



Coming Events

March 4, 2012

Spring Luncheon
Pond House Grill
Glastonbury, CT 11:00 AM
Lynn Blackwell & Charlotte
LaRocca

April 2012

TBA
Call Jim—Plan an event!

May 4 - 6

Business Meeting
Mineral Springs Campground
Stafford Springs, CT
Blackwells & Burnhams

July 6 - 8

Yankee Doodle Rally
Charlie Brown Campground
Eastford, CT 06242
Jerry & Fran Ingallinera
Mark & Marie Lupien

Question

What grows down,
when it grows up?

Answer Page 2

Links

Connecticut Unit Website

<http://connecticut.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/>

Presidents Message

Looking forward to Spring!



February 2012

Jim Burnham

Feb, 2012 and we are looking forward to the coming season, winter is on it's way out, and we are ready for warm temperatures.

We had a very nice gathering, with a fun group of 19 at our luncheon this past Sunday the 5th of February at the Nutmeg Restaurant. We were pleased to meet the very nice Gail and Mike Billings, new members, so be sure to say hello and give them a warm welcome at our rallies.

Still looking for a historian for our club. If interested please give me a call.

Fear not in taking on a dinner, a rally, or a position on the board. I have found a most valuable resource in our people and when asking for a

hand, no one has ever said no.

Memory Lane:

The Burnham's first rally in 1998 was Hammonasset State Park (dry camping) and we went with no water. Don't know what I was thinking.

I didn't want to say anything but I mentioned it to Mike Sasuta and within a short time there were 8 hoses linked together to solve our problem. I always knew from that point we were in good hands.

Don't forget March's dinner meeting at the Pond House Grill. Always great food.

Think Spring ! ~

WEST COAST REGION ONE LUNCHEON

~ Lois Price

Russ and Cynthia Melocik, Region President with Raymond and Cynthia Richard, Incoming Region One President and First Lady, hosted a Region One luncheon on February 1st at the Buffet City in Brooksville, FL. Forty-two "Streamers" attended making the luncheon a big success. The food was varied and bountiful; everyone, friendly and "chatty"!

Special guests were introduced, Jo Jugel, International Secretary and her husband Karl, Metro Unit President Mark Hammer and his wife, new Associate Members Ray and Barbara Landman. It was also nice to have Kathy Kushman's sister, Eleanor with us as well.



To all who were a part of this special event, thank you for your support; for those who were unable to be with us, -- maybe next year!

I will leave you with these words of wisdom found in my Fortune Cookie: "Life is a play. it's not its length, but its performance that counts." -- figure it out! ~



Where Did That Come From

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London, which used to have a gallows adjacent to it. Prisoners were taken to the gallows, (after a fair trial of course) to be hung.

The horse drawn dray, carting the prisoner, was accompanied by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like "ONE LAST DRINK".

If he said YES, it was referred to as "ONE FOR THE ROAD"

If he declined, that prisoner was "ON THE WAGON"

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot & then once a day it was taken & sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were, "Piss Poor", but worse than that, were the really poor folk, who couldn't even afford to buy a pot, they "Didn't have a pot to Piss in" & were the lowest of the low.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain, because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500's:

Most people got married in June, because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June.

However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers, to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today, of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water.. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water!"

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top, afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

Continued: Come From Page 5

Answer Page 1

A Goose

"If you die in an elevator, be sure to push the Up button." ~ Sam Levenson

After Christmas

~ Submitted by Fran Ingallinera

Written by a third grader, on what his grandparents do.

After Christmas, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school. One child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa. They used to live in a big brick house, but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida. Now they live in a tin box that has wheels, but its strapped to the ground. They ride around on their bicycles, and wear name tags, because they don't know who they are anymore. They go to a building called a wreck center, but they must have got it fixed because it is all okay now, they do exercises there, but they don't do them very well. There is a swimming pool too, but they all just jump up and down in it with hats on. At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out, and go cruising in their golf carts. Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And, they eat the same thing every night - early birds. Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house. The ones who do get out, bring food back to the wrecked center for pot luck. My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and, says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too. When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out, so they can visit their grandchildren.

.....PRICELESS!

SAVE YOUR MONEY

HDMI Cables range greatly in price.

