



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

Club No: 25

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

October 2023

Presidents Message

by Carol Dubrowski



Carol and Chris closing out the 2023 Airstream camping season after a great productive year at the helm.

Writing my final letter on a rainy day seems appropriate; every rally this year included a bit of rain, but it didn't dampen our spirits. I really like going to sleep hearing the raindrops on our camper.

Our club had a great camping season this year. We got together at some familiar campgrounds and some out-of-the-box places, like the Roxbury tractor-fest boondock and the barbeque and pontoon boat excursion at the Fletcher's lake house. We wrapped up the year with a rally hosted by the Sasutas (and the Dubrowskis in a supporting role) at Travelers Woods in Massachusetts. We enjoyed samples of everyone's soup offerings, loaded up some baked potatoes, and had two breakfasts cooked by our Airstream-certified master chefs Russ and Mike. We also got to see photos and hear all about the Fuller/Lessig caravan to Alaska. Amazing scenery apparently with lots of bears, mud and potholes.

My year as your president was filled with fun, friendship, and collaboration. We accomplished a lot, more than I expected. With the guidance of Don Allers, our incoming president, we completed our mandated Constitution and

Continued page 2

"Ruby": Unearthing a Rare, Vintage 1948 Wee Wind



[Click and Explore](#)

In 2002, vintage Airstream historian Fred Coldwell stumbled upon a rare piece of Airstream history: A beautifully preserved 1948 Wee Wind. This vintage treasure is on display in Airstream's new Heritage Center. Fred shares the story of this rare vintage Airstream. Live Riveded®



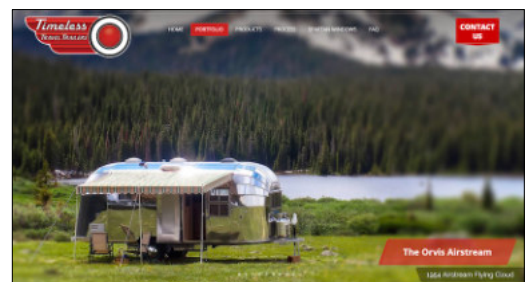
What Do You Think?

You're in a dark room with a candle, a wood stove, and a gas lamp. You only have one match, so what do you light first?

How many times can you subtract 10 from 100?

[Answers Page 10](#)

Link of the Month



[Timeless Travel Trailers](#)



Presidents Message

Continued

Bylaws revisions. We went through the process of polling the membership on a new name for our club and we voted to change our name to "Connecticut Airstream Club". In accordance with the usual Airstream Club bureaucratic protocols, it will now be sent on to ACI for final approval. I hope we can keep the iconic Charter Oak somewhere in our club logo and flags going forward.

Our club is extremely fortunate to have the skills of Don available to us. He was the driving force through both of these processes. Our club will be in very good hands next year with him at the helm and the new officers supporting him. There are so many people in our club who are willing to lend a hand. It has helped my job as president to go smoothly. Our executive board this year had a few more meetings than usual. I am thankful for the convenience of Zoom and the dedication of our officers. Reminders from Sandy and Rich kept me on task and focused!

We had one change in the slate of officers for next year. Bob Hendrick had to withdraw his name for the director position. We had a nomination from the floor for this opening and Russ Fuller was elected as a First Year Director. Our board for next year is: President, Don Allers, First VP, Julie Steers, Second VP, Rhona Fuller, Second Year Directors Carl Davis and Alex Porven, First Year Directors Moe Pershinsky and Russ Fuller. Thank you all for volunteering to serve our club.

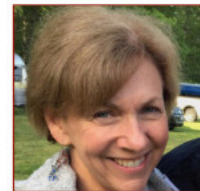
Thank you to all of those who hosted social events and rallies this year. Next year's activities calendar is filling in nicely. We still have some gaps in the rally schedule, so think about stepping up to run one. It really is up to you how easy or complicated it is. Remember, they always end up being fun because we are surrounded by our club friends, and everybody helps out. Our last event of the season will be the Holiday Party at the Allers' home in Wilton on Saturday, December 16, from 12-3pm.

