



# WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

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[Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org](http://Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org)

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## Weeds Heights Review

We can now paint another pink flamingo on our fuselage. The SNU has held rallies despite, snow, wind, sand, bugs, hail, and rain. We can now add heat to that list. At the Weed Heights rally we had daytime temps of 100F and above. By 9pm it had cooled down to 90F. The mornings though, were very enjoyable and we had our morning coffee and goodies outside under the shade of the trees. Sadly, the local donut shop has closed down but Wheels and Doris made a trip to the grocery store so we weren't short of pastries. During the heat of the day we made

good use of the cool club house or our air conditioned Airstreams. Dyann and Wheels played cards. Wheels, Diane and Jerry worked on a puzzle. We watched movies, read books, took inspirational naps, and of course, discussed Airstreams and various repair and maintenance projects. The ice machine in the club house also got a lot of use. We were delighted to have some of our members we haven't seen much of this year join us at Weed Heights. Although Janet wasn't able to come,



Roger came with his grandson, Jason. Jason has been spending a lot of time this summer with Roger and Janet. He's a great young man and it was nice to get to know him. We missed Janet but she was there in spirit. Saturday Roylaine showed up with her friend Jim. It seems Jim was the one who encouraged Roy to get the Airstream out and come to the rally. He helped her get the trailer and suburban fixed up and ready for the road. They brought all 3 of Roy's dogs, including Scout. Scout was the dog that had been abandoned at Scout Camp almost 2 years ago. After Gene and Carmen's grandkids befriended him, Wes and Roylaine adopted him. Scout is looking good and seems to have turned into a great dog. Other rally participants included Jerry & Dyann, Wheels & Doris, and Bryan & Diane. Saturday we had a great BBQ dinner. Jerry cooked a roast with his special rub and sauce on the slow cooker. Diane brought some bratwurst to grill. Along with several salads, melons, and casseroles we had a great dinner. Then we had our ice cream dessert. Wheels and Doris brought the makings for root beer floats, Dyann had some yummy ice cream and toppings, Diane brought a variety of ice cream bars. Needless to say, nobody went hungry. Other activities over the weekend included a visit from Bob and Cecilia. Bob gave a nice report on the recent WBCCI Rally in Huron, SD. Wheels was assisting the Civil Air Patrol this weekend. He had a beacon that transmitted a signal for CAP planes to home in on. Saturday we had planes flying over the rally site while we drank our



morning coffee. Saturday Wheels held a short business meeting. Main items on the agenda were the review of the 2014 SNU rally schedule and a Region 12 request to review the SNU bylaws. The SNU bylaws had been submitted to the Region in February 2013 per an earlier request. Sunday, after morning coffee, everyone finished packing up so we could head home before the heat of the day. Hopefully now we can look forward to cooler weather for the remainder of our 2013 rallies. No matter what, I know we'll have a great time.

## Rally and events schedule

Click on a link  
below for details

- ◆ [August 8th  
Obsidian Dome  
Mammoth Lks,  
CA](#)
- ◆ [August 30th  
Cantaloupe Festival  
Fallon, NV](#)
- ◆ [Oct. 10th  
Crocker Rally  
Beckwourth, CA](#)
- ◆ [Nov. 16th  
Carolina Kitchen  
Sparks, NV](#)

## Prez Meanderings

The July rally at Weed Heights was a challenge for our Air Conditioners. Temperatures were in the low 100's Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Andy didn't want to get out of the trailer. The Club House swamp cooler was very effective and I spent a fair amount of time there. We had five trailers at the rally. It would be nice if we could attract more members to our rallies. Maybe cooler weather will help attendance. Diane started a 500 piece puzzle and I used it as an excuse to hang out in the Club House coolness. We got the puzzle finished Saturday evening. Thanks to Jerry's perseverance and my cheering him on.

The Region Rally is in Lodi on the 10th – 15th of October and region has requested that we get our registrations in as early as possible so the host unit can plan for the number attending. It will be held at the Grape and Harvest Festival fairground in Lodi.

The August rally is at a location that is a favorite of many members and friends of the unit – Obsidian Dome. It should be cooler at about 8100 feet elevation. There are some tall trees that will provide good shade. There is also a small creek nearby that you can dangle your feet in if there is water in it. Of course, if you want to get warm you can climb the trail to the top of the dome where there is no shade.

The end of August (29th – 1 Sept) is the rally at the Cantaloupe Festival at the Fallon Fairgrounds. This should prove to be as much fun as it was last year.

Hope to see you at the rallies in August and September.



