

Connecticut

"To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end..." ~WB

President's Message



~ Bard Fuller

As I look into the rear view mirror I see that we've had a most successful year having had more rallies than one can remember in recent years. Most importantly so many attended these functions and, from your feedback, all enjoyed the camaraderie and varied attractions we encountered in this past year's schedule.

Now is the time to also look forward to a new year. If you were at the installation luncheon you had a peek into the future with the picture show presentation of our 2016 schedule. We will start the camping season in May featuring Newport, Rhode Island, the Sailing Capital of the World and conclude in September in the Berkshire Hills at the Norman Rockwell Museum. We will have many locations in between as well as a unit caravan to enchanting Quebec City. In this newsletter I will introduce the "Experience Newport" Rally.

For many of us, we have blown out the water lines and put the Airstream into hibernation. Now is the luncheon season as we keep ties with our fellow Airstreamers with a glass of wine and a hearty meal. Thanks go to Bob and Helen Sandall who have hosted the Manchester Country Club luncheon for nearly a decade. With forty Airstreamers in attendance it was a great autumn day to make and renew friendships.

With our friends the Walbridge's dealing with health concerns, Sandy Sasuta has taken over the February 4th region-wide gathering in Wesley Chapel, FL. Thanks Sandy!!

Our next gathering will be the Gingerbread Holiday Luncheon on December 6. Read more about this new venue in this Chatter but more importantly, sign up now and help kick off the Christmas season in a festive manner! ~ Bard

Gingerbread



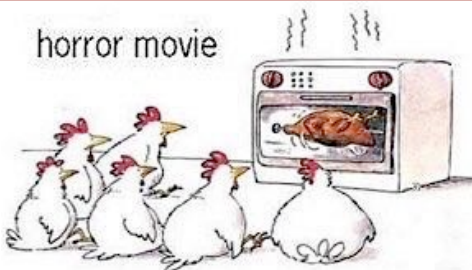
One of my passions in the holiday season is working with gingerbread. I was first introduced to gingerbread house building by one of my patients who had started the [Gingerbread Village at the Episcopal Church in Middlebury, CT](#), some 48 years ago. The village gets thousands of spectators from throughout the northeast at its annual one week show. Each year

[Gingerbread Page 2](#)



Lois did receive her Dunkin' certificate from Bill & Evie Watts which Ted now seems to have a firm grip on.

horror movie



December 6

Gingerbread Village &
Christmas Party Luncheon
Junipers Restaurant, Middlebury, CT

Question

I'm old, but give information people still use. Upon reflection, I can change some long-held views. I know my place, I don't invade your space. If you'll just visit, I'll show a fresh face. Can you see what I am? Look again at the the clues. Answer page 9



[Gingerbread from page 1](#)

the village is an entirely new creation and is made with some 350 pounds of flour, 168 pounds of confectioner's sugar, 145 pounds of granulated sugar, 80 pounds of margarine, 15 gallons of molasses along with whole lot of spices. This is truly a dentist's dream!!

I hope everyone will visit the gingerbread show (doors open at 12noon - check out the link above) prior to gathering down the street at Juniper's Restaurant for our holiday luncheon which is scheduled on Dec 6 at 12:45. Please see the flier attached to this newsletter and sign up for our annual Holiday luncheon.

Nothing says it's the holidays like a Gingerbread Village! ~ Bard

Quite the talent our Bard.



It's 9:00 PM....do you know where your trailer is? Is it cold & dark, cloudy & rainy? Well, some of us are in Travelers Rest Resort, Dade City, Florida.....**Fran Ingallinera, Rich & Kathy Kushman, Rick & Beth Petrie, Ted & Lois Price** and **Michael & Sandy Sasuta**. We heard that the fall colors up North were spectacular this year. A special welcome back to TR to **Niels & Lydia Rosenbeck**....**Lydia** is on the mend!

