



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 24, Issue 11

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

November 2014

Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org

Inside this issue:

Prez Meanderings	2
Marlene & Baxter's Report	2
Monitor's & Alarms	3
SNU on Facebook	4
What about Caravans	4

Rally and events schedule

Click on a link below for details

- ◆ November 22nd
Bavarian World
- ◆ December 20th
El Charo Avita
- ◆ January 24th
Shanghai Restaurant
- ◆ February 21st
Black Bear Diner
- ◆ March 19th
Lahontan Beach

Fort Churchill Rally Review

This is what fall camping is all about! Participants at **Ft Churchill** included: Gary & Anita, Jerry & Dyann, Gene & Carmen, Bryan & Diane, Wheels & Doris and Warren & Merna. We also had a visit from Roger & Janet on Friday. See the President's report for more on the Ft Churchill rally. Wheels, Doris, Warren & Merna had just gotten back from attending the Region 12 rally in Pahrump. They shared stories of their adventures. Sounds like it was a great rally. Approximately 6 SNU members attended. For at least 2 of them, this was their first Region Rally. It appears that the SNU dominated the raffle drawings. Almost every SNU member in attendance got a basket. Marlene was the



grand prize winner. She got the specially made quilt. At Ft Churchill, Merna showed off a new flamingo she picked up at a hardware store in Pahrump. It is like one Doris got a while back that moves to macarena music. The great weather at Ft Churchill on Friday enabled us to enjoy our shared meal outside. As usual, lots of good food. Merna shared some of the treats from the basket she won at our Friday dinner. The last time the SNU had a rally at the main Ft Churchill campground was in 2002. I think after this one, we'd all prefer not to wait so long to come back again.



Sierra Nevada Unit Business

Item 1: In accordance with SNU bylaws and prompted by past president, Dyann Thornburg election of 2015 officers was held at the October rally. The slate of officers was posted in the October SNU newsletter and an opportunity for all SNU members to vote was provided. The 2015 officers are: President - Gary Haskett, Secretary - open, Treasurer/membership - Baxter Swaffer, Trustee - Randy Grossmann, Trustee - Don Williams, Past President - Wheels Wheeler.

Item 2: The 2015 list of officers and the 2015 event schedule were submitted to WBCCI and to Region 12 at the end of October.

Item 3: At the Ft Churchill rally, Wheels passed out flyers for the **Cali-Rally**. This is the region 12 rally which replaces the Hobo rally. The dates are April 16 - 19, 2015.

November Luncheon at Bavarian World



The SNU November lunch will be at **Bavarian World** in Reno, one of our favorite places. The date is Saturday November 22, 2014, time 11:30am. Bavarian World is located on the corner of 4th and Valley, just off Wells Ave. Keep in mind, Bavarian World also has a bakery. It's a good opportunity to pick up some treats to take home. Please rsvp to hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org or call 775 972 9392.

Prez Meanderings

The Ft. Churchill rally was the perfect fall rally. There were crisp cool mornings around a warm fire. We were surrounded by tall cottonwood trees dressed in the finest fall colors – bright yellow. Light breezes caused some yellow leaves to gently fall to the ground. Stronger winds on Saturday afternoon had the leaves dancing and swirling in many directions. Saturday's winds also prevented an outdoor meal on Saturday evening. As usual the majority met for the meal in Jerry's trailer. We had six rigs there and were blessed with a visit by Roger and Jan Jeppson. Some of us took the time to renew our Senior Resident Pass for NV State Parks. Some also took the time explore some of the hiking trails; visit the old fort ruins and the Museum. Others enjoyed the warm afternoon and quiet surrounding by taking a nap or reading.

The one piece of business we accomplished was to elect the unit President for 2015. By unanimous vote Gary Haskett was elected. We all wish you the best, Gary. We will help you and try to make your presidency a happy and enjoyable experience for you and Anita.

We have two luncheons remaining in the 2014 SNU calendar, Bavarian World Nov 22 and El Charro Avita Dec 20. Unfortunately, the Wheelers will be unable to attend the luncheon at Bavarian World because of a long standing Civil Air Patrol engagement. Hope to see you all in Carson City at the El Charro Avita in December.



