



November 2019 Airstreamer

SNU NOVEMBER EL CHARRO AVITA LUNCHEON

The end of Fall brings the start of our SNU luncheons and will find our members 4 wheeling to **El Charro Avita Mexican Restaurant on Saturday, November 16th at 11:30 AM**. It's located at 4389 S Carson St, Carson City just north of the I-580 interchange with US-395. No reservations are needed and you can order off the menu! We invite you to come and share stories with us about past and future rallies, luncheons and your Airstream life on the road. Airstreams have wheels under them and in deference to Antsy McClain's "It Ain't Home Till You Take the Wheels Off", **wheels off** is for maintenance only! They are made to roll down the highways and byways.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our new president, Gene Baleme, has a family emergency that he is dealing with over the last week or more. Gene offers his regret not being able to write a brief article but he expects to embrace his new presidential responsibilities in the coming weeks.

FINAL ARTICLE AS RETIRING SNU PRESIDENT

Some of our members were anxious for Boca Rest, our last rally of the year. The Dales used the previous weekend to scout out the campground and local area. Gail and I headed north leading the SNU Eastern Sierra Caravan from the Region 12 Rally in Bakersfield with lots of stops planned for our way north to Boca. I'll cover the basics of our caravan later in this issue, but our exit from the caravan for a family emergency and the health and ailments of our members meant we would not have a Boca Rest Rally host resulted in a luncheon being substituted. My apologies to our members but such is life of a small club like the SNU. We might want to establish a second luncheon/rally sponsor for each

Different event to avoid outright cancellations in the future.

Email and in-person election votes at the luncheon were tabulated and the 2020 slate of officers, board members and appointed positions ratified. The Board did request and approve appointment of Jerry Thornburg as our second Trustee. As you can see, we still have a vacant secretary position to fill and we certainly can use support for informal positions like rally hosts, luncheon hosts, etc.. Please attend our upcoming lunches and rallies to welcome:

President: Eugene (Gene) Baleme #15229

Secretary: vacant

Treasurer: Gail Williams #14207

Trustee: Randy Grossman #3352

Trustee: Jerry Thornburg #2797

Membership Chair: Don Williams #14207

Webmaster: Diane Leipper #772

Newsletter Editor & Asst. Webmaster: Don Williams #14207

By the Way, this doesn't mean this is my final article in the **Airstreamer**, I'll continue writing and editing it until someone says enough! With that said heed my next plea for articles.

Members and Writers

We really want to showcase your work and hear about your **Airstream life, travel, maintenance, rally locations or anything related**. You write it, we'll publish it. Maybe your article will be accepted for publication in the Blue Beret and you'll have the satisfaction of contributing to your club's history as other members have. Contact your Airstreamer Editor soon to make the next issue!



CALENDAR of EVENTS

•WBCCI/WBAC SNU MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL-through Dec 31st

I am pleased to report that the Sierra Nevada Unit membership is still growing thanks to our new and renewing members; we are at 16 full members and 2 affiliates. Please thank and acknowledge our most recent renewals: Ginny & John Ganther #4872, Jenifer & Brian Root #6376, Cary & Mark Seasholtz #6977 and Kathy & Eugene Trabit #4462. We invite the rest of our 2019 members to renew as members of the Wally Byam Airstream Club, also known to the faithful as the Wally Byam Caravan Club International? Did you know the WBCCI/WBAC is the largest single brand RV club in the World. It's time to renew your yearly membership and list the Sierra Nevada Unit as your Home unit, #157. Yes it's still \$75 total, \$65 for the International organization and \$10 for the SNU (a bargain,



some units and clubs add \$50 or more). The International portion funds the monthly Blue Beret, the yearly Membership Directory (plus quarterly electronic updates), website costs for the WBCCI and its units & clubs, and the liability insurance for the parent organization and all unit, club and intra club activities. Renew at <https://airstreamclub.org> and select the SNU, Unit #157 ! Renew by November to be included in the January Membership Directory.

Got Christmas and Holiday Airstream Gift Requests & Ideas? Send me your list before Thanksgiving and I'll publish them in time for the Holidays; requestors' names to be **redacted** !

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CALENDAR of EVENTS cont'd

•SNU December Luncheon/Dinner - Saturday, December 14th, 2019 - time and location to be determined.

•SNU New Year Luncheon - Saturday, January 18th, 2020 - look for confirmation of the Bavarian World, exact time to be determined.

•SNU February Luncheon - Saturday, February 22nd, 2020 - shifted back one week to miss President's Day Weekend; look for confirmation of the Black Bear Diner in Fernley, NV

•Loveland 2020 international Rally - June 20th to the 27th, 2020 - The Ranch, Loveland, CO - The beautifully groomed and expansive 240 acres of land that comprise The Ranch will provide parking and space for outdoor activities, with the Rocky Mountains providing a stunning backdrop to the West. Find out more and register here: <https://loveland.airstreamclub.net>.

•Region 12 Emerald Dunes Rally - October 21st to Sunday the 25th, 2020 - Emerald Dunes RV Resort, Palm Desert, CA - The San Diego Airstream Club will host the region's annual rally at the Emerald Dunes RV Resort. The venue will include great food, relaxation (an SNU favorite) and local venues for golfing (Joan & John take note), the Palm Springs Aerial Tram that takes you from near sea level to cool forests at 8516 ft in the San Jacinto Mountains, nearby Joshua Tree National Park, Salton Sea, Desert Hills Premium Outlets (discount mall) and more. The region rallies give you a chance to talk with other Airstreamers and get ideas for your own adventures! Let get a contingent of SNU members and caravan south for Emerald Dunes. Stay tuned here or at airstreamclub.org for more info.