Examples from Best Buy:

Startech - 6 ft HDMI High Speed with Ethernet Cable HDMI to Micro HDMI - Black— \$12.24

AudioQuest - 6.6' HDMI Cable - Brown/Black— \$695.99

Leo Laporte, "The Tech Guy", points out HDMI cables deliver a digital signal which is either on or off. He points out that the performance of a \$2.00 cable vs a \$1900.00 cable will be equal. You can buy a 15 ft. cable on Amazon for \$3.99 or 2 ft. for \$1.61 and there are many other on-line vendors with reasonable prices.

Yes someone actually markets a near \$2000.00 HDMI cable proving P.T. Barnum correct.

See "P. T. Barnum Never Did Say" page 3.

P. T. Barnum Never Did Say - "There's a Sucker Born Every Minute"

~ By R. J. Brown - Editor-in-Chief - Historybuff.com

P. T. Barnum is most often associated with the circus sideshow and the display of freaks. While this is true, he is also the founding force behind one of America's most famous circuses: Barnum & Bailey Circus. Barnum is also affiliated with the famous quote "There's a sucker born every minute." History, unfortunately, has misdirected this quotation. Barnum never did say it. Actually, it was said by his competitor. Here's the incredible story.

From 1866 until 1868 Mr. George Hull, of Binghamton, New York studied archeology and paleontology. Over this period of time Hull contemplated how to pull off a hoax. It seems that many an evangelist at the time had been preaching that there were giants in the earth. In June of 1868 Hull traveled back to Fort Dodge, Iowa where there was a gypsum quarry he had recalled seeing two years earlier. Even then, he had noticed that the dark blue streaks running through the soft lime rock resembled human veins. Realizing this its appearance was tailor-made for his hoax and it was easy to carve, Hull hired a group of quarry workers to cut off a slab measuring twelve feet long, four feet wide and two feet thick.

In November, Hull had his gypsum wrapped in canvas and hoisted onto a wagon. Since the nearest railroad was forty miles away, it proved to be a long, difficult job. He then had the slab of gypsum shipped by rail to Chicago where he had hired a stone cutter named Edward Burghardt to carve a giant. Burghardt and his two assistants, were sworn to secrecy and agreed to work on the piece in a secluded barn during their off hours and Sundays. The instructions were to carve the giant as if it had died in great pain, and the final result was an eerie figure, slightly twisted in apparent agony, with his right hand clutching his stomach. All of the details were there; toenails, fingernails, nostrils, sex organs and so forth. Even a needlepoint mallet was used to add authentic-looking skin pores. When the carving was done, sulfuric acid and ink were used, possibly smudged like printer ink, to make the figure look aged.

The giant finished, Hull then had the figure shipped by rail to the farm of William Newell, his cousin, located near the town of Cardiff, New York. In the dead of night, Hull, Newell and his oldest son buried the giant between the barn and house. They were instructed to say nothing about it and that Hull would let them know in about a year of what the next stage was.

Luckily, about six months later, on another farm near the Newell's, some million year-old fossil bones were dug up. Newspapers around the country reported the finding. Hull was filled with glee in reading the accounts.

True to his word, one year after burying the giant, Hull sent word to his cousin on October 15, 1869, to start the next stage of the hoax. Newell hired two laborers to dig a new well near his home. Newell directed them to the exact spot he wanted the well dug and went back into the house to wait -- anxiously. Sure enough, well into the day, the two laborers rushed up to the house to announce their discovery: a giant turned to stone! The laborers and both Newells carefully excavated the area surrounding the giant.

News of this amazing discovery spread throughout the valley and soon wagon loads of neighbors streamed into Newell's farm to see the giant. By mid-afternoon, Newell erected a tent around the "grave" and started charging 25 cent admission. Two days later, the Syracuse Journal (New York) printed an article about the discovery. Being greedy, Newell raised the price to 50 cents, and a stage coach company made four round trips a day from Syracuse to the Newell farm. Thousands came every day. Among the visitors were clergymen, college professors and distinguished scientists. Before long, the expert's opinions split into two theories; one side claimed it was a true fossilized human giant and the other side pronounced it an authentic ancient statue. No one asserted that it was a fake!