Congratulations to **Bill & Evelyn Watts** married for 55 years on Oct 22nd! We met up with the **Watts** at the Storytellers Rally in Jonesborough, TN, and really had a great time.

Please keep **Jerry Ingallinera** in mind with cards/calls (his cell phone number is the same). He is at the Manatee River Assisted Living Facility, 820 5th Street W., Palmetto, FL 34221. Also, **Rich Walbridge** is going through a tough time.

REMINDER: please send me your dues for 2016. Thank you to those who have renewed.



2016 Installation Luncheon

Another great fall luncheon hosted by Bob and Helen Sandall. We were all sad to hear that this was the last event they'll be hosting since they've sold their trailer to Jim and Corinne Burnham. The prime rib, fish, and chicken were all very tasty based on how quiet the room got once the food arrived. The event was very well attended. The 40 in attendance included 3 new members: Cindy Vieira, Ken Hawkinson, and Pam Forsyth. These newbies are eager to have fun with their trailer...our kind of people!



Past Region 1 President, Dick Bartram, installed the 2016 slate of officers and presented 5 year membership stars to John and Serafina Bachar for 10 years, Bud Gould for 25 years and Roger and Ruth Crockett for 45 years. THAT'S A LOT OF STARS!!!



Bard went Hollywood and presented a pictorial presentation of the 2016 schedule for the unit. How can anyone stay home after watching what's in store for us?

The unit presented Bard with restaurant gift certificates and salt and pepper shakers nestled in a Bambi trailer. How Cute! It's good to be President.

A good time was had by all. ~ Kathy

Down to Business

The fall membership meeting started with the Executive Board Meeting to discuss how to execute our new WBCCI option of paying online and helping streamline our treasurer's responsibilities. The Blue Beret will be giving you the information for your option to pay future dues by credit card or Paypal. As in the past, paying your dues with a check is still acceptable.

The full membership meeting voted in your 2016 slate of officers. A proposal was presented that would have the club treasury pay for any future event deficit incurred by a host after a reasonable effort was made by the host to cover cost. The proposal passed unanimously. The club's treasury now stands at over \$9000. ~



Bard displays a much deserved gift of appreciation - now only if it was 23 ft long...



“Experience Newport” Rally



This month I am featuring our “Experience Newport” Rally which will be our first rally in the spring. We will be joined by the Cape Cod Unit and will feature 2 hot breakfasts and a soup pot luck supper. As we all know Newport is one of New England's charmed summer attractions with its mansions, museums, ocean views, beaches, restaurants, and history. We will be camping at Melville Ponds Campground in Jamestown, RI. It is only 5 miles north of Newport. This is a municipally owned campground has great accessibility to all of the area's attractions.

I know it is counter intuitive at this time of the year to be planning and booking sites for the 2016

camping season but here is the deal. Newport is a most desirable location and in-season rates can often be \$60-\$70 per site in the area campgrounds. Since we are gathering here prior to Memorial Day I have been able to secure a limited number of sites together at the 2015 off-season rate of \$38 per night for 30 amp electric and water as well as the use of a great pavilion for our gatherings. All sites are booked through the campground using the winter phone number (401-539-7011) rather than the online reservation system. Please state you are with the “Airstream group” when booking.

Remember, once you book your stay with the campground I will need you to send in the coupon at the bottom of the enclosed flier. ~



