



WHILE IT'S SLOW, THE COUNTRY IS ROLLING OUT THE COVID VACCINES AND READYING TO OPEN BACK UP; ARE YOU PLANNING TO BUST OUT?

AIRSTREAMER

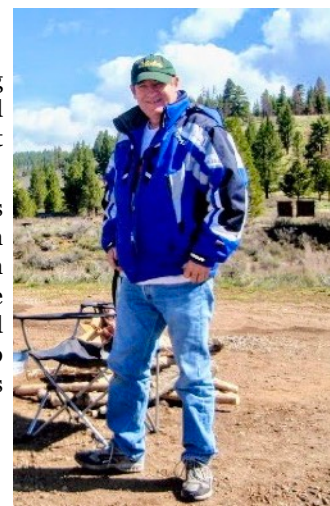
PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello,

I know it's been a long winter and I have not had any Airstream related ideas to share. I am looking forward to spring and getting out to rallies. My Airstream is dormant beside my house but that should change with our first rally. Year 2020 was the pits but we got out some and 2021 looks to be better so get ready for some fun in the sun starting in March or April.

The board and I have been talking and getting info from rally sites to see what we can do. We are always open to ideas and help. Speaking of help we do need to fill the secretary position, one trustee position and vote for our board for 2021. If anyone is willing to help please let me or our Membership Chair Don Williams know. This is your club and I want it to meet all your needs as well as it can. Trying times like 2020 just make it tougher. Don and Gail have been keeping things together in the background. Jerry and Diane do a lot for us as well. I hope this year the virus and fires don't run us away and we can get back to whatever normal is. Carmen and I are looking forward to seeing you all at the rallies. I hope this finds you all safe.

Regards, Gene and Carmen



2021 SNU ELECTIONS

Déjà vu: No one has spoken up to help in filling the Secretary and the second Trustee positions. The Secretary position is extremely important and needed to continue our Unit's affiliation with the WBCCI. In reality the Secretary requires very little work and may occasionally get correspondence at the club's email snu157@wbcci.net; the Trustee may be asked to assist with rally or luncheon planning and all officers and board members (and members) are encouraged to write an article or two for the newsletter during any given year. Volunteer and help your club move past COVID into a successful year. The Sierra Nevada Unit will hold its elections late this month via email and possibly a Zoom Annual Meeting. Reply to the club's email if you are willing to serve.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

No member bios to spotlight these months!

WBCCI MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Haven't renewed and want to keep your WBCCI numbers, known to some as the Big Red Numbers (you editor doesn't like the BRN term but some do). **Remember to Renew!** Go to airstreamclub.org and select the Current Member or Future Member pull down menus and follow the links.

SNU LUNCHEONS STILL ON HOLD IN 2021

The Sierra Nevada Unit typically holds luncheons during the Winter months, however our informal member survey found only one in 5 or 6 would attend even a socially distanced luncheons so we are holding off at this time. **WE WILL TRY TO HOLD AN ONLINE POP-UP OR FLASH-MOB EVENT**, most likely using the video conferencing app Zoom.

ELECTIONS - SIERRA NEVADA UNIT AND REGION 12 OFFICERS

We have two elections to hold; the first is for the Sierra Nevada Unit officers and board members. This election will take the place of the SNU Annual Meeting which is typically held in October of every year; circumstances of 2020 kept that meeting from happening. The second election is for

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***

Region 12 Officers who represent the Sierra Nevada Unit and other units and clubs in California and Nevada at the International Board of Trustees meetings.

Email ballots will be distributed on Wednesday February 24th and are to be returned to the Sierra Nevada Unit email address, snu157@wbcci.net, by Friday March 5th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

As you read in the front page banner, we are hopeful that we'll enjoy friends and fellowship at Sierra Nevada Unit rallies in 2021, even if we have to socially distance ourselves.

?Local Flash Rally? - Weather & COVID permitting - March, 2021,- Watch the weather and stay-tuned.

Elections - Sierra Nevada Unit and Region 12 - Wednesday, February 24th to Friday, March 5th - Ballots will be distributed for both election of Sierra Nevada Unit officers and Board Members and for Region 12 Officers. Ballots are to be returned to the SNU email address snu157@wbcci.net.

SNU Rye Patch Rally - Thursday, April 15th to Sunday, April 18th - The SNU is reserving the group site in the Rye Patch River Campground. The site is large enough to socially distance ourselves yet we can visit and enjoy a part of the Great Basin Desert we rarely get to visit. There are mining areas, mountains and tourist places to visit; we might even find another dispersed campsite to add to our list.

SNU Boca Rest Rally - Thursday, May 20 to Sunday, May 23rd - Boca Rest is a great location for early or late in the season, only 38 miles from Reno, NV just east of Truckee?

