



## July 2018 Airstreamer's Newsletter

The Sierra Nevada Unit will host its July Weed Heights Rally, Thursday July 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is our annual summer RV park pilgrimage to Weed Heights RV Park; the shaded sites, electrical hookups and the air-conditioned clubhouse help us enjoy the warmer July temperatures. We'll have shared meals Thursday and Friday night, but Saturday it'll be time to fire up the barbecue for Jerry's Nevada Surf & Turf speciale with shrimp and tri-tip roast. Members and guests are asked to bring side dishes. The weather outlook is mid 90s in the daytime so we'll appreciate the shaded sites but sleeping should be easy with nighttime temps in the 50s! The rally Kitty donation is \$5 per rig per day plus park camping fees.

Let us know if you're coming so we can buy enough shrimp and tri-tip for the group.

Late arrivals or day visitors are welcome. I'm told that Mason Valley Wildlife Area is a great place to watch birds, a variety of small shops to peruse in Yerington and Mason and possible fishing on the Walker.

Take any number of routes to pickup US-95 ALT south to Yerington; turn right on Burch Drive (southwesterly) and another on Austin (northwest) to Weed Heights RV Park. For those trusting their GPS use latitude/longitude: 38.990403, -119.209524.



photos courtesy sierranevadaairstreams.org

**SNU Business** - None this month but check our Facebook page if you didn't get the Region 12 Gold & Silver newsletter.

### Other Unit News and Needs:

- **Registration was still open for the October Region 12 Rally at the International in Salem.** Follow the link to signup now: <http://region12.wbcci.net/region-12-calendar/2018-region-12-rally/> .
- **61<sup>st</sup> WBCCI Salem International Rally** - Wow, a record 10 SNU rigs **including** newest member Jodi #7677 and Brown, Dale, Larson, Leipper, Muff, Schroeder, Seasholtz, Wheeler & Williams. Gail or I got to talk with all of them!

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- **August Glass Creek Rally** – Glass Creek is a National Forest Campground off US-395 between Mammoth Lakes and June Lake. The rally starts on August 16<sup>th</sup>. To quote the forest service, “Located in pine forest north of Mammoth Lakes, this campground has 66 campsites. While the sites are dry, with no hook ups they are large and can accommodate RV's up to 45 ft. This is a great location to explore the nearby Owens River Headwater and Obsidian Dome areas.”
- **SNU Anniversary Rally at Lassen RV Park** - Join us on September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Lassen RV Resort and Bistro; yeah they have camping too but if your travels are only remotely dictated by fine cuisine you'll come for the food alone! We'll enjoy camping with hookups in an Oak forest. Want something to do while in Lassen, here's a hint: Mt. Lassen, Eagle Lake, Lava Beds National Park, Burney Falls State Park, fishing on the Fall River, Pit River, Hat Creek, McArthur, museums, shops and more.
- **October Region 12 Rally** – The rally will be held on the outskirts of Las Vegas at Oasis Las Vegas RV Resort starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Let's have another big showing of SNU rigs and then we'll breakaway on Sunday for an SNU caravan from Death Valley back to Fort Churchill.
- **SNU Death Valley Caravan** – Join up with us in Death Valley from the Region rally or your home base for an end of the season caravan through Death Valley and the nearby mining areas as we head north to Fort Churchill; caravan hosts are Don & Gail.
- **Fort Churchill Rally on October 11<sup>th</sup>** - We'll close out our official rally season at Fort Churchill; mark your calendar and keep in touch for more details.
- **2019 is less than six Months Away!** – Help plan our rally and event schedule for 2019. Give us your ideas for rallies and travel throughout the Eastern Sierra Nevada and Nevada's Great Basin. Shall we venture east to the Rye Patch Recreation Area, Hickison Petroglyphs, Great Basin NP? Send us an email or better yet bring your ideas to one of our rallies and help pick next years spots. Rally sites should accommodate 5 to 10 rigs. I have a couple of ideas but list your favorites before I tip my hand.
- Lastly, we still need a rally coordinator, second Trustee, Newsletter Editor (it only needs to be a couple of pages) and Web Master. Our Unit can't survive without participation and shared ideas; volunteer and help us grow.

## **Rally Reports:**

**Eagle Lake Rally:** Gail and I can say we had a great time in June; first outing with our repaired Airstream. A few quirks to have C&G fix but it performed well for our 2200 mile holiday. Our first stop was not at our previous turn around point past Fort Independence (thank God)! Instead we drove north in clear blue skies 350 miles to the Willow Springs Motel and RV Park just outside of Bridgeport, CA. A short ¼ mile walk found us at the Virginia Creek Settlement Restaurant for a great meal. Friday's leisurely 230 miles drive found us arriving at Eagle Lake in early afternoon. Handshakes, hugs and greetings with SNU members followed by introductions to Bruce, our newest canine family member, led to a happy hour and pot luck meal with the everyone at Rally Central, Jerry and Dyann's Airstream MoHo.

On a whim, guest Joe Smedley #2999 from Florida, drove 3000 miles to attend our SNU rally. There is a rumor that he was looking for courtesy parking on his way to the International in

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Salem but I like my story better. Saturday started with moderate temps and blue skies but clouded up for a predicted 6 PM rain shower. It never materialized but sprinkled that evening with some small showers thru the night.

