



# Connecticut

## Chatter

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club



December 2020

<https://airstreamclub.org/charter-oak-connecticut>

### President's Message

by Glen Lessig



For those inquiring minds, in this month's photo Christine and I are getting ready to enjoy the Norwottuck Rail Trail in North Hampton, MA. This is one of the many interesting opportunities to explore the North Hampton area during our Region One Rally to be held in June

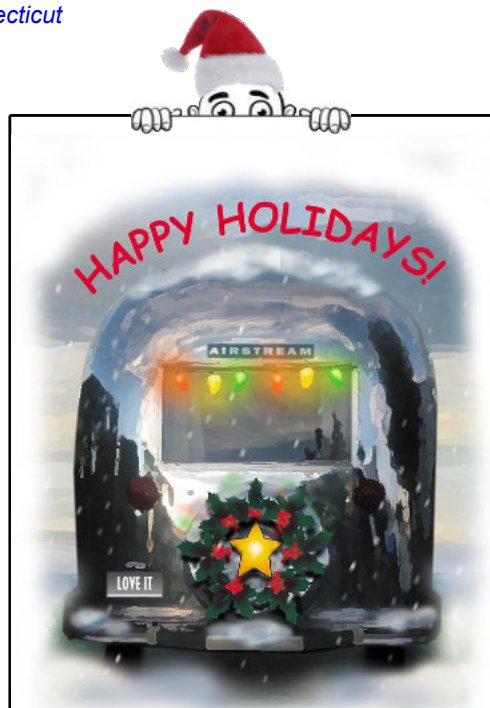
2021. Check out the additional news regarding the Region One Rally in this month's Chatter.

My article today will focus on our Connecticut Directory. We should all be thankful to have such dedicated volunteers who willingly put their energy into publishing this great club resource. Let me take a moment to recognize Rich Kushman, graphic and publishing master, and his able support team of Kathleen Kushman, Sandy Sasuta, and Mike Sasuta. Without their tireless efforts, we would not have the quality printed Connecticut directory that we now enjoy. To produce the directory all of the information needs to be gathered, Rich then performs his online graphics magic, copies are edited and reviewed, then printed one at a time on a personal printer, cut, bound, packaged and mailed. The total dollar cost to the club is approximately \$300, plus many donated hours of labor. In addition to the printed version, a beautiful online version is prepared and set up for easy downloading as a pdf.

For the 2021 Directory, the club will continue to provide both the printed and the online versions for all members, however, if you are interested in only the online version please email me [025president@wbcci.net](mailto:025president@wbcci.net) or Rich Kushman at [025info@wbcci.net](mailto:025info@wbcci.net) and we will not prepare and mail the printed version.

For the 2022 Directory, we would like to know how many members would be comfortable with only the online version, how many members would prefer to receive both the online and printed versions, and if they are willing to pay a \$5.00 charge to cover the printing and mailing costs.

*Continued page 4*



### What do you think?

What do you call a group of partridge?

1. Which U.S. state was the first to recognize Christmas as an official holiday?
2. What holiday is celebrated in the UK and Canada the day after Christmas Day?
3. In which European country was the original St. Nicholas born?
4. In Home Alone, where are the McCallisters going on vacation when they leave Kevin behind?
5. How many gifts in total were given in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song?
6. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

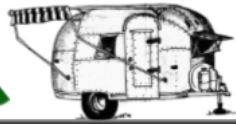
### Link of the Month

[Airstream Blog](#)

Live Riveted

[Answers Page 6](#)





## It's Official! REGION ONE RALLY 2021

“Oh! The Places You’ll Go” is back on the road! Region 1 Rally 2021 will be at the Three County Fairground in Northampton, MA.

