



# WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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[Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org](http://Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org)

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**Rally and events  
schedule**

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below for details

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Rocky Point  
Eagle Lake, CA](#)
- ♦ [June 27th  
Green Creek, CA](#)
- ♦ [July 18th  
Weed Heights  
Yerrington, NV](#)
- ♦ [August 8th  
Obsidian Dome  
Mammoth Lks,  
CA](#)

## Ft Sage Rally Review

What a great weekend for the **SNU rally at Ft Sage**. Other than a windy afternoon on Friday the weather was just about perfect. We were delighted to have Bruce and Kathy Rhymes join us at the rally with their 19ft Bambi. Bruce and Kathy flew over our Pyramid Lake rally in their vintage Cessna and Bruce flew down to Sweetwater to visit us in 2011. Other rally participants were Wheels & Doris, Jerry & Dyann, Gene & Carmen & various grandkids and Bryan & Diane. The BLM has been doing some work on Ft Sage since the last time we were there. The best part was that they built a new pit toilet on the edge of the parking area. There is no longer an outhouse



in the middle of the picnic area. We had some nice talks with Joe, a BLM employee when he stopped by for coffee. We told him how nice the area has become since our first rally there. The winds on Friday didn't keep us from our shared meal outside. Bryan suggested we build a wind break which is exactly what we did. Gene, Wheels, and Bruce moved their trucks into place in front of Bryan and Diane's Airstream. This created a nice little enclosure with the Bvan on one side, an Airstream on the other and the trucks on the third side. It proved effective as the dishes stayed on the table and the food on our plates. We could eat our dinner in relative comfort and calm. Jerry & Dyann have added to their collection of solar lights. Jerry spent a little time getting them all set out but the results were worth it. Their "yard" looked really neat after dark. Saturday, SNU President, Wheels held a short business meeting. It seems he has gained, yet another title. That being HHHV (Head Honcho & Hapless Victim) It looks like Wheels has the distinction of having the longest title of any SNU President to date. H (to the 5th power)V translated it is, His Highness, Head Honcho, Hapless Victim. Maybe we should just call him "Prez". The weekend activities included several hikes in the hills, a little target practice and gun safety lessons, a trip or two to the big town of Doyle, and of course a lot of discussions about Airstreams, maintenance, future projects and travel plans. A very enjoyable weekend overall.



Gene and one of his grandkids  
enjoying a Saturday afternoon

## Bowlus Road Chief

Rick recently ran across the website of a company that custom replicates Bowlus travel trailers. These trailers were built by Hawley Bowlus and provided inspiration to Wally Byam who went on to create the Airstream trailer. Check the link in this newsletter to [view a photo gallery](#) of some beautifully replicated Bowlus trailers. Prepare yourself for the sticker shock should you decide to order one.

## Prez Meanderings

As the International meeting approaches proposed changes to the WBCCI Constitution become of more interest because they must be addressed at the June international meeting in Huron, North Dakota. The first one that seems to be a no-brainer is a change that will allow members to electronically pay their yearly dues using the WBCCI website. I will assume all members agree with this change. If you do not agree with this change call me at the number below. Otherwise I will instruct our delegate, Don Williams, to cast a vote representing our 31 members in favor of this change.

The second amendment concerns revised qualification for membership. The new wording for membership qualification would read "An adult who owns a hard sided recreational vehicle manufactured by Airstream, Inc., **or a class A motor home manufactured by Thor Industries, Inc., beginning with the 2007 model year**, shall be eligible for membership. **Ownership of a Thor manufactured class A motor home shall be by a LIFE or minimum 10 year membership**". The bold face portions are the changes to the constitution article. Personally I do not understand the last boldface sentence. I think it was intended to imply that those that seek membership because they own a Thor Industries, Inc. Class A motor home of model year 2007 or later, must join as a LIFE member or through a 10 year membership. All those attending the rally at Ft Sage were adamant that such an amendment should be defeated. Such attempts to boost membership by allowing non-Airstream logo products have not had that effect. Unless I hear otherwise from unit members I will instruct our delegate, Don Williams, to cast a vote representing our 31 members not in favor of this change.

