



Happy Thanksgiving

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu



BLUE LAKES RALLY

SNU members participating in the October rally at Blue Lakes set two new records. One for the fastest tear down and move of a rally site and the other for the shortest SNU caravan on record. Before this is explained further, let's start at the beginning. The rally started off like a normal SNU rally – whatever that might be. People arrived at the designated site and set up camp as usual. Thursday arrivals included Wheels and Doris Wheeler, Roman Kreminski and Melissa Wong, and Bryan and Diane Leipper. Friday Jerry and Dyann Thornburg arrived. We spent most of the time in typical SNU fashion, catching up on news, enjoying the views, throwing balls for Cody, walking Jack, and untangling Indy's lead from around chair legs. Since fire restric-



tions are lifted we also kept a campfire going. We enjoyed our usual pot luck meals and morning coffee and treats. Saturday the weather got a little cloudy and windy. Melissa decided to get creative and started collecting and stacking rocks around the campfire to make a chimney so the smoke would go up instead of on us. Bryan discovered that one of the bolts holding his hitch on had sheared off. After some discussion he decided to drive to South Lake Tahoe for a bolt. Jerry had also called his son Eric to bring one up. Then just about noon, things began to change. We were low on firewood so Roman and Melissa went to gather some more. They

got back and unloaded the truck. Then it was decided this was a good time to go check out some future rally sites. Dyann and Diane hopped in the truck with Melissa and Roman and headed up the road. Melissa and Roman showed us another spot right on the banks of a stream in the pine trees. We all took one look and decided why wait for another rally. Let's move now! So we headed back to our rally site. When we got back we found that not only Eric and his family had arrived, Gary and Anita Haskett had also stopped by for a visit. Bryan, with help from the others had replaced the bolt on his hitch. We announced the decision to move to a somewhat stunned but willing group. We set a speed record that included loading up all the wood Roman and Melissa had gathered, putting out the campfire, hitching up the rigs, battening down the hatches, loading up the dogs and people and in less than 30 minutes we were heading up the road. We had a four Airstream caravan for the whole three miles to the new rally site in the trees and protected from the wind. Eric's wife Traci was pretty amazed. She is more used to tent camping and she couldn't believe how fast we picked up and moved. Bryan determined though, that this was really an SNU evacuation drill. To see how fast we could break camp and move in case of fire or other natural disaster. I think we passed the test with flying colors. *[Blue Lakes cont. on page 2]*



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mike and Phyllis Peyerl are the SNU's newest affiliate members. The Peyrel's live in Fallon. Their primary Unit is Golden West and they are also affiliates of NORCAL.. Mike and Phyllis visited us a Lahonton rally about a year ago. We are glad they decided to support the SNU and we look forward to seeing them again soon.

AIRSTREAMERS ON THE ROAD IN OREGON, FALL 2008

By Anita Leipper - President Elect

Since leaving Reno at the end of September for the Oregon coast, I have met several Airstreamers, and seen several others. There is an Airstream Land Yacht parked close to me at Beachside. It's white and gold. I have not met them yet. I had a 70's airstream motorhome towing a yellow VW drive in and out of the camp, waving to me as they passed by. I thought they were Diesel Phil (airforums) from Idaho, though apparently not. I know I've seen pictures of their Airstream and yellow bug on airforums. A couple from Idaho with a 1995 Airstream stopped by, and they said they saw the 1970's motorhome in Coos Bay, and tried to get them to stop to say hello. The couple I talked to from Gillette, Idaho I looked them up in the directory. I forgot their number and name as I was looking them up! So, I've been going through the WBCCI directory to see if I could find them. I've seen several Reno, Nevada Airstreams in the directory that do not belong to a unit. I know the SNU has contacted a few of them and will probably contact the others. I think an Airstream sport was camped here. I just saw a brief glimpse of them as they were leaving camp. I also met a couple from Canada that full-time in a Globetrotter. I hope Judy and Ralph stop by Reno and say hello.

