



# WBCCI - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT - NEWSLETTER

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"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"

March 2014

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

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## Rally and events schedule

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water Summit](#)
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tional Rally Gillette  
WY](#)

## Lunch at the Black Bear

The last SNU luncheon till next fall was at the Black Bear in Fernley. It was even more casual than the typical SNU lunch. All visiting, catching up on news, and discussing plans for upcoming activities. No business was conducted although we had some brief



discussion about the upcoming Region 12 rallies and the 40th Anniversary of the SNU in 2016. Luncheon participants included Steve & Jan, Mike & Cindy, Bryan & Diane, Gary & Anita, Jerry & Dyann, Baxter & Marlene, Roger & Janet and RoyLaine & Jim. Jerry recently got a generator for their motorhome and it seems that the motorhome may be ready to make an appearance at the Lahontan Rally. Jim has been working on Roy's GMC motorhome. It's currently up on jacks and pieces and parts are here and there. Nice they have the Airstream so they have something to attend rallies in. Steve says their motorhome probably needs a new air conditioner and it needs a new door lock. Other than minor little things here and there, it seems everyone else's rigs are ready to go. We look forward to seeing Baxter and Marlene's new Airstream either at Lahontan or Boca. All in all another great lunch. I think we are all ready for the rally season to begin.

## March Rally at Lahontan

Thursday March 20 to Sunday March 23 2014 are the dates for the first rally of the year. The location is Lahontan beach 7, the unstructured camping area just at the end of the paved road. 2014 marks the eighth time the SNU has held a rally at this site. With easy access, open parking and beautiful scenery it has always been a favorite. This rally is our opportunity to de-



winterize our Airstreams, check all the systems and catch any maintenance work that needs to be done. So dust off your pink flamingos, gather up your solar lights and join us at Lahontan. Be sure and bring wood for campfires.

## Prez Meanderings

Our trip to Blythe for the **last Hobo rally** was the first long trip through Nevada we had taken in a while. The first leg of our trip took us to the Lakeside RV Resort in Pahrump (the location of Region 12 Rally October 13, 2014). The trip there was enjoyable. After a drive through Smith Valley, beautiful Wilson Canyon and then Yerington and Schurz we joined Highway 95 south east. We enjoyed the great valleys of Nevada where the ribbon of asphalt stretches out ahead of you for 10 or 15 miles. There are no large leafy trees crowding the highways to block your view of the mountains like many of the highways in the east. It is great to experience the wide open spaces and 70 mile an hour speed limit rather than some arbitrary speed restriction on trailer towing like our neighbor state. Of course we had to contend with the Joshua Tree forest for five or six miles either side of Goldfield. The highway seems to be dominated by commercial vehicles – mostly semis. It just seemed great driving in Nevada.

We enjoyed an overnight stay in Pahrump including dinner with Cecelia and Bob Stansbury and some longtime friends of theirs that they were staying with. After dinner we all gathered in our trailer and celebrated my 75th birthday with a great cake Doris made and ice cream.



Happy Birthday Wheels

Then it was on to Lake Havasu City, Arizona to spend a few days visiting Doris' brother and sister in-law and her sister and brother in-law. We stayed in a Passport America campground in Lake Havasu City. Although Doris' family complained the "snow birds" were worse than normal we had no problem getting a parking spot. We had a Super Bowl party at her brother's house and were disappointed that the Broncos lost.

Monday it was time to go to the Hobo Rally in Blythe, CA. Two hours after leaving Lake Havasu City we were being parked in the Colorado River Fairgrounds. We hooked up the electricity (5 amps) and the daisy chain of Y's for water. We were parked about 100 yards from the Main Hall and a little less from the bathrooms. A meal was provided the first night and afterwards announcements of schedule changes and the events the next day. The Blythe

