



Airstreamer

The Sierra Nevada Unit

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Travel, by airstream or other means, is a chance to experience new places, new people, new animals, new plants, and eat unusual foods prepared in new and interesting ways. A chance to be at leisure, sleep in a bit, to linger over a fine meal with that seldom seen friend or relative. One of the greatest luxuries in life is to have the means and time to travel for the pleasure of it. As winter nears its end, my mind is filled with ideas of hooking up our airstream and going some place new. It's almost time to wander.

Brian



<Brian & Jenni enjoyed a visit to Brazil and just returned, editor>

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

MAR BLUE BERET BLOG

<https://blog.airstreamclub.org/>

Band & Choir at the International Rally
 Courage to Explore
 Sipping Across the Missouri Caravan

WBCCI MARCH PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Winter fades, packed & hitting the road might seem optimistic for many!
[presidents-corner-march](#)
 All italicized underlined blue text is a clickable link

AIRSTREAM INC.

- Check Airstream's website for:
- [2024 Basecamp Walkthrough](#) (18 minutes)
 - [Most Popular Airstream](#)
 - [New Tradewind Walkthrough](#) (24 minutes)

Save the Dates

March

Lahontan Rally;
 Thursday March 14th to Sunday the 17th;
 hope and pray that **SPRING WARMS UP!**

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

June

Crocker-Beckwouth



June 20th thru
 Sunday the 23rd

2024 Rally Season

March Lahontan SRA Rally

You have less than two weeks to plan and get ready for Lahontan, our first rally of the year. Weather allowing, March 14th - 17th may find the Sierra Nevada members rallying beach-side at Lahontan State Recreation Area near Silver Springs, NV. Take a peak at the [10 year LookBack](#) or the [SNU Rally Photo Gallery](#) featuring Lahontan; often campfires in the morning and shirtsleeves in the afternoon.



Access is good in almost any weather on the paved and established dirt roadways. 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 and given this weekend's winter storm. *Make sure to read any email updates or Facebook posts on the status of the rally or change of venue.*



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 in Yerington, NV, the SNU will share this rally with the LTAC at Weed Heights RV Park. 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! While a reservation



SNU MEMBER NEWS

The Sierra Nevada Unit would like to thank our returning members: Charlie and Ellie Fasso #2812 of Reno, NV



for your campsite is not required, please signup for the rally using [Jotform](#) so Lake Tahoe AC knows how many to expect.

June Crocker-Beckwourth Rally

Crocker is a National Forest Service campground located east of Lake Davis at 5800 ft. Situated next to a big meadow w/ancient lava flows, the small campground hugs a wooded hillside at the end of Beckwourth-Genesse Road.

July Glass Creek Rally

Glass Creek is located halfway between June Lake and Mammoth Lakes, California. Hiking and OHV trails, forest roads and scenic highways provide opportunity to visit Crowley, June, Mammoth and Mono Lakes, Devil's Post Pile National Monument, Inyo Craters and scenic viewpoints. Too tired, the pine forest surrounds the campground so find a shady spot and catch some ZZZ's.

August Taylorsville Rally

Taylorsville is a new location for the Sierra Nevada Unit, reported to be a quiet place to camp between Quincy & Greenville. Taylorsville Campground is across the street from the rodeo grounds and along Indian Creek; it has a tennis court, pickleball court, coin-operated showers, modern restrooms, and a RV sewer dump station. Plan to make this new for SNU rally.

September Region 12 Lake Tahoe Rally

In case you glossed over some of the Region 12 emails and Facebook posts, the Region Rally has been moved from the Tri-County Fairground in Bishop, CA to Tahoe Valley Campground in the city of the same name. Water, electric, lack of sewer or dump stations and other onsite facilities didn't support the number of people attending the Region 12 rallies. Tahoe Valley has full hookups at each site, exercise and recreation on the grounds and a wealth of tourist attractions throughout the area; look for more detail and registration in April or May.

September Hope Valley Rally

Hope Valley dispersed area is located on CA-88, 1.5 miles west of CA-89 and Picketts Junction. Campsites are interspersed through the scenic meadows and forested lands at almost 7000 feet elevation.

October 67th WBCCI International Rally Sedalia, MO

2024 is the year to catch an International Rally at one of the most historical fairgrounds in the country, Oct 5th - 11th. We'll be gathering in immaculately kept buildings dating back as early as 1903 while also enjoying some of the

Missouri State Fairgrounds newer buildings and modern installations. There is beauty in the mix of the old and new, just like all of us when We Rally Together! Sites are still available; make your reservation, [Register Here](#) .

