



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

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SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

September at Obsidian Dome

A full moon, the Autumnal Equinox, and perfect weather. What better weekend for a rally. It was an amazing site when the moon came up and reflected off the glassy surfaces of the Obsidian. The whole hillside sparkled. Several other interesting things happened at this rally. For one, we were delighted to have Gregg and Valri Ayer, who are members of the NorCal Unit participate in this rally. For another, thanks to a little luck, we had visitors from a WBCCI Caravan come by. We also invited a nearby camper to join us for our Saturday dinner. Gregg and Valri have a 17ft Safari Sport. This was their longest off grid experience with that Airstream and of course, it did just fine. They really liked the Obsidian area. Gregg, who is training for an upcoming event, took a 100 mile bike ride on Friday. Saturday he and Valri spend some time at June Lakes fishing. They had a great time although they didn't catch any fish. Gregg and Valri are hosting a NorCal rally at Bodega Bay in April 2011. We'll be sure and post info on that rally when it becomes available.



SNU members Frank and Carol Colligan are on the Wild West Caravan which is traveling down the Eastern slopes of the Sierra's. They were at the Zephyr Cove RV Park when Randy and Vicki went to check it out for our September 2011 rally. Because we didn't get our communications in order, they didn't catch up with each other

though. By accident, Jim and Barbara Muff decided to stay in Lee Vining Wednesday night before heading to Obsidian. While Jim was in the deli he ran into Frank and that is how we happened to have some of the caravanners visit the Obsidian rally site. Saturday the first caravanners to stop by were a couple from Pennsylvania. A little later Frank and Carol, along with Dick and Judy Martiny came by. Turns out Dick and Judy are new friends of Wheels and Doris. The Wheelers met them on the WBCCI caravan they had participated in after the WBCCI International Rally. It was like Old Home Week at the rally Saturday afternoon. All of our visitors were very impressed with Obsidian. One even mentioned that this was his idea of what and where an Airstream rally should be. Our guest on Saturday was a woman in her 30's who was camping nearby. Julie is currently a nomad and tent camping in the Eastern Sierra's as well as other parts of the country. We all enjoyed visiting with her. Rick LaBorde came by for a visit on Saturday. He wasn't able to bring his Airstream this time but he says he has been doing a few things to it lately to extend the amount of time he can spend off grid with it. Another highlight of this rally was Jim and Barbara's Dutch oven cooking. They started out with bacon and eggs on Friday morning. Friday evening they cooked Chicken Cacciatore with home grown basil and vegetables with biscuits on top. It was delicious.



WBCCI Caravanners visit the SNU rally

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a rally below for details

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- ◆ [October 21 – 24 Lahontan](#)
- ◆ [November 18-21 Death Valley](#)
- ◆ [December 18th JT's Basque Gardnerville NV](#)
- ◆ [January 22, 2011 Bavarian World, Reno](#)

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Our Next Rally at Lahontan

Thursday October 21 to Sunday 24 the SNU will hold a rally of 2010 at Lahontan Reservoir Beach 7. We will hold a short business meeting during this rally to elect the SNU officers for 2011. We will also discuss plans to celebrate the SNU's 35th anniversary in 2011. This will include and update on the special rally and dinner cruise at Zephyr Cove planned for September 2011. Other than the short business meeting the rally at Lahontan will include shared meals on Friday and Saturday as well as plenty of time just to enjoy the scenery. Bring wood for campfires.



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

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the September Rally at Obsidian Dome,
please [Click Here](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/index.html)

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/index.html>

Upcoming 2010 and 2011 Events

Region 12 Rally Hemet, CA

Thursday October 21 – Sunday 24 Lahontan

Saturday November 20, 2010 Pioneer, Fernley

Thursday November 18 – Sunday 21 Death Valley

Saturday December 18, 2010 J.T.'s Gardnerville

Saturday January 22, 2011 Bavarian World, Reno

Saturday February 26, 2011 El Charro Avita in
Carson City

Thursday March 24 – Sunday March 27, 2011
Weed Heights RV Park

Death Valley in November

This picture of Scotties Castle was drawn by Lloyd Brown, a charter member of the Monterey Bay CA Unit. Scotties Castle is close to Mesquite Campground where the SNU will be holding a rally November 18 to 21, 2010. Plan on joining us at this rally and check out Scotties Castle as well as other attractions in Death Valley.