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON Saturday November 22, 2008 the SNU will have lunch at Chuckars in Fernley It is on the west end of Fernley. From Reno take exit 46 off I80. Lunch starts at 11:30 am. Cost is \$15 per person. Please RSVP Call Wes or Roy at 775 575 7990 or email hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org

[Blue Lakes cont. from page 1] Bryan also suggested that our first rally site was just the SNU following the WBCCI procedure of parking in the bullpen until everyone arrives. Then the parking committee - Roman and Melissa - moved us to our real rally site. Needless to say, the whole adventure left us all chuckling. We all agreed though that the move was definitely worth it. We built a new campfire, but got caught by the Ranger because we had forgotten to get a permit from Rick while we were at Obsidian. That taken care of we had our Saturday potluck and spend a delightful evening around the campfire. Eric, Traci and kids Sidney and Cole stayed for our potluck and campfire gathering. When they left we could let go of our pretenses of being a bunch of late night party animals. Everyone headed for their Airstream to watch a movie, read a book or just relax after such an exhausting day and get ready for a well deserved rest. Other rally highlights included initiation rights, homemade salsa, and fish. The Wheelers passed the final SNU initiation rights. They added a pink flamingo to their décor. A pretty little plaque painted by Doris. They also got their first Nevada pin striping from a pine tree that wouldn't fold up enough branches to allow easy access to their parking spot. The salsa was a contribution from the Root Family. Jeni and Brian Root, kids, Erika, Sidney, and Nicholas all chip in on the families canning business making all sorts of goodies. The salsa was a treat and enjoyed by everyone at the rally. I think we will have to stock up for next year. Another Sidney, Jerry's granddaughter caught her first fish at this rally. Jerry helped her prepare it and roasted it on the fire. Nothing like a little fresh trout to finish off a perfect evening. The October rally proved yet again that flexibility is a hallmark of the SNU. In addition we have added even more great stories to the lore of the Unit. All in all a great way to end the rally season for 2008.

BUSINESS MEETING



The SNU held a short business meeting on Saturday October 18. Members present were Jerry and Dyann Thornburg. Bryan and Diane Leipper, Wheels and Doris Wheeler, and Roman Kreminski

and Melissa Wong. The main item on the agenda was the election of officers for 2009. The 2009 board is Anita Leipper, President, Roy-Laine Warn, Secretary, Bryan Leipper, Treasurer, Don Williams and Randy Grossmann, Trustees. As outgoing President, Jerry Thornburg was presented with a special token of appreciation. It was a framed drawing by SNU member Clint Norrell. The only suggestions given to Clint for the drawing were that it needed to include Jerry's mantra "Where are my executive privileges" and that it should include a bullhorn. The bullhorn is symbolic of Wally Byam who used a variety of bullhorns on rallies and other WBCCI gatherings when he needed to address the participants. Needless to say, Clint came up with the perfect picture. Jerry was duly impressed. A big thank you to Clint for this special tribute. Another item of business was a discussion on the SNU participation in the Lyon County Fly In in May 2009. Wheels attended a recent meeting of the event organizers and got all of our questions answered. The SNU has agreed that our primary duty at the event will be to cook and serve pancakes to the pilots on Saturday and Sunday morning. We will also act as go-

fers, assisting with other tasks as needed. This will be a great opportunity to promote the SNU and WBCCI. We have our SNU flags and we are looking into other items. Best of all, we will have the SNU diorama that Randy and Vicki made for the SNU 30th anniversary in 2006. Kids are encouraged to attend this event so we hope that the SNU kids will be able to come and participate in this rally. Speaking of the SNU 2009 rallies, Bryan brought up that he has been in contact with the ARRL section manager regarding the rally at Sweetwater Summit. The special activity of this rally is Amateur Radio Field Day. We wanted to invite other local ham operators to join the eight SNU ham operators to set up a station and test equipment and procedures for this Field Day. The section manager said he would get the word out about our rally. We'll stay in touch also. Bryan also said he had recently received a call from Michael Glenn, 1st VP of the Utah Unit. Michael said that the Utah Unit was planning a rally in Elko July 2 to the 5th. The highlight of this rally is the Basque Festival in Elko. SNU members are welcome to attend. You can check the Utah Unit website for details and contact information. After some general discussion the meeting was adjourned.

DEATH VALLEY SNU SPECIAL RALLY

The Sierra Nevada Unit will hold a unique end of the season rally in Death Valley on Thursday, November 13th through Sunday, November 16th. The primary location is the Mesquite Spring Campground located south of Scotty's Castle in the northeastern corner of the park. Our Southern California members, Don and Gail Williams, will be our hosts for this special event. Don and Gail may even tempt their guest with another Dutch-oven surprise cooked over the campfire. Contact Don & Gail for more info: **951.780.5199 (evenings & weekends)** **951.453.1944 (days)**. Check the SNU website for more information on this special rally.