October SNU Anniversary Rally Walker River State Park

The Sierra Nevada Unit will celebrate its 48th anniversary at Walker River State Park's Quail Run Campground. Walker River is one of Nevada's newest state park; it includes several large ranches that had been closed to public access for more than 100 years that afford a vibrant outdoor experience that no other single Nevada State Park can provide. Plan to join us and celebrate the SNU's anniversary.

LookBacks in Time

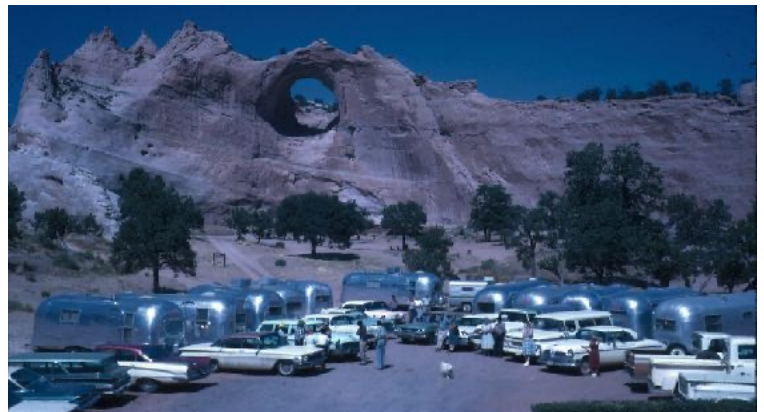
(remember to click on the blue links below)

The [March 2004 Airstreamer](#) reported on:

- Briefly touched on the March meeting and April Pyramid Lake Rally
- Passing of Dale Leipper; Bryan and Diane's father.
- [Tales and views to the Good Old Days](#) - photos of rallies from long ago:



• 1962 Arizona Unit Rally at Monument Valley.



• 1962 Rally at Window Rock, Navaho Nation, AZ.



- 1965 Nevada unit (pre SNU break-a-way) Belmont, NV.



- 1986 WBCCI ## International Rally, Boise, ID.

The [March 2014 Airstreamer](#) covered:

- February's lunch at the Black Bear Diner in Fernley, 16 attending, upcoming Lahontan Rally (sound familiar), Region Rally & planning for the SNU's 40th Anniversary Rally in 2016
- Prez Meanderings - Wheels Wheeler expressed his love of Nevada's roads and wide open spaces, stops in Pahrump and Lake Havasu, AZ on the way to the last Hobo Rally in Blythe, CA.
- 2014 Hobo Rally - Palo Verde Valley Tour, Catalytic Heater seminar, tournament of games, hobo parade, Doris Wheeler's crowning as "Hobo Queen", SNU members and friends in attendance; Richard & Sharon Baldwin, Don & Gail Williams and rally hosts Bob & Cecelia Stansbury.
- For Sale - 1971 Overlander - \$25K.

Got some Airstream Stuff to Sell

contact your editor at:

club157@airstreamclub.org for your ad here.

Editor's Blog

I got nothing this month!

editor

Participate

editor



Mary Swirsky offered some photos to help tempt you to attend the Lahontan. Rally.



Good Old Days Sidebar cont'd.- Leipper Family's 1962 Caravan Part 2 - Alaska and Back

Last month the Diane Leipper took us on a solo caravan with her family from Texas to Alaska in 1962; this month we'll experience Alaska and the caravan home. Follow the link of you want to read about their [1962 Alaska Trip](#) . Make sure to scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the [Alaska Photo Album](#) link.

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.



Alaska Border Crossing, Alaska Highway, 1962



Alaska Border Crossing in 2016 (*Airstreamer editor far right*)



Santa Claus House, North Pole, AK



University of Alaska, Fairbanks



Mobile Modular Trailers used as Motels

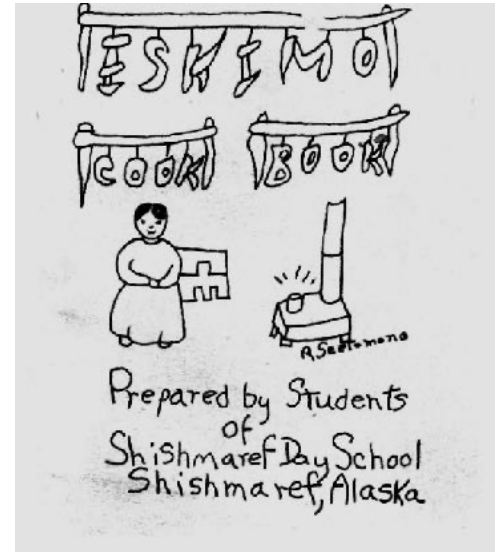


Discovery - Stern Wheel Cruise on the Chena River, Fairbanks, AK



Discovery (1955), Discovery II (1971)
& Discovery III (1987)

The Leippers took the Discovery River Boat cruise on the Chena River in 1962; the cruise likely visited the Chena Athabaskan (Indian) Village. Today's river tours include watching an Alaskan Bush Pilot demonstration and a visit to the home and kennel of the late four-time Iditarod champion Susan Butcher and her Trail Breaker Kennel. Note the newer larger river boats.



