



Airstreamer

The Sierra Nevada Unit

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Much discussion about the 2025 rally schedule at Walker River Rally. As a result, we've come to the conclusion that most members have a flexible schedule. With the limited availability of campgrounds on weekends, most of our 2025 rallies will be held mid-week.

In the spirit of the Sierra Nevada Unit rally philosophy, this year's schedule is heavy on self-sufficient boondocking, informal and flexible camping. We're revisiting some of our old favorites and are trying some new ones. We're heading a little further east and north, and also adding a 'caravan' style rally down highway 395 in conjunction with the Region 12 rally in October.

We've also setup the schedule so that you can extend your trip. For example, Wild Horse Lake State Recreation Area - maybe you want to include a trip to Lamoille Canyon, Ruby Lake, or Great Basin National Park on your way to/from Wild Horse? If you're interested in having company, share your pre/post rally plans with our members on the Sierra Nevada Unit of WBCCI Facebook page.

Please be aware, weather and other unexpected constraints may result in changes to the 2025 schedule. Our editor, Don Williams, has been excellent in communicating changes (thank you, Don!) via Facebook and emails.

We hope to see you this winter at our scheduled luncheons - Fallon in December, and our house in January!

Brian



**November 18th
Electronic Ballots
Sent Out**

**November 25th,
Electronic
Balloting Ends**

In Person ballots may be cast at the December Business Meeting.

**December
Holiday
Luncheon &
(short) Business
Meeting at J.D.
Slingers**



Monday Dec 2, 11:30
855 W. Williams,
Fallon, NV, RSVP by
Nov 29th (see page
Closeout... for details)

**January
Luncheon at the
Root's Home**



Monday the 27th,
Noon, Reno, NV
RSVP by Jan 25th (see
page 3 Closeout ...
for details)

SNU Membership News

The Sierra Nevada Unit would like to welcome new members Becca & Roger Franklin #5455 # 3030 from Pinole, CA and please offer a special welcome to Elisabeth & Andrew Smith # 3475 of San Francisco, CA . Your membership chair overlooked when the Smiths joined the SNU earlier this year. Also thank renewing members Tom & Kitsie Larkin #1292, David & Beth Seiler #5493 and Tom & Teresa Tighe #3662.

SNU 2024 Board

Brian Root - president

Susie Brown - secretary

Jeni Root - treasurer

Bill Swirsky - trustee

Jerry Thornburg - trustee

Jeni Root - Past President

Don Williams - membership chair & newsletter editor

NOVEMBER BLUE BERET BLOG

- [No new Blogs but slip back and read the ones you missed!](#)
- [Renew your Membership Here](#)
- [Just out, November Blue Beret online](#) ; hard copies in the Mail.

NOVEMBER PRESIDENT'S CORNER

[Wally Byam's words shared at the International Rally, "To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end... thus make your travel dreams come true".](#)

AIRSTREAM INC.

- [Flying Cloud 30FB is Family Friendly](#)
- [Bambi Comparison Guide](#)
- [Airstream Rangeline, a Cut Above](#)
- For more" airstream.com/blog/

67th WBCCI International Rally, Sedalia, MO

The Wally Byam Caravan Club, also known as the Airstream Club, held its 67th International Rally at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO, 1685 miles from Sierra Nevada Unit country. With only one couple attending, the "solo" caravan originated a little south in Riverside, CA and traveled a mere 2065 miles to the rally with side visits in Salome, AZ, Datil Wells & Raton, NM, Cherry Creek State Park in Denver, CO, the St. Francis Motorcycle Museum, Marysville, KS City Park and Lathrop, MO. The caravan kept to the 3-3-3 rule except the first day; no more than 300 miles, take a break every three hours and stop by 3 PM. Denver and Lathrop were extended stops visiting family. A visit to the World War I museum in Kansas City, MO was a highlight of the caravan.

Sedalia was a mixed bag for Gail & I; we caught some type of respiratory bug from a grand-niece that sidelined Gail for most of the rally and left me with only enough energy to assume her role as Flea Market Chairperson. The flea market went off without a hitch with help from Jack and Linda Grimes from near Columbia, SC. We managed over 100 table assignments, five drop-ins that failed to reserve in advance and relocated three sellers to larger spaces just prior to the start. No one yelled at us or swore at us; a big success. Least you think our efforts were special, approximately 600 people volunteered at the rally plus another 65 in the band and choir. Quite a contribution from 2300 people and just over 1200 rigs!

Also know that your Airstream Club Executive Committee members didn't sit on their laurels, many staffed or chaired Rally Committees and our International President and First Lady Eric and LaVerne McHenry managed and worked tirelessly at one of the hardest jobs, the RAT or Rally Arrival Team, greeting and parking almost 1200 rigs throughout the Fairgrounds in FOUR DAYS! And the campsites; full hookups with 30A and 50A power at each one!

There was lots to do, attend one of the many educational, special interest and technical Sessions: morning bicycle rides; amateur radio communications nets, training and FCC licensing; Quilting & Fiber Arts; boondocking, making Limoncello, solar systems, fitness, photography, youth campers, RV safe driving, Dexter axle and brake maintenance, and more.

