



SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, Issue 9

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

September 2009

Obsidian Dome Rally - 2009

It seems that every rally we have had since April was during a hot spell with near record temperatures. August at Obsidian Dome started out that way but by Saturday night we had rain showers. We had several guests at the rally including Bobbie and Victor Kingsland along with their 14 yr old son William. Bobbie is the current president of the San Fernando Valley Unit and a second generation Airstreamer. The Kingsland's have a 1969 Overlander. The other guests were Rich and Sylvia Gorsuch. Rich and Sylvia had made arrangements to take advantage of the Wheeler's courtesy parking. Little did they know that would lead them to participating in an SNU rally. Sylvia was even willing to pass up a pre-season Cowboys game to come to the rally. The Gorsuch's have a 1996 Aristream moho. They are adventurous travelers and have even spent time in Burma so the road to Obsidian didn't faze them. Although her Airstream is still in Southern CA, Madelyn Cutler, a new SNU member, brought her tent joined us at Obsidian. I think now she is even more anxious to get her Airstream closer to home. Other rally participants included Wheels and Doris, Jerry and Dyann, Rick, Anita, Bryan and Diane. Two new 4 legged members were also introduced at this rally. Sola, Rick's 11 month old Golden Retriever and Andy, Wheels and Doris's 11 month old Sheltie. Wheels and Doris decided sharing Jerry and Dyann's Shelties just wasn't the same as having one of your own.

Dyann provided some tips to Wheels and Doris about training Andy and after doing a little work with him herself you could see the difference. We spent a lot of time enjoying the dogs, enjoying great food at our shared meals, and of course, just sharing stories and catching up. We haven't seen Wheels and Doris since May. Since then they have added a few more flamingos to their flock. Doris's daughter



found a solar flamingo bug zapper. She even found Doris a pink umbrella to match. Check the picture in the rally photo gallery. Jerry and Dyann just barely got back from Jarbidge in time to make the Obsidian rally. They hadn't had time to transfer all their necessities from the SOB (like solar lights and flags) back to the Airstream. It was up to Wheels and Doris as well as Victor and Bobbie to provide lawn décor for the rally, primarily pink flamingos of course. Victor and William had a great time chopping up a recently downed tree for firewood. With no fire restrictions, we were able to keep a fire going all day Saturday and have really nice campfires in the evening. Friday evening

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a rally below for details

- ◆ Thursday Sept. 24 – Sun 27, 2009 Unionville County Park
- ◆ Oct. 14 – 18, 2009 Region 12 Rally
- ◆ Mason Valley Wildlife Area Friday Oct. 22 - Sunday Oct. 25, 2009
- ◆ Saturday Nov. 14, 2009 Gold Hill, Hotel, Virginia City
- ◆ Death Valley Mesquite Campground November 2009
- ◆ Saturday Dec. 12th 2009 Overland Hotel & Basque Restaurant

Come out to our September rally at Unionville, Nevada.

The next SNU Rally will be Thursday Sept. 24 to Sunday 27, at Unionville County park. It is off of I-80 East about 60 miles East of Lovelock. Take exit 149 (about 44 miles from Lovelock) towards Mill City/Unionville, go 0.1 mile. Turn right onto NV-400, go 16.4 miles. The pavement ends just past the turn off to Unionville. Turn right on road to Unionville, go 2.1 miles. The section to Unionville is also unpaved. It is good gravel, wide enough for Airstreams and no steep grades. The rally will be held in an open field near the park in Unionville. You may feel that you are going to uncharted territory but never fear, there are Airstreams up the road. Check the URL listed in this newsletter for a map and directions. Amongst other things, Unionville is known as one of the places Mark Twain lived for a time. He wrote about his adventures here in his book, "Roughing It" There are lots of great places for hiking near the rally site and there are some hot springs nearby. There is a great fire pit so bring some firewood. September should be a great time to visit Unionville so plan on joining us in late September.



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

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

Unique Unionville Opportunity

We are working on a possible special treat at the Unionville Rally. By coincidence it was discovered that a local Reno chef, Barbara Mills-Jones, will be holding a class at the Old Pioneer Bed and Breakfast the same weekend as the rally. Barbara and her husband Robert also own an Airstream and they have been subscribers to the SNU newsletter since 2006. Preliminary talks with Barbara indicate we might be able to participate in their breakfast at the Old Pioneer. Nothing has been confirmed yet so we'll have alternatives in place. We have told Barbara we would be delighted to have her class participants come up and visit with us at the park. We have also let Barbara know we would love to have them bring their Airstream up and park with us. We shall see what works out.

A Real Deal!

Annual membership in the SNU is \$65. This is approximately 2 nights at most other WBCCI Unit Rallies. Your annual dues include membership in the parent organization, WBCCI as well as membership in the SNU. Some of the benefits of membership are the opportunity to participate in the rallies of any other WBCCI Unit as well as national, regional and special event rallies. You also have the opportunity to participate in Caravans, you receive ten Issues of "Blue Beret" - (the official WBCCI magazine featuring activities and RV topics) and you receive an annual Directory of members and activities. Your membership dues help the SNU cover the costs of a monthly newsletter and enable the Unit to keep rally and luncheon costs to a minimum, well under the standard \$30 to \$50 per night of most rallies. Most of all, your membership provides an opportunity to meet fellow Airstreamers, to share adventures and as Wally himself says in his creed - "To open a whole world of new experiences . . . a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions."

Send your dues to: S.N.U. Treasurer 714 Terra Ct. Reno, NV 89506. **You can also pay your dues online. [Click here.](#)**

Anita's Adventures

Notes from our SNU President Anita Leipper

I left our August rally Monday. Sunday the Obsidian Dome area had record rain, and record low highs. The temperature felt very nice, not too cool, until Sunday evening, when the clouds blew over and the sky became clear. Monday morning I scraped ice off the truck windshield. The 3 miles

of gravel road I drove to get to hwy 395 had pockets of ice from the rain. I was a little concerned about hwy 395, since I drove north for a while in a shady area of highway, and with the heavy rains, the morning ice had not melted yet. I'm glad there are no bridges in that area. The temperatures warmed up by the time I arrived at the Walker River roadside rest, and I had a pleasant walk along

the Walker river. This is the first time that I've stopped at this rest area. I was the only one there, so plenty of parking. Normally I pull off on one of the gravel areas alongside the river.

I'm looking for rally hosts for the 2010 schedule. If you would like to help your unit, and not sure how, let me know. I can think of ways to help your unit that would be just a few hours of your time a year.

Late Season Events

SNU Death Valley Rally - Nov. 2009

The Sierra Nevada Unit's last rally of the year in Death Valley is a gem, especially for those members who choose to escape the first threads of winter. Join our hosts Don & Gail Williams at the Mesquite Spring Campground Thursday, November 19th through Sunday, November 22nd. Want an earlier escape from winter, join Vaughn Peak for the Death Valley 49ers 60th Annual Encampment starting November 4th (see sidebar) before joining the SNU at Mesquite Spring Campground. Mesquite Spring is located 5 miles south of Scotty's Castle in the northeastern corner of the National Park. It features picnic tables, fire pits and flush toilets; water and a dump station are located within the campground. Expect temperatures to range from the low 40s to the upper 70s with little chance of rain

Nearby attractions include Scotty's Castle, Ubehebe Crater, Tea Kettle Junction and the Racetrack or one can visit Furnace Creek, Furnace Creek Inn, Artists Drive, Devils Golf Course, Natural Bridge, Badwater and the West Side Road in just an hour or so. Check here to see what's available: <http://www.nps.gov/deva/planyourvisit/placestogo.htm>.

Want more adventure than most tourists? Make sure you come armed with some good maps for your explorations; Automobile Association (AAA), National Geographic or Tom Harrison maps of Death Valley are all great, they compliment each other and you may need them if you hike or travel the back county with Don & Gail. They have promised to lead our group up the northeastern flank of Tin Mountain right from the campground or a longer hike to 8953 foot Tin Mountain peak. Want more ideas, Don will bring copies of the Death Valley National Park Backcountry Roads and Day Hike flyers and his Desert Summits, a Climbing & Hiking Guide to California and Southern Nevada by Andy Zdon. Bring your daypack, a large canteen or Camel Back and some protective gear. More adventures and other hikes can be found here: <http://www.nps.gov/deva/planyourvisit/hiking.htm>.

Of course we will have our morning coffee and optional potluck dinners. Don and Gail may even tempt their guest with another Dutch-oven surprise cooked over the campfire.

Contact Don & Gail for more info; kd6uvt@arri.net or 951.780.5199 (evenings & weekends) 951.453.1944 (days).



Death Valley 49ers 60th Annual Encampment - Early Nov. 2009

Vaughn Peak has invited SNU members and their guests to meet him in Death Valley for the Death Valley 49ers 60th Annual Encampment November 4th through November 8th. Vaughn will be staying at Sunset Campground just across from the Furnace Creek Visitor Center. The Encampment includes recreation not usually found at a SNU rally. Vaughn is in charge of the horseshoe tournament during the encampment this year and guest will be serenaded by country and gospel music during the evenings. Also, with a membership to the 49'ers you can enjoy the ranch (Furnace Creek Ranch) pool and showers at no charge. If you have any additional questions, email him at peakheaven@msn.com or call his cell phone (775-721-4247).

<http://www.deathvalley49ers.org/>

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Web Links

For information discussed in this newsletter including info the August Rally at Obsidian Dome
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2009/09news/index.html>

Sierra Nevada Unit 2010 - Rally Schedule

This is a quick list of the SNU rally schedule for 2010. For more details check the [link](#) listed in this newsletter. December 2009 Pasadena, CA Region 12 Special Event Rose Parade Rally -|- January 2010 SNU luncheon Cabela's, Reno -|- February Blythe, CA Region 12 Hobo Rally -|- February 2010 SNU luncheon El Charro, Carson City -|- March 2010 SNU Rally, Weed Heights RV Park -|- April 25 2010 SNU Rally, Pyramid Lake -|- May 20 2010 SNU Rally Ft Sage -|- June 24 2010 SNU Rally Unionville -|- June 27 - July 4, 201 Gillette, WY WBCCI International Rally -|- July 22 2010 SNU Rally Boca Springs -|- August 2010 SNU Rally Eagle Lake BLM -|- September 2010 SNU Rally Obsidian Dome -|- October 2010 Region 12 Rally Hemet, CA -|- October 2010 SNU Rally 20 mile beach Walker Lake -|- November 2010 SNU luncheon at the Pioneer, Fernley -|- November 2010 SNU Rally Death Valley -|- December 2010 SNU luncheon at J.T.'s Gardnerville

For more information on 2009 rallies check this website:
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2009/events/docs/09-rallyschedule.html>

Obsidian Dome Rally '09 cont.

Doris brought out her guitar and treated us to a campfire concert. She didn't have much luck getting us to sing along but we sure enjoyed listening to her. Sylvia and Rich brought out marshmallows and made S'mores for us. Saturday, Bobbie and Victor brought out their campfire popcorn popper and treated us to a bowl of popcorn. Saturday evening Rick's wife and son, Jeannie and Guy came to the rally. Jeannie had been busy getting ready for the first day of school. It was nice to see them both. In addition to Victor and William doing a lot of clean up on the downed tree, we got some other service work in at this rally. Wheels was acting as a downed aircraft so that the Civil Air Patrol could practice emergency procedures and try and locate him. He had a locator beacon on the front top of his Airstream. Rick and Jerry did some road construction on a section that had suffered from some washout. All in all, another great rally at Obsidian Dome. We enjoyed meeting Victor, Bobbie, William, Richard, and Sylvia.



Obsidian Business Meeting

SNU President, Anita Leipper held a short business meeting Friday night. She handed out a revised copy of the 2010 rally schedule and the proposed list of officers for 2010. She also handed out a flyer regarding a class at Unionville the same weekend as our rally. Much of the discussion centered on the rally schedule, primarily the possibility of returning to Twin Lakes. The decision of the group was to not return to Twin Lakes. The reason being that only eight rigs will be allowed in the group area. Any additional rigs would have to make their own reservations and park in the main campground. In addition to SNU business, Bobbie Kingsland talked a little about the activities and rallies of the San Fernando Valley Unit. After a little more discussion, the meeting was adjourned and we continued to visit around the campfire.