



**Rally at Walker  
River State Park**

# AIRSTREAMER



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Gene is still out of the area in the Philippines but he and Carmen finally have a date to fly home! He tells their story, ***Travel in These Times.***

Hello everyone,

Here in the Philippines we have been under GCU, general community quarantine, for 5 months now. In February it changed to ECQ, enhanced community quarantine. ECQ lasted for three months starting in February. Under ECQ no one 60 up or below 18 is allowed to leave their home for any reason except to go to the hospital. Family with passes must bring you your food and medicine. Glad we have a big family here on Negros Island. Each household gets one pass and it can be used three times only in a week. Our family could come and visit us. Our return flight to the US was canceled and our booking agency was no help at all, A.S.A.P. Tickets. Don't ever use them. Our only chance to get back home required us to go to Manila and try for a flight from there. The US Embassy was no help at all with anything. We could not leave our island until ECQ was dropped to GCU. Every time we booked a flight the government extended ECQ and flights were canceled; we rebooked three times. ECQ dropped to GCQ on June 16th. Under GCQ we can now go places and be somewhat normal.

Travel documents were required to go to the airport and fly so first we had to have approval docs from our local Barangay (an administrative village, district or ward). The town is made up of 4 Barangay. Next to the city health office to see a doctor and get health clearance. Next we go to the department of the interior and local government for clearance to travel. They then send everything to the main office and we got that back in three days. Next everything had to be approved by the PNP, Philippine National Police, for final clearance. We have relatives and friends in all these places so it went smoothly. Travel to the airport requires passes and we are allowed one driver with us only to enter the airport. We own a utility truck and have family with passes so they took us there. Without our own truck there would be no way to get there because public transport is shut down still. We got to Manila June 23rd and are staying at a condo we own in a gated community. Again you must have passes to leave the gated community so we stay in our condo and only go out to the stores. You stand at a window outside and tell them what you want and they pass it through the window to you. We booked a flight to the US for July 1st which is my B day so it's a birthday present to myself. We just got our passes so we can get to the airport and are working on getting a ride there. Passes for my family are only on certain days so if needed we hire a car and driver. We are looking forward to the freedom of Nevada travel soon. If there is one thing we have had time for its making plans in our heads.

*My first lady, Carmen has my back. I pray this finds you all well and safe. Gene*

## ***It's Finally Time to Rally! Will you be there?***

## **BIG CHANGE - Walker River Rally, Thursday July 16th - Sunday the 19th** - We have

changed our rally from Weed Heights RV Park to Walker River State Park. Weed Heights staff were not favorable to allowing a group and their community room and barbecue area are closed. Nevada has now opened up camping at state parks so we are moving the rally to Walker River State Park; the Quail Run Campground has camping with water and electric hookups next to the Pitchfork Ranch Visitor Center and camping without hookups 1/4 mile away at the River Bend Campground behind the Visitor Center (drive past the Visitor Center for both campgrounds). Long time members Dyann & Jerry Thornburg are our rally hosts so look for their Airstream MoHo.

We'll have lots of activities at our beck and call at Walker River; fishing, wildlife viewing, canoeing/kayaking (the adventurous should bring their own) and four wheeling. Scoping nearby Sweetwater Summit for its road conditions maybe warranted. The social distancing requirements for these dates, unknown as of publication, will apply so shared or potluck meals may be out but gathering

### **Sierra Nevada Unit Board**

- **Gene Baleme, president**
- **Dyann McDonald Thornburg, secretary**
- **Gail Williams, treasurer**
- **Jerry Thornburg, trustee**
- **Randy Grossman, trustee**
- **Don Williams, membership chair & newsletter editor**
- ***all links clickable***

in the shade to visit, share stories and lies and sitting around after an evening meal (sit 6' apart) should be allowed.

Come out and share Walker with us. Can't spend the entire weekend; remember Wally's 1st of the Four Freedoms – Freedom from Arrangements; No Reservations required! Come out for just two days or even make a day trip of it. Walker River SP is only about 90 miles and less than 2 hours from most of our members.

