



## Sierra Nevada Unit, WBCCI

2016 SNU 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1976 - 2016

The Airstream RV Association of Northern Nevada

June 2016

To: Members of the IBT Executive Committee, Chair of the WBCCI CBL Committee and the Region 12 President

This letter is in concern for the methods and practices taken in regards to an action of the President of Region 12 of the WBCCI to suspend the charter of the Sierra Nevada Unit.

To preface this, there has been an ongoing action of the CBL Committee in regards to the Constitution/Bylaws of the Sierra Nevada Unit, Region 12. Since 2007 there has been a difference of thought on our submittal. In 2007 I was the Unit President, along with other members of the unit our CBL was rewritten in a manner to simplify and correct the structure to represent its present form. This rewrite included methods to reference the WBCCI CBL in all aspects where the International document would take the forefront. To enable this, the correct reference of the International was embedded into the unit document. The reasoning was if and when the International changed their document, the SNU document was always in compliance. One example was the method of paying dues which can now be paid directly to the WBCCI.

These documents have been submitted more than once, in more than one method. Until the communications with Carol Ortiz, there has been no response in either a positive or negative manner. I have not heard from her since an email asking for clarification on 6 references. This email was answered. The catch 22 of this problem is that if the International CBL does not respond with a rejection which then can be clarified and changed or an approval received, the SNU cannot submit an approved document for record. Hence the question as to the appropriateness of the proposal from the President of Region 12 to suspend the charter of the SNU.

Some concerns of the methods taken include this action that was not presented to the entire executive board of Region 12, which would include the President of the SNU, he was not included until the action was in process. Several face to face opportunities arose for this to be discussed and it was not. A letter was sent to the members of the Unit informing them of the action and not presented to the executive board of the unit first. There seems to be a disposition of the Region 12 President to bypass the officers and executive board of SNU to discuss this motion, which is contrary to even the region articles of governance. Almost all aspects of this action not only violate the SNU CBL's but also the International CBL's. My reading and understanding is that only the International has the authority to comment and request changes to our documents.

Another major concern is that Region 12 has had two units disband and now the proposal to do away with a third unit, a unit which has had a history of acquiring and maintaining members. The SNU is to celebrate its 40th anniversary this year in September. It is hard for me not to believe that there is not an underlying reason for this motion. As I stated earlier there have been many opportunities for the President of Region 12 to discuss this perceived problem face to face, but all opportunities were avoided.

Some years ago I coined a phrase that has become an exposé facto motto of the SNU. For a time the WBCCI also used this phrase.

“It’s the Airstreams that bring us together, but it’s the people that keep us together”



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The caveat is that people can also destroy an organization. When politics and presumed self-interest is brought into play, it can bring disarray, confusion, and disruption. I also believe that individuals in the position to cast a perceived attitude of the organization need to re-evaluate that attitude. At a Regional Rally in Jackson, CA, I lost the brakes on my trailer crossing the Sierras. While trying to repair them at the rally site, the question was asked of a Region 12 Officer why no one asked if they could help. We were told "It's not that kind of rally". Three other participants were also having problems and none but the SNU members offered to help them. For us it's always "that type of rally", never leave anyone stranded.

In this light, I request that the International Board reject the motion and instruction be given to follow the appropriate methods outlined in The International CBL. It is the International CBL Committee who is the responsible party in this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jerry Thornburg  
Chairman SNU CBL Committee  
Member and a Past President of the SNU