

NORTH CASCADE NEWS

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Saturday, Dec.12, 2009
Christmas Luncheon
1:30 p.m. at Denny's
Restaurant, I-5 Exit 208

Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010
Happy New Year 1:30 p.m.
Luncheon at Denny's
Restaurant I-5 Exit 208

Saturday, Feb.13, 2010
Valentine Luncheon
1:30 p.m. Denny's @
I-5 Exit 208

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Merry December

It's that time of year again. The one that makes you realize that the year is almost over and it all went so quickly! It's a time to remember your family and friends who you meant to get together with more often than the last year but seemed to see even less. It's the time where projects that were going to be "done" during the year have yet to be accomplished and are still staring you in the face every day as a reminder.

But most of all it is a time to reflect on the accomplishments and friendships we have made. It's the time to take a step back and say, "I've tried real hard to be good, Santa, so bring me lots of presents – okay?" Ho! Ho! Ho!

Our family has forgone the gift giving (except for a few "cute" things those very special people in our lives might receive). Marilyn and I seem to have Christmas all year long as we get what we want when the urge comes upon us rather than wait for Santa to bring them on Christmas Morning. Most of all as we age, our wants (and needs) are of personal things like health and happiness rather than material things like huge flat screen TV's, I-pods, and various other new electronics. Even though those are pretty darn nice to receive.

So for the North Cascade Washington Unit Christmas party, we ask that each of you attending **bring a gift of food (canned or boxed) to our luncheon**. If you do not get to the store (or your pantry) and get something to bring, you can also make a dollar donation to the cause. Money can buy food for those in need also.

In return for your generosity Santa has agreed to stop by during our luncheon on Saturday, December 12th, 1:30 p.m. at the Denny's in Arlington. To make sure Santa brings enough Candy Canes, you are being asked to **call Marilyn Sams or Jeanne Sherwood** (numbers at left) **before Thursday, the 10th, to confirm your attendance**. If you do not call to confirm, Santa may consider that as a "bad" and may not be able to give you anything other than a piece of black coal.

Looking forward to seeing all of you for our Christmas gathering (weather permitting). Get those "no snow" thoughts working to keep the weather nice for our event.

Your Friend and President,
David Sams



Health Matters

Please keep **Jeannie Jeffrey** in your prayers as she recuperates from major surgery.

As always, kindly send information for the Health Matters column to Jeanne Sherwood by e-mail (jbsprn@aol.com) or phone (425-776-9829). Thanks.



Shelley Alexander and Kirt Smith (above) in their 2004 25' Classic and, below, being introduced at the November luncheon.



Joe Conrad and Wally Peper at the November, 2009 luncheon



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following members who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during

DECEMBER

- 04 Bonners
- 05 Edna Scheeker
- 08 Hanckens
- 13 Marilyn Beach
- 19 Ron Wills
- 21 Shelley Alexander
- 21 Howletts
- 28 Ian Cameron
- 28 Sams



December Luncheon Reminders

Please remember to bring **boxed or canned food** to the December 12, 2009, luncheon for our holiday collection, so we can share our bounty with those in need. You can also donate money if you'd rather contribute in that way.

Also keep in mind that we continue to collect soup can labels/box tops (for education), aluminum can tabs (for Kidney Foundation) and egg cartons throughout the year.

Most of all, remember to call Marilynn or Jeanne to confirm your luncheon attendance!!

That's this coming Saturday, folks, 12/12/09.



Marilynn Sams and Elsie Bonner

Sonia Nakamoto



Bonners Bits—*Cheap Cheap Cheap*

This is not about chickens

Recently I received my car insurance information from my insurance agent prior to receiving the invoice from the insurance company. I have three vehicles, a '92 Airstream trailer, a '97 Ford pickup and an '09 Chevy Cobalt. For these vehicles the cost for the next insured period would be 1,050.43. This was an increase of \$5.73 from the previous period. I decided to contact the agent to find out why. My wife said I was cheap, cheap, cheap. I explained to the agent that my Social Security had not increased this year, I had lost considerable money in the stock market and the inflation rate had not risen, so why did my car insurance go up? He could not answer me, so I called the company's 800 number and, after getting my policy number, a very nice man told me all customers in my area had received an increase in their policies. I asked him where he was talking from and he said "India". I said, "Let me talk to someone in my immediate area." He said, "Certainly." I was transferred to a canned voice that said they were unable to talk to me at that time and to call back. By this time I was somewhat upset, so I called my agent again and he called back several hours later to say the reason for the increase in premium was the trailer, an increase in labor and material to repair.

I am a card-carrying member of the AARP. I receive from them a publication with interesting articles and lots of insurance information for cars, homes and medical. I called their car insurance 800 number and asked for a quote. Based on the current coverage I have, they crunched some numbers and in about 15 minutes came up with their cost, which was \$1,027.00. Pretty close, a \$23.43 difference. Why change? Why, because their lesser cost of \$1027.00 is for one year; the larger amount of \$1050.43 is for **six months**. A difference of almost one thousand dollars a year I have been paying all these years. WOW!!!

In addition, the cheaper policy gives me twenty dollars a day and a rental car brought to my door if there is ever a need because of an accident.

SO, does it pay to be cheap?

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AIRSTREAMS AIRSTREAMS AIRSTREAMS IT'S RAINING AIRSTