

SIERRA NEVADA UNIT, WBCCI

JULY 2006 *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER

www.sierranevadaairstreams.org 775-972-9392



The WBCCI - SNU June 2006 Rally was held in Boca Springs, CA on June 22 - 25, 2006. This is the same group campsite the unit has used in previous years. This year though the road up to the campsite was in dire need of repair. During the harsh winter and spring there the road was almost washed out in spots. All who attended made it safely through. This month had a small group of members attend compared to last month's rally in Unionville, since four of our members went to Salem for the International Rally. There were four rigs: the Damoths, the Thornburgs, the Warns and the Jeppsons. The weather was hot during the day (in the 90's) and cool at night (in the 50's). Unlike previous rallies this year though there was no wind (yeah). Potluck dinners were fixed most nights with good food and great company. Discussions ranged from cooking to automobiles.



Serious Business - Not

On Friday a reporter and photographer from the local Truckee, CA newspaper showed up to do a story about Airstreams and the WBCCI - SNU. We spent about an hour with them explaining why we thought Airstreams were so popular, about the WBCCI and our unit. The reporter had apparently seen our unit's rally announcement in their paper and decided to do a story. The pictures taken will be sent to Don Damoth and they will let him know when the article will be published.



Potluck under the Pines

On Saturday the Thornburgs had their friends Eric and Tracey Amberson and their son Cole come up for lunch and spent a few hours with the group. The Amberson's brought their friends Mike and Lynette with them and a few games of horseshoes were played.

The Jeppson's had to leave Saturday afternoon because of another commitment. That night we had our only campfire for the weekend because we ended up a little low on firewood. Unlike last year when the camp host supplied us with lots of firewood from trees they had just finished cutting, this year there wasn't any to be had in the area. (Which was probably a good thing for Don because there was no chance for him to almost cut his thumb off like he did last year.) Sunday around noon the remainder of us took our bug bites and packed up to head home. All in all it was a very relaxing weekend and everyone had a good time.

Submitted by: Dyann Thornburg



Awesome Awning

WBCCI – SNU June 2006 Meeting Minutes

Submitted by: Dyann Thornburg, Secretary

Our meeting was held around 10:30am on Saturday, June 24, 2006 while attending the unit's rally at Boca Springs, CA. Members in attendance were: Don and Mary Lou Damoth, Wes and Roylaine Warn, Roger and Janet Jeppson, and Jerry and Dyann Thornburg.

Don Damoth started the meeting off by saying we needed to get a nominating committee together for the SNU's 2007 officers. Elections are to be held during our October 2006 rally at Fort Churchill, NV. Since no one volunteered to be on the committee it was decided that the group there would act as the committee.

It was then recommended that the unit's bylaws be amended if need be to add specific responsibilities to the 3 director positions instead of changing them to include a vice president's position. The 1st director's position would be in charge of doing the monthly newsletter. The 2nd director's position would be in charge of marketing/promotion and public service announcements. The 3rd director's position would be in charge of doing the rally schedule/locations for the following year.

Don stated that Bryan Leipper has agreed to run for treasurer again. Jerry Thornburg was asked and agreed to run as president. All there agreed to ask Randy Grossman to run as secretary. Candidates for the director positions were suggested and it was agreed that Don Damoth would run for the 1st director's position, Roylaine Warn agreed to run for the 2nd director's position and Diane Leipper would be asked to run for the 3rd director's position.

Rally locations for next year were talked about and several suggestions were brought up. Roger Jeppson suggested we look at going to Cedarville, CA and Pleasant Valley. He said because of the distance it might be a good chance for the unit to do a short caravan trip. Don suggested doing it during Sage Hen season would be a good idea. Doing a rally in Berlin, NV was also talked about. It was agreed that at this time it was extremely hard to choose rally locations when some of the areas on this year's schedule had not yet been visited. New locations for our winter luncheons were discussed. Wes Warn recommended looking at places in Fernley other than the Wigwam like the Truck Inn or the new casino Pioneer Crossing. Mary Lou Damoth thought trying out Austin's in Reno would be nice.

At this time the Thornburg's had guests arrive and the meeting was adjourned around 12pm.