Community Bell Choir performed a very nice program. A drawing was conducted for door prizes and ice cream cones and sandwiches were sold for the Wounded Warrior Project. Tuesday I took a guided tour of the Palo Verde Valley in a School Bus. All kinds of things are grown in the valley. Irrigation is relatively easy because the major portion of the valley can be reached by gravity fed water canals. In the afternoon I attended a seminar on catalytic heaters and played indoor games. There were a number of scheduled tournaments for indoor and outdoor games. They had tournaments for Cribbage, Joker, Mexican Train and Rummy Tiles. I really like to play indoor games and I could usually find a game in the main hall in the afternoon or evening after the scheduled program. Tuesday evening was Bingo night. Wednesday I entered my photos (8 photos) in the photo contest. There weren't many entries. There were 5 categories – Animals, People, Places, Things and Hobo in Retrospect. I entered the first four listed with only one entry in the People category – a shot of Shelly and Dean Fischer's granddaughter's birthday in Fallon. I thought it was a sure winner but it was the only category I didn't place in. There were a lot of entries in that category and since I placed in the other three I think the judges said "enough." The evening program was a musical performance by a couple called "Laughing Bird." Thursday I participated in the Cribbage tournament and won the blue ribbon. The Swap-N-Sell was conducted in the Main Hall. We couldn't find anything we had to have. I also played in the Rummy Tiles tournament but didn't place. The evening program was a musical program with Bob Stansbury singing and Carol Ortiz (last year's Hobo Queen) on the keyboard. This was followed by door prize drawing and ice cream sales. The Hobo parade (about half a city block within the fairgrounds) and judging was conducted on Friday instead of the normal Saturday finale because of a car race on the fairground's track on Saturday.



Doris, 2014 Hobo Queen

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## For Sale - 1971 Overlander



Ted and Laura have recently purchased a **2014 Serenity Airstream** and now are in the process of selling their 1971 Overlander. Ted and Laura fully restored the Overlander about 2 years ago. It is a beautiful Airstream with lots of unique interior features like wood paneling and a vessel bowl sink in the bathroom. We got a chance to see this **Airstream at Obsidian Dome** in 2012. They are asking \$25K for it. If you are interested or want more information, **email [hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org](mailto:hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org)** and we'll pass the word to Ted and Laura.

For information on upcoming rallies check the website below:  
<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2014/14-events/docs/14-rallyschedule.html>



## Upcoming 2014 Events

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 Pahrump NV - 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

## Sierra Nevada Unit Rally Reminders

The SNU has some special things planned for several 2014 rallies and there is always room for more ideas and suggestions. Generally speaking, our rallies will include morning coffee and shared evening meals. The shared meals most likely will include some BBQ's, possibly some of Don's dutch oven and sourdough cooking and maybe even a roast cooked by Jerry on his battery operated rotisserie. Randy has been experimenting with kite flying so rallies will be a good opportunity to share experiences and build on your expertise. Bring your kites and share the fun. Several rallies will include special events. If you are planning to attend any SNU rally but you haven't been to the site and aren't sure of how to get there, let us know. We'll make sure you can caravan with someone who knows where to go.

- The first special activity rally is the June rally at Sweetwater Summit. This is on the weekend of the annual ham radio field day. 2014 is the **100th Anniversary** of the creation of the Amateur Radio Relay League. The SNU has a lot of hams (amateur radio operators) so this rally will be a great opportunity to test your remote radio equipment.
- The July rally at Weed Heights (full service RV Park) is on the weekend of the Night in the Country Music Festival in nearby Yerrington. There will be a shuttle from the RV park to the Festival so you can enjoy the booths, the music and the other festivities as you choose. You can even purchase tickets now on the **event's website**. The RV park is holding 10 sites for the SNU so we'll need to know if you plan to attend this rally.
- The August rally at Obsidian is always special. This year the rally will be on Bobbi's birthday which will give us the opportunity to do something unique to help her celebrate. The Obsidian rally includes two parking options. The primary site and the place where all the activities will be held is at the dispersed area of Obsidian Dome. For those who prefer hook-ups or have a larger rig that may have difficulty getting to Obsidian, there is **Mammoth Mountain RV Park**. You have to make your own reservations for this site. Most likely several people from Obsidian will gather at this RV park after the rally at Obsidian.
- The October rally will be at the main campground at Ft. Churchill State Park. This means there are individual sites rather than a group parking area. In October there should be no problem having enough sites for an SNU rally but just in case, Lahontan Beach 7 will be our backup site. Ft Churchill campground is close to the Carson River and a short distance to the ruins of the fort and a nice little museum.
- The November rally at Mesquite in Death Valley is a perfect time to visit this unique place. Don and Gail always plan some great tours of nearby Death Valley points of interest like Scotties Castle, the sand dunes and Furnace Creek. Don and Gail also plan some fun activities for this rally.