Camping is nature's way of promoting the motel business. ~ Dave Barry

The ultimate camping trip was the Lewis and Clark expedition. ~ Dave Barry

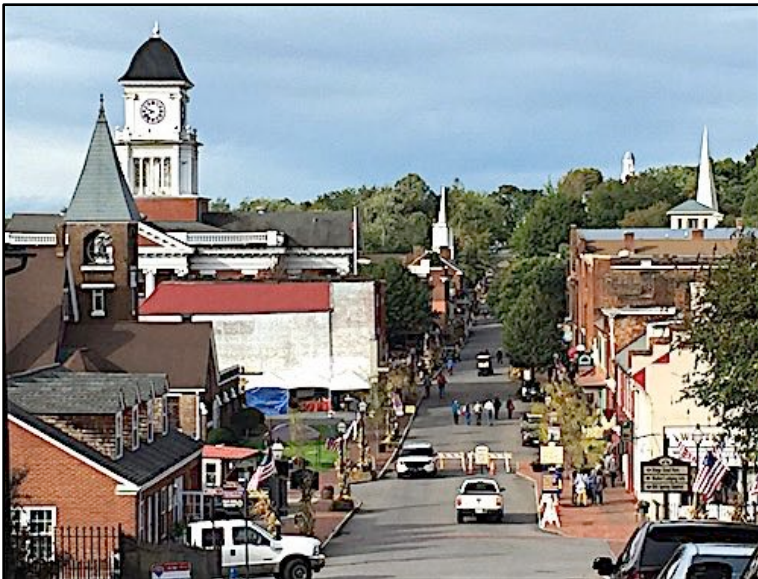


One of the six show tents at the festival.



Airstreams parked at the Appalachian Fair Grounds next to the final rest campground.

"Bucket List Rally"



Main street Jonesborough is closed off to traffic making travel between tents and shopping convenient.

The **Storytelling Rally** in Jonesborough, Tennessee, deserves top billing on your bucket list. The [National Storytelling Festival](#) attracts thousands of people and the rally offers a comfortable home base to enjoy this great event.

COCU members Bill and Evie Watts, Mike and Sandy Sasuta, and Rich and Kathleen Kushman attended this year.

The Story Telling Festival in Jonesborough is like a delicious piece of cake, once you taste it you can't resist another helping. ~ RK



Jeanne Robertson graciously lines up with smiling Airstreamers. Her show was terrific.



Kath & Sandy sneak a pose with Andy Offutt Irwin and Bil Lepp. (that's right one L in Bil)



Numbskull Reflections

~ Anonymous

Confession cleanses the soul but *anonymous confession* cleanses the soul and leaves your reputation untarnished. Unfortunately self esteem may suffer but to quote Meat Loaf - "Two out of three ain't bad." - so I will slide the confessional window open and reflect on a recent Airstream adventure that included a few dopey moments. Unnamed witnesses were traveling with us who I will simply identify here with random initials "M" & "S".

We stopped at an ample gravel area located in Shady Dale, GA, at the corner of RT- 83 and RT-142, for lunch and a comfort stop while traveling south. The sloped exit driveway required some care not to drag the trailer tongue so I angled my departure to avoid contact. I did not "*carefully*" angle my departure and the road side trailer wheels went into a depression, as I did as well, when the sound of trailer contact occurred and the sewer hose storage tube was cleanly removed from the trailer. There it was, somewhat crumbled and laying helpless in the center of RT-42 with the slinky peeking out. While walking back to retrieve my droppings and reflecting on the recent very scary scraping sound, I had no idea that this was **not** the first dopey moment.

Next came an overnight stop before continuing this adventure. Safely parked, glass of wine in hand, embarrassed (remember there were witnesses), but somewhat relieved that the damage was not more extensive, I plugged in and lowered the stabilizers. Not all four stabilizers of course, because the deformed left side front stabilizer was toast, putting a new *bent* on that scraping noise.

During my evening set up, the team navigator remained in the car, turned on the key, and lowered the windows for much needed ventilation. When morning came the windows were open, the key was on, and the truck battery was dead. Now is when M & S started hiding their laughter (they are very polite), and then, thankfully, M helped me jump start our truck.

Before heading to our next destination a storage glitch prevented my dumping as planned, you see - before leaving the rally in Tennessee I had carefully stashed the sewer elbow on the back bumper of the Airstream leaving me to wonder just where it hopped off - this apparently was dopey moment #1.

