



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

Club No: 25

December 2022

Presidents Message

by Carol Dubrowski



Putting the numbers on our van shortly after we joined the club.

Chris and I were proud to receive our first five-year Airstream Club star this fall. In our family, the Airstream bug skipped a generation. My grandparents were enthusiastic WBCCI members; grandpa Bieger was a Region President in Arizona! They were always telling crazy stories about their adventures with their club friends, I still remember some of those names. Even though we did some pop-up trailer camping when I was a kid, my parents did not venture into the Airstream club/cult. But Chris and I remembered how much fun my grandparents seemed to have with their Airstream club friends, so when Chris retired, we decided to give the Airstream experience a go. We

Continued page 2



“And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.” ~ Dr. Seuss



William Lemke - Christmas Airstream
Abel Contemporary Gallery

What Do You Think

If you decide to be indecisive, which are you?

Why did the little boy cry when he opened his gift?

Answers Page 7

Link of the Month



Airstream's 2022 Holiday Gift Guide

Holiday Gift Guide



Presidents Message

[Continued](#)

decided to go with the Interstate motor coach instead of a trailer. Grandpa Bieger would have been puzzled, but if he had seen it, he would have understood and approved (I think). We even named it after his trailer, "Hav 'n fun". We love camping in it, and it is great for seeing the country, but what we found, to our surprise, was how much we enjoyed the Airstream community. We have made many new friends and heard so many great stories. We look forward to the year ahead of meeting new members and camping and playing together.

Although we love our home in Wilton, the winter months find us mostly in Arizona where we bought a home a few years ago. It allows us to be near my parents and siblings. It has been nice to be able to spend time with my aging parents and to be able to be a part of their support team, which is continually expanding.

Thanks to Don and Eileen Allers for hosting the Christmas luncheon this year. We are sorry to miss it; we live five minutes from their house but will be 2,500 miles away in Arizona. It is great to have several social gatherings to attend during our non-camping season. January will be a quiet month, but February offers Gilles and Joyce's Souper Bowl Party and Russ and Rhona's St. Patrick's Day Party in March. Please attend!

Enjoy the holiday season with family and friends! ~

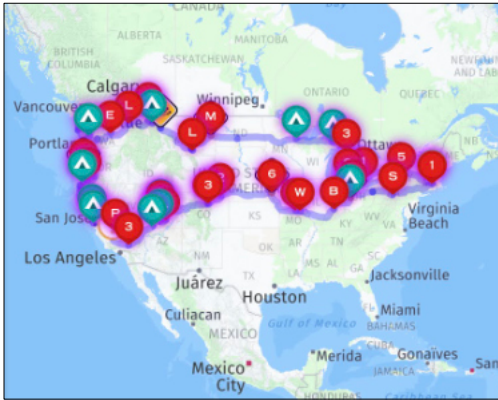


Grandparents Les and Helen Bieger enthusiastic Airstreamers "Hav-N-Fun".



"I've made each of you a copy of my Christmas list so we can review it and find out what went wrong."

Event Schedule			
December	Sat, Dec 17, 2022	Holiday Party 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Sign Up On Line
	Wilton, CT	Don & Eileen Allers	
February	Sun, Feb 12, 2023	Souper Bowl Luncheon North	Flyer On Line
	Southbury, CT	Gilles & Joyce Rousseau	
February	Sun, Feb 12, 2023	Souper Bowl Luncheon South	
	Travelers Rest Resort - Dade City, FL	Kathy Kushman & Sandy Sasuta	
March	Sun, Mar 12, 2023	St Patrick's Day Luncheon	
	Southington, CT	Russ & Rhona Fuller	
May	May 19 - 21, 2023	Maintenance Rally and Spring Meeting	
	Riverside Marina, Portland, CT	Russ & Bard Fuller	
June	Jun 2 - 4, 2023	Explore the Monadnock Region	
	Shir-Roy Campground, Richmond, NH	Lessigs & Steers	
June	Jun 15 - 18, 2023	Region 1 Rally Flocking the Cape	
	Barnstable County Fairground, Falmouth, MA	Cape Cod Unit	
June	Jun 23 - 31, 2023	ACI International Rally	
	Rock Springs, WY	ACI	
July	Jul 14 - 16, 2023	Rally, Christmas in July	
	Crown Point, Vermont	Watts/French	
August	Aug 11 - 13, 2023	Rally	
	Grand View Campground, Moodus, CT	Wiley & Gail Downing	
September	Sep 22 - 24, 2023	Rally - Fall Meeting	
	Traveler's Wood, Bernardstown, MA	Sasuta/Dubrowski	



