



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

September 2012

SierraNevadaAirstreams.org/snu/

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Rally and events schedule

Click on a link
below for details

- ♦ Aug. 30th Fallon Cantaloupe Festival
- ♦ Oct. 25th Hickson Petroglyphs
- ♦ November 17th Gold Hill Hotel
- ♦ December 15th Louis Basque Corner, Reno

Obsidian Dome Rally

The August Obsidian rally was full of surprises and new adventures. It started off with the Thornburg's and Leipper's making an emergency stop in Hawthorne on the way to the rally. Jerry must of hit something going through a construction zone and it shredded one of the tires on his Airstream. While it was getting replaced, Bryan started the generator on the B-Van so we could turn on the air conditioner. Dyann, Diane, four dogs, one cat, and two tortoises hunkered down in the B-Van to try and stay cool. Coming

from the South, Victor, Bobbi & son William followed by Marla in her B-Van were stopped not far south of the turn off to Obsidian while a flock of sheep crossed the highway. Randy and Vicki hit something on their way to the rally and did a job on the steps of their Airstream. Everyone else arrived safely and without incident. We were delighted to have Barney and Mary Beth join us at the rally. They are fairly new members of the SNU and this was their first rally. On Saturday we had some special guests, Ted and Laura Nolan from the Nevada Unit. Ted and Laura were starting a two week trip with their newly remodeled and shiny 1971 Overlander. We all oo'd and ahh'd over this unique Airstream. Obsidian provided a cool retreat after the Nolan's first night at Stove Pipe Wells in Death Valley. Victor, Bobbi, William, and Marla are with the San Fernando Valley Unit. This was Marla's first Obsidian rally. As for the SNU, in addition to those already mentioned, Wheels and Doris were also there. That made a total of 8 Airstreams, 16 people, and 10 dogs representing 3 WBCCI Units. The new dogs included the Rabold's two, Scooby a mixture of Jack Russell and Beagle and Coho a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. The other was Marla's greyhound Mario. Marla just adopted Mario a month ago. He is already enjoying traveling and going to rallies. Diane's greyhound Jack, thought it was pretty neat to have another greyhound at the rally. Randy unveiled his latest enhancement to the "Thing". He has added a few more solar lights and tweaked a few things here and there. It looks pretty amazing, especially after dark. The highlight of this rally were the special breakfasts we had on Friday and Saturday morning. Friday Bobbi, Marla and Doris put together eggs in toast. This requires cutting a hole in the middle of a piece of bread and breaking an egg into the hole. Diane's chickens supplied all the eggs for breakfast. We also had bacon and lots of fruit. Dyann had picked up a variety of melons locally grown around Fallon as a



sampler of what to expect at the Cantaloupe Festival rally coming up over Labor Day. It was really neat to taste the various melons all of which were yummy. Saturday, Randy did his famous waffles. This meal came with a variety of syrups and more fruit and bacon. Then there were the dinners! As usual, the SNU shared meals are something to behold. Lots of great food. Everything from salads to casseroles, to desserts with enough variety to tempt everyone's taste buds. There were activities other than fixing food and eating though. These included lots of hiking up the Obsidian Dome, along the creek to the waterfall, and hikes to various other

Notes from the Prez

Dyann Thornburg

What a great rally we had at Obsidian Dome. Other than a few problems Jerry and I had at the start it was wonderful to be out with everyone at this great location. One morning we had a visit from a bear which was a new experience. As most of us were still sleeping, Bryan is the one who chased it away. I understand there were pictures taken and I can't wait to see them. It was warm most of the time with some strong breezes and on Saturday we had some thundershowers which helped to cool things off and give us perfect sleeping conditions. September's rally is being held a little earlier than when we normally do them during the month. We will be in Fallon, NV over Labor Day weekend (Thurs. Aug. 30th – Sun. Sept. 2nd. leaving on Labor Day, Mon. the 3rd) This will be the first time the SNU has held a rally in conjunction with a special event. The Cantaloupe Festival is also being held that weekend and is an annual favorite. The Festival has just about everything for everyone who attends. Carnival rides for the kids, a quilting show, exhibits, local vendors with their crafts, the local farmers with their produce as well as shows featuring a variety of local talent. There will be a lot of different delights made from Cantaloupes like margaritas, daiquiris and slushes. The local Indian tribe will be making Indian tacos and the Junior Rodeo will be going on. And of course this is the perfect time to get the famous "Heart of Gold" cantaloupes. To my understanding Fallon is the only place where these delicious melons are grown. This is a very special rally and I hope to see all of our members there.