I would like to thank my husband, Chris for looking over my newsletters before they are submitted. He always has a fun comment to add along with his grammar suggestions. And finally, a big thank you again to all our members for helping to make this another successful year for our club!

Executive Board



President
Don Allers



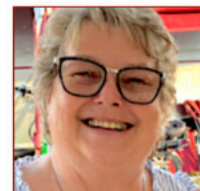
Past President
Carol Dubrowski

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

- Sherry Anderson



First Vice President
Julie Steers



Second Vice President
Rhona Fuller



Treasurer
Sandy Sasuta



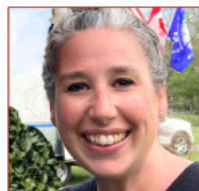
Recording Secretary
Christine Lessig



Second Year Director
Alex Porven



Second Year Director
Carl Davis



First Year Director
Moe Pershinsky



First Year Director
Russ Fuller



Social Secretary
Kathleen Kushman

Standing Committee Chairs



Membership
Gail Downing



Newsletter/Webmaster
Richard Kushman



Legislative
Mike Sasuta



- - - - - Tall Tales Rally - - - - -

by Cynthia Brodeur

Remnants of Tropical Ophelia could not prevent members of the Charter Oak Club from enjoying Tall Tales Rally and the fall meeting at Traveler’s Woods in Bernardston, MA, on September 22 – 24. Sandy Sasuta and Carol Dubrowski were not going to let inclement weather stop everyone enjoying themselves. As usual Sandy and Carol put on an awesome event. Both Michael Sasuta and Chris Dubrowski were very supportive in both helping with setting up equipment, covering tables that were decorated with small mums and with David Jensen’s son’s garden providing pumpkins of various sizes along with gourds giving the Rally a warm Harvest Fall Festival feel.

Chilly weather Friday night was quickly forgotten as the baked potatoes with all the toppings were being served to everyone by both host couples, Sasuta and Dubrowski. After dinner was finished Sandy began telling a Tall Tale, that was later followed by others closing that evening.

With remnants of Tropical Ophelia approaching Saturday morning, a warm breakfast of pancakes, sausage, a great selection of different syrups and a warm morning cup of tea or coffee while visiting with friends made it easy to forget about the stormy weather soon to visit.

Don Allers arrived on Saturday during morning breakfast, in time for the Fall Meeting to begin. Carol Dubrowski called the meeting to order with Joyce Rousseau reading an opening prayer, followed by Chris Dubrowski leading everyone in a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Once the usual meeting and financial records were reported, it was time to swear in the incoming Executive Board for 2024. All members were sworn in by Eddie Carll, really who can say no to Eddie Carll.

Rain held off until late in the afternoon making it a great evening for many kinds of soups, to warm oneself, with salad and bread provided by Sandy Sasuta. After dinner, a forty-five-minute slide show of Bard and Kathy Fuller’s cross-country trip

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Is it possible Joyce is telling Chris a Tall Tale about a shark attack?



Carol Dubrowski, Toni Nolder, Bard Fuller, Eddie Carll, Paula Cardullo and Mark Van der Voort



Our next president Don Allers being sworn in by Eddie Carll.



Continued

- - - - - Tall Tales Rally - - - - -

with Glen and Christine Lessig to Alaska was shown. Bard Fuller provided the slideshow since the campfire was canceled due to the rain.

Warm ham and egg sandwiches Sunday morning was a great way to end the event, with hot coffee or tea., then saying goodbye to everyone and exchanging the famous words used by Airstreamers, "See you down the road."



Joyce & Gilles Rousseau and Cindy & Michael Brodeur



Happy hour...Joyce Rousseau, Carol Dubrowski, Sally Kerr, Chris Dubrowski



Pancake Breakfast prep...Russ Fuller, Michael Sasuta, Glen Lessig & Wiley Downing



Washing those dishes...Gail Downing, Sally Kerr and Candle French



Great breakfast sandwich cooks, Russ Fuller & Michael Sasuta



Dave Jensen, Christine & Glen Lessig, Mark Van der Voort, Carol Dubrowski and Kathy Fuller



Slow Cooker Stuffed Pepper Soup

by Russ Fuller

Servings: 6. (Half what I did for the rally)

Ingredients:

