

the Airstreamer

the Sierra Nevada Unit
50 Years



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings!

Camping season is off to a great start and I hope wherever this newsletter finds you, at home or on the road, in good health and good spirits! Our first 3 rallies are behind us and we have 3 great rallies planned for the rest of summer/fall.

We have the Ruby Mountains rally, specifically Lamoille Canyon, coming up **Wednesday, July 22-Monday, July 27**. Thomas Canyon Campground is our designated rally site, with 8 sites currently reserved. This is an extremely popular area and the sites are hard to reserve. There are first-come, first-serve sites - so if someone is interested in grabbing one of those, let us know and I'm sure we can help make it work. Please note that not everyone stays all 5 nights - some come earlier, some stay later, some arrive later, and some leave earlier. With that, we'll plan on potluck dinners and I'm sure there will be some shared breakfast feasts. With 4 full rally days, activities will include hiking/walking, fishing, cycling, and maybe even a side trip to the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge aka Ruby Marshes. The campground sits at

7200' - be prepared for all kinds of weather!

The original plan for Great Basin National Park was abandoned due to changing reservation windows. If you are interested in going, I highly recommend Upper Lehman, Lower Lehman, and Baker campgrounds. It's a beautiful park, the caves are wonderful (make reservations!), the hiking superb, wildflowers brilliant, and it's a designated Night Sky area. We'll try for another rally there in the future.

September 21-24 (Monday-Thursday) takes us to Lake Tahoe, Fallen Leaf Campground. Post-Labor Day brings a quieter vibe to the south shore and I hope you can join us! We currently have 6 rigs/sites attending. If you're interested, we're reserving around site #132.

October starts with the Crowley Lake Rally Monday, October 19-Thursday, October 22. BLM Crowley Lake Campground sits at 7000' elevation, on the eastern flank of the Sierra, 10 miles north of Mammoth Lakes. It's high desert with no shade, which we'll appreciate in the cool autumn mornings! We're hoping the aspen golds are going off and the weather cooperates for some water time, cycling time, Airstreaming time :).

Thinking about the Region rally Oct 28-Nov 1? Well, Crowley is the first stop, with Goodale Campground and Death Valley (and/or others??!!) taking you south to Las Vegas. It's time for another SNU Caravan to Region (and back!). Let Don Williams know if this is of interest to you <editor's update - Don & Gail may not be back from the International Rally, family visits including a 100 year birthday celebration and the East Coast so we need someone to take the caravan lead role> !

Lastly, it's time to start thinking about a fall/winter luncheon (maybe December 12?). A huge thank you to past hosts: Jim & Susan Andersen, Susie Brown, Robyn Mitchell/Del Nordby. I know we have enjoyed hosting and I'm sure you will also. If you're interested in hosting at your house, please let me know. We may also head to a restaurant - suggestions welcome!

Thanks to all who have joined the Sierra Nevada Unit, whether you've camped with us or not, we're glad to have you be a part of the "Biggest Little Unit" and it's 50 year legacy.

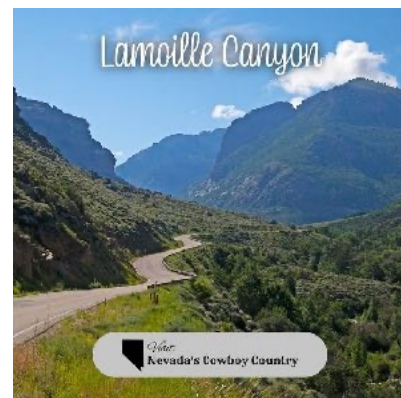
Cheers, Jeni

LAMOILLE CANYON RALLY IN THE RUBY MOUNTAINS ; NO LONGER BACK TO BACK WITH GREAT BASIN!

The changes in campground reservations for the first of our SNU back-to-back rallies caused us to eliminate the Great Basin National Park from our SNU itinerary but Lamoille Canyon (Ruby Mountains) is still on.

With that...if folks want to go, Brian & I are open to a trip to Great Basin National Park, but it'll be last minute, a flash rally - depending on how the reservation availability is looking and alternate camp locations. Contact us (75.771.2313) and make sure to keep up with emails from the SNU for more information. As always, feel free to do what works best for you (longer/shorter/slightly different dates/different location - all good).

Lamoille Canyon - Thomas Canyon Campground- Wednesday, July 22-Monday, July 27.