There was morning coffee & donuts (200 disappeared every morning in 20 minutes), line dancing, pickleball, Travel with History with Pee Wee and the Airstream Heritage Center, Pet show & parade, Vintage Airstream Club parade,

Blood drive, art show, painting and of course the flea market. Airstream swag, equipment and accessories were available; the Airstream Supply Company for hard parts and clothing, Bill Thomas for Airstream Camper Sales, Dometic, small vendors and exhibitors plied their wares in the Agriculture and Varied Industries Buildings.

Hungry, Fairground vendors and food truck/trailers were on hand to fill you up and quench your thirst

Did I miss something, you bet; the only way to possibly know and enjoy all the rally activities to be there or peruse the official Rally photos albums at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/196649138@N03/albums/>. Plan to attend 2025 in York, PA.

Don & Gail

2024 Rally Season

Winter Flash Rally - pushed to March? TBA

December Holiday Luncheon - J.D. Slingers, 855 W Williams, Fallon; Contact: Jeni Root at 775.771.2313 (phone or text) or RSVP at club157@airstreamclub.org by Friday November 29th.

Sierra Nevada Unit Business

Meeting Minutes - Walker River State Recreation Area on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 6:45pm.



Present: Brian Root, Jeni Root, Susan Anderson, Jim Anderson, Mary Swirsky, Bill Swirsky. (Bryan and Diane Leipper had retired as they had finished dinner and it was getting cold). Secretary Susie Brown was absent; minutes taken by Jeni Root.

Brian noted the SNU was celebrating its 48th year anniversary. It was noted that the Sierra Nevada Unit is still a "unit" rather than the now popular "club" group nomenclature. (Jeni calculates over 20% are still using the 'Unit' as a group designation).

A discussion was held regarding the November/December lunch rally. It was decided to combine the 2 after the Thanksgiving holidays, with first week of December being preferred. Jeni & Dyann to figure out the date/time/place in Fallon.

A discussion was held regarding January/February lunch rally. Brian & Jeni will hold at their house - date to be determined. Always weather dependent.

A list of officers from 2024 was read and a proposed list of nominees for 2025 discussed. As 4 of our members were

unable to attend at the last minute due to family situations, we did not have a quorum and will rely on voting electronically.

	2024	2025
President	Brian Root	Brian Root
Treasurer	Jeni Root	Jeni Root
Secretary	Susie Brown	Susie Brown
Trustee	Jerry Thornburg	Jerry Thornburg
Trustee	Bill Swirsky	Gene Baleme Bill Swirsky

Appointed Positions 2024 2025

Newsletter Editor	Don Williams	Don Williams
Membership Chair	Don Williams	Jeni Root

Look Backs in Time

The [November 2004 Airstreamer](#) was brief, reported on:

- Renewal time (under the old calendar year system); 11 rigs/22 additional members (rigs). Significant growth from the SNU's low of three members in 2002!
- Davis Creek Rally report - beautiful, sunny and warm on Friday; spiky with wind on Saturday followed by a damp and chilly Sunday. Members braved the weather for the Saturday night potluck dinner while flamingos dotted the campsites. Visitor's Neil & Yvon Weaver are refurbishing a 60's era Airstream; Bill & Sue Ottman are considering the purchase and wanted to see what Airstreaming is about.
- Final rally for 2004, the November Lahontan Rally, Beach. Prepare for warm and sunny to cold and cloudy. Potluck meals were moved to lunch because of early darkness.
- December Holiday meeting will be held at the Heseys home in Minden.

The [November 2014 Airstreamer](#) covered:

- Fort Churchill Rally Review - 12 members, six rigs plus visit by other members made for a great turnout. Several shared stories from the recent Region 12 Rally in Pahrump (six attended in 2014) where SNU members dominated the raffle drawings!
- SNU Business, election of officers, reporting to WBCCI Headquarters.
- Upcoming November luncheon at Bavarian World.
- Prez (Wheels) Meanderings - Fort Churchill was perfect Fall rally with some wind on Saturday to make the leaves dance and swirl. Members visited, hiked and explored the old fort ruins and museum.
- Marlene and Baxter's Region 12 Rally Report.
- Carbon Monoxide (CO), Other Detectors and Alarms by Bryan Leipper.

- Lastly, the SNU Facebook page turned one (it's now eleven years old).
- Unit Caravans - history and something to ponder.

Walker River; SNU's 48th Anniversary Rally

Brian and I arrived at Walker River State Recreation Area; the road in is still a little bumpy with washboard sections requiring SLOW travel! A few doors ajar, but otherwise no problems. We've been experimenting with lowering tire pressure, 70 psi on the way in. 65-69 on the way out; we finally found our sweet spot!

The dark clouds rolled with us into camp with pretty strong winds and BAM, the skies opened up. We're happy to report no leaks on Brian's roof work (1 skylight and 2 fan replacements). Originally, we expected 6 rigs, but life happens and only 3 were able to make it; Diane & Bryan Leipper, Jim & Susan Anderson, and us. Fortunately, Bill & Mary Swirsky were able to come from home and join the potlucks Friday and Saturday nights!

