



Sierra Nevada Unit

Wally Byam Caravan Club International

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Future SNU Rallies

- **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 20** - 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 - Crocker Campground near Beckworth, CA
- **July - Thursday July 20** - Sunday July 23, 2017 Weed Heights RV Park
- **July 22-29, 2017 - WBCCI International Rally Escanaba, MI**
- **August - Thursday August 24** - Sunday August 27, 2017 Green Creek near Bridgeport
- **September - Thur. September 21** - Sunday September 24, 2017 Lasen RV Resort, McArthur, CA
- **October 11-15, 2017 Region 12 Rally Jackson Rancheria, Jackson, CA**
- **October - Thursday October 19** - Sunday October 22, 2017 Boca Rest/Hope Valley/Lahontan (depending on weather)
- **November 18, 2017, Black Bear Fernley**
- **November, Death Valley Mesquite Campground**
- **December 16, 2017, J.T.'s Basque Restaurant, Gardnerville**

January Luncheon Review

Great BBQ and great company, what better way to spend a few hours on a Saturday. The SNU lunch at Carolina Kitchen in Sparks was well attended and as usual we had a good time catching up with what everyone has been doing. SNU members at the lunch included Gary & Anita, Roger, Janet & Jennifer, Jerry & Dyann, Randy & Vicki, Diane, Gene & Kathy, Eric & Terry and Brian & Jeni. Eric is having fun learning about shoveling snow. He & Terry just moved up here from Southern CA last spring so this is a new adventure for them. Even out in Fallon, Jerry & Dyann have gotten more snow than they have seen before and still have some on the ground in the shady areas. We all got a laugh from Melissa's recent facebook post that she has so much snow there is no place to shovel it to so she was considering putting a post on Craigs list for free one week old snow. Wonder if she would get any takers? Gene & Kathy just got home from a trip to Colorado. Brian & Jeni are looking forward to some cycling adventures this summer. All of us are keeping busy with various projects and looking forward to warmer weather. The only business we discussed was the nominations for Region 12 officers. We spent a little time sharing some ideas about upcoming rallies both 2017 rallies and some possibilities for 2018. I think we are all getting anxious to get the Airstreams out of hibernation. We are looking forward to campfires, shared meals, new adventures, and spending some time in some of our favorite rally sites. In the meantime, we are looking forward to trying out a new restaurant for our February luncheon.



Welcome

The SNU is off to a great start for 2017. We wish to welcome Shelly Hargraves as the newest SNU member and the first new member for 2017. Shelly lives in Lafayette, CA. She has a 2017 Flying Cloud. We look forward to meeting Shelly sometime soon and to helping her enjoy all sorts of Airstream adventures. We also have some new members who joined toward the end of 2016 that we haven't met yet. We hope that all our members, especially the newer ones will check out the **2017 SNU rally schedule** and make plans to join us sometime during the year. In addition, since the first of January the SNU has added five new friends to our **Facebook page**.

February Lunch at El Aguila Real

The SNU February lunch will be in a new location - **El Aguila Real in Gardnerville**. The date is Saturday February 25, 2017 at 11:30 am. Doris is the one who suggested this restaurant and she and Wheels will be hosting this luncheon. El Aguila is located at 1488 hwy 395. Parking is behind the building. [see the picture] Plan to join us and check out this new location. The menu is extensive and includes some American dishes as well as some unique Mexican dishes, all of which look very tempting. Please RSVP to hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org or 775-972-9392.



Sierra Nevada Business

We recently received the ballot for the election of region12 officers for 2017. Take a moment to **look at the ballot** and email your vote to the SNU at hq@sierranevadaairstreams.org

"The Great Basin Airstream RV Association"



The SNU has been the inspiration and beneficiary of some great examples of the imaginative talents of Randy & Vicki. Over the years they have created some unique items including the diorama, a bouquet with flamingos, the Lighted Wonder, and Ruby the Airstream. I have recently consolidated photo galleries of their creative projects. Check them out on [Randy and Vicki's travelogue page](#). Randy has modified the Lighted Wonder over the years. He & Vicki have made enhancements on the diorama. The photo gallery of Ruby includes pictures of the construction process and Randy already has ideas for enhancing that project. I wonder what creative projects Randy & Vicki will come up with next???



