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THE AIRSTREAMER

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings from Reno, where spring has finally sprung!

The Sierra Nevada Unit had a great turnout for our joint rally with the Lake Tahoe Airstream Club at Weed Heights and with so many camping opportunities ahead, I hope you are able to attend one or more of our rallies. Please see the 2023 Schedule for details.

Gene will be checking on Crocker Beckwourth for the May 18 - 21 rally to ensure that location will still work, given the snow and spring melt conditions <area is stilled snowed in as of April 30 - editor>.

Carson River Rally (Friday, June 16-Wednesday, June 21) is a go - and we're making it a "buddy rally"! Not only have we invited the Tahoe unit members, it's also a time where you can invite other airstream owners who may/may not be members. Be sure to call the Carson River Resort directly for reservations. As always, you are welcome to arrive/leave anytime during the rally dates. The boondocking site is 'above' the river, with plenty of space and fabulous views. It's one of my favorite places in the Sierra and I'm looking forward to sharing it with you.

It's an exciting summer for travel! We currently have members traveling across Route 66 (find Margie Douglas on the Airstream Addicts FB page for their travel log). At least 3 couples are headed to the 66th WBCCI International Rally in Rock Springs, Wyoming in late June. Be sure to check out the WBCCI website, airstreamclub.org, for courtesy parking - we stayed with a number of members last summer while traveling in Europe and found the experiences to be absolutely wonderful.

Lastly, let me know what you're interested in for future newsletters - maintenance, traveling tips, storage, decor, recipes, camping reviews, etc? Feel free to email me directly at renoroots@sbcglobal.net.

Cheers! — Jeni Root

THE SNU APRIL MEMBERSHIP NEWS

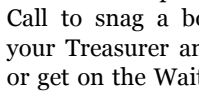
Currently 52 members & 18 affiliates

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CROCKER BECKWOURTH RALLY; Friday May 18th - Sunday the 21st; Crocker NFS Campground, Portola, CA; 50 miles from Reno. RSVP snu157@wbcci.net . Look for updates.

CARSON RIVER RALLY; Friday June 16th - Wednesday the 21st; Carson River Resort Boondock Area, Markleeville, CA. RSVP at the Carson River Resort 530.694.2229 snu157@wbcci.net .

66TH WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY - ROLLING TO ROCK SPRINGS, WY; June 24th to 30th, 2023; Registration for the International Rally is sold out but they are offering boondocking sites and always experience some cancellations. Call to snag a boondocking site (you'll find your Treasurer and Airstreamer editor there) or get on the Wait List for full hookups? Click



the rally logo or log in to your WBCCI account and follow the link to learn more about the International and register: <https://airstreamclub.org/Rally2023> .

CRAGS - CAMPGROUND RALLY MOVED TO GLASS CREEK NFS CAMPGROUND; Tuesday July 10th - Friday the 13th; Bridgeport, CA. RSVP snu157@wbcci.net .

Lyons County Fair & Rodeo Rally, Thursday August 17th - Sunday the 20th; Weed Heights RV Park, Yerington, NV.

EAGLE LAKE RALLY, EAGLE LAKE NORTH CAMPGROUND; Sunday September 10th - Wednesday the 13th

WALKER RIVER ANNIVERSARY RALLY; Walker River State Recreation Area, Yerington, NV, Thursday October 19th, 2023 - Sunday the 22nd



REGION 12 PISMO BEACH RALLY; Wednesday October 25th - Sunday the 29th; Pismo Beach, CA. The 2023 Region Rally will be held at the beautiful Pismo Coast Village RV Resort, October 25-28th 2023 (departure on Sunday Oct 29). Cost is \$380 for



camping (\$210 for the weekend only) plus meal costs. **Sold out, signup for the Wait List** <https://airstreamclub.org/region-12-2023-rally-pismo-beach>

PLAN AHEAD! 67TH (2024) WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY, SEDALIA, MO, Saturday October 5th - the 11th; The 2024 International Rally will be held at the Missouri State Fairgrounds, 2503 W 16th St, Sedalia, MO, 65301. <https://airstreamclub.org/2024-international-rally-o> .