A note about my team navigator, the one who spilled an entire cup of coffee over the bathroom vanity, regarding her intrinsic directional capability. I foolishly will, on occasion, seek her assistance or confirmation regarding the route we are driving. Now in her defense she simply does not like to be torn away from her iPhone word game to help the pilot who she believes is simply guilty of poor planning.

While trying to reconcile the GPS route number to the road side signs:

I said: "*Honey, would you please verify for me that RT-83 continues all the way to RT-75.*"
She said: "*You know this is not fun for me, I have to use the Road Atlas the phone is too small.*"

Several minutes passed.

She said: "*There is no RT-83 - not in this book. Are you sure you know where you are going?*"
I said: "*Are you sure, could you check again?*" - wrong thing to say.
She said: "*Stop somewhere and do it yourself*"

Several minutes passed.

She said: "What state are we in."
I said: "Georgia."
She said: "Oh - I was looking in South Carolina."

Further conversation is lost to me... ~

Product Alert
Super - Tube
 Several sizes - fits all sewer hoses.
[Visit Website](#)

Mistakes are the portals of discovery.
~ James Joyce

All men make mistakes, but married men find out about them sooner.
~ Red Skelton

We made too many wrong mistakes.
~ Yogi Berra



Bard's "Good, Bad, Bizarre" Airstreams

Did you know that Airstream produced a funeral coach through the 1980's? It was more than a hearse as it also transported the family and flowers along with the casket. Reportedly 32 were produced. ~



Family, flowers, and maybe a cold beverage.



One gobble, two gobble, three gobble four
 Big Tom, the turkey, rushed through the door
 One gobble, two gobble, three gobble meat
 Tom hollered loud what we should eat
 One gobble, two gobble, three gobble bam
 His suggestion was clear, we should all nibble ham
 One gobble, two gobble, three gobble POW
 Okay, Okay, what about cow
 One gobble, two gobble, three gobble wish
 Digging down deep he then screamed out FISH
 Thanksgiving then came and he started to shake
 Sweating with fear at what we would bake
 But Tom calmly smiled as he heard in a whisper
 Our Thanksgiving prayer giving thanks for his sister.

NUMBSKULL CHALLENGE

Editor's Note: After receiving the anonymous numbskull story it occurred to me there must be many more interesting Airstream anecdotes waiting to be shared and enjoyed. I now solicit all to share their experiences and *please* do not be put off by the word "NUMBSKULL", in fact, let's have some fun celebrating those special instructive moments.

Share the Moment:

- I guarantee complete anonymity if requested. Do not fear embarrassment.
- Write the story or send the details and I will present it truthfully, proudly, and without much of a giggle.

Contact me by email or phone with the full story or just the details:

Richard Kushman - 860-608-4321
rich.kath@icloud.com



2016 Charter Oak Calendar

- Feb 4 **Region 1 Florida West Coast Luncheon** (joint with all Region 1 units)
Asian Buffet
Wesley Chapel, FL
Sandy Sasuta

- March TBA **Connecticut Luncheon**
Glastonbury, CT / Jeff & Lynn Blackwell /Gene Hickey & Charlotte LaRocca

- May 13-15 **“Experience Newport” Rally** (joint with Cape Cod)
Melville Ponds Campground
Portsmouth, RI
Bard & Kathy Fuller (COCU) / Wayne Rocheleau & Sarah Nelson (CCU)

- June 3-5 **“Lobsters at the Marina” Rally** ----- Spring Business Meeting
Portland Riverside Marina
Portland, CT
Bard & Russ Fuller (COCU)

- June 24-
July 4 **International WBCCI Rally**
Lewisburg, WV

- TBA **Region One Luncheon**
Lewisburg, WV
Ernie & Madaline Bauer

- July15-17 **Lake Waramaug Rendezvous**
New Preston, CT
John & Serafina Bachar

- July 29-31 **Tri-state River Rally & “Migrating North Caravan”** (joint with Cape Cod)
Hindsdale Campground (tentative)
Hindsdale NH
Mike & Sandy Sasuta

