



Connecticut

Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club

Chatter

Club No: 25

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

May 2024

Presidents Message

by Don Allers



Don's grandparents, Harry and Lois Adams, legacy Airstreamers.

And just like that, the Connecticut rally season is underway! Sounds like everyone had a great weekend at the CAMA Spring Power-Up Rendezvous in Kent. Even the weather cooperated, so maybe we have broken our club's rain streak (knock on wood)! Our family was sorry to miss out, but it is high school musical season here in Wilton and preparations for Nicole's appearance in *The Addams Family* are in full swing.

The Allers are looking forward to returning to Charlie Brown May 31 - June 2 for the Southwest Fiesta Rally. We will hold the club's annual Spring Business Meeting in person at this rally. The meeting will be at 9:00 am on Saturday, June 1. All members are invited to join and participate in the meeting even if you are not able to camp with us for the weekend. I hope to see you there for this important club function.

That reminds me that I need to get in some cornhole practice before we head to Charlie Brown. Something about that seemingly idyllic location seems to bring out the competitive spirit in some of our members (Eileen, for one)! More importantly, I really need to de-winterize and clean up our trailer this month. I'm pretty sure I would be sanctioned by the club if we showed up to the rally in its current state.

Continued page 2

The Wally Bee: An Innovative Prototype on Display Now at the Airstream Heritage Center.



Airstream founder Wally Byam famously experimented and innovated in a constant search for improvement. Wally's forays beyond aluminum demonstrate his intrepid, innovative spirit – and now one of those rare experiments in fiberglass is on display at the Airstream Heritage Center.

Live Riveted®

What Do You Think?

What two whole, positive numbers have a one-digit answer when multiplied and a two-digit answer when added?

What color is the wind?

Answers Page 6

Link of the Month



Why we bought an Airstream Rangeline

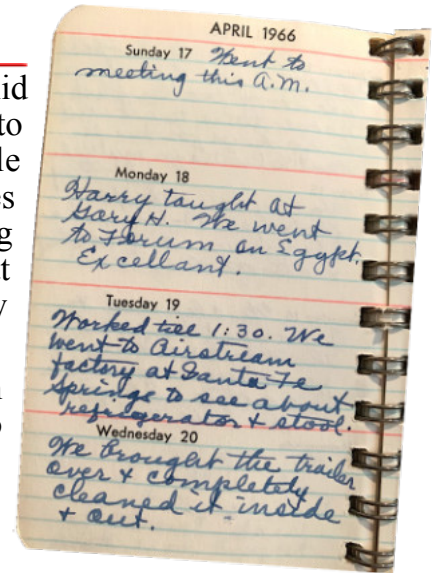


Presidents Message

Continued

My grandparents, Harry and Lois Adams, owned an Airstream in the mid 1960s. The picture above shows them embarking on a move from Illinois to Southern California where they lived in their Airstream for a year while relocating. I love so many things about this photo beyond my fond memories of what awesome people they were. Who dresses like that to go moving across the country towing your new home? How can I get windows like that on our Airstream? And can you imagine pulling over the Sierras with a tow vehicle like that?

I recently came across my grandma's calendar journal from that era in California. Although the Santa Fe Springs factory is long gone, it's fun to see that some aspects of Airstreaming are timeless. There will apparently always be trips to the shop for repairs and days spent spring cleaning to look forward to. Even my grandparents had their trailer cleaned up in April, which is a reminder that I should stop writing and get to cleaning!



A perfect field to camp in Kent, on a little knoll right next to the Housatonic.

by Rhona and Russ Fuller
2nd Vice President, Director

Pictures and captions
by Joucey Rousseau

What a great way to start off the 2024 Rally season for CAC, boondocking. We had seven units attend this rendezvous, which included, Bill and Evie Watts, Moe and Jason Perchinky Joyce and Gilles Rousseau, Sharon and Alex Porven, Julie and Billy Steers, Dave Jensen and last not but least the host Russ and Rhona Fuller. Sally Kerr drove over for a visit. Past members, Steve and Makalya Pestretto stopped by as well, he indicated that he is looking for a 25 or so foot twin bed Airstream trailer to get back into the camping experience.

We arrived on Friday afternoon to perfect weather, warm, sunny with a slight breeze and soon got together for an impromptu "Yak and Snack", (thanks Julie for that term), in front of our trailers. We had the tent up, but it was just too nice to sit under it. It did get a lot cooler at night, and we had the heaters on in the trailers and woke up to heavy frost.

