



Connecticut



Charter Oak Chatter April 2013



Back In The Day

~ Richard Kushman

You see pictured above a fifth wheel Airstream, a "Home Made" fifth wheel Airstream and not unique. Unbelievably there were two of these conceived, designed, and constructed by Reggie Brown.

Now living full time in Florida at Travelers Rest Resort these former Charter Oak members, Reggie and Jackie Brown, no longer pull a

trailer but when they did - they pulled it Reggie's way.

With a background in the operation of heavy construction equipment Reggie knew how the big boys towed and considered the fifth wheel design easier and safer, but they owned and loved their Airstream - no problem for Reggie.

See The Day page 2

Presidents Message

~ Fran Ingallinera



In the movies, The Bucket List, the question is posed, "Have you found joy?" I thought about that a lot after having seeing the movie. The answer is "Yes! I have". I have found joy in the births of my daughters, the births of my grandchildren and joy in watching them grow.

I have also found joy in owning an Airstream because it has changed and enriched my life. When we purchased our 1975 30 Foot Airstream from Colonel Al Dougherty, our neighbor, in 1993 we had no idea where that purchase would lead us. We initially used the Airstream as a "ski chalet" on weekends at Brodie Mountain in Massachusetts. It was dry camping but we had great fun. The grandkids have great memories of the camping trips we took them on in the Airstream.

See Presidents Message Page 3

Upcoming Events

April 7th 2013

April Luncheon
Tower Ridge Country Club
Juanita Pestretto - Flyer attached

May 3 - 5

Spring Business Meeting
Mineral Springs - Lynn Blackwell

June 7 - 9

Rally Charlie Brown Campground
Mike and Sandy Sasuta



"Doctor, there is a man here who thinks he's invisible." The doctor says, "Tell him I can't see him!"

Ninety two percent of cross-eyed teachers have difficulty controlling their pupils.

Can bald people get a hairline fracture?

"Doctor, I think I'm a bell." The doctor says, "Take these pills, if they don't work, give me a ring."

Question

Sometimes People are
but that's not nice to say
Sometimes Jokes are
with that you can get away
Sometimes Leaders are
sorry, it's said everyday
Sometimes Riddles are
but not this one anyway
Can you guess what "are" is
here's the last clue
it is as it does
I practically gave this one to you!!

Answers Page 5



The Day from page one

Scrap steel from Electric Boat in Groton was cut and welded into a functional fifth wheel hitch for their 1977, 31ft. Sovereign during the summer of 1988 and then again in 1994 on their 1974 25 footer (pictured above). Reggie had no drawings or blueprints but clearly had the vision and skill to create his own style Airstream which, after some debate, was accepted into WBCCI as a legal trailer.

Reggie also designed and built his own fifth wheel receiver for the bed of his Ford F250. The only part he had to buy was the top plate, which accepted the pin. This home made receiver oscillated two ways which at the time made it special. It was eventually donated to Travelers Rest where it sits today.

They "Airstreamed" the country in their head turner and conversation piece until 2005. The Charter Oak Unit was home for these special two of a kind Airstreams and Airstreamers, Reggie and Jackie Brown. ~



Here is the trailer during construction at their Rhode Island home.



Jackie helping as always.



Reggie during construction, getting it level.



Reggie's heavy duty fifth wheel receiver sits at Travelers Rest unused and rusting away.

TR LADIES



Travelers Rest annual ladies only Lunch on Limoges.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



We had visitors at Traveler's Rest in Florida, meeting at the Snack Shack for lunch. It was good to see Ron & Shirley Edmondson along with their daughter Debby and husband Rob. Also in the picture are Dorothy Freed, Reggie and Jackie Brown, Neils and Lydia Rosenbeck, and Sandy Sasuta.

There was a lawyer and he was just waking up from anesthesia after surgery, and his wife was sitting by his side. His eyes fluttered open and he said, "You're beautiful!" and then he fell asleep again. His wife had never heard him say that so she stayed by his side. A couple minutes later his eyes fluttered open and he said "You're cute!" Well, the wife was disappointed because instead of "beautiful" it was "cute." She said "What happened to 'beautiful'?" His reply was "The drugs are wearing off!"



