

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org



February Luncheons Southern Gathering

In accordance with long standing SNU tradition, the Snowbird Division of the Sierra Nevada Unit held its February luncheon at Saguaro National Park in Tucson, AZ. The Damoths and Fakers got together on Wednesday morning the 13th of February for a really neat 8 mile bike ride around the loop at Saguaro NP, followed by a picnic lunch at the Javelina Campground along the loop. In spite of lung bursting hills, we enjoyed hearing the songs of the desert birds and viewing the wide variety of desert plants along the way. Each saguaro showed a unique display of arms and buds, and the ocotillo were bursting with new green leaves after the recent rains. As usual the pot luck lunch was delicious, featuring cheese, ham, salami, tomatoes, carrots, celery, and of course peanut butter sandwiches. A great time was had by all.

- Don Damoth

Northern Gathering

February continued our international trend - Mexican food at El Charro Avita in Carson City. It was a great lunch. Good food and excellent service. Another place to add to the SNU list of favorites. Thanks Randy and Vicki for finding this place for the SNU. Other SNU members who enjoyed this lunch were Roger and Jan, Dyann and Jerry, Bryan, Diane, and Dave. We were also glad to have Larry Clark from MFRV and Mike Gower who saw Randy's PSA for the lunch in the Carson Appeal. Mike has a 1977 25ft Airstream Caravanner. He and his wife Cindy have taken a couple of short trips with it and discovered the assets of towing and Airstream. We hope they both will make it to the Rally at Pyramid Lake. Larry filled us in a little on some of the new models and features Airstream is planning. We hope he can also make it to Pyramid and show us a new Airstream trailer. All in all another great SNU gathering.

Business Meeting

The only business Jerry discussed at the February 16th Lunch was to let us know that Region 12 is looking for candidates for 2nd Vice President. There was also some general talk of upcoming rallies and the Thornburg's planned trip to the WBCCI International rally in Bozeman this summer.

Rally Ho!

Yeah! Pyramid Lake will be the site for the first SNU rally of 2008. I think we are all looking forward to getting out with our Airstreams and spending a few days visiting and catching up. So fill your propane tanks, check your tires, check your water lines, clean and fill the tanks, stock the trailer and do all the other tasks needed to get your Airstream ready for a great rally season. The rally will be held at Pelican Point about three miles past the town of Sutcliffe. You will see us from the road. BEFORE you get to the rally site, be sure and stop at the station near the entrance to the reservation when coming up from Reno on route 445 or at the Sutcliffe Marina near the RV park on the north side of Sutcliffe. We plan a good old American hamburger/hot dog/polish sausage BBQ on Saturday for lunch. Other than that it will be the usual coffee in the AM, happy hour in the PM and shared lunches and dinners. Bring firewood for all day campfires. March weather can be anywhere for sunny and very warm to cloudy, cold, rainy or anywhere in between so be prepared for anything and don't leave your down jacket or extra blankets at home. It can also be windy except that Dyann has already put in an order requesting only an occasional gentle breeze. No matter what the weather we will have a great time so plan to join us for the Pyramid Lake rally. If you can't make it for the entire time come on out for a visit anytime during the weekend.



El Charro Avita Luncheon. - Leipper



The Jackson Center Airstream Factory - Larry Clark

The Jackson Center Factory

I was fortunate enough to be chosen to attend a training session at the Airstream factory in Jackson Center Ohio last December. Ever since I started working here at Mountain Family RV I have developed a love for the Airstreams. Visiting the factory was a great experience, it gave me the opportunity to see the Airstreams being built as opposed to just having someone tell me about them.

One of the amazing things about building an Airstream is the amount of man hours that goes into the construction of each unit. Everything from the way they assemble the rubber torsion bar axel, stretch and form each aluminum panel on the ends, to the two people who rivet the skin together. The only thing that is done by computer are the cabinets, even most of the cushions are cut out and sewn together by several women.

The work environment is another thing that is different than a lot of factory's I have seen. There are two and even three generations of families working for Airstream. The job is not just an assembly line kind of job; it requires a great deal of Craftsmanship.

All in all it was a day filled with fun, learning, and a new appreciation for Airstreams. I encourage anyone who has a chance to visit the Jackson Center facility to do it. You will not be disappointed.

Larry Clark (MFRV - Sales Team Member)

Check Lists - 2008 Rally Season

Now that it is time to get the Airstream geared up for rallies and other adventures a checklist, or rather several checklists might come in handy. Checklists can be helpful but they can also become a Pandora's box unless managed efficiently. Among the many possible -

- checklists you might need to get your rig on the road and ensure that you have what you need for your various adventures are checklists for maintenance, planning, home, take off, and end of trip. For a good rundown on checklists, their uses, contents, and management check the links page listed in this newsletter.