Lessig Northwest Roadtrip - Part 1

On August 17 we set out on our long-planned National Park Road trip. Our agenda was to visit National Parks in the Northwest and to visit with family and friends along the way. Our route took us through Michigan, North Dakota, Montana, California, Utah, and then east. We thoroughly enjoyed our amazing, incredible, awesome trip, often running out of descriptive adjectives to describe our experience.

One of our first stops was in Chatham-Kent, Ontario, with friends we had met in South Carolina at a Carolinas Club Rally last winter. Lindy and Neal offered us Courtesy Parking and we took full advantage of their generous hospitality. We had a great evening and thoroughly enjoyed socializing with our Canadian friends.

Utilizing RV TripWizard Christine planned and booked our trip to include eleven National Parks. Our trip west was Northwest through Ontario, Michigan, and North Dakota with the Canadian end the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park in Alberta, Canada.



Neal and Liddy Wilson. Chatham-Kent, ON, Airstream friends.

Waterton Lakes is a gorgeous, outstanding beauty as the prairies of Alberta meet the Rocky Mountains. Great large campground able to handle large trailers, and a cozy waterfront town to enjoy. Waterton-Glacier was the first International Peace Park, The park straddles the International border and symbolizes the goodwill and cooperation between Canada and the United States. We thoroughly enjoyed the views, hiking, and the hospitable town.

Heading south back through Montana we camped for three nights at Fish Creek Campground in Glacier National Park, a nice campground with small sites. Glacier NP is absolutely beautiful, with incredible vistas. We



Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, Alberta CN. Sunrise on Bertha Peak.

signed up for a day-long “Red Bus” tour, that traverses the park on the incredible 50-mile Going-to-the-Sun road. This was an exceptional tour with great views from the open-air buses along the twisty road finished in 1932. The next stop was an interesting and charming Harvest Host, (our third HH on this trip) Riley Creek Blueberry Farm, Laclede, Idaho. Fun evening, the hosts were very warm, and we picked a gallon or so of blueberries to enjoy and share with friends. We then headed to our second “Courtesy Parking”, in Ephrata, WA. Roger and Bonnie were wonderful hosts, they have been Airstreamers for many years with an impressively polished 1961 Tradewind in their garage. Enjoyable to learn the local history and current issues with local residents, we need to take advantage of “Courtesy Parking” opportunities more often.

Continued page 2



1936 White Motor Co. reconditioned open-air buses, great way to tour Glacier.



Lessig Northwest Roadtrip - Part 1 *Continued*



Glacier NP. view from Going-to-the-Sun-Road.

Packwood was closed. This was the only wildfire activity that we experienced, except of course for the ugly and disheartening damage of previous fire activity.

Arrived in Olympia, WA at the Washington Land Yacht Harbor, an interesting parking lot style, Airstream-only campground, and community. This was our jumping-off point to explore the great cities Olympia and Seattle. We enjoyed the waterfronts and the restaurants in both. Our next stop was Olympic NP, we enjoyed the day traveling along the shore



Lake Crescent, beautiful deep blue, crystal clear lake.

of Puget Sound, a gorgeous country. Our first campground in Olympic NP was Fairholm Campground on crystal clear Lake Crescent. We swam and kayaked in this 600-foot deep lake, known for its crystal clear and brilliant blue water. Our second Olympic NP campground was Hoh Rain Forest. Another gorgeous camp-

ground on the Hoh River, nestled in old-growth Sitka Spruce and Douglas fir forests. Thank goodness for the foresight of the local residents and leaders to save a few pockets of these old-growth forests, we certainly enjoyed our opportunity to explore.

