



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 21, Issue 1

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

January 2011

December Luncheon

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a rally
below for details

- ♦ [January 22,
2011 Bavarian
World, Reno](#)
- ♦ [February 26th
El Charro Avita
Carson City](#)
- ♦ [March 24-27
Weeds Heights
RV Park](#)
- ♦ [April 28 - May 1
Boca Rest
Campground](#)



What a great turnout for our holiday lunch at J.T.'s Basque restaurant in Gardnerville. Among those present were Fred and Ann Hersey and Don and MaryLou Damoth. The Hersey's and Damoth's are long time members of the SNU. They were instrumental in keeping the SNU alive during some difficult years at the beginning of this decade. It was great to see them and to let them know that the SNU is still going strong. The SNU's 2011 President, Dyann Thornburg, shared a few items of business. First, since we didn't have a quorum at the October rally, she asked that the slate of officers be affirmed at this meeting. Everyone approved. Dyann also discussed the two special rallies planned for 2011 and the need for people to indicate their intention to participate. Firm rsvp's are needed ASAP in order to move ahead with reservations and planning. Business taken care of, we finished a very tasty lunch and enjoyed more visiting and catching up with everyone's past, present, and future activities.



January Lunch

The SNU ended the year 2010 with a Basque style lunch. We'll begin the year 2011 with a German style lunch. January's lunch will be held on Saturday January 22, 2011 at Bavarian World in Reno. The lunch will start at 11:30. Bavarian World is on the southwest corner of Valley Rd. & 6th. Keep in mind, Bavarian World also has a bakery which is definitely worth a visit after lunch. To rsvp email hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org or call 775 972 5011.

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the January Lunch at Bavarian World .

please [Click Here](#)

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2011/11news/index.html>

Notes from the Prez

Dyann Thornburg

Hi Everyone! I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. Well it's now 2011, which means the 35th Anniversary for the SNU. I am very excited because we have several fantastic rallies planned for the year and I sincerely hope you are planning to attend. The first will be an extension of the August 2011 rally at Obsidian Dome (Thursday, August 25th through Wednesday, August 31st). This will be a joint rally with the San Fernando Unit. After the Obsidian Dome Rally everyone attending the extended days will be going to the Mammoth Lakes RV Park. Then for the September 2011 rally we will be at the Zephyr Cove RV Park at Lake Tahoe (Thursday, September 22nd through Sunday, September 25th) with a dinner cruise Saturday night on the MS Dixie. If you are planning to attend these rallies you need to complete the RSVP form which you will find on our website www.sierranevadaairstreams.org and submit it to Diane Leipper this month. It is going to be a very exciting year for the SNU and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the rallies and luncheons.

Upcoming 2011 Events

| | |
|---|--|
| Saturday January 22, 2011 Bavarian World, Reno | Thursday August 25 – Wednesday August 31 Obsidian Dome & Mammoth Lakes |
| Saturday February 26, 2011 El Charro Avita in Carson City | Thursday September 22 – Sunday September 25, 2011 Zephyr Cove Campground & dinner cruise on Lake Tahoe |
| Thursday March 24 – Sunday March 27, 2011 Weed Heights RV Park | Thursday October 20 – Sunday October 23, 2011 Ft Churchill Scout Camp |
| Thursday April 28 – Sunday May 1, 2011 Boca Rest | Saturday November 19, 2011 B.J.'s BBQ in Sparks |
| Thursday May 19 – Sunday May 22, 2011 Ft Sage | Thursday November 17 – Sunday November 20, 2011 Death Valley Mesquite Campground |
| Thursday June 23 – Sunday June 26, 2011 Sweetwater Summit | Saturday December 17, 2011 Overland Basque Restaurant , Fallon |
| Thursday July 21 – Sunday July 24, 2011 Hickison Petroglyph Site | |

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

Caravanning in Our Backyard

By Frank Colligan

When we learned about the WBCCI caravan titled, "Wilder West" we said, "Why would we go on that? We've been to almost all of those stops." After all, we live there! We signed up anyway because we really like the leaders, Enid and Bruce Paulk, whom we had met on another caravan they led.