About ten days after the discovery, and about the time the Cardiff Giant, as the papers had named it, started receiving national attention, Hull sold two-thirds interest in the giant for \$30,000 to a five-man syndicate in Syracuse, the head of which was a banker



The Cardiff Giant on display at the Bastable in Syracuse, NY circa 1869

Never did say page 4



Thoughts and Cares

Jessie Gould

Recipes

CROCK POT CHICKEN

~ The Melociks

Chipped Beef	Line the bottom of crock-pot with a
Sour Cream	package of chipped beef. Roll up thin
Boneless Chicken	slices of boneless chicken breast and
Breast	wrap each with a slice of bacon. Lay
Cream of Chicken/	each on top of the chipped beef. Mix 3
Mushroom Soup	T flour with 1/3 C sour cream. Add a
Sliced Bacon	can soup and ½ soup can of milk. Pour
Flour	over chicken. Cook at lowest heat all
Milk	day. Hint: Serves great with boiled
	rice, green leafy veggie and toast bread.

Sudbury School Cake

~ Marie Lupien

3 cups flour	Blend dry ingredients.
2 cups sugar	Add oil, vanilla, vinegar; mix well.
2 tsp baking soda	Add cold water and mix well.
1 tsp salt	Pour into a 9x13 inch pan.
6 TBS cocoa	
3/4 cup oil	Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.
2 tsp vanilla	(may be mixed in pan you will bake in)
2 TBS vinegar	
2 1/2 cups	Note: No eggs.
cold water	

"NEW" ADVENTURES WITH BUCK RIVET

~ by Russ Melocik

Chapter One

When we last heard from Buck and his bride, Wrigley Field, they and their 16' Bambi were struggling with a 2-horse hitch in 3' of mud – like the thin oatmeal-like quicksand we remember from the Tarzan movies – trying to reach Rivet Haven, Bambi's ancestral home. All they wanted was a dry spot, a welcoming fire and something to eat. Unfortunately, they found none of these. For as they were inching those last few steps toward the security gate, Buck accidentally brushed against the "Do Not Touch This Button" button. He, Wrigley, the horses and Bambi were immediately cast into a parallel universe where all that is good goes bad and all that is bad gets worse. So there we leave Buck for a while with two horses on their backs with hoofs shooting to the dark sky, a heavily oxidized Bambi that leaks like a sieve and the once beautiful Wrigley now laden with adipose tissue and horrible with warts, giant arthritic knuckles, knotted hair and a nose with three nostrils. Of course, this being an almost true story, Buck came through the transformation without a hitch.

...to be continued

Watch for the continuing saga of Buck and his "pulchritudinous" Wrigley.

NOTICE

Howard & Carolyn Knight have paid their 2013 dues and made a very generous donation to the Charter Oak Club of \$50.00.

Thank you Howard & Carolyn!!

Never did say from page 3 named David Hannum. The syndicate moved the giant to an exhibition hall in Syracuse and raised the admission price to a dollar a head. Unknown to them, P. T. Barnum sent an agent to see the giant and make an assessment. The particular Sunday the representative saw the giant, the crowds were abnormally large -- about 3,000 people. The agent wired the news back to Barnum and Barnum instructed him to make an offer of \$50,000 to buy it. Hannum turned his offer down.

The Cardiff Giant was the most talked about exhibit in the nation. Barnum wanted the giant to display himself while the attraction was still a hot topic of the day. Rather than upping his offer, Barnum hired a crew of workers to carve a giant of his own. Within a short time, Barnum unveiled HIS giant and proclaimed that Hannum had sold Barnum the original giant and that Hannum was now displaying a fake! Thousands of people flocked to see Barnum's giant. Many newspapers carried the version that Barnum had given them; that is, Hannum's giant was a fake and Barnum's was authentic. It is at this point that Hannum -- NOT BARNUM -- was quoted as saying "There's a sucker born every minute." Hannum, still under the impression that HIS giant was authentic, was referring to the thousands of "fools" that paid money to see Barnum's fake and not his authentic one.

Hannum brought a lawsuit against Barnum for calling his giant a fake. When it came to trial, Hull stepped forward and confessed that the Cardiff Giant was a hoax and the entire story. The judge ruled that Barnum could not be sued for calling Hannum's giant a fake since it was a fake after all. Thereafter, Hannum's name was lost to history while Barnum was left with the misplaced stigma of being the one to say "There's a sucker born every minute." ~

Come From From Page 2

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt Poor." The wealthy had slate floors, that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing.