Presidents Message from page 1

The Colonel was a member of WBCCI with the numbers 18081 and he was honored when we asked if we could keep those numbers when we joined. We didn't know anything about the club, paid our dues mainly to receive the Blue Beret and see what it was all about. I must confess we thought the blue berets the members wore were a little hokey. Anne Werth was President of COCU at the time. She called us a few times to ask when we would be attending a rally so she could meet us. We were both working, busy with elderly parents and not really sure we had anything other than the Airstream in common with the folks we saw pictured in the Blue Beret. That all changed in 1999 when we decided to attend a Region One Rally in Point Rouge, Quebec. There we met Winnie and Willie Mangano from the New England Unit and became instant friends. Over the next several years we caravanned with the Manganos to Internationals, the Swiss Festival, Region Rallies and began to take part in the clubs activities and meet the wonderful folks who own Airstreams.

In 2003 we purchased a brand new Airstream at the International Rally in Essex Junction, Vermont. Members of COCU were so excited about our purchase. Many brought us congratulatory gifts. It had been 10 years since we bought the first Airstream and didn't know a soul in the club. Now we had a slew of good friends. Jerry often says, "If you have no friends or family, buy an Airstream, join WBCCI and you'll have both instantly.

I do feel that COCU is like a family. I especially enjoy getting to a rally and being greeted with hugs from everyone. It is such a warm feeling and yes, it gives me joy!

Please support the many activities we have planned with year. Rich Walbridge is working diligently to make the Chocolate Lover's Rally which we are hosting jointly with Cape Cod a big success. You won't want to miss it. Charlie Wilson has been working on the Balloon Rally in Lake George for the past two years and I know that will be a fun time. I hope each of the events we have planned will bring you JOY!

Speaking of joy ,the East Hartford Democratic Town Committee has selected Jerry and I to be the recipients of this year's Democrat of the Year Award. The invitation is in this issue of the Chatter. Anyone wishing to attend can contact Cathie Condio, 860 528-8777. Safe travels, be well. *Fran Ingallinera* 18081 ~



COCU BRUNCH AT THE POND

~ Lynn Blackwell

The Pond House Grille in Glastonbury was the site of a lovely brunch hosted by Gene Hickey and Charlotte LaRocca. In all, nineteen, we enjoyed three special guests: Jacob, the grandson of Jim and Corinne Burnham, a charming two-something, and new members, Jack and Jean Blandford. We enjoyed meeting the Blandfords, they were fun and engaging and Jacob spent close personal time with Jean's charm bracelet. They have a brand new Airstream just percolating in the drive waiting for Spring. The food was good, the company was better, and we look forward to the next luncheon at Tower Ridge!



P.S. The Blandfords have a Hensley Hitch, and I just took a video of Jeff explaining how to hitch up with one. I posted it to You Tube, take a look: <http://youtu.be/3tLdvl1MG84> ~



Region One Rally 2013 Sign Up Now

Registration Form Available on Charter Oak Website Events Page

Charter Oak Members
being honored.



The East Hartford
Democratic Town Committee
Cordially invites you to the
"2013 Democrat of the Year"
Appreciation Dinner

In honor of

Pasquale J. Salemi

And

Salvatore G. & Frances A. Ingallinera

Friday – April 19, 2013

Please "R.S.V.P." by Monday – April 8th

Marco Polo Ristorante
1250 Burnside Avenue
East Hartford, CT

Social Hour – 6:00 p.m.

Dinner – 7:00 p.m.

Reservations - \$50.00 per Person

Paid for by the East Hartford Democratic Town Committee ~ Carol Noel Treasurer

RAFFLES & DOOR PRIZES

The Region One Rally in East Berlin, CT August 8-11, 2013, may seem a long time away, but as you know, time flies. I will be handling raffles & door prizes, so please keep this in mind if you would like to donate something.

Thank you,
Sandy Sasuta

For Sale

1984 Airstream - 31 foot Excella: Rear twin; center bath; awnings all sides; rock guards; catalytic heater; air conditioned; stabilizer jacks. No smoking or pets. Trailer was well maintained and is in excellent condition. Also for sale is a low mileage 1999 Chevrolet Silverado with cap and new tires. Truck is also in excellent condition. Must sell because of poor health. Full towing package; ready to roll. Wish to sell as a package, but will consider selling separately; \$23,000.