REALLY LONG RANGE PLANNING - 68TH WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY, YORK, PA, AUGUST 2025

Sierra Nevada Unit Board

Jeni Root, *president*

Susie Brown, *secretary*

Gail Williams, *treasurer*

Jerry Thornburg, *trustee*

Bill Swirsky, *trustee*

Gene Baleme, *Past President*

Don Williams, *membership chair & newsletter editor*

all blue links are clickable

MAY CROCKER-BECKWORTH RALLY

Don't take May out of your rally calendar; winter may affect some SNU rally locations but we will reroute to a new location if necessary.

Past president Gene Balame is scouting out Crocker NFS Campground to make sure it's clear and accessible. The SNU will host its rally Thursday May 18th through Sunday the 23rd. Rally goers can find cuisine, tourist attractions, and recreation at nearby Portola and Lake Davis and home style cuisine at our nightly shared meals. Keep your maps and GPS ready in case we need to divert to Beach 7 at Lahontan State Recreation Area but plan to rally wherever we end up! Only 51 miles from Reno, take US-395 north and head east on CA-70 towards Portola, CA. Caravan to about 18 miles west and turn right on paved Beckworth-Genesee Road and travel 6.6

miles to the Crocker NFS Campground. **We do need a host to greet rally goers for this rally, no experience required!** Please contact president Jeni Root or snu157@wbcci.net.

JUNE CARSON RIVER (BUDDY) RALLY

Yes it's over a month away but plan now to bring a Buddy and make your reservations at the Carson River Resort in their boondocking area at a special price for SNU members. Camping is \$25 per night, Friday June 16th - Wednesday the 21st. Mention the Sierra Nevada Unit Airstream club when you call; 530.694.2229

WEED HEIGHTS JOINT RALLY WITH THE LAKE TAHOE AIRSTREAM CLUB *by Cecelia Stansbury, LTAC President.*

Our first rally for 2023 and our first joint rally with Sierra Nevada Unit was a big success. I want to thank all of those who pitched in and helped, especially our cohosts Rose and Terry Crowson. We had everything we needed: great weather (for a change), good RV Park with a Club House, good food and most importantly, wonderful company. New friendships were formed between the two Clubs and within the individual Clubs.

We even found time between visiting to tour the Lyon County Museum. This was a good find as it was full of really interesting things, with several outbuildings, including a general store, a school house, a combo doctor office, print press, phone switchboard and other interesting artifacts. They opened early for our group with docents on hand to explain the various exhibits. Of course, LTAC gave them a donation.

The Maintenance Seminar on Sunday morning was well attended. It was led by Jack Hampel and Bob Stansbury with lots of information. It will keep attendees busy tinkering with their Airstreams to be sure they are well maintained.

And, of course, a group of ladies put together a beautiful puzzle that Sandy Weber found at Target. It was a picture of a Woody station wagon and a Bambi Airstream. The Webers own both of those *<the Webers brought their vintage Liner but not the Woody - editor>*. Unfortunately, I had little time to help on it but I managed to put a few pieces together.

We did fit in some wonderful dinners together. Friday night was cook your own meat and something to share. For dessert Geri Gibbons brought two cakes to celebrate Stan's 61st birthday and to celebrate the Stansbury's 55th wedding anniversary. Thank you Geri! Saturday night

RALLY OBSERVATIONS *by Mary Swirsky*

'Twas a beautiful spring weekend in Northern Nevada, April 21 - 23, 2023. A rally combining two Clubs, The Sierra Nevada Unit joined the Lake Tahoe Airstream Club at Weed Heights RV Park in Yerington, NV. A total of 19 rigs enjoyed perfect weather, great food and congenial fellowship.

One specific delight was a lovely young lady camping with her mother in their 19ft International. Daughter of Kat and Pete, Charlotte was there to enjoy the camping canines. She walked nearly all the dogs at the rally, some many times, to keep herself busy each of the 3 days! Charlotte is a 4th grade student at Grace Christian Academy in Gardnerville. Her other hobbies include riding horses, jazz dance, and knitting.

Weed Heights was developed in the 1950s by Clyde Weed as a residential community for the families employed by Anaconda Mine. The Mine is closed but the community is still thriving.



was Italian night and what a spread. There is probably a picture of our happy hour feast put on by Barb Crawford with the help of her daughter, Erica. And, of course, we have to acknowledge Vern for hauling everything to the rally. I've been to lots of rallies and have never seen something like that, beautiful display and really good food. As if that wasn't enough food, the hosts and cohosts provided an Italian spaghetti dinner. Thank you Terry for not burning the bread.

Speaking of food, Don Williams from the Sierra Nevada Unit offered to fix a breakfast during the rally. He made the most delicious sourdough pancakes, from scratch, that most of us had ever eaten. They literally floated down to our plates. We added sausage and juice and a feast was had by all. I also exposed the group to the famous Airstream Oatmeal with ice cream. I think some were very surprised at how good it is.

I think Weed Heights is definitely a location to return to for another fun rally and it was a fantastic way to start out our camping season.

I wish all of you could have attended.



[SOURDOUGH PANCAKE/WAFFLE RECIPE](#)

Jeni asked your editor to disclose his “secret” recipe for sourdough pancakes and waffles; it’s relatively simple:

- Two Cups of active Sourdough Starter (or ~460 grams)
- 1 egg
- 4 tablespoons oil
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 scant teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon warm water

Use a whisk to blend the egg, oil, water and dry ingredients together. Place the sourdough in a large bowl and fold in the blended ingredients using a spurtle or large spatula. Ladle the batter on to a lightly greased skillet or waffle maker and fry/cook to desired doneness.

Don’s somewhat “secret” recipe can be found in [Alaska Sourdough](#) by Ruth Allman 1976.

The real secret or work is making the sourdough and keeping it active. It requires that you create or obtain a small sample of sourdough starter, either from a commercial source or from someone. You’ll need to make something with your starter every week, waste some and feed or refrigerate it to maintain your starter. Follow the directions from the source or use the instructions on the King Arthur Flour website: kingarthurbaking.com/recipes/feeding-and-maintaining-your-sourdough-starter-recipe.

I began with sourdough in 2012 after reading about miners and people living off the grid in Alaska. We have taken it to every rally and caravan since. Hold a class on Sourdough at our October Anniversary Rally; I’ll even bring starter samples for you to create your own starter.

[AIRSTREAMER MAY LOOK BACKS, 10 & 20 YEARS AGO:](#)

The rather brief SNU [May 2003 ‘Airstreamer’ Newsletter](#) covered:

- A rather cold and blustery April meeting and rally at Pyramid Lake, winter clothes needed.
- May picnic meeting Mills Park in Carson City.
- Upcoming June rally at Boca Reservoir..

The [May 2013 SNU Airstreamers](#) newsletter featured:

- A great weekend for the SNU rally at Ft Sage.
- Upcoming International Rally at Huron, SD (*your editor’s 2nd International*).
- Randy Grossman’s Plumbing Repairs (*someone other than your editor has to make plumbing repairs!*)
- May rally at Pyramid Lake’s Rocky Point.
- Dean & Shelly Fischer’s vintage remodel of their 1969 Overlander.
- Lastly: [SNU MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BLUE BERET](#)

Several years ago, we began collecting stories from SNU members that could be published in the Blue Beret, the WBCCI membership magazine. The idea was to provide a stockpile that could be used as needed. WBCCI took frequent advantage of this resource publishing several of the articles. Here is a brief synopsis of the published articles, a quick description, the name of the author and the date it was published.

