



Chatter

October 2025

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

President's Message

by Rhona Fuller



What an amazing year of camping and other events. I would like to thank all the event hosts, the Board of Directors and all the members of Connecticut Airstream Club (CTAC) that made it such a success.

This year included three boondocking rallies which were a lot of fun, including a Bisson Farm, thanks to Dave, and many more rallies at some of our favorite campgrounds.

I want to give a special shout out to Michael and Sandy Sasuta for all the years they have hosted the Fall Meeting and are now stepping back and handing the reigns over next year to Cindy Brodeur and Joyce Rousseau. Thank you to our new Board of Directors who were elected for this coming year I know the club is in good hands with you I also want to thank my husband Russ, who I know will be my sounding board, a lot!

Going forward to next season, we have a very full schedule with region rallies to a trip to Lake Compounce, to a rally at Jersey Shore Haven and a few surprises to be announced later. Our last get together for 2025 will be at Don and Eileen Allers house on December 20th sign up will be in Jotforms. Thank you to both for hosting this for another year.

Russ and I will be heading to Travelers Rest in Florida, in the next couple of weeks to experience our first true Snowbird season but will be back for Thanksgiving with the kids and then Christmas at TR, with a lot of our CTAC family.

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The Airstream Guide to Traveling with Pets



Shared adventure with friends, family, or those you meet along the way is part of the Airstream ethos. And for many Airstreamers, that includes at least one very special best friend: a pet.

Live Rivated®

What Do You Think?

There is a barrel with no lid and some wine in it. "This barrel of wine is more than half full," says the woman. "No, it's not," says the man. "It's less than half full." Without any measuring implements and without removing any wine from the barrel, how can they determine who is correct?

What do you call a group of Storks?

Answers Page 9

Link of the Month



5 Airstream Interior Remodels That Will Blow Your Mind

Past Presidents Message



by Julie Steers

For my last Chatter article, I just want to thank you all (the amazing Connecticut Airstream Club) for your support during my time as 2nd and 1st Vice President and President. Several people asked me, "Are you glad you are done?" I would be lying if I said that I will miss the responsibility of a leadership position. Overall, I enjoyed the opportunity to serve the club in a leadership role. More importantly while holding these positions, I never felt alone or without help and encouragement if I needed it. As a club, we are so fortunate to have a wealth of talent, history and expertise but the fact that others are so willing to share their time and treasure is to

me a rarity in organizations.

Billy and I look forward to enjoying more club activities in the future as well as expanding our horizons in the greater Airstream community especially once he retires. (One year and counting!). Rhona Fuller is going to do an amazing job as President and I am happy to be able to hand over the gavel (so to speak) to such a capable and enthusiastic club member. ~



by Sandy Sasuta

Welcome

Shelby & Holt McChord **5465**

Newtown, CT

Paul & Pam Brunet **5416**

Plainfield, CT Affiliate

Hope everyone is enjoying the fall season with apple & pumpkin picking, fall colors, mums, the harvest moon and butternut squash soup, to name a few things. The Sweater Weather Rally had a good turnout with 20 Airstreams including first timers: **RUI & MEREDITH DeSOUSA**, **TIMOTHY RAFTERY & JACQUELINE GREEN** and Region 3 member **ART BRENDZE**. It was great to see everyone and catch up.

Rumor has it that **BILLY & JULIE STEERS** may have bought the Fletchers 23FB. Time will tell, and there may be another couple that have purchased a larger Airstream. Stay tuned. Congratulations to both!

Long time former member **ROGER CROCKETT** passed away on 9/20/25 at 96 years old. He was the last of our Charter Members, having joined in 1970 and served as President in 1974. He and his wife Ruth spent their winters at Travelers Rest in Florida.



Roger Crockett

While renovating our home in Florida, incredibly, when we knocked down a wall, we found a secret, fully furnished room! And then we remembered, we live in a duplex.

What's the difference between Black Eyed Peas and Chick Peas? Black Eyed Peas can sing us a song. Chick Peas can hummus one.

Congratulations to the new slate of officers...we look forward to a wonderful schedule of events in 2026.

Connecticut

Come rally with us - share your smile.

