



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 20, Issue 9 "The Great Basin Airstream RV Association" September 2010

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a rally below for details

- ◆ Sept. 23 -26 Obsidian Dome
- ◆ Region 12 Hemet Rally
- ◆ October 21 - 24 Lahonton
- ◆ November 18-21 Death Valley
- ◆ December 18th JT's Basque Gardnerville NV

August at Eagle Lake

Eagle Lake, Rocky Point turned out to be an almost perfect SNU rally site. It was right on the lake, there was plenty of room for Airstreams, and amazingly the parking area was fairly level. The almost two miles of gravel road to the campsite made it quite clear why the area is called Rocky Point. The road traversed an ancient lava flow and it was rocky! It required some careful and slow driving but the destination was well worth the extra caution. Thanks to Anita Leipper for discovering this site for the SNU. We'll definitely be holding future rallies there. Weatherwise we had quite a variety. Almost record high temps, wind on Thursday and Friday, showers on Saturday, close to record low temps, and of course an almost perfect day on Sunday. Thursday the weather was pretty good. We had a relaxing happy hour



about 4:30 and after dinner we were treated with an awesome sight watching a full moon rise over the mountains across the lake. Friday's shared meal required us to hold on to

plates and dishes to make sure they weren't blown away. Saturday we used the awnings to keep us dry during dinner. Thanks to our guest Dan, we had wood for a campfire all day Saturday. It really helped with the dreary weather. Gene and Carmen's kids and grandkids befriended a fisherman camping nearby and all weekend one or the other of the kids would walk by with a freshly caught fish. They even caught some themselves. Gene was kept busy cleaning the fish and cooking them over a campfire. Some of the fish were over 20 inches long. Don had gotten a lot of RV plumbing supplies from a store that had gone out of business. Everyone was able to replenish their supply of hoses, chemicals and other things necessary to keep the trailer plumbing in good working order. Rally participants included Jerry & Dyann, Don & Gail, their friend Dan, Wes & RoyLaine, Bryan & Diane and Gene & Carmen with eight kids and grandkids. We were delighted to see Don and Gail as they have been busy with home remodeling projects this year. We were also glad to

meet their friend Dan Randall and glad they brought him along to the rally. Dan is a ham radio operator (KD6ETF) and he has a dog (Cleo) so he fits right in with the SNU. Hopefully we'll see Dan and Cleo at some future SNU rallies. We all had a great time at this rally. We agree that Rocky Point will definitely go on the SNU list of favorite sites.



Enjoying the campfire and the view

Onward to Obsidian

Thursday September 23 to Sunday 26 Obsidian Dome the SNU will hold a rally at Obsidian Dome. Obsidian Dome (Inyo National Forest) is a dispersed camping area located off US 395 South between June Lakes and Mammoth Lakes, See the [link](#) in this newsletter for details on directions and other information. As a special treat we will have a Salads and Sundaes shared meal on Saturday evening. So bring your favorite salad, ice cream, toppings and assorted condiments. Friday's shared meal will be our usual whatever you wish to contribute. There are plenty of great places to hike at Obsidian so you should be able to walk off any extra pounds. Obsidian is one of the SNU's favorite rally sites so plan to join us there in September.



Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees on-line! [Click Here](#)

Proposed 2011 Sierra Nevada Unit Officers

The SNU will hold elections for the 2011 officers at the October Rally at Lahonton. Here are the nominees. If you have any comments or suggestions please email the SNU at hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org Nominations from the floor welcome.

President - Dyann McDonald Thornburg #2797
 Secretary - RoyLaine Warn #2479
 Treasurer/Membership - Bryan Leipper #772
 Trustee - Randy Grossmann #3352
 Trustee - Don Williams #14207

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the August Rally at Eagle Lake, please [Click Here](#)
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/index.html>