As the winter wore on, they added more thresh, until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence: a thresh hold. (Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle, that always hung over the fire. Every day, they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight, then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot, nine days old".

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon, to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, "Bring home the Bacon." They would cut off a little, to share with guests and would all sit around talking and "Chew the fat".

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning & death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided, according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "The Upper Crust".

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination, would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road, would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of "Holding a Wake".

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So, they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, thread it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell.

Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night, (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, "Saved by the Bell " or was considered a "Dead Ringer"

And that's the truth.

Now, whoever said history was boring !!!

IMPORTANT NOTE

Sign up now for the Region One 2012 Rally. The campground is reserving all sites for the rally but only until May 11th. Flyer is included with the Chatter or can be obtained on line. It's gunna be good, it's gunna be fun, and there are no tornedoes in New Hampshire.



I have a Thousand Trails Membership that my father (Milford Good, WBCCI #4699) left me when he passed away in 2006. We have not used it enough to justify keeping it, so we are offering it for sale. If interested, please contact us.



Paul or Judy Good
(WBCCI #29883)
Phone (808) 396-6767
Hawaii time zone -5hrs
from East Coast
pajbg@me.com

We've heard that a million monkeys at a million keyboards could produce the complete works of Shakespeare; now, thanks to the Internet, we know that is not true.

~ Robert Wilensky

Chatter Staff

Editor - Richard Kushman
rich.kath@snet.net
Info Center - Sandy Sasuta
sandysas1001@gmail.com
Contributing Editor - Lois Price
tedprice73@gmail.com
Printing - Joyce Rousseau
joycezf68@gmail.com
Photography - Gilles Rousseau
grous45@gmail.com
Proof Reader - Kathleen Kushman

50 Years Celebrated

We celebrated Jerry & Fran's 50th wedding anniversary at Travelers Rest. The Sasutas and Kushmans organized a surprise pot luck party which was well attended by friends of "Saint" Frannie and Jerry and there were many Charter Oak members present. Daughters Cathrine and Carole made a special trip to Florida just to be here for the excitement.

Frannie treated us to a couple interesting and entertaining stories from long ago. One story involved a Christmas sleep over, two aunts, one bed, Frannie in

the middle, and the longest night ever. The other story was previously published in the Chatter and for those of you who remember it and perhaps doubted its veracity, Frannie confirmed the details with a delightful smile. ~RK



More photos available on the club website.



Love is one long sweet dream, and marriage is the alarm clock.

A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance, and tenacity. The order varies for any given year.

A Weekend with Fran and Jerry - A True Story

~ Richard Kushman

A sweet spring breeze gently filled the motel room. They were snuggled and lost in sleepy dreams during a much needed holiday – then suddenly terror. Pop pop pop – the sound of battle, incoming rounds, not Hawai Five O but real and threatening.

He immediately rolled off the bed and hit the deck, instinctively putting his soldier training to use. Protect your territory, protect your bride, keep her safe. She joins him crawling on the floor suddenly gripped with fear. "Keep your head down Frannie!" he commands while beads of panic form and begin to drip. Training habits take over, keep low, use the elbow crawl, make Patton proud. Quick, bring the phone down, hug the rug, call the police. Both now staying below the line of fire waiting for Harry to make their day.

The knock comes and the image of a hooded, drooling, drug crazed essence of evil slips through his warrior brain a split second before a grinning Police Officer, fully armed and ready for action, asks - "You folks from the city?" ... How could he know? ... "Them June bugs zipping at the screens sure do make a pinging racket." June bugs? Not steel jacketed puffs of death? The rush of adrenalin bleeds away leaving weak knees and the sudden realization that the entire police force of a quaint coastal New England town will soon have a great story and a laugh, more than a laugh, a cachinnation, a rip roaring belly tumbler and not just that night but for a long long time. ~

February 2012

Birthdays Anniversaries Events




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Ray Landman	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 John J. Bachar
5 Richard Griffin	6	7	8	9	10 Pat Brosnahan	11
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 Gene Hickey David Levinson	14  Valentine's Day	15	16 Leila Clark	17	18
19	20 President's Day Lynn Blackwell	21 Michael Sasuta	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25 Val Galasyn
26	27 Sandi Gould	28 Leslie Siek	29			

