



Sierra Nevada Unit

Wally Byam Caravan Club International

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Future SNU Rallies

- Lassen RV Resort (SNU 40th Anniversary Celebration) -near McArthur, CA - Thursday September 22- Sunday 25 2016
- Region 12 Rally Golden Palms RV site in Hemet, CA - Oct. 12th to the 16th of 2016
- Scout Camp, Ft Churchill NV State Park - Thursday October 20 - Sunday 23, 2016
- Carson City - Plaza Hotel- Saturday November 19, 2016 11:30 am luncheon
- Death Valley Mesquite Campground - Date TBA
- Brian & Jeni Root's House, Reno - Saturday December 17, 2016 11:30 am luncheon
- January 28, 2017 Saturday 11:30 am luncheon - Carolina Kitchen, Sparks
- February 25, 2017 Saturday 11:30 am luncheon - El Aguila Real, Gardnerville
- March - Thursday March 23- Sunday March 26, 2017 - Lahontan beach 7
- April - Thursday April 21- Sunday April 23, 2017 - Ft Sage near Doyle
- May - Thursday May 18- Sunday May 21, 2017 Sweetwater Summit
- June - Thursday June 22 - Sunday June 25, 2017 - BLM campground at Eagle Lake
- July - Thursday July 20 - Sunday July 23, 2017 Weed Heights RV Park
- August - Thursday August 24 - Sunday August 27, 2017 Green Creek near Bridgeport
- September - Thursday September 22 - Sunday September 24, 2017 Hartley Springs Campground near June Lake

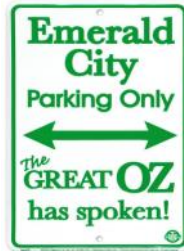
Follow the Yellow Brick Road

The Yellow Brick Road (hwy 395) leads to Lassen RV resort which is located one mile off Hwy 299 and 8 miles east of McArthur, CA. It is 175 miles North of Reno via Hwy 395. We have found the Emerald City. The SNU rally Thursday September 22- Sunday 25 2016, will be the culmination of the celebration of the SNU's 40th Anniversary. Randy and Vicki are hosting this rally. With assistance from Park managers, Phil and Jasmine, they have got some special things planned. Along with a few surprises, these plans include dinners catered by Phil & Jasmine and Randy's World Famous waffle breakfast. Vicki is in charge of



decorations and from hints here and there and past experience, the rally site will be something to behold. The SNU has always had the strength, the courage, and the heart that have helped make it a special and unique group. During the rally We'll be recognizing some of those who have contributed to the SNU including those who submitted Kitty Credits. The SNU photo albums and other memorabilia will be on display. It is clear in looking through the pictures of past SNU rallies, we are always home when our Aistreams are parked nearby. Don't miss out! If you haven't already, contact the SNU to get your reservation form and join the party. Cost is \$120 per rig (includes 3 nights space rental and special dinners for 2 people) Contact

hq@sierranevadaaistreams.org.



Obsidian Rally Review

We couldn't have asked for a better weekend for our 10th rally at Obsidian Dome. We planned on trying a new spot for our gatherings and it worked out great! Instead of being close to the road, we were back by the dome under some big pine trees. Wheels and Doris arrived first and they had our "living room" all set up. It was nice and cool under the trees and great being farther from the road and the dust. Doris kept asking why we hadn't set up here before. I guess we just didn't think of it or there were more bushes back there in the past. This was Claudia's first Obsidian rally and by coincidence she just happened to end up behind the Thornburg's and Leipper's just north of Lee Vining. She decided to follow and see where we turned off. Claudia figured right and ended up following us to the rally site. Friday, after fixing a few plumbing leaks, Rick joined us at the rally. This weekend was a full moon. One of the special treats at Obsidian is when the full moon hits the obsidian rocks on the side of the dome. The whole hill twinkles like there are little lights all over it. Amazing. Saturday, Rick took a few of us on a tour of some potential future rally sites. Sawmill turned out to be a little tight, especially for larger rigs, but the road there was very good. It's a beautiful spot. The panoramic views from the road up were



