

# SIERRA NEVADA UNIT, WBCCI

AUGUST 2005 *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER



July Picnic The SNU picnic at Spooner Lake was a welcome reprieve from the heat in the valleys. The temp was in the 80's rather than the 100's. The picnic was well attended and of course we had some great food to share. Chuck Fell discussed plans for our tour of Bodie in August. A day trip to Bodie will be part of our Twin Lakes rally. The Damoth's brought two of their grandkids to the picnic. They all enjoyed bike rides around the area. Jenny, Rich and Judy Jaggard's daughter was able to come. She will be heading to college in Missouri soon so it was nice to see her before she leaves. Others in attendance were Fred and Ann Hersey, Dyann and Jerry Thornburg, Bryan, Diane, and Virginia Leipper, Dave Gmur, Randy Grossmann, Judy Fell, Judy, Rich and Brian Jaggard. We missed Vicki Grossmann at the picnic but look forward to seeing her at the Twin Lakes rally. All in all a great day and an enjoyable gathering of the SNU.



Relaxing in the Pines at Spooner Lake

August Rally The Crags group area at Twin Lakes is the site of the SNU August rally. This rally includes a special day trip on Saturday August 27th. SNU Member Chuck Fell will take us on a tour of the nearby ghost town of Bodie. We plan to leave the Twin Lakes campground by 9:30 am and arrive back about 3:30 pm. Bodie is about a 45 minute drive from Twin Lakes. Bodie is at an altitude of 8400 ft and the temperature can vary considerably. Be aware if you have any health concerns that might be affected by altitude, bring a good sun hat and sunscreen, wear layered clothing and good comfortable walking shoes. The area around Bodie is dirt and gravel. There are pit and flush toilets but you need to bring drinking water. Please call Diane at 775 972 9392 and let her know if you plan to attend. For more information and maps go to: <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/events/05ag-twinlakes-index.html>



Chuck Fell briefing Picnicers on Bowie Trip

### Upcoming Events

\* Thursday Sept 22 - Sunday Sept - 25, 2005 Eagle Lake BLM Campground at the North end - about 30 miles northeast of Susanville, CA off Hwy 139

\* Friday - Sunday October 20 - 23, 2005 Davis Creek group area. This rally includes the election and installation of officers for 2006

\* Thursday - Sunday November 10 - 13, 2005 Pyramid Lake, Pelican Point - about 30 miles north of Reno on state Rt 445, on the West side of the lake. More details on these and other events are on the web and will be included in future newsletters.



Chatting - an SNU tradition

Notes from Jerry Thornburg Between two ladies, both named Diane (Dyann), it was determined that I needed to write an article. So here it goes. Since Dyann and I have been married we have owned 3 Airstreams. The first a 1965 Landyacht, was purchased from a co-worker, it needed a complete interior rebuild that took us a year to complete. The second was the 1983 31' International that most of you have seen. The last is the new 2005 30' Classic that we purchased last month from Mountain Family RV. Bryan's fault, he said I needed a power jack for the front of my trailer. He just didn't tell me it came with a new trailer attached. Jon, the owner of Mountain Family RV and his wife were enjoyable to work with, as was the salesman, Marc. The entire purchase was pleasant and went smoothly. We first heard of SNU in an article of the local Fallon paper, for a luncheon. Since then the experiences have been as enjoyable as the people are diverse. (Forgoing the Mormon crickets and the 4 hours it took with a power washer to get them off the rigs after the Kingston rally.) What a great group. We have attended all the rallies this year and have really enjoyed the company. With the broad backgrounds of the members there is always some new tidbits of information to pickup, from working on the trailer to tricks for the truck. After I have tried some of the ideas I will let you know of the results. We are heading to Coon Creek Summit above Elko for a little deer hunting and a lot of fishing and plan to come back in time to go to Twin Lakes. Hope to see everyone there. - Jerry Thornburg

2006 Rally Schedule We have received lots of good ideas for possible rally sites for 2006. One idea that is pretty well confirmed is a rally at Rye Patch with a day trip to the nearby almost ghost town of Unionville. Another idea in the works is the Walker River Resort in Smith Valley. Rick LaBorde as offered some ideas, including a possibility near June Lakes and one near Obsidian Dome. The Roots have also got a few ideas that they are checking out. We plan to hold rallies monthly from March through October and lunches November through February. We plan to finalize our schedule in September, so please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions on what you would like to do or where you might like to go.