- between 1 and 1-1/2 lbs. ground beef
- 1/2 cup diced white onion - divided
- 1 32-oz. box chicken broth
- 1 15-oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 14.5-oz. can diced tomatoes
- 2 bell peppers diced (any colors)
- 1 jalapeño finely diced include the ribs
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 3/4 cup dry Minute Brown Rice
- dash or two of tabasco (optional)
- Shredded Mozzarella Cheese for serving

Instructions:

Brown ground beef with 1/4 cup diced onion, drain and set aside, season with salt and pepper
 Add everything but the rice and cheese in a 5-quart or larger slow cooker.
 Cover and cook on LOW for 8 hours.
 After the soup has cooked for 8 hours, add the dry minute rice and stir. Cover and cook for an additional 15 minutes on LOW or until the rice is tender.
 Serve topped with cheese and enjoy!



Soup Pot Luck at Tall Tales ...Paula Cardullo, Candle French, Kathy Fuller and Mark Van der Voort

Event Schedule 2024



December Sat, Dec 16, 2023

Noon-3pm: Holiday Party hosted by Allers in Wilton, CT

February Sun, Feb 11, 2024

Souper Bowl Party hosted by Dave Jensen in Brooklyn, CT

March Sun, Mar 17, 2024

St. Patrick's Day Party hosted by Rousseaus in Southbury, CT

May May 3-5

Rendezvous at the CAMA Spring Power Up hosted by Russ & Rhona Fuller in Kent, CT

May May 16-19

Region 1 Gathering in Brimfield, MA

May May 31-June 2

Spring Business Meeting Rally, hosted by Dubrowski's at Charlie Brown Campground in Eastford, CT (looking for co-host)

June Host Wanted

Have fun hosting your special Airstream event. *You can DO IT.... Call Don*

July July 12-14

Joint Rally with Cape Cod AC, hosted by Eddie Carl and Russ Fuller at the Pastures Campground in Orford, NH

August August 9-11

Mystic Arts Festival Joint Rally with New England AC, hosted by Bard Fuller and Tess McShane in Mystic, CT

September September 20-22

Fall Business Meeting Rally, hosted by Sasutas, Travelers Woods of New England, Bernardston, MA.

October October 5-10

International Rally, Sedalia, MO

AN ODD TALE

There was once a man named Odd. People made fun of him because of his name so he decided to keep his gravestone blank when he died.
 Now when people pass by the burial site, they point and say, "That's odd."



This play on words, a mind bending idiom challenge was presented by Mike and Sandy at the Tall Tales Rally. See if you can puzzle out the familiar phrase each line represents.

Example:

Stuck in a difficult circumstance with no escape.

Answer: Back against the wall.

1. Scintillate, scintillate, minuscule celestial apparition.
2. Members of an avian species of identical plumage congregate.
3. Surveillance should precede saltation.
4. It is fruitless to become lachrymose over precipitately departed lactate fluid.
5. Freedom from incrustations of grime is contiguous to rectitude.
6. The stylus is more potent than the claymore.
7. It is fruitless to attempt to indoctrinate a superannuated canine with innovative maneuvers.
8. Eschew the implement of correction and vitiate the scion.
9. Where there are visible vapors having their province in ignited carbonaceous materials, there is conflagration.
10. Homo sapiens cadavers are incapable of yielding any testimony.
11. Individuals who make their abode in vitreous edifices would be advised to refrain from catapulting petrous projectiles.
12. Missiles of ligneous or petrous consistency have the potential of fracturing my osseous structure, but appellations will eternally remain innocuous.

Answers on very last page of Chatter - bottom of winterize instructions.

"I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, 'Where's the self-help section?' She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose." ~ George Carlin



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Follow their adventure.

Bard · Kathy · Glen · Christine



Looking south on the Ice fields Parkway, just north of Banff.



Loved the Rampart Creek - Parks Canada campground on the Ice field Parkway, boondocking at its best. Notice the amber in the background, yep, those are mountains reflecting the sunset.



We always enjoy searching out the Red Adirondack Chairs in Parks Canada, this view is overlooking one of the lakes at Valley of the Five Lakes.