40th Anniversary Year



From Dyann's Kitty Kredits – First rally with our new Airstream was at the Douglas's place in Kingston, NV. We had to go through Austin, NV to get there and it was during the Mormon cricket migration that year (2005). We had a little trouble with slipping and sliding on the highway due to the crickets all over the road but when we got to Kingston Roy had spent the day cooking brisket for us which made it all worthwhile. Again, great people and a fun time going up into the canyon to see the wonderful scenery. Note: Although you can't see the little specs in this picture, the rock guard is covered with crickets.

40 Years of SNU !



Welcome Our Newest Members

The newest members of the SNU are Brandon Bolton and Kimberly Johnson. They live in Foresthill and own a 2016 International. We are delighted to welcome them to the SNU and hope to meet them in person soon.

Speaking of new members, the SNU has added eight new members since May 2016. It has been a few years since we have welcomed so many new members in such a short time span. We look forward to all of them becoming active and involved participants in the SNU. New ideas, suggestions, and involvement are what ensures the Unit meets the needs and interests of all it's members. Don't hesitate to contact the SNU and share your ideas no matter how crazy or different they might seem. Who knows, some of our favorite places and activities have come from creative brainstorming.

Sierra Nevada Unit Business

- **Time to renew for 2017** – Now is the time to renew your membership for 2017. The best option is to renew through WBCCI. You can also renew through the SNU. **Check the SNU website for details.**
- **SNU 2017 Officers** – Roger Jeppson has graciously accepted the nomination for President of the SNU. Roger and his wife Janet have been active SNU members since 2006. Unless there are other nominations or members willing to serve, the complete board for 2017 includes – Roger, President – Dyann Thornburg, Secretary – Diane Leipper, Treasurer/Memberhip – Don Williams, Trustee – Randy Grossmann, Trustee. Email your comments or your vote to the SNU hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org

Highlights and Achievements

Since 2003, I have put together an annual list of SNU Highlights and Achievements. It is a lot of fun going through those lists and remembering how far the SNU has come since it re-grouped in 2002, the great things we have done and the successes we have enjoyed. Here are some excerpts from those lists. To view all the lists check the **SNU history section** of the website.

2003 - Scheduled rallies for weekends and close enough to encourage working stiff's with families to attend. Restructured the organization to better reflect the size and style of the group.

2004 - Increased the number of rallies to six for the year. Wrote a letter and sent promotional materials to all RV dealers within our territory and to all major news outlets.

2005 - We began a partnership with the new Nevada Airstream Dealer. Participated in their Kick-Off event, requested and received support for the Unit newsletter from this dealer and received a donation for the Unit 30th Anniversary celebration. The dealer also brought new Airstreams to two different SNU rallies which gave rally participants an opportunity to check them out

2006 - We celebrated our 30th Anniversary with a special luncheon in February. The highlight was a diorama of an SNU rally created by SNU members, Randy & Vicki. This diorama was also displayed at the WBCCI International Rally in Salem OR. The SNU has increased it's use of current technologies to encourage participation from all members. We have initiated systems to pay dues and rally fees on-line, we utilized an on-line voting system to gain input in the development of the rally schedule and we utilized on-line voting for various policy issues such as the proposed WBCCI name change.

2007 - SNU membership continued to grow. The Unit gained 10 new members in 2007 and ended the year with a total of 29 members. The task of getting public service announcements in local media changed hands and the SNU's new media relations person has begun getting the rallies posted in the on-line Reno Gazette calendar of events complete with pictures. He has also begun establishing relationship with key people in several media outlets.



40th Anniversary Year



To keep informed about the Sierra Nevada Unit - select any of the following links.

