



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

Club No: 25

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

May 2022

President's Message

by Russ Fuller



The forsythia is in bloom, cherry blossoms on the New Haven green, daffodils in Meriden, and the highway is full of RV's on the move. It must mean that the camping season is back in swing here in the northeast. We look forward seeing and hearing all the great adventures of those who winter in the south as they return to Connecticut.

The Dubrowskis and Lessigs have a wonderful agenda of activities set for the May Chili Cook-Off Rally at Charlie Browns CG in Eastford, CT. We will have our Annual Spring Business Meeting at 9 a.m. on Saturday (agenda emailed separately).

There are many important things happening with the club at every level:

→ International is looking for our vote to amend two very important constitutional bylaw changes. *(The COCAC unit will conduct electronic polling of all members May 16th through May 19th on these two International amendments – please look for the future email request to participate with your vote)*

→ The Airstream Club's IBT also recommends the deletion of Constitutional Delegates Meeting from the WBCCI Constitution. *"With the use of modern technologies these votes can be done by our membership from their home computer rather than sending a delegate in person to each international meeting"*

→ The Airstream Club's International Board of Trustees (IBT) Recommends a New Leadership Model

Continued page 2

Venturing to new lands



The Wally Byam Caravan Club International has been around since the 1950s, and in the 1970s and 80s they held numerous rallies and caravans around the world. In 1985, a caravan of Airstreamers made Airstream history by traveling through China for the very first time.



What Do You Think

What do you call a group of owls?

I'm light as a feather, but not even the strongest person can hold me for more than 5 minutes. What am I?

Answers Page 8

Link of the Month



Our Crazy Airstream Adventure



Presidents Message Continued

“The WBCCI has done a reassessment of its leadership effectiveness as part of its long-range planning process. The turnover of a one-year presidency to a new administration was found to be counterproductive to the club’s goals. In the previous seventy years of our club’s existence our four international officers were elected by the membership and rose in rank through the vice president offices to become president for a one-year term. This term concluded at an International Rally.

Though this had served the club well in its early years, it has shown to be inadequate in our present more complex club having more diverse needs, desires, and possibilities. At this year’s mid-winter International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting we concluded to recommend to the club membership a change in the executive leadership model. The recommendation is that there be an Executive Council made up primarily of 9 members elected by our membership and the immediate past president. The Executive Council would have these 10 voting members and, along with the 12 voting Region presidents, comprise the voting component of the IBT. It would then be up to the full IBT to choose, from the elected Executive Council members, the best individual to serve as the club’s president.

The Executive Council members would be elected for two-year terms. This council would likely be comprised of members that would have special skill sets who would not necessarily have any aspirations to be the club’s president. We could also benefit from one exceptional person serving as our president for up to four years. This would provide more continuity than what is currently provided with our annual changing of the guard. This council (board) approach is a time-tested leadership model for most non-profit organizations, corporations, and many town governments.”

Further Resources on this Constitutional Change Blue Beret, April issue pages 18-19

Airstream Club Website https://airstreamclub.org/EC_Restructure_Proposal

- Region 1 election of officers for the next two years (Bio’s of nominees were published in the February Chatter)
- COCAC unit will be hearing the report and proposal to move forward with an online registration and payment system
- Along with a few other issues that will set a path forward to the fall and beyond.

Look for rally information for our June “Summer Fun Rally” at Waters Edge CG in Lisbon, CT. Bard and Kathy will be hosting this event. We will rebate a portion of the camping fee if we get 10 or more camping rigs.

It appears we will have about 30 camping units – about 24 gathering to caravan in together allowing us all to park together at the International Rally in Maine. I would anticipate many gatherings related to Region 1 and many other special interest events.

We will be celebrating the COCAC 50th Anniversary + Covid 1 (the anniversary was in 2021) while in Fryeburg, ME.

The Nor’East to Nova Scotia Caravan is full with a waitlist started. Trevor has been getting the last arraignments made for our travels. For those committed to it there have been several recent emails requesting information along with information on crossing the border.

There are over two dozen other rallies happening this upcoming summer here in Region 1 and just over the border in New York state. Remember you can attend any event with any unit you wish, Rhona and I are planning on attending events with the Cape Cod, Metro New York, and Hudson Mohawk units this year.