The chairperson of the Region Rally in Lodi in October has asked that each unit prepare and bring a Basket that contains items that represent the unit activities and local attractions of the area the unit represents. I am looking for suggestions. These baskets will be displayed during the Rally and raffled off at the end of the Rally.

Please call me (775-781-1839) with your objections to the default way I intend to instruct our delegate to vote. Also give me any suggestion for our unit basket.

SNU Members Contribute to the Blue Beret

Prez Wheelz



## SNU Members Contributions to the Blue Beret

Several years ago, we began collecting stories from SNU members that could be published in the Blue Beret, the WBCCI membership magazine. The idea was to provide a stockpile that could be used as needed. WBCCI took frequent advantage of this resource **publishing several of the articles**. Here is a brief synopsis of the published articles, a quick description, the name of the author and the date it was published.

*Is Aluminitus Hereditary?* An overview of the Harrison and Leipper Families fifty one years of WBCCI memories. Diane Leipper #772 April 2007

*Berries to Books* - How Mike Orchard began his association with WBCCI and the unique hobby that evolved from the experience. Mike Orchard #32083 May 2007

*First Airstream Trip* - The adventures of hitting the road in a new Airstream Don Williams #14207 August 2007

*The Airstream* - A poem inspired by the Root families 1954 vintage Airstream Cruiser Erika Root #6376 written in 2005 when Erika was 11yrs old October 2007

*Coast to Coast Tour* - How Airstream travel differs from Airplane travel. Includes a visit to the Airstream plant and WBCCI HQ in Jackson Center. Randy Grossmann #3352 December 2007

*Unique Tow Vehicle* - What happened when Dale and Virginia's tow vehicle developed problems on the way to a rally Diane Leipper #772 Oct 2008

*My First Tow* - Melissa Wong's first experience towing her Airstream on Southern CA freeways. Melissa Wong #4066 Sept 2009

*The Clam Chowder Incident* - What happened after participants on a 1981 MBCU Caravan to Mexico spent the morning digging for clams. - Diane Leipper #772 Sept 201

The SNU also has a stockpile of articles for publication in the Unit newsletter. Several of these, including Family tradition, What's in a name, Leveling, and Belonging to a Unit have been in recent newsletters. If you have a story to tell, please pass it along to add to the stockpile for publication in the SNU newsletter or possibly publication in the Blue Beret. We aren't looking for Pulitzer Prize material, just interesting stories of your Airstream adventures told in your own words and your own style.

## Upcoming Events for 2013

Rocky Point Eagle Lake, CA Thursday May 16 – Sunday 19, 2013

Green Creek, CA Thursday June 27 – Sunday 30, 2013

WBCCI International Rally Huron South Dakota June 27 – July 4

Weed Heights, Yerington, NV Thursday July 18 – Sunday 21, 2013

Obsidian Dome Thursday August 8 – Sunday 11, 2013

Cantaloupe Festival, Fallon, NV Friday Aug. 30 – Monday Sept. 2, 2013

Crocker, Beckwourth, CA Thursday October 10 – 13, 2013

Carolina Kitchen, Sparks, NV Saturday November 16, 2013

Death Valley Mesquite Campground Thursday November (TBA)

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

## Welcome New Members

The newest members of the SNU family are James and Lynda Kunter. James and Lynda "met Ken & Judy Bechthold while traveling. They referred us to Bob & Cecelia Stansbury here in Carson City who contacted us and explained the benefits of membership." The Kunter's have a 2012 26 feet FB Flying Cloud. They are enthusiastic RV'rs and we hope to see them soon at an SNU rally.

## Member Updates

**Plumbing repair** - Randy has moved from the planning stage to the first phase of the work in replacing his black water tank and dump plumbing. He has everything disassembled and is now in the parts procurement phase. The tank was damaged when all of his dump plumbing was ripped off during his **ill fated and aborted trip to Hondo, Texas last Fall**. He is discovering all sorts of interesting things about wiring, plumbing, and design in an Airstream, most which make him grumble about workmanship, quality, and accessibility. We look forward to hearing Randy's whole story when he gets the tank replaced and the Airstream repaired. Most of all, we look forward to Randy and Vicki joining us at a rally as soon as the work is done so we can discuss the repairs in person.