SNU Walker River Rally - Thursday, June 10 - Sunday, June 13th

SNU Twin Lakes/Crags Rally - Thursday July 15th - Sunday July 18th

2020 RALLIES, EVENTS AND MEMBER AIRSTREAMING, IN THE MIRROR

Little did we know that our January and February luncheons would be some of the highlights of the year and for the Bavarian World deli and restaurant, our last meal there (the owner retired last year). COVID, closed campgrounds and state group limits kept our rallies at bay thru the Summer. President Gene ventured out in July to pre-camp our August rally location, Crocker-Beckwourth and again in September visiting the Hickson Petroglyphs near Austin and Berlin-Ichthyosaur to the south. The SNU Lassen Anniversary Rally was our first of the year followed by the Lahontan Rally in October.



SNU treasurer Gail and Editor Don took an extended solo caravan to North Carolina, Kentucky and Ohio for family visits and business. Two lane highways, Harvest Hosts wineries, the weather and minor electronic issues with their truck provided some semblance of regular travel across the USA but for the most part it was sight-seeing on the super slab and social distancing in gas stations, grocery stores and with friends and family.

Other members may have snuck out and social distanced in their Airstream but none have admitted it.

LOOK-BACKS COVER DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY THIS ISSUE!

20 YEARS AGO:

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/archives/oija-nwsltr.pdf>

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/news/archives/oifb-nwsltr.pdf>

January's one page newsletter reported on the Unit Xmas brunch and gift exchange, not being sorry to see the end of 2000 (what would they say today about 2020?), the coming brunch at the Nugget and member birthdays; among them a Sue Brown. No idea if Sue is our current member Susie!

February, the page and a half newsletter reported on next months vote for Region officers, February's lunch at Sharkey's Casino in Gardnerville and a Reno Gazette-Journal letter to the editor on, "Adopt-A-Goose"!

10 YEARS AGO

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2010/10news/10dc-snu-nwsltr.pdf>

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2011/11news/11ja-snu-nwsltr.pdf>

<http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/snu/2011/11news/11fb-snu-nwsltr.pdf>

December's Airstreamer reported on the SNU's 2010 November Death Valley Rally, 8 rigs by my count, made larger by Oregon Unit members Paul & Patricia. Wind made it difficult to share meals Friday night and meals were eaten inside the balance of the weekend. SNU members Von and Yvonne reported on the October Region Rally in Hemet, the coming Rose Prade and Blythe Hobo Rallies. Anita Leipper reported that film "Village Barbershop", shot in Reno and Napa, featured the interior of a 1950s Airstream. Of important mention was the Sierra Nevada Unit's upcoming 35th Anniversary to be held in September 2011 at Campground on the Lake with a Lake Tahoe dinner cruise at Zephyr Cove (2021 is our 40th Anniversary).

January 2011's issue reported on the Bavarian World luncheon, Frank Colligan reported on caravanning in your back yard, the Wilder West Caravan through northern and eastern California (somewhat replaced by the California Architecture, Food and Wine Caravan in 2022) and members discussed "What is the Sierra Nevada Unit", quoting past president Jerry Thornburg, 'It's the Airstreams that bring us together but its the people who keep us together'.

February 2011's Airstreamer covered the short club business meeting held in January, planning for the 35th anniversary celebration with a special interest article on the History of Baker (Oregon), home of Wally Byam, wheel bearing maintenance for the coming rally season and TV reception (not tow vehicles) in the Australian Outback.

More on Covid Airstreaming

There is life within COVID restrictions, even in California. With an Airstream one can camp with at least as much protection as you would have at home. Yes you still mingle with others at gas stations, grocery stores and campground offices but you face similar risk living at home. SNU members Gail and Don Williams were able to attend the Greater Los Angeles Airstream Club Death Valley Rally this month. The National Park required masks and social distancing in all buildings, facilities and in any outside areas and on trails where people may be in close proximity to one another and the GLAAC followed those guidelines. It meant no real group activities, shared meals, etc. although we could sit apart to visit, did squeeze in a group photo and were able to visit many of the tourist points (definitely less crowded than normal) in the National Park. The weather was perfect, even if there were a few sprinkles of rain and Saturday



brought strong wind gust and heavy dust in the Mesquite Dune area near Stovepipe Wells. Want to see more, visit: <http://sierranevadaairstreams.org/memories/travelogues/dwilliams/> and look for the 2021 GLAAC DeathValley Rally link.



2021 WBCCI INTERNATIONAL RALLY IN LEBANON, TENNESSEE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

It's Time for Family – Fun – Music in Lebanon, Tennessee

Registration is now **OPEN** for the 64th Annual Wally Byam Airstream Club International Rally in Lebanon, Tennessee. The Rally is set for July 17 to July 24, 2021.

Join us in the beautiful city of Lebanon, Tennessee, located in Wilson County. Only 30 minutes east of Nashville with a ton of amazing things to do in the area. Here you will find friendly faces, historical places, endless shopping, diverse dining, distilleries, wineries, beautiful lakes, state parks, and outdoor adventure, just to name a few.

Rally fees are \$265 per RV on-site with 30 amp electric, water, and pump-out. \$125 per adult, \$40 for youth 13 to 17 and kids under 12 are free. Keep an eye out for more information. Sign up today to reserve your spot by visiting airstreamclub.org/Lebanon.

Hope to see you there!
Andrew Selking
International President

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?”