



The Great Basin Airstream Club

SIERRANEVADAATRSTREAMS.ORG/SNU



Sweetwater Rally

The June rally at Sweetwater Summit was a great success. We had a total of eight rigs. The main activity for this rally was amateur radio field day. We had four ham radio stations set up with five active operators. KD6UVT Don, KA7VLL Dave, KF6LOP Frank, KE7UVC Jerry, and K1CD Bryan. We also had one visiting ham, AD7RS George, who set up his station nearby. In addition we had visitors come up on

Saturday and spend most of the afternoon with us. Ron and Linda Ott are not only Airstream owners, Ron is also a ham (W6XY). They live in Minden and just happened across our website with information on the rally and decided it was a great opportunity for a visit. Of the eight rigs at the rally, we were delighted to have Frank and Carol Colligan join us. They live near Grass Valley and were excited to find out about our Field Day rally at Sweetwater in the Blue Beret. SNU members at this rally included Jerry and Dyann, Roger and Janet, Scott and Icyl, Don and Gail and grandson Brandon, Dave, Anita, Bryan, and Diane. It has been about a year since we have seen Don and Gail and Icyl and Scott. We had a good time catching up on their news and adventures. Other than Field Day activities much of our time was spend just relaxing, swapping stories, hiking the nearby hills, and of course our shared meals on Friday and Saturday evenings. We were also able to have a campfire since there are no fire restrictions – yet. Another highlight of this rally was what happened to Jerry on his way back to camp after going to Yerington to get a new battery. Turned out to be a pretty expensive battery since between the store and the highway back to Sweetwater, he and Bryan spied an Airstream motorhome. They just had to stop and take a look. Jerry got back and told Dyann. The next day Jerry, Dyann and Roger went back for another look. Roger was supposed to help resist the temptation but he thought it was a pretty neat rig and a good deal too. So to make a long story short, it looks like Jerry and Dyann have added another Airstream to their fleet. On the way home Sunday, Jerry and Dyann, Bryan and Diane, and Dave stopped by for another look. Kind of looked liked the rally had just moved to town with three Airstreams parked near the motorhome. It was great having Frank and Carol and Ron and Linda visit with us at this rally. We hope to see all of them at a rally again sometime soon. All in all just about perfect weather, great company, beautiful rally site, good food made for a great weekend.



Note from Frank and Carol

We just wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed spending a few days with SNU. You made us feel very welcome. You sure are an easy group to be with. The rally was fun, the location was terrific and the people were most pleasant....what more could you ask for? Frank also had a blast with FD (Field Day). He ended up with 97 contacts and a special one right at the end with his old club, Golden Empire Amateur Radio (W6RHC) and a nice chat with old friends up above Chico. Please pass on to Anita that we took her suggestion and spent Sunday night at the Washoe Lake State Park. Nice camp sites and \$14 per night with a good dump station and fresh water. We enjoyed the solitude (just a few rigs there) and a nice walk among the dunes and along the lake. Thanks again for your hospitality and we'll see you again when our schedule permits. - Frank & Carol Colligan



July Rally at Petersen Ranch

The next SNU Rally will be Thursday July 23 to Sunday July 26, 2009 at the Spencer's Petersen Ranch. The Ranch is located in one of the most scenic areas of Northeastern California. The Petersen Ranch is just north of Bald Mountain. It is almost exactly the same distance from Reno to the Ranch as it is from Reno to Obsidian Dome. The recommended route to get to the SNU July 2009 rally is via Pittville Road that turns southeast off California 299 to Pittville and Little Valley 1.6 miles east of McArthur Road in McArthur California.

Pittville Road joins the Old Highway for 2.5 miles before it turns off on its own to the south. After a jog east and another 2.2 miles (4.7 from 299), Little Valley road heads off east and Pittville road turns to a red dirt. From there it is 4.6 miles (9.1 from 299) on smooth dirt to the intersection with Bald Mountain road heading west across a cattle guard. 1.6 miles down Bald Mountain road is where the 'road you will not find on the map' believed to be Cinder Cone Road heads off to the west. Keep left for another 1.3 (12.0 total from 299) miles on Bald Mountain Road to the rally site.

The recommended route is an easy drive with good roads. There are other routes as this is ranch country and there are dirt trails, powerline roads, and other routes all through the area. You could try to find Cinder Cone road to cross the lava beds from the Cassel Fall River road but you'd need a satellite picture to see it for route planning. The St John's Road to Bald

Mountain is not recommended. You could also visit the Hat Creek Radio Observatory and take some back roads from there. Pittville Road is a county maintained NFS 111 route that runs from CA 44 near Poison Lake up to Pittville and you might think the straight shot coming from the south might be the way to go. Our rally hosts think not. The road is marked on old topographic maps as 4x4 only and it would be nearly 30 miles of dirt in any case.

There will be an attempt to monitor CB channel 14, amateur radio 146.43, and cell phone. Early arrivals might be able to scout Pittville Road towards 44 and if you are interested, please call SNU Hq Wednesday evening or Thursday morning.

