



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 21, Issue 9

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

September 2011

August at Obsidian Dome

Nine rigs from 3 different Units attended the August Rally at Obsidian. Unique at this rally was that we had more California residents than Nevada residents. Rally participants included Victor & Bobbi Kingsland and Jerry & Jackie Freeman from the San Fernando Valley Unit. Gregg & Valri Ayer represented the NorCal Unit. SNU members included Jerry & Dyann Thornburg, Mike & Cindy Gower, Don & Gail Williams, Dan Randall, Rick & Jeanne Sassin LaBorde, and Bryan & Diane Leipper. Among the highlights of this rally were the pancake breakfast on Friday and the

omelets in a bag breakfast on Saturday. Don thinks we have started a new tradition for the SNU with these special breakfasts. It is always nice to have the right equipment when you are doing things like this. Victor and Bobbi brought their electric griddle which was hooked to a generator to cook pancakes. Jerry brought his propane griddle which was put to good use cooking sausage and bacon. Jerry also brought his propane stand burner and that along with the one Mike and Cindy brought, were used to boil big



Friday, Victor cooking pancakes

pots of water to cook the omelets in. Having breakfast was Bobbi's idea and it was a huge success. Our Friday night BBQ was also a success. Don made a peach cobbler in his dutch oven. It turned out great. Jerry & Dyann BBQ'd some great tasting ribs. Gregg & Valri also had some tasty ribs. Along with all the other contributions we were not lacking in variety and we definitely were not in fear of going hungry. Other than eating, we had a great time, exploring the area and just visiting. Friday night the skies clouded up but other than a few sprinkles, it didn't rain. We were treated with an exceptionally beautiful double rainbow during our dinner. Sunday after most people had headed home, we were fortunate to spot a deer family walking down to the stream. A nice buck with a good set of horns, a doe and a fawn. About 1pm Victor & Bobbi, Don & Gail, and Bryan & Diane head on to Mammoth to spend the night at Mammoth Mountain RV park. Jerry and Jackie were already there. Everyone went to a local restaurant for dinner Sunday night. Two other Airstreams were spotted in the campground and needless to say, they received visitors. One couple, the Swaffers were home and were invited for breakfast Monday morning. Bobbi caught up with the other Airstream owners later. As it turned out it looks like both the San Fernando Unit and the SNU gained potential new members. The Swaffers live in Reno and the other Airstream owners live near Victor & Bobbi. Bobbi outdid herself with Monday breakfast. She had all sorts of muffins, bagels, fruit, jams and jellies. It was a great way to end a rally and it left us all excited about next year's rally at Obsidian.



Saturday, Cindy working on omelets in a bag

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a rally
below for details

- ♦ Sept 22-25
Campground by
the Lake - Tahoe
- ♦ Oct. 13-17
Region 12 Rally
in Jackson CA.
- ♦ Oct. 20 Ft.
Churchill Scout
Camp
- ♦ Nov. 19th - BJ's
BBQ in Sparks

Notes from the Prez

Dyann Thornburg

The rally at Obsidian was spectacular! We had fantastic weather and great meals. There were a total of 16 people and 8 dogs. The best turnout we have had so far this year. The meals were wonderful. We had plenty to eat and everything was delicious. Everyone's ribs were excellent. We had the pleasure of Bobbie, Victor, Jerry and Jackie from the San Fernando Unit as well as Valerie and Greg from the Nor Cal Unit joining us this month which was extra special. This is I think the first time we have had almost as many of our California members attending a rally as our Nevada members. It was great to see Don, Gail and Dan from Southern Cal and Rick and Jeanne from Lee Vining, as well as Mike and Cindy from Gardnerville. This was the first rally this year all of them have been able to attend and I look forward to seeing them again at more rallies. Speaking of future rallies, have you RSVP'd for this month's Anniversary rally at Lake Tahoe? If not and you are planning to attend you need to let us know immediately if not sooner. Time is about to run out. If you don't you're going to miss an exceptional rally. Those of you that have already signed up I look forward to seeing you there. Also the Region 12 rally is coming up fast. It will be held in Jackson, CA on October 13 - 17, 2011. This is the closest to us they have held one so if you have ever been interested in seeing what a Regional rally is like this would be a good time to go. I need to have someone volunteer to carry our unit flag at the Flag Ceremony. Usually it's the unit president but my back is giving me problems and I can't do it. If someone would please step forward I really would appreciate it. As always, have a great month and I look forward to seeing you soon.

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the September Anniversary Rally at South Lake Tahoe please [Click Here](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2011/11news/index.html) <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2011/11news/index.html>

Welcome to the Swaffers

Baxter and Marlene Swaffer were happily camping at Mammoth RV park when Bobbi, Don and Gail spotted their Bambi. Needless to say the three of them went over to say hello and invite them to breakfast Monday morning. It turns out that Baxter and Marlene live in Reno and they were definitely interested in joining an Airstream group. We provided them with a couple of copies of the SNU newsletter and a membership application. They are now the SNU's newest members and we are delighted to welcome them to our group. Baxter and Marlene will join us for our dinner cruise on the M.S. Dixie so they will have an opportunity to meet more of us and we'll get to hear more about their Airstream adventures.