- July 31-Aug4 **“Migrating North Caravan”**
Stops at Orford, NH & Compton QC before reaching the Region One Rally
Rich & Kathy Kushman, Gilles & Joyce Rousseau, Larry Lamontagne, Bob & Ruth Scott

- Aug 4-7 **Snow Goose Rally – Region One Rally – Quebec City**
Montmagny, QC
WBCCI Quebec Unit

- Aug 26-28 **“Water-Fire”(tentative) Providence - The Renaissance City Rally** (joint with NE Unit)
Holiday Acres Family Campground
North Scituate, RI
Bard & Kathy Fuller (COCU) / Doug Hart (Tentative) (NEU)

- Sept 23- 25 **Norman Rockwell Museum Rally**
Woodland Hills Campground
Austerlitz, NY
Bill & Evie Watts (COCU)

- Oct 16
(Tentative) **Installation Luncheon** ----- fall business meeting
Manchester Country Club
Manchester, CT
Jim & Corinne Burnham

- Dec 4 **Holiday Luncheon**
TBA / TBA





NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

11/01	Sandy Sasuta
11/02	Gilles & Joyce Rousseau
11/04	Bill Korb
11/09	Clarence Gould
11/10	Paul Good
11/10	Beth Petrie
11/11	Ronald & Brenda Nicholas
11/18	Jeff Blackwell
11/28	Cynthia Melocik
11/28	Helen Sandall
11/28	Gail Billings
11/29	Charlie & Sandy Eglise

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.

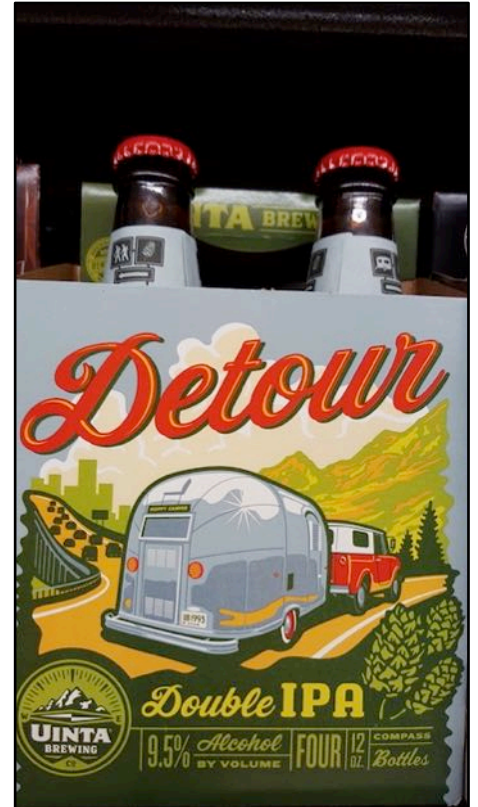
Doran 360rv TPM + 4 tire monitors
(all like new)
New cost w/tax \$320.00
Selling for \$170.00

Charlie Wilson 203-240-3019



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



Sandy found another brew that simply must be delicious..

He was a wise man who invented beer.

~ Plato



FOR SALE

1999 34' Limited
with Hensley hitch.

Call Ted
(860)
841-2604



FOR SALE

'86 AIRSTREAM 31' twin
New Dometic electric/gas fridge (2014)
New shocks (2015)
New axles (2011)
Fantastic Fan
2 alum 30 lb LP gas with cover
New electric Sensor HDTV antenna (2011)
NO smoking or pets
Garaged when not in use

Great buy @ \$12500.
John Fuller 860-828-4387

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/>

- Editor:..... Richard Kushman
- Contributing Editor:..... Lois Price
- Info & Pictures:..... Sandy Sasuta
- Pictures:..... Gilles Rousseau
- Printing:..... Joyce Rousseau
- Proof Reader:..... Kathleen Kushman