See you down the road for Fun, Friendship and Adventure! ~ Russ



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May 2022



by Sandy Sasuta

Welcome

Moe & Jason Pershinsky - **17234** Newtown, CT
 Carmine & Susan Ciccarelli - **3994** Tolland, CT
 Jo-Ann & Harold Shettles - **8397** Lyme, CT
 Bob & Andrea Curran - **2025** West Islip, NY Affiliate
 Steven & Pattie Muise - **15480** Manchester, CT

Time for us snow birds to head back North...overall, It's been a good winter. Now we invite you all to join us for a great camping season. You still have time to sign up for the May 13, 2022, rally in Eastford, CT (see flyer). Wishing **Ken Hankinson** a smooth recovery from his recent eye surgery.



Scott, Kathy and Rich Kushman enjoying a visit.



Petrie family loving the warm Florida sun. Matthew, Elena, Evelyn, Dylan, Rick, Olivia and Beth



Max marching at the happiest place on Earth!



Sandy and Valerie Sasuta with Mike's brother Ken.

Florida happenings:

The Kushman's grandson, Max Stormann marched with the Londonderry, NH, High School Band at the Magic Kingdom, what a great experience. Rich & Kath camped at Fort Wilderness and enjoyed Disney World with family.

Our daughter, Valerie Sasuta, visited for a week, also the Petrie's family and the Kushman's son, Scott enjoyed Florida. It's so enjoyable to share visitors during the winter.

2022, rally in Wales, MA, happens to be at the same time of the world famous Brimfield Flea Market with 20 individually owned show fields, so be sure to reserve your site early as you don't want to miss out.

Camping jokes: Why don't mummies go camping? They're afraid to relax & unwind.

Where do sheep go camping? The Baahamas.

See you soon! ~ Sandy

Heads Up: The September 9-11,



Last hurrah before heading north, burgers dogs and fixens at the Sasuta's. Rick & Beth Petrie, Marie & Mark Lupien, Michael Sasuta, Lois & Ted Price, Rich & Kathy Kushman, Gail & Wiley Downing.



Historic National Road East

Old National Road - East "The Road That Built A Nation"

The National Road was one of the first infrastructure projects undertaken by a young, vigorous United States in 1806. In our colonial years, and the time after the American Revolution, building a road in the western territories meant two things: cut the trees down to clear a path wide enough for a wagon to fit between the trees, and, cut the trees low enough to the ground so the wagon axles could pass over the stumps. Old National Road East travels from the Baltimore MD area to Washington, PA.

Join Dick & Kit Wheatley on a brand new caravan along historic roads in America.

by Kit & Dick Wheatley

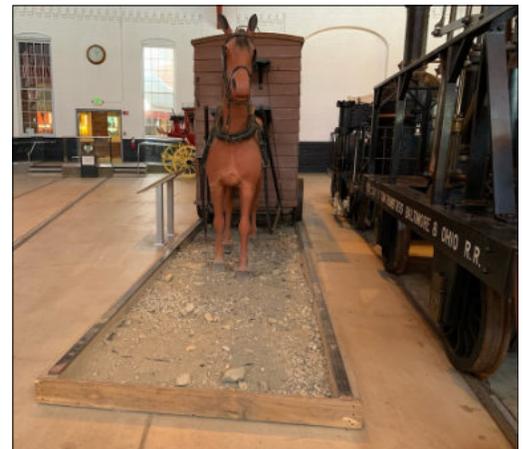
After 5 nights on the road, we have arrived in Woodbine, Maryland, home base for the National Road in the East caravan. It's chilly, the low predicted to be at freezing, +/- . Grateful for a good furnace and a warm down comforter. The picture - well, we've all been there. You come to realize the fridge isn't as cold as it should be. It fact, it isn't cold at all! We couldn't let those mini Klondikes go to waste!

We found we already knew 4-5 couples from other caravans including Kathi and Ken Mitchell, old friends of 28 years from the White Mtns Unit.

*Fort Necessity
Washington's first loss began the French and Indian War. Looking at the fort, reminds me of hiding under our desks thinking "They really think this is gonna work?"*



The Irish Railroad Workers museum, the first rail car was pulled by a horse.



