



Connecticut *Chatter*

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

50 Years

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

September 2021

President's Message

by Glen Lessig



Great job - Glen and Christine Lessig

The Outdoor Mystic Art Festival Rally, hosted by Bard and Kathy Fuller and Tess McShane of the New England Club, was an enjoyable rally. Located in a beautiful setting within easy distance of the annual Mystic Art Festival.

On Saturday we enjoyed an easy and scenic bike ride to town with Chris and Carol Dubrowski to visit a few of the festival booths. On Sunday we ventured out on to the Mystic River in our new kayaks for a short voyage with close up water views of Mystic Seaport and the many boats moored and in dry dock. Thanks to Bard and Kathy for hosting another great rally for our club.

Our final Charter Oak rally of the season is our much anticipated, "We Almost Made it to Quebec" rally. Why the crazy name? It is not because the rally is on the VT - QC border, it is because Gilles, Joyce, Christine and I had a great joint rally planned with our sister Region One - Quebec Club to be located at the Domanine Des Cantons, Campground in St Étienne-de-Bolton, QC. Consequently due to Covid, the Canadian border was closed all year and we were forced to cancel our joint rally. (I'll be honest, being president during Covid has had its challenges).

Continued page 5

Moving East



By 1952, Airstream had outgrown its Los Angeles plant and desperately needed to expand. Rather than staying on the West Coast, Wally traveled east to scout locations across the Midwest. He spent a summer looking in Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio before finding a factory for sale in Jackson Center, Ohio. With Neil Vanderbilt on the board and Airstream's obvious success, funding was easy to find, and soon Wally had his ideal second location locked down. And it turned out to be a great choice – more than sixty-five years later, Airstream is still making trailers in Jackson Center.

What Do You Think

What do you call a group of Dogs?

What country in South America do you hit first if you fly due south out of Key West, FL?

Link of the Month



Airstream Salute

Answers Page 9



The Mystic Outdoor Art Festival

by Kathy Fuller

Smiles. Fabulous Happy Hour offerings. *Smiles.* Lots of free beer. *Smiles.* Mystic Outdoor Art Festival. *Smiles.* You get the idea. The Mystic Outdoor Art Festival Airstream Rally was a big success with over 40 people attending in 19 rigs from 4 different local clubs.

Tess McShane was the mastermind behind the rally that was originally scheduled for 2020. It was worth the wait. Although Bard and I were cohosts, Tess also had help from Todd Brink, and Gail and Titu Ahmed from New England Airstream Club.

Lots of Charter Oakians were there including the Lessig's and Dombrowski's who enjoyed riding their bikes to the art festival, all of the Allers', the Brodner's, Rousseau's, Sasuta's, Downing's, David Jenson and the Jones'. Affiliates Eddie Carll and the St. Laurent's were also at the rally. New members Candle and Tom French from Glastonbury dropped in Friday evening. As they toured a few trailers they got many ideas for renovating their older Airstream...Candle was "in heaven!". New-to-us members Dave Morrison and Jane Layman managed to enjoy the weekend despite arriving with a flat tire on their Airstream.

The free beer was provided by Jim Phelen and Melanie Newell from Airskirts. They also gave everyone a pint-size glass sporting their logo. Another reason to smile.

This was a joint rally with New England. Hopefully, we'll have more joint rallies with neighboring clubs as they broaden our rally opportunities and induce more smiles. Reach out to your friends in other local clubs and see where you can work together to introduce a new venue to our rally schedule. ~



Sandy Sasuta and Kathy Fuller close to heaven.



Art festival extended from downtown into the Seaport.



Joyce, Gilles, Kathy and Sandy at art festival.



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

September 2021



Photos by Tess McShane

Circle the chairs and enjoy the pour.



Jim Phelan's company sponsored our beer tasting with take home beer glasses. He and his associate Melanie both live in CT and at the International rally in TN promoted their inflatable AirSkirts pictured below. These help keep the area under the trailer warm throughout the winter allowing for a longer camping season.



Christine Lessig and Gail Downing are getting the beer ready



Though new members to COCAC fellow Airstreamers Dave Morrison & Jane Layman have transferred from the Watchung, NJ, Unit as they have relocated in CT. Dave is a past president of VAC International and many of us old timers will remember him as a co-host at the very popular Fort Schuyler Rallies in the Bronx, NY under the Throgs Neck Bridge.