SNU rallies are essentially "free form". This means specific activities are usually spontaneous rather than planned. It depends on who and how many people show up and who wants to do what. Past rallies have included visits to nearby hot springs, a tour of the historic Buckland Station, brunch at a historic bed and breakfast, a special tour of the ghost town of Bodie, a visit to the museum in South Lake, train rides in Portola, tours of Scotties Castle and other Death Valley sites, and enjoying the Lyon County Fly-In and the Cantaloupe Festival. Rally activities have included yo-yo competitions, yard art displays, fishing, hiking, and of course special breakfasts and dinners. The more participation we have at rallies the more opportunities there are for both planned and spontaneous activities. If you want to go someplace different, do something different all you need to do is speak up and be willing to pitch in to make it happen. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Better yet, help the SNU add some new activities to it's rally agenda.



## Welcome Three New Members

Wesley & Laura Gray live in Graegle and own a 2004 CCD International. Joe & Teresa Montana live in South Lake and own a 2014 Classic. Steve & Mary Reimer live in Reno and own a 1972 Globetrotter. We welcome all of them to the SNU and look forward to meeting them at a rally sometime soon.

## Prez Meanderings

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Hobo Gail

Friday morning I found a couple of people and played Rummy Tiles for most of the morning. Then I got Doris in her Hobo outfit and I got in mine. After lunch we formed up for the parade. I took my place on the leading float with the other past kings and queens. Doris walked behind with the other prospective royal persons. The past kings and queens took the back of the stage. Current region and international officers present and not related to any contestants were asked to be the judges. The prospective Hobo Kings were paraded across the stage one at a time (I would guess there were about 12-15). The judges then called five to return to the stage for further examination. After questioning each of the five the judges deliberated and selected one of the five. The others were dismissed. I proceeded to crown him and present him his trophy and escort him to his new throne (a camping captain's chair). Then the prospective Hobo Queens were paraded across the stage one at a time (there were about 8 or 10). Then they were all asked to return for further examination. Doris and I were both astonished when the Judges announce their selection – Number 2 – my charming wife. Last year's Queen presented her crown and trophy and escorted her to her throne. Now the first chair out of the truck is her throne. The beard judging contest was next. I didn't compete because I have been growing mine since October not since New Year's Day 2014. The evening program was a movie projected on the wall followed by door prize drawings and ice cream sales. Saturday morning I played in Joker tournament. I was very fortunate to have a very good player appointed as my partner. Together we drew some very good cards and I played above my normal game and we won three games and the Blue Ribbon. Meanwhile, Doris was showing Andy of at the pet show. Unfortunately there were no prizes at the pet show.

It was just an opportunity to show off your pet and tell about how they travel. The Saturday evening meal was the long awaited Hobo stew that had been in preparation most of the day. The stew is only served in your personal Hobo stew can – made from a #10 can normally with some kind of handle. There is a Hobo stew can decoration contest in the afternoon. Doris entered her can but didn't place. Fial announcements and thanks to all that contributed to the success of the rally. The final door prize drawing – we won a small picture frame and ice cream sales.

We left about 8 am Sunday morning. We were sad that this is the last Hobo Rally. We are hoping to meet every body at the next region rally. We travelled back to Lake Havasu City to pick up a sewing machine from Doris' brother and to say our last good-byes to her family there. Monday we drove all the way home – 587 miles, 11 ½ hours. What was a great experience on the way south became somewhat boring after 8 hours even with a stop in Goldfield.

We will miss the Lahontan Rally for a cruise celebrating Doris' brother and Sister in-laws 50th anniversary. Hope to see you at Boca Rest in April.

Note: I understand that in addition to Wheels & Doris, and Don & Gail, Richard & Sharron also attended this years Hobo Rally. Of course, Bob & Cecelia were also there as hosts of the rally. A very good showing for the SNU.



Don & Monto, runner ups for Hobo King



## Follow-up From the February Newsletter



Following up on the article last month about RV's and electrical systems, here are two pictures that provide examples of rally "grids"

2014 Hobo Rally Eletrical Box



1983 MBCU Rally

**Web links to information** discussed in this newsletter including info on the March Rally at Lahontan