Continued page 3

Spring POWER-UP



Billy Steers brought an engine his son had rebuilt and took it to show at the CAMA event. Those ramps were a bit rickety but worked, as did the engine!



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Spring

POWER-UP

Continued

We did have a couple of “firsts”, Sharon and Alex bought their brand-new Trade Wind which was gorgeous and definitely made for boondocking. We introduced our new family member Cosmo, (a long coat Dalmatian) who was so good and got along with everyone, I think he was born to camp.

Everyone went up to see the amazing machines, everything from small engines to large, including some huge prairie combines. Some went off hiking and others did “slag” hunting on the riverbank, which is the left-over rocks from the crushing. There was something for everyone, train rides on a steam train, mineral museum and more.

We did another “Yak and Snack” on Saturday afternoon and Alex shared a birthday cake with us to celebrate Sharon’s birthday. Then we broke out the three, yes three, solo stoves, it was nice and toasty. It really was nice just to sit and talk with everyone and share some laughs and boy did we laugh...it was good.

Sunday morning came to soon, but we broke out the chairs and shared time before we left not really wanting to say goodbye till next time. A huge thank you to Billy Watts Jr for making this a wonderful and unique experience, and there is a possibility that we could be back again.



A celebration for Sharon Porven's birthday. (Cake provided by Alex.) It was yummy and enjoyed by all! Thanks, Alex!



Left to right- Alex and Sharon Porven, Bill and Evie Watts, Julie and Billy Steers, Jason and Moe Pershinsky, Russ and Rhona Fuller, Joyce's empty chair and Gilles Rousseau and Dave Jensen. Sally Kerr had visited earlier, but had to leave early.



One Solo stove is enough, but 3 is a treat! Joyce's is burning, Billy's is almost ready and Jason's lighting his up to burn pellets.



Jason's pellets provided a smoke screen at first lighting, but then worked well!



Russ and Rhona with Cosmo, a very lucky dog has found a family!



by **Sandy Sasuta**

It's that time of year once again for the snowbirds to return home; safe travels to everyone. Be sure to check your calendars and join us for the upcoming rallies...sign up now before they fill up.

RUSS & RHONA FULLER had lost their dalmation and were not getting another dog UNLESS it was a (rare) long-haired dalmation. When suddenly there was one available through the rescue organization. Then

Russ said the location needs to be within their travels. Wouldn't you know it, but the dog was in Naples, FL, during their visit to Travelers Rest. So now the Fuller's have a new dog...it was meant to be.

Congratulations to **RICH & KATHY KUSHMAN** as they have downsized and replaced their 34' Classic Airstream with a Rangeline. An exciting, new adventure in life awaits them.

As you get older, you've got to stay positive. For example, the other day I fell down the stairs. Instead of getting upset, I just thought, wow, that's the fastest I've moved in years.

Next event: the Southwest Fiesta rally & spring business meeting at Charlie Brown Campground in Eastford, CT. Hope to see you there.

Airstream of Southern New England comes to Union, Connecticut

by **Bard Fuller**

Justin Humphreys, former vice president of sales for Airstream, Inc., identified the need to position a dealership between New York City and Boston. While talking with Justin and his successor, Bryan Melton, at the Tampa RV show this past January, they indicated that something big was in the works for Connecticut. This past month it became apparent as Airstreams started to populate the sales lot of Campers Inn RV in Union, CT. Then on April 16th the temporary banner signs were hoisted over the Campers Inn RV signs. It is official that Campers Inn is transitioning to Airstream of Southern New England!



Campers Inn RV has a long history in southern New England with its roots in Acton, MA. It was there that Arthur and Francis Hirsch started selling folding camp trailers in their front yard. Over the last 50 years their stores became Campers Inn RV and one of the country's largest retail outlets for RVs. Presently they have 38 stores spanning 19 states. The Hirsch family still runs the operations and added Airstreams to the product line in their stores in Naperville, IL, and Troy, OH. The store in Connecticut will be a first of the Hirsch family enterprises to be dedicated exclusively to Airstreams.

With its very visible location along I-84 at the Massachusetts state line it will be an eye catcher as they plan to paint the building bright Airstream Blue with bold white Airstream lettering. Inside there is a very complete RV product store and an expansive 8 bay service center including a lift for working under the touring coaches.