Marlene & Baxter's Report

We enjoyed the **Regional Rally**. The park was beautiful with a pond, green grass and a cement pad at each site. The committee did a wonderful job of events. 59 Airstreams, most were larger than ours, but a few Bambi's. We met a lot of people from the western states. The food was good and abundant. We had activities each day. Even a dog show where we could show Pojka (Baxter & Malene's new puppy) and meet other dogs. We chose not to go to Death Valley as it was a long drive. But loved the wine tasting tour and brothel tour and talent show. I was lucky to win the beautiful handmade quilt. We had 7 SNU members and made a beautiful basket for the raffle. Baxter enjoyed the seminar by Abe on trailer maintenance. This regional rally is a good opportunity to meet other airstreamers and have a great time and we are motivated to attend more in the future. We ventured south after the rally to Valley of the Fire state park near Lake Mead. Nice park with hookups and beautiful scenery. We drove home via 50 and stopped in Ely for one night. Planned to stop in Eureka but the parks didn't suit us so drove the 8 hours home. We are fortunate that our puppy is a good traveler. We winterized our Bambi, but hope we will be able to go south in February or March, depending on snow of course. Look forward to seeing everyone at the next luncheon.



Upcoming 2014 & 2015 Events

Bavarian World - Saturday November 22, 2014

El Charro Avita - Saturday December 20, 2014

Shanghai Restaurant & Sushi House - Sparks, Saturday January 24, 2015

Black Bear Diner, Fernley - Saturday February 21, 2015

Lahontan Beach 7 - Silver Springs, Thursday March 19 - Sunday March 22, 2015

Cali - Rally (Hobo replacement) April 16-20, 2015

Ft Sage, Doyle - Thursday April 23 - Sunday April 26, 2015 3

Rocky Point - Susanville, Thursday May 15 - Sunday May 17, 2015

Sweetwater - Thursday June 11- Sunday June 14 2015

WBCCI International Rally - Farmington, NM June 28 - July 4, 2015

Weed Heights - Yerington, Thursday July 9 - Sunday July 12, 2015

Prosser Family campground - Truckee Wednesday August 5 - Sunday 9, 2015

Obsidian Dome - June Lakes, Thursday September 24 - Sunday 27 2015

Region 12 Rally Silver City RV Resort - Minden, October 6-11, 2015

Overlander - Gardnerville, Saturday November 14, 2015

Bavarian World - Reno Saturday December 12, 2015

Carbon Monoxide (CO), Other Detectors and Alarms

by Bryan Leipper #772

After open heart surgery a SNU member had an oxygen concentrator prescription, the requirements for 110 volt power prompted me install a genset in the back of the tow truck. The location of the genset led to the possibility of CO getting into the RV when the wind went the wrong direction. Thus the need for functioning detectors and alarms in your RV where you are in an enclosed space with appliances that use fuel for combustion, including gensets, furnaces, RV refrigerators, or catalytic or similar space heaters. You should also have combustible gas detectors in case of leaks. (See the Safe Home Products Page for definitions)

RV ratings for alarms and detectors account for the confined space in an RV and the broader range of expected temperature and other conditions, among other things. Make sure any alarms and detectors in your RV have a proper UL listing for RV use. Also be aware that some detectors have expiration dates and will need to be replaced every few years, check the owner's manual. Some also run on batteries which should be replaced annually to be on the safe side. Where detectors are installed depends upon what it is trying to detect. Smoke and CO detectors are usually placed mid to high on the wall and combustible gas detectors low. Check the UL page on CO Product Safety Tips or PDF

The Safe T Alert is a common detector for RV's. It runs on 8-16v with a 60mA current draw and an operational temperature range of -40F to +140F - this provides a contrast to the usual 110v +40F to +100F specifications for a typical household detector. (Camping World has these for a bit under \$81 - Safe-T-Alert Carbon Monoxide Detector with FREE Smoke Alarm and Safe-T-Alert Detectors)

The Atwood RV alarm at PPL's RV Super Store with a digital display runs a bit under \$78. This unit comes with a display that shows how much the stove and oven add to rig CO content. See the battery powered CO Detector at Atwood. Be careful not to use micro measuring to feed paranoiac tendencies! There is also an Atwood for about \$55 at Mac the Fire Guy along with some other fire safety stuff.

The Army has Guidance on the Use of Heaters Inside Tents and Other Enclosed Shelters.

RV Safety Systems has Safety Related Alarm Systems for Buses/Motorhomes that provides some good data as well as descriptions of other alarms you might consider. Check here for links to all the resources mentioned in this article.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has a good summary of Portable Generator Hazards that includes CO as well as electrical hazards.

Make sure you have the detectors you need and that they are working properly when you use your RV. It is much better to be awakened in the night by an obnoxious alarm than to suffer fire or other disaster. [Check here](#) for links to all the resources mentioned in this article.

