

# SIERRA NEVADA UNIT, WBCCI

## MARCH 2005 *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER



### February Luncheon

The SNU February luncheon Friday February 18th in Fallon was great despite the gloomy weather. We were delighted to have two guests join us for lunch. Jerry Thornburg and Dyann McDonald have a 31ft 1983 International. Wib and Pat Stephens have a 19ft 1977 Argosy. We look forward to seeing them all at further SNU events, including our upcoming rally at Rye Patch. After lunch we adjourned to the Douglas's where we had pie and ice cream - Thank you Bonny and Roy! At a short business meeting we discussed the upcoming rally, an opportunity to participate in the Gatsby Festival at Lake Tahoe, some PR ideas to promote the Unit, and member updates. We also discussed the possibility of a joint rally with the Nevada Unit after Diane mentioned that she had received a call from that Unit's president, Bette Leal and discussed the idea. Diane also handed out copies of a commemorative booklet on WBCCI history.



February Luncheon at Fallon

### March Rally

The first SNU rally of 2005 will be March 24th through 27th at Rye Patch reservoir in the group camping area. Thursday March 24 is a bonus day and you might need to park in the regular campground for that night only. We are asking that everyone bring a few logs for the fire since the weather might still be a little chilly and we'd like to keep a fire going most of the day. Saturdays potluck is going to be a "lunch on a stick". Bring a stick and something you can cook over an open fire. Pots, sandwich grills and other utensils will also be accepted just as long as they can be used over an open fire. The key is to use your imagination and epicurean creativity and hopefully the end result will be edible. For more details check:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/events/05mr-ryepatch.html>

Comment from Wally Byam - "Having fun with a trailer is dependent upon three things: (1) a love of carefree, informal travel (2) a certain amount of skill and experience, and (3) good, trouble-free equipment."

Diane Leipper  
[diane@leipper.org](mailto:diane@leipper.org)

### April Rally

The SNU April rally will be at Lake Lahonton April 21 - 24, 2005. We are still in the process of determining the actual location - either at Fran Reid's place or Beach 7. Details will be in the next newsletter.

**Gatsby Festival** The SNU has been asked to participate in the September 17, 2005 Gatsby Festival. The Festival is an annual event sponsored jointly by The Tahoe Heritage Foundation and the USDA Forest Service at the Tallac Historic Site in South Lake Tahoe, California. There is a 2 day event in August and a 1 day event in September. The event celebrates the time period between World War I and World War II. Activities include tours of the Pope house given by costumed guides, antique cars, entertainment, children's games, contests, vendors with vintage wares and the highlight - The Great Gatsby Tea. Alice Kane, a representative from this event has contacted the SNU several times and is very enthusiastic about our possible participation. Alice will be at our picnic at Spooner Summit to talk with us about the September event. <http://www.tahoe.com/gatsby>  
I didn't notice a year on either website so I am not sure if the dates are correct for 2005. We will be providing more information within the next few months,

### WBCCI History

The SNU has put together an 8 page booklet with information and historical antidotes about WBCCI. The contents include a timeline of important dates, comments from Wally Byam and others, pictures of early rallies and caravans, the WBCCI creed, and other information. If you would like a copy the SNU asks for a donation of \$3.00 for a color copy and \$1.00 for a black and white copy. Contact Diane for more information. Keep your eyes on the Blue Beret - WBCCI has begun including historical information in it's membership magazine. The February issue had an article about the various president's and their impact on the organization. It also included pieces from "The Caravaner", the early version of the organization's newsletter.

## Rally - Rye Patch State Recreation Area Near Lovelock, NV

What: 3 day Rally, members & guests welcome. Board meeting Saturday open to all.

When: Thursday March 24 through Sunday March 27, 2005

Arrival time - anytime after noon on Thursday March 24.

Where: Location: Rye Patch is located 22 miles north of Lovelock on Interstate 80. The rally will be held in the campground below the dam on the west side of the reservoir.

Kitty Kall: \$10 per rig per night payable at the rally.

Events and activities: Morning coffee klatch is from about 7 to 9 on Saturday and Sunday. Happy hours will likely occur on Friday and Saturday starting about 5 p.m. A potluck lunch is planned for Saturday about noon. The unit meeting will be held Saturday at about 1 p.m. following the pot luck lunch. All gatherings will be informal and BYO (bring your own) to share as suits your karma. We are asking that everyone bring a few logs for the fire since the weather might still be a little chilly and we'd like to keep a fire going most of the day. Saturdays potluck is going to be a "lunch on a stick". Bring a stick and something you can cook over an open fire. Pots, sandwich grills and other utensils will also be accepted just as long as they can be used over an open fire. The key is to use your imagination and epicurean creativity and hopefully the end result will be edible.