National Roads Continued page 5

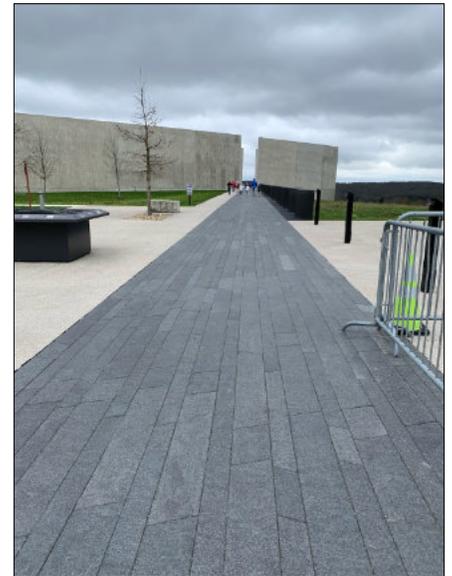


Historic National Road Caravan

Continued

We are finishing our first week on the Old National Roads Caravan. As way of background, the road runs for 621 miles from Baltimore, MD, to Vandalia, IL, (to the East of St. Louis). Construction began in 1811 and it follows the military road opened by George Washington and General Braddock in 1754-1755.

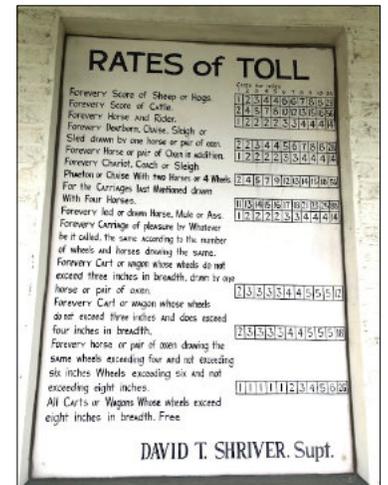
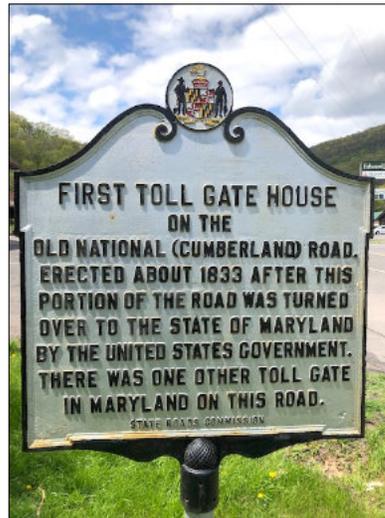
We started in Baltimore on Saturday by visiting the Irish Railroad Workers' Museum, the B&O Railroad Museum, a boat tour of Baltimore harbor on Sunday and today we visited the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. Tomorrow we move onto Washington, PA. Below are pictures of an old toll booth along the route. Many of the towns along the road have narrow streets thru them, houses are built close to the driving lane. ~



This is the flight path of Flight 93 that crashed into a field in PA on 9/11. It's also the entrance to the memorial and resting place of all on the plane. A sobering walk, for sure.



The young man in the railroad outfit is 18 and a steam engine encyclopedia. He has 4 years under his belt restoring "all things railroad" in Cumberland, MD. His shop depends on volunteers, donations, running summer rides and Polar Express rides. The visit was worth it, just to listen to him.



Check the Connecticut Newsletter as we follow Dick & Kit Wheatley along the Historic National Road - East.



Region 1 Rally

by Joyce Rousseau 8988 and Region 1 Recording Secretary

It was about the coldest weekend possible in NH, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the 12 Charter Oak members who attended the Region 1 Rally in Sandwich. (See the photo for names and faces!) It was an "off" year, so the group was small, but the food and camaraderie were evident throughout. Happy Hours and the Pot luck super left no one hungry and the special entertainment on Saturday night, the Starlight Honeys, were great to hear and even to dance to! Ask Bill and Evie sometime. The site was fine and traveling to the unique Moultonborough Store and Museum (strongly recommended by Joyce) was only 15 minutes down the road. The Van der Voorts were able to visit their "old" home area in Meredith, Joyce and Gilles found an impressive covered bridge, and others were able to hike and enjoy the great views and a state liquor store or two. We met old friends and made some new ones among the 30 units that attended. Doug Hart- Region 1 President, ran the business meeting Saturday morning and had Bard and Per Hamnqvist (2nd Int VP) explain the constitutional changes that will come up for a vote in July. Read the April Blue Beret to get more info



The group of hardy COCAC members who braved the cold and windy temps in Sandwich, NH for the Region 1 Rally.