SNU newsletter and article information

SNU 2016 Rally Schedule - Mark your calendars

SNU Facebook Page

What's new on the Sierra Nevada Airstreams.org



Highlights and Achievements

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2008 - The first SNU supported Death Valley rally was held in November of 2008. The rally included a guest from the Four Corners Unit. SNU members continue seeking out other Airstream owners, telling them about the SNU and asking about their Airstream experiences. Guests and visitors are always welcome at our rallies and meetings. The SNU had guests at several rallies in 2008. Two potential members participated in the Pyramid Lake rally. Airstreamers from the Sacramento area participated in the rally at Portola. Potential members from Gardnerville participated in the Sweetwater rally. Members from the Monterey Bay California Unit participated in the Obsidian Dome rally and members from the Golden West Unit stopped for a day visit at Obsidian.

2009 - Fun is a standard part of any SNU activity. To ensure we were properly attired, Melissa set up an SNU account on CafePress so we could order t-shirts and other SNU logo items. We got SNU aprons to wear while volunteering at the Airshow. We even got a special Red Neck President Apron, for Jerry. Other activities included a crockpot potluck at our Weed Heights rally, waffle breakfast at Petersen Ranch, popcorn cooked over the campfire at Obsidian, and a roast cooked over a spit on the campfire at Mason Valley. We added a few new pink flamingos to the flock including some neat pink flamingo candles that Jeni had been saving just for a rally. We admired Doris's special pink umbrella that goes along with the flamingos. Doris also treated us to a serenade with her guitar at Obsidian. Dyann, who prefers trees at the rally site, was given an inflatable palm tree along with a glittery hanging palm tree to provide her shade at rally sites with no trees. Wheels got some nice SNU stickers printed that we can put on our Airstreams. Bryan and Jerry don't let a little snow interrupt their morning coffee as demonstrated at Boca in April. Randy and Vicki updated and added to the SNU diorama which was on display at the Airshow



2010 - The SNU was featured on the October issue of the WBCCI member magazine. The pictures used on the cover were taken by various SNU members at several different rallies. Two SNU members participated in WBCCI Caravans. For one, it was their first Caravan.

2011 - The SNU held a special rally at Campground by the Lake in South Lake Tahoe to commemorate its 35th Anniversary. Rally participants enjoyed a very informative tour of the Lake Tahoe Heritage museum as well as visiting other Lake Tahoe attractions on their own. The highlight was the 3 hour dinner cruise on the M.S. Dixie.

2012 - A highlight of 2012 was the rally in Fallon at the Cantaloupe Festival. Eight SNU members attended. In addition to enjoying the Festival and the Junior Rodeo, SNU members Dean and Shelly Fischer had a special pink flamingo first birthday party for their granddaughter, Jessilyn.



2013 - Two new options were added to the SNU communications network. Rick LaBorde set up a facebook page for the SNU. Don Williams set up the SNU rallies and lunches on the Region 12 Master Calendar. The SNU always welcomes fellow Airstreamers and potential Airstreamers to our rallies. In 2013 we had guests at Obsidian, Rocky Point, Ft Sage, and Green Creek. Most were from other WBCCI Units including The New England Unit, Long Beach,

San Fernando Valley, NorCal and El Camino

2014 - Rally highlights for 2014 included: March at Lahontan - corned beef & cabbage dinner April at Boca Rest - Randy's first kite flying experiment, May at Rocky Point - A Civil Air Patrol plane took a photo of the rally from the air June at Sweetwater - This was the 3rd SNU field day rally. Bryan made several contacts on his mobile ham station, Jerry tested out his new propane oven July at Weed Heights - trips to town & visits to the museum, August at Obsidian - special Friday and Saturday breakfasts including quiches & Randy's waffles, celebrated Bobbi's birthday September at Crocker - a wet weekend provided an opportunity to deal with drizzle & rain also a visit from Shelly & Jessilyn, October at Ft Churchill - beautiful fall weather, hikes to the river, the ruins of the fort and the museum.