Two of their service techs have completed their first tour of Airstream tech training in Jackson Center. Eventually they will have 4 techs fully Airstream trained. The dealership will be selling and servicing the complete line of travel trailers and touring coaches.

Though not the Grand Opening, Airstream Club members have been invited to a "Sneak Peak Open House" May 18 from 11am to 2pm to coincide with the Region 1 Gathering across the border in Wales, MA. The invitation is for all membership to join in the festivities whether you are attending the Region Gathering or not! Come on over, wear your badges and enjoy some burgers!



Region One News

by President Bard Fuller

ACI Region 1 Welcomes Airstream of Southern New England!!



Airstream, Inc has granted dealership rights to the Campers Inn RV group for an exclusive Airstream dealership in Union, Connecticut, just minutes from Sturbridge, MA, to service the Boston to New York area. The Campers Inn RV group already has a successful Airstream sales presence in Illinois and Ohio. Airstream of Southern New England will be selling and servicing the complete line of Airstream travel trailers and touring coaches. The Connecticut dealership comes with a veteran staff of RV sales and service personnel. I had the pleasure of talking with General Manager Dustin Andres and some of his staff. Dustin stated the staff is presently rotating through Airstream training in Jackson Center. Office Administrator, Jo-Ann Roberts, coordinates the sales staff that includes Scott Cristina and Mike Filippone. Jamie Purdon, with many years of experience oversees an 8-bay service center. All expressed excitement on becoming part of the Airstream community.



“Sneak Peek Open House”
Saturday, May 18 from 11am to 2pm

This will coincide with the Region 1 Gathering just 8 miles away. Airstream of Southern New England staff will be grilling hamburgers for the event. Whether you are attending the Region 1 Gathering or not, this is a great opportunity to welcome the

new Airstream folks, talk about the Airstream Way-of-Life and view many of the latest Airstream products.

For those attending the Region 1 Gathering here are some things to remember: arrival starts after 12-noon on Thursday, there will be rally parking so bring an extra hose and electric cable and be prepared for a potluck Saturday supper. While in the Brimfield Flea Market mind set, we will also be running a “Campers’ Flea Market” Sunday morning. So, it’s a great time to bring your slightly used camping equipment and apparel to sell or swap. Feel free to bring a craft to show or sell. Let’s have fun with this rally event!



Thank you to all who voted for our 2024-2026 Region officers. Congratulations go out to our (presumptive) president-elect Michael Giunta, 1st VP-elect Rich Collins and 2nd VP-elect Diane Maillet.

Finally, the club needs your vote for a modification to our relatively new constitution to alter the International Treasurer’s position. The amendment will widen the talent-pool beyond the 9 Executive Council members to pursue someone with a professional financial background to become the Financial Director who will have a non-voting advisory position to the Council and Board. Additional information regarding this change will be found in the Blue Beret, on the ACI website <https://airstreamclub.org/2024SpecialElection> and will be discussed at the May 15th ZOOM Fireside Chat with Airstream Club President Eric McHenry. **Constitutional changes are challenging.** They require that at least a 20% quorum of the membership participate in the voting process along



with a 2/3 affirmative vote. Voting will take place June 20-26. An email will be sent from headquarters to signal

the opportunity for each member to vote.

Each person’s vote is needed!



Kushmans got a new ... what?



Tell me if you think Kathy and Rich look happy with their brand new Airstream Rangeline.


You Might Be an RVer If ...

You think the capital of the United States is Elkhart, Indiana.
"Roughing it" is a site with only water and electric.
You've watched the movie "RV" in your RV.

Question: Do you know why God gave us shin bones?
Answer: So we could find trailer hitches in the dark.

Although I have camper's insurance, if anyone steals my tent, I'm no longer covered.

Five Deadly Terms Used by a Woman



- Fine:** This is the word women use to end an argument when she knows she is right and you need to shut-up.
- Nothing:** Means something & you need to be worried.
- Go Ahead:** This is a dare, not permission, do not do it.
- Whatever:** A woman's way of saying screw you.
- That's Okay:** She is thinking long & hard on how and when you will pay for your mistake.

BONUS WORD: Wow!
This is not a compliment, she's amazed that one person could be so stupid.