Bard & Kathy touring Stonington Borough.



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

September 2021



*Gail Downing, Gilles Rousseau, Don & Eileen Allers
and Kathy Fuller*



Glen Lessig, Chris & Carol Dubrowski



Michael Sasuta and Bard Fuller

meeting

COCAC Annual Meeting will be held outside on September 18, 2021 - 9:00 a.m. at the "Almost Made it to Quebec Rally, located at the Crown Point Campground in Perkinsville, VT.



Airstreamers doing what Airstreamers do ... and with skill.

Photos by Sandy Sasuta



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

September 2021



by Sandy Sasuta

Welcome
New Members

Mary & Matt Harman

2987

Roslindale, MA 02131

Worth Noting!



Dorothy Freed past and long time member just celebrated her new BRN birthday. 101

The Mystic Rally with Charter Oak and New England was a huge success, even though it was hot and humid. From the Friday night beer tasting, full breakfast Saturday with gourmet pastries and Art Festival in town it was a well planned event. Thank you to the hosts **TESS McSHANE, TODD BRINK, BARD & KATHY FULLER** and the many helpers. Also, it was great to meet new members **CANDLE & TOM FRENCH**; looking forward to seeing their Airstream when it's ready.

We send our sincere sympathy to former Charter Oak member **SHIRLEY EDMONDSON** on the passing of her husband Ron Edmondson, and to the **RUTTY** family. Also, sincere condolences to **DICK BARTRAM** on the passing of his granddaughter, Amber...so sad.

If you would like to order a new name badge, it can easily be done on line by going to airstreamclub.org. Scroll down under Current Members to the Club Store...select one of 3 designs and complete the information along with your credit card.

Does everyone know about the International Rally in Fryeburg, Maine, in July 2022? You can sign up on line, or mail in the form (August Blue Beret Page 41), to attend at such a close location; many have done so already. Don't miss out!

Last night I ordered a glass of wine with my dinner and the waiter asked for my ID. I replied, do I look that young? The waiter said, No, I just wanted to see if you qualified for the Senior Discount.

Looking forward to the Sept. rally in Perkinsville, VT, where we will hold our Annual Meeting and installation of officers. Hope to see you there. ~



Affiliate member Larry Lamontagne was a winner of an Airstream Service Gift Certificate at the International Rally.

Presidents Message Continued

Hopefully a joint rally will happen with our Canadian friends and neighbors soon. The *We Almost Made it to Quebec Rally* in VT, promises to be delicious fun. We will raise a glass of French wine to our Quebec friends on Sept. 18th and enjoy heavenly French food - boeuf bourguignon (beef stew), - les crêpes fameux de Gilles- (Gilles' famous crêpes) avec confitures, crème frappe and sucre poudre. (with jam, whipped cream and powdered sugar) - and also French games - Petanque a great game played around the world. Rumor has it that there are a couple of spots left, join us for a great weekend if you can.

During a normal year we would be able to enjoy some fellowship at an annual dinner meeting. Unfortunately with the Delta Variant surging in Connecticut, inside meetings are not advised. Our option was to find an outside venue that was convenient and attractive. The best option was holding our meeting at our *We Almost Made it to Quebec Rally* outside! We will have a quorum, new officers will be installed and we will be off to a great 2022 with Russ Fuller as our new President.

Check out our website for more information <https://airstreamclub.org/charter-oak-connecticut>



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

submitted by BardFuller

Fifty years ago

End of Summer Rally was held at the Ross Hill Campground in Lisbon, CT.

Twenty-five years ago

Twenty fifth Anniversary Rally

Excerpts taken from the Charter Oak Chatter September 1996.

To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions. To lead caravans wherever the four winds blow... over twinkling boulevards, across trackless deserts... to the traveled and untraveled corners of the earth.
~ Wally Byam

Following written by Ron and Shirley Edmondson.

At 1:00 pm Friday, September 6, 1996, the official rally began at Hammonasset Beach State Park. A few early birds had arrived on Thursday and greeted everyone as they drove to their sites. There were 23 trailers at the rally. Soon the tent was set up and tables were moved under cover in case an uninvited guest Airstreamer named "Fran" should blow in during the weekend. The tables were covered with blue table clothes with center pieces of colorful mum plants. Sandy Sasuta and Eileen Bartram organized the preparation of the meal by having several gals peel potatoes and onions. Everyone enjoyed the delicious clam chowder that was prepared.

Saturday a delicious breakfast of French toast, sausage, juice and coffee was served. The day was spent in many ways. Some toured the new Clinton Outlet Mall, others took short walks, visiting, or sleeping. The excitement of the afternoon was seeing Ann and Bob Werth dressed in their wedding finery as they left to attend son Doug's wedding in Madison. It was fun to see the Landry children, Paige and Zach, roller-blading and riding their bikes around the campground.

By late afternoon the wind blew the tent down and broke one of the main supports. However, thanks to Neils Rosenbeck, Bud Gould and Roger Crockett repairs were made and the tent was put up again.

The anniversary feast consisted of lobster, steak, chicken, salad, corn on the cob, baked potato and a beverage was served to a most appreciative group by the volunteers, some on whom had stood under umbrellas cooking. Jessie Gould had made a beautiful anniversary cake decorated with an Airstream trailer. As everyone sang "Happy Anniversary to Us" the Crockett's cut the cake under Jessie's direction. A rousing and enthusiastic vote of thanks was given to Sandy and Mike Sasuta, chairpersons of the rally.

We Almost Made it to Quebec Rally

Sept 17-19

Joyce Rousseau and Christine Lessig

Just a quick reminder that our final rally of the year will be in a couple of weeks. There's still room to join us for a nice weekend in central Vermont- call Crown Point Campground in Perkinsville at 802-263-5555 to reserve a site and then email to let me or Christine know you're coming. See the flyer in this Chatter for more details.

Laissez le bon temps rouler!



Region One News

Region 1 News - Summer 2021

Submitted by Bard Fuller, Region One 1st Vice President

Save the Date April 29 – May 1, 2022 for the Region 1 Gathering to be held in Sandwich, New Hampshire. A “gathering” is similar to a region rally but will be less extensive in the entertainment, food and programming. It will still feature the annual region business meeting, great fellowship and fun between members of all our local clubs.

This year at the International Rally in Tennessee your International and Region officers and you, as members through your club’s delegates, made a multitude of changes in our rules of governance for the club which will improve our club as well as making the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies easier to understand. Most of us would like to wish we could dismiss the legislative part of our organization. That is understood, however rules of governance are required to keep our large multi-faceted club as a non-profit and to function fairly and efficiently. To that end, it was necessary to have an updated Constitution, Bylaws and Policies.

It was found that, over the years, much of the operating protocol and procedures had been placed incorrectly into the club’s Constitution. One must remember that the Constitution should define what WBCCI “is”, its Bylaws define what WBCCI “does” and its Policies state how WBCCI “performs the actions defined in the Constitution or Bylaws”. Extensive reorganization of the governing documents was put before the membership for approval to be consistent with proper protocol. Three constitutional amendments were presented to you, the membership, most typically at the local clubs’ Spring Business Meetings. The delegate from each of the local clubs brought the membership vote to this year’s Delegates Meeting at the International Rally. All three constitutional amendments passed. To recap, these three constitutional amendments dealt with the following:

Constitutional Amendment #1 dealt with the duties of the International officers that were in the Constitution, and more correctly placed them into Bylaws and Policies. This amendment also allowed the Nominating Committee to be altered and moved its duties to Bylaws and Policies.

Constitutional Amendment #2 dealt with the Delegates’ Meeting at the International Rally. This change separates the voting for new International officers from the traditional Delegates Meeting. The voting will now be done prior to the International rally and allows it to be done electronically.

Constitutional Amendment #3 dealt with how to make Constitutional changes. It clarified that a change requires a 2/3 vote and moves the mechanics of approving the change to Policy.

The International Board of Trustees (IBT) also met at the International Rally. The IBT essentially consists of the International officers and the Region presidents. The following were voted in by the IBT:

1. Revising the Marketing Committee’s roles and responsibilities now that we have hired a WBCCI Marketing Communications Manager.
2. A policy revision for the printed and digital directory to now include all members names, region, local club, and big red number (BRN). Note that one can still opt out of permitting use of one’s personal contact information.