July Rally - The July rally will be at Obsidian Dome (Inyo Nat'l Forest) dispersed camping - off US 395 south between June Lakes and Mammoth Lakes, CA. The 3 day Rally will be **Thursday - Sunday, July 20-23**. Members & guests welcome. SNU member Rick LaBorde prepared a great document with pictures that provides step by step directions on how to reach the campsite. The PDF document can be found on the rally webpage.

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2006/events/06jl-obsidianflat-index.html>

There will be a board meeting Saturday open to all. A special treat is in store for participants for Saturday. Activities in the area include excellent hiking and bike trails, a nearby stream, hot springs, and interesting geological areas. Also bring a kite and we'll see if we can still remember how to make them fly. Rally arrival time - anytime after noon on Thursday July 20th. This rally site can probably be categorized as a "3" on the SNU rally site scale. This scale was created partly for fun but it does provide a clue as to the type of area each of our rallies is located. See the rally site scale.

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/snu-misc/06ap-rallysite-categories.html>

Upcoming events

Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees on-line!

* Rally Friday -- Sunday August 18 - 20 2006 Hat Creek (Lassen Nat'l Forest) Group area #2 on Hwy 89/44 about 50 miles Northwest of Susanville, CA 2 day Rally, members & guests welcome. Board meeting Saturday open to all. Great fishing stream. Lassen Volcanic Park and Burney Falls and Subway caves nearby.

* Rally Thursday - Sunday September 28 - Oct 1, 2006 Lake Lahonton Nevada State Park, beach 7 unstructured camping area - near Silver Springs, NV off Alt 95 South. 3 day Rally, members & guests welcome. Board meeting Saturday open to all. Enjoy the peace and quiet of lakeside camping, fishing and boating, hiking and good bike riding possibilities. Winterizing rigs for winter camping or storage.

Communications - Three members of the SNU are part of a new WBCCI Communications Network. Members Bryan Leipper, Mike Orchard, and Diane Leipper will be working with Network leader/Communications Liaison, Renee Ettliner. This network was established by WBCCI President Don Shafer in an effort to increase the communication flow between members and WBCCI leadership. Members can pass along comments, concerns or suggestions to the Communications Liaison or one of the Communications Advisory Network members. These people will then ensure the information gets to the WBCCI leadership and that appropriate action and follow up are initiated. See the announcement in the next Blue Beret for more details

Helen Who? - We all know who Wally Byam is but do you know who was instrumental in the formation of WBCCI? Do you know who took over as leader of the 1955 Eastern Caravan when Wally and Stella headed for Europe? Do you know who created many of the publications, organized rallies and caravans, planned the first International WBCCI rally and guided the fledgling organization on the path that would make it the largest single product association in the RV industry? It was Helen Byam Schamborn, Wally Byam's first cousin. Thanks to her son Dale (Pee Wee) Schwamborn we are developing a section of the website focusing on Helen, her life, and her involvement and numerous contributions to Airstream and WBCCI. This is a work in progress so check back every once in a while to see what has been changed and added.

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/history/peewee/helen/index.html>

WBCCI Salem Rally - Four members of the SNU attended the 2006 WBCCI International Rally in Salem Oregon the end of June. Von Gallion, Tim and Kimber Kendziorski, Annie Smith, and Bryan and Diane Leipper. Annie Smith is our newest member. She works for Mt Family RV and is better known as “Airstream Annie”. This probably sets another record for the SNU, at least it has been over 10 years that the SNU has been this well represented at an international rally. Kimber is the official delegate for the business meeting. The SNU also entered it's newsletter in the publications contest and displayed the diorama that Randy and Vicki Grossmann made. Kimber had the honor of carrying the Nevada flag in the parade. A full report of the rally will be in the August newsletter.

Dues due - It is now time to renew your membership in SNU and WBCCI for 2007. Dues are \$65 per year. You can pay at the SNU rallies or mail your dues to the SNU treasurer, PO Box 60572, Reno, NV 89506.

Diane - hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org



Nevada Flag Bearers at the International WBCCI Rally
Kimber Kendziorski and Betty Leal from the Nevada Unit in Las Vegas



Holman's 1935 Torpedo. Made from plans Wally created. It is the oldest Airstream still on the road.



The Bull Pen - unofficial parking area where delegates park prior to being assigned their official parking spot



What is Obsidian Dome?