Caravans

Caravans have been a part of WBCCI since its inception. Even before WBCCI was organized it was caravans that brought fellow Airstreamers together. Caravans were Wally Byam's primary way to promote his Airstream trailers. It was a friend who bought an Airstream and wanted to go on a trip with Wally to check it out and learn how to use it that provided the incentive for the first caravan. To this day, caravans are a primary benefit of membership in WBCCI. Caravans can be organized by Individual Units and Regions as well as by WBCCI. This year the SNU has had two members participate in WBCCI caravans. For Wheels and Doris Wheeler, it was their first caravan. For Frank and Carol Colligan, this was their fourth. According to both the Wheelers and the Colligans, one of the highlights of caravan participation is the friendships that are made. With Frank and Carol, they not only meet new people on each caravan, they often run into friends from previous caravans. In addition to the friendships, caravans provide the opportunity to visit new places and participate in special activities without having to make arrangements yourself. The caravans are led by WBCCI dedicated volunteers. This enhances the caravan experience as well as helps to keep the costs reasonable. WBCCI provides workshops at International Rallies on leading caravans and there are several documents that provide all you need to know about WBCCI caravans. Keep your eyes open in future issues of the SNU newsletter as Frank and Carol and Wheels and Doris will be submitting their own articles on their caravan experiences as soon as they catch up from this latest adventure. Check the Blue Beret for dates and information on future caravans.

SNU affiliate members, Mylan and Eloise Wight were active caravanners. They did presentations on caravans at rallies and have written several pieces related to caravans including Caravan Basics – A 1998 Presentation at a Region 12 Rally, A Caravan Planning Guide and Medical Supply list – What to take on a caravan for personal medical needs. See the link in this newsletter to read these documents

Report from the International Rally

Saturday, during our meal at Obsidian, Wheels gave us a report from the WBCCI International Rally. This was the first International rally for Wheels and Doris. Wheels was the elected delegate for the SNU and he carried the SNU flag in the opening ceremony. Wheels also volunteered at the registration desk. During the rally he ran into Vaughn Peak who is now the second VP of the Amateur Radio Intraclub. Wheels is now a member of that Intraclub. As the official delegate for the SNU, Wheels attended the delegate meeting and cast the vote for the SNU on issues presented from the agenda and from the floor. It is important for the SNU to have a voice in the affairs of WBCCI and the Unit sincerely thanks Wheels and Doris for representing the SNU at this rally.

Membership Update

First we want to welcome the newest members to the SNU. John & Christine Noellert and their daughters Rachel and Julia. The Noellert family lives in Reno. They have a 2006 Safari FB. We hope to see them soon at a rally. Gordon and Susan Barber were affiliate members of the SNU in 2010. We are delighted that they have now decided to become full members of the Unit. We also wish to thank Mike & Krista Orchard and Mark & Cary Seasholtz for renewing their membership for 2011

To be listed in the 2011 WBCCI membership directory, your dues need to be submitted by the middle of October. So send your \$75 dues payment to the SNU today. You can pay on line or mail your check to the SNU 714 Terra Ct, Reno, NV 89506



Obsidian Dome Rally, continued

Our shared meal on Saturday included enchiladas and another chicken dish, salads and other goodies. For dessert we had ice cream with fresh peaches. As usual, we didn't need to worry about running short of great food. This rally provided a great opportunity to relax and enjoy the ambiance. Many of us took time to catch up on reading, take an inspirational nap, take a hike up to a nearby waterfall and meadow, climb the obsidian dome, or take a day trip into June Lakes, Lee Vining or Mammoth. Wheels and Doris filled us in on their adventures at the International Rally and on the Northwestern Landmarks Caravan. Gregg and Valri talked with us about the activities of the NorCal Unit. Everyone agrees, Obsidian Dome is a great place for an SNU rally.



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