Region 1 News ... *Continued*

3. A revision of the Airstream number assignment policy providing a consistent manner of reassigning numbers to members in senior WBCCI leadership roles.
4. A policy revision that provides guidelines for qualifications and responsibilities of the Region President's position. Most notably, it allows the votes of Members-at-Large to be cast through the Region President at a Delegates' Meeting.
5. Consistent with the housekeeping of the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies revisions, the Long-Range Planning Committee chair and member requirements were moved from Policy to Bylaws.
6. As part of the housekeeping of the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies by the Delegates, who had removed the International officers' duties out of the Constitution, they are now more appropriately placed into Bylaws by the IBT.
7. Another housekeeping revision places the duties of the International officers into the Bylaws section.
8. A new bylaw establishes a ten member standing Nominating Committee. The original three member Nominating Committee had been removed from the Constitution at the Delegates' Meeting. This will expand the scope of the club's search for qualified candidates.
9. A new policy that establishes the duties of the International President by providing a summary of the qualifications and his/her responsibilities.
10. A new bylaw clarifies that the Delegates' Meeting will only need to be held when a Constitutional amendment is being considered. The name of the Delegates' Meeting will now be "Constitutional Delegates' Meeting". This was made possible by the amended Constitution that moved the election of International officers from the Delegates' Meeting to a direct membership vote.
11. "Constitutional Delegates' Meeting" will now appear throughout the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies as appropriate.
12. A policy that presents a revised path and timeline for evaluation and informing the Membership of any proposed Constitutional amendment.
13. A bylaw revision that establishes the right of any member (Regular or Member-at-Large) to affiliate with any local club in WBCCI.
14. Revised policy expanding the Heritage Number Program to honor those who were participants in the 1956 European Caravan along with those who have already been honored by the other two major caravans those being the Around the World Caravan and the Cape Town to Cairo Caravan.
15. Ratification of a policy stipulating that proof of a COVID vaccination, or exemption from vaccination, may not be used as a prerequisite for attendance at any official WBCCI event. WBCCI will continue to be guided by CDC guidelines and local recommendations.

Your Region One Officers, Doug Hart, Bard Fuller and RJ Dominic, meet monthly to discuss how we can improve our Airstream club experience. Should you have any questions or comments on how we can serve you better please contact any one of us. By the way, Doug will be completing his term of office next summer and over the next several months we will be looking for other enthusiastic club members to be considered in guiding the region over the next several years. Please consider "throwing your name into the ring" or suggest a fellow Airstreamer from your local club to be a potential region officer.



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

September 2021

Helpful

LINKS

[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"](#)

It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong. ~ Thomas Sowell

Puzzled?

Below are links to the puzzles in the 2021 Directory?

[State Park Word Search Solution](#)

[Members Names Solution](#)

[Airstream Crossword](#)

[Connecticut Crossword](#)

The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible, no matter whether it is on a section gang, a football field, in an army, or in an office. ~ Dwight D. Eisenhower



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.](#)



The ACI 2022 Membership Renewal season has started

International dues are \$75.00

Charter Oak CT dues are \$15.00

Renew on line: airstreamclub.org

The primary member MUST be logged into the Member-Only portal. This also applies to Lifetime Members and you can now renew your Affiliate dues on line through the Member-Only portal.

The deadline to be included in the Annual Printed Membership Directory is December 31, 2021.

Follow directions on page 10.

September

| | |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 09/01 | Sandie St. Laurent |
| 09/07 | Lynn Davis |
| 09/11 | Wayne & Susan Rutty |
| 09/12 | R J Dominic |
| 09/15 | Cynthia & Michael Brodeur |
| 09/17 | Jeanne Blandford |
| 09/20 | Mary Rosenbach |
| 09/22 | Bill & Sandra Flood |
| 09/22 | Debbie & Bob Hendrick |
| 09/23 | Pam Forsyth |
| 09/23 | Mark & Marie Lupien |
| 09/28 | Gail Rich |
| 09/28 | Michael & Lianne Rutty |
| 09/29 | Dick Wheatley |
| 09/30 | Per Hamnqvist |