Our next stop was Mt. Rainier NP, Ohanapecosh Campground, a lovely traditional NP campground, with small sites (we were very glad to have a 19er), campground was nestled in ancient Douglas firs, incredible. We hiked the gorgeous Skyline Trail with great views of Mt. Rainier, our day was perfect, sunny but not too hot. Enjoyed a great dinner to recover at a local watering hole in Packwood. As we headed west the next morning we noted some smoke activity to our south, by midday the town of



Ohanapecosh Campground, Mt. Rainer, incredible campground in an old-growth Douglas Fir grove.

of Puget Sound, a gorgeous country. Our first campground in Olympic NP was Fairholm Campground on crystal clear Lake Crescent. We swam and kayaked in this 600-foot deep lake, known for its crystal clear and brilliant blue water. Our second Olympic NP campground was Hoh Rain Forest. Another gorgeous camp-



Hoh River, Olympic NP. Roosevelt Elk



Lessig Northwest Roadtrip - Part 1

Continued

in the river next to our campsite. We were fortunate that fall rutting season had just begun the Roosevelt elk were very active each evening for the enjoyment of the campers and the chagrin of the rangers!

Our last campground heading south on Rt. 101 in WA, overlooks the Pacific Ocean at Kalaloch Campground. On a 50 ft bluff, this campground gave us wonderful views of the ocean and an opportunity to do a little beach combing on the West Coast and enjoy a wonderful sunset. ~

Part 2 will continue heading south on Rt 101 through Oregon, California, then East and home!



View from Kalaloch Campground, Olympic NP.



by Sandy Sasuta

We have a wonderful 2023 schedule of events; the hosts work hard to make it an enjoyable time, so let's give them our support by attending and joining in on the fun. The next event is the Holiday Party at the Aller's home in Wilton, CT. (See flyer)

Please remember those going through difficult times by giving them a call/card. Sending get well wishes to: **KATHY KUSHMAN** who recently had foot surgery, **GRACE FULLER, VAL GALASYN, RAYMOND RICHARD & NIELS ROSENBECK.**

If you are unable to pay your dues on line, please call Headquarters at 937-596-5211. Thank you to those who have paid their dues already.

With New York having over 6 feet of snow, there was a power outage and Sarah was snowed in, having a baby. The neighbor Bob, a paramedic, was assisting in the birth. He asked her 3 year old daughter Mary, to hold the flashlight high over mommy so he could see. Little Joey was born; Bob lifted Joey by his feet and spanked him on his bottom...he began to cry. Bob asked the wide-eyed Mary what she thought about what she had just witnessed. Mary quickly said, "he shouldn't have crawled in there in the first place, spank him again".

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy 2023!



Karen & John Lethbridge 10486
Wilmington, VT

Bob & Crystal Beaumont 3568
Killingly, CT *Affiliates*





by Bard Fuller
ACI Region One President



Region One News



Kathy and I are exhilarated about the enthusiasm we have found in all of our local clubs throughout the New England states, Quebec and the Maritime provinces. We got to all of your business meeting rallies either in person or electronically this fall and we're so thankful for your hospitality. Each of our Region 1 clubs has a wonderful group of volunteer officers that are presenting some outstanding venues for rallies in 2022.

I know most of you have already renewed your International dues and local club affiliation. I encourage you to affiliate with other local clubs in your area to receive their communications about their activities whether past, present or future. Remember December 31st is the renewal deadline to have your information appear in the 2023 printed International directory.

Our Airstreams may be hibernating and our local clubs semi-dormant but your International Board of Directors, along with ACI headquarters, are abuzz with activity. The International constitutional changes voted by the membership and brought to the Delegates' Meeting in Fryeburg have required significant by-law and policy changes to support the new constitution.

Most significantly is how we choose leaders to govern our growing club. Our newly elected nine-member Executive Council will have two-year terms and will be chosen from a pool of candidates every two years. The traditional International Nominating Committee has morphed into the Recruitment Oversight Committee which has the charge to encourage our best, most talented and enthusiastic members to participate in this leadership council. No prior leadership is required and you do not need to ever aspire to be the president. We just want great people providing their talents to our growing club. A standard on-line Statement of Candidacy will be asked from all interested candidates.

Each of us, as ACI members, are asked to encourage our gifted members to accept this opportunity to guide our club. Who do YOU think would be an asset to our club? The Statements of Candidacy will be collected January through March and published on the ACI website as well as the Blue Beret magazine. We all, as members, get to vote electronically this coming June for our new Executive Council members.

