



# Airstreamer

## The Sierra Nevada Unit

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

During these long, dark days, we start dreaming and planning about the camping months to come. Many state parks, national parks, and private campgrounds open up reservations this time of the year and they often go quickly - book your favorites now! For example, one of our favorites is Nevada Beach Campground; reservations open up February 4 and if you want specific dates, you'd best book that day. Of course, cancellations happen frequently and camping mid-week is a great option.

Better yet, join us for one of our scheduled rallies - guaranteed fun company, great food, and a place to camp!

This is also a great time to plan maintenance - and along those lines, we have a joint maintenance rally with the Lake Tahoe Unit in April. Of course, all SNU rallies are maintenance rallies of some sort or another!

Our first luncheon of 2024 is February 17, 11:30am, Gold 'N Silver, for lunch (no need to bring the airstream, haha). We hope to see you there - and let's talk all things airstream!

Brian



### Sierra Nevada Unit 2024 Board

Brian Root, president

Susie Brown, secretary

Jeni Root, treasurer

Jerry Thornburg, trustee

Bill Swirsky, trustee

Jeni Root, Past President

Don Williams, membership chair & editor



#### FEB BLUE BERET OUT

Can't wait until it arrives in the mail, get it online at <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/242398494/>

#### WBCCI

#### AIRSTREAM CLUB BLUE BERET BLOG

Get the Latest 'Club news at: <https://blog.airstreamclub.org/>  
all italic underlined blue text in the Airstreamer is a

#### INTERNATIONAL RALLY DIGITAL SCRAPBOOKS

- [Airstream Rally2019](#)
- [Airstream Rally2022](#)
- [Airstream Rally2023](#)

Check the rally photo albums and make your reservation: <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2024>

### Save the Dates

#### February

Gold 'n Silver



790 W Fourth St, Reno  
Saturday the 17th at  
11:30AM

#### March

Lahontan Rally;  
Thursday March 14th  
to Sunday the 17th;



hope and pray for an  
early warm Spring!

#### April

Rye Patch Rally;



Thursday April 18th to  
Sunday the 22nd

#### April

Maintenance Rally w/  
Lake Tahoe Airstream  
Club; 26th - 29th  
Weed Heights RV Park

#### May

Fort Churchill, Silver  
Springs, NV



## Club Participation Matters

Your participation helps the Sierra Nevada Unit grow and build on member experiences, just like the children in the school yard.

Attend a rally March 14th, April 18th, 26th or later in the year or send in an article or photos for the Airstreamer at: [club157@airstreamclub.org](mailto:club157@airstreamclub.org). editor

## 2024 Rally Season

### March Lahontan SRA Rally

You have about six weeks to plan and get ready for our first rally of the year. Weather allowing, March 14th-17th will find the Sierra Nevada members rallying beach-side at Lahontan State Recreation Area near Silver Springs, NV. Access is good in almost any weather on the paved and established dirt roadways but don't venture trying to drive across the semi-dry inlets. Lahontan is a good place for walking, watching wildlife and camp chair visits around a campfire. Plan for boondocking since restrooms may not be open yet.

### April Rye Patch Rally

The SNU has reservations for a four night stay, Thursday the 18th thru Monday the 22nd, at one of our favorite early season rally locations, Rye Patch River Bend Group Site east of Lovelock, NV. Another great location for wildlife, walking, camp chair visits and campfires plus we can tour the country side and imagine history in the making along the California Trail and abandon mines from years gone by.

### Joint Maintenance Rally with Lake Tahoe Airstream Club

Back for a second year at Weed Heights RV Park, Yerington, NV, the SNU will co-host this rally with the LTAC. Don't even unpack after Rye Patch for this April 26th - 29th rally, but bring your work gloves in case it transitions from classroom instruction to trailer-side work!

## Lookbacks in Time

(remember to click on the blue links below)

The [February 2004 Airstreamer](#) covered:

- On a recent drive from Kingman AZ to Reno Diane Leipper reported that US-93 south "was almost a solid stream of Class A's, fifth wheels and the assorted RV's. She considered turning the B-van around and heading south thinking it might be for the then annual Hobo Rally in Blythe, CA. <given the lack of Airstreams she noted your editor would bet on the annual RV gathering in Quartzite, AZ >
- February Luncheon at the Wigwam Restaurant in Fernley.
- '94 34' Beauty (Airstream) for sale.
- Tales and views to the [Good Old Days](#) - Number 2 story of Dale and Virginia Leipper's (Bryan and Diane Leipper's parents) packing up 5 kids in an International Harvest Travel-All on a solo caravan to Alaska, stopping at the WBCCI (International) Rally in Auburn, WA on their return. <see sidebar article >
- BTW, Diane Leipper was SNU president in 2004.

