



WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 23, Issue 12

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

December 2013

Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org

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Rally and events schedule

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Fernley NV
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Hometown Cafe
Lemmon Valley
- ♦ Feb. 27th
Black Bear
Fernley, NV
- ♦ March 20th
Lahontan Beach



Carolina Kitchen worked out as a great place for the SNU November lunch. Good location, good food and of course, great company. There were 23 SNU members at this lunch! Many we haven't seen much of this year. It's been a rather rough year for the SNU as a group and for quite a few members personally so this

was a pretty special gathering. There were a lot of changes and new adventures to discuss. Baxter and Marlene's recent purchase of a new 19ft International and Randy and Vicki's new 4 legged family member, a Chihuahua were some of the topics discussed. Jerry brought some sample led lights for Wheels. Mike and Cindy are considering a newer Airstream which hopefully would require less work and maintenance. Although he wasn't able to come to the lunch, Mark is also looking for a newer Airstream. Other luncheon attendees were Roger & Janet, Jerry & Dyann, Wheels & Doris, Richard & Sharron, Jim & Lynda, Bryan & Diane, Steve & Jan, Gary & Anita and Gene. All in all the lunch at Carolina Kitchen was a great opportunity to catch up with everyone and share a great meal. Keep your eyes and ears open. If you hear of any Airstreams, late 1990's and up, for sale, let us know so we can pass the information along to Mike and Cindy and Mark and Cary.



December Lunch in Fernley, NV

The December SNU lunch will be at Jake's Restaurant in Fernley on Saturday December 14, 2013. Jake's is located in the Silverado Casino just off Interstate 80 at Exit 48, 1380 West Newlands Drive. Please let us know if you plan to attend. Email hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org or call 775-972-5011.

Prez Meanderings

Thanksgiving is over but giving thanks need not be. We have a lot to be thankful for. We can be thankful that Roger and Jan and all the rest of crowd could make it to the luncheon at the Carolina Kitchen. Thanks to everyone who came. It is really important to attend these activities. If the attendance is low we begin to question whether we should have the activity. So please try to attend.

December's luncheon is at Jake's Restaurant in Fernley. This is just a luncheon and no gifts are exchanged. It is another opportunity to catch up on what everybody is doing and planning for the holidays and for the rest of winter. Also you might get some ideas of places to go this coming summer. This year's WBCCI International Rally is in Gillette Wyoming. Since this is the location of the only International Rally we have attended, I can tell you that the facilities are excellent with water and electricity. And the conference facilities are excellent also. There are interesting places to visit in the area. I took a tour of a coal mine which enlightened me on the process of extracting coal and distributing it to users. If you go you can also find many interesting places to visit on your journey to get there and back such as – Great Basin NP, NV; West Wendover, NV; Golden Spike National Historic Site, Promontory Point, UT; Grand Teton NP, WY; Yellowstone NP, WY; Dinosaur National Monument, CO; Rocky Mountain NP, CO; Fossil Butte NM, WY; Devil's Tower NM, WY. It's just a little further to the enchanting Black Hills of South Dakota. When I travel I like to stop at National Parks, Airplane Museums and Train Museums and Rides. I'm sure you have favorite type places you like to stop. Take a trip and visit your favorite places.

Christmas is coming. Remember the reason we celebrate Christmas – God's gift to us. Give a little to others less fortunate than you that they might have some of the joy of Christmas.

See you at Jake's on the 14th of December.

Prez Wheels



Sierra Nevada Unit at Death Valley

Here are some preview pictures from the November 2013 rally at Mesquite in Death Valley. A full article will be in the January newsletter.



For information on upcoming rallies check this page:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2014/14-events/docs/14-rallyschedule.html>