RALLY REPORTS - Region 12 Bakersfield Rally

The LAke Tahoe Airstream Club hosted the Region 12 Rally at the Bakersfield RV Resort in early October with approximately 70 rigs and 130 rally goers. LTAC members and spontaneous volunteers from the attendees did a great job on the rally. Arriving Airstreamers were able to relax Wednesday night with their choice of beverage, and dine on a



stuffed loaded potato and chili prepared by the rally crew;

Thursday's schedule included a morning tour of the Dewars Candy Store and Factory. Many at the rally headed over to Buck Owens Crystal Palace Thursday evening for dining, music, dancing (some) and celebration (more dancing after celebration). Your then president's Filet Mignon at the Crystal Palace was excellent!

Friday gave us time to visit, relax, sightsee with new and old Airstream friends, enjoy a happy hour courtesy of SkyMed, a sub sandwich supper and evening Karaoke; you had to hear it to believe it, not sure that all our WBCCI member could hear it!



Saturday started with a continental breakfast rolling into the annual Region Business Meeting; all 11 units and clubs were represented by their president or a designee. Saturday evening's dinner was barbecued brisket, mildly spicy ranch beans (some disagreed with my "mild" assessment) and a salad. We closed out the evening with a great magic show, raffle of two hand made quilts, auction of the unit charity baskets and the door prize drawings. The SNU's basket with it's Nevada Jam and Honey Basket, weekend desk sign, "the Complete Nevada Traveler" guide, USA & NV desk



flags, flamingo dish towel & wine glass, NFS Eastern Sierra pins and exclusive Sierra Nevada Unit AAA map (local artist) garnered about 6 bids, finally won by good friends Tom and Marie Jackson. The SNU won big for the night, Gail won a hand made quilt, the auction of two pet related baskets and together we won a hose/cord reel basket in the door prize drawing.

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS OR ONLY KNOWN TO A FEW

Gail and I hosted what we hoped would be a **Sierra Nevada Unit Caravan**. We tried to lure some of our SNU members to a local caravan showcasing the Eastern Sierra Nevada mountains and desert. Unfortunately we had no takers! We left Bakersfield late Sunday morning and decided to take a circuitous route on CA-178 up to Lake Isabella at

For more info on the Sierra Nevada Unit go to: www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/ , Sierra Nevada Unit of the WBCCI on Facebook or email us at: snu157@wbcci.net . (all photos courtesy of sierranevadaairstreams.org)

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LITTLE KNOWN FACTS cont'd

2500 ft. This was not our original intended route but with no caravaners voicing objections we headed out. Some travelers might have been frightened by the rock walls a foot from the sides of their Airstream but seeing semis, oversized RVs and 5th wheels gave us comfort to soldier on. The terrain and vegetation reminded us of the dry rolling grassy hills between Merced and Mariposa, CA rather than the greener shrubs and forests of the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains. There were lots of NFS campgrounds in the mountains ringing Lake Isabella but we continued east on 178 over 5300 ft Walker Pass, then down to the desert floor at 3200 ft and its connection with CA-14 and US-395. A short drive north took us to an early favorite stop, Fossil Falls BLM campground in the lower end of Owens Valley. We lounged, walked the dogs and enjoyed the views; even



after sundown when the Hunters Moon rose above the Coso Range.

Monday we gathered up the caravaners for a Driver/Copilot Meeting and got an early start (11:30) with plans to stop at the Eastern



Bygone Tow Vehicle & Travel Trailers

Leaving the museum, we decided to check out the local Inyo County and NFS campgrounds, choosing a view site at 6100 ft in Upper Grays Meadow Campground (NFS). Surprisingly, our night time temperatures were 41 degrees, the same as Fossil Falls some 2500 ft lower.

Gail got an early call Tuesday morning that turned our caravan plans upside down; we packed and headed home to prepare for a trip east. Luckily the urgency lessened over the day orzo but it still required that we drop from the caravan and Boca Rally and head home to deal with it.

Don & Gail Williams #14207



Driver/Copilots Meeting

California Museum in Independence, CA. The area has a surprising and varied history, well documented with artifacts and materials in the museum.



Wireless Communications - the Wave of the Future (Eastern California Museum)

Wally Byam's Creed:

- ❖ To place the great wide world at your doorstep for you who yearn to travel with all the comforts of home.
 - ❖ To provide a more satisfying, meaningful way of travel that offers complete travel independence, wherever and whenever you choose to go or stay.
 - ❖ To keep alive and make real an enduring promise of high adventure and faraway lands... of rediscovering old places and new interests.
 - ❖ To open a whole world of new experiences... a new dimension in enjoyment where travel adventure and good fellowship are your constant companions.
 - ❖ To encourage clubs and rallies that provide an endless source of friendships, travel fun and personal expressions.
 - ❖ To lead caravans wherever the four winds blow... over twinkling boulevards, across trackless deserts... to the traveled and untraveled corners of the earth.
 - ❖ To play some part in promoting international goodwill and understanding among the peoples of the world through person-to-person contact.
 - ❖ To refine and perfect our product by continuous travel-testing over the highways and byways of the world.
 - ❖ To strive endlessly to stir the venturesome spirit that moves you to follow a rainbow to its end... and thus make your travel dreams come true.
- Wally Byam

Don Williams, Newsletter Editor, kd6uvt@wbcci.net:

What do you want to be in life, a spectator or a participant?

Remember to Renew by November to be included in the January member edition of the Blue Beret! Goto: <https://airstreamclub.org> press Join Now and follow the link & select your local Sierra Nevada. Unit.

For more info on the Sierra Nevada Unit go to: www.sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/ , Sierra Nevada Unit of the WBCCI on Facebook or email us at: snu157@wbcci.net . (all photos courtesy of sierranevadaairstreams.org)