Opening up the grey tank area for repairs

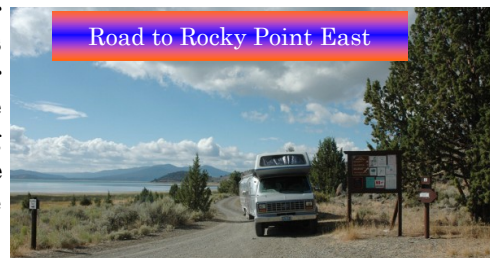


**Almost ready** – One of these days we hope to see Steve and Jan at a rally with their Motorhome. In a recent email from Steve he said "Our 310td Airstream is back in the shop here in Reno for oil leaks in the power steering, engine and a broken pump that was burned up from an oversized line put in by the last owner that kinked and cut off the oil flow." Once these issues are resolved Steve and Jan's Airstream should be ready to go. I know they are anxious to do some traveling and also to come to some SNU rallies.

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## May Rally at Rocky Point East

**Rocky Point East at Eagle Lake** is the site of the May Rally. The dates are Thursday May 16 to Sunday 19, 2013. To get to the rally site from Susanville travel north on Highway 139 for 30 miles. Turn west (left) on County Road A-1 and travel approximately 5 miles. Turn south (left) on Lakeside drive in the Bucks Bay subdivision. Drive past some houses. There are various camping and other BLM signs including a BLM sign saying Rocky Point Fishing Access. Follow the road around Bucks Bay to the rally site. Be sure you are heading to Rocky Point East. Rocky point is a great place for fishing, hiking and just enjoying spectacular scenery. It looks like plans for a special dinner are in the works. Jerry says he is going to bring his battery operated rotisserie so he can cook a roast over the coals. We'll also bring some corn on the cob to roast. This will fit in fine with our plans to help Kathy Rhymes celebrate her retirement from teaching at Lassen College. We've also heard rumors of another special treat – if the the weather cooperates and everything works out. You'll have to come to the rally to find out what that is all about. Bring wood for campfires.



## Member Updates - continued



**Vintage remodel** - Dean and Shelly have been doing all sorts of things with their **1969 Overlander**. Shelly has sewed new double sided curtains for all the windows. She said "on the inside is different patterns in each room. I used the same material on the side looking out. So that way it looks good and people aren't looking at the backside of curtains." She also "recovered the seat that cover the toilet. I bought material that is like a plastic table cloth that matches our bathroom. Then I just stretched it over and used a staple gun. Dean put it back on in the bathroom and it looks wonderful!!! The bathroom is done in cream and black with flamingos here and there."

Shelly says "Dean has all kinds of little gadgets he has installed proudly in the airstream. He got a converter of some kind and a solar panel that is about a foot long. It charges the batteries. He is boondocking this fishing trip, and he took the TV and DVD player. Ok. When he is all done tinkering and poking around in there, I will finally sit down and paint the inside of it. But he wants to redo the cabinet that holds the grocery's and dishes. He has really done a lot to the thing."

They are planning a 3 week vacation trip in August which will include a visit to Iowa to see Dean's family and also on the way, they will visit the Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Mr Rushmore, etc. .

Jessilynn, their granddaughter and the youngest SNU member will be traveling with them, Shelly says Jessilynn is so big and sassy!!! She is 31 pounds and wears 24 months clothes, she is 19 months. She talks and talks, says 3-4 words in a sentence, knows 14 letters by sight, (refrigerator magnet letters), she is potty training, and is just really a clown to be around!!! She is a happy and well traveled little girl !! "



[Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu](http://Sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu)

The Sierra Nevada Unit c/o Leipper Management  
714 Terra Ct , Reno, NV 89506  
Phone: 775-972-5011  
Email: [hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org](mailto:hq@SierraNevadaAirstreams.org)

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