The best approach from Reno is:

- Take I-80 east from Reno and head south on NV-439 to the Silver Springs area.
- Follow US-95A south from Silver Springs to Yerington and continue south on NV-339.
- Turn left on NV-827 just as you enter Mason, drive 1.5 miles and then turn right on NV-208.
- Drive 5.5 miles south on 208, turn left on East Walker Road and drive 4.2 miles to the park entrance (large gateway and driveway flanked by small trees on both sides).
- If coming from Carson City take US-50 east to the Silver Springs area and then follow bullets 2 thru 4.

RSVP with Dyann McDonald Thornburg or SNU Membership Chair, Don Williams, at [snu157@wbcci.net](mailto:snu157@wbcci.net) by Monday, June 8th.

## Member Spotlight

I'll coin an amateur radio term, 'Nothing Heard'

**Please help your newsletter editor avoid embarrassment in front of the entire WBCCI.** Units and clubs far and wide are championing my request to members for material for articles with requests to their own members, Here's one from the Alabama Airstream Club:

*'Call for articles*

*Thanks to Don Williams of the Sierra Nevada Unit and to Hedda Smithson, WBAC Publications Chair for this suggestion.*

*Alabama Club Members. Without news there is no newsletter. Without rallies and luncheons, there is nothing to write about. Or is there? Some believe this is a time where we need one another even more. Please share articles, anecdotes, photos, recipes, jokes, member interviews, anything Airstream related that will let us feel connected.'*

Just 15 minutes of your time for a paragraph and a photo will make you an Airstreamer star. Send it to [snu157@wbcci.net](mailto:snu157@wbcci.net) or call me, tell me the story and I'll do the writing.

## Calendar of Events

**WBCCI/WBAC SNU Membership - WBCCI Renewal Time Now thru November!** - It's time to renew your WBCCI membership for calendar year 2021. Your Membership Chair person is waiting on pins and needles for your renewal. We also invite our many SNU friends to join the WBCCI & SNU. Don't fret that we mostly boondock; we'll help you and provide solid advice for camping our style in comfort. Yes membership is \$75 total, \$65 for the Wally Byam Airstream Club and \$10 for the SNU. Renew or Join at: [airstreamclub.org](http://airstreamclub.org), select the appropriate Current or Future Member pulldown menu at the top and follow the instructions. The Airstream Club's renewal web pages are secure so you can use credit card or PayPal. Remember to scroll down and pick the Sierra Nevada Unit, #157, as your home unit! *Email me with a phone number if you want someone to walk you through it on the computer,* [snu157@wbcci.net](mailto:snu157@wbcci.net).

**The IBT (International Board of Trustees) have not released the voting results for WBCCI Officers and Amendments**

**Loveland 2020 WBCCI International Rally - June 20th, 2020 CANCELLED**

**SNU Walker River Rally - Thursday, July 16th to Sunday the 19th** - Summer is bringing freedom; note the change in location and celebrate at Nevada's Walker River State Park. Come share the outdoors with us, social distancing requirements will be followed but you can still relax, plug in your Airstream with full services and run the A/C in the Quail Run (RV) campground next to the Pitchfork Ranch Visitor Center. Please RSVP at [snu157@wbcci.net](mailto:snu157@wbcci.net).

**SNU Crocker-Beckworth Rally - Thursday August 20 to Sunday the 23rd** - Crocker-Beckworth is an old California Conservation. Corps (CCC) camp located 3 miles east of Lake Davis (not visible from the campground) and 13 road miles from Portola, CA and the Western Pacific Railroad Museum. You'll be camped in the Pines with Aspens flanking the nearby historic Crocker Guard Station. Hiking, fishing at nearby Lake Davis and visits to the Railroad Museum [wplives.org](http://wplives.org) nearby.