Is Aluminitus Hereditary? An overview of the Harrison and Leipper Families fifty one years of WBCCI memories; Diane Leipper #772 April 2007

Berries to Books - How Mike Orchard began his association with WBCCI and the unique hobby that evolved from the experience; Mike Orchard #32083 May 2007

First Airstream Trip - The adventures of hitting the road in a new Airstream; Don Williams #14207 August 2007

The Airstream - A poem inspired by the Root families 1954 vintage Airstream Cruiser; Erika Root #6376 written in 2005 when Erika was 11yrs old October 2007

Coast to Coast Tour - How Airstream travel differs from Airplane travel. Includes a visit to the Airstream plant and WBCCI HQ in Jackson Center. Randy Grossmann; #3352 December 2007

Unique Tow Vehicle - What happened when Dale and Virginia's tow vehicle developed problems on the way to a rally. Diane Leipper #772 Oct 2008

My First Tow - Melissa Wong's first experience towing her Airstream on Southern CA freeways; Melissa Wong #4066 Sept 2009.

The Clam Chowder Incident - What happened after participants on a 1981 MBCU Caravan to Mexico spent the morning digging for clams; Diane Leipper #772 Sept 2013

[EDITOR’S CHATGPT CONFESSION](#)

It was a coincidence that major local and national news outlets covered AI (artificial intelligence) quite heavily before and after your editor included three ChatGPT authored articles in the April Airstreamer newsletter! Maybe 3 articles was too much, maybe it was appropriate for an April Fools Day newsletter or maybe no one noticed but the few (one or two) have commented and AI authored articles will not grace these pages except in special circumstances.

That said, your editor would like to thank Jeni Root, Cecelia Stansbury and Mary Swirsky for their articles this month! **Send your story in to snu157@wbcci.net now!**

AIRSTREAM TRAVEL HINTS *from Our President, Jeni Root*

Refrigerator/freezer tips for traveling:

- As you might notice, I'm all about the ice; we run the refrigerator on propane when traveling (disclaimer - our tip, not anyone else's). We still have problems keeping the pilot lit, but hear there's a great solution by cutting a furnace filter to size - we'll get back to you on this. *<Not a problem on later model Airstreams with an automatic igniter or the very new models with a DC 12v refrigerator - editor>*
- We put ice in a ziplock, which goes in a hard plastic container, and place a piece of brown paper bag (about 3x5 inches) to absorb the moisture. If the ice melts and refreezes together a little, no problem - just lightly drop the bag of ice on the counter and your ice is as good as new.



- Use covered ice trays for making more ice - there's nothing worse than water splashing in the freezer, and hardening, while traveling! Lesson learned!
- Freeze empty Gatorade and apple juice size containers ahead of travel. We use these to stock the freezer and refrigerator when traveling - and if/when they melt, we have ice cold water to drink!
- Pre-pack ice in our cycling water bottles. An easy place to store more ice without a chance of leaking if something goes wrong.
- The more cold items in the frig/freezer, the colder it stays (i.e. less energy needed).
- Put a few towels in the shelves to help keep items from shifting when traveling light.
- We use curtain tension rods to ensure everything stays on its shelf.



Eggs, learned the hard way on this one, too!



- I keep a carton with an internal second lid so the eggs won't bounce around too much. *<editor's wife uses a plastic snaplock egg tray and place it in the back of the refrigerator under the metal fins.>*
- If the road is really bumpy, I will grab the eggs and carry them in my lap.
- I've also broken the eggshells and put the eggs in a ketchup-type dispenser. Mine is marked every inch or so to indicate 1 egg, 2 eggs, etc. Great solution if you aren't going for 'sunny side up' style!
- We keep a small roll of heavy duty double stick tape - it's been used to keep a door shelf in place when a piece broke. *<Might be a better idea than the editor's aluminum and duct tape fix.>*



I'd love to hear about your frig/freezer solutions for traveling! Email me with pics/descriptions! renoroots@sbcglobal.net

EDITOR'S CARAVAN BLOG

Just to recap our Airstream repairs for our solo caravan to Weed Heights; last year our fresh water tank began leaking when filled over 75%. I was able to drop the tank, find the leaking fittings in the tank and get them replaced.



Tank cleaned up with new fittings spun-welded in, connections made and installed in the exterior plastic shell and ready to bolt up under the trailer.



Looking from underneath, the repaired pex piping and low point drains moved inside ready for the tank and insulating shell to be installed



Freshwater tank and shell installed back in the Airstream.

