enjoyed Ohiopyle State Park. I see that it is one of the stops as part of the Caravan this year. I hope to travel out west when the COVID restrictions end. Of course, I really, really love camping at both the Delaware and Maryland state parks near the beach.

**Have you attended any major rallies, e.g., Regional, International? Any caravans?** I have attended the Crisfield Rally 2020 with this group, but am looking forward to doing more in the future. I belong to a separate group "Solo Streaming Sisters". This past September there was a Rally at Assateague Island State Park which I attended. We have another rally planned at Edgar Evins State Park (TN) just prior to the big Rally in Tennessee.

**What prompted you to get involved with Airstream Club? How long have you been a member?** Due to my solo camping situation, I felt that I needed to have more knowledge regarding Airstream care and feeding. I joined WBCCI after meeting Roger and Celeste Sansom at Assateague 2-3 years ago. I could see the benefit to being part of a group that still respects individualism. I like people, but have grown to like my solitude. The Airstream community seems to offer the best of both worlds for me.

Thank you, Deidre!

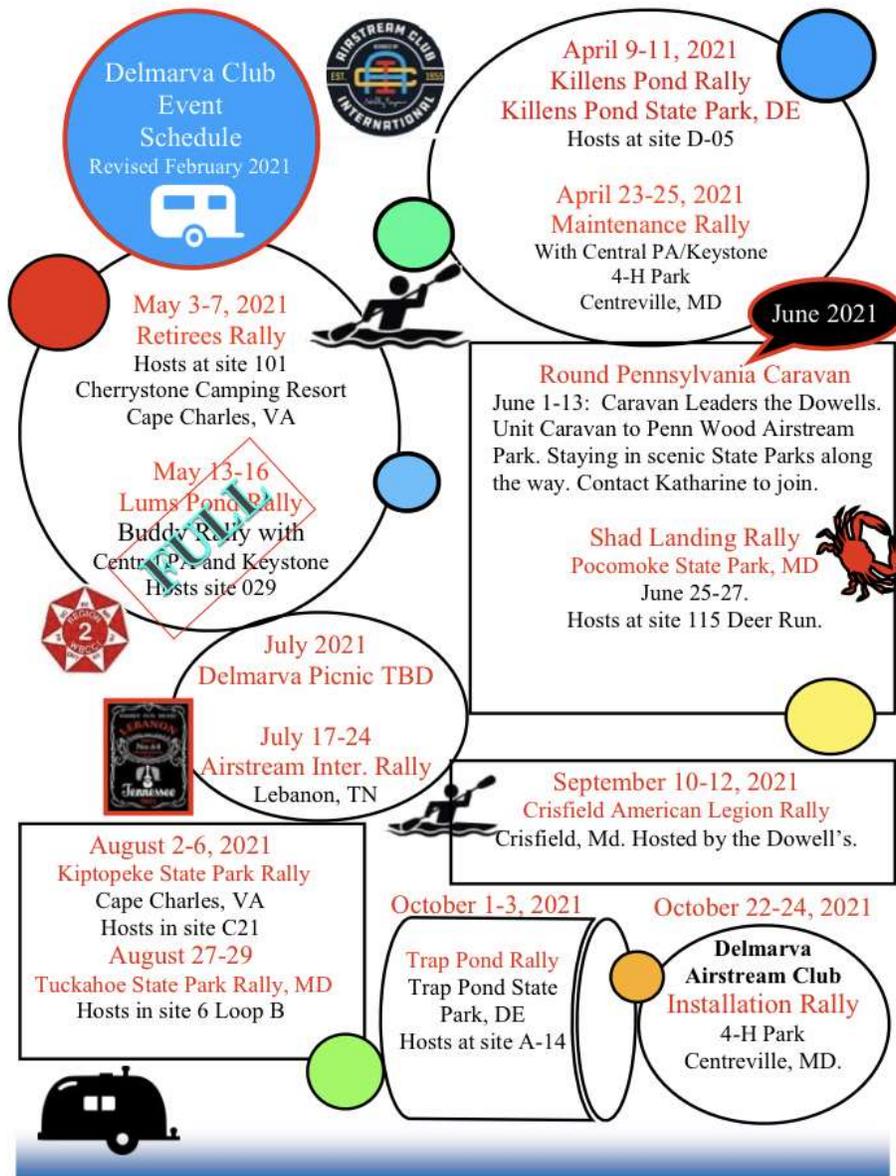
**Members: Please email me if you are willing to be profiled as above either for next month or in a future issue.** Thanks!

## Member Directory

In the email with this newsletter, members only will have received a **draft** membership directory featuring 17 units and their owners. Not intended for public posting or distribution, the directory is intended for members' use only to help us recognize and get to know each other. Our club currently

boasts 42 member units. All I need is a picture from you taken standing in front of your unit or separate pictures of you and then your unit and you can be added, too!

## Club Schedule



**Reminder:** Killens Pond Rally, April 9-11. Our first camping 'get together' of the year.

- o Make your own reservations with the park. Host site is D-05. Please join us!