Considerable effort is being done to review and realign all the International Standing Committees. One noticeable change already is how the International rally is chosen and organized. With the growing complexity of these massive endeavors our professional leadership at headquarters will be spearheading these events while supported by hundreds of member-volunteers. You may have heard that our 2023 Wyoming rally is all but sold out (1,200 max). The 2024 rally is scheduled for Sedalia, MO, October 5-11. Yes, in October. Hopefully this will take us away from the summer heat. The 2025 Rally is likely to be in either Georgia or Pennsylvania. Keeping with the tradition of moving the International Rally around the country, sites for the 2026 rally under consideration are all in the western states.

The International Membership Committee is also undergoing a "facelift" under the direction of our new Membership Chair, Cody Klinger. It is expanding beyond the Blue Beret column to incorporate the ACI website, Facebook, and most recently, a reoccurring Zoom Fireside Chat with President Eric McHenry and Executive Officer, Lori Plummer fielding a wide variety of membership questions. Future Fireside Chats are scheduled on December 14 and March 8, both at 7pm EST. Join in, be informed and bring your questions.

More locally, I want to thank Todd Brink from New England Airstream Club for volunteering to head up our Regional Membership Committee and Marty Womer from the Northeast Mountaineers to be our new Region 1 Blue Beret Contributing Editor. Please support them and keep them apprised of new rallies or membership opportunities! ~



Helpful LINKS

- [Airstream Club International](#)
- [Connecticut Airstream Club](#)
- [Russ's Spring Checklist](#)
- [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"](#)

Upcoming

Birthdays - Anniversaries

December

12/05	Cynthia Brodeur
12/07	Dyann Calder
12/12	Charlotte LaRocca
12/15	Gale Lake
12/16	Blaise & Sally Pascale
12/18	Diane Jackson
12/19	Sherry & Alexander Porven
12/20	Christine Lessig
12/21	Kris Fletcher
12/29	Chris Dubrowski

January

01/06	Crystal Beaumont
01/07	Bruce Hawley
01/13	Charles "Rick" & Beth Petrie
01/14	Donald Allers
01/21	Guy Weik
01/23	Robert Calder
01/24	Lianne Rutty

February

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

For many it is time to renew your ACI Membership

How to renew your membership.



Great Gift

"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 did you think?

- How do you wash your hands over the holidays? With Santa-tizer.
- Why don't you ever see Santa in a hospital? Because he has private elf care.
- What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa? A rebel without a Claus.
- How can you tell that Santa is real? You can always sense his presents.
- Where do reindeer go for coffee? Starbucks!
- What kind of music do elves like to listen to? Wrap!
- What does Rudolph want for Christmas? The newest Sleigh Station.
- What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the regular alphabet? The Christmas alphabet has noel.
- How does a gingerbread man make his bed? With a cookie sheet!
- Who is a Christmas tree's favorite singer? Spruce Springsteen.
- How does a sheep say Merry Christmas? Fleece Navidad!
- What happened to the elf who stole a calendar? He got 12 months.

Connecticut Chatter

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

All Chatters are available on the club website.

Go ahead, make up your mind!

There was a battery with a note saying, "Toy not included."

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

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club Holiday Party



Saturday, December 17

Noon - 3

At the Allers Home in
Wilton, CT

Main dish and beverages provided.

Please bring a side dish or dessert.

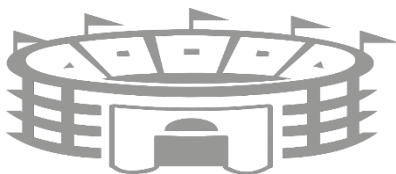
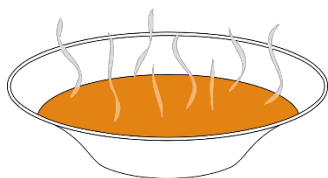
RSVP by December 7 online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/222384879573168>

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

It's never too early to plan getting together. Mark your calendars now for this February event.

What does this rebus bring to mind?



“Souper” Bowl North Gathering

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023

12:30 – 2:30 pm

Gilles and Joyce Rousseau’s home

What to bring?

An **appetizer** to share.

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 joycezr68@gmail.com before February 5, 2023.