Left to right: Joyce Rousseau, Maren (Dave's sister), Dave Jensen, Gilles Rousseau, Bill Watts, Lynn Davis, Carl Davis, Deni Van der Voort, Mark Van der Voort, Evie Watts, Kathy Fuller and Bard Fuller.



Gilles and Dave making pancakes- each one uniquely shaped. (Joyce made the batter earlier.)



Bard Fuller- Region One -1st VP, Doug Hart- Region 1 President, Lydia Hart- Doug's wife, Kathy Fuller and Gilles Rousseau, enjoying lunch and more importantly, Lindt truffles, provided by NEAC. Doug is holding a bowl of empty wrappers provided by the others at the table.

Region Rally continued page 7



Region 1 Rally *Continued*

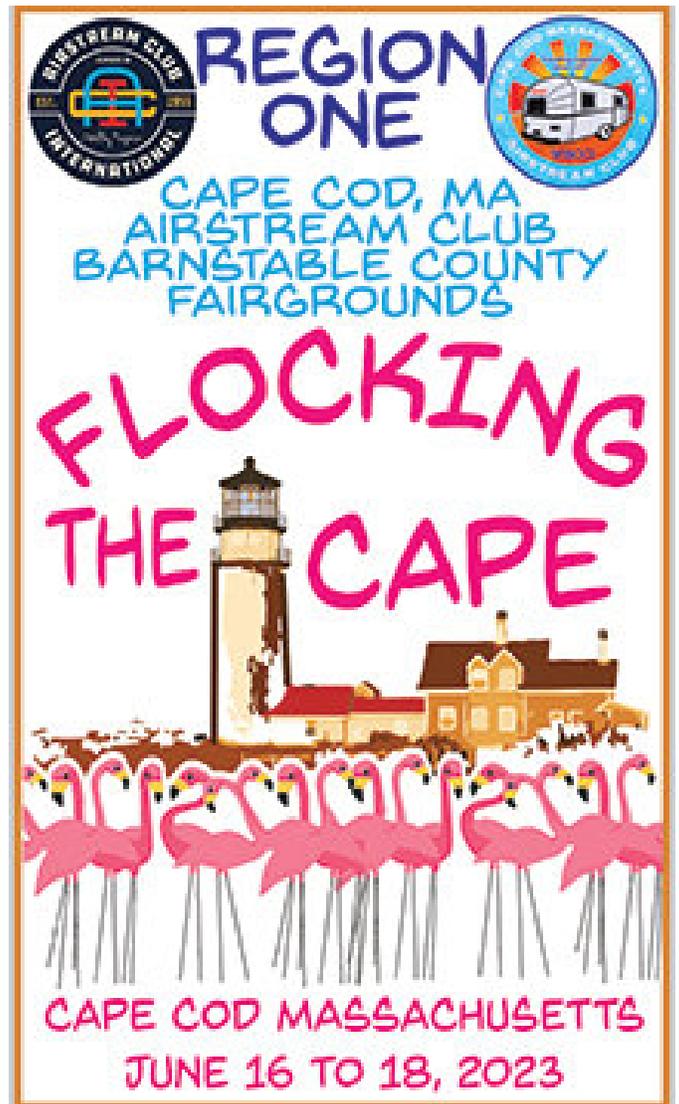
on these important proposed changes. All who attended did a good job facing the elements with only a couple frozen lines and bent flag poles - but after all, we are Airstreamers!!

Thanks to Doug Hart and the members of the New England Airstream Club and their friends who helped make this year's Region 1 Rally a success! ~

*Plan Ahead
Watch for info.*



Joyce getting the hash browns ready.



COCAC flag on display on the Rousseau's camper during one of the less windy, and sunny, times.

The Cape Cod MA Airstream Club is proud to be sponsoring the 2023 Region 1 Rally.