Please fill out and respond by April 15. Thank you!

Contact #'s: Chuck Helwig 302-270-7618, Malcolm Comstock 302-724-0654



April 23-25, 2021

**Joint Maintenance Rally**

**Delmarva - Keystone - Mid Atlantic**

**4-H Park Centreville, MD**

**Rally Fee: \$65**



**-Rally Fee Includes:**

- Two nights camping with water and electric.
- Dump station available on Sunday
- Dinner Saturday
- \*Following covid protocol we will only be doing one meal. You will have the option of eating in the dinning hall, observing social distancing. Or, picking up your meal and returning to your Airstream to eat.
- Supplies for working on maintenance tasks; torque wrench, propane leak detector, battery tester, fluids, etc. will be provided.

You may also arrive on Thursday, after 1:00 (\$20 extra night fee)

Mail or e-mail the coupon to: [malvermont63@yahoo.com](mailto:malvermont63@yahoo.com), Malcolm Comstock  
570 Banning Rd  
Camden, DE 19934

**Make check payable to: Delmarva Airstream Club**

★ Pay (submit checks) at the Rally. ★

Rally Coupon	
Name(s): _____	Club # _____
Address: _____	
E-mail _____	Cell# _____
Early Arrival Y ___ N ___ Airstream: ( trailer or coach) Length: _____	
Specific maintenance questions or topics you would like covered at the rally.	
_____	
_____	
_____	

The Central Pennsylvania Club invites all Region 2 Club members to join them this Fall:

# Pennsylvania State Rally 2021

Hosted by:



## September 10-12 2021

Centre County Grange Fairgrounds-169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall, PA  
**'Exploring State Parks at the PA Rally'**

The Centre County Grange Fairgrounds offers a great location with many options for visitors. The camping area is large, open and grassy as well as flat. The campsites will have 30amp electrical service with water hookups and are pet friendly. There is a dump station at the entrance of the grounds and a large hall will be available for our use for meals, activities and demonstrations.

The Centre County area offers a great variety of activities for everyone, such as exploring one of the nearby State Park's to go kayaking (rentals available at Bald Eagle State Park), hiking, biking or wildlife watching. You may also enjoy local wine tasting, relaxing while learning at the H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens in the Arboretum at Penn State, or a visit to a local brewery. The Nittany Antique Machinery Assn. fall show (which includes a large flea market, daily tractor parades, antique car & truck displays, antique small engines & garden tractors, tractor pulls, steam tractors, cider press & apple butter) as well as the Outdoors Sportsman's Club gun show will also be held during these dates. America's oldest antique automobile museum, the Swigart Museum may also be of interest or a visit to the largest cavern in PA or America's only all-water cavern. We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity to explore Centre County where great opportunities and fun adventures await!

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_ (Yes)  
WBCCI#: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Camping per night (Water/30amp/dump) \$40 a night X \_\_\_\_\_ nights = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**-You may arrive on Thursday 9/09/21 NO earlier than 3:00 P.M. and must depart by Noon on Monday 9/13/21 a MAX of 4 nights. \*No open flames will be allowed on the fairgrounds**  
**Rally fee includes two breakfasts, catered dinner, 1 night entertainment**  
**Rally Fee per person (Ages 13 & up, under 13 free) \$50 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

RSVP by: August 3, 2021  
Make checks payable to: WBCCI Central PA Airstream Club  
Send Payments To: WBCCI Central PA Airstream Club, C/O Roxann Bare, 3551 Holly Road, Dover, PA 17315  
Contact: [centralpenn164@gmail.com](mailto:centralpenn164@gmail.com) with any questions

## WBCCI International Rally

So far at least 4 Club members have registered for the WBCCI International Rally. Information regarding this year's International Rally, including how to register can be found at this link:

[Lebanon 2021 International Rally | ACI \(airstreamclub.org\)](http://Lebanon 2021 International Rally | ACI (airstreamclub.org))



### Region 2 Luncheon information:

The Region 2 Luncheon will be held on **Wednesday July 21, 12 noon** at the International Rally. Mark your calendars. Registration and menu options to follow.



## Club Officers

President.....Katharine Dowell  
1st Vice President.....Andy Dowell  
2nd Vice President..... vacant  
Recording Secretary.....Donna Field  
Treasurer.....Malcolm Comstock  
Corresponding Secretary..... vacant  
Membership Chair.....Andy Dowell  
Webmaster....Andy Dowell  
Trustees.....Mike Field (1)  
Bob Pullman. Jr. (1)  
Chuck Helwig (2)  
Carolyn Spiezio (2)  
Sunshine Chair.....Mary Ann Parks  
Caravan Chair.....Malcolm Comstock  
Newsletter Editor..... Katharine Dowell, acting

**Reminder: Anyone who wants to serve as newsletter editor or to get more information please email me. It can be a fun and creative task -- I will be glad to work with the new editor to make it as fun and painless as possible.**



All Clip Art from Microsoft Office