**LASSEN RV RESORT RALLY - Thursday, September 17th to Sunday the 20th** - The Lassen RV Resort rally is a perennial favorite. Phil and Jasmin have sold the Lassen RV Resort to Ben and Danelle Jansen from Denver. Ben intends to make further enhancements to the Resort beyond that Phil and Jasmin made while keeping the wooded wilderness theme and all of the typical RV park amenities, hookups and services. This our of our most popular rally of the year so put it on your schedule and make a reservation with Ben now at 530.336.5657 or online at [lassenrvresort.com](http://lassenrvresort.com). - Randy Grossmann #3352

**Region 12 Emerald Dunes Rally - Wednesday, October 21st to Sunday, the 25th** - Registration for the 2020 Region 12 Rally is filled although they are accepting people for a waiting list. This years rally at the Emerald Dunes RV Resort is hosted by the San Diego Airstream Club. The rally is on the schedule with the affect of social distancing unknown at this date. Region President Cecelia Stansbury and the San Diego Airstream Club will keep us up to date on the rally planing and activities! Gail and your Editor have stayed at the Emerald Dunes for the annual Palm Springs Modernism Week and the Vintage Trailer Show. We can vouch that the Dunes 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 8500 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 members and host a SNU Caravan South for Emerald Dunes. Stay tuned here or at [airstreamclub.org](http://airstreamclub.org) for more info.

**Lahontan State Recreation Area Rally - Thursday, October 15th to Sunday the 18th** - Fall is a great time to visit Lahontan, mild temperatures and no high water levels that we've sometimes seen in Spring. Nevada touts Lahontan, 'Canoeing from Fort Churchill to the lake makes for a great day trip when conditions allow. Wild horses, bobcat, fox and deer share the park with a variety of birds, including migratory waterfowl, pelicans, herons, egrets and hawks. Lahontan is also a nesting site for bald eagles,' so birding, walking and a possible visit to nearby Buckland Station are in store for us.

**SNU November through December** - Want to know more, check out our 2020 SNU Rally Calendar or go to the Wally Byam Airstream Club Events pages: [airstreamclub.org/events](http://airstreamclub.org/events).

## HICKISON VIRTUAL RALLY REPORT

We've now missed four rallies this year! The campground at Petroglyphs, east of Austin, NV, was and is open but many of us weren't yet motivated to venture out. What did we miss? The BLM says that 'Hickison Petroglyphs Recreation Area is a great place to take a walk, let the kids run, have a picnic, spend a few days camping, and look at ancient petroglyphs. Hickison offers long vistas, shade, and an opportunity to think about early Native Americans hunting, drawing on rock, and living in this area.'

Wikipedia says of Hickison, 'In the general vicinity of Hickison Summit are multiple prehistoric hunting and living sites dating to 10,000 B.C. as well as more recent sites such as mining camps and ranches. Trails used by mid-19th-century explorers John C. Frémont and James H. Simpson pass through the area as do the routes of the Pony Express and the Overland Stage. At the time of the earliest prehistoric sites, the Great Basin contained large lakes, including Lake Toiyabe and Lake Tonopah in the Big Smoky Valley west of the summit. As the climate became drier, the lakes evaporated, and the former lake-dependent cultures were replaced by hunter-gatherers. When the first European-Americans arrived in about 1850, Western Shoshone people lived in the region.'



## 20 YEARS AGO - [sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/archives/oojl-nwsltr.pdf](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/archives/oojl-nwsltr.pdf)

The one page July 2000 *Newsletter* invited members to the July brown bag picnic at Mills Park in Reno to eat and gab. A small turnout was expected because three members were on holiday or headed to the International Rally in Bismarck, ND. Virginia Leipper, Anita, Bryan and Diane's mother and early SNU member was coordinating the picnic. You can read about Virginia and husband Dale Leipper in the SNU memorial pages: [sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/snu-history/memorial/o9oc-dale-virginia-tribute.html](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/snu-history/memorial/o9oc-dale-virginia-tribute.html). Note, Virginia looks like Diane!