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May 2022

Helpful LINKS

Airstream Club International	Charter Oak on Facebook	Campsite Photos	State Park Guide
Connecticut Airstream Club	Courtesy Parking	Exits & Highways	Tin Can Tourists
Russ's Spring Checklist	Airstream USA	Passport America	"Let's Just Go"
Airstream Supply	Air Forums	Region One ACI	
ACI Resource Center	AllStays Camping	Reserve America	
Blue Beret Magazine		RV Park Reviews	



Upcoming... Birthdays - Anniversaries

May	
05/01	Bard Fuller
05/03	Joyce Rousseau
05/04	Susan Stahley
05/05	John J. & Serafina M. Bachar
05/06	Gilles Rousseau
05/07	Debbie Hendrick
05/09	Stacy Reck
05/14	David & Paulette Jensen
05/15	Jerry Jackson
05/15	Michael Brodeur
05/16	David Jensen
05/16	Grace Fuller
05/17	Raymond Richard
05/20	Donald & Eileen Allers
05/21	William Watts
05/26	Richard & Kathleen Kushman
05/26	Ted & Lois Price
05/26	Bruce & Deborah Hawley
05/28	Wiley & Gail Downing
05/31	Michael & Sandy Sasuta

June	
06/01	Fred & Dale McGoldrick
06/02	J. Rick Cipot & Sandi Gould
06/04	Dyann & Robert Calder
06/07	Per & Lilli Hamnqvist
06/08	Russ & Rhona Fuller
06/09	Kenneth Volpe
06/12	Jack & Jeanne Blandford
06/17	Sally Pascale
06/18	Evelyn Amick
06/18	Chris & Carol Dubrowski
06/20	Russ Fuller
06/24	Betsy Flanagan
06/25	Trevor & Gale Lake
06/25	Guy & Laura Weik
06/27	Evelyn Watts
06/27	Toni Nolder
06/27	Kenneth & Maria Volpe
06/28	Roland & Sandie St. Laurent
06/30	Niels & Lydia Rosenbeck

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

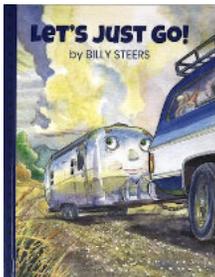
Atheism is a non-Prophet organization.

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

Upcoming Events

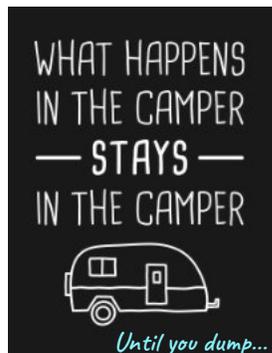
May	May 13 - 15, 2022	Chili Cook-Off X 2 Rally and Meeting
		Charlie Brown CG, Eastford, CT Lessig & Dubrowski
June	Jun 10 - 12, 2022	Watch for more information.
		White Pines CG Barkhamsted CT Bard Fuller & Dave Morrison
July	Jul 8 - 10, 2022	Lobsterfest
		Riverside Marina CG, Portland, CT The Fuller Families
July	Jul 23 - 29, 2022	ACI International Rally
		Fryberg, ME (early parking for some 7-17) ACI
July	Jul 30 - 8/17, 2022	Nor-east Nova Scotia Caravan
		Explore the North East Lake & R Fuller
September	Sep 9 - 11, 2022	Fall is in the Air Rally
		Oak Haven Campground, Wales Mass Wiley & Gail Downing
September	Sep 23 - 25, 2022	Old Time Fiesta Rally and Meeting
		Bald Mountain CG, Townshend, VT Bill & Evie Watts
October	Oct 14 - 16, 2022	Fall Foliage Rendezvous
		Brook N Wood CG, Elizaville, NY Russ & Rhona Fuller
December	Sun, Dec 11, 2022	Holiday Party
		TBD



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.](#)



What do you call?

A group of owls is called a parliament.

What did you think?

Your breath.

Connecticut Chatter

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

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



Friday May 13 - Sunday May 15

Charlie Brown Campground
98 Chaplin Rd. , Eastford, CT

2nd Annual - Chili Cook Off Rally

Visit New and Old Charter Oak Friends

Bike the Connecticut Airline Trail

Hike in Natchaug State Forest

Explore "The Last Green Valley"

Compete in the Chili Cook-Off Contest

Corn Hole Tournament

Enjoy our covered Pavilion with campfire ring

Hosted by: Carol & Chris Dubrowski / Christine & Glen Lessig

Join us for our first Rally of the season - 2nd Annual **CHILI COOK OFF RALLY!** This Rally will be held in the beautiful Natchaug Forest at the Charlie Brown campground in northeastern Connecticut. We will have exclusive use of one of the Charlie Brown pavilions with covered picnic tables and a center fireplace.

