



# WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

Volume 23, Issue 10

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

October 2013

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

## Inside this issue:

Prez Meanderings	2
SNU Bylaws	3
Crocker Rally	3
Upcoming Events	3
Cooking Experiences	4

## Rally and events schedule

Click on a link  
below for details

- ♦ Oct. 10th  
Crocker Rally  
Beckwourth, CA
- ♦ Nov. 16th  
Carolina Kitchen  
Sparks, NV
- ♦ Nov. TBA  
Death Valley Mes-  
quite Campground
- ♦ Dec. 14th  
Jake's Restaurant  
Fernley NV

## Cantaloupe Festival Rally Review

We had a great rally in Fallon over the Labor Day weekend. There were plenty of Heart's of Gold cantaloupe this year. We were delighted to have some of the SNU's newest members Richard & Sharron Baldwin and Jim and Lynda Kunter join us at this rally. Other members at the rally were Jerry & Dyann. Wheels & Doris and Bryan and Diane. Saturday Steve and Jan Erickson came by for a visit. They have been doing quite a bit of traveling since we saw them at Green Creek. Friday we walked down to the Cantaloupe Festival for dinner. Each person picked a food vendor to suit his or her own taste. After dinner we spent some time checking out all the booths and other festival activities. Smoke from the fire near Yosemite was pretty thick on Friday but it was fairly clear the rest of the weekend. We spent a relaxing weekend visiting the festival, enjoying the Jr Rodeo, sharing dinners on Saturday and Sunday evening and most of all, just visiting. Sharron bought tickets for the quilt raffle and although she didn't win, she felt she had contributed to a worthwhile cause. Monday morning, while enjoying



our coffee we watched a steady stream of RV's heading down hwy 95 from Burning Man. Jerry and Bryan quickly learned how to tell which vehicles where which. If they were covered in white dust or had white wheels (because the car had been washed but not the wheels), that was a good indicator. If they had white wheels and a bicycle, it was almost a certainty they had been at Burning Man. Diane recently discovered the 1980 and 1981 WBCCI membership directories in some of her parents stuff. Those directories listed all the activities of each unit in WBCCI. It turns out that the SNU held rallies at the Cantaloupe Festival both of those years. So what we thought was a new event turns out to be a tradition for the SNU. We all enjoyed carrying on the tradition at this year's Cantaloupe Festival rally.

## Mammoth - Obsidian Rally part 2

After the Obsidian Rally in August, several people went to the Mammoth Mountain RV park to join up with the people who had stayed there during the rally. Those already at Mammoth were the Levitt's, Freeman's and Oelkers. Those that joined them from Obsidian were the Kingsland's, Williams and Liberty. This extended rally included shared breakfasts and dinners, trips into town, visits to nearby Devil's Postpile. Mary's lake and the old Mammoth Consolidated mining camp. On the way back to Southern CA, some of the group stopped off to visit Manzanar Historic Site. All in all, a great tour of the southern end of the Sierra Nevada's. Check the photo galleries at the link in this newsletter.

## Prez Meanderings

The Cantaloupe Festival Rally in Fallon was a success with two new members attending their first SNU rally—the Baldwins and Kunters. We look forward to seeing them at future rallies.

It is with regret that I will miss the October Rally at the Crocker Campground. We really enjoy the wooded seclusion of that camping area. We will be representing the SNU at the Region 12 Rally in Lodi. I will don my Hobo garb and crown and exercise my Hobo King power to encourage other Region 12 members to attend the Hobo Rally in Blythe, CA February 3rd through February 9th. I will also attend the official Region 12 Board of Trustees Meeting as the representative of SNU. There are currently four motions for actions: 1) To delete reference to "the Hobo Rally" from Region Policy #2; 2) To delete Region Policy #8 regarding the Hobo Rally from Region Policies; 3) To donate \$500 to the Wounded Warrior Project and \$500 to the WBCCI International Peace Garden Monument; 4) To provide a travel allowance for one Region 12 Vice President to travel to the International Board of Trustees (IBT) Mid-Winter Meeting not to exceed \$1,500. If I hear no objections or comments I will vote in the affirmative for all four motions. Motion four addresses specifically the Mid-Winter meeting in Rayne, LA. I am curious why the motion has to address a specific meeting place and is not inclusive of all Mid-Winter meetings. It seems to me that voting each year just to address a different meeting place is just wasteful of our time.