Labor Day Cantaloupe Festival Rally

Thursday August 30 to Monday September 3 2012 the SNU rally will be in Fallon at the annual Cantaloupe Festival. This is our first time at this event and we hope that many SNU members have called in their reservations for this event. Some of the activities at the Cantaloupe Festival include a Cantaloupe Queen Contest, Mobile Rock Fun & Games, Mechanical Bull, Rock Wall,

Looking from the campground the blue car on the far left is on Scheckler Rd. The truck is heading to Fallon on Hwy 95



The campground adjacent to the fairgrounds.

Rides, Smile High Flyers - Bungee Jump, Teen Dance, Invitational Art Exhibit, Mud Volley Ball - Put on by Parks & Rec, Cantaloupe Eating Contest, Arm Wrestling Contest, Karaoke Contest, Horseshoe Contest, Lyons Club Junior Rodeo, Lahontan Valley Quilters Exhibit & Raffle, and Little cowboy & Little cowgirl Contest. As for SNU activities, We'll have our usual coffee and goodies in the morning but shared dinners may depend on what's going on at the Festival. In addition to nice shade trees and a grassy parking area, the campground sites have water and electric and there is a dump station nearby. We hope you all plan to join us for this special weekend.

For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the September Rally at the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival please [Click Here](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2012/12-news/index.html) <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2012/12-news/index.html>

Upcoming Events for 2012

Thursday August 30 to Monday September 3
Fallon Cantaloupe Festival

Thursday October 25 to Sunday 38 Hickison
Petroglyphs

Saturday November 17 Gold Hill Hotel

Thursday November 30 to Sunday December 2
Death Valley Mesquite campground

Saturday December 15 Louis Basque Corner, Reno

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

Sierra Nevada Unit Newsletter

The newsletter is the primary communications tool for the SNU and it is also used to promote the Unit. Currently there are about 30 people who receive the newsletter via the USPS. About half of these are members and the rest are recent referrals, potential members or friends of the SNU. As of November 1st the SNU will no longer have a volunteer to assist with printing and mailing the postal version of the newsletter thus we will no longer be sending out newsletters via USPS.

There are other options for receiving the newsletter. First is to subscribe to the email announcement list to be notified when the on-line version of the newsletter is posted as well as when there are changes or updates related to rallies or other information pertinent to SNU members. There are numerous benefits to subscribing to the email announcement list. Check the link in this newsletter to see the benefits and to subscribe. A second method is to use the RSS feed for the Zephyrs blog where newsletter posting announcements are made along with other RV and SNU related items. The third is to just keep an eye on the newsletter page of the SNU website to look for new issues online.

Every SNU member can assist with the newsletter by sending in stories and photos from about their travels and other activities. These are often the highlight of the newsletter.

2013 Membership Renewal Time

Now is the time to renew your membership for 2013. The SNU is a unique group in many ways. For instance, the SNU is the only Unit that chooses boondocking sites as it's primary rally locations. This provides a number of benefits including beautiful places to camp. Dispersed sites mean we don't have to make reservations and we can keep our rally fees to a bare minimum. It means we don't have to limit how many people come. We have room for everyone. Dispersed sites mean we usually have the place to ourselves and we can park wherever we choose. Plan on being part of this unique group in 2013. Dues are \$75 annually which includes membership in WBCCI and the SNU.

[Pay online](#) or mail your dues check for \$75 to the SNU, 714 Terra Ct, Reno, NV 89506.

2013 Proposed Rally Schedule

Dyann and Wheels have drafted the 2013 Rally schedule. It includes some new places as well as some old favorites. One of the new sites is Green Creek near Bridgeport. This place was scoped out by Wheels and Doris. Check the link in this newsletter for Wheels report on Green Creek, A site and date for the September rally still needs to be decided and confirmed but everything else is pretty much set.