Save the date: June 17-20, 2021

(Note: This is a New Location and New Date)

**Location! Location! Location!**

The Fairground is conveniently located on the edge of the commercial and historic district of this college town. The city of Northampton is known as one of America’s best small cities. A top ten town for craft lovers, walking and bike trails and a highly rated shopping district in the Connecticut River valley. History abounds in Northampton with early abolitionists, women’s rights activists and Calvin Coolidge’s residence in the early 1900’s. Today the town is the home of the Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum, Smith College’s Botanical Garden, Museum of Art and so much more, e.g. the Beer Can Museum.

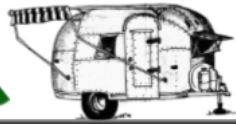
Kayaking the Connecticut River and its tributaries along with hiking adventures to the top of Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke are just a short drive from the fairgrounds. Within 25 minutes of town are Springfield’s National Basketball Hall of Fame, the Armory-National Historic Site and the Dr. Seuss Museum and Sculpture Garden. To the north of town is Deerfield with its historic Deerfield Village, the Butterfly Conservatory and the popular Yankee Candle flagship store.

The fairground is just a two-minute drive from exit 19 on I-91. The fairground is the home of the longest ongoing fair in America. Our Airstreams will have 30 amp electric, daisy-chained water, dump station and dedicated WIFI for our use. Our vehicles will be parked on grass and gravel field areas surrounding our center of operations, a commercial size open air pavilion with a stage.

Yes, in these uncertain pandemic times, we will maximize the air circulation by using this outdoor facility while being protected from the sun and possible inclement weather. In the event of extreme weather, we have the backup of the colossal arena building. Social distancing should be easy to maintain in these venues should the need still exist next June. As we reexamine our abilities to get together in responsible ways the Three County Fairground will offer some of the best facilities while providing an ideal location with considerable interest and places to explore. ~







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Roger & Ruth Crocket Family  
with Brian and Bruce



John & Marian Fuller Family  
Including Russ, Nancy & Bard

## 50 YEARS AGO

by Bard Fuller

On October 11, 1970 the first meeting of greater Connecticut Airstream owners was held in Bristol, CT. Most attendees were from the Berkshire Unit including Roger and Ruth Crockett. Several others came from the New England Unit including John and Marian Fuller. Guests of the meeting were Region 1 President John Engel and First Lady Elizabeth who helped guide the group through the organizational steps needed to establish a new WBCCI unit. A temporary charter was established by having 20 paying International members committing to the formation of this unit.

Emile Raboin was nominated and voted in as the first president. The name of the unit was then discussed. Four suggestions came from the floor which included:

Connecticut Valley Unit

Charter Oak Unit

Connecticut Nutmeg Unit

Connecticut Blue Trail Unit.

All four potential names were sent to International headquarters and they established our name as "Charter Oak Connecticut Unit".

Dues were established as \$5 for International and \$3 for the local club. ~

*Helpful*

# Links

Make them a favorite!

[Airstream Club International](#)

[Charter Oak Connecticut](#)

[Airstream Club](#)

[Airstream Supply](#)

[ACI Resource Center](#)

[Blue Beret Magazine](#)

[Charter Oak on Facebook](#)

[Courtesy Parking](#)

[Airstream USA](#)

[Air Forums](#)

[AllStays Camping](#)

[Campsite Photos](#)

[Exits & Highways](#)

[Passport America](#)

[Region One ACI](#)

[Reserve America](#)

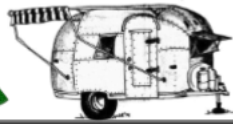
[RV Park Reviews](#)

[State Park Guide](#)

[Tin Can Tourists](#)

["Let's Just Go"](#)





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## Presidents Message Continued

The club website <https://airstream-club.org/charter-oak-connecticut> will continue to provide access to the club bylaws, constitution, and inventory in a secure password protected file. Plus the online pdf is easily accessed as a PDF file on iPhones and androids and may be easily downloaded and printed. Be on the lookout for an online survey in the next few weeks from me to gather your input.