Prez Wheelz

## August at Obsidian Dome

The SNU's eighth annual rally at Obsidian Dome will be Thursday August 8 – Sunday August 11, 2013. It will be a joint rally with members from the San Fernando Valley Unit. We are also expecting our friends from the NorCal Unit. Something different this rally. We'll have a spaghetti dinner on THURSDAY. Bobbi and the SFVU will bring the spaghetti and garlic toast. SNU and other participants will bring salads and dessert. Bobbi also has some great plans for breakfast Friday and Saturday. We'll have our shared dinners on Friday and Saturday. There are great places to hike and bike ride. There are nice trees to sit under and relax and visit. Mammoth and June Lakes are a short distance from the rally site if anyone is interested in an outing. Plan to join us at one of our favorite rally sites.



## Airstream Misadventures

If you have had an RV for a while and done some traveling, you have probably experienced at least one minor misadventure. This sample list was compiled several years ago.

Don and Gail Williams - This incident occurred the day before we traded for the 25' CCD. We turned down the wrong street in the dark looking for a campground in TN. It took us more than 30 minutes to back out a 1/4 of a mile in the dark; steep uphill, twisty, etc.

Don and MaryLou Damoth - Loosing the water tank while crossing a long bridge

Darryl and Sharon VanDorn - Missing the turnoff to a campground and driving their brand new Safari down a winding narrow road in the California foothills only to run into a bridge too narrow to cross. A stranger, local to the area, came to their aid and backed their rig all the way back up the hill.

Jerry and Dyann Thornburg - Taking a brand new 30ft Classic on a hunting trip to Jarbidge, NV and being reminded it is wider than their 1983 Airstream when they started scraping the sides on the bushes along the dirt road. Also dented their fresh water tank on a rock.

Roger and Janet Jeppson - Almost taking the bumper off their new Safari while squirrel hunting. Also losing the hitch.

Dale and Virginia Leipper - Getting locked inside the Bambi and having to crawl out the bathroom window

There have been many more incidents in the last few years that could be added to the list. Some have been included in past newsletters. **Randy and Vicki's aborted Airstream trip** is one. Another was about **Don and Gail's new Airstream**. Then there were **Wheels and Doris' unintended dry camping** adventure and **their winter experience**. Jerry can tell you stories about trailer wheels, overflowing sinks, and engine fires. Roger has added to the bumper and hitch stories. Dean can share his experience finding a curved front window. Gene can tell you about the air conditioner cowling that blew off. Needless to say, RV'ing is an adventure. Thankfully these incidents all had a happy ending, no major damage, all fixable, a few lessons learned, and they provided stories to remember and share.

## Upcoming Events for 2013

Obsidian Dome Thursday August 8 – Sunday 11, 2013

Carolina Kitchen, Sparks, NV Saturday November 16, 2013

Cantaloupe Festival, Fallon, NV Friday Aug. 30 – Monday Sept. 2, 2013

Death Valley Mesquite Campground Thursday November (TBA)

Crocker, Beckwourth, CA Thursday October 10 – 13, 2013

Jake's Restaurant, Fernley, NV Saturday December 14, 2013

## Huron International WBCCI Rally

Gail and I anticipated an early start of our summer holiday but repairs on our Airstream delayed our launch 2 ½ weeks. We had a somewhat hurried but uneventful 4-day trip to Huron, South Dakota. Oh yeah, there was the trip along the Seminole Backcountry Byway. The Byway takes the traveler from the plains near Rawlins, Wyoming past the Seminole Dam and Reservoir over the Ferris Mountains to Casper.

Thirty miles of the route were forest service road, seemingly not bumpy in the truck but a surprise awaited us at our lunch stop. The plastic bin in the wardrobe (HF amateur radio transceiver inside) slid enough to open the wardrobe door after which cereal, biscotti, dog biscuits and dog treats mixed together on the floor in the galley. Gail abandon me to walk the dogs while I cleaned up the mess. As a side note I will have biscotti to go with Bryans early morning coffee for the SNU guests at Obsidian Dome.

We arrived at the International Rally site in Huron, South Dakota 10 minutes after the camping escorts quit for the day and therefore stayed in the Bull Pen for the evening with a couple from Wisconsin. That put us first in line to be whisked to our campsites on Tuesday morning. Registration did not open for two days (more volunteers needed) so we checked out the WBCCI store and rally vendors, visited with people around us and friends from Region 11 and 12.