This lava dome is a 300 foot high, mile long hill of volcanic glass, the largest of several such formations in the Inyo Volcanic Chain. Although some of the domes may be 5,000 years old, geologists believe that Obsidian Dome was part of the more recent Inyo Eruption. Obsidian Domes are formed when thick, slow-moving lava oozes to the surface through a volcanic vent. Cooling too rapidly to allow minerals to form, the lava hardens to obsidian. Glassy debris accumulates around the dome as additional lava pushes through the vent and cracks the cooled surface rock.

The Paiutes used obsidian to make spearheads, arrowheads, and knives. It was also an important trade item; obsidian from the Eastern Sierra was used by tribes throughout the country. Near the parking area at Obsidian Dome, you can climb through the rubble to a short, sheer cliff of shiny obsidian. Be careful of loose, sharp rocks. There is also an easy hike up a graded prospect road to the top of the dome from our camping area, .1 - .2 miles

Also in the area are the Inyo Craters. The Inyo Craters were formed during the Inyo Eruption, a volcanic event that took place about 600 years ago. These two funnel shaped craters are each 600 feet in diameter, the southern crater is about 200 feet deep, and the northern crater is about 100 feet deep. Melted snow and rainwater collect to form a small lake at the bottom of each pit. A one quarter mile walk through a lovely stand of Jeffrey pine leads to the craters and a shaded picnic area.

The Inyo Craters were created by phreatic eruptions-explosions of steam and rocks generated when groundwater came in contact with rising magma and became superheated. The resulting steam burst violently to the surface. Ascending magma often produces lava domes and flows, but in this case superheated groundwater created the explosion pits, and the magma remained well below the surface. (Note: This superheated water explosion can also happen if you overheat water in a microwave oven)

These descriptions were taken from the book “California’s Eastern Sierra -A Visitor’s Guide” I strongly recommend reviewing this book prior to the Rally to learn about this truly unique area of our wonderful Sierra region. Don and Mary Lou will have the book at the Rally. Also check out www.cityconcierge.com/activities/geology.shtml and www.cityconcierge.com/activities/obsidian.shtml

Hot Springs

The area around Mammoth Lakes is the “Mother Lode” of Hot Springs. About 15 miles south of Obsidian Dome off US 395 are found some of the best hot springs in the United States, including Shepherd Hot Spring, Crab Cooker, Pully’s Pool, Hot Tub, Hot Creek, and Crowley Hot Spring.



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.)



We recently ordered 12 new 2007 Airstreams. Delivery will be staggered throughout the summer.

New for 2007

New color available in the International called Aruba. It is a turquoise green type color.

New cabinet choice now in Hickory.

New 2007 27' FB Classic Limited available with hickory interior. (We ordered one of these.)

New for 2007, the 75th Anniversary Limited Edition. Comes with a Retro 50's look. Has a round porthole window on the door, a gaucho in the rear instead of a bed, black and white flooring, 50's type Formica on the table.

The 25' FB is now available in the International line. Previously you could only get the front bed models in the Safari line.



Come in and see the 19 foot Bambi Safari. At 4000 pounds max weight, it is just the thing to tow with new more fuel efficient tow vehicles. Fully contained with 23 gallons of fresh water, a 21 gallon gray water tank, and an 18 gallon black water tank. Front dinette seats 4 and converts into a roomy bed. An Air Conditioner and Furnace to keep you comfortable in any weather.



Ready for a "Go anywhere" vacation. See the beauty and enjoy the solitude of the great Western States in a new Airstream Bambi now.



Rally - Obsidian

D o m e

South of Reno on US 395 about 160 miles. Between June Lakes and Mammoth Lakes, CA. The campground is 2.7 miles off of US 395. Turn west off Hwy 395 right after the sign to Obsidian Dome. Right after turning on Obsidian Dome Road you should see very short sign (2S10). Drive straight through the 1st cross intersection at .3 miles. After .9 miles of wide dirt road take the left fork towards Obsidian Dome. You will pass the Obsidian Dome Parking area at 1.3 miles, keep on the main road. At an unmarked fork, take a left again. At this point the road becomes one lane with turnouts. 1.5 miles from Hwy 395. At a last unmarked fork in the road take a left again. 2.6 miles from Hwy 395. I recommend that you print the photo directions provided by Rick Laborde at:

www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/destinations/395-south/obsidian-dome/obsidian3.pdf