Upcoming 2010 and 2011 Events

Thursday September 23, – Sunday 26 Obsidian Dome

Region 12 Rally Hemet, CA

Thursday October 21 – Sunday 24 Lahonton

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

Newsletter Review

It's time for the SNU to review the newsletter snail mail list. The newsletter is our primary communications vehicle and a benefit of membership. It also serves as a promotional tool for the SNU. The SNU has done several things to keep costs for printing and mailing the newsletter to a minimum. This includes keeping the newsletter to four pages and printing it double sided and in black and white. Some costs however continue to rise, primarily the costs of postage. The best way to help the SNU keep costs down is to subscribe to the SNU email announcement list and get notice of when the current newsletter is available online. Go to <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/index.html> to subscribe. If, after the September newsletter you do not receive any further snail mail newsletters, you may have been taken off the list. Don't hesitate to contact the SNU if you wish to continue receiving the newsletters. A \$12 donation to the SNU would be appreciated to help with the costs of continued snail mail newsletters. For all SNU members the newsletter is a benefit of your dues payment.

From the Past

While cleaning up some old files, I ran across this article published in the November 1997 Monterey Bay California Unit Newsletter. It was written by my father, Dale F. Leipper. It seemed fitting to include it in this newsletter as the SNU will once again be holding a rally at Lahontan this October. Reading through the article, it is interesting to see how things have changed and also how they have remained the same. Marge and Dale Grosch are still members of the SNU.

