



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

November 2013

Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org

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Rally and events schedule

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- ◆ Nov. 16th
Carolina Kitchen
Sparks, NV
- ◆ Nov. 21st
Death Valley Mesquite Campground
- ◆ Dec. 14th
Jake's Restaurant
Fernley NV
- ◆ Jan. 25th
Hometown Cafe
Lemmon Valley

Cocker Rally Review

We couldn't have had a nicer weekend for the **SNU October rally at Crocker**. It was cool in the mornings but the afternoons were sunny, warm and clear. Best of all, there was almost no wind. We had plenty of firewood to keep a fire going most of the weekend. Saturday night we had a few showers. It's always nice to hear raindrops on the roof of the Airstream. Sunday morning the showers had quit and we enjoyed one last campfire with our coffee before heading home. The weekend was perfect for walks near the campground and for sitting around a campfire enjoying the peace and quiet. Gene updated us on the work he and Carmen have been doing on their place near Spring Creek. Jerry talked about the work he has done on their motorhome. It should probably be ready for rallies by next spring. Gary talked about the potential trip he and Anita are thinking about in January 2014. We had our usual coffee and goodies in the morning and shared meals on Friday and Saturday. Rally participants included Gary & Anita, Jerry & Dyann, Gene, and Bryan & Diane. Gene's wife, Carmen is visiting her Mother so Gene was on his own. Although we didn't have a quorum, it seems the slate of SNU officers for 2014 met with no objections. We had a little discussion on the SNU Rallies planned for 2014. Everyone is looking forward to another great year of camping with our Airstreams. Crocker was a great way to wrap up the 2013 rally year. Don't forget though, Don and Gail will be hosting an SNU rally in Death Valley in November.



November Lunch in Sparks, NV

The SNU November luncheon will be at the **Carolina Kitchen in Sparks, NV** on Saturday November 16, 2013. The specialize in Cajun, Southern Barbeque and Soul Food. This is a new place for the SNU so plan on joining us to check it out. Please let us know if you plan to attend. Email hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org or call 775 972 5011.

Trivia Question: What year did the SNU hold a Caravan covering parts of Northern and Central Nevada?

Prez Meanderings

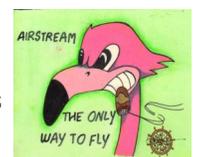
While some of the rest of the SNU was enjoying camping in the woods at the Crocker Campground in the Plumas National Forest, I was attending the Region 12 Rally in Lodi. The Lodi Rally was held at the Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair grounds. The rally began on Thursday the 10th of October. Snow was forecast for Wednesday the 9th in the mountains so I left on Tuesday the 8th and stayed at the military Sharpe Depot campground in Stockton for two nights and drove to the rally on Thursday. The Fairgrounds has a lot of grassy areas for parking. We daisy chained water connections and branched electrical hook-ups from the available 30 and 50 amp service to get everyone connected to water and electric. There was a dump station available on the way out of the grounds. I think there were nearly 60 trailers and motor homes there. Valri and Gregg Ayer (you may remember them from our Obsidian Dome rally) did a marvelous job putting the rally together and coordinating the efforts of the unit members that volunteered to help. As best I can tell there were no significant problems that influence the smooth running of the rally.

The 12 page rally brochure that we were given when arriving outlined the daily activities for the five days, provided an overview of seminars and tours, and listed the pertinent services and businesses in the area. Thursday evening activities included dinner, announcements and an overview of Lodi from the Chamber of Commerce. I had never realized that the Lodi area was such a significant wine making area. In the last few decades the grapes being grown in the area have been used for producing wines labeled from Lodi rather than being shipped to Napa or elsewhere. The wine industry of the area continues to grow. The Chamber of Commerce presentation and the presentation by the Winery Association on Friday evening made it quite clear that the wine production in the Lodi area is a significant part of the California wine production and continues to grow. Breakfast of some sort was provided each day except the arrival and departure day. Dinner was provided on Thursday and Friday. Happy Hour was conducted each afternoon and announcements made each evening to acquaint every one with what to expect the next day. I spent a couple of afternoons and evenings re-learning to play Joker and learning to play Hand and Foot (a Canasta like game). My daughter, who lives in Bakersfield, came to visit on Saturday with her new boyfriend and with his trailer. We had a great visit but they had to leave late the next morning. Saturday during Happy Hour I dressed up in by Hobo outfit, including crown, to advertise the Hobo Rally in Blythe in early February. The 2014 Hobo Rally will be the last Hobo Rally. Don and Gail Williams, our members from Riverside, were at the rally and it was nice to chat with them. Don is the Region 12 membership chair.