What is a committee? A group of the unwilling, picked from the unfit, to do the unnecessary. ~ Richard Harkness

If there are no stupid questions, then what kind of questions do stupid people ask? Do they get smart just in time to ask questions? ~ Scott Adams

March 2012

Birthdays Anniversaries Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Laura Edmondson Corinne Burnham Carolyn Barrett	2	3
4 Club Luncheon	5	6 Juanita Pestretto	7	8 Mike & Gail Billings Lydia Rosenbeck	9	10
11  Sandy Eglise	12 Rosalie Jefferson	13	14	15 Jessie Gould	16	17  St. Patrick's Day Rhona Fuller Clarence & Jessie Gould
18	19	20  Spring Arrives	21 Roger Crockett Frances Simmons	22 Ruth Crockett Kim Terry	23 Rich Walbridge Leland Bradley	24 Michael Siek
25 Stephen Kelly	26	27	28	29	30	31



WBCCI: Charter Oak Connecticut

Join Us for Spring Brunch - March 4, 2012

Pond House Grille
2935 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033
860-657-4527

Please send check to:
Charlotte LaRocca
P.O. Box 113
S. Glastonbury CT 06073
(860) 633-8157

11:00 - 12:00 Cash Bar
11:30 - Order off Menu / Brunch

Includes coffee, juice, cornbread, hash browns, and your entree choice from the full menu - French toast, omelets, crepes, and more.

Please RSVP by February 26, 2012
(Restaurant needs a head count - okay to bring your check to the event)

\$25.00 per person



REGION ONE RALLY

AUGUST 9 THRU 12, 2012

Goose Hollow
Campground

RT. 49E, 35 Burbank Hill Road, Thornton, NH 03285

STREAMIN' THE REGION

WBCCI - REGION ONE RALLY - 2012

A WBCCI Regional Rally designed for and around the membership for promoting camping and fellowship around the region. We have plenty of activities planned for fun with new and old friends alike. Daily on-site activities, demonstrations, seminars, and games for children and adults. Regional Food contest by each unit, Pink Flamingo Dinner Ball with costume contest, Open Mic Night. These and many, many more fun events are planned for a FOUR day WBCCI party for ALL!



Airstream with Two Persons	\$249.00	\$ _____
Airstream with One Person	\$219.00	\$ _____
Each Additional Adult	\$ 30.00 ea. X _____	\$ _____
Each Child (12 and under 1/2 price)	\$ 25.00 ea. X _____	\$ _____
Early Bird Parking August 8 th	\$ 34.00	\$ _____
Additional Fees for Special Activities--		
Leather Craft Class -	\$ 14.00 ea. X _____	\$ _____
Fruit Carving/Center Piece Class--	\$ 9.00 ea. X _____	\$ _____
Total Fees Paid		\$ _____

Currently, rally fees include three nights camping with full hook up, three breakfasts, two dinners, all activities and seminars except those as noted above. For a complete listing of all offerings, changes and additions visit our website at: newengland.wbcci.net.

**Parking hours as follows: Wed. Noon - 6:00 PM, 7:00 - 9:00 PM,
Thurs. Noon-6:00 PM, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Friday 8:00 AM - Noon & 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM,
Sat. 8:00 AM - Noon. A Bullpen will be set-up for those arriving outside these times.**

Cancellation Dates: Before July 1st 100%, before July 16th 50%, after July 16th no refund.

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner: _____

Children / Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State / Province: _____ Zip Code: _____ WBCCI#: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Rig Size: _____ Handicap: ☐ YES Special Note: _____

★ We would like to be parked in the Vintage Area: Year: _____ Model: _____

Not Yet a Wally Byam Caravan Member but own and will bring an Airstream: ☐

Region One Rally 2012 - August 9th thru 12th, 2012 - Goose Hollow Campground Thornton, NH

Please make your check payable to: New England Unit of WBCCI - Mail to:

J. Rick Cipot - 44 Walnut Hill Road, Bethel, CT 06801 - email: mrjrick@aim.com - Cell: 203.241.4801