Chatter

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Rally

FALL BUSINESS MEETING
October 3-5, 2025
Travelers Woods of New England

by **Bob Curran**

Mike and Sandy Sasuta sure know how to host a rally and their expertise, developed over the course of 41 years of attending and hosting rallies as members of the Airstream Club International, was certainly evident when the Connecticut Airstream Club held its Sweater Weather Rally & Fall Business Meeting October 3-5, 2025, at Travelers Woods in Bernardston, MA.

It featured 20 trailers, 37 people, a tremendous venue, gorgeous weather, delicious meals and, most importantly, the unparalleled camaraderie that has been a hallmark of this club for many years.

Participants included Carla/Eric O'Brien, Howie/Mary-Jo Jones, Art Brendze, Billy/Julie Steers, Timothy Raftery/Jacqueline Green, Sherry/Alex Porven, Michael Giunta, Joyce/Gilles Rousseau, Glen/Christine Lessig, Michael/Sandy Sasuta, Dave Jensen, Charles Roy/Nathalie Gingras, Eddie/Paula Carll, Rui/Meredith DeSousa,

Brian/Maureen Hunter, Toni Nolder, Bill/Evie Watts, Russ/Rhona Fuller, Bob/Andrea Curran and Chris/Carol Dubrowski.



Eight of our new board of directors. Rhona Fuller, Dave Jensen, Carol Dubrowski, Chris Dubrowski, Sandy Sasuta, Julie Steers, Christine Lesseg and Brian Hunter.



Fire, friends, fun and silver.



Chit chat time.



Julie, Brian, Maureen, Billy, Glen & Christine posing.



Rally

Continued

The festivities kicked off Friday night with a Happy Hour, campfire and a lively, interesting and educational conversation about everyone's favorite campsites.

Saturday morning started off with a pancake and blueberry compote breakfast. Highlighting the business meeting on Saturday morning were the installation of new officers and board members and remarks from Region 1 president Michael Giunta, who strongly encouraged attendees to continuously mingle with members of other clubs, other rallies and other regions.

Outgoing president Julie Steers, who gave each attendee a large home-grown butternut squash profusely thanked fellow officers and club members for all their support during her term, and incoming president Rhona Fuller enthusiastically urged members to remain active with club activities.

With the unseasonably warm 80-degree weather, members headed off to see various local attractions, such as the Bridge of Flowers in nearby Shelburne Falls, MA, the Kringle Candle in Bernardston, the foliage on scenic Route 9 in Vermont or the rail trail bike path along the Connecticut River.



A beautiful day for a bike ride.



The croissant sandwich crew.



Waiting for the meatballs.



Bob & Andrea Curran, Chris Dubrowski, meatballs are ready!



Rally

Continued

A social hour, meatball sub dinner and ice cream dessert preceded another great campfire on Saturday night.

Tasty ham and egg croissant breakfast sandwiches gave everyone a boost of energy as they traveled home or to their next destination on Sunday morning.

The overwhelming popularity of Travelers Woods (which has donated over \$85,000 to the Shriners Hospitals for Children in Massachusetts over the past 24 years) was confirmed when -attendees voted to return for a fall rally next year which will be hosted by Joyce and Gilles Rousseau and Cyndi and Michael Brodeur, held October 2-4, 2026. ~



Russ Fuller and Michael Sasuta, Master Pancake Flippers.



The pancake line.



Salad Makers: Mari-Jo Jones and Paula Carll.



Good food brings smiles.

Connecticut

Come rally with us - share your smile.



Rally

Continued

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Time for a meal!

Photos by Sandy Sasuta and Joyce Rousseau





Presidents Message

Continued

Russ and I did get to do some traveling this year as he retired in January. We made it out to Sugarcreek in Ohio, which was truly an amazing experience. We learnt so much about the Amish way of life. It's so pure and peaceful. I met Leroy, who was 84, had 10 children, 30+grandchildren and 20+ great grandchildren, and more on the way. He worked three days on his farm and two days in the brickyard. He had no wrinkles and looked better than I ever will!!

We also went to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville. It was an experience that I can't describe. If you didn't have a tear or a lump in your throat when you left, there's something wrong.

