



# Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

Club No: 25

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

November 2023

## Presidents Message

by Don Allers



Don, Frida, Nicole and Eileen enjoying the Roller Coaster World of Cedar Point.

I had planned to winterize our Airstream this late October afternoon, but it's 75 degrees and sunny out. So I decided to roll out the awning, pull up a chair and reminisce about the past season instead. A highlight for our family was a last minute Airstream trip to Cedar Point for three straight days in the Roller Coaster Capital of the World.

Our club enjoyed a fantastic season in 2023. Thanks again to our outstanding Past President, Carol, and the many other hardworking officers, event hosts, committee workers, webmasters, artists, grill masters, baristas and everyone else that pitched in to help!

We tried out some new tricks like the fan-favorite boondocking rally in Roxbury. We took care of a lot of necessary club administrative business. We wrapped up the ongoing debate about changing our club's name. And most importantly, we created awesome opportunities to travel, camp and socialize with our Airstream friends! It's the stories, the laughter, the generosity and the welcoming sight of shiny aluminum lined up around a campground shelter that keep us all coming back for more.

*Continued page 2*

## Her Way and the Highway



[Click and Explore](#)

On the Other Side of Calamity, She Found Community.

Live Rivede®



## What Do You Think?

What type of road do ghosts travel on?

What 8 letter word has kst in the middle, in the beginning, and at the end?

[Answers Page 6](#)

## Link of the Month



Have some fun  
check this months link



## Presidents Message

Continued

For new readers wondering what this whole thing is about, I encourage you to join one of our upcoming events. Camp at one rally with the club and I'm sure you will get it and then be looking forward to the next event. Or take us for a test drive at our holiday luncheon at my family's home in Wilton, CT, on December 16. You can meet some of the gang and ask your questions. You will be welcomed... and well fed!

For those in the know that would like to give back, our volunteer-based group always has opportunities to get involved. Partner up with some club buddies and plan a rally for June to help fill out our 2024 camping calendar. Or help out with the glamorous review of our club Policies and Guidelines. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, just ask.

In the meantime, be well and enjoy the seasons ahead. For our Snowbirds, I hope your migrations go smoothly. And for our northern friends, good luck with your winterizing. Winter is coming!

## Regarding the I in ACI

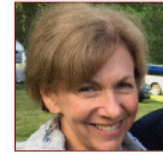


*Kathleen Kushman, while on a Viking River Cruise this past September, was returning from a tour of the Black Forest in Germany. Here as seen from the tour bus window, traveling the Autobon in Freiburg, a familiar taste of home.*

### 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



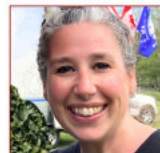
Recording Secretary  
Christine Lessiq



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



Ethics and Grievances  
Mike Sasuta

## Big Tom

by Richard Kushman *Replay*

One gobble two gobble three gobble **four!**  
Big Tom, our turkey, rushed through the door.

One gobble two gobble three gobble **meat!**  
Tom squawked out a menu of what we should eat.

One gobble two gobble three gobble **bam!**  
First on the list was a big roasted ham.

One gobble two gobble three gobble **pow!**  
Okay, Okay, how about cow?

One gobble two gobble now a new **dish!**  
With bulging red eyes Tom screamed out fresh fish.

When Thanksgiving arrived Tom started to shake.  
Wondering and dreading what we would bake.

He then calmly smiled as he heard us all whisper.  
The dinner time prayer giving thanks for his sister.



## Sandy's Scuttlebutt



by Sandy Sasuta

We are enjoying sunny Florida and hope everyone up North is enjoying the fall colors. Thank you to those who have already paid their dues. It's easy to pay on line, some say maybe not...If you need help, give headquarters a call 937-596-5211. As we prepare for the 2024 Club's directory, please review your information and let us know of any changes. If we don't have your photo, please email or text a picture so we can match names with faces. Don't forget to turn your clocks back for Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, November 5, 2023.

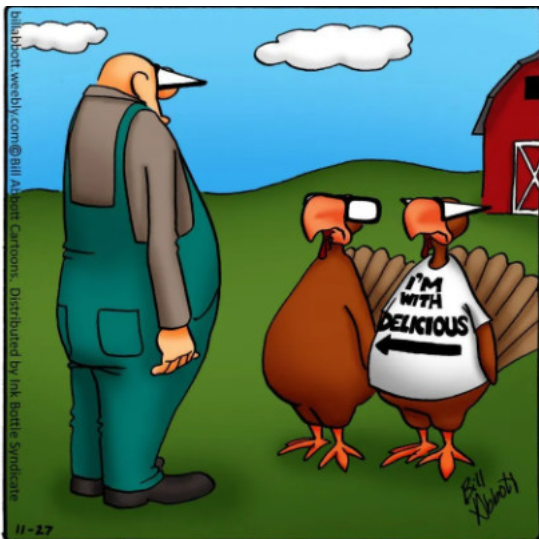
Why were the early days of history called "The Dark Ages", because there were so many Knights.