STILL TIME

2009 Membership dues need to be received before November 1 so that your name will be included in the WBCCI membership directory. The majority of SNU members have already renewed and we are looking forward to hearing from the rest soon. Dues are \$65 (\$55 for WBCCI and \$10 for the SNU) mail your check to:
SNU 714 Terra Ct, Reno, NV 89506

MAKING AN AIRSTREAM CORNER BED WITH A MEMORY FOAM TOPPER INSTALLED

By Randy Grossman

As I have previously written, the memory foam topper I placed on my Airstream corner mattress converted the bed from the worst to the best I have ever slept on. However, a problem with making the bed has now arisen. The conventional thinking about making an RV corner bed is to remove the mattress from its corner position and place it in a location where it is possible to get around all sides of it, and then replace it in its corner position with the bedding already installed. However, I can no longer get the mattress back into its corner position after installing the bedding. The reasons involve the heaviness of the memory foam coupled with its tendency to slide off the mattress when tilted. The mattress must be tilted at about a 45 degree angle to get it in and out of the corner position.

After a lot of intense thinking I determined that the bed must be made from under the mattress rather than from the top of it. I subsequently came up with a really good method. I first place the fitted mattress pad on top of the mattress and tuck the sides half way down the sides of the mattress. I then wedge my body between the mattress bottom and its plywood base. While on my back and holding the mattress up with my two feet and head I use my hands to pull the fitted mattress pad sides down and around to the bottom of the mattress at one end of the mattress. [Mattress Idea continued on page 5]

SNU @ CAFE PRESS.COM

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to own your very own SNU T-Shirt, coffee mug or stylish tote bag? Well, so have we! So, look no further... just go to the new SNU "store" and get the official logo on just about any item you can dream up. There is something for the whole family...even Fido! To go Christmas shopping early this year just goto: www.cafepress.com/Aluminumitis



SNU NEWSLETTER

It is that time of the year for the SNU to review and update it's newsletter mailing list. If, after this month you do not receive your SNU newsletter but would like to ensure that you are on the list, please contact us at hq@sierra-nevadaairstreams.org. You can also assist the SNU to keep costs down by signing up for the SNU newsletter announcement list and get your newsletter on-line. See the links on the page listed in this newsletter.

Speaking of the newsletter, we have received several comments lately about this publication. Most comments relate to how much people enjoy reading the newsletter and that they like the content. As one member said, the newsletter gives you the information you need – a wrap up and review of the most recent rally, information on the upcoming rally or lunch, and information that pertains to the Unit and/or Airstreaming in general.

Member input regarding the newsletter is always appreciated and encouraged. If you would like to share your thoughts check the link on the page listed in this newsletter.

[*Mattress Idea continued from page 4*] I then turn my body around 180 degrees and do the same thing on the other end of the mattress. At this time I come out from under the mattress and repeat this entire process with the fitted bottom bed sheet. I then repeat this process a third time with the fitted top sheet. Finally, the bed spread installation requires a fourth iteration of this process. The result: a perfectly made bed!



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

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2007/payonline/snu-shopping.html>

- * Thursday November 13 – Sunday 16, 2008 Death Valley Mesquite campground
- * Saturday December 13, 2008 JT's Basque restaurant, Minden, NV - on US 395 south
- * Saturday Jan. 24, 2009 Cabela's in Reno - Verdi NV off I 80 approx 10 miles west of Reno
- * Saturday February 21, 2009 El Charro Avita - Carson City South of downtown Carson City, NV on S Carson St.
- * Thursday March 26 – Sunday 29, 2009 Rally at Weed Heights Full service RV Park
- * Thursday April 23 - Sunday 26, 2009 Rally at Boca Springs or Boca Rest
- * Thursday June 25 – Sunday 28, 2009 Sweetwater Summit dispersed USFS area
- * June 28 - July 4, 2009 - WBCCI International Rally - Madison, Wisconsin
- * Thursday July 23 – Sunday 26, 2009 Thomas Ranch near Pittville
- * Thursday August 20 – Sunday, August 23, 2009 Obsidian Dome (Inyo Nat'l Forest) dispersed camping
- * Thursday September 17 – Sunday 20, 2009 Blue Lakes, dispersed area
- * Friday October 15 - Sunday October 18, 2009 Mason Valley Wildlife Area
- * October 14 – 18, 2009 Region 12 Rally
- * Saturday November 14, 2009 - Gold Hill Hotel, Virginia City
- * Death Valley Mesquite Campground November 2009
- * Saturday December 12, 2009 - Overland Hotel & Basque restaurant

For more information on upcoming rallies check the website:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2009/events/docs/09-rallyschedule.html>

WEB LINKS

to information discussed in this newsletter including Hope Valley Rally photo gallery, info for the November rally at Death Valley and info for the November luncheon in Fernley:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2008/08news/>



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