Cycling, hiking, exploring made up our daytime activities, while the evening gatherings lead to the highlights of the weekend; Bill was able to send his first HAM communication and Susan helped the group find the elusive comet both Friday & Saturday nights. Amazing! Jim used his photography skills to capture a fantastic shot of our airstream with the night sky and comet. We held a business meeting, discussing office/leader positions and potential rally sites for 2025. It was fun celebrating 48 years of Sierra Nevada Unit camping and we look forward to a return trip in future years!

Jeni Root

Closeout 2024 and 2025 Activities

2024

December JD Slingers Luncheon

Monday, December 2,
11:30am; 855 W
Williams, Fallon, NV;
RSVP to Jeni Root -
775.771.2313 or

club157@airstreamclub.org by Friday November 29th.

2025



January Luncheon at the Root's

Monday the 27th at Brian & Jeni house, noon. RSPV to Jeni Root - 775.771.2313 or club157@airstreamclub.org

March Flash Rally or Luncheon
TBA



April Fort Churchill Rally
April 21, 22 & 23; rally features a tour of the fort Ruins led by park staff.

May Wild Horse Rally
Wild horse State Recreation Area Campground; 26, 27, 28 - **This rally may include bookend trips to Lamoille and/or Great Basin National Park, tbd.



June Sheldon Wildlife Refuge Rally



Virgin Valley Campground 16, 17, 18. * Note, this rally includes a front-end trip to the Black Rock Desert June 13, 14, 15.

July Markleeville Rally
Centerville Flat Dispersed Campground, July 14, 15, 16



August Lower Twin Lakes Rally (Bridgeport, not Mammoth), August 11, 12, 13



August 2025 68th WBCCI International Rally - August 23rd - 28th, York, PA



September Hope Valley Dispersed Rally



Sept 15, 16, 17

October Rally/Caravan - Come for 1 or all:



1). **Topaz Lake Campground**
Oct 9, 10, 11.

2). **Tuttle Creek Campground**
Lone Pine, Oct 12, 13, 14



3). **Region 12 Rally** - Bonelli Flats-San Dimas, CA Oct 15-19



4). **Keogh Hot Springs** (Bishop) - Oct 19, 20, 21

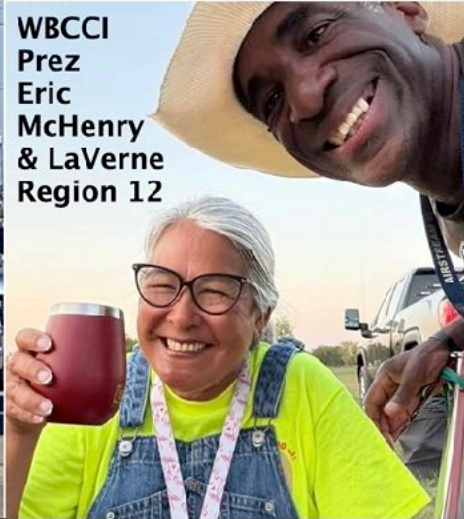
November/December Luncheon tbd

Walker River Rally Gloom to Sunshine





Pizza Night & So Long At Walker River



WBCCI Prez Eric McHenry & LaVerne Region 12



Arrivals to Opening Ceremonies 67th International Rally





**Bill Thomas
Camper Sales**



**WBCCI
Amateur Radio Club**



**Oversized
ARC Rig**



**Departure Day
It's Getting Lonely**

Editor's Blog

As editor and past president (a few years ago) I get the luxury of words that are sometime uncomfortable to say or hear. I hope you continue to read what I think is an important message.

We're nearing the end of the calendar year and you'll soon be receiving a ballot to vote for Sierra Nevada Unit officers and voice your opinions on the appointed positions like Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor. Please vote and consider taking a personal role in next year's club activities.

Your current team has worked hard to offer rallies and activities at locations that offer wilderness and camping experience that are attractive to our members; yet overall participation has been lower than in past years. It's not lack of members, we currently have 48 full members and 33 affiliates, yet attendance at this years rallies has been down; ranging from 2 to 6 rigs, 4 to 11 members. There were pleasant surprises: new members, affiliates and guests at April's Rye Patch Rally; 7 members (5 rigs) at Fort Churchill; attendance at this years Region 12 Rally included more than nine members and 4 rigs in attendance. Some club members stepped up and offered ideas for and attended Taylorsville that was a great location.

Regarding upcoming elections, you'll see many of the same faces on the ballots, people who wholeheartedly support the Sierra Nevada Unit and it's simple style of promoting rallies in great settings throughout the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains and Great Basin Desert. Your club, yes the Sierra Nevada Unit is "yours", needs participation by more than just a core group of devotees to bring in new ideas, new locations, new activities to keep it vibrant and promote participation amongst its members. Please consider how you can help make your ideas known, help host a rally, be a greeter, a mentor or maybe even take a leadership role in 2025 and the future.

Don Williams

SNU Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor