

# SIERRA NEVADA UNIT, WBCCI

JANUARY 2006 *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER



**December Luncheon** We had a great luncheon on December 3, at JT's in Gardnerville. The Hersey's, Jaggard's, Thornburg's, Grossmann's, Fell's, Leipper's and Gmur were there. JT's was beautifully decorated for the holidays and the food was great as usual. We had a good time visiting as well as eating. After lunch a few of us went over to the Jaggard's to see the 1947 teardrop trailer Rich had purchased recently. It was in pretty good shape for it's age. To see pictures of it go to <http://www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snuze/index.php?cat=14>



JT's Basque Bar in Gardnerville, NV

**1976 WBCCI President** The SNU was chartered in February 1976. That year Max Connett was president of WBCCI. His signature is on the Unit's charter. SNU member, Mike Orchard was privileged to meet Max at an International Rally. Here are some of his recollections:



JT's beautiful decorations

I believe I met Max at opening ceremonies at the 1990 International Rally in South Bend Indiana. He invited me to stop by his motorhome for a visit. Upon arrival he told me of his love for WBCCI and how it allowed him to meet so many interesting people that he wouldn't have if he wasn't a member of the club. One of his stories recounted that back in 1930's Chicago he was a member of one of the big bands. I think it was Jimmy Dorsey's. Al Capone saw them perform and was so impressed that he invited them to his mansion for a private performance. Some of the band members were a little apprehensive but everything went off without a hitch.



The Hersey's and other happy diners

1976 was the U.S. Bicentennial year and the International was held in Louisville Kentucky. It was the 19th International and is known as the largest ever International with 4493 rigs attending. Max Connett as the International President that year with his first mate Loucylle. In 1976 WBCCI was at its height of popularity with over 25000 families and 80000 members. The good old days. One of the entertainers that year was Anita Bryant, and Colonel Harlan Sanders (KFC) also made an appearance. The Max story is to the best of my recollection and may or may not be accurate. The 1976 facts are 100%.

Mike Orchard WBCCI #32083 Sierra Nevada Unit



Christmas Tree, Christmas Friends

### **Invitations to be mailed in January**

Invitations will be mailed mid January for the February 18th kick off celebration of the first 30 years of the SNU. This event will be held at Silver Oak Golf Club restaurant in Carson City, NV. Randy and Vicki Grossmann are coordinating this event and it is sure to be a luncheon you won't want to miss. We encourage all SNU members, potential members and friends to attend. So mark your calendars now! To help with planning RSVP's are requested.

### **Douglas update**

As mentioned in another SNU newsletter members Roy and Bonny Douglas have moved to Missouri. In a recent phone conversation with Roy when asked how things are going, he replied that he has expanded the front porch on their house and he built a shed for the Airstream. He had heard about the hail storms in the midwest and the damage hail does to Airstreams so he didn't want to take any chances, especially after spending so much effort to polish up their 1972 Globetrotter. Sounds like Roy has his priorities right.

**Rallies** Rallies are the fundamental experience and activity for the RV association. Rallies are the gatherings to have meetings, enjoy social experiences, and visit places. Caravans are a series of rallies with coordinated travel in between rallies. Going to a rally is also a means keeping the rig ready to roll and exercising all systems so the owner can be confident of its capabilities.

In WBCCI there are unit, region, national, and special event rallies. For WBCCI rallies there are guidelines and rules, that when adhered to provide the entity holding the rally with support, recognition, and some insurance coverage. This doesn't mean these rules and structure have to be stifling and restrictive but some structure and planning is necessary to ensure the success and enjoyment of all participants. Rallies are as individual as the members who make up the group. One of the benefits of WBCCI membership is the opportunity to participate in the rallies of other Units as well as those of the region and other entities. When you take advantage of this opportunity you will begin to see the personality of the various Units and groups. You can pick and choose which suits your needs and interests. Most important you can get ideas and suggestions that you can bring back to your own unit, the SNU in this case.

This sharing is one of the things that will help the SNU keep it's rallies innovative and exciting for all members. Another important component of rallies is the participation of the members in the planning as well as participating in the rally itself.

The SNU wants your input and ideas. Several members have already taken the opportunity to contribute to the 2006 SNU rallies. It was Wes Warn who stimulated the planning for an SNU BBQ at the March rally. Dyann Thornburg has taken the lead on the planning for the April and May rallies. It was Dyann, Vicki Grossmann and Diane Leipper who have come up with ideas for the July rally. The Root's are considering possibilities for a 1970's theme rally in commemoration of the SNU formation in 1976. 2006 rally locations were suggestions from various SNU members including the Laborde's, the Root's and the Thornburg's. It was Rick Laborde whose idea has made it possible for all SNU members to have input into rally planning. Have you got ideas? Do you want to get involved in the planning? Give us a call, let us know what you want in the way of SNU rallies and what you would like to do to contribute or get involved. For more on rallies check the the following web page. <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/owners-guide/participating/rallies.html>

**Is aluminumtus hereditary?** With the recent purchase of her 1977 Globetrotter, Janet Leipper Smith has become the newest member of the Leipper family to own an Airstream and become a member of WBCCI. Janet's acquisition means that now every member of the immediate Leipper family are Airstream owners. Virginia Leipper is a second generation Airstreamer. It was her parents, Bryan and Jo Harrison who started the Leipper's on the Airstream journey. Bryan and Jo Harrison joined WBCCI in 1955, the year it was founded. Virginia (and Dale Leipper's) children. Diane, Bryan, Janet and Anita are all third generation Airstreamers. The family attachment to Airstreams is not just the trailers, it is the memories. Going to rallies with our grandparents, including the 1962 International rally in Auburn WA. Meeting so many wonderful people. Listening to our grandparents stories of their Airstream adventures and seeing their slide shows. Seeing their enthusiasm and excitement. Then when Dale and Virginia became members of the Monterey Bay Unit, one or the other of us "kids" often tagged along, even though by then we had all gone our separate ways.