Weather: moderate, can be cool at night.

Facilities: Water, pit toilets, showers, some picnic tables, some trees. Has a dump station

Nearby attractions: Birding, boating, fishing, hiking, biking, interpretive trail available at Rye Patch. Visit the nearby historic town of Unionville, once home to Mark Twain.

If you can't make it for the entire time, feel free to join us for a few hours, one day, or whatever time frame fits your schedule.

To assist us with planning, please send your reservations via e-mail to [hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org](mailto:hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org) or a phone call to Diane at 775-972- 5011, or Fred at 775-266-3435 . You can also mail your rsvp to: The Sierra Nevada Unit, PO Box 60572 Reno, NV 89506

## Airstreamers on the Road

We have met a number of interesting Airstreamers on the road in our travels, so we have decided to add a new section to the newsletter called "Airstreamers on the Road". We should have done this years ago, since there are so many interesting Airstreamers out there.

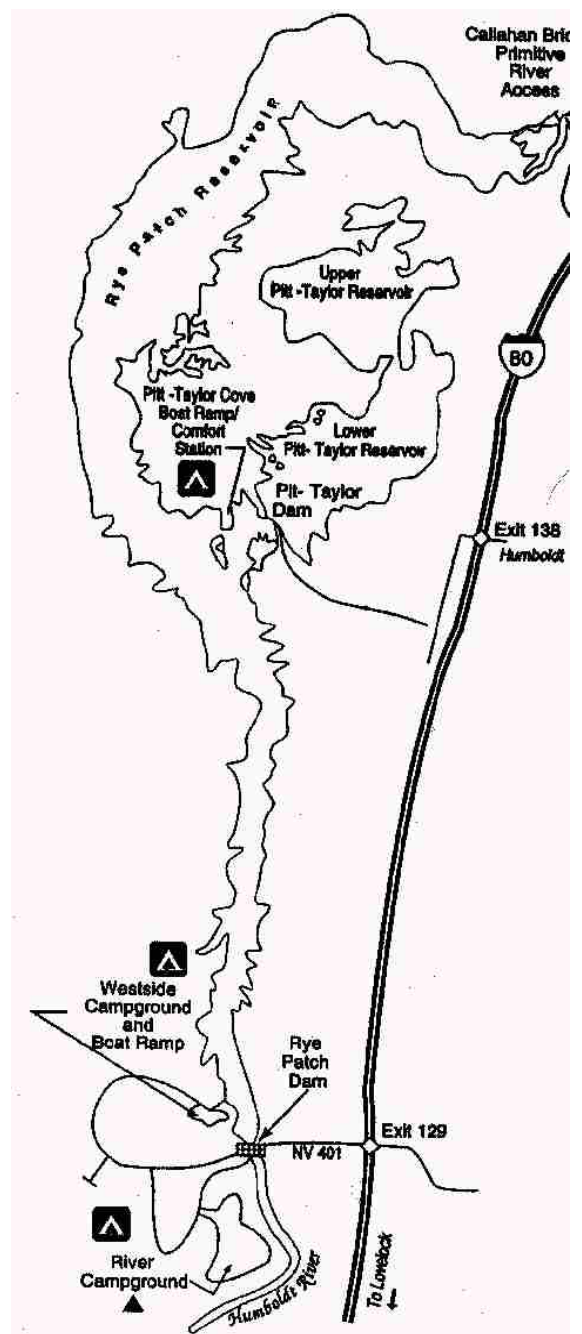
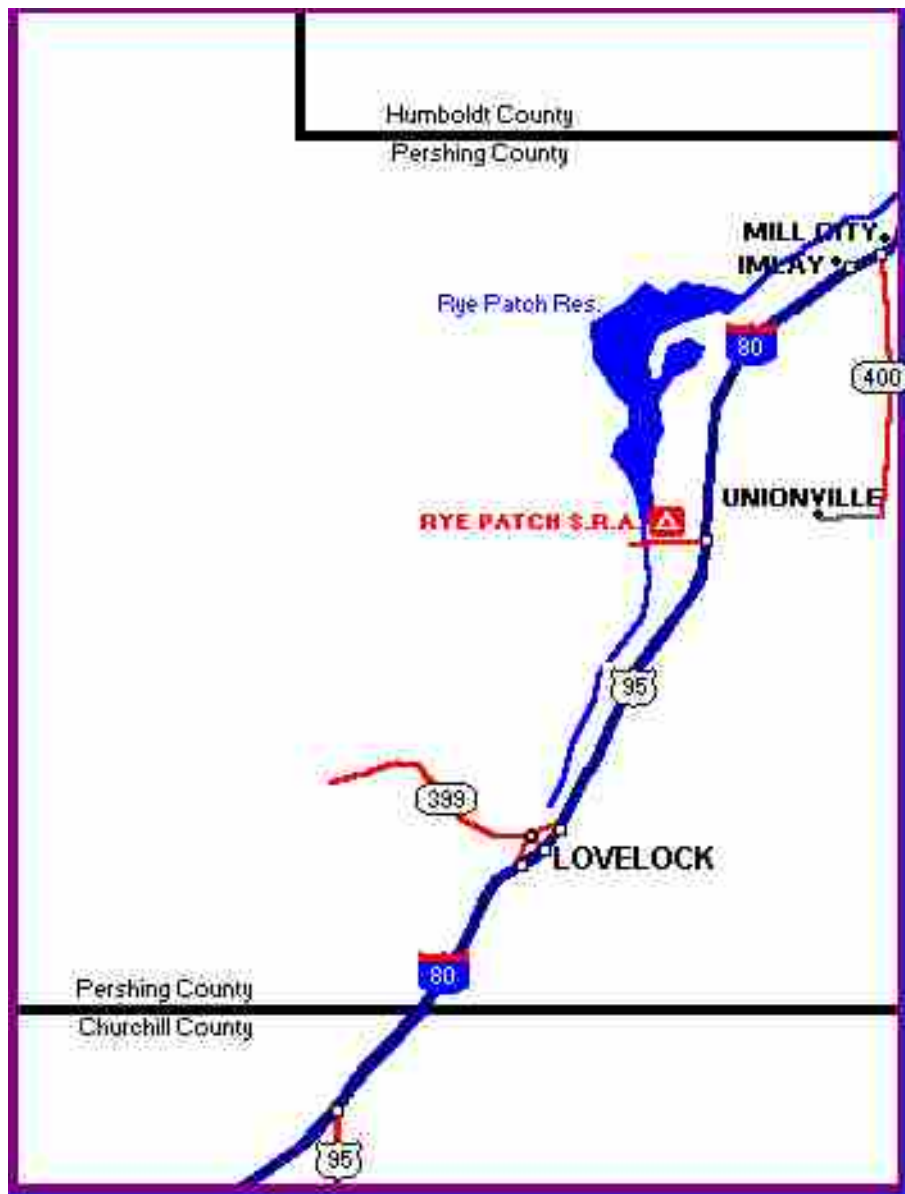
We met Lewis and Catherine Fink at Buckskin Mountain State Park north of Parker, AZ. in March. They were driving a 1978 Suburban towing a 1984 29 foot Airstream Sovereign. They are from Redmond, Washington, and have been traveling in their Airstream since they bought it new in 1984. The truck and trailer have over 200,000 miles on them, including eight trips to Baja, California, and a trip to Alaska. Since it was new, they have replaced the refrigerator which was a defective model, replaced the shocks, and installed new curtains all around. They have also refinished all of the woodwork. To improve the trailer they installed two solar panels, added a second battery, and had a vented catalytic heater installed in the front lounge area to take the chill out of those cool nights. The front window shields were not standard that year, so they had those installed at purchase.

