

the Sierra Nevada Unit of the WBCCI

March 2018 President's Newsletter

The Sierra Nevada Unit will host its March Rally less than two weeks from now at Washoe Lake State Park Campground, Thursday March 15th through Sunday the 18th. We would like to invite our members and friends to share the weekend with us. Washoe Lake State Park is located in Washoe Valley at the southeast corner of the lake on Eastlake Blvd, 7 miles NE of I-580/US-395.

We last visited Washoe Lake in 2016; find earlier photo memories at:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/rallies/00-washoe-lake/gallery.html>. While from October 2000, they give us a hint of what to expect; members sharing meals under cloudy skies giving way to sunshine, maybe a rainbow and views of snow covered peaks. The Washoe Lake Rally will be in the main campground where showers are available. Join us even if only for the day. Our evenings will include shared meals and/or a potluck dinner. Weather in March can be a factor so follow us on Facebook and keep up with your email for any last minute announcements.

Remember there are day use and camping fees at Washoe (\$5 & \$15 per day) and our rally Kitty donation of \$5 per night. Nevada residents, consider getting your yearly Annual Entrance Permit at \$75 if you frequent the state parks, you'll save on day use fees through the year; get the \$200 All Access Permit and it covers day, camping and other fees for the year.

Minutes from the February SNU Luncheon:

The February SNU luncheon was a wonderful success. We had great food, good but cold weather and a lot of wonderful people attend. There were a total of nine of us: Gary and Anita Haskett, Susie Brown, Dean Eveland, Jeni Root and Jerry and Dyann Thornburg who attended. Brian Root ended up missing the luncheon because he had been up on Mt. Rose since 2 am grooming the slopes. He was sincerely missed as was everyone else who weren't able to be there. We discuss upcoming rallies and I agreed to fix my cornered beef and cabbage for Saturday night at the rally coming up on March 15 – 18, 2018. Since Saturday is St. Patrick's Day I thought it was only fitting for us to do it that day and it seems to have become a March rally tradition. I asked for volunteers to

fix cornbread and a few salads. So if you are planning to join us at the rally please bring cornbread, a salad or a desert for the potluck on the 17th. A few of us stopped by the deli on our way out and got pastries and sausages. Jerry and I decided to stop by and see how Bryan and Diane Leipper were doing after the luncheon and I took some apple strudel to share with them. Both of them appear to be doing well. Diane still has some issues to go through before she is able to walk without a cane but I think she's on the road for a complete recovery and hope that they can make it to the March rally at Washoe Lake. Have a great month and we hope to see everyone for the SNU's first 2018 rally.

Dyann Thornburg, SNU Secretary

Other Unit News and Needs:

- Gail and I are watching the weather and Eastern Sierra road conditions to see if they allow a quick trip up for Washoe since we have never been there and Dyann's tempting offer of corned beef and cabbage means we (Gail) won't have to make it at home.
- We still need a rally coordinator, second Trustee, Newsletter Editor (it only needs to be a couple of pages) and Web Master; talk with any of the Board members or send me a note.
- We have an exciting calendar of rallies and events planned for 2018; put Lahontan on your calendar for April 19th – 22nd.
- Our rallies culminate this Fall with our September Anniversary Rally at Lassen RV Park, the Region Rally in Las Vegas and our Unit caravan from Death Valley to our end of the season Fort Churchill Rally.

Little Known Facts or Known Only to a Few:

*The first mention of a Sierra Nevada Unit caravan I can find is the 1980 Mid-Nevada Caravan. It appears there were other caravans, a previous year's Northern Nevada Caravan and a future to be held in the south. The leader in 1980 was then First Vice President Howard Conner #30253. Five trailers struck out on August 17th from the Watehole in Fallon **in typical SNU style, no fixed itinerary!** They would discuss and formulate a travel plan for each day and adjust as necessary. On Day-1 the caravan followed historic Butterfield and Wells Fargo Stage stops along US-50 to the Bob Scott*

Camp-ground near Scott's Summit on US 50 east of Austin. Day-2 was another travel day to Ward Mountain Campground south of Ely where time was spent visiting Ely, the restored Ward Charcoal Ovens, Kennecott's Mine Tailings and historic structures.

The caravanners moved on to Lehman Cave on Day-4 and "much fun was had high in the mountains on narrow roads to find a campsite." The area we now know as Great Basin National Park was packed; that night they stayed at an RV park in Baker!

On Day-5 they headed south on US-93 (one of my favorites) to visit the Mountain View Lodge and Million Dollar Court House in Pioche and then east for two nights camping at Echo Lake (Echo Canyon State Park today). They mention that the trout wouldn't bite, small crappies would bite anything, and Cathedral George was spectacular.

Day-7 and they head south for a couple of nights at Kershav-Ryan Campground outside of Caliente. Two rigs leave the caravan for scenic destinations and tire repairs. Day-9 the three remaining rigs continued westerly on US-6 and then north on NV-376 to camp in a vast desert plain off the road in Smoky Valley. Day-10 they continue north through Smoky Valley to camp and breakfast again at Scott's Summit near Austin. On their last day (11) they head west to Fallon on August 28th and the coming Hearts of Gold (cantaloupe) Rally.

Want to see the write-up and photos on the Mid Nevada Caravan, go to:

www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/snu-history/80-caravan/ . Your current president notes while longer they copied his theme of this years caravan to SNU's Fort Churchill Rally this Fall! Gail and I hope to see you there.

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/ , Sierra Nevada Unit of the WBCCI on Facebook or email us at: snu157@wbcci.net