



# Connecticut



He puzzled and puzzled till his puzzler was sore. - Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before.  
Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. - Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more!

## President's Message

~ Bard Fuller



*Visions of gingerbread are still  
dancing through my head!*

The kick off to this year's Christmas party was a visit to St. George's Episcopal Church in Middlebury where their 48th annual Gingerbread Village was on display. We were all impressed and amazed by these culinary creations that were entirely edible!

A quick jaunt through the quaint village of Middlebury brought us to Juniper's Restaurant where 29 of us enjoyed a very delicious meal. Projected in the background were pictures of various gingerbread creations made by me and as well as others throughout the years. Everyone received a decorated parting gift of a gingerbread cookie in the shape of an Airstream. For more information on these cookies look further into this issue.

Our next event will be in Florida where Sandy Sasuta will be hosting our Region 1 Luncheon in the city of Wesley Chapel. It is scheduled for Thursday February 4th. Kathy and I hope to be there to see all you Florida Snowbirds.

I am actively encouraging people to sign up for the Newport, RI, rally scheduled for mid May. Newport is always a popular location and we have limited access to sites so sign up soon!!! For detailed information refer to the November issue of the Chatter. The flier for this rally is attached to the end of this issue.

Thanks to Mike Sasuta we have been able to secure the exclusive use of the Franklin County Fairground in Greenfield, MA, for our rally site the last weekend in July. Please note this is a change from last month's published calendar. We now have the opportunity to visit the northern Pioneer Valley area with all of its attractions. The caravan departing from this rally site will have a one night stay on the banks of the Connecticut River in Orford, NH. The next two nights will be just outside of Sherbrooke, Quebec. Gilles Rousseau assures us there is plenty to see and do in this area. This will put us in Montmagny, Quebec, for the Region 1 Rally on Wednesday. This will allow us one full day to enjoy old town Quebec City before the rally meetings start. C'est Bon! (Gilles, I need help with my French). ~

**"Merry Christmas to All"**



## Question

- 1) Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer made his first appearance in 1939, in a story that was written to:
- A) Advertise a new brand of light-bulb
  - B) Be read on a Christmas radio broadcast
  - C) Entertain the author's sick daughter
  - D) Promote a department store
- Answer page 7





## Gingerbread House Display St. George's Episcopal Church, Middlebury CT



*Visiting this delightful creative display truly sparked everyone's Christmas spirit. What a wonderful way to fundraise for the church. Then on to a very pleasant setting and a tasty lunch at Juniper's Restaurant.*



# Merry Christmas





We look forward to hearing all about it plus pictures.

**MARIE LUPIEN** had back surgery on November 9<sup>th</sup> and is still having pain issues. Please keep her in mind along with **RICH WALBRIDGE** who is dealing with health problems and **DOTTIE** his helping angel.

**NIELS ROSENBECK** was featured in the display board at the Post Office at Travelers Rest in Florida...such carving talent! See photos.

On a sad note, one of our former members, **FRAN ECKELS**, passed away on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We send our sincere condolences to Maureen and all of the family.

**REMINDER:** There is no January Chatter so I'll be talking to you in February. Safe travels! ~

We are so happy that **BARD & KATHY FULLER** have agreed to be President and First Lady again for 2016! The schedule of activities for next year looks great..... be sure to sign up and join the fun.

Welcome to our new affiliate member, **GAIL RICH**, from Guilford, CT. Hope to meet you at an upcoming event.

Heard that **TONI NOLDER** has taken a trip to Antarctica.



Nice display of Niel's carving talent.

## NUMBSKULL Reflections

~ Anonymous

We were at a joint rally, let's just say *somewhere* to maintain a cloak of anonymity. During happy hour while enjoying a rather pleasant chianti one of our friends mentioned he was selling his Airstream and would I like

to see it? My curiosity was aroused and I definitely wanted a peek so I carefully followed his directions and walked around a large building to a field of shiny Airstreams, one of which was on the market.