Reservations are now full but "first come-first served" sites are available plus look for cancellations. We have 9 rigs currently with reservations. This is a beautiful area, with opportunities for hiking, fishing, cycling, and enjoying the Ruby Mountains (also known as the "Swiss Alps of Nevada") are

2026 SIERRA NEVADA UNIT OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board:

President: Jenifer Root

Treasurer: Gail Williams

Secretary: Susan Andersen

Trustee: Jerry Thornburg

Trustee: Bill Swirsky

Past President: Brian Root

Appointed Positions:

Historian: Diane Lepper

Membership Chair: Jenifer

Root

Newsletter Editor: Don Williams

Webmaster: Bill Swirsky

LAMOILLE CANYON CONT'D

located at 7200' elevation, along the Lamoille Creek - can you say "cooler temps"? available plus look for cancellations. We have 9 rigs currently with reservations. For some folks, this rally may serve as a jumping off point to head to the International Rally in Minot, North Dakota! If you are planning on attending either of these, please let me know so we can include you in any 'organized' pot-lucks and outings! Jeni 775.771.2313

<Need ideas for more things to do; check out the Travel Nevada link for the Rubies Route: <https://travelnevada.com/road-trips/rubies-route/>. Scroll down on the web page and you'll find some short Spotify travel music teasers to complement the route. - editor>

ANTELOPE LAKE RALLY REPORT

The Antelope Lake rally ended up being a little one, with 2 Sierra Nevada Unit (SNU) members and 1 Airstream Basecamp owner attending as a guest. We originally had a total of 6 rigs, but life happens and that's the beauty of the SNU - it's ok!

With anticipated temperatures in Reno reaching the triple digits, we were concerned about the weather - but it turned out to be rather wonderful. The pine forest kept the heat to a minimum, and the water provided a nice cooling effect. We had the kayaks and SUPs (standup paddle boards) out every day - the water was either beautifully flat or just rippling under a slight breeze. And it's a rather shallow lake, so the water temps on the upper layers are very nice. PERFECT. We finally found the eagles nest - with Momma, Poppa and 2 fledglings. Great to see them all out and about! We were on the lookout for the otters, and on the morning before leaving, our Basecamp friends spotted them, close to our camping area. One of our favorite activities is finding the wildlife!

Basecamp friends, along with the Roots, were able to get in a bike ride down to Genessee - we were bummed the store was closed, but the roads were in excellent condition and zero traffic. The aftermath of the Grizzly fire was obvious, but the green undergrowth was returning with wildflowers everywhere. While were cycling, Robyn & Del tried their hand at fishing...they caught only one that morning, but it was a beauty.

Our friend's sister wrote a book, The Deviant Daughter, and reading it became an obsession. Interesting, dare I say fascinating, and well written - the 3 of us ladies were constantly found reading, thinking

"don't do it...oh no...she did it", and turning the pages to see what happened next. Highly recommend.

Of course, we had shared meals, including a pizza night and a smoked tri-tip night (yes, indeed, Del & Robyn brought their smoker!). The mosquitoes did make for early evenings.

Travel notes: the turn off highway 395 to Antelope Lake, the "Janesville grade", as it is known, does include some steep uphill climbs, but all three of us made it without issue. 2 of us headed down via Genessee to another camp by Antelope Lake, roads were great. Robyn & Del headed to Truckee for another WBCCI rally, but they said they would not recommend the 8 miles of washboard road (Forest Rte 28 NO3). While their airstream handled the distance with little issue, there might have been some loss of sentimental glassware.

I should also mention we had reserved sites, but when we arrived, Brian & I decided to take a lakeside, much better site (#35). There was no internet (SkyLink is our friend) and trying to cancel the old reservation was difficult. There was a host site, but they were gone the 3 days, with the exception of about 2 hours. Reservations were great, but there were PLENTY of first come/first serve sites Monday -Thursday. #35 might just be the best site of the whole campground.

Enjoy the picture collage - great rally and look forward to returning.

MORE ON MAY'S ANNIVERSARY RALLY

Thanks to Diane Leipper for posting the rally photo highlights on the SNU legacy website. Click on sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/rallies/26may-topaz/26may-topaz.html.

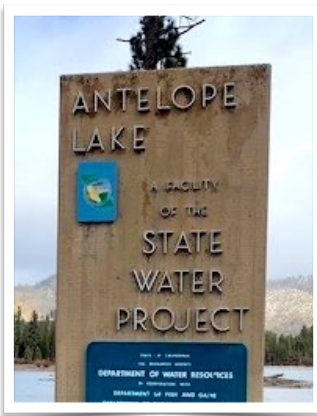
AND FROM OUR HISTORIAN - DIANE LEIPPERBattle of the Bylaws

By 2001 the SNU was struggling to stay afloat. In 2002 some reorganization started to take place. One of the key issues was updating the SNU bylaws. Thus began a process that lasted years and caused a lot of turmoil including a motion presented to the IBT board to revoke the charter of the SNU and threats to expel an SNU member.