President's Ramblin's

It seems that whenever I run out of something to write about, someone sends me a little blurb that gets me going. This time it was a link to the airforum thread that dealt with one of the southeastern units trying to resurrect the MOHO issue. Following the threads it is hard to see if the issue is alive or dead. The one thing that I know of is that our unit voted it down and if this issue arises at the International I will again see that the unit's vote is counted.

Another little thing I enjoy is getting the letters from WBCCI about the International rally in Bozeman. All of the articles and info that I first received said that the rally was from June 28th to July 4th. Now I am getting letters saying that the Unit Presidents dinner is 4 days earlier with parking on the 21st. It seems the whole week before the rally is when they hold a lot of their meetings. Dyann and I plan on arriving in Bozeman on or around the 27th so I guess these shindigs are out for us. I think someone forgot that some members still work for a living and have to schedule our vacation time. We plan on using the rally as a jumping off point for a 2 week vacation in Montana and North Dakota. I do have a fly fishing excursion set in Billings with family, and then going on to visit more of Dyann's relatives in North Dakota.

Speaking of fishing, this is for Randy and his need for fresher fish. Instead of catching one, walking to the fire and cooking it as I did at the last Pyramid Lake rally. I am going to take a floating cutting board, use some of the lake weed available, and fix him up some sushi, of course he will have to be there and walk out into the lake to get it because I would want him to have it as soon as I get it wrapped. NOW THAT WOULD BE FRESH. Bon appetite Randy.

One last thing we have to do at the March Pyramid rally is to name a delegate and an alternative to the Bozeman Rally. So I need to know who is going to the International. I heard a rumor that Don and Gail Williams are going, anyone else? If so please let me know.

Diane said she needed this ramblins asap so I will close for now. *Jerry*

Upcoming Events

Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees on-line!

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2007/payonline/snu-shopping.html>

- **Thursday March 27- Sunday 30, 2008 Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, Pelican Point- 1st Rally!**
- Thursday April 17 - Sunday 20, 2008 FT Sage, BLM campground near Doyle.
- Thursday May 15 - Sunday 18, 2008 Unionville County park - I80 east from Reno, near Winemucca, NV
- Thursday June 19 - Sunday 22, 2008 Portola Railroad museum. Off Hwy 70 in Portola, CA
- June 28 - July 4, 2008 Bozeman, Montana 51st WBCCI International Rally
- Thursday July 17 - Sunday 20, 2008 Sweetwater Summit dispersed BLM, near Yerrington
- Thursday August 21 - Sunday 24, 2008 Eagle Lake BLM Campground northeast of Susanville, CA
- Thursday September 18 - Sunday 21, 2008 Obsidian Dome (Inyo Nat'l Forest) dispersed camping - of US 395 South between June Lakes and Mammoth Lakes
- Friday October 16 - Sunday 19, 2008 Blue Lakes, PG&E campground off Hwy 88 Hope Valley back up - Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, Pelican Point
- Saturday November 22, 2008 Chuckars Fernley Exit 46 off I80 on the west end of Fernley, NV
- Thursday November 13 – Sunday 16, 2008 Death Valley Mesquite campground
- Saturday December 13, 2008 JT's Basque restaurant, Minden, NV - on US 395 south

Gung Hay Fat Choy! Airstream Style

For those who love to see the sights of San Francisco without paying for expensive hotel rooms, costly overnight parking and would like a beachfront view... I think I have found the holy grail. Airstreaming. Roman, my father and I headed off to the Bay Area for the Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco. My father, being from Chinatown originally, is the perfect companion to take along to get a "locals" perspective on the celebrations and the history of the city. We wanted to have at least 3 days to explore, and hotel rooms for 3 can be quite costly in the city, so we decided to test out the new Airstream. We picked an RV resort in Pacifica because it was the only one with full hook-ups close to the city and having not rv-camped with my 82 year old dad for several years, we decided creature comforts might make the trip easier. We were delighted to find that our campsite was feet from the ocean and had wonderful views! After a very cold rainy New Year's parade we were welcomed back by the cozy warmth of the '75 Tradewind. Three days later we had our fill of cable car rides, shopping, fresh crab from the wharf, Irish coffees from the Buena Vista and too much great food to mention, so we decided to head off to Santa Cruz for an additional 3 days. We were lucky enough to secure a campsite at Seacliff (another spectacular beachfront site) and enjoy the end of the Lunar Year festivities.

~ Melissa Wong



Give us a call! (775) 972 – 5011 We would love to hear from you!

Please email us with any questions or requests at: hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org

To information discussed in this newsletter including February luncheon photo gallery and the March rally site info: <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/2008/index.html>

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