Helpful LINKS

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

Event Schedule 2024

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| December | Sat, Dec 16, 2023 | <i>Very Festive</i> |  |
| 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 | | | |
| February | Sun, Feb 11, 2024 | <i>Delicious</i> | |
| Florida Souper Bowl Party hosted by Sandy Sasuta & Kathy Kushman | | | |
| March | Sun, Mar 17, 2024 | <i>Grand</i> | |
| St. Patrick's Day Party hosted by Rousseaus in Southbury, CT | | | |
| April | April 26-28 | <i>A great start for the season.</i> | |
| 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 and Dave Jensen at Charlie Brown Campground in Eastford, CT | | | |
| June | June 21-23 | | |
| Adirondack Rendezvous at Scaroon Manor Campground, Pottersville, NY, hosted by Lynn and Carl Davis | | | |
| 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 | | | |

What did you think?

All Chatters are available on the club website.

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

1 and 9

Blew
respective is everything

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



Friday May 31 - Sunday June 2

Charlie Brown Campground

**98 Chaplin Road
Eastford, CT 06242**

Visit with old and new Connecticut Airstream Friends

Bike the CT Airline Trail

Hike in Natchaug State Forest

Explore Historic Quiet Corner towns

Create your own Succulent Garden Planter*

* A small fee will be charged for the succulent garden project.

South West themed Games/Corn Hole/Cactus Throw

Enjoy our covered Pavilion with campfire ring

Campsites \$130.50/ for two nights

FRIDAY

- 5:30 PM - Heavy Happy Hour (potluck)
- 7:00 - Campfire

SATURDAY

- 8:00 AM - Huevos Rancheros
- Club meeting
- 3:30 PM - Succulent Garden Planter project
- Free time
- 6:00 - Fajitas with special toppings
- 8:00 - Campfire

SUNDAY

- 8:00 - Continental potluck breakfast

Registration: Please complete the

[Connecticut Airstream Club JotForm Here.](#)

Then follow the instructions to reserve your campsite at Charlie Brown Campground.

Rally Hosts: Carol and Chris Dubrowski, Dave Jensen, Christine and Glen Lessig

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ADIRONDACK RENDEZVOUS JUNE 21 - 23, 2024

JUST CAMPING

This is just a rendezvous, meaning no planned meals or activities...just a fun way to explore a new place with Airstream friends. Who knows what impromptu happenings might occur?

This area of the Adirondacks has amazing hiking trails, biking, and water sport opportunities. Great small towns nearby for groceries and casual dining. Less than one hour to Fort Ticonderoga, for history buffs. Easy access from I-87.

* Scaroon Manor Campground is managed by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. It is NOT a State Park



Click here to sign up online.

<https://form.jotform.com/240533876940159>

Join us Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club Share Your Smile

SCAROON MANOR CAMPGROUND ON THE SHORES OF SCHROON LAKE POTTERSVILLE, NY

RESERVE YOUR
SITE THROUGH
[RESERVEAMERICA.COM](https://www.reserveamerica.com)

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MODERN, CLEAN
BATHHOUSE
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DUMP STATION ON SITE
GENERATOR HOURS

EMAIL US IF YOU
DECIDE TO ATTEND
GARDENGAL54@GMAIL.COM

CHECK IN TIME IS 2:00 PM
CHECKOUT AT 10:00, SO
BOOK AN EXTRA NIGHT!

HOSTS

Lynn and Carl Davis
BRN# 17566

We're on site #26,

Taylor Point Loop

RESERVE NOW!

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The Pastures Campground Rally

Co-Hosted by Cape Cod Mass & Charter Oak Ct Airstream Clubs

Friday July 12-14, 2024

The Pastures Campground, 499 NH Rte. 10, Orford, NH 03777

Rally Hosts: Eddie Carll & Russ Fuller

Come join us for a mid-summer weekend in the greater Orford area to kick back and enjoy friends, food and the local area.

Enjoy.....

Pasture's Annual Christmas in July Celebration.

Special tour of the Post Mills Airport and Brian Boland's Ballooning Experimental Balloon and Airship Museum and the Vermontasaurus with Rick Cipot

Kayaking, Hiking or Biking

Joining in with the campground Christmas decorating of your trailer

Joint Club and Campground Residents Barbeque.

Live music on The Common on Saturday evening in Orford.

Kayak and Pontoon Boat rental are available for those who want to enjoy close to 40 miles of our beautiful section of the Connecticut River.