Send Sandy your picture.  
[sandysas1001@gmail.com](mailto:sandysas1001@gmail.com)

A ROMAN walks into a bar and holds up two fingers and says "Five beers please".  
(Roman Numerals)

If April showers bring May flowers, then what do Mayflowers bring?  
...Pilgrims.

## Happy Thanksgiving!



Event Schedule 2024	
<b>December</b>	<b>Sat, Dec 16, 2023</b> Noon-3pm: Holiday Party hosted by Allers in Wilton, CT
<b>February</b>	<b>Sun, Feb 11, 2024</b> Souper Bowl Party hosted by Dave Jensen in Brooklyn, CT
<b>March</b>	<b>Sun, Mar 17, 2024</b> St. Patrick's Day Party hosted by Rousseaus in Southbury, CT
<b>May</b>	<b>May 3-5</b> Rendezvous at the CAMA Spring Power Up hosted by Russ & Rhona Fuller in Kent, CT
<b>May</b>	<b>May 16-19</b> Region 1 Gathering in Brimfield, MA
<b>May</b>	<b>May 31-June 2</b> Spring Business Meeting Rally, hosted by Dubrowski's at Charlie Brown Campground in Eastford, CT (looking for co-host)
<b>June</b>	<b>Host Wanted</b> Have fun hosting your special Airstream event. <i>Plan a rally .... Call Don</i>
<b>July</b>	<b>July 12-14</b> Joint Rally with Cape Cod AC, hosted by Eddie Carl and Russ Fuller at the Pastures Campground in Orford, NH
<b>August</b>	<b>August 9-11</b> Mystic Arts Festival Joint Rally with New England AC, hosted by Bard Fuller and Tess McShane in Mystic, CT
<b>September</b>	<b>September 20-22</b> Fall Business Meeting Rally, hosted by Sasutas, Travelers Woods of New England, Bernardston, MA.
<b>October</b>	<b>October 5-10</b> International Rally, Sedalia, MO



### Region One News

Fall 2023  
Bard Fuller, Reg. 1 President

Airstreaming is a great adventure. Although Kathy and I have been avid local club participants for the last 38 years and have traveled extensively throughout New England, never before have we had the freedom of retirement, and freedom from COVID restrictions, to explore the North American continent. This past year our road trips have taken us from Key West, FL to the Arctic Circle and from America's eastern most extreme in



Lubec, ME to the western most extreme (accessible by roadways) in Anchor Point, AK. WOW! What an amazing continent we inhabit! AND, we did it while traveling in an Airstream.

The people we have met through the club are outstanding. We were totally overwhelmed by the friendliness we found at all of our local club Fall rallies. We were able to attend all the Fall business meetings in person or on Zoom. I was also given the privilege to participate in their installations. What an honor you have given me.

I will be winding down my stint as a region officer in 2024. I am inviting additional people to step forward to be put on the 2024 ballot of region officer candidates. Let me know this November if you have any interest. More about voting for your 2024-2026 region officers will be coming this winter.

Amidst our travels this fall I was able to swing by Oak Haven Campground in Wales, MA and solidify an agreement to host our Region One gathering in the heart of America's antiquing mecca. The Brimfield show is the oldest, and possibly the largest, antique and flea market event in America. We have scheduled the gathering to coincide with