As I end my first letter as President, I ask each of you to help support our club in any way you can big or small it does make a difference.

Happy and safe travels see you down the road! ~



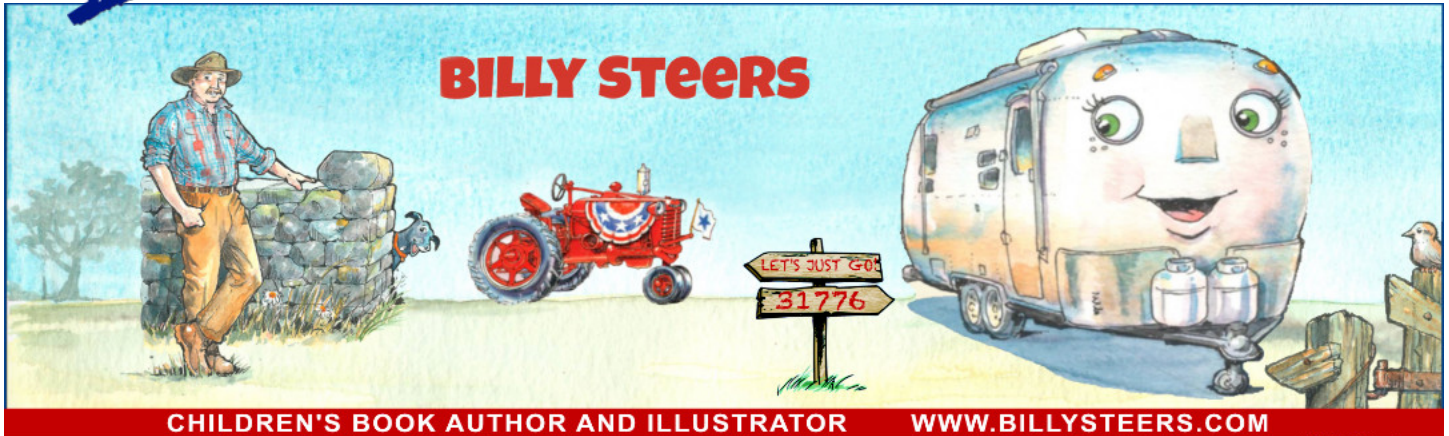
Pushing Buttons

by Richard Kushman

We have traveled in an Airstream for 26 years, 20 of those in a 34 foot trailer. Then in 2024 the downsizing bug burrowed into my head. You know, simple easy compact Van-Life, a very popular concept. So we went from a 34 ft trailer to a Rangeline Van, what could be better? The Rangeline is very well equipped, mobile, easy to drive and requires less physical movement. We could easily reach and open the kitchen trash bin from the living room or step directly off the bed into the bath. After a long day of travel it is a simple matter to swivel the driver and passenger seats around forming a very compact all purpose dining/lounge/office/TV room area. The compact space in the van, though cleverly arranged, only permits one person at a time to move about leaving a partner time to relax and practice needed patience skills.

We drove the Rangeline to the York International Rally without any actual plan, only a nostalgic curiosity. We met Pattrick Botticelli from Colonial Airstream and explored all the shiny trailers on display. Our 2 season jaunt into van-life had reset our reference memory from a roomy 34 footer to something more akin to a compact and well appointed prison cell. Exploring and sitting in a shiny silver trailer felt luxurious, irresistible and suddenly unavoidable. So yes - we pushed the trade-in button and said hello to our new, comfortable and spacious little Globetrotter 27FB.

Now, before we could bring our new Airstream home, we needed a tow vehicle. We decided on a Ford Expedition and for the first time became acquainted with the Auto Start Stop feature and the "A" button. Most people, I suppose, have some experience with this cleverly engineered annoyance. Now we are pushing the "A" button every time we start the car which turns off the ASS feature. Reminds me of a 1963 Chevy I once drove, but unlike the Chevy, the Expedition does restart, however, while sitting in traffic *the motor isn't running feeling* lingers. Seems like there must be millions of people world wide every day disengaging their ASS and allegedly putting a nail in the earth's coffin. They call it a feature instead of a nuisance and dealers sure never mention it. What the EPA has actually encouraged is the creation and implementation of an unwanted empty headed irritant that spurs drivers to push a button. The *ASS button* - a feature which at least bears the perfect acronym. ~