Bavarian World, Reno, NV Saturday January 19 -|- Overland, Gardnerville, NV Saturday February 16 -|- Lahontan, Silver Springs, NV Thursday March 21 – Sunday 24 -|- Ft Sage, Doyle, CA Thursday April 18 – Sunday 21 -|- Rocky Point Eagle Lake, CA Thursday May 16 – Sunday 19 -|- Green Creek, CA Thursday June 20 – Sunday 23 -|- Weed Heights, Yerington, NV Thursday July 18 – Sunday 21 -|- Obsidian Dome Thursday August 8 – Sunday 11 -|- September -|- Crocker, Beckwourth, CA Thursday October 10 – 13 -|- Carolina Kitchen, Sparks, NV Saturday November 16 -|- Death Valley Mesquite Campground Thursday November -|- Jake's Restaurant, Fernley, NV Saturday December 14

Belonging to a Unit

In WBCCI there are two basic types of membership. The primary membership category is to join through a Unit. The other category is to join as a member at large (MAL). MAL's are not affiliated with any Unit and they do not have a vote in WBCCI business matters.

Being a member of a Unit like the Sierra Nevada Unit is like being part of a family. The Unit is like our immediate family. The Region and National organization are our relatives. As a member of our Unit (or any Unit) we can attend the rallies or events of other Units and many SNU members have done so. We have also had visitors from other Units and Regions attend SNU functions. Instead of closing us off from participation in a global community, being a Unit member expands our opportunities and creates a stronger common link. No matter where we wander, who we visit, or how long it may be between our participation in our local Unit activities, it is always nice to come home. Our Airstream family always welcomes us and is anxious to hear about our adventures. While some of us are traveling, others keep the home fires burning. SNU Unit rallies, which is our priority, provide the local camaraderie and the fun we all enjoy. Our Unit rallies are the glue that keeps us enthused and excited about being Airstreamers and members of WBCCI.

The advantages of belonging to a Unit far outweigh the advantages of any other option. There are enough Units out there and you are not restricted to joining the one geographically closest to your home. There is bound to be a Unit somewhere that will fit anybody's particular needs and interests. It is just a matter of being open minded, of exploring, and experimenting. You also have the option of joining more than one Unit. You do this by being a full member of your primary Unit and then paying affiliate dues to whatever other Unit or Units you choose to support and participate in. Unit participation is a two way street and your experience is partly what you choose to make it.

Congratulations to Don Williams

SNU member, Don Williams has accepted the position of membership chair for Region 12 which covers all the Units in Nevada and California. Don has been a conscientious and dedicated trustee on the SNU board for several years and hosted several SNU rallies at Death Valley. We know that Don will bring a lot of great membership ideas to Region 12.

Speaking of Don (and Gail)

Don and Gail have been on the road most of the summer. They are wandering North and will eventually head to Alaska. This postcard from Don and Gail shows them at Crater Lake in Oregon. We look forward to hearing more about their adventures.



Obsidian Dome Rally (cont.)

spots near the campsite. The San Fernando contingent had some lively games of dominoes in the evenings. Victor and William got some exercise chopping the limbs off a fallen tree. Bryan listened in on some of the ham radio bands. There were also inspirational naps and reading and relaxing during the heat of the day. On Saturday, Bryan started to take the coffee out of the trailer and heard a sort of hissing noise. There was a small bear on the fallen tree near the trailer. The bear ambled over to the tree where we had our tables set up. We had forgotten to put the trash can in a truck so the bear was checking it out. He ambled off so we got the trash put away. Needless to say, we were much more diligent about getting things put away after that. We had several visitors at our rally. When we arrived Thursday, Wheels and Doris had befriended a woman who was out here to hike. We invited a woman camping down by the creek with her dog up for coffee and waffles on Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon a couple on dirt bikes stopped by to say hi. It is always interesting to watch people drive by our rally site as they are usually amazed, considering the road and location, to see not just one, but several Airstreams parked here.



Saturday the clouds started building up soon after breakfast. We could hear thunder in the distance. Before long we had a few little showers. These continued along with occasional thunder off and on all afternoon. The great thing was that these showers lowered the temperature which made it very pleasant. The showers abated during our happy hour and dinner although our meal was accompanied by a concert of thunder. About 8pm when everyone was ready to head to their Airstream we had another nice rain shower. Sunday we had coffee and goodies before hitting the road and heading for home. Obsidian is becoming a special annual rally that everyone looks forward to. It is especially nice to have members from other Units join us for this rally. We know Victor and Bobbi will be back and we sincerely hope to see Marla again. We also hope to see Ted and Laura and maybe some other members of the Nevada Unit at future Obsidian rallies.

For information on upcoming rallies check this website:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2012/12-events/docs/1-rallyschedule.html>



Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu

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