



*"the Great Basin Airstream RV Association"*

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org



## Happy Holidays

### GOLD CANYON LUNCHEON

We had a great time at the SNU November luncheon at Gold Canyon in Dayton. Really neat place and good food and of course, great company. We were delighted to have Judy Bechtholdl and her husband Ken join us. Judy is the current Second Vice President of Region 12. In addition to the Bechtholds other participants included the Thornburgs, Damoths, Fakers, Mulligans, Leippers, Jeppsons, Gallion, and Gmur. Bryan and Diane also brought guests, Don and Katherine Costar. We all enjoyed catching up on news and activities and we enjoyed meeting the Bechtholds and learning more about Region 12 and various California WBCCI Units. Come to find out Von has been talking with Ken regarding possibly purchasing his mother's Airstream.



*The Gold Canyon / D. Leipper*

The Gold Canyon is an historic place. The restaurant and bar first opened 120 years ago. The current owners have spent almost 10 years restoring it. There is a plaque in the corner of the parking lot commemorating the Pony Express Trail. Gold Canyon was a great place for the SNU luncheon and we all want to return sometime in the future.

### 2007 HIGHLIGHTS



The SNU had a great year in 2007. The Unit gained 10 new members. Four rallies held in 2007 included people who were attending their first SNU rally. Four of these were new SNU members. Two joined at the rally they attended. Two long time members also attended their first rallies in 2007. We welcomed visitors at several rallies including two at Washoe Lake and four at Twin Lakes. The task of getting public service announcements in local media changed hands and the SNU's new media relations person has begun getting posting in the on-line Reno Gazette calendar of events complete with pictures. The design and layout of the SNU newsletter and the printing and mailing of the snail mail copies have also changed hands and are being done successfully by two different members. The SNU continued its involvement in civic and service opportunities including some clean up of the campground and restrooms at Ramhorn Springs and working with Rick LaBorde and the Friends of the Toiyabe to do some clean up at the Obsidian Dome rally site. SNU members, with tarps donated by Soda Lake Geothermal covered a unique Airstream at the Western Pacific Railroad Museum to protect it from winter weather.

*[continued on page 2]*

[continued from page 1] The current SNU President has begun communications with the Director of the Museum regarding the SNU taking on the task of refurbishing the 42ft Airstream custom built for the railroad. For the third year, the SNU had representatives at the local Airstream dealer open house. Three SNU members participated in rallies held by other WBCCI Units. The SNU had guests from San Joaquin Unit participate in the Obsidian Dome rally. The SNU has made overtures to several adjoining WBCCI Units regarding the possibility of a future joint rally. We also had our first Waffle breakfast at a rally and we had several opportunities at rallies to try out Philippine cuisine.

## TIDBITS

Check the webpage listed in this newsletter for links to the article and reports

- November 21, 2007 Fortune Magazine published an article on Airstream.
- The latest membership report indicates that the SNU has grown from 29 members in 2007 to 35 so far for 2008. The complete report is on the website.
- The SNU was delighted to see more members participating in rallies in 2007. Check out the report on participation for details.

## LUNCHEON AT THE DAMOTHS

The SNU Holiday Open House and pot luck will be at the Damoths' house in Reno on December 15, 2007. We will start the festivities at 11:30 am. This will be the last event of 2007. We look forward to seeing everyone, those that have attended rallies this year and those that haven't so we can all swap tales, share stories and enjoy the holiday season. The Damoths will provide the main course and rolls. The rest of us are asked to bring salads, casseroles, or desserts. **Please RSVP** Call 775 972 9392 or email [hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org](mailto:hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org) Don says there is plenty of parking in the street as well as in their drive. He also says the weather will be beautiful.

**Directions:** From I-80, exit on East McCarran Blvd and go south to Rock/Pembroke Blvd. or from South Virginia go east on McCarran Blvd to Rock/Pembroke Blvd. Go east on Pembroke towards the hills to the stop sign at Tamarisk St., turn right on Tamarisk. Turn left on the 4th street which is Sleepy Hollow Dr. Go up the hill and around the bend to **4610 Sleepy Hollow Drive**.



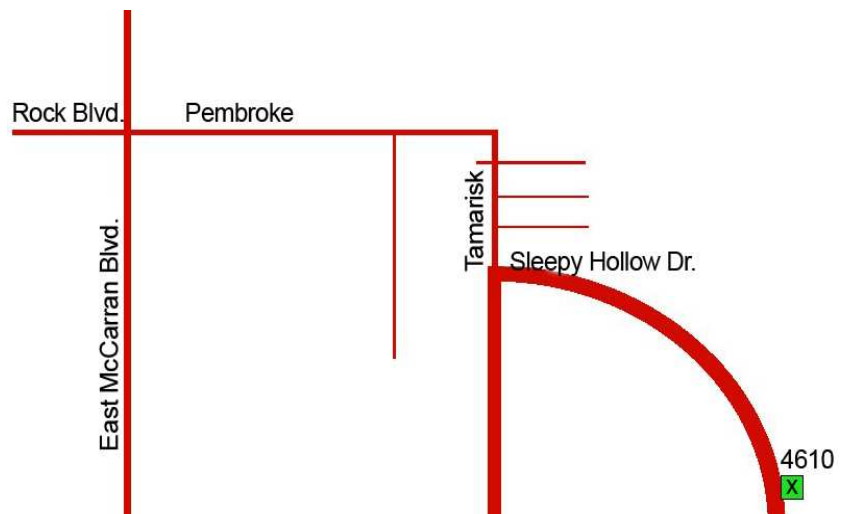
Hallmark's 2007 Airstream Christmas Ornament / <http://www.hallmark.com>

## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA



The holidays are upon us and we have a fun gift idea for that favorite Airstream aficionado in your life. Hallmark (the greeting cards people) has an Airstream ornament that is sure to be on every collector's list. Complete with a vintage style blue striped awning, lp tanks and moving wheels.

You can find it at: <http://www.hallmark.com> go to Keepsake Ornaments/Planes, Trains & Automobiles.





## GUESS WHO DROPPED IN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

It's common for people to have guests for the holidays, usually family or friends. Well Gail and I had nationally known celebrities visit us for Thanksgiving. Almost every body has met a celebrity. I remember flying back to Ohio from a job interview in Boston. I was talking to this guy on the plane and he looked so familiar. I finally asked, "you look so familiar, do I know you?" It turned out he was a Cleveland newscaster for one of the major networks and was quite miffed that I didn't recognize him. Then there is the time I went to Customs in Los Angeles Airport to pick up some motorcycle parts being shipped in from Canada and there was Leonard Nimoy (Spock) having a temper tantrum about whatever items he was there to pick up.

Well I got an email late Monday evening asking if I could recommend a campground, RV park or someone with courtesy parking in the Riverside area. It seemed that Rich, Eleanor and Emma Luhr of Airstream Life and Tour of America were visiting friends in Riverside and failed to reserve a campsite before a busy holiday weekend. What would any normal person do? Okay, I don't consider myself normal, but I am one of those that embrace the Airstream lifestyle so I invited them to park in the street at our house, told them we lived in a quiet residential neighborhood, sent them our address and suggested they use Google Maps to take a look and decide. Lo and behold, they arrived Tuesday afternoon. I think the offer to use a neighbor's dump station before they leave won them over.

I would like to tell you what gracious hosts we were but my volunteer commitments and both the Luhrs and our holiday plans provided little time to sit, relax and visit. Gail and I did get to sit down Wednesday evening and Thursday morning with Rich and exchange ideas on solar and inverter power systems, maintenance issues on Airstream running gear, vintage restorations and his philosophy on article content for Airstream Life. Boy am I going to have to work harder to get anything published! We also got to visit for a few minutes Friday morning while they finished getting everything together. A nice bunch unlike the previous celebrities I had met.

Gail and I did get to glance inside their Airstream; it was remarkably uncluttered for a family living in a 30 ft silver Twinkie. I understand that the Luhrs have bought a house in the Southwest and will be putting down roots for a few months every year. Can you imagine what culture shock that will be, moving from a 250 square foot mobile two bedroom apartment to a 2000 square foot house!

And then there will be all those household chores that interrupt work on the Airstream and trips planned. Welcome to our world!

All told we enjoyed their brief visit and hope we see them again when time allows us to sit, relax and visit.

*Don & Gail Williams WBCCI #14207*



*The Luhrs / Don Williams*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The latest new members to the SNU are Phil and Cindy Mackay of Nevada City. Their primary Airstream is a 1968 Safari. They also own a 1964 Sovereign and a 1978 Safari. We look forward to seeing them soon and sharing Airstream tales.



*Phil and Cindy Mackay's Airstream*



## THE PRESIDENT'S RAMBLIN'S

Here it is another month gone. The luncheon rally at Dayton turned out to be a great success. A lot of people and some good conversation. The guests of Bryan and Diane proved to be very interesting. Don was around long before Roger and I were running around the country. He was able to tell of some of the times in Mina, NV long before my father was the deputy sheriff there. Also Judy and Ken Bechthold were there. Judy is the region 12 2vp. It was also nice to see Don and Marylou Damoth enjoying the day. Cannot leave out Von Gallion, he attended driving his new rig. Hope he remembers

which side the tires are supposed to be on (that's the side that touches the ground) .

Tried putting Randy in the corner but he got loose. The only person who carries more gadgets on his belt than Randy is my General Manager at work. But it's a close call.

Now we get to Diane. She thought she was getting ahead of me by wearing a hard hat. Little did she know that my executive privilege gavel was loaded with spikes so I can still give her a good bump. I do believe that a picture is included in this mailing if not it is on the web site. Very hard to keep Diane/Dyann in line but I try.

Next month the meeting will be at the Damoths'. I promised them we would not destroy their house. So Vicki you need to bring a leash for Randy. We will just stake him out on the sun porch and throw him just little bits of conversation. I am not saying he likes to talk.

One other thing I like about having a column called *Ramblins'* is that I do not have to keep things in any order. The Letter I am proposing to send to the railroad museum is posted on the web site. Please peruse the letter and give me any feed back that you might have. I want to have the final draft ready and mailed right after the first of the year.

As usual I am running late with this article so off to the editor it shall go. Hope to see everybody at the Damoths'.

*Jerry*

## YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

It has been several years since the SNU has solicited member input regarding the newsletter. We have a lot of new members and a lot has changed during that time so now is a good time for review and input. You can complete the online survey or print out the PDF and mail it to the SNU. The start of a new year is a good time to implement changes or additions so let us know what you think by the end of December.



*The November Meeting / D. Leipper*

## SNU BUSINESS MEETING

After lunch Jerry held a short business meeting. He introduced Judy and Ken Bechtholdl. Judy provided a brief summary of the plans and activities of Region 12. She also talked about how the SNU experiences provided examples that helped her with the Golden West Unit. Jerry talked about the Railroad Museum and the 42ft Custom Airstream housed at the museum. He has drafted a letter and once it has been reviewed by SNU members, it will be sent to the director of the museum. The letter provides a guideline as to how the SNU views its cooperation with the museum to work on restoring the Airstream and a preliminary cost estimate for that restoration. Jerry also handed out a short survey seeking input into the SNU newsletter and a list of SNU achievements for 2007. The Damoths then talked a little about the December SNU luncheon that will be at their house. The meeting was adjourned SNU style and everyone visited a while longer before heading home.





*Diane with Judy and Ken Bechthold/ D. Leipper*



*Scott and Icyl Mulligan/ R. Grossman*

## UPCOMING EVENTS - THE NEW SCHEDULE!

*Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees on-line! It's easy!*

### Winter 2007-2008

- Saturday December 15, 2007 Reno, NV Holiday Open House and ,pot luck at the Damoths'
- Saturday January 19, 2008 Bavarian World, 6th and Valley in Reno, NV
- Saturday February16, 2008 El Charro Avita, South Carson St in Carson City, NV

### 2008 Rallies Begin!

- Thursday March 27- Sunday 30, 2008 *Davis Creek Regional Park*, Washoe Valley - First Rally of 2008
- Thursday April 17 - Sunday 20, 2008 *FT Sage*, BLM campground near Doyle.
- Thursday May 15 - Sunday18, 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 - Sunday21, 2008 *Obsidian Dome* (Inyo Nat'l Forest) dispersed camping - off 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 - Last Rally of 2008
- Saturday December 13, 2008 *JT's Basque Restaurant*, Minden, NV - on US 395 south

For more information on upcoming rallies check the website:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2008/events/rallydocs/08-rallyschedule.html>

## SNU WEB LINKS AND CONTACT INFO

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](mailto:hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org)

To access information discussed in this newsletter including Gold Canyon luncheon photo gallery, the December luncheon information and map, the newsletter survey, link to Fortune Magazine

article, Jerry's letter to the railroad museum: <http://SierraNevadaAirstreams.orgu/news/2007/index.html>

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