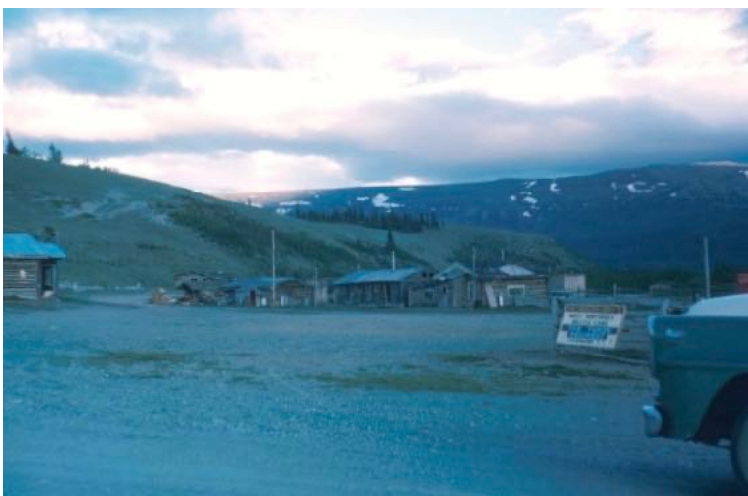
Eskimo Cook Book



Tananna River (most likely)



Yukon Border Crossing, Alaska Highway



Champagne, YT, Canada



First Nation Graveyard
Champagne, YT



Summit Lodge on the Arctic Divide, Cassiar Highway



Cache (storage structure for early explorers)



Completely paved in 1960, harsh winters & extensive construction zones still create muddy conditions.



Peace Arch at the American Border Vancouver, BC, Canada



5th International Rally: 1962 Auburn, WA

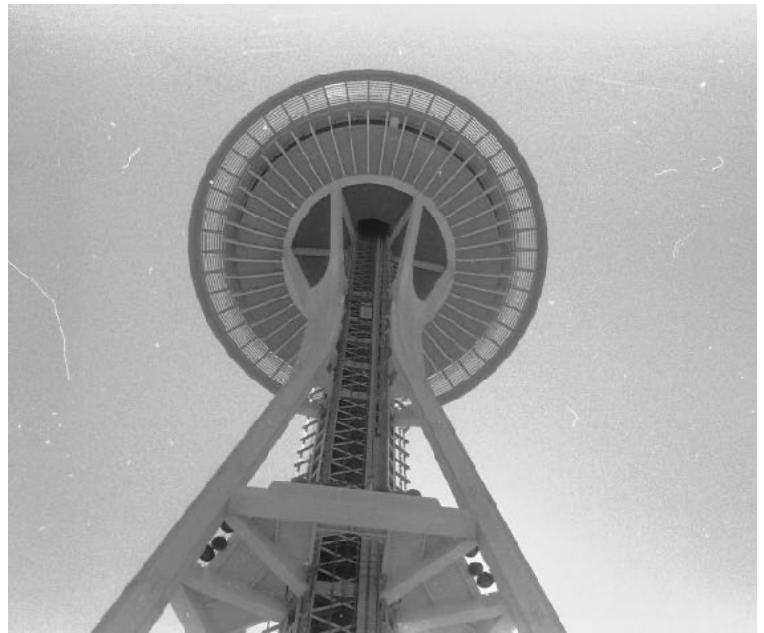
We arrived at the end of the rally so most activities were over. I do remember going to the World's Fair and up in the Space Needle."



Leipper's 13' Canned Ham next to their grandparent's Airstreams



Leippers lined up at the World's Fair
Could Diane Leipper be one of the two in the center with those Foster Grants??



Space Needle, Seattle, WA



Big Creek, OR

“Our Grandparent’s had brought our cousin, Elizabeth with them to the Rally. She ended up going back to Arizona with us. Now there were 6kids and Mom & Dad in the tiny 13’ trailer with no bathroom, an ice box fridge and a small stove top.



Big Creek Campground



Guess the 13 footer was too small for everyone.
Bryan maybe?



Beach camping in Santa Barbara, CA

We did get some stares occasionally when we stopped of gas or at a picnic lunch.”
Diane