I hope to see all of you on Dec. 6 at 1:00 pm as we have our first ever (hopefully the only one!) Holiday party. We will be meeting virtually using Google Meets hosted by Russ Fuller. Please plan to spend an hour or so sharing holiday fun with new and old friends. See you there!

*Happy Holidays to all - Glen & Christine*



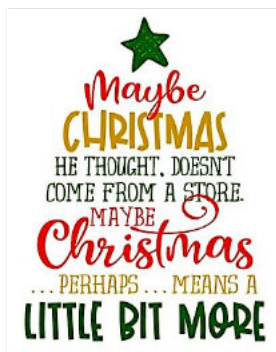
by Sandy Sasuta

Certainly, 2020 has been a year of cancellations, but remember that we have much that has not been cancelled. We still have family, friends, prayer, the beauty of nature, music, reading, singing, laughing and hope. Let's embrace that, and be thankful for what we do have.

You still have time in December to pay your 2021 dues, and it can easily be done on line at: [airstreamclub.org](https://airstreamclub.org) (See Dues Renewal Box)

A blonde and a brunette are talking and the brunette mentions that Christmas falls on a Friday this year. The blond says "I hope it's not the 13th".

Everyone stay safe wherever you are, and see you next year. ~



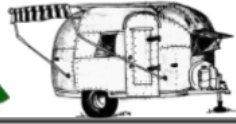
The final rally of the year brought us some new raffle prizes. Toni Nolder donated a Cuisinart grilling set and a cocktail set for mixing your favorites! Associate members Sandi Gould and Rick Cipot gave a vintage (1940- 1950) aluminum grill griddle made by Silver Seal. It would be perfect for one of our vintage camper owners or anyone else! It's hard not to notice the eating and drinking theme of these new additions. Airstreamers forever!

Thanks to Toni, Sandi and Rick. We have quite a variety of prizes in our spare room upstairs. Keep those fingers crossed that we will have the raffle in 2021!!! ~



Bruce & Kris Fletcher saw their first Bowlus Road Chief driving through Hartford a few weeks ago! Thanks for submitting photo.





## Good, Bad and Bizarre amazing **Bard's** **AIRSTREAMS**

## BOWLUS ROAD CHIEF



The Bowlus Road Chiefs are reincarnations of the original visionary William Hawley Bowlus's travel trailers of the mid 1930's which were the predecessor and inspiration of the Wally Byam Airstream Clipper. The present-day Road Chiefs came from the vision of John Long, a successful tech entrepreneur, who upon selling his Quadravision Corporation, took up his passion of vintage automobiles and trailers. After fully restoring a 1935 Road Chief and traveling across the country with his family, he was inspired to further develop this antique classic. John was able to acquire all the rights from the Bowlus family. In 2013 he set out using the original design to reimagine the best possible hand-crafted travel trailer for the American market.

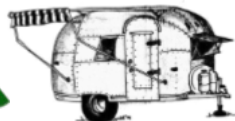
Today with his daughter, Geneva, as CEO of Bowlus Road Chief, the trailers boast some of the lightest weights, highest tech systems and the most dramatic art deco styling in the industry.

Present day models are built in Ventura County, CA and are marketed out of their sales room in Henderson, NV. The trailers come with a full monocoque frame, heated floors, stainless steel countertops, a sophisticated hygienic cassette system toilet, marine quality refrigerator along with teak and chrome appointments. The power management system is the best in the industry with awesome lithium iron phosphate batteries and a 3,000-watt inverter providing two weeks of off-grid power or two nights of air conditioning. Using Bluetooth technology, the system is controlled from your cell phone. At 26 feet they are only 3,200 pounds, a fraction of an equivalent Airstream.



The cost, if you must know. They are expensive. Starting price is \$190,000 to \$230,000 depending on the model before adding on option packages. Makes the Airstream look like a bargain!





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## Submitting Pictures

For the Website Gallery or for the Chatter.