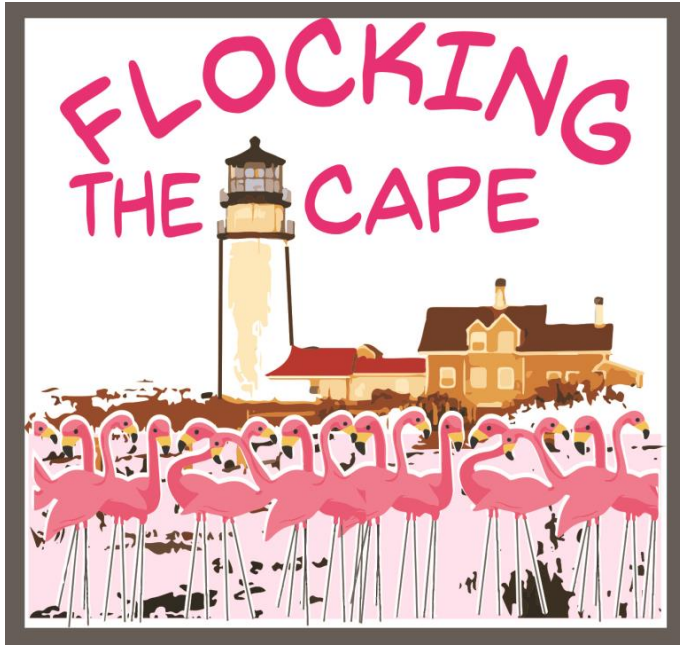
You will be notified by 2/11/23 if cancellation due to weather is necessary.

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



2023 Region 1 Rally June 15-18, 2023

sponsored by the Cape Cod MA Airsteam Club @the Barnstable County Fairground
1220 Nathan Ellis Hwy Rte 151 East Falmouth, MA



Activities / Entertainment

20 Amp Service (bring extra cord) & water (bring extra hose and y connection) Dump Station. Pet friendly (on leash)
Arrival June 15th after 12 noon
Depart June 18th by 11am
Thursday June 15th dinner on your own
Friday & Saturday Dinner will be provided
Continental Breakfast on Friday & Saturday morning

Come enjoy all the beautiful places the Cape has to offer

Hyannis, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Provincetown, Plymouth, Woods Hole... Sea to Shining Sea Bike Trail, etc.!

- Canal Sunset Cruises
- Plymouth Harbor and Whale Watches
- Plimoth Pautuxet (formally Plimoth Plantation)
- Day trip to Martha's Vineyard

Rally Contact: Eddie Carll ecarll62@ gmail.com

Names: _____ Unit: _____ BRN # _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email _____

Airstream Model: _____ Rig Size: _____ State/Plate _____

#Kids 0-12(Free) _____ #Kids 13-17(\$65) _____ #Guests (\$65) _____ Will you have a pet? _____

Any Significant Dietary Concerns? _____ Will you Require Handicap Parking? _____

Is your Airstream Vintage (25 yrs. or older)? _____ Year _____

Please make your Saturday Clambake choice(s): 1 1/4 Lobster, 10 Oz Angus Sirloin Steak or BBQ Bone-in Chicken

Breast



X _____

Or



X _____

Or



X _____

Includes all the classic clambake sides:

New England Clam Chowder & Steamers, Mussels, Linguica & Red Bliss Potatoes, Corn on the cob, homemade coleslaw & Fresh Sliced Watermelon

OLD SCHOOL WAY

Please make your check payable to CCMAC

Mail to: Eddie Carll 12 River Street Plymouth, MA 02360



Save Early Discounted rate US \$ 365.00

(Includes 3 nights camping /2 adults)

*After 4/15/2023 \$385.00

*Guest and children over 12

Add \$65 each + _____

*Single in RV Deduct \$65 - _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Cancellation Policy

Before 4/15: full refund

4/15 -6/1 \$180

After 6/1 \$100

NEW SCHOOL ONLINE REGISTRATION

<https://form.jotform.com/221935991401154>

TECHNICAL ISSUES WITH JOTFORM PLEASE CONTACT DON ALLERS

DON.ALLERS@MAC.COM



Come join the Flock and enjoy Fun, Fellowship

Join us Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club Share Your Smile