October

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 10/02 | Howard Jones |
| 10/03 | Dan & Karen Olah |
| 10/03 | Carl Davis |
| 10/03 | Bard & Kathy Fuller |
| 10/04 | Eileen Allers |
| 10/04 | Wiley Downing |
| 10/07 | Bill Flood |
| 10/08 | Gene Hickey & Charlotte LaRocca |
| 10/08 | Mark Lupien |
| 10/09 | Serafina M. Bachar |
| 10/10 | Eddie Carll |
| 10/10 | Raymond & Cynthia Richard |
| 10/10 | Billy & Julie Steers |
| 10/11 | Jim & Stacy Reck |
| 10/11 | Pat & Betsy Flanagan |
| 10/12 | Dick Bartram |
| 10/12 | Niels Rosenbeck |
| 10/18 | Billy Steers |
| 10/21 | Susan Rutty |
| 10/21 | Kit Wheatley |
| 10/22 | William & Evelyn Watts |
| 10/24 | Gail Downing |
| 10/27 | Bob Landry |
| 10/27 | Michael Rutty |
| 10/29 | Paulette Jensen |

Connecticut Chatter

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

What did you think?

No country, you pass west of the entire continent.

What do you call?

A group of dogs is called a pack, mute or kennel!



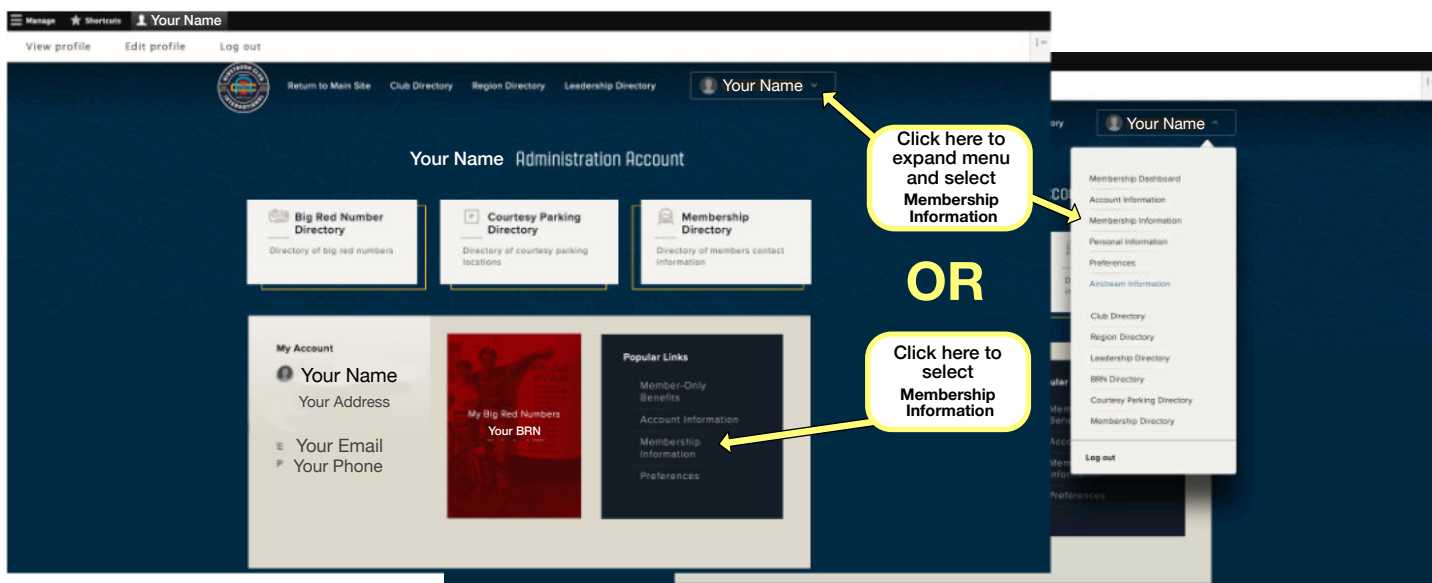
Renew Your Membership

<https://airstreamclub.org>

1: Log in to your account

You will then be in **Members Only Portal**

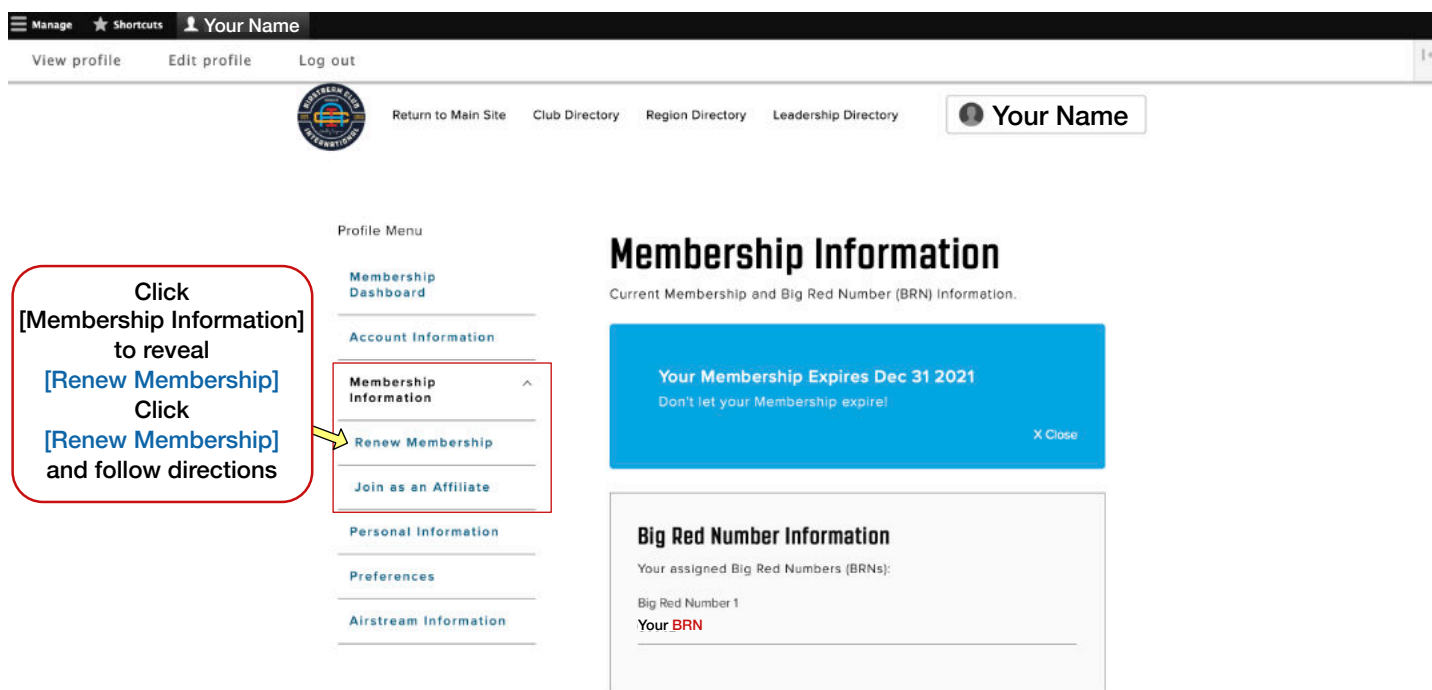
2: Click on [Membership Information]



On Membership Information Page

3: Click to expand [Membership Information] menu.

4: Click [Renew Membership] Then follow Instructions



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



We Almost Made it to Quebec Rally

Sept. 17-19

Crown Point Campground