The [February 2014 Airstreamer](#) covered:

- January's lunch at the Hometown Cafe in Lemmon Valley.
- Upcoming February lunch at the Black Bear Diner in Fernley
- Prez Meanderings reported on the [ending of a 33 year tradition, the last Hobo Rally in Blythe, CA](#) and a newcomer for Region 12, the 2015 Cali-Rally.
- Remembering the Cricket Invasion at the SNU's August 2005 rally in Kingston, a somewhat ghost town near Austin, NV. Expecting an uneventful drive east on US-50 they "began to notice brown spots on the road. As the elevation increased the brown spots covered the road - and they were moving! We had hit an infestation of Mormon crickets. As you drove through areas where the road cut through rocks, you could see a moving wall of brown going up the rocks. As you descended to a lower elevation the crickets disappeared only to reappear as you crested the next ridge of hills.... We hit another patch of crickets then as we descended

## SNU MEMBER NEWS

The Sierra Nevada Unit currently has 77 members (44 rigs) and would like to acknowledge our most recent new and returning members: Howard Dutra #2893 1, Lincoln, CA; Monika & Cory Panattoni #7504, Winters, CA; Corina Scaglione #9264, Bishop, CA; Jack & Lyndi Schroeder #2081, Reno, NV (note their new number); Judy & David Searles #29935, Reno, NV.





down the valley towards Kingston which is around 5,900 ft. we had left the crickets behind. We drove into our rally site and were relieved to find it cricket free. This unusual initiation for brand new Airstreams didn't dampen spirits or enthusiasm. Both the Thornburg's and the Grossmann's showed up at the next rally with sparkling clean Airstreams and some special memories of their first trip with their new trailers."

- About the Newsletter - the editor's plea to the membership for content!!! <sound familiar? - editor>
- Barney and Mary Beth's Restoration project of a 1951 Cruisette (one of only 76 made).
- The Grid - Discussion of shore power connections for your Airstream using either 30 Amp (120 v) service or 50 Amp (240v) service. <want a more detailed understanding of RV electrical systems? Subscribe to Mike Sokol's RVElectricity. Mike taught the electrical tech sessions at the international Rally in Rock Springs; he's a technology writer, videographer and seminar instructor with 50+ years experience in all aspects of electricity, alternative energy and electrical safety. He's been publishing articles for RV owners since 2010. [Subscribe Here](#) - editor>

## SNU's Has it's Own International Rally Scrapbook

Hopefully you followed the page 1 Airstream Club links to the most recent International Rallies photo albums but know that the Sierra Nevada Unit has it's own photo record of International Rallies dating back to 1958 and while we don't have photos for each year it will give you a feel for how very large rallies were staged and run before the recent transition to venues with full hookups. Check out the SNU International scrapbook: <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/rallies/wbcci-internationalrallies.html>



**Got some Airstream related stuff to sell, contact your editor at: [club157@airstreamclub.org](mailto:club157@airstreamclub.org) for your ad here.**

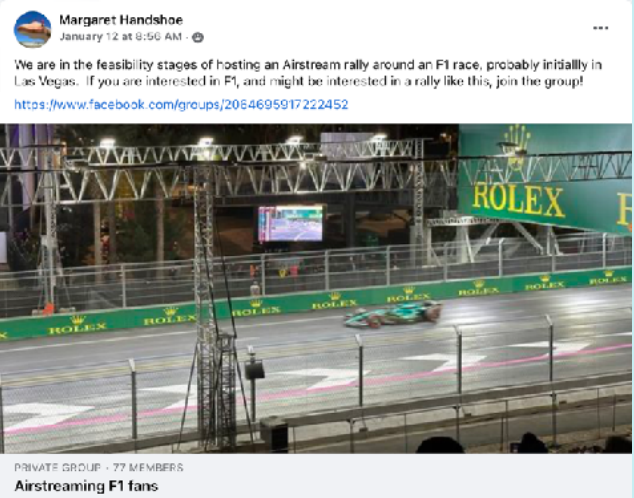
## Editor's Blog

Your editor is now beggin' for newsletter content. I've asked our new members to describe their Airstream lifestyle, for a couple of good articles in the Airstreamer. Might even give us older members some new ideas but I'll even take material from you too. I've leaned on Diane Leipper again for sidebar articles from her and Bryan's personal experiences and memories and I'll close out the feature with more from her in March <thank you Diane> but I need more unless you want me to repeat old material. Otherwise I'll be busy prepping the Airstream for Spring and I'll have some blank pages!