I will be bringing our basket that represents the area we camp in to be raffled off at the end of the rally. Currently the basket contains:

- Small Camping Lantern – Battery powered LED
- Ball Cap – National Championship Air Races, Reno Nevada, 50th Occurrence
- Ball Cap – Official University of Nevada Reno, Wolf Pack
- Book – Recipes for Roughing It Easy, by Dian Thomas
- Quarters – 2006 Nevada, Wild Horses
- 2013 Nevada, Great Basin Commemorative Spoon – with 2006 Nevada Quarter in handle
- Coffee Cup – with Nevada map showing interesting points
- Wine – Semillion Wine from Tahoe Ridge Winery with two wine glasses
- Small Figurine – Flamingo with exotic drink
- Jams – Cantaloupe Jam and Strawberry Jam from Lattin Farms in Fallon NV
- Souvenir Rocks – Obsidian Rock and Pumice Rock from SNU's favorite CG, Obsidian Dome
- Brochures – Nevada Attractions

I attended the fiftieth occurrence of the National Championship Air Races in Reno. As always I went to the National Aviation Heritage Invitational display first. This bright Cessna 140 reminded me of some Airstreams I have seen. It also reminded me of



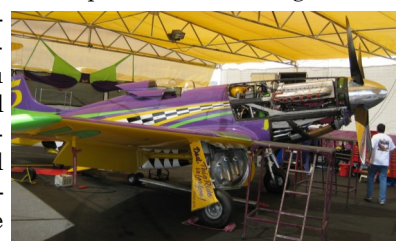
a Cessna 170 that belonged to Bruce Rhymes. His airplane won the Classic Aircraft Trophy at the National Aviation Heritage Invitational in 2011. Kathy and Bruce Rhymes had an Airstream and were very good friends of SNU members. They often flew over our rallies and took photos. Sadly Kathy and Bruce were killed in a crash of their airplane in May of this year.



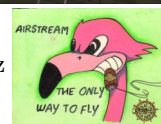
The Air Races were full of the noise and speed that has always drawn the crowds. Demonstration and stunt flyers demonstrating precision and daring are also big favorites. During the last four days (Thursday through Sunday) I drive a charter bus for Amador Stage Lines. This year my assignment was to take Photographers to a couple of pylons on the race course. It gave me an opportunity to take some pictures of the airplanes during the race. Here are shots of the



Unlimited Race Gold winner – Voodoo during the race and in the pits. Voodoo is a significantly modified P-51D Mustang. Voodoo was piloted by Steven Hilton. Steven was the winner of the Gold in the previous four years however, in a different airplane. If you haven't been to the Reno Air Races, I would recommend it, the display aircraft and flying activity are not duplicated anywhere. Next year will be the 50th anniversary, and I'm sure it will be a big event. Doris is nearly fully recovered from her fall at Fallon with no broken bones. See you in November.



Pres. Wheelz



## Upcoming Events for 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**

**Hometown Cafe - Saturday January 25, 2014**

**Black Bear Diner - Saturday February 22, 2014**

**Lahontan beach 7 unstructured camping area -  
Thursday March 20–23 2014**

---

## Sierra Nevada Unit Bylaws Saga

After six years the SNU has received an acknowledgment of receipt of our Bylaws from the chair of the WBCCI Board of Trustees standing committee for Constitution and Bylaws (CBL). It even included a couple of unnecessary and baseless accusations just to make sure that we know that the WBCCI Trustees really, really don't like things that don't fit their existing world view.

When we simplified our bylaws, one of our goals was to demonstrate via example how to improve governance documents of a subordinate organization. That is, in part, why we provided an analysis report to describe how our bylaws met regulations, requirements, and appropriate guidelines for governance documents.

One fundamental legal principle is that such documents not include clauses that do not represent the operation of the organization and serve no purpose. You can see this principle in the WBCCI bylaws requirements for Unit bylaws. However, the suggested model Constitution and Bylaws illustrates an opposite approach. Guess which one causes apoplexy in the CBL if you don't toe the line?

The WBCCI has many problems that need to be addressed. The SNU raised one that got a lot of ire from the CBL chair but the IBT did slide in the suggested fix. Others, such as IRS disclosure requirements, group letter exemption requirements, and the fundamental legal advise principle described, leave a lot of room for improvement. The recent attempt to revamp the WBCCI governance documents is an example illustrating that the problems are indeed visible to some but finding an appropriate and reasonable fix is not an easy task.

The behavior of WBCCI in regards to the SNU bylaws is why we voted a while back to pretty much ignore the parent organization on this issue and let it do what it may. We will continue to go camping and enjoy our Airstream RV's with others of like mind – as the WBCCI Constitution says is its purpose for being.

---

## Crocker in October

The October SNU rally will be at **Crocker campground near Beckwourth, CA Thursday October 10 – 13, 2013**. This will be the last rally for the SNU in the North. The Death Valley Rally in November will be the last SNU rally for 2013. Crocker is an old forest service campground in the pine trees. It's a three mile ride over the hill to Lake Davis. It's also near Portola and the railroad museum. We'll have our usual shared meals on Friday and Saturday. Hopefully there will be no fire restrictions so bring wood for campfires.