**What to send:** Fun pictures, people, smiles!

**Size:** at least 800 X nnn

**Type:** jpg or tiff

**Send to:** [025info@wbcci.net](mailto:025info@wbcci.net)

**Subject line:** Event name.

**Pictures for the Chatter:** Please include photographer, dates, names of all people pictured and any desired caption in the body of the email.

**[COCAC Online Picture Gallery](#)**

## Upcoming ....

**Birthdays - Anniversaries**

### December

12/05	Cynthia Brodeur
12/07	Dyann Calder
12/12	Charlotte LaRocca
12/13	Sandra Flood
12/15	Gale Lake
12/18	Diane Jackson
12/20	Christine Lessig
12/21	Kris Fletcher
12/28	Fred & Susan Newman
12/29	Chris Dubrowski

### January

01/13	Charles "Rick" & Beth Petrie
01/14	Donald Allers
01/18	Jane Sanders
01/21	Guy Weik
01/23	Robert Calder
01/24	Lianne Rutty
01/25	Ruth Scott
01/31	William & Elizabeth Turner

### February

02/01	Susan Newman
02/04	John J. Bachar
02/13	Gene Hickey
02/16	Leila Clark
02/20	Dick & Kit Wheatley
02/21	Michael Sasuta
02/25	Val Galasyn
02/27	Sandi Gould

## DUES RENEWALS

Visit ACI: [Click Here to Renew](#)

**Renew on line:** Complete the form and have your credit card ready.

**Regular member:** ACI \$75.00 + \$15.00 COCAC Total \$90.00

**Lifetime or affiliate member:** Only unit dues: \$15.00

If you are unable to renew on line or you are an affiliate member please send a check before December 31<sup>st</sup> payable to COCAC with a note about any changes to your information.

Mail dues to:  
**Sandy Sasuta**  
476 Milford Point Road  
Milford, CT 06460

[Check here for International Dues Joining Guidelines](#)

## Visit the New Websites



**[Airstream Club International](#)**  
ACI the new WBCCI web experience.



**[Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club](#)**



**[Region One](#)**



## Visit Airstream Supply

"Let's Just Go!" is a wonderful children's storybook, written by Billy Steers, that follows Snug the Airstream travel trailer and her adventures.  
[Available here.](#)

Once again, we come to the Holiday Season, a deeply religious time that each of us observes, in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice.  
~ Dave Barry

## Connecticut Chatter

Editor: Richard Kushman  
Info & Pictures: Sandy Sasuta  
Pictures: Gilles Rousseau  
Printing: Joyce Rousseau  
Proof Reader: Kathleen Kushman

## Answer

1- Alabama 2 - Boxing Day  
3 - Turkey 4 - Paris  
5 - 364 6 - Germany

## What did you think?

A group of partridge is called a covey, but you'll only find one in a pear tree!

**Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club**



**[Visit us on Facebook](#)**



Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. — Sherry Anderson

## New Virtual Rally?



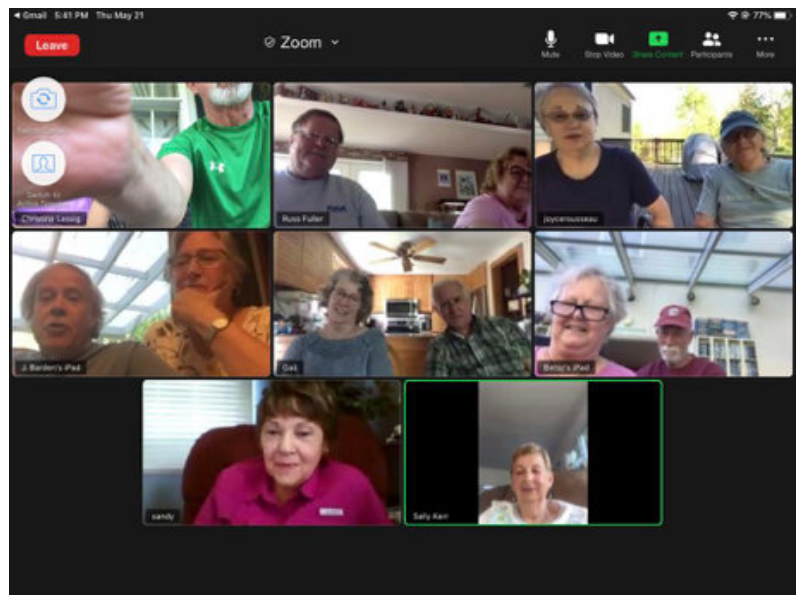
## The Cask, The Flask and The Mask Stay at Home Rally