Upcoming 2011 Events

Thursday Sept 22 - Sunday Sept 25, 2011 Campground by the Lake & dinner cruise on the Tahoe Queen	Saturday December 17, 2011 Overland Basque Restaurant , Fallon
October 13-17, 2011 - Region 12 rally Jackson, CA.	Saturday January 28, 2012 Black Bear Diner, Fernley
Thursday October 20 – Sunday October 23, 2011 Ft Churchill Scout Camp	Saturday February 25, 2012 Overland Basque Restaurant, Gardnerville
Saturday November 19, 2011 B.J.'s BBQ in Sparks	Thursday March 22 – Sunday 25, 2012 Rally at Mason Valley Wildlife Area
Thursday November 24 to Sunday November 27, 2011 Death Valley Furnace Creek Campground	

Remember you can now pay your rally kitty fees on-line! [Click Here](#)

October Elections

Elections for 2012 officers will be held at the SNU October 2011 rally. Nominations for the slate of officers include the following.

President - Dyann McDonald Thornburg
Secretary - RoyLaine Warn
Treasurer/Membership - Bryan Leipper
Trustee - Randy Grossmann
Trustee - Don Williams

These officers have now served for several years. So now is the time to consider showing your support by offering to serve on the 2013 SNU board. In particular, the SNU will need someone to run for President in 2013 who has not yet served. Being President of the SNU is an opportunity to help shape the future of the Unit. With support from the rest of the board and the entire membership, serving as President is a fun and rewarding experience. Please consider putting your name in the hat for 2013.

Support the Sierra Nevada Unit in 2012

There are three primary ways each and every member can support the SNU. Renew your membership, increase your participation, and communicate. To renew your membership or join the SNU you can pay online (See the link in this newsletter.) or send your \$75 annual dues to the SNU, 714 Terra Ct, Reno, NV 89506.

To be a viable and sustainable WBCCI Unit rather than a few families camping, the SNU needs all of its members to be involved. The SNU has done a number of things to encourage participation. These include presenting an annual rally schedule a year in advance to give members a chance for input and ample opportunity to include the rallies on their schedules. The SNU has made significant changes in its governance structure to make it better fit the needs of the Unit. To encourage members to serve in leadership capacities, the tasks and time commitments required have been streamlined to the essential functions.

Communication with all members is essential to ensuring the SNU meets the needs and interests of everyone. It is your input that helps determine the types and location of rallies that encourage you to attend. It is your feedback, ideas, and suggestions that helps the SNU move forward, try new things, and stay fresh and fun. It is your stories and contributions to the newsletter that keep it informative and interesting.

Plan now to make a New Year's resolution to support the SNU by increasing your participation and involvement in 2012. It's guaranteed to be one of the best resolutions you can make.

Sierra Nevada Unit Anniversary Rally

The special SNU 35th Anniversary Rally at Campground by the Lake in South Lake Tahoe is September 22 to September 25, 2011. This rally includes a dinner cruise on the M.S. Dixie and a private tour of the Lake Tahoe Historical Society Museum. Reservations for the dinner cruise on the M.S. Dixie had to be made by September 1, 2011. If you haven't made reservations for joining us at the campground, you can still make reservations on your own. You just might not be able to park in the same loop with the SNU. If you can't join us for the rally, consider coming by for a visit during the weekend. Campground by the Lake is easily accessible to everything South Lake Tahoe has to offer. Don Williams will be soliciting comments on a unit directory at the Campground by the Lake Rally this month with a report to follow in the October newsletter. September should be beautiful and the temperatures just about perfect. Check the [link](#) in this newsletter for a photo gallery of the campground and more information.



Sierra Nevada Unit - Highlights

Starting in 2003, the SNU has put together a list of highlights and achievements for each year. Here are some examples. Check the link in this newsletter to see the full list of highlights and achievements.

2003 - Restructured the organization to better reflect the size and style of the group.



2004 - Sent PSA's to the majority of local newspapers within our region on a monthly basis. Had meeting/rally announcements published in at least two newspapers a month and often up to six newspapers. Got an editorial review in the Carson City paper and a headliner article with photos in the Reno paper. Through the use of a member's Bambi we were also represented on stage at a Trailer Park Troubadours concert

2005 - Increased member participation in Unit activities and management. Five members contributed articles and other material to the newsletter, one member helped develop a method to encourage all members to vote on future rally schedules, and members began taking more active roles in the planning and coordination for SNU rallies and events. One member led a guided tour of the ghost town of Bodie during our August rally.

2006 - We celebrated our 30th Anniversary with a special luncheon in February. The highlight was a diorama of an SNU rally created by SNU members. This diorama was also displayed at the WBCCI International Rally in Salem OR

2007 - The SNU continued its involvement in civic and service opportunities. We did some clean up of the campground and restrooms at Ramhorn Springs. We worked with SNU member Rick LaBorde and the Friends of the Inyo 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. 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.

2008 - The SNU had an elected delegate attend the WBCCI International Rally in Bozeman MT. In addition, four other SNU members attended the International rally and all of them participated in one capacity or another. Tasks carried out by SNU members included working on various volunteer committees, Carrying the Unit flag in the opening ceremony, putting together a notebook of SNU newsletters and submitting it in the Unit newsletter contest, creating a Unit poster for the poster contest, playing in the band, and meeting with various regional and international officers to promote and gain support for the SNU. This is the first time the SNU has had five members attend an International rally.

2009 - Average attendance at rallies was 7 Airstreams. Three members attended their first rally in 2009. Guests and visitors are always welcome at our rallies and meetings. In 2009 we had five guests at rallies, 2 at Sweetwater, 2 at Obsidian, and 1 at Mason Valley. We also had guests at our February lunch. Visitors included Presidents of two different Californian Units, relatives of SNU members and some Good Sam members who stopped by the Weed Heights rally to check it out before their rally the following weekend.

2010 - The SNU was featured on the October issue of the WBCCI member magazine. The pictures used on the cover were taken by various SNU members at several different rallies.



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For more information on 2011 rallies check this website: [Click Here](#)