---

## Sierra Nevada Unit on Facebook

As Don mentioned last month, Rick LaBorde has set up a **Facebook page for the SNU**. This provides another way for SNU members, friends, and others to communicate and keep up to date on SNU activities. If you are already on Facebook, join the SNU group now. If you don't have a Facebook account, consider signing up and then joining the SNU group. Thanks Rick for taking the initiative to provide the SNU with another great way to stay in touch and promote the SNU.

---

## 2014 Membership Dues

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2014, the time is now. Although dues will be accepted (and appreciated) anytime, the end of October is the deadline for getting 2014 dues to WBCCI so that you will be included in the 2014 membership directory. Annual dues are \$75. Send your check to the SNU 716 Terra Ct, Reno, NV 89506.

---

## Cooking - Old Meets New with Airstreaming

Don & Gail Williams #14207

Some younger Airstreamers are adopting old age cooking during their weekend jaunts, rallies and even at home! Our Region12 is on the forefront of bringing back heritage cooking to the WBCCI, creating and managing the [WBCCI Dutch Oven Site](#) (no social media experience needed). For those that don't know, dutch oven cooking uses a heavy cast iron or aluminum pot, typically with feet and a flat lid that allow the chef to place charcoal or the hot coals from a wood fire underneath and on top of the oven. Food is cooked somewhat slow with temperature controlled by the amount of coals used, no turning the knob on the oven or worse yet on a microwave like cooking in the trailer. Check the website and see the 26 or so recipes for [Breads](#), [Breakfast](#), [Dessert](#), [Dinner](#), [Lunch](#) and [Soups](#). They run the gamut from single dishes for a meal like stew, pot roast, chili to side dishes and deserts.



The experienced or A Personality Types will have a heavy steel cooking table and may use multiple ovens to create an entire dinner. Gail and my own experience at Sierra Nevada Unit and Four Corners Unit rallies is much more mundane. We (me), Gail helps with the food preparation, have cooked Chili Queso (Habanero) dip at the SNU Eagle Lake Rally in August 2008, steak chili at the Dead Horse Ranch Rally (FCU) and chili and Fresh Peach Cobbler at the 2011 Obsidian Dome Rally. I had hoped to add to our dutch oven experiences at Obsidian Dome this year but the campfire restrictions in the open forest, which include charcoal, made me think of a different old age cooking, Sourdough.



Sourdough piqued my interest after I read One Man's Wilderness, an Alaskan Odyssey, the journal of Richard (Dick) Proenneke a nature and wildlife photographer who lived in the Alaskan wilderness at Twin Lakes from 1968 until 1999 when at the age of 83 he moved back to the Lower 48 States. Dick's talked about making sourdough biscuits, breads, pancakes and more in his journals. I came from a family of farmers and country folks in Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania; we always ate home grown vegetable, fresh or canned, home made jellies and jams, apple butter, cider, vinegar, etc. but I never heard anyone talk of sourdough. After researching sourdough on the internet and Gail's cookbook

library I jumped in and bought some sourdough starter from King Arthur Flour.

Now starter is a mixture of water, flour and yeasts that is allowed to work, the natural organisms in the yeast modify the water flour mixture to create a gooey bubbling mix needing little refrigeration in moderate temperatures.



In Southern California I keep it in the refrigerator but bring it out to work before I make anything. I took some starter on our trip to the International this summer and experimented along the way on my family, sourdough pancakes with maple syrup and sourdough chocolate cake. Since we got home I continued with apple Latvian cake, more sourdough pancakes, another chocolate cake and finally sourdough bread. I branched out beyond our family at obsidian Dome making a double batch of sourdough pancakes for Saturday's breakfast; we really needed a triple batch but next time.



Old age met new age in Twin Lakes Campground near Bridgeport, CA. We used our 60+ year old Guardian Service cookware for our beans while we cooked our barbecued short ribs in our 12 volt Stove to Go. The Guardian Service is made out of a thick walled aluminum with a Pyrex glass lid. It can be used in the oven or on top of the stove; one advantage was you could bake in the larger pieces on the cooktop without an oven. Guardian Service cookware was made during the 1940s and 50s, extremely expensive and, sold at parties like Tupperware.

The Stove to Go can be purchased at truck stops and probably on Amazon today. It plugs into a 12 volt cigarette lighter socket and will pull between 8 and 10 amps once it warms up so you typically need solar power to maintain the batteries when cooking stews, pot roasts, ribs and other dishes that take 4 hours or more. Our Stove to Go has been replaced by the Digital Stove to Go and has adjustable temperature.



Whether meals are new or old, cooked with a dutch oven, Guardian Service cookware or [Stove to Go](#), one must relax at the end of the day.

Don & Gail Williams



For web links discussed in this newsletter including info on the October Rally at the Crocker  
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2013/13-news/index.html>

For information on upcoming rallies check this page:  
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2013/13-events/docs/13-rallyschedule.html>