Two nights \$126.00/unit (Water, 30 A.) Kitty Fee \$10/adult.

- 6 PM Friday Heavy Happy Hour
- 7:00 PM Friday Campfire
- 8 AM Saturday - Full Breakfast
- 5:30 PM Chili Cook-Off
- 8 PM Campfire
- 8 AM Sunday - Full Breakfast

Online Registration

[Click here to join the rally.](#)

Payment details will be forwarded prior to the Rally. If you have questions contact chrisdubrowski@gmail.com

Online Registration now available

Join us Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club Share Your Smile

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Lobsters at the Marina Rally



July 8-10, 2022

Riverside Marina, Portland, CT

Hosts: “The Fuller Brothers”: Bard & Russ along with Kathy & Rhona

Back by popular demand - rally of the year. This site is a great location, right on the Connecticut River at an active marina. All the sites are under large shade trees and many have water views. All sites have water and electric (minimum of 20 amp). The unit tent will be on the waterfront. Rest rooms and showers are available at the marina office. Great location for kayaking or canoeing. Pet friendly!

Note, No dump station available.

Limited to only 13 sites.

Friday - Arrive after 1:30 pm, 4:30 Happy hour, Dinner on your own, 8:00 Campfire.

Saturday – Coffee on at 7:00, Breakfast potluck starts at 8:00, 4:30 Happy hour,

Russ’s Awesome Lobster Bake or Chicken dinners 6:00pm, 8:00 Campfire

Sunday – Coffee on at 7:00, Continental Breakfast starts at 8:00. Depart by Noon

Directions: From Hartford or Old Saybrook take Rt. 9 to Middletown then Rt 66 East over the Arrigoni Bridge. At the Intersection of 17A turn Right and continue on Rt 66 for 0.8 mile (4th traffic light). Take Right onto Grove St.. Go 0.4 mile. Right on Riverview Rd.. Go 0.2 mile. On your left is the “Riverside Marina” (there are several marinas make sure you are at “Riverside Marina”). Go through marina, look for silver. From Rt 2 in Marlborough, Ct. travel Rt 66 West 11.9 miles to Grove St. Take a left then follow above.

Name _____	WBCCI # _____	Example: 2 persons/ camping rig
Email for updates _____		
Camping Fee for 2 night weekend with water & electric	\$80.00 _____	Camping = \$80.00
Kitty fee \$7.50 per adult (< 12 free) Number of adults _____	X \$7.50 = _____	2 X \$7.50 = \$15.00
Number of Saturday evening Lobster Bakes _____	X \$30.00= _____	2 X 30.00 = \$60.00
Number of Saturday evening Chicken Dinners _____	X \$8.00 = _____	0 X \$8.00 = _____
	Total = _____	Total = \$155.00



Please contact Bard Fuller at bardfuller@hotmail.com or Russ Fuller at rfuller1745@att.net for information.

Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/220163273559153>

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OUTDOOR MYSTIC ART FESTIVAL RALLY

AUGUST 12-15, 2022

NEAC-SPONSORED RALLY



Location: **Sun Outdoors Mystic RV Resort and Campground**
45 Camp Ground Rd., Old Mystic, CT 06372

<https://www.sunoutdoors.com/connecticut/sun-outdoors-mystic>

Rally schedule:

- Friday 4:30 pm BYOB happy hour with heavy appetizer potluck
- Sat 7:30 am coffee and hot beverages, 8:30 am full breakfast will be served (bring your own set up)
- The Mystic Outdoor Art Festival Saturday 10 am – 6 pm, and Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm
- Sat pm dinner on your own at one of the many wonderful restaurants in and around downtown Mystic, then gather around the bonfire starting at 7 pm
- Sun 8 am, coffee, hot beverages, and products from local bakeries.
- Sun pm, for those staying overnight, a group dinner at a local restaurant is likely – details tbd

Information about the art festival, including map: [Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce - Mystic Outdoor Art Festival \(google.com\)](#). Also, lots to see and do while in Mystic, CT! Seaport, Aquarium, kayaking, bicycling, hiking trails, pool at the campground, restaurants, shopping, microbreweries, wineries, and more!