After opening the door, poking around, looking in the refrigerator, checking the cabinets and sliding open the drawers a surprisingly calm voice simply said "may I help you?". This is when I suddenly needed to sit down - but I didn't, when my face felt warm and red - which it was, and I thought, *is this the wrong trailer?* - YOU BETCHA.

**Ed. Postscript .....**

*The NS reflection above is a clear reminder of a long ago giggle moment shared jointly by the author and the team navigator mentioned in the November Chatter - remember her?*

Returning to the SUV from a terrific swimming hole, at the Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park, the chatty duo climbed into the car and were immediately alarmed to find a mother with young children sitting in their ride. The brain bulb did not light up until after they accusingly leveled a question, "*what are you all doing in this car?*" *Bingo* - time to leave graciously, apologize, beg forgiveness, calm the children, and slink away while searching for another and appropriate gray Yukon XL. ~

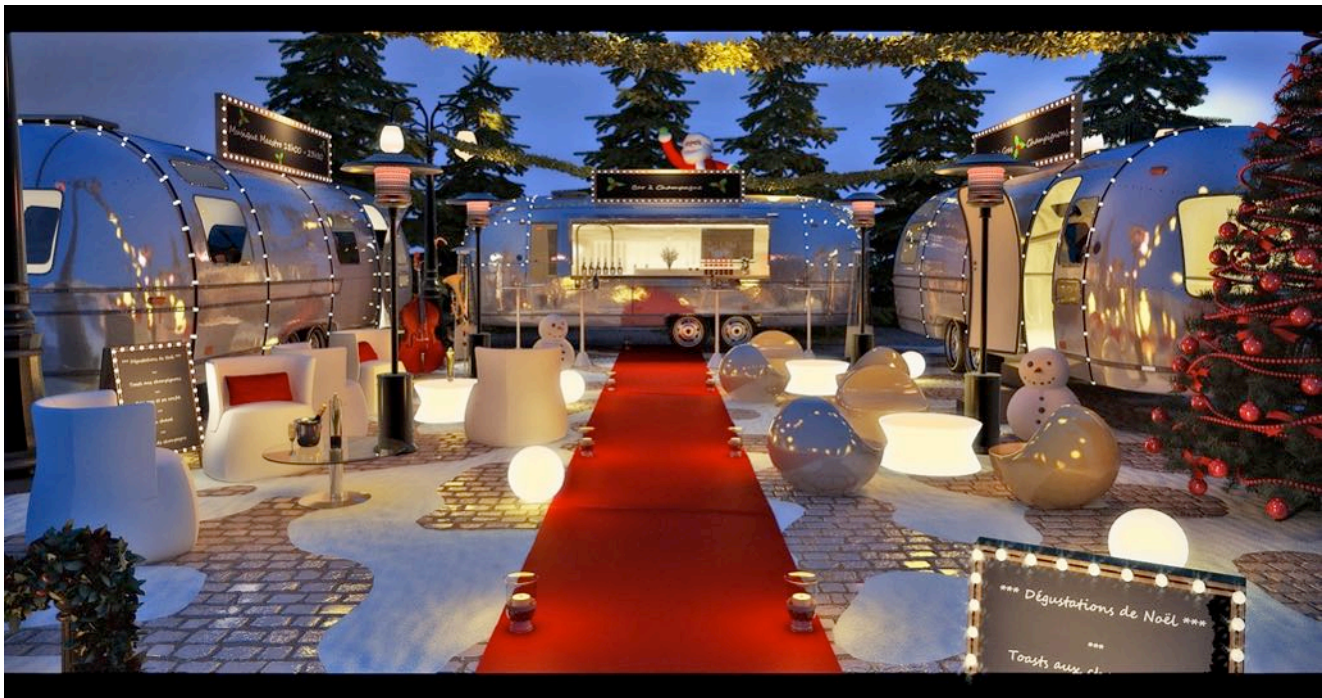


## COOKIE...COOKIE...COOKIE

Several of you folks at the Christmas Party wanted to know more about the Airstream cookies that I made up as party favors. The cookie cutter is available online from Jackson Center at the Airstream Store. You will find it for \$6.95 + shipping. The two axles are a bit skewed to the back of the pattern so I cut off the rear wheel from the cookie dough allowing me to move the two axles forward. The perimeters of the baked cookies are piped with a moderately stiff royal icing then flooded (filled in) with royal icing that has been thinned by a wee bit of water. The silver metallic color is achieved by painting a thin wash of a mixture of a very small amount of culinary silver dust with vodka. Within a few moments the alcohol evaporates off. The holly leaves and berries are a Wilton product found at Walmart or any craft store. Bon Appetit, ~ Bard



Everyone attending the dinner received a hand made Gingerbread Airstream created by Bard and Kathy. Showing remarkable attention to detail they even had one triple axle unit for Rich & Kath K. #1442.



## Bard's Good, Bad, and Bizarre Airstreams

In Belgium for your office Christmas party your boss can contract to bring the party to your place of business. This party setting comes complete with a Christmas tree, musicians, cocktail tables, exterior heating and of course three Airstreams one of which is a completely stocked bar. I dreaming of a Silver Christmas!!!