Restorations A part of Airstream ownership, especially with the older ones, is repair, maintenance, and restoration. Two members of the SNU have set up great websites that provide pictures and information regarding the restoration of their vintage era Airstreams. Check out Tim and Kimber Kendzior's 1977 Overlander and Bob and Sandra Krumwiede's 1964 Overlander.

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/restorations/index.html>

#### Unique perspective on the history of WBCCI

Earlier this summer I got an email from a man named Mike Orchard (WBCCI # 32083). He had come across the photo galleries of my grandparents (WBCCI #772) on our website. He was interested in seeing more photos of WBCCI rallies and caravans of the 1950's and 1960's. I exchanged a few emails with him and over time I became curious about his Airstream background so I asked him to send me some information. Come to find out he has a very unique perspective on the history of WBCCI. Mike's first introduction to Airstreams was in 1966 when a caravan stopped in his hometown of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. He was 6 years old. He and some friends sold berries to the caravaners. He got fascinated with where these Airstreamers were from and enjoyed hearing their stories. Mike wrote down the WBCCI numbers of all the Airstreams on the Caravan as well as their license plate numbers. He did this as a way to keep track of who he had seen. Thirty years later Mike is still logging the Airstreams he sees. He has compiled an amazing set of statistics and information in a series of log books. Along the way we have gained some notoriety because of his unique hobby and made some lifelong friends among Airstreamers. To read more about Mike and his hobby go to:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/travelogues/32083-orchard/index.html>

As an example, Mike's records on the Sierra Nevada Unit show that in 1996 the SNU had 13 members, in 2001 there were 24 members and in 2005 (as of the directory print date) there were 14 members. As of July 26 the SNU has 20 paid members, 7 of which are new for 2005. We are definitely on a positive trend.

NorCal in Reno The NorCal Unit will be holding a carrally at the Reno Air Races in September. This would be a good opportunity to meet fellow Airstreamers from the Northern California area. They will be parking in a lot across the street from St. Michaels church Sept 11th through Sept 18th. The church will be a gathering place for this rally. Other plans include a trip to the Animal Arc on Tuesday and a final dinner at the Bonanza Casino on Saturday night. For more details on this rally contact the hosts Jo and Jeri Schmidt. Phone 707-938-3356 or cell 707-292-7573.

Diane Leipper  
[diane@leipper.org](mailto:diane@leipper.org)

## DIRECTIONS TO THE AUGUST SNU TWIN LAKES RALLY

Take Rt 395 south to Bridgeport, CA, about 110 miles south of Reno. Turn right on the Twin Lakes road next to the gas station just as you enter town and travel approximately 9.6 miles. Turn left on South Twin road across from the Twin Lakes Resort Laundromat and travel about ½ mile, then turn left at Crags Campground after you cross the bridge. The group campground is on the right after you enter the campground.



Mountains above Twin Lakes



Twin Lakes - As seen from the trail to the Falls

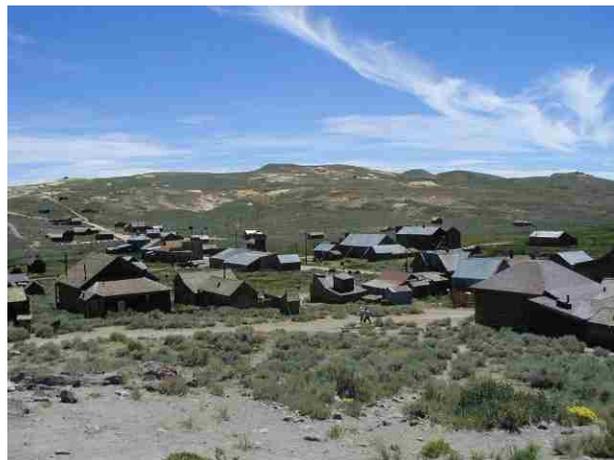


Crags Group Campground



Falls above Twin Lakes - 30 Minute hike

The Rally at the Crags Campground includes a special trip to Bodie State Park on Saturday. This is one of the best preserved ghost towns in the area, and we are lucky to have one of our members, Chuck Fell, give a guided tour of the Park. Chuck is a ranger at Bodie and he will show us areas that are not usually open to the public. So mark your Calendars for August 26th-28th and join us for this great opportunity.



Bodie State Park

Welcome to the "Home of the Happy Camper!"

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*Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 2005



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.)