Enjoying a cold beverage in Banff, fun tourist town.



Hiked the Wilcox Pass trail, great view of the Athabasca Glacier, definitely worth the hike! And Red Chairs! Yeah!



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Thoroughly enjoyed the agriculture of both the US and Canada, passed by acres, of canola, wheat, flax, knew we were home in Illinois and Indiana when we were driving in corn. This photo is the wheat harvest in North Dakota.



Spent a day at the Scottish Game in Canmore, Alberta, just south of Banff. Awesome to enjoy 160+ bagpipes playing Amazing Grace!

Sandy's Scuttlebutt



by Sandy Sasuta

Welcome

Nancy & Edward Mellina **14457**
Garden City, NY **Affiliates**

We didn't have many Tall Tales at the Tall Tales rally as we were all too busy talking and visiting with one another, but it was a fun time. More importantly, we welcomed our new slate of officers and thank them for volunteering.

A strange mishap occurred after the pot luck soup supper. Michael took our crockpot (with some remaining soup in it) back to the trailer and placed it on the counter, then slammed the door. Apparently the leg of the crockpot was cracked which caused it to fall over like Humpty Dumpty. He heard a loud explosion as the glass lid hit the floor and exploded into a thousand shards! There was soup all over the cabinets, walls and floor including beans scattered everywhere just laying there and looking at me. We found glass all the way from the bedroom to the living room, what a disaster! Now if you stop by for a visit and wonder what that smell is.....it's Chicken Taco Soup. Is this a true tale or not?