## AIRSTREAM FORMULA ONE FANATICS

join the Airstreaming F1 fans on FaceBook





# Good Old Days Sidebar - Leipper Family's Solo Caravan to Alaska.

Some memories remain, in 1962 much of the route through the Yukon territory was gravel; gas stations and campgrounds were few and far between. Once we got to Alaska the roads were paved but like a roller coaster. Our photos begin in the US and carry through to Alaska; Alaska to home will be featured next month.



Granby Lake, Colorado



University Center for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), Boulder, CO



St Marys Campground, Glacier NP, Montana

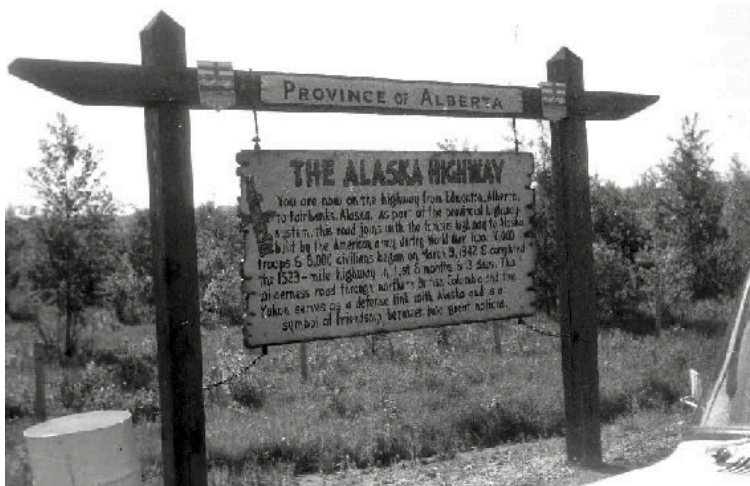


Grand Tetons, WY

## Canada at Last



Campground, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Alaska Highway

<Editor's note, the ALCAN Alaska Canada Highway, renamed the Alaska Highway in 194? Then Alaska Highway exclude sections that already existed; now considered to be from Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada to Delta Junction, 1422 miles long. It has been shortened over the years as new alignments have replaced old. Destinations are designated by distance; i.e. Mile "X", Historical Mile "Y", etc.>









Muncho Lake, British Columbia, Mile 436, Historical Mile 456



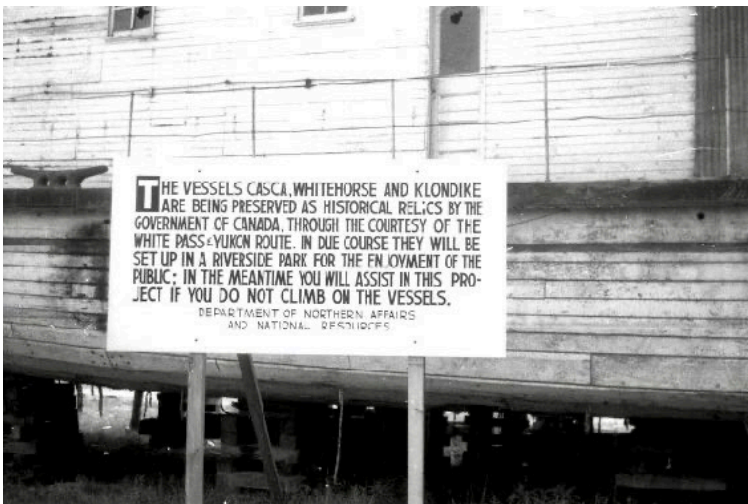
Watson Lake, Yukon, Mile Historical Mile 613



Whitehorse, Yukon, Mile 887, Historical Mile 918



Sign Post Forest, Yukon, Mile 613, Historical Mile 635



Historic Paddle Wheel Boats that plied the Yukon River carrying miners, passengers and freight during the Klondike Gold Rush



Boondocking along the Highway



Haines Junction, Mile 985, Historic Mile 1016



Alaska, Mile 1187, Historic Mile 1222

Alaska & back to the US plus the International rally at Auburn, Washington will be covered in the March Airstreamer. *Diane*