In 2002 the WBCCI template for Unit bylaws was geared towards units with a large membership. They didn't take into account small or struggling Units. The only assistance WBCCI had to offer a struggling unit was to merge with another unit or disband. The remaining active members of the SNU wanted to keep going as an independent unit and decided to help themselves. We made a thorough study of the bylaws of WBCCI and the WBCCI template for Units to determine exactly what was required. We thought about the SNU and where it was at that point, where it might be in the future, and how it might best get there. With over 20 years of experience with national, regional and local organizations, clubs and nonprofits, Bryan took the lead on re-writing the SNU bylaws. The result was a document that worked for a small unit like the SNU while in complete compliance with the requirements of WBCCI. Now, years later it seems that WBCCI has recognized the need to be more accommodating to smaller units and made adjustments in Unit bylaws requirements.

With some minor adjustments in later years, the SNU bylaws has served the unit well. We weren't overwhelmed with officer and committee positions we couldn't fill and didn't fit the needs of the SNU. Keeping the duties of the officers to the basic required minimums made it much easier to find members willing to serve. Best of all, by choosing to adapt the bylaws to fit the SNU rather than disband or merge, the SNU is strong and stable and here in 2026 to celebrate it's 50th Anniversary.

<excerpt from the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sierra Nevada Unit of the Wally Byam Caravan Club, approved May 21, 2022 - editor>



A. Officers

- The officers of the SNU shall consist of a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and two Trustees.
- The Officers shall be elected at the annual business meeting of the SNU and shall be installed and assume office upon election.
- An officer shall serve in office for a term of one year or until a successor is elected but in no case shall an officer be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office except the Secretary or Treasurer provided said officers are duly nominated and elected for each term of office.
- The Trustees shall be elected at the annual business meeting, each for a term of two years commencing on election but arranged so that only one-half such Trustees terms expire in any one year. No Trustee shall serve more than two two-year term consecutively unless said Trustee is duly nominated and elected for each term of office.

Follow the link for the full Constitution & Bylaw read: <https://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/members/bc/2022may21-snu-revised-bylaws-approved.pdf>.

AIRSTREAM CLUB BLUE BERET BLOG

Everyone must be out rallying and caravanning; no new blogs from the WBCCI.

AIRSTREAM INC.'S AIRSTREAM STORIES

the All-New Airstream Rangeline 21PL Touring Coach - introduction and Walkthrough Video

Airstream introduces the all-new Airstream Rangeline 21PL Touring Coach (with sleeping space for four); it joins Rangeline 21PS (Premier Studio) and expands the Rangeline lineup of Airstream touring coach options: <https://www.airstream.com/airstream-lifestyle/stories-hub/introducing-the-all-new-airstream-rangeline-21pl-touring-coach>.



Click here for the video: <https://www.airstream.com/airstream-lifestyle/stories-hub/rangeline-21pl-official-airstream-walkthrough-video>.

Flying Cloud 25FB Ultrarunner Homebase

Susan Brydon's ultra runner lifestyle began as a single 5K in support of her husband's goal to run a half marathon after completing cancer treatment but evolved into something much bigger. Running became a way to say yes to life. She increased her distances, full marathons, trail races, 50Ks, and more. Even during the COVID pandemic, she completed a self-supported virtual 50K in Colorado which lead to increasingly extreme ultradistance events; 50-milers, 100Ks, 100-milers, and eventually 200-mile races, continually pushing—and redefining—the limits of what she believed was possible.



There's much more to read in her story on the Airstream Blog: <https://www.airstream.com/airstream-lifestyle/stories-hub/flying-cloud-25fb-is-the-perfect-homebase-for-an-ultrarunner>.

Find Minion Mayhem & more on Airstream's Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/airstream/photos>

SNU MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Thank you to renewing members KellyAnn & Keith Barr, #2818.



We have 41 rigs, (25 regular, 16 affiliate) - totaling 74 members over 7 states. Thanks to each and everyone of you for helping our little Sierra Nevada Unit celebrate it's 50th anniversary!

Whew! Jewi Root



69TH AIRSTREAM CLUB INTERNATIONAL RALLY AUG 22ND -27TH!

No formal Sierra Nevada Unit rally in August but don't let that stop you; head out for your own campout, solo caravan or host a pop-up rally and let us know at club157@airstreamclub.org.

BTW, there's still time to make reservation for the International Rally in Minot, ND <https://airstreamclub.org/rally2026>.

FALLEN LEAF RALLY - SEPT 21ST THROUGH THE 24TH

A huge thanks to Tom & Kitsie Larkin for suggesting (and acting as "hosts") for the September rally - Fallen Leaf Lake is going to be well attended, with 5 rigs already securing reservations (site 132 is the target area). While the campground is large, September 21-24 will be busy. We encourage reservations ([recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov)) but believe there will be open sites for last minute arrivals! We're looking forward to enjoying the lake and hope to see many of you there!