We had 6 rigs present and the BLM campground almost all to ourselves. There were lots of unused level sites near us and some of the ridge top sites (requires a short walk to Rally Central) offer great views of Eagle Lake. I would have tried to catch our meal for Saturday if we had arrived earlier!

On Sunday Gail and I went our separate way following a road less traveled, Joe might have followed us but his desire for a large RV park with laundry dictated a different route. We headed northeasterly up CA-139 to Adin, CA-299, then on to Alturas and US-395 into Oregon. Clouds, light to steady rain and temps ranging from 47 to 57 made it an ideal day to travel. Did I mention the dry lakes, there weren't any! This is the first time we have traveled past Honey Lake, Goose Lake and Lake Albert when they were filled with water! We broke away from 395 at Lake Albert and headed northwesterly for Salem. A brief stop for respite at the Summer Lake Rest Area treated us to a short slushy hail-storm (it didn't even make noise on the Airstream). We stayed the night a few miles further at Ana Reservoir RV Park with full hookups and a laundry (you should have followed us Joe). 211 miles for the day.

Monday found us arriving at the WBCCI International Rally in Salem a day early but we pulled strings. In reality, Gail being a committee chairperson (Flea Market) and I responsible for setting up the WBCCI Amateur Radio Station but no committee chair privilege, we were parked that day instead of waiting overnight in the Bull Pen. 250 miles this day.

**The 61<sup>st</sup> WBCCI International Salem Rally:** Same words, new location, we had a great time at the Salem International! Got to visit old friends and SNU members, some we didn't know. Boy did our members turn out; we had 10 SNU rigs at the rally. Some even in the solar camp area although near the end of the rally at least one member was re-parked with hookups (don't tell Terry and Eric, their 3-day ended mid week)! I'd tell you about the great seminars, programs and forums held but as a rally working couple we didn't get to many. Of course we did spend hours over the 8 days walking through the new Airstreams displayed by Airstream Adventures Northwest. And they changed daily; AANW sold 15 Airstreams at the rally so rigs rolled out and new ones in. We might add that AANW can accommodate your dreams. They are the only factory dealer authorized customizer in the US! Want an updated lounge area in your front bedroom model or a wine cooler; they can accommodate it

The International rally was a success even if we didn't get to many programs. Gail had more than 60 swappers with tables in the Flea Market, the WBCCI Amateur Radio Club had a great Ham Station with 11 casual HF contacts - the longest to Vermont although we heard Barcelona, Spain as if they were in the next state, we graduated 12 new Technician licenses and General Upgrades in the FCC exams, the SNU turned out big and so did Region 12 with 172 rigs and 282 individuals makin us the largest region in attendance. Oh yeah, I got the Easy Start installed on our Dometic air conditioner but was shut out converting our Honda 2000i to propane; it was too old for Hutch Mountain's propane kit. Newer 2000i models have a revised computer program for the Eco-Throttle and a larger carburetor not found on ours.

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**Returning Home** - Our return home took a few twists. Grandson arriving from Kentucky on Thursday dictated we skip the of weeks touring Oregon and Washington we planned. However, an invitation from good Airstream friends to stop in Depoe Bay on the Oregon coast was too strong to ignore. It was to be only one night but the lure of fresh seafood and the whales off their bayside deck said stay a second day leaving us with a 3 day run of 1000 miles to home. It turned out to be an easy slog down I-5 to the Los Angeles Basin. We arrived home on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 in the afternoon with no freeway delays for the entire trip except rush hour thru Stockton! To find out more check our Facebook page a few days from now for photos and commentary.

**Little Known Facts or Known Only to a Few – The SNU** is bringing back a unit caravan in early October. Plan to travel with us from Death Valley to our Fort Churchill Rally visiting historic sites along the way.

**In Closing:** You'll find fellowship even with Airstream owners that share diverse interests and **The Wally Byam Creed**, *"In the heart of these words is an entire life's dream. To those of you who find in the promise of these words your promise, I bequeath this creed... my dream belongs to you."*

- To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home.
- To provide a more satisfying, meaningful way of travel that offers complete travel independence, wherever and whenever you choose to go or stay.
- To keep alive and make real an enduring promise of high adventure and faraway lands... of rediscovering old places and new interests.
- To open a whole world of new experiences... a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions.
- To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions.
- To lead caravans wherever the four winds blow... over twinkling boulevards, across trackless deserts... to the traveled and untraveled corners of the earth.
- To play some part in promoting international goodwill and understanding among the peoples of the world through person-to-person contact.
- To refine and perfect our product by continuous travel-testing over the highways and byways of the world.
- To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end... and thus make your travel dreams come true.

– *Wally Byam*

Don Williams, SNU President, kd6uvt@wbcci.net  
*What do you want to be in life, a spectator or a participant?*

For more info on the Sierra Nevada Unit check out our web pages at:  
[www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/](http://www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/) , search for "Sierra Nevada Unit of the WBCCI" on Facebook or email us at: [snu157@wbcci.net](mailto:snu157@wbcci.net)