The refrigerator failed for the third or fourth time when they stopped over night in Chicken, Alaska, along the "Top of the World Highway" to Dawson Creek, Yukon Territory. The Dometic dealer in Anchorage, Alaska replaced it for them after telling them it was a defective model. It was flown in as cargo on an Air Alaska flight which did not have a full load of passengers.

They are celebrating Lewis's 90th birthday and their 60th wedding anniversary this year. They say this may be their last trip since their children want them to stay home. If they do stay home, their rig will be for sale. Their telephone number is 425-883-0085 if anyone is interested. Of course they won't be home for a while as they were on their way to Yuma.







## *Airstreamers* NEWSLETTER

4610 Sleepy Hollow Dr  
Reno NV 89502

MARCH 2005



### WELCOME TO THE SIERRA NEVADA UNIT of WBCCI.

We are a small, friendly group who enjoy sharing our enjoyment of Airstreams, and the Airstream lifestyle, with others. You are invited to come to any of our meetings and if you like, to join our Unit. We predict that you will make many friends and relish the camaraderie of our rallies, caravans, and group activities. Our members are always ready to share their advice on equipment problems and trailering knowledge. In addition to being a member of our local Unit, you will be one of several thousand who make up the Wally Byam Caravan Club International (the Airstream RV Club.)