We always felt welcome and we learned a lot from that great group of people. In fact Bryan bought his Airstream from MBCU members and it was the MBCU which made it possible for us to get our grandparents original WBCCI numbers. It is also beginning to look like aluminumitus might be spreading to the fourth generation. Janet's daughter and son-in-law seem very enamored with Janet's Airstream and I am sure there will be lots of camping trips for all of them in the Globetrotter. So beware, if your family members start taking an interest in your Airstream they may be showing signs of hereditary aluminumitus!

### Upcoming events

\* **The January luncheon** will be at Bavarian World in Reno. The restaurant is on the North side of Reno off I80. From the spaghetti bowl take I-80 West. Then take the WELLS AVE exit, exit number 14. Turn left onto N Wells AVE Turn right onto E 6TH ST. Bavarian World is on the southwest corner of Valley Rd. & 6th

\* **February 18th**, 30th Anniversary luncheon celebration at the Silver Oak Golf Club Restaurant in Carson City.

\* **First rally for 2006 Friday - Sunday March 24 - 26** 2006 Washoe Lake Nevada State Park - Washoe Valley between Reno and Carson City. Off US 395 2 day Rally, members & guests welcome. Board meeting Saturday open to all. The SNU will be sponsoring a special BBQ lunch at this rally with Wes Warn assisting us with the BBQ. Among the attractions of Washoe Lake are great bird watching, hiking and bike trails.

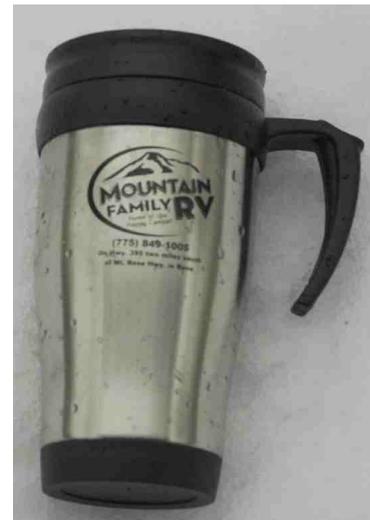
**SNU 1980 Caravan** One of the few pieces of pre 1990 SNU history still existing is now available for viewing. In 1980 SNU members held a WBCCI sanctioned Caravan of Mid-Nevada. Participants put together a scrapbook commemorating this caravan. The pictures from the scrapbook were all scanned and a photo gallery was put together that includes captions taken from the scrapbook. To see this photo gallery go to:<http://sierranevadairstreams.org/snu/snu-history/index.html> The scrapbook of this caravan has also been scanned into 4 pdf documents and is now available anyone who is interested.

### The Mugs are here!

The SNU 30th Anniversary commemorative travel mugs have arrived. These one of a kind mugs are available to anyone who wishes to make a \$10 donation per mug to the SNU. The mugs will be available at all SNU events or you can contact Diane at 775 972 9392 to make other arrangements. Our thanks to Jon Whipple, owner of Mountain Family RV for helping the SNU make this opportunity possible.

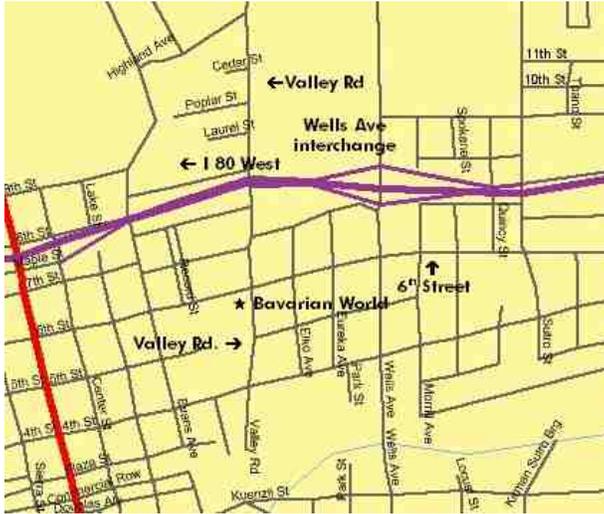


Right Side



Left Side

Don and Mary Lou Damoth will be spending Christmas and the Holidays at Davis-Monthan AFB in Tucson, AZ. We want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.



Saturday January 21, 2006  
 Luncheon - Bavarian World restaurant  
 595 Valley Road, Reno, NV  
 To RSVP email [hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org](mailto:hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org) or call  
 Diane at 775-972-9392

11:30 am Member luncheon, all members & guests  
 welcome. - board meeting.

Directions

From the spaghetti bowl take I-80 West. 0.4 mile  
 Take the WELLS AVE exit, exit number 14. go 0.2  
 miles. Turn LEFT onto N WELLS AVE. 0.2  
 Turn RIGHT onto E 6TH ST. Bavarian World is on  
 the southwest corner of Valley Rd. & 6th

Welcome to the "Home of the Happy Camper!"

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JANUARY 2006



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