

SIERRA NEVADA UNIT, WBCCI

FEBRUARY 2004 *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER



A recent drive from Kingman, Arizona to Reno indicated that a big gathering of RV's must be coming up. I guess it must be the Hobo Rally in Blythe. The road, in particular US 93 through Searchlight to Laughlin, was almost a solid stream of Class A's, fifth wheels, and other assorted RV's. I was beginning to think I should turn the Bvan around and head south too.

As for the Sierra Nevada Unit, January was a quiet month. Thanks to suggestions from Fred Hersey our rally and event schedule has undergone some revisions which provide more detail on our upcoming activities. Check it out at <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org> In particular we want to remind everyone that all of the Sierra Nevada Unit rallies and other events are open to everyone, members and guests alike. Just give us a call and let us know you are coming.

Our February luncheon will be at the Wigwam in Fernley. We hope all those of your in the Fernley, Fallon, and other points East will be able to join us. See you all in Fernley on February 12.
Diane Leipper



Delicate Arch, Arches NP, Moab, Utah

The February meeting will be at the Wigwam Restaurant in Fernley on the 12th at 11:30 AM. The Wigwam restaurant is on the right as you come into town from the west. There will be a board meeting and everyone is welcome. Enjoy browsing through the Indian artifacts scattered throughout the restaurant.

February Birthdays

Bryan Leipper - 1st
Virginia Leipper - 1st
Elenere Amidon - 5th
Michael Faker - 22nd
Ethel Sandell - 28th

Anniversaries

Michael and Debbie Smith - 24th



Buckskin Mt State Park near Parker, AZ

See Tales and Views of the Good Old Days on page 2 of this newsletter. This edition, taken from the Sierra Nevada Airstreams website, tells a tale from the 1962 Alaska trip taken by members Dale and Virginia Leipper. This tale and many others are available on the website. If you have pictures and/or tales from the good old days that you think are interesting, email or mail them to Don Damoth at: drdbiker@aol.com or 4610 Sleepy Hollow, Reno, NV 89502

For Sale: 94' - 34' beauty with only 52K mi. on it. Steve Treece @ [775.246.7631](tel:775.246.7631) - EximiusE@aol.com

TALES AND VIEWS OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS NUMBER 2

In 1962 The Dale and Virginia Leipper family packed up 5 kids in a 1961 International Harvester Travel-All and a 13 foot travel trailer and headed for Alaska. The trip started in College Station Texas and by the time we reached home again we had traveled nearly ten thousand miles in a month. That summer the Sears catalog cover had Ted Williams, bragging about a grueling 10,000 mile two month trip - and he wasn't traveling with kids!.



Almost all Leipper family trips involved various business meetings for Dale Leipper. These meetings and his work were usually the determining factor in where we went and what the time frame was. This was no exception. There were meetings in Colorado and the ultimate goal, a meeting in Fairbanks. In addition this trip included a stop at the WBCCI International Rally in Auburn Washington and family visits in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Kingman Arizona on the way home.

In 1962 much of the route through the Yukon territory was gravel and facilities such as gas stations and campgrounds were few and far between. One of the most memorable was a campground called Pink Mountain. It was essentially a bare dirt open space which included an automobile wrecking yard and pit toilets. On the other end of the spectrum was Laird Hot Springs. Absolutely beautiful, crystal clear water with board walking paths, lots of moose, (and bears) and wonderful hot sulfur water to soak in.



When you reached Alaska the road was paved but the road suffered from frost heaves to the point you almost got seasick. You often wished you could be back on the gravel.

Alaska mosquitos are well known and we had a proper introduction. They would bite anything left exposed and even bit through clothing and hats. Then there was the problem with the sun. We normally traveled till late afternoon, then stopped for the night with enough sunlight to fix dinner and get ready for bed. On this trip we would be driving along with the sun in our eyes and getting very hungry. When Dad would look at his watch it would be 11 o'clock at night. We would stop, fix dinner, get to bed then have to put pillows over our eyes to shut out the sunlight. The trip up was dry and dusty. Everything inside and out had a layer of dust. The trip back was wet and soggy. The mud was three fourths of the way up the side of the trailer. When it rained, my sisters and I had to get in bed and be served dinner in bed as there was no place else dry to sit and eat.

Although we had a brand X trailer, when we arrived in Auburn my Grandfather Bryan Harrison met us at the WBCCI rally gate and we were allowed to park near their Airstream and have a nice visit, and also visited the World's Fair. A great trip and lots of good memories!

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4610 Sleepy Hollow Dr

Reno NV 89502

FEBRUARY 2004



WELCOME TO THE SIERRA NEVADA UNIT of WBCCI.

We are a small, friendly group who enjoy sharing our enjoyment of Airstreams, and the Airstream lifestyle, with others. You are invited to come to any of our meetings and if you like, to join our Unit. We predict that you will make many friends and relish the camaraderie of our rallies, caravans, and group activities. Our members are always ready to share their advice on equipment problems and trailering knowledge. In addition to being a member of our local Unit, you will be one of several thousand who make up the Wally Byam Caravan Club International (the Airstream RV Club.)

Dianne Leipper, Unit President 775-972-9392