The Region 12 business meeting was conducted on Saturday morning. I represented the Sierra Nevada Unit. The president Robert Stansbury announce that two unit were probably disbanding – the San Fernando and the San Joaquin . Bob encouraged members of these units to seek membership in other California units and neighboring units to offer membership to these people to keep them in the WBCCI family. Don Williams, the membership chair pointed out that the region website is a great resource for gaining new members. It is important to keep the information on the website current. Some units pointed out that they have a board in their Airstream dealer's showroom that announces their units activities and invites new owners to join. He pointed out that units receive notice of new Airstream purchases and encouraged personal contact to invite them to join.

The upcoming Region 12 Rallies are: Feb 2014, Hobo in Blythe CA; Oct 2014, Pahrump NV; March 2015, Atascadero (replaces Hobo). International Rallies are; June 2014, Gillette WY; June 2015, Farmington NM; June 2016 West Virginia. The actions on the motions I mentioned last month were as follows: Deleting Hobo Rally from Policy #2 and Policy #8 Adopted unanimously. The motion to donate \$500 dollars each to the Wounded Warrior Project and the "Hands of Peace" Monument in the International Peace Garden was withdrawn and resubmitted without the "Hands of Peace" Monument. The new Wounded Warrior Project donation motion passed unanimously. A member of the audience reported searching and eventually finding the "Hands of Peace" monument but the Garden is not well cared for and the monument while in disrepair is not easily found. Others pointed out that no limit on the required funds for repair has been stated and no return policy stated if insufficient or excess funds are donated. The motion to fund \$1500 for the attendance of the Vice President at the WBCCI Mid-Winter Rally and IBT meeting in Rayne, LA was adopted. I raised the question "If it is so beneficial for the Vice President to attend, why not a motion for the Vice President to attend all such meeting instead of just this one." I was given what I considered an inadequate answer that other Policies set funding limits. I therefore voted against. However, the motion passed. It was pointed out that the Region 12 website now has the schedules of all units' activities and a member can now see where a rally is being held if they are interested in attending other rallies. It was also pointed out that Courtesy Parking is now easier to find on the WBCCI website.

Hope to see you at the luncheon on the 16th of November at the Carolina Kitchen in Sparks. Pres. Wheelz



Upcoming Events for 2013 and 2014

Carolina Kitchen, Sparks, NV Saturday
November 16, 2013

Death Valley Mesquite Campground Thursday
November 21, 2013

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

Hometown Cafe, Lemmon Valley, NV Saturday
January 25, 2014

Black Bear Diner - Saturday February 22, 2014

Lahontan beach 7 unstructured camping area -
Thursday March 20-23 2014

Boca Rest - Thursday April 24- Sunday 27 2014

Rocky Point - Thursday May 15- Sunday 18 2014

Sweetwater Summit - Thursday June 26-Sunday
29 2014

WBCCI International Rally Gillette WY- June 28 –
July 4, 2014

Weed Heights - Thursday July 25- Sunday 27 2014

Obsidian Dome - Thursday August 14- Sunday 17
2014

Crocker - Thursday September 25-Sunday 28 2014

Ft Churchill – main park - Thursday October 23-
Sunday 26 2014

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

Bavarian World - Saturday November 22, 2014

Death Valley Mesquite Campground - Thursday
November

El Charro Avita - Saturday December 20, 2014

Welcome Our Newest Member

The SNU has a new member in Yosemite. Michell Sass has a 1978 Tradewind. We'd like to welcome her to the SNU. Hopefully we'll meet her in person at a rally or lunch sometime soon.