Upcoming Events for 2013 and 2014

Jake's Restaurant, Fernley, NV Saturday
December 14, 2013

Hometown Cafe, Lemmon Valley, NV Saturday
January 25, 2014

Black Bear Diner - Saturday February 22, 2014

Lahontan Beach 7 unstructured camping area -
Thursday March 20-23 2014

Boca Rest - Thursday April 24- Sunday 27 2014

Rocky Point - Thursday May 15- Sunday 18 2014

Sweetwater Summit - Thursday June 26-Sunday
29 2014

WBCCI International Rally Gillette WY- June 28 -
July 4, 2014

Weed Heights - Thursday July 25- Sunday 27 2014

Obsidian Dome - Thursday August 14- Sunday 17
2014

Crocker - Thursday September 25-Sunday 28 2014

Ft Churchill - main park - Thursday October 23-
Sunday 26 2014

Region 12 Rally - Wednesday October 15, 2014 to
Monday October 20, 2014

Bavarian World - Saturday November 22, 2014

Death Valley Mesquite Campground - Thursday
November

El Charro Avita - Saturday December 20, 2014

SNU Events Calendar

There are several ways you can keep up to date on SNU activities and events. The most complete is the [Annual Events Calendar](#) on the SNU website. Each event has it's own page with complete details, photos and other information. The most recent location is the [Region 12 Calendar](#). Don Williams was instrumental in getting the SNU activities listed in this calendar and setting up the appropriate links to the SNU website. THANK YOU Don! In addition, each issue of the SNU newsletter includes a list of dates and locations for all upcoming SNU events. The [SNU Facebook page](#) is another source of information and communication. The SNU [plans it's rallies](#) a year in advance to provide as much lead time as possible. So get out your calendar, take a look at an SNU events schedule and plan to attend some SNU rallies 2014. We have some special events planned for 2014. Some recent rumors indicate there may be some kite flying and other fun activities. The more people we have at rallies the merrier!

Sierra Nevada Unit Tenure

Membership is not just about recruiting new members, it's about keeping the ones you have. The SNU has done a good job with both recruitment and retention. SNU annual membership has averaged about 30 members for the last six years. We usually have between 2 and 5 new members join annually. SNU retention of members has been excellent. As of November 2013 the SNU has 17 members who have been with the Unit 5 years or more.

19 years - 1
10 years - 2
9 years - 4
8 years - 2
7 years - 3
6 years - 1
5 years - 4

Members who have left the SNU have usually done so because they moved out of the area, for health reasons, or because they no longer travel or own an Airstream.

What it all boils down to is that the SNU is a good solid Unit. It says we have done a good job of establishing well defined foundation. It says that what we do and how we do it meets the needs and interests of Airstreamers in the Great Basin area. It says we have been effective in communicating what the SNU is all about. It says that each and every member has been an enthusiastic ambassador for the Unit, anxious to share their experiences and to encourage others to join in the fun and adventures.



Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu

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Go green! Sign up now for our electronic newsletter. Active links are built into the text for your convenience in following up on information linked in the newsletter.

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1971 Airstream Company European Caravan

These comments are from a trip diary written by Lloyd and Ruth Brown. Lloyd and Ruth were charter members of the Monterey Bay California Unit. Prior to the MBCU they were members of another California Unit. They were very active Airstreamers. They participated in numerous caravans and rallies from the Unit level to the International level.

This caravan took place March 6, 1971 to October 20, 1971. There were 150 Airstreams with "300 adventurous people." The caravan fee was \$5,882.00 and among other expenses, covered shipping their rig to and from Antwerp. In typical Brown style, this an informative and interesting review of the caravan traveling throughout Europe. The contents of this review cover everything from logistics to local customs, to unique adventures, and personal insights. Here are some samples from the diary.

These comments are from part 3. "As always on this trip, shopping was real fun. Never able to understand each others language, but became experts at hand signals. The many different monies further complicated



things and we were never sure just how much we were paying. And as far as hand signals: we learned that in Europe holding up the first finger means two, not one. Only the thumb is one. Even if the thumb does not show, when holding up the first two fingers it is presumed that the thumb is there, thus making the count three. Very confusing."

These comments are from part 5. "Only once on the entire caravan was electricity available, and then special adapters were needed. (So never used.) Never saw a public laundromat. All laundry done by hand. Many of us had learned that a plastic pail with a secure lid did much of the work for us. This was always filled on travel days, then placed in the bathtub. Upon arrival it took a little more action to complete, then rinse the clothes. The Ford had the usual shell over the 8ft bed. We had hung pulleys and strung clothes lines thru these. Thus the clothes were out of sight yet hung out to dry. Of course the putting up

of outside clothes lines was prohibited. Suppose we were to give the Natives the impression that we were above such humble tasks as washing clothes. Toward the end of the caravan, Ruth & I and several others, arrived many hours before the scheduled arrival time and found the advance parking crew with 'miles' of clothes lines out with 'tons' of washing drying in the sunshine. These parking crews would arrive a day ahead, and apparently had been doing their washing in this manner for most of the trip. Of course all would be stored safely away by the time the main caravan arrived. Well Sir, ...THE COUNCIL MET! – NO WASHING HANGING OUT!"

These comments are from part 6. "And it was truly the trip of a lifetime. We saw every tourist attraction yet were exposed to the everyday life of the Natives. We lived & shopped with them, we cooked & ate their simple foods. We were invited into their homes, and we saw them at work. We are thankful to Airstream for making such a trip possible."

Check out the whole trip diary. It's a great read and a fascinating look at an early Airstream caravan

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/travelogues/brown/europe.html>