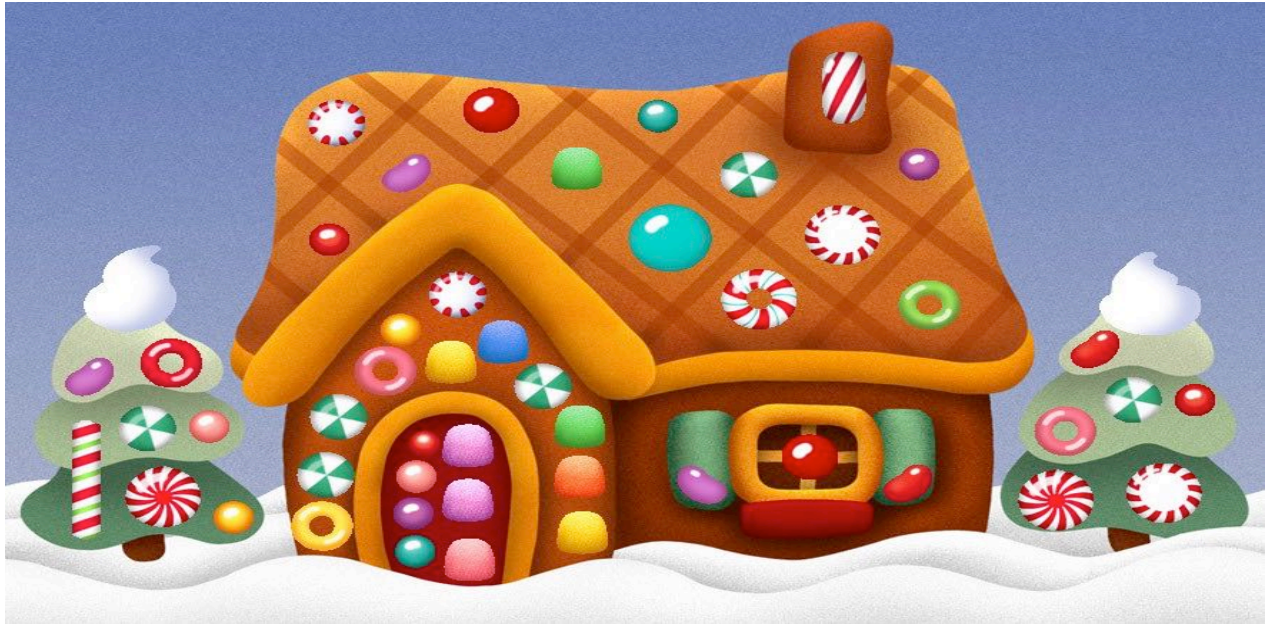
Answer from page One: A mirror..



Nothing says Holiday Time like Gingerbread

Happy Holidays!!!

Sunday, December 6, 2015



48th Annual Gingerbread Village

St. George's Episcopal Church, Middlebury CT.

12noon -12:30pm At the intersection of Tuckerhill Rd. & Whittemore Rd.(Route 188)

Directions from Hartford, Points East Follow **I-84 West** toward Waterbury.

Take **Exit 17** to merge onto **Chase Pkwy/CT-64** toward CT-63/Watertown/Middlebury.

Continue to follow **CT-64**. Turn left at Regan Rd. with immediate Right on Tuckerhill Rd

Holiday Luncheon

to follow at

Juniper's Restaurant

1383 Whittemore Rd. (Rt. 188), Middlebury, CT

Next door to the Middlebury Consignment Store & ~ mile north on Rt.188 from St. George's Church

Garden Salad / Starch / Entree choice / Cheesecake / Coffee & Tea

Yankee Pot Roast Poached Atlantic Salmon Boneless Stuffed Chicken Breast

\$30 per person

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

Reservation deadline: November 25

bardfuller@hotmail.com



“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**