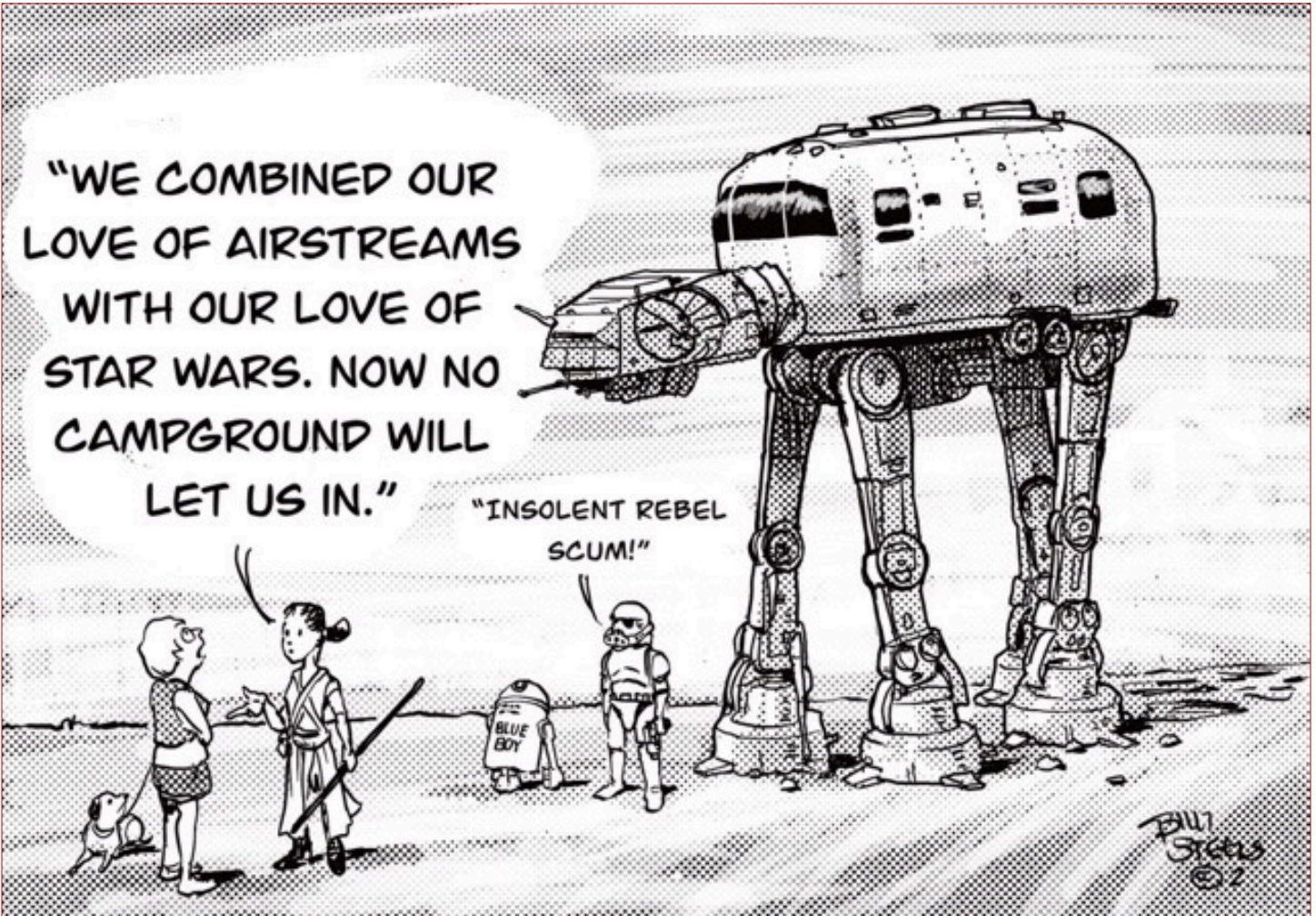
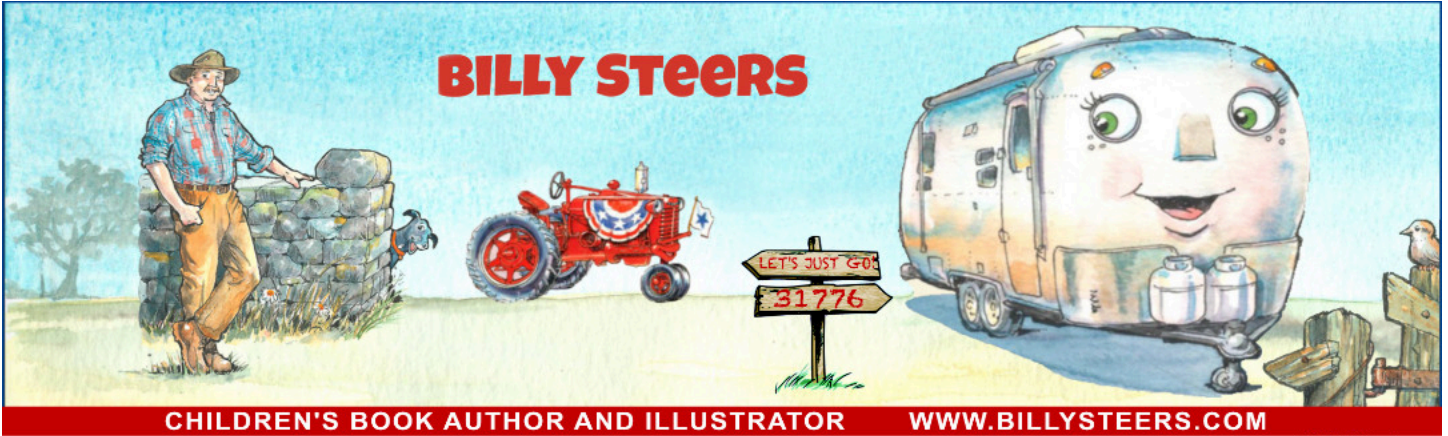
Please renew your dues as you receive your notice on line or in the mail...this way, you won't forget!

Ed: Could be a Crock

Granddad could tell a tale

He used to say that as a boy he had the strongest arm in the county. He said he could throw a stick so hard that it would take his dog an hour to retrieve it.

To me that always seemed far-fetched.