Over the next 10 days Gail and I worked hard to represent the Sierra Nevada Unit, we attended the: Unit Delegate Workshop; Unit Flag Training (for the opening ceremony); Tech Training for region officials; Justin Humphrey and Bob Wheeler's talk about the health of Airstream, its sales growth and new products coming out; the Delegates Seminar and Meeting; various evening programs, music and coronation of the new IBT officers; knot tying class; Laura Ingalls Wilder program; etc. We also visited the Huron Giant Pheasant tourist attraction, talked with JJ & Sandi who head the "Alyeska, the Great Land" caravan (Gail and I are on the 2014 caravan), visited with Shorewood RV staff and viewed their Airstreams on display, ate at two different ice cream restaurants (seems to be a habit of International Rally attendees), Region 12 happy hour, breakfasts, picnics and the WBCCI RV Service Net Dinner (amateur radio club).

Lastly Gail and Mongo competed in the WBCCI Pet Show where we were robbed; no ribbon for the cutest Yorkie and dog in the show! We even pulled out the old guys, Zorro and me to accompany Gail and Mongo in the WBCCI Fourth of July Parade at the rally's closing ceremonies.

Lest someone fink on us we did stray from the WBCCI program one night; we went to the 3/8s mile dirt track races on the north end of the South Dakota Fairgrounds along with a noticeable number of rally attendees. Actually it would have been two nights of straying but an early evening shower dampened our enthusiasm for the Fourth of July dirt track extravaganza and we stayed in the rally grounds.

The biggest news from the International was the Delegates defeat of the amendment to allow long term WBCCI members to retain their membership if they replace their Airstream products with Thor built motorhomes and the July 5th IBT action to simplify some language in Unit constitutions, establish methods to form units in other countries and admit the new Down Under Australian Unit!

That completes our International Rally Report, where do Gail and I submit our receipts for reimbursement?

Respectfully Don & Gail Williams #14207

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the August Rally at Obsidian Dome  
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2013/13-news/index.html>

For information on upcoming rallies check this page:  
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2013/13-events/docs/13-rallyschedule.html>

## ***Proposed Sierra Nevada Unit 2014 Rally Schedule***

Here is the **proposed 2014 Rally** and luncheon schedule. If you have any ideas for rally sites or rally activities, please let the SNU know so they can be considered for inclusion in the final rally schedule.

Hometown Cafe - Saturday January 25, 2014 - North of Reno in Lemmon Valley off North 395

Black Bear Diner - Saturday February 22, 2014 - East of downtown Fernley on East Main St.

Lahontan beach 7 unstructured camping area - Thursday March 20–23 2014 a - off Alt 95 South

Boca Rest - Thursday April 24-27 2014 - Off I 80 West of Reno near Truckee, CA

Rocky Point BLM dispersed area - Thursday May 15–18 2014 - off Hwy 139 North of Susanville, CA

Sweetwater Ham Radio Field Day - Thursday June 26–29 2014 - off Hwy 338 between Smith, NV & Bridgeport, CA

\*\*WBCCI International Rally June 28, 2014 – July 4, 2014

Weed Heights Full Service RV Park - Thursday July 25-27 2014 - off Hwy 95 West of Yerington, NV

Obsidian Dome - Thursday August 21-24 2014 - off US 395 South between June Lakes and Mammoth Lakes, CA

Crocker - Thursday September 25–28 2014 Near Beckworth, CA off Hwy 70 NFS campground

Ft Churchil main park - Thursday October 23--26 2014 - US 95 South of Silver Springs

Region 12 Rally - Wednesday October 15, 2014 to Monday October 20, 2014 – Pahrump, NV

Bavarian World - Saturday November 22, 2014 - Near downtown Reno off I 80 on 4th street

\* Death Valley Mesquite Campground - North end of Death Valley near Scotties Castle

## ***Good Times, Good Friends***

This is from Bryan and Diane's grandparents WBCCI memorabilia and diaries. It perfectly expresses the best reason for being a member of WBCCI (and the SNU). It exemplifies the philosophy of the SNU.

Wally Byam's camp at Wisconsin Dells July 1959 - "There are about 30 some odd trailers already here. When we arrived in camp we were really greeted. We have met so many of the Caravaneers one feels like he really belongs. Got our awning up but couldn't get any work done as we just had too many visitors - a great life. This parking space isn't so hot but who cares when he has so many friends around him. Looks like a good time for us." - JB Harrison



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The Sierra Nevada Unit c/o Leipper Management  
714 Terra Ct , Reno, NV 89506  
Phone: 775-972-5011  
Email: [hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org](mailto:hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org)

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