Call William - (508) 829-5978

April 2013

Advertising Policy:

We will gladly place your ad in the Chatter for four months. You can extend your ad every four month by notifying the editor.

Did You Know ?

A group of Sharks is called a shiver.
A group of Trout is called a hover.
A group of Bass is called a shoal.

Links

Connecticut Unit Website

<http://connecticut.wbcci.net/>

Cape Cod Unit

<http://capecod.wbcci.net/>

Nice assortment of links

www.airstreamtrailers.com

Region One Website

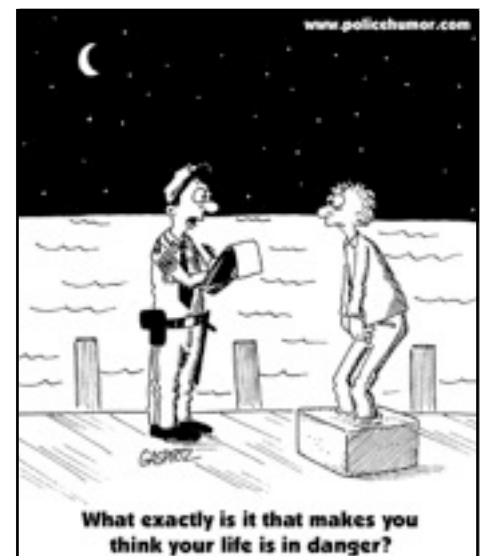
<http://region1.wbcci.net/>

Airstream Life

<http://airstreamlife.com/>

WBCCI

<http://www.wbcci.org/>





April 2013

■ Birthday COCU
■ Anniversary COCU

March 2013							April 2013							May 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Mike Billings	2	3 Cynthia Richard	4	5	6
7 Bob & Bette Lou Pease	8 Barbara Landman	9 Eileen Bartram	10 Karen Olah	11 Bob & Carolyn Barrett	12	13 Dan Olah
14 Dinner Meeting	15	16 Bob Barrett	17	18 Bob Sandall	19 Charlie Wilson	20
21	22	23	24 Franklin Sanders Pam Pestretto	25	26	27 Charles Henschel
28 Charles Petrie	29	30	1 Bard Fuller	2	3 Joyce Rousseau	4

Your getting old when: You think "getting lucky" means you find your car in the parking lot.

May 2013

■ Birthday COCU
■ Anniversary COCU

April 2013							May 2013							June 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Charles Petrie	29	30	1 Bard Fuller	2 Joyce Rousseau	3	4
5 John J. & Serafina M. Bachar	6 Giles Rousseau Brenda Nicholas	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Lorraine Boylan	16 Grace Fuller	17 Raymond Richard	18
19	20 Frank & Donna Cauther	21 John & Grace Fuller William Watts	22	23	24	25
26 Richard & Kathleen Kushman Ted & Lois Price	27	28	29	30	31 Michael & Sandy Sasuta	1 Fred & Dale McCorduck

Answer from page one: Stupid

There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.



COCU Spring Biz Meeting



May 3, 4 and 5, 2013

Mineral Springs Family Campground

Hosts: Lynn & Jeff
Blackwell

35 Leonard Road (860) 684-2993
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3333

SCHEDULE:

Friday: Arrive after noon
6:30 **Dinner:** Pizza from famous Willington Pizza

Saturday: 8:30 **Continental Breakfast:** Danish, yogurt, cereal, Coffee, Tea
10:30 **Business Meeting**
1:00 **Chili Lunch** - Baked Potatoes, Homemade Chili & all the fixings
** \$7.00 per Business Meeting attendee (pay on site)
4:30 **Happy Hour**
6:00 **Souper Supper - 3 different soups + croutons & bread**
7:30 **Dessert & a Movie:** Cookies or Fresh Popcorn

Sunday: 8:30 **Continental Breakfast**

Names: _____ WBCCI #: _____

FAVORITE PIZZA TOPPING / PIZZA TYPE: _____

Fees: **Camping Fees** \$35 x ____ # nights = \$ _____

Friday Yes/No

Saturday Yes/No

Kitty Fee \$20 x ____ # persons = _____

Total Enclosed: (2 ppl x 2 nites 70 + 40 = 110) \$ _____

Payable to: Lynn Blackwell
994 Main Street
S. Glastonbury CT 06073