The Lassen National Forest website has topographic maps and the four pertinent ones have been put together as a quad for you to download if you want to peruse the area in detail. There are also links to Google Maps with the recommended route shown. A photo gallery is also available so you can see what the roads and area looked like in April 2009 and also a year earlier.

Ray's market, back a few miles (3.4 miles from Pittville Road) towards Fall River Mills is a possible fuel and supplies stop. The Intermountain Fairgrounds and RV Park is just off 299 on McArthur Road. Since it is a full service RV park so they might have a dump station. See <http://www.intermountainfair.com/rvpark.html>

Waffles at Petersen Ranch

One of the special attractions at the July rally will be Randy's waffles. He has done this before for the SNU much to everyone's enjoyment. Waffle breakfast will be Saturday morning. Other menu items will depend on who else comes and what everyone wants or brings.

Anita's Adventures

Notes from the SNU President

It's time to get the SNU rally schedule in place for 2010. The schedule is submitted in the fall to WBCCI in time to be included in the 2010 WBCCI directory. If you have any suggestions for rally sites, let the SNU know soon! Rallies have a rally host, a great opportunity to help the SNU with just a few hours of time a year. What does a rally host commit to? Ask to find out. I'd like to hear from potential rally hosts for 2010. Email your ideas to hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org.

I'm looking forward to the July rally at the Petersen ranch, I hope you are, too. The ranch is surrounded by hiking country. We will have nice views of the surrounding mountains from our rally site. The Pacific Coast Trail is just a few miles west of the ranch, and the Lassen Emigrant trail is a few miles to the east. I will be at the ranch around a week. You are welcome to arrive early or stay later.

A Visit with NorCal

In early June Jerry and Dyann, Diane, Anita, and Dave visited with the NorCal Unit. They were holding a rally at Gold Ranch in Verdi not far from Cabela's. We arrived in time for happy hour then joined them for dinner at the Gold Ranch Casino. NorCal had 30+ rigs at this rally despite some rather dreary and cool weather. They are a great group of people and we enjoyed sharing stories and getting to know them a little better.

Welcome

The SNU already has 2 new members for 2010. Madelyn Cutler lives in Virginia City and has a 2007 CCH. We met her for the first time at our lunch at El Charro. Michael McAtee is currently in transition from Colorado to Nevada. He has a 1964 Ambassador and is in the process of assessing upgrades and restoration and remodeling projects. We wish to welcome both Madelyn and Michael to the SNU. We hope to see both of you at a rally sometime before the end of the year.

News from SNU Members

Mike and Cindy Gower

You'll be pleased to know that our trailer is taking on quite the transformation. We have pulled the one gaucho couch, the fridge, and all the walls in the back half. Mike has also pulled the toilet, water heater, water pump and all three holding tanks! The next time you see us you will be quite surprised at the transformation. Of course, I shouldn't get too cocky, demo is always easier than putting it all back together!!

Clint and Kathy Norrell

I wanted to give you an update on the latest Norrell adventures. Since we saw you last, we have taken several Bambi trips to Texas, Arizona, Grand Canyon, Salt Point and places in between. We have visited ailing parents, taken our son to college, attended a couple of rallies with various groups, and kept busy. Our biggest news is that we have been going through the application process to become Peace Corps volunteers. It is usually a year long process, and we started in early September of 08. After the extensive application, interviewing, attending meetings, medical screening and waiting, we finally got our invitation to serve in Belize (most likely not the part you may have visited!) We will be leaving August 19th, and serve together for 27 months as teacher trainers. I will land in Belize on my 60th birthday, a pretty

great way to celebrate the big six-oh! We will be selling our vehicles and trailer, and regroup when we come home in October of 2011. Unfortunately, the truck sold right away, so we aren't able to pull the trailer anymore. I know Airstreams are easy to pull, but the Prius just won't handle it! The trailer is for sale now, and in early August the Prius will be too. A lot of things to do before we leave..... Hope all is well with all of the Sierra Nevada members. We had some good times with the group, and met some neat people.

Just In

We just got some pictures from Vaughn Peak from the WBCCI International Rally in Madison. We are putting together a photo gallery which should be up soon. We'll hear more from Vaughn in the next newsletter.

Upcoming 2009 events

Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees online!

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

- Thursday August 20 – Sunday, August 23, 2009
Obsidian Dome (Inyo Nat'l Forest) dispersed camping
- Thursday September 24 – Sunday 27, 2009 Unionville County park
- Mason Valley Wildlife Area – Friday October 15 - Sunday October 18, 2009
- 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 info the July Rally at Petersen Ranch

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2009/09news/index.html>

★ ★ Time for 2010 Dues ★ ★

It's time to renew your membership for 2010. Dues are \$65 which includes \$55 for membership in WBCCI and \$10 for the SNU. Send your check to Bryan Leipper, SNU treasurer. 714 Terra Ct. Reno, NV 89506. Your support and participation will help ensure that 2010 will be another great year for the SNU.