## "MOVIN", on UP"

I've been asked, "Do I still write poems from time to time?"  
My memory is not as it was, and therefore someone has to remind

"What have I done and where have I been?"  
Because I tend to forget, and excuses wear thin.

Let's see, what has happened that would make a verse?  
Perhaps I should ask Ted?- Oh, no - that would be worse!

About a year ago we bought a house - downsizing as they say.  
Fifty years of treasures had to be packed or given away.

The new place was just down the road from where we used to be  
But still near friends and neighbors that we used to see.

Right after we moved Ted decided to test Rocky Hill's "911"  
(Three times in one week - it was not much fun.

But at least we now know the police know where we are  
And they can quickly get to us - we're not very far.

It was nice to know that a stretcher fits through the front door and down the hall  
Just in case it becomes necessary to call!

As Ted spent some R&R "away from the house"  
I was free to pack, unpack, clean and shop then be off to the hospital to visit my spouse.

One day before making "the Trip"  
I went to take some things to the basement and almost "flipped"!

There to my wondering eyes did appear  
A cellar full of water up to the bottom of the stairs.

The water was so deep with many things floating  
Enough gallons contained if I wanted to go boating.

If we had wanted a pool in which to swim  
We certainly wouldn't have put it in the basement and filled it to the brim!

All went well until the day we flew "South"  
When under the kitchen sink appeared yet another trough!

We just turned off the water and soaked up the mess  
The "H" with it - enough stress!

All seems to be well except for a dishwasher that washes the floor.  
But life is good and who could ask for anything more?

~ Lois Price



Poem Time

A strange hat on Lois is not really new  
You must admit we've seen quite a few  
Donned with abandon and visible pride  
Thou others may search for someplace to hide  
She brings to our club laughter and glee  
As clearly above she is wearing a tree.  
~ RK



"Well, well ... 'Merry Christmas to the curviest secretary in the entire Eastern Branch office!'"



Could not resist another look at the  
COCU 2008 Christmas dinner.



We think he's real, gosh maybe he's not  
But Santa's our friend and we love him a lot  
He streams through the air in his own special way  
His big silver RV looks like a sleigh  
Rushing and laughing his cheeks rosy red  
Hey - just a damn minute - isn't that Ted?  
~ RK