## 10 YEARS AGO - [sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/10jy-snu-nwsltr.pdf](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/10jy-snu-nwsltr.pdf)

Another four page Airstreamer, they got more verbose with Diane Leipper as editor or newsletter assembler in these later years. In reality it was an effort to share more info with SNU members and encourage them to participate.

The July 2010 Airstreamer reported on June's rally at the small community park in Unionville, NV:

- Eight rigs were in attendance including guests Von Gallion and Yvonne DeRoule.
- The rally fell on Amateur Radio Field Day, an emergency exercise for radio operators in the form of a 24 hour contest throughout the USA and other countries. Frank Colligan KF6LOP and Bryan Leipper K1CD made several contacts during the event; Diane Leipper KB7DSW is also a ham along with other current member who we'll mention in another edition.
- Jerry Thornburg helped make repairs to one members trailer, replacing the water pump that was leaking.
- The coming rally for Crocker was showcased, being the first time the unit would camp there.
- Sales and purchase of member's Airstreams were listed; noteworthy might be the Halls. After attending the SNU's March Pyramid Lake Rally they purchased a 1974 Sovereign to full time. Stephen was a traveling nurse so the Airstream gave them the comfort of home wherever he was working: [sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/show\\_n\\_tell/beatrice/75-shsovereign/gallery.html](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/show_n_tell/beatrice/75-shsovereign/gallery.html).
- Lastly, Lloyd and Ruth Brown's trip log to the 1971 European Caravan were highlighted encouraging members to follow the July edition link to read more about it: [sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/travelogues/brown/europe.html](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/travelogues/brown/europe.html).

REPRINTED FROM THE WBCCI NORCAL AIRSTREAM CLUB'S NEWSLETTER "POPPY", WITH PERMISSION

Is a Sierra Nevada Unit Zoom Happy Hour or Rally in our future? Many clubs are holding virtual rallies and happy hours with Zoom software to keep member's connected. The the photo in the article below shows the member faces in Zoom, the video conferencing program. Only time will tell if one is in the SNU future?



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## NorCal's FIRST VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR

via



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



On Friday, May 1, 2020, like any Friday night at a Club rally, NorCalers celebrated Happy Hour together. But instead of being at an RV park, they were in the safety of their own shelter-in-place locations via the ubiquitous Zoom software application utilized by President Ray Bell who came up with the idea and arranged for the virtual Happy Hour via a Zoom invitation.

This turned out to be a very popular idea. There were so many members logging in that two

screens were required to show everyone. At one point there were 35 devices logged on, with roughly 60 plus people in attendance. The thirst for social interaction with club members was palpable after at least six weeks of quarantine.

For two couples, this was their first “rally,” and they are featured on page 11. For others it was a way to connect, see one another, wave, and say “Hi” in real time. A practice session was successfully held for a few neophyte Zoomers (yours truly included) a couple days before, which was very helpful in participating in the “real thing.”

While not the same as being with one another in person, and certainly a bit more unwieldy (who talks to 60 people at the same time during Happy Hour?), it was a fun way to keep us NorCalers connected during this “down” time and touch base with one another.

Another idea? It has been suggested that a moderator might be a helpful if we do this again.

– Poppy editor

### 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

### Dreams of Rallies Far and Near



**July Walker River Rally**



**August Crocker-Beckwourth Rally**

**Rally & Caravan Season is Coming, Are You Ready?** - Due to popular demand or the editor’s ego, the “Rally & Caravan Season is Coming, Are You Ready?” article on Airstream maintenance and readying yourself for travel is available for reference on the SNU web page. Follow the link and click Rally season maintenance list :

[sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2020](http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2020)

Don Williams, Newsletter Editor, [kd6uvt@wbcci.net](mailto:kd6uvt@wbcci.net) — “What do you want to be in life, a spectator or a participant?”