131 Bishop Camp Rd

Perkinsville, Vt



Come join us (the Rousseaus and Lessigs) for a fun fall rally.

It's a beautiful campground in a lovely area of Vermont.

Friday- Arrive after 2 pm.

5:00 Hearty Happy Hour- French Crudite and Charcuterie platter supplied. Other foods brought by participants.

Saturday- 7:30 Coffee/tea provided

8:00 Assorted quiches and croissants chaudes (quiche and hot croissants)

avec beurre et confitures (with butter and jam) et fruit.

Spend the day discovering new places but return at 3:00 if you want to learn how to play Petanque. It's a fun game played around the world.

5:00 Gather for conversation and sharing. Light snacks and une salade verte (a green salad) to be enjoyed, provided by your hosts.

6:00 Souper (supper) boeuf bourguignon (beef stew), baguettes et beurre (bread and butter) Pour desert (for dessert)- les crepes fameux de Gilles- (Gilles' famous crepes) avec confitures, crème frappe and sucre poudre. (with jam, whipped cream and powdered sugar)

Sunday- 7:30 Coffee/tea provided

8:00 Pot luck breakfast. Departure by noon.

Please make arrangements (\$45/night) with the campground (802-263-5555) on your own but **email Joyce (joycezr68@gmail.com) or Christine (cjohnstonlessig@gmail.com) of your reservation.** Tell the the office that you're with the Airstream group. Kitty fee of \$15 per person will be collected at the campground. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Laissez le bon temps rouler! (Let the good times roll!)