Nellie

SNU friends Allison and Spencer have found the Airstream of their dreams. After over a year of research and searching, they found a 1976 31ft Sovereign. They are eagerly looking forward to doing some restoration and remodeling and most of all, to actually using it. Allison is currently a student at UNR but after graduation, she and Spencer are probably going to live in their Airstream fulltime. That will enable them to be at home no matter where Allison's job takes her. Allison says she named the Airstream Nellie after **Nellie Bly**, who was a journalist and explorer in the 1800's. Check out [Allison's blog](#) and read all about Nellie and Allison and Spencer's hunt for the perfect Airstream. Hopefully she will be posting pictures as she and Spencer add their own special touches to Nellie. We look forward to meeting Nellie in person sometime in the near future.

Spreading the Word

One of the primary goals of the SNU is spreading the word about Airstreaming, the SNU and WBCCI. As Wally Byam says in his creed, *"To open a whole world of new experiences . . . a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions."* The SNU is eager to introduce others to this "whole world of new experiences". The primary way the SNU spreads the word is by being an example of all that is great about Airstreaming. Another way is sharing our experiences with fellow RV'rs we meet on our travels or introducing ourselves to Airstreamers we run across close to home. The newsletter has always been one of our primary communications tools. The tradition has been that Unit newsletters are primarily internal, in other words for Unit members and other WBCCI members. The SNU has progressively expanded it's newsletter audience. When we were still doing a print version, we used to print extra copies for members to hand out. Now that the newsletter is available online, members and anyone who has an interest in the SNU can subscribe to the email announcement list. Members still print out extra copies to hand out to Airstreamers they meet. We also post a link to the newsletter on the SNU FaceBook page. The SNU FaceBook page is a public group that not only SNU members, but anyone who is interested can ask to join. It appears that the SNU is one of the few Units in Region 12 with a public FaceBook page. Almost anything and everything about the SNU is available through our website. The website not only includes basics like our current rally schedule and list of officers, photo galleries of past events, and how to join, it includes a comprehensive look at who we are, what we do, why we do things the way we do, our governance documents, our history and much more. Back around 2000, the SNU started submitting public service announcements to local newspapers about our upcoming activities. The SNU is still one of the very few Units to do this on a regular basis. The SNU is proud to be a chartered Unit of WBCCI, a club whose membership is exclusive to Airstream and Argosy owners, but we have always welcomed guests and visitors. We have often had people stop by a rally or come to a lunch who aren't current members. They want to find out more about the SNU and Airstreaming. These visitors have frequently become SNU members.



How has all of this benefited the SNU? We have learned that the more people who become acquainted with the SNU, the more the SNU benefits. Examples include feature articles in local newspapers, invitations to participate in special events, and most important, new members. We have learned that often it isn't the Airstream owner who sees our newsletter, public service announcements, website or FaceBook page, it is a friend or someone else and they pass the word to the Airstreamer. The broader our audience, the more opportunities to gain potential members as well as friends and to develop professional relationships that can assist the SNU. We have learned that by having a comprehensive website, people who decide to join after checking it out know what kind of group they are joining.

The SNU members who are most active and have been with the SNU the longest are those that heard about us through our efforts to spread the word. They responded to PSA's in local papers. They learned about the SNU from members who met them in parking lots, campgrounds, airport campsites, or during their travels. They learned about the SNU from members who lived in their neighborhood and who saw they had an Airstream and introduced themselves. They found the SNU through searches on the internet and decided to check us out in person.

Being an SNU member provides unique opportunities including the opportunity to have a say in what the SNU does, the types of activities it should engage in, how it functions, it's governance, and where it should head in the future. Being an SNU member opens up opportunities in both the regional and national levels of WBCCI. Most of all, being an SNU member means the opportunity "to get out and have fun with your RV - with friends who share common interests." By spreading the word about Airstreaming and the SNU we can encourage others to join us in sharing experiences and adventures and the fellowship of other Airstreamers.