- ❑ 5 pm Friday Social hour-Bring your own drinks and simple/Light appetizers.
- ❑ 6 pm Friday Baked Potato Dinner with all the fixings. 8pm Campfire with Ice Cream.
- ❑ 7 am Saturday Early Bird Coffee Hour
- ❑ 8am Saturday Ham egg and cheese sandwich breakfast, home fries and assorted fruit.
- ❑ 5 pm Joint Summer Barbeque with Pastures Summer Folks (Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Corn) co-hosted by Kim and Doug Robinson you might bring your favorite Christmas themed summer desert. 8 pm Campfire
- ❑ 7am Sunday Early Coffee Hour.
- ❑ 8 am Sunday Continental Breakfast.
- ❑ 5pm Sunday Cleanout your fridge dinner if you stay Sunday Night

Rally fee \$20.00 per person, which includes firewood and a kitty fee.

Camping rate is \$35 for RVs under 35 ft. and \$40 for larger units, for water/electric sites. Please arrange your stay directly with Eddie by email: ecarl162@gmail.com Come early and stay longer if you like! Eddie & Paula will be at the Pastures July 11-15, 2023

Names _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ email _____

WBCCI # _____ Trailer length _____

Camping rate is \$35 for RVs under 35 ft. Nights _____ X \$35 = _____ over 35' X \$40 _____

Rally fee \$20.00 per person. \$20 X _____ = _____ Total Camping + Fee _____

Please make checks payable to CCMAC , fill out this form, mail or email

Eddie Carll, 12 River St, Plymouth, MA 02360

For additional information contact Eddie Carll at 508-454-6895 or ecarl162@gmail.com

The Pastures Campground Rally Friday July 12-14, 2024

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Mystic Outdoor Art Festival Rally

august 9-11, 2024

new england & connecticut airstream clubs
co-sponsored rally



Location: **SunOutdoors Mystic RV Resort and Campground**
45 Camp Ground Rd., Old Mystic, CT06372

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 a light continental breakfast offering
- Sun pm, for those staying overnight, an optional group dinner at a local restaurant is likely – details tbd

Information about the art festival will be made available online by organizers [HERE](#). So much 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 DIRECTLY and mention you are part of the “Airstream Club Rally”.

Jessie Baldwin, Resort Manager, at 860-245-6039. They will honor a 20% discount off listed rates between August 9-12, 2024 for our rally attendees. **Twenty campsites (electric/water) are being held for this rally until May 1st**, after which time they become open to the public and you can take a chance getting one.

A **\$10 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, and firewood.

Rally registration: Please complete this [online jotform](#) for rally hosts once you have reserved your campsite.

Questions? **Tess McShane** at (860) 536-4113, suzzypoi@gmail.com

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Come join your hosts **Michael & Sandy Sasuta** and Co-Hosts **Richard & Karthleen Kushman** for a fun weekend, along with the Fall Business Meeting and installation of officers. The campground is pet friendly with dogs on leashes but away from food areas.

- FRIDAY** 5 pm Light Happy Hour (bring something to share)
6 pm Sloppy Joes, coleslaw & chips provided by the hosts.
(Bring your own plates, utensils & drinks to all meals.)
Dessert provided and campfire, weather permitting.
- SATURDAY** 8 am Pancake & sausage breakfast with coffee/tea/juice.
Followed by the Club Meeting.
Afternoon free to tour the area.
5 pm Heavy Appetizer Happy Hour (bring something to share)
Dessert provided and campfire, weather permitting.
- SUNDAY** 8 am Breakfast sandwich with coffee/tea/juice.

All units must stop at office to sign in, receive vehicle pass, campground rules and show your pets vaccination certificate.

CHECK IN TIME AFTER 2 pm/CHECK OUT TIME BY 1 pm. Early arrivals/late departures to be coordinated directly with Travelers Woods. 413-648-9105

FEE: \$70.00 for 2 nights camping (water & electric) plus a kitty fee of \$15.00 per person. Children 12 and under are free. All the information to register for this rally is on our CT Jotform.

[Click here to reserve your site and join the rally.](#) [Send a check or pay online.](#)



Directions: On your GPS the address is 152 River STREET, Bernardston, MA. There is a low clearance bridge 10.5 feet in height, but Airstreams will clear. If over 10.5 feet or a motor home, don't follow these directions. From I91 Northbound, take exit #50B, turn right on Route 10. From I91 Southbound, take exit #50, turn right on Route 10. Turn left at Hillside Pizza (just past the river bridge). Travelers Woods is approximately ¼ mile on the left, just past the overpass.

Join us Charter Oak Connecticut Airstream Club Share Your Smile