Whenever available be sure to attend Billy's seminar on creating a travel journal - also visit Billy's website and make sure you add a copy of *Let's Just Go*, the adventures of an Airstream travel trailer **Snug** to your library or gift list. Oh, and check out **Tractor Mac**. ~Ed



Upcoming

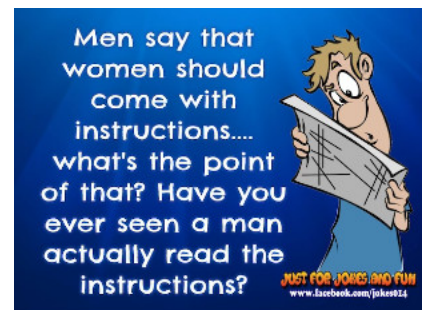
Birthdays - Anniversaries

October

- 10/03 Carl Davis
- 10/03 Dan & Karen Olah
- 10/03 Bard & Kathy Fuller
- 10/04 Eileen Allers
- 10/04 Wiley Downing
- 10/06 Jason & Moe Pershinsky
- 10/08 Gene Hickey & Charlotte LaRocca
- 10/08 Mark Lupien
- 10/09 Serafina M. Bachar
- 10/10 Eddie Carll
- 10/10 Billy & Julie Steers
- 10/11 Jim & Stacy Reck
- 10/11 Pat & Betsy Flanagan
- 10/12 Dick Bartram
- 10/18 Billy Steers
- 10/20 Moe Pershinsky
- 10/21 Kit Wheatley
- 10/22 William & Evelyn Watts
- 10/24 Gail Downing
- 10/27 Michael Rutty
- 10/27 Bob Landry

November

- 11/01 Sandy Sasuta
- 11/02 Gilles & Joyce Rousseau
- 11/04 Deborah Hawley
- 11/10 Beth Petrie
- 11/16 Jason Pershinsky
- 11/27 Ken Hankinson & Pam Forsyth



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.

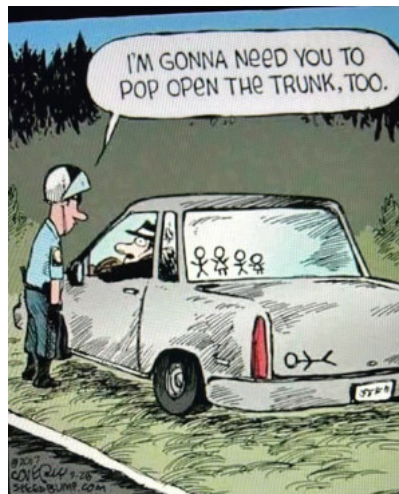
[Available here.](#)



Run a Rally or Rendezvous

Plan an Event
Be a Host
Be a Co-host

Connecticut club resources are available.
[Click Here for Equipment and Supplies Listing](#)
Volunteer now - contact Connecticut club president.



Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

Went on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory, I sure hope there's no pop quiz.

Energizer bunny arrested. Charged with battery.

Broken pencils are pointless.

England has no kidney bank but it does have a Liverpool.

I dropped out of communism class because of lousy Marx.

All the toilets in New York's police stations have been stolen. Police have nothing to go on.

Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy.

What did you think?

The match.

Once. The next time you would be subtracting 10 from 90.

June Needs a Host

Plan a June event!



Helpful LINKS

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

Connecticut Chatter

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Proof Reader: Kathleen Kushman

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 16

Noon - 3pm

At the Allers Home in Wilton, CT

Main dish and beverages provided.

Please bring a side dish or dessert.

RSVP by December 6 online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/232667544047158>

Russ's WINTERIZING YOUR AIRSTREAM TRAILER

Russ Fuller 1745

TOOLS YOU'LL NEED

- Adjustable wrench or Open-end wrenches
- Stink Slinky and dump station
- Non-Potable water hose
- Air compressor
- Blowout plug adaptor.
- RV/Marine-grade antifreez (not automotive)
- Pump pick up tube or winterization kit.
- Screwdriver or screw gun
- Flea and tick collar
- Baking soda
- Wooden blocks (optional)
- Locks (optional)
- Peppermint oil and cotton balls (optional)
- Vacuum sealed storage bags (optional)