2015 - The SNU held rallies in three new locations and luncheons at two new places in 2015. Rally Sites - Prosser Family Campground, Lassen RV Park, and Glass Creek Campground. Luncheon venues - Shang Hai & the Plaza Hotel. The SNU had 40 members in 2015. This was the highest membership total since at least 1995. In addition to the 40 full members, the SNU had 4 affiliate members.

40th Anniversary Year



From the 1997 SNU newsletter
President's Message - We sure must be having fun because the time is just screaming by. It's hard to believe that we are into the Fall month of September. We are looking forward to our next rally at Lahontan. This will be a good time for those who haven't hooked up their rigs in some time to do so. We want to stress however, if you can't make it with your trailer, we still would like to see as many as possible anyway.



Obsidian Rally Review

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spectacular. We also checked out **Hartley Springs** which is close to Obsidian. It has designated campsites. Although the road does have some challenges we all felt it was doable so we are planning a rally there in 2017. Saturday Don and Gail arrived. Don had been providing ham radio support for the off road race out of Ruth, NV. They were on their way home. Thursday we had a sandwich and salad dinner. Dyann brought some melons fresh from the Fallon farms. The melons were a delicious addition to our dinners. Saturday's dinner turned out to be a Mexican buffet. Totally unplanned, we had beans, chili, enchiladas and all the fixin's. As always with SNU dinners, it was excellent. The other main rally activity was hashing out the 2017 SNU rally schedule. Other than a few changes, it looks



like the schedule is pretty well set. Changes include a new restaurant in Gardnerville for our February lunch and a new rally site for the September rally. The restaurant was suggested by Doris who highly recommends it. Check out the schedule in this newsletter. Don and Gail are still planning on hosting an SNU rally in Death Valley this year. The actual date and place aren't set yet. If you are interested, contact the SNU and work with Don to finalize plans. With another

great Obsidian rally now in the memory books, we are all looking forward with excitement and anticipation to the very special SNU 40th Anniversary rally at Lassen RV Resort in September.

Remembering Special People -The Leipper's

The Leipper Family (**Virginia and Dale #1183**, Bryan, Diane #772 & Anita #1183) - After moving from California, Dale and Virginia Leipper joined the SNU. Coming from a strong Unit with a full rally schedule, Dale and Virginia were instrumental in encouraging the SNU to plan and hold more rallies and other outdoor activities. They organized and hosted the very successful 1996 SNU rally at Lahontan, the first rally the Unit had held in many years. After that, Dale & Virginia hosted several other rallies and also picnic lunches at their home in Lemmon Valley. In 2000, after a rally at Ft Churchill, Dale Leipper wrote a list of suggestions for the SNU. Although this appears to be a draft, it is interesting to note some of the items on the list. It seems the discussion at Ft Churchill focused on the SNU relationship with WBCCI and ways to encourage and build membership. Among the comments on the list are these:

- You can't change WBCCI. It would be too difficult and it may not be necessary. WBCCI has many attractive features.
- We should make sure that all Airstream Owners who do not belong to WBCCI regularly receive information on the attractions of club membership.
- There is always someone who has had the same problems you may have and who knows what to do about it. They are glad to help.
- Lifetime Friendships

Although Dale Leipper was unable to attend rallies after 2001, Virginia continued participating in SNU rallies and activities until 2006. The rest of the Leipper family followed their example and the example of their Grandparents, Bryan & Jo Harrison (#772). Diane writes material for

the newsletter and encourages other members to write and submit articles. She also manages membership functions, and maintains the SNU website. Bryan has provided the technical innovation and structure that has made the SNU a pioneer in the use of many features that are more common place today. These include the basic design of the SNU website, ability to pay dues online, interactive calendars, subscription list for newsletters, online surveys, and electronic dues transfers with WBCCI. Anita has been instrumental in seeking out potential rally sites including Ramhorn Springs and Rocky Point at Eagle Lake. She has also contributed articles for newsletters. Diane, Bryan & Anita have all held offices with the SNU.