*"The Great Basin
Airstream
RV Association"*



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

SNU newsletter and article information

SNU 2017 Rally Schedule - Mark your calendars

SNU Facebook Page

*What's new on the
SierraNevada
Airstreams.org*



WBCCI - Sierra Nevada Unit - Newsletter

Remembering Dan Randall

SNU member, Dan Randall passed away the end of December after a long battle with cancer. Dan was a friend of Don and Gail Williams. Dan was an avid RV enthusiast. In addition to being a member of the SNU, Dan was active in a camping group with his church.

2010 Rocky Point - Dan is w/o a hat



His other hobbies included his antique car, a 1931 Model A Ford and being a licensed ham radio operator. We first met Dan when he came with Don & Gail to an SNU rally at Rocky Point in 2010. Dan attended several other WBCCI rallies including the 2015 Cali-Rally. Although we didn't get to know Dan well, he is fondly remembered and will be missed by all his friends in the SNU.

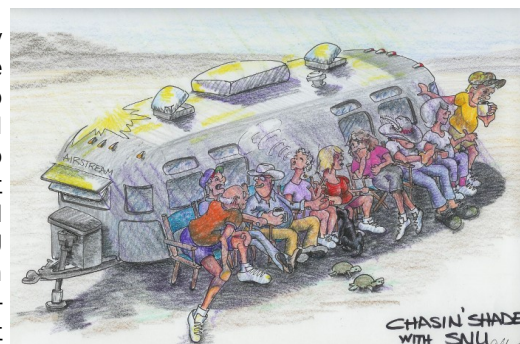
Dan's Airstream and 1931 Model A Ford



Airstream Art

Former SNU member Clint Norrell is a very good amateur artist. The first Airstream he and his wife Kathy bought inspired him to focus his talents on Airstreams. Clint did several drawings inspired by the SNU. He also put together a cartoon book about Airstreams. One of his drawings was a special remembrance of Jerry's term as SNU president. That drawing was printed on an Apron for Jerry to use at the Silver Springs fly-in and other rallies. Clint and Kathy's very first rally was in March of 2007 at Washoe Lake.

They had such a great time, they joined the SNU. They attended several other SNU rallies before taking off on another adventure. Clint and Kathy joined the Peace Corps. We heard from them for a while. There are emails from Kathy while they were in Belize which she agreed to post on the website. They provide a fascinating glimpse of their early days in the Peace Corps. We lost track of them but we hope that they had many more great adventures and maybe when they left the Corps they bought another Airstream and are back on the road here in the U.S. We have **Clint's drawings posted on the website**. They always make you smile and bring back some great memories.



New Year, New Traditions

It's the second month of a new year. It's a new decade for the SNU. We have several new members. It's a perfect time to incorporate some new ideas and create some new traditions. One new idea is the location for our February luncheon. There are a few other ideas percolating on the back burner for this year. Our first rally for 2017 in March is fast approaching. Are there some activities you would like to see at rallies? Are there some new things you would like to do, new places you would like to go? The SNU has done all sorts of things, both big and small over the last ten years including yoyo contests, horseshoes, kite flying, visiting museums, touring Bodie as well as other ghost towns and historic sites, brunch at a bed & breakfast, our own special brunches, helping out at the Silver Springs Fly-In, cast iron cooking, a dinner cruise on the M. S. Dixie, Nevada surf & turf BBQ's, enjoying the Cantaloupe Festival, ice cream socials, star gazing, and of course, pink flamingos and solar lights. Check the list of some of the **SNU special activities** on the website. A lot of our favorite activities and best memories have come from brainstorming crazy ideas and from spur of the moment inspirations. Put your own special mark on the SNU. All you need to do is share your ideas with the SNU and then help make them a reality.

July 2000 Touring Bowers Mansion



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2017 The Return of Winter to the Sierra Nevada



Snow on the Airstreams – Check out the [SNU facebook page](#) to see some neat pictures of Airstreams in the snow. **Help us expand this collection by adding pictures of your Airstream in the snow.** This picture is of Don & Gail's "first Campout in our first Airstream Veterans Day Weekend 2004 at Joshua Tree NP in sunny Southern CA. Who knew, shirt sleeve weather on Friday & Saturday." By now, they have become a little more familiar with Airstreaming in the snow.