### Join Us

Art work by Billy Steers



*Joyce and Gilles Zooming...*



**Zoom virtual happy hours watch for emails announcing time.**

No Rallies and missing your Airstream friends join us on Zoom every Thursday at 6 pm with the beverage of your choice. No mask needed. Missing the ID or Password contact [Russ Fuller](#).



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## Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

The coronavirus is continuing to give us Lemons, so let's make  
Lemonade!



Virtual Lemonade (Holiday)  
Party  
Dec. 6, - Zoom

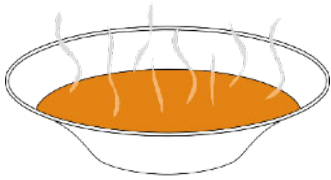
1:00 pm

- Hosted by Russ Fuller
- Meet and Greet NEW MEMBERS
- Chat with old friends
- Charter Oak Trivia Games with Prizes
- Members from North and South campsites



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**What does this rebus bring to mind?**



# **“Souper” Bowl North Gathering**

## **Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021**

(Whether there is a game or not!)

**12:30 – 2:30 pm**

**Gilles and Joyce Rousseau’s home**

67 Horse Fence Hill Rd. Southbury

### **What to bring?**

An **appetizer** to enjoy.

Your **favorite soup** for about 10 people to sample.

(Let Joyce know what kind you’ll make when you reserve.)

Your **favorite beverage** to drink.

**Bread and dessert will be provided at no cost by your hosts.**

**RSVP to Joyce at 203-217-0503 or [joycezc68@gmail.com](mailto:joycezc68@gmail.com) before January 30.**

*You will be notified early of cancellation due to weather or Covid restrictions.*



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# 2021 PRELIMINARY



## STORYTELLING RALLY

Early Signup Opportunity

## CARAVAN

Early Signup Opportunity

**Jonesborough, TN - Rally Dates, Wednesday 09/29/2021 - Sunday 10/03/2021**

The Storytelling Rally at Appalachian Fairground in Gray, TN, is very popular and a wonderful way to enjoy the National Storytelling Festival. Tickets for the Storytelling Festival are to be purchased separately. The caravan itinerary may include meeting on Wednesday 09/22/2021 arriving at the fairground on Sunday (early parking) 09/26/2021. Caravan with us to the 2021 festival and enjoy a wonderful show. Caravan limited to 10 units.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ **BRN** \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Length \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

To reserve a rally camp site and your spot on the caravan fill out the form and include \$140.00.

Make check to Richard Kushman and send to:

Richard Kushman  
29129 Johnston Rd  
lot 2622  
Dade City, FL 33523

Caravan hosts: Rich & Kathy Kushman and Mike & Sandy Sasuta

[rich.kath@icloud.com](mailto:rich.kath@icloud.com) [sandysas1001@gmail.com](mailto:sandysas1001@gmail.com)

Please Note: Current rally fee for 5 nights is \$140.00 and early parking fee is \$28.00 per night - final fairground rally fee and early parking fee for 2021 TBD. The fee of \$140.00 represents only a deposit for your 5 night rally reservation and will also hold a spot on the caravan. Caravan limited to 10 units. The caravan itinerary, camping fees and kitty are not yet established. This early signup is to assure a rally site for the entire caravan. Rally site cancellations or changes must be handled directly with the rally host - Harry Herrmann.

Join us

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Share Your Smile