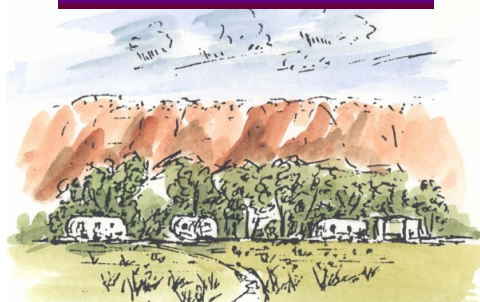
Sierra Nevada Unit's Facebook Page

Rick launched the [SNU Facebook page](#) a little over a year ago. It is a public page which means anyone can see posts on this page. The page has been a great addition to the SNU communication efforts. Not only for SNU members, it is also a way to inform non-members what the SNU is all about. Currently the SNU Facebook page has 18 members, including several who are not SNU members. The page provides an opportunity to share experiences, ask questions, post pictures of Airstream adventures as well as keep informed about the SNU. Some of the things that have been posted on the SNU Facebook page are links to Vintage Camper Flamingo Flock, dates for upcoming WBCCI and region events, request for assistance with an Airstream axle, fly fishing in an Airstream, pictures from the 2014 Hobo Rally, announcements of the latest SNU newsletter, pictures and comments from current rallies, and event announcements of upcoming rallies and lunches. Several photo albums have been posted. These include the SNU coping with weather at rallies, SNU leveling expertise, ham radio activities and an overview of SNU rally cooking. If you haven't checked out the SNU Facebook page, do so now. Better yet, join the group and share your own Airstream and SNU adventures.

Unit Caravans - A brief history & something to ponder

"In addition to the fun of gathering for the Monthly Unit Rally, there is the opportunity of becoming part, or even leader, of a Unit Caravan. What a great experience to be with good friends for several days, or weeks, while traveling to new grounds to explore. These Caravans can be a priceless experience." The above quote was written by Lloyd Brown in 1995. Lloyd and his wife, Ruth were charter members of the Monterey Bay CA Unit. This quote is from a booklet put together by Lloyd and Dale Leipper commemorating the [first fifty Unit Caravans](#) of the MBCU. Lloyd did all the drawings for this booklet. Many of the caravan stories are from his and Ruth's diaries or their memories.

1991 Cathedral Gorge by Lloyd Brown



In 1980 The SNU did a [caravan of Eastern Nevada](#). There has been talk about the SNU doing another Unit caravan but so far things just haven't come together. One of the caravans done in 1991 by the [Monterey Bay CA Unit](#), was similar to the SNU 1980 Caravan. To make a Caravan go from just an idea to a reality, it needs a champion and a leader. To help encourage Unit members to consider leading a caravan, Lloyd provided the following basic information on caravan planning and organization.

In general, caravans are planned to explore new places. Often they are planned to be the approach to National or Regional events, although often they are simply planned for fun in the period between our Unit Monthly Rallies. They should never conflict with Rally dates. In contrast to the Monthly Rallies, which are organized by our Unit President, Caravans are events that come from any member's desire to lead one. Our President, or the Unit Board, have no responsibility in establishing such events. (Except for approval of the Board once a Caravan is planned.)

So, you as a humble Unit member thinks it would be fun to make a trip to visit Mt. Rushmore . . . or Yellowstone. . . or Yosemite. You sit down and pour over the maps and work up a simple outline of such a trip. You talk with a member or two and start the fire of enthusiasm going. Once a few seem interested, you set up more exact dates & places. Then talk with our Unit President. If all seems practical, call for an organization meeting at a rally to explore further. For newcomers, here are a few basic rules. The Unit treasurer has no part in any money spent on a Caravan. All expenses, such as phone calls for reservations, all Caravan dinners, all parties, all money spent on the Caravan comes from a Caravan Kitty that is established by those going on such a trip. The more they want to do, the higher the Kitty Fee is set. The organizer of the Caravan is in full charge, No orders or instructions come from our basic Unit Governing Board. Some Years back it was established (by WBCCI) that to be considered a Caravan there must be a minimum of five members, and that more than a one night stop was involved. Once organized, the leader would present the plan to our Unit President asking for the approval of the Board. An official Caravan number would then be issued and the WBCCI Plaque could be ordered for distribution to those going on such an event. (These, are an honor to add to your Brag Board).

So, why not think up some beautiful spot, work up a simple route showing points of interest along the way, and get one of these wonderful experiences under way. They can become one of your great memories in this life that is only too short.

Caravan plaque



Keep informed about the Sierra Nevada Unit - select any of the following links.

[SNU newsletter and article information](#)

[SNU 2014 Rally Schedule - Mark your calendars](#)

[SNU Facebook Page](#)

[What's new on the SierraNevadaAirstreams.org](#)