Trip Diaries, Logs and Blogs

Keeping track of your travels is a great way to help you get the most from your experiences on the road. The time honored way to do this has been written daily log books or notebooks. My grandparents, Bryan & Jo Harrison WBCCI #772, kept meticulous logs of their almost 20 years of full time Airstream traveling. A few years ago I transcribed some of their diary about the **1957 WBCCI Mexican Caravan** to blog posts. Makes for interesting reading of travel in the 1950's.

Nowadays there are a variety of electronic possibilities. There are no rules on how to keep a travel diary or what should be included. It is totally up to the interests, creativity, and resources of the individual. Some of the most common travel elements kept in diaries are things related to the vehicles, places visited and places stayed, and activities and events. Logging vehicle activity usually includes daily miles traveled, gas stops, gas costs, miles per gallon, and maintenance and repair issues. Entries related to places may include the name of the place, facilities or amenities, problems or preferences, and a personal evaluation of the experience. Similar issues are addressed about activities and events. Photos are an almost standard part of electronic diaries. They can be part of blog entries or as some people prefer, you can use photo specific sites like Flickr, Picasa or Google.

Today, many people use an online blog, most of which are public. The traveler makes regular entries on their blog and you can often virtually follow along on their travels. Blogs are popular with RV'rs including quite a few Airstreamers. **Roger & Roxie** who came to an SNU rally at Obsidian several years ago, have a very nice blog. Charles Spither had a nice blog about the **WBCCI Golden Anniversary Caravan in 2005**. SNU friend Allison has a nice blog that includes information on her and Spencer's Airstream. There are sites like **Aluminarium** which provides a linked list to various Airstream related blogs.. SNU member, **Wheels kept a great diary** of his and Doris's 2015 travels. **Claudia has a nice blog** that includes some great pictures of the places she has been. Travel isn't the only subject on RV blogs. **Zephyrs, for instance** covers anything that might be of interest to an RV'er. There are blogs on restoration projects, maintenance, living on the road, traveling with kids or pets, and just about every other topic you can think of.

Facebook pages are another tool that can be used as a trip log. SNU members Don & Gail used Don's facebook page to post pictures and comments of the Alaska Caravan. Several other SNU members post pictures and comments of their Airstream adventures on their personal facebook pages. The **SNU has it's own facebook** page where any SNU member as well as SNU friends can post SNU and Airstream related pictures or comments.

Websites can also serve as travel diaries. SierraNevadaAirstreams is one example. The rally section is essentially a photo diary of SNU and other Airstream rallies. The destination section provides photos and information on places visited and trips taken. R. J. Marquette has an interesting webpage related his adventures with an **Airstream B-van**.

Technology is continually evolving. It seems new ways of logging travels are popping up faster than you can keep track of. No matter what system you use, electronic methods often act as the modern version of photo albums and paper diaries. There are advantages to both electronic and paper systems. Before getting started, you should decide why you want to keep a diary, what you intend to use it for, what you want to include, who you intend to share it with, what method best suits your resources (including time, experience, equipment, and costs) and personal preferences. The important thing is to have fun while enhancing your travel experiences and preserving your memories.

Location: JB Charleston Farm Camp, Charleston, SC Date: 26 May 2013
Departed: 8:45 AM Arrived: 3:00 PM Miles: 274
We stopped for about a half hour for lunch and about 30 minutes on a stop and go highway. The highway was jammed because a diesel tanker and a car collided on a key bridge over the Cooper River. Traffic was stopped in both directions and affected traffic on many feeder highways. This Farm Camp is on the what was the Charleston AFB of the JB Charleston. It is a nice camp ground with trees and some concrete slabs.



Location: JB Charleston Farm Camp, Charleston, SC Date: 27 May 2013
I went to Costco today to have the tires rotated and to get a few things from their store. After lunch I called Piet Smart, grooming to see if they had an opening for Andy. They didn't so I went to the museum at Patriot's Point. Except for the choppers in the Vietnam section all the aircraft were on the aircraft carrier Yorktown (10) at anchor there. It was a long walk out the dock and over the decks of the Yorktown that I didn't want to do. I found some interesting books in the gift shop, one that shows all the aircraft on the Yorktown. All are Navy aircraft I have already photographed somewhere else. Back at the trailer I took off the left fog light that was broken. After dinner I went looking for fuel with no luck. I have enough to get there I just like a cushion.