To reserve your RV site, CALL or email DIRECTLY and mention you are part of the Airstream Club Rally.

Mikayla Grier, Asst Resort Manager
(207)245-6911

mgrier@suncommunities.com

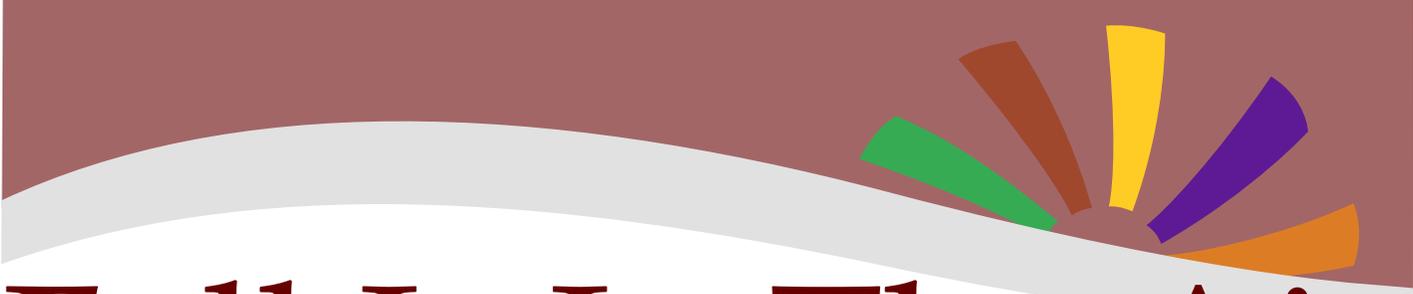
They will honor a 20% discount off listed rates between August 12-15, 2022 for our rally attendees. **Twenty campsites (15 pull through and 5 back in) are being held for this rally until April 15th**, after which time they become open the public and you can take a chance getting one.

Map of sites: <https://www.sunoutdoors.com/resourcefiles/resortmapimages/seaport-spo-site-map.jpg>

A **\$5 per adult** kitty fee will be collected **upon arrival** as your contribution to one full breakfast, morning beverages each day, local bakery pastries/donuts on Sunday am, firewood, and ice for happy hour beverages.

Rally registration: As soon as you have reserved your site, please send Tess an email with your name(s), mobile phone #, site #, BigRedNumber, and days you are staying. Questions? **Tess McShane at (860) 536-4113, suzzypoi@gmail.com**

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Fall Is In The Air

Fall Is In The Air Rally Sept 9 - 11 2022

Oak Haven Family Campground in Wales, MA

Hosted by: Wiley and Gail Downing & Jerry and Colleen Ahlers

30 amp electric, water, dump station

Tell them you are part of the Airstream Group in Pratt Safari Field

Rate is \$52 per night a 10% discount taken if more than 10 trailers attend.

No deposit required but reservations must be made no later than Aug 31st, payment in full is due upon check-in.

Check in time is 2:00 pm. A \$15 card fee will be taken at check in but returned at check out with key return.

Kitty Fee is \$13.00 per person over 12—Will be collected at the rally

Friday: Arrive anytime after 2:00 PM - Happy Hour 5:00PM

Saturday:

8:15 am Breakfast - Ahlers (MNYAC) Potluck Breakfast. Host supplies coffee, tea, and juice.

5:00 Happy Hour— Beverage only no appetizers - large meal to follow

6:00 Dinner— Downing's (COCAC) Italian night - Salad, pasta, meatballs, sausage, bread and butter, topped off with ice cream around the campfire.

Sunday:

8:15 am - Continental breakfast. Hosts will supply, coffee, tea and juice.

Register for the rally via JotForms <https://form.jotform.com/220793838151157>

once you have made your camping reservations with the campground.

Campground Reservations made directly with the campground 413-245-7148.

Remind them you are part of the Airstream Group

The well known Brimfield Flea Market is just 5 miles up the road. If you collect something they will have something for everyone. Old Sturbridge Village is a living museum of life in New England village in the 1830's, St. Anne's Shrine, Basketball Hall of Fame, and the US Armory Museum are also close by.