STEP-BY-STEP

- 1) Clean and Inspect Interior and Exterior. Make sure you clean your RV inside and out before putting it in storage, so you are ready to hit the road in the spring. Cleaning your RV before storing it for the winter also helps prevent unwanted pests from making a home.
 - a) Removing extra clothing and bedding will help avoid moths. Some people store these items in vacuum sealed bags.
 - b) Remove all containers containing fluids that may freeze and leak.
 - c) Remove all food will help keep rodents out.
 - d) Check the inside of the oven and microwave for and food.
 - e) If you have been in humid climates, keep an eye out for any signs of mold. Even a couple of small white dots of mold can grow into a big problem if left in storage.
 - f) Make sure your fridge is off, empty, defrosted, cleaned, and completely dry.
 - g) Place an open, fresh box of baking soda inside your fridge and keep the door slightly open.
 - h) The use of peppermint oil on cotton balls may help protect against rodents.
 - i) Are all the trash cans emptied and trash removed?
- 2) Drain and Clean Wastewater Tanks - The last dump day of the season. It is bittersweet. Go through the motions as you would on any other dump day.
 - a) If you have a black tank flush, let it run for a while until the water runs clear through your waste hose.
 - b) Run the black tank flush with the valve open for 5 minutes.
 - c) Run the black tank flush with the valve closed for 5 minutes (~1 minute for every 9 gallons of black capacity)
 - d) Run the black tank flush with the valve open for 5 minutes one last time.
 - e) Sticking a hose down your toilet is an alternative if you don't have a black tank flush. While the toilet method doesn't work quite as well, you can still help break up anything that is stuck down there.
- 3) Park your trailer on pavement if possible. If not drive the tires onto wooden blocks for the off season.
- 4) Disconnect Batteries. Batteries (especially lead acid batteries) should not be allowed to drop to 0% charge. While you might think that turning all of your lights and water pump off will allow your batteries to stay fresh, even a little trickle of static electricity will drain your batteries after a few months.
 - a) Most Airstreams have a battery disconnect switch that you twist to shut off most of the power coming from your batteries.
 - b) If you do not have a disconnect switch, you can simply unhook (and tape off) the cables from your batteries for storage.
 - c) If you are storing your RV somewhere where temperatures frequently drop below 0°F, you should consider removing your batteries and storing them inside.

Russ's WINTERIZING YOUR AIRSTREAM TRAILER

Russ Fuller 1745

- 5) Disconnect Solar Panels. If you have solar panels on your travel trailer, it is a good idea to disconnect them from your system to avoid any hot wires.
- 6) Turn off your propane tanks in case a leak develops over the winter.
- 7) Drain the water heater via access valve on the outside of the RV.
- 8) Drain Fresh Water Tank and Water Lines.
 - a) Open low-point drains, typically found underneath your vehicle.
 - b) Open all hot and cold faucets, including the outside shower, if you have one.
 - c) Open the freshwater tank drain valve on your RV's undercarriage often near the axle(s).
 - d) Turn off all faucets that you opened in Step 3.
 - e) Find your city water connection. Connect the blowout plug adapter and the compressor to the connection – set the compressor at 45psi and turn it on.
 - f) One tap at a time, turn on each faucet and keep open until no water is running before moving on to the next.
 - g) Repeat one or more times at each faucet until no water is being expelled.
 - h) Remove air compressor from city water connection.
 - i) Turn the water heater bypass valve to "on" or "winterize" Depending on the trailer, this is typically found on or near the back of the water heater.
 - j) Locate the water pump. Connect the anti-freeze to the pump via pick-up tube or if equipped use the winterization valve and tube. Open each faucet and flush the toilet(s) until pink anti-freeze is flowing through the line.
- 9) Protect your gas appliances against spiders. Using a flea and tick collar cut into 3 to 4 inch sections wrap these around the gas burners near the gas valve.
- 10) Consider physical security and lock all compartment, doors, windows, and possible LPG tank, wheels, and hitch components.

A pdf file of Russ's Winterizing Your Airstream Trailer can be downloaded and saved at the link below and is included in the Chatter "Helpful Links".

[*Russ's Winterizing Your Airstream Trailer*](#)

Answers to idiom challenge

1. Twinkle, twinkle little star.
2. Birds of a feather flock together.
3. Look before you leap.
4. Don't cry over spilled milk.
5. Cleanliness is next to godliness.
6. The pen is mightier than the sword.
7. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
8. Spare the rod and spoil the child.
9. Where there's smoke there's fire.
10. Dead men tell no tales.
11. People who live in glass houses should not throw stones.
12. Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.