## 2016 Charter Oak Calendar

Feb 4	<b>Region 1 Florida West Coast Luncheon</b> (joint with all Region 1 units) Asian Buffet Wesley Chapel, FL Sandy Sasuta
March TBA	<b>Connecticut Luncheon</b> Glastonbury, CT / Jeff & Lynn Blackwell / Gene Hickey & Charlotte LaRocca
May 13-15	<b>"Experience Newport" Rally</b> (joint with Cape Cod) Melville Ponds Campground Portsmouth, RI Bard & Kathy Fuller (COCU) / Wayne Rocheleau & Sarah Nelson (CCU)
June 3-5	<b>"Lobsters at the Marina" Rally</b> ----- Spring Business Meeting Portland Riverside Marina Portland, CT Bard & Russ Fuller (COCU)
June 24- July 4	<b>International WBCCI Rally</b> Lewisburg, WV
TBA	<b>Region One Luncheon</b> Lewisburg, WV Ernie & Madaline Bauer
July 15-17	<b>Lake Waramaug Rendezvous</b> New Preston, CT John & Serafina Bachar
July 29-31	<b>Tri-state River Rally &amp; "Migrating North Caravan"</b> (joint with Cape Cod) Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA Mike & Sandy Sasuta
July 31-Aug 3	<b>"Migrating North Caravan"</b> Richard Kushman, Gilles & Joyce Rousseau, Larry Lamontagne, Bob & Ruth Scott One Night at Orford, NH Two Nights at Compton QC before reaching the Region One Rally
Aug 3-7	<b>Snow Goose Rally – Region One Rally – Quebec City</b> Montmagny, QC WBCCI Quebec Unit
Aug 26-28	<b>"Water-Fire"(tentative) Providence - The Renaissance City Rally</b> (joint with NE Unit) Holiday Acres Family Campground North Scituate, RI Bard & Kathy Fuller (COCU) / Doug Hart (Tentative) (NEU)
Sept 23- 25	<b>Norman Rockwell Museum Rally</b> Woodland Hills Campground Austerlitz, NY Bill & Evie Watts (COCU)
Oct 16 (Tentative)	<b>Installation Luncheon</b> ----- fall business meeting Manchester Country Club Manchester, CT Jim & Corinne Burnham
Dec 4	<b>Holiday Luncheon</b> TBA / TBA

Next







## DECEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

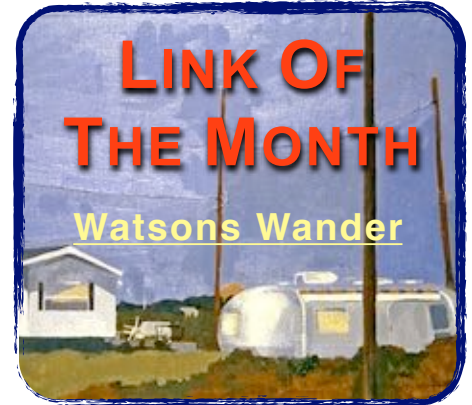
12/12	Charlotte LaRocca
12/13	Sandra Flood
12/15	Gale Lake
12/19	Robert Moyer
12/21	Kris Fletcher
12/23	Ray & Barbara Landman
12/26	Philip & Frances Simmons
12/28	Fred & Susan Newman

## FOR SALE

Keep your rig on the road with a super tire monitor. This is the newer digital version and works like a charm.

Doran 360rv TPM + 4 tire monitors  
(all like new)  
New cost w/tax \$320.00  
Selling for \$170.00

Charlie Wilson 203-240-3019



## LINK OF THE MONTH

Watsons Wander



## NO CHATTER IN JANUARY

## For Sale

Contact Bob Henschel 860-274-3768  
One brand new Catalytic Heater,  
"Still in the box, never used". Brand  
Name: "CAT" was \$350.00, selling  
for \$200.00

2 Strap on trailering mirrors,  
excellent condition/selling for \$50.00  
for the pair.

4 Zip Dee Blue & Silver folding chairs  
with 4 leg extensions/excellent  
condition/selling for \$200.00 for all 8

## FOR SALE

1970 Airstream 25' Caravanner,  
Exterior refinished by P&S in Ohio.  
Rock guards, awning, Fantastic Fan,  
Catalytic Heater, A/C, and  
Microwave....includes all trailering  
equipment. Contact Bob Henschel  
860-274-3768

## JANUARY

### BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

01/03	John Fuller
01/13	Charles "Rick" & Beth Petrie
01/16	Howard M. Knight
01/16	Jerry Ingallinera
01/18	Jane Sanders
01/20	Jerry & Fran Ingallinera
01/21	Guy Weik
01/24	Audrey White
01/24	Ronald Nicholas
01/24	Lianne Rutty