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

Executive Board



President
Rhona Fuller



Past President
Julie Steers

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

- Sherry Anderson



First Vice President
Dave Jensen



Second Vice President
Chris Dubrowski



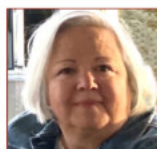
Treasurer
Sandy Sasuta



Recording Secretary
Christine Lessig



Second Year Director
Carol Dubrowski



Second Year Director
Deni Van Der Voort



First Year Director
Cyndi Brodeur



First Year Director
Brian Hunter



Social Secretary
Kathleen Kushman

Standing Committee Chairs



Membership
Glen Lessig



Newsletter/Webmaster
Richard Kushman



Ethics and Grievances
Mike Sasuta

Storytelling

A must for your bucket list!

by Dick Wheatley

Dick Wheatley and Janet Stevens along with several others from Travelers Rest in Florida attended Storytelling recently. Here Dick shares some of his thoughts regarding a special presentation this season.

Storytelling had an optional program at the Jackson Theatre that we attended. Donald Davis was interviewed by his three sons, Doug, Kelly & Jonathan, on stage. At 81 years of age he talked about his career as a storyteller and answered questions from his sons. It was a great event!



Donald Davis in the bowtie.

An interesting part of the interview between Donald Davis and his three sons, all professionals, was his sons saying they can't understand how he can tell a story as he does and Donald saying, he can't understand it either.

The other special event in the Legacy Series was a talk by retired Major General John Borling who spent 6 1/2 years as a POW during the Vietnam conflict. He devised a system of taps on the walls that were used for communication. A grid was drawn with the alphabet and corresponding taps that the prisoners used to write and share poetry. He told the story of how he and John McCain were selected as chaplains for the prisoners, a task he said neither were suited for. He wrote a book called "Taps on the walls", a collection of his poems from those years in captivity.

Helpful LINKS

[Connecticut Airstream Club](#)

[Connecticut Club Supplies](#)

[Russ's Spring Checklist](#)

[Russ's Winterizing](#)

[Airstream Club International](#)

[Airstream Supply](#)

[ACI Resource Center](#)

[Blue Beret Magazine](#)

[CTAC on Facebook](#)

[Courtesy Parking](#)

[Airstream USA](#)

[Air Forums](#)

[AllStays Camping](#)

[Campsite Photos](#)

[Exits & Highways](#)

[Passport America](#)

[Region One ACI](#)

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[RV Park Reviews](#)

[State Park Guide](#)

[Tin Can Tourists](#)

What did you think?

Connecticut Chatter

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

A group of storks is called a mustering.

Barrel: Tilt the barrel until the wine just touches the barrel's lip. If they can see the bottom of the barrel, then it's *less* than half full. If they can't see the bottom of the barrel because it's still covered by wine, then it's *more* than half full.

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



What you can expect:

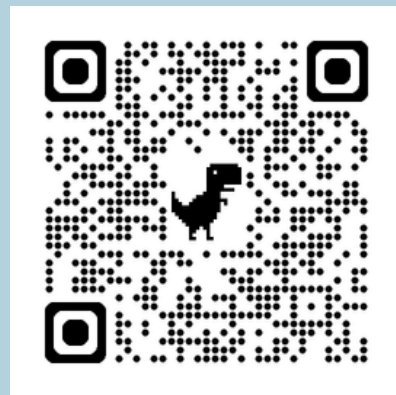
- Luxury, ultra all-inclusive cruise on Riverside Ravel by Riverside Cruises.
- An Airstream exclusive river cruise sailing from Lyon to Avignon through the Rhone Valley and Provence region of France.
- Inclusions: Gourmet meals, unlimited premium drinks, choice of shore excursions, all gratuities, and all panoramic balcony-window suites with butler service.
- Great pre-cruise group options include additional 3 nights on Ravel, tours to Normandy or Champagne region. Post cruise is an optional group trip to Paris.



July 15-22, 2026

More Info:

JASONGRENDAHL@GMAIL.COM



<https://airstreamclub.org/silver-river-2026>