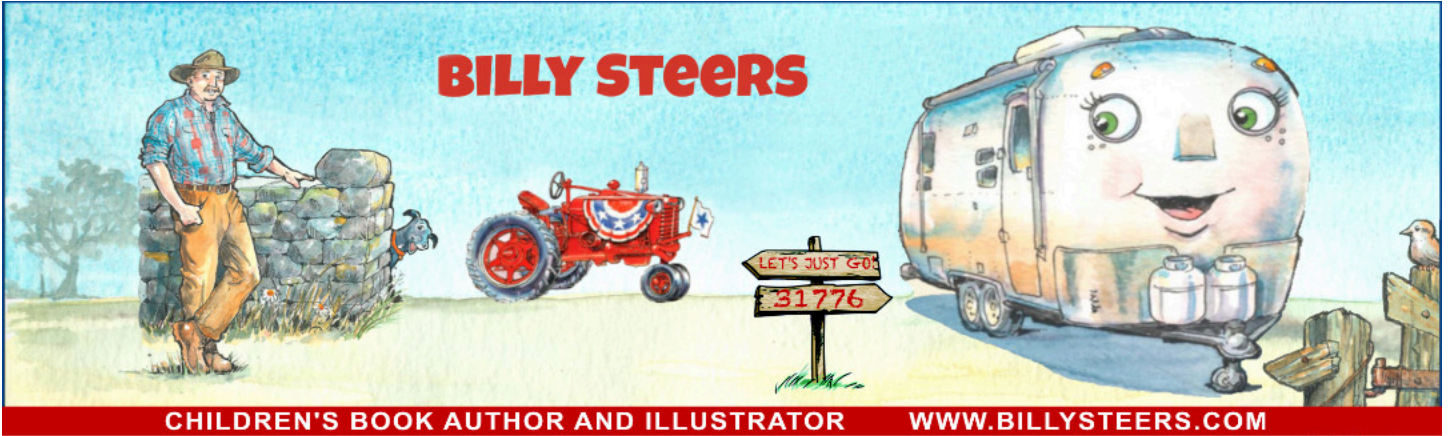


the Brimfield Show and yet be just down the road from the main event.

This is a great RV park in central Massachusetts having all the amenities of a campground plus a wonderful heated pavilion for our activities. Like so many campgrounds in the northeast they have limited sites that are not seasonal. Even though I would love to have 80 sites I was fortunate to get



all 45 of their transient sites. One bonus they are all together on two adjoining safari fields! Though these region gatherings are scaled down region rallies they will provide fun and fellowship that we have come to expect at all Region-wide events. Details and registration will begin in January 2024. **Meanwhile, save the dates of May 16-19.**



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

### 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

### December

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

# 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"](#)

## Run a Rally or Rendezvous

### Plan an Event Be a Host Be a Co-host

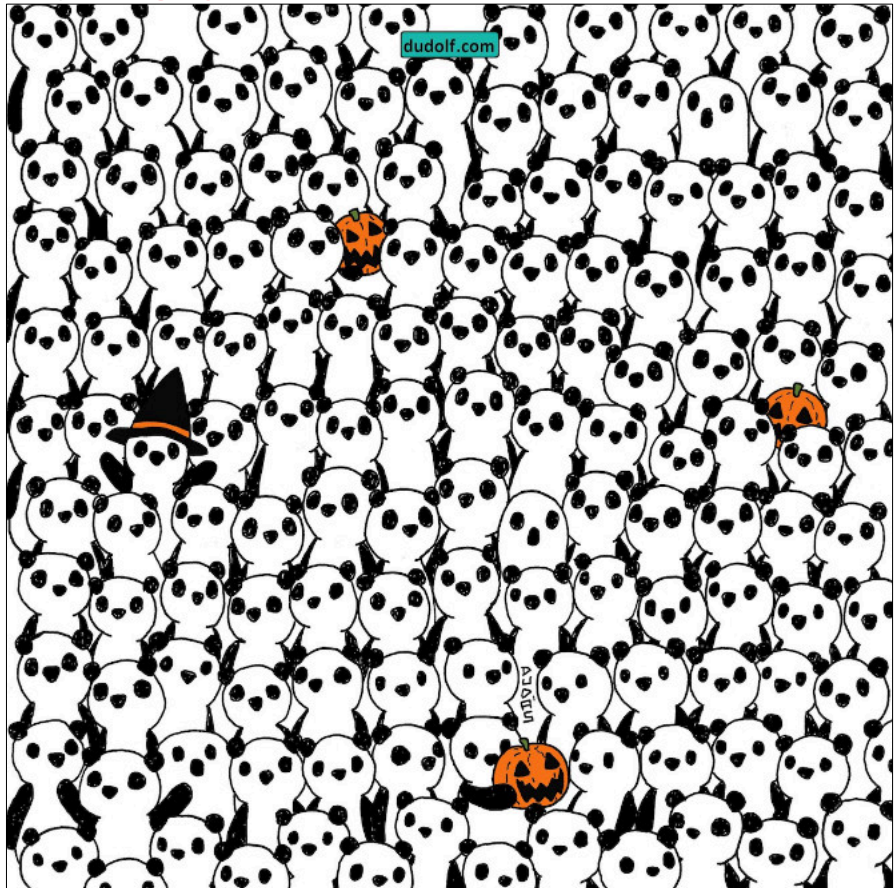
Connecticut club resources are available.  
[Click Here for Equipment and Supplies Listing](#)  
Volunteer now - contact Connecticut club president.

## What did you think?

Dead Ends

Inkstand. KST in the middle, IN (is) the beginning. AND (is) at the end.

by **Gergely Dudás**



Find 3 ghosts hidden among the pandas.

[Click for Solution](#)



### 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

# 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

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- 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\*](#)