## FEBRUARY

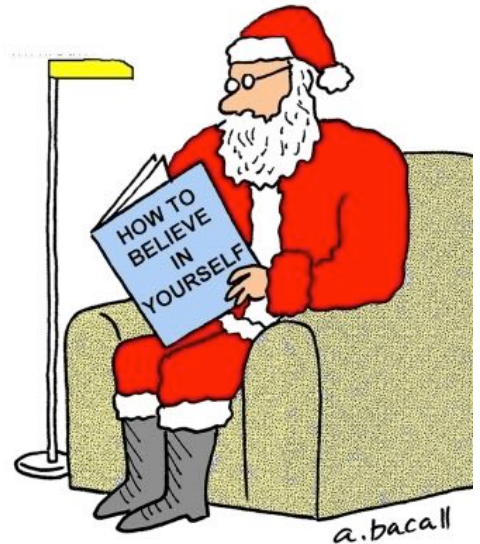
### BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

02/01	Ray Landman
02/01	Susan Newman
02/04	John J. Bachar
02/13	David Levinson
02/13	Gene Hickey
02/16	Leila Clark
02/20	Lynn Blackwell
02/21	Michael Sasuta
02/25	Val Galasyn
02/27	Sandi Gould

## FOR SALE

1999 34'  
Limited  
with Hensley  
hitch.

Call Ted  
(860)  
841-2604



## LINKS

Connecticut Unit Website:.....<http://connecticut.wbcci.net/>  
Cape Cod Unit:.....<http://capecod.wbcci.net/>  
Nice assortment of links:.....[www.airstreamtrailers.com](http://www.airstreamtrailers.com)  
Region One Website:.....<http://region1.wbcci.net/>  
Airstream Life:.....<http://airstreamlife.com/>  
WBCCI:.....<http://www.wbcci.org/>

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### Answer from page One:

D) Promote a department store

The story was written by Robert L. May, the advertising editor of the Montgomery Ward department store chain. His four-year-old daughter picked the name Rudolph. May's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, later turned it into the now-familiar song, which was popularized by singer Gene Autry in 1949.



“America's First Resort”

“Sailing Capital of the World”

“New England's Ultimate Weekend Destination”

**May 13-15, 2016**

## Cape Cod Massachusetts & Charter Oak Connecticut Units

**Hosts: Bard & Kathy Fuller / Wayne Rocheleau & Sarah Nelson**

**Melville Ponds Campground** (5 miles to Newport): 181 Bradford Avenue, Portsmouth, Rhode Island  
30 Amp Electric, Water, Dump Station, Off season rates, Pet friendly (Rabies Certificate Required)

**Program:** 2 hot breakfasts provided / Saturday Soup Potluck (hosts providing salad, bread & dessert) /  
Happy Hours / Campfire (weather permitting) / “Experience Newport” at your convenience

**Reservations:** Book campsite directly with Campground @ \$38 /night (401) 539-7011 (winter phone)  
Limited Sites Available or (401) 682-2424 after April 1.

Tell them you are with “The Airstream Group”

**Then send coupon below to Bard Fuller** bardfuller@hotmail.com, Kitty fee & site number if available

**Directions: Northbound:** 4.7 miles north on Route 114 from the intersection of Routes 114 and 138. Then  
½ mile west on Stringham Road and ½ mile north on Sullivan Road to entrance. **Southbound:** 1.7 miles south on  
Route 114 from the intersection of Routes 24 and 114. Then ½ mile west on Stringham Road and ½ mile north on  
Sullivan Road to entrance.

\*\*\*\*\*

**“Experience Newport Rally”**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ WBCCI # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Site Number (if available) \_\_\_\_\_ [Kitty Fee = \$9 /person] Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$9 = \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to: **Bard Fuller, 36 Panorama Dr., Southington, CT 06489**