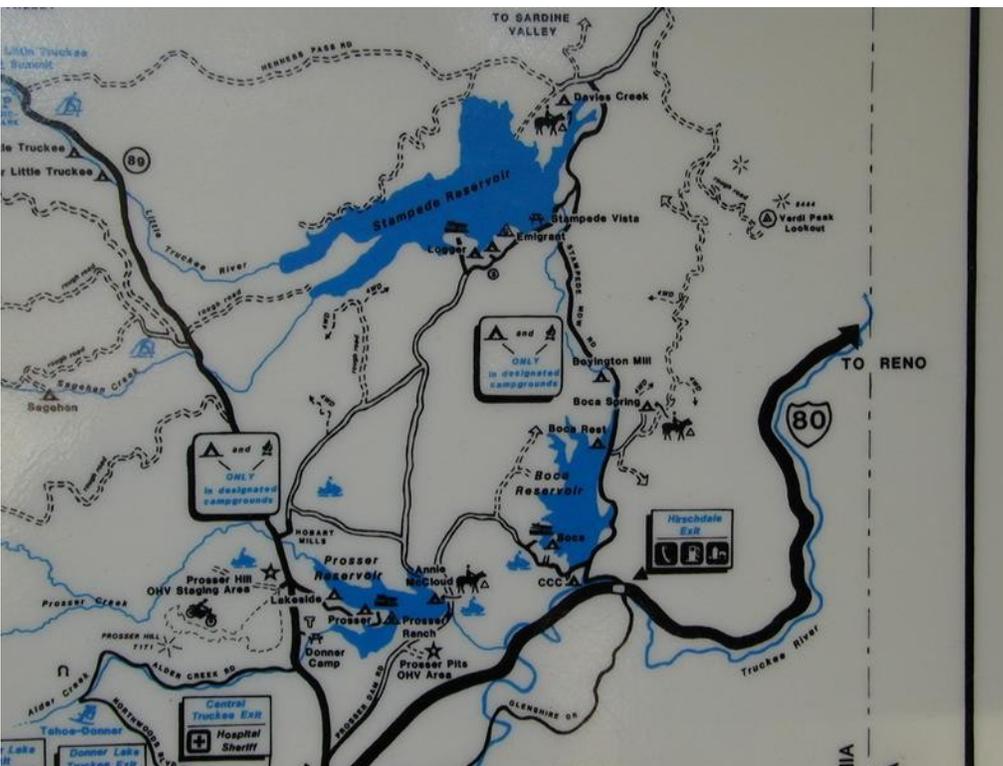


The Neighboring Sierra Nevada Unit

The Monterey Bay Unit has a growing association with our neighbors over the mountain, the Sierra Nevada Unit (SNU). In part this is related to interactions arising from the active roles which two SNU members, the Steve and Frank Burnham's (89510) and the Marge and Dale Grosch's (89701) (Marge is now President) have played in regional and national WBCCI affairs. Then about four years ago, Dale and Virginia Leipper (1183) of the MBCU joined the SNU as associate members. More recently Diane and Bryan Leipper (772) did the same. Other potential links include Bob and Dorothy Schneider (16119) who have a daughter and family in Reno and Dot Donald (2123) who expressed interest in coming to an SNU rally. Then Earl and Gerry Pettis (16046), who have visited Reno several times, also have shown Reno rally interest. The big news this month is that the SNU held its first weekend rally in more than three years on September 25 to 28 at Lake Lahontan, 50 miles from Reno. It was such a success that there are tentative plans for two more rallies at the same location during the next year. Pete Rinne had not pulled his trailer (89511) since 1991 but he brought it on Saturday. The Groschs arrived at the Lake before 10am on Thursday, shortly before the hosts (Dale and Virginia Leipper with Diane and the Greyhound). Shortly afterwards came the Burnhams and then Len and Virginia Paul arrived in their newly remodeled Bambi. Bryan came later that afternoon. Five trailers and one to come. The site was large and flexible under huge cottonwood trees growing out of the beach sand. There was shade as desired. The only other campers anywhere near were on Saturday when, down the beach a ways, there was one personal speed boat and one parachute glider behind another boat. Once a couple of fishermen drifted near and there was one loud tape playing neighbor about 200 yards away for an hour or so on Saturday. Mostly it was all ours. As to animals, there were three cats, two tortoises, and three dogs. The activities other than walks around the Lake area were horseshoes on the beach and beautiful campfires on Friday and Saturday evenings provided by Diane and Bryan. There were major food contributions in addition to the hosts planned meals. The Burnhams provided three breakfasts – waffles, blueberry pancakes and biscuits which Diane supplemented with a special bacon recipe. The Groschs and the Pauls made up a number of outstanding side dishes. A very special feature of the rally was the signing up of one new member couple, Debbie and Mike Smith, who are into antique cars along with their Airstream Bubble of about 1955. They are both still working and come with two dogs. Another couple, Vesta and Neil Tenan came to two evening meals and plan to join as soon as they close the deal on a 34 foot trailer which they are looking at in Manteca. Camping at Nevada parks is free if you have a two year permit which can be gotten without cost. Otherwise it is \$8 per day. It was a dry camp. However, there was a very nice restroom with flush toilets. Hot water and a shower just a few yards over the hill. The weather was almost perfect – warm days and cool nights and a good time was had by all.

Stampede Camp-out

Jerry and Dyann spent part of their 25th Anniversary celebration at Stampede reservoir. Here is what Dyann had to say. Jerry and I had a great time at Stampede. Just about had the whole place to ourselves until Friday afternoon, then it filled up. Jerry had more practice leveling though. It took him about 2 hours to get it done. The one spot I had reserved for Eric was kind of steep so we ended up taking it and getting some short 6 x 6 posts from the rangers and using them under the tires. We did it because we didn't want Eric to show up Friday night and have trouble leveling the sob. He said he thought the sob wouldn't have been as hard to do as the Airstream because it is shorter, oh well. I like Stampede. We could see the reservoir from our campsite but it was a little ways away. Jerry took Cody and Moose with him down there on Thursday to check out a spot to fish. Needless to say though he never went fishing. We did get the thunderstorm. It also hailed on us. Some of the hailstones were about the size of large marbles but I think the trees protected the trailers pretty good. Jerry hasn't said anything about having dents from it. The ride down I-80 on Sunday was a lot of fun. We were about 5 vehicles behind a 5 car accident. It was in the section where they have the eastbound lanes down to one lane. Jerry and Eric went down to the accident and helped get the cars apart so the tow trucks could get them out of there. The tow trucks were all sitting at Gold Ranch waiting. Apparently there has been a lot of accidents on that stretch. The tow trucks had to drive backwards all the way up the one lane in order to get to the cars, hook them up and then drive forwards down to a place off the highway. It appears that a young girl decided to do some texting while going through there that caused the



initial accident and then the others were either going too fast or following too close and had no where to go to miss hitting the vehicle in front of them. It took about an hour to get things moving again. There were a few totaled cars but thank goodness no one got hurt. We ended up getting home about 3 pm.

Footnote: Come to find out, Gary Haskett, another SNU member who was heading home with his airstream was in front of that same accident. He had to slam on his brakes to keep from hitting a van. All his truck and trailer tires were smoking but he didn't hit anything and wasn't hurt.



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