November in Death Valley

The **SNU Rally in Death Valley** at Mesquite Campground will be Thursday November 21 through the 24, 2013. This rally is hosted by Don and Gail Williams. There are lots of interesting places to check out near the campground including Scotty's Castle, Titus Canyon and Stovepipe Wells. A highlight of this rally will be Don's sourdough pancakes. He and Gail probably have some other surprises and treats planned for this rally. Weather is usually mild in November which makes it a great time to visit Death Valley.



Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu

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Go green! Sign up now for our electronic newsletter. Active links are built into the text for your convenience in following up on information linked in the newsletter.

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Visitors

Diane Leipper # 772

Bryan and I had two sets of visitors in September taking advantage of courtesy parking. Both were on their way to the Balloon Fiesta Rally in Albuquerque. The first was Paul and Pat Buescher from Portland. They are members of the Oregon Unit. We met Paul and Pat in 2010 when they came to the SNU rally at Mesquite. It was great to see them again and catch up a little on all their travels. It was also neat to hear about the Oregon Unit and all their activities. They stayed one night and then headed East. They planned to do some touring in route to New Mexico. We suggested Hickison as a possible overnight stop. The other visitors were Bruce and Ronda McComb. They are members of the Washington Unit and are full-timers. They needed a place to park their 31ft Excella for a few days while they visited friends who live in a neighborhood that doesn't allow RV parking. All of the courtesy parking available in Nevada is provided by SNU members. The Thornburgs, Wheelers, Roots and Leippers. It's a great way to meet fellow Airstreams.

Caravanning

Caravans are one of the special benefits of belonging to WBCCI. In fact, it was caravans that led to the creation of the club. The very first Caravan occurred in 1951. It was inspired by a customer who had recently purchased his first Airstream. In a discussion with this customer, Wally Byam realized the man wasn't getting as much out of trailering as he could. He suggested they go on a trip together. That way Byam could help him learn about the "efficiency and pleasure" of trailer travel. That "little excursion" went down to Ensenada in lower California. Wally and the customer had such a good time, they started talking about a "more ambitious tour" to Mexico. That led to the **1951 Caravan to Mexico** and Central America. They talked about asking a few other friends to go along. Word spread and by the time they figured they may have bitten off more than they could chew, they had fifty trailers signed up to go. It was also on a caravan in **Eastern Canada in 1955** that a group of dedicated Caravanners, many of whom had been on that first Caravan, decided to formalize their group and make it exclusive to Airstream RV's. The first **"All-American" Caravan was in 1957**. The 1957 Caravanner Newsletter states, "it was officially known as the Kentucky Derby-Indianapolis Speedway Caravan, it will be the first large caravan to tour the United States". Although the days are gone when a long line of 30 or more Airstreams could be seen traveling down the road together, WBCCI caravans still bring together groups of Airstreamers from all across the country to travel together and experience various historic sites, festivals, parks, and a whole host of activities. WBCCI doesn't seem to have records of the average



number of participants in each caravan or the percent of members who annually participate in a caravan but it is one of the most popular activities of the club. There are caravans to suit just about every interest and participation level. What is unique to WBCCI Caravans is that they are volunteer driven. WBCCI members plan them and lead them. This helps to make them less expensive than some more commercial caravans. Recent changes in WBCCI policy have made it even easier to participate in caravans. Caravans are organized by every entity in WBCCI. They can be local, national or international. Check the Blue Beret or the WBCCI website for listings of the current caravans. SNU members Carol and Frank are participating in the 2013 Maple Leaf Caravan of Western Canada. You can follow their adventures on their **blog <http://oreillyandfriends.wordpress.com/>**. Several other SNU

members have participated in caravans or are planning to participate in the near future. As Wally Byam says in his **Four Freedoms**, "trailer travel provides a better opportunity to get to know a country and it's people and an increased opportunity to discover the world."

Answer to Trivia Question: 1980. The Mid-Nevada Caravan included stops at Scott's Summit, Eureka, Kennecott's mine in Ely, and Nevada State Parks at Ward Charcoal Ovens, Lehman Caves, Echo Lake, Cathedral Gorge and Kershaw-Ryan.