The caravan began in Rio Vista, CA on the Sacramento Delta, crossed the Sierra over Kit Carson Pass (Hwy 88) and really focused on the Eastern Side of The Sierra, terminating in Las Vegas. We enjoyed a lunch cruise on Lake Tahoe, a ride on the Virginia & Truckee behind a steam engine, side trips into Yosemite Valley, Bodie, Death Valley, and much, much more.

Whenever possible, the leaders arranged for private tours and we really delved into the mining history at Tonopah and Goldfield. As it turns out, a couple that was on the caravan, Dorothy and Kent Charles, are retired Park Service employees who worked at Death Valley National Park. Not only did they help lead our adventure there, but they put on a slide show the night before followed by handing out signed copies of a book that Dorothy had written about Scotty's Castle. (It is still in print and available at the visitor centers in the Park).



Another caravaner, Carlos Leach, is the grandson of a member of an early caravan to Mexico led by Wally Byum. He entertained us one night with home movies of that adventure. You must admit; WBCCI members are an interesting group of people.

The caravan's path crossed the SNU's September rally at Obsidian Dome. We managed to drop by for a short visit, along with Dick and Judy Martiny from Georgia. Maybe our unit can schedule something with this caravan when it runs again in 2012.

Shared meals are of course an important part of the caravan experience. We had dinner together every travel night and enjoyed several breakfasts and cook-outs (prepared by caravan members).

Our experience on the Wilder West caravan proved that you can have a really great time even if you know the territory. We learned a lot about our own backyard, and have come to love it even more.

What is the Sierra Nevada Unit?

The following statements were made by various SNU members. They pretty much sum up what the SNU is all about. These statements are in many of the SNU's promotional material and they are also on the website.

"It's the Airstreams that bring us together but it's the people who keep us together" - Jerry Thornburg (2797) describing the SNU

"The WBCCI is an exclusive club because not everyone owns an Airstream! The idea is to get out and have fun with your RV - with friends who share common interests." - Bryan R. Leipper (772)

SNU Philosophy

"The formula that the leadership in our unit uses comes straight from Wally and his creed which they have adopted as the primary focus of the group. It also comes by their determination to be inclusive with respect to the members, open to new ideas and by providing opportunities for everyone to participate in the way that best suits them." - Former SNU member

2010 Sierra Nevada Unit Highlights

The SNU is always seeking ideas and inspiration from all of it's members. This input encourages us to try new things, go new places, and share new adventures. This past year provides a good example of how members keep the SNU active and exciting for everyone.

We held rallies in Two new locations, Rocky Point at Eagle Lake and Crocker Campground at Beckworth. Average attendance at rallies was 6 Airstreams. Two members attended their first rally in 2010.



Guests and visitors are always welcome at our rallies and meetings. In 2010 we had guests at several rallies. 1 at Rocky Point, 1 at Obsidian, 1 at Death Valley and 1 at Crocker. We also had three at our January lunch and two guests at our February luncheon. Guests included members of the Oregon Unit, Members of NorCal, members of the San Diego Unit, and several potential SNU members. Guests also included friends and relatives. Dyann's sister, Jerry & Dyann's grandkids, Gene and Carmen's kids, grandkids, and other family members and Don and Gail's friend.

The SNU had an elected delegate at the WBCCI International Rally who was also a first time attendee for an International rally. Another SNU member attending the rally was elected 2nd Vice President of the WBCCI Amateur Radio intra-club

SNU members also participated in rallies sponsored by other WBCCI Units and Region 12. These included rallies of the Four Corners Unit, the Region 12 Hobo Rally, and the Region 12 rally in Hemet.

Two SNU members participated in WBCCI Caravans. For one, it was their first Caravan.

One of Wally Byam's Four Freedoms is the freedom for fun. Fun is always a part of an SNU event. It may be informal and small or it may be a planned activity. Several of the fun things we did related to food. For the first time in 2010 we had a special omelets in a bag breakfast at our March rally. We had a formal dinner celebrating our 5th year at Unionville complete with a white table cloth, candelabra, and sparkling cider. We had chicken cacciatore cooked in a cast iron pot over the campfire and ice cream for dessert to celebrate our 5th year at Obsidian Dome. Other fun things had to do with weather and exercising our creativity and flexibility to deal with adverse weather conditions at rallies. The most fun of all is just being out with your Airstream swapping stories, sharing ideas, and just enjoying the company of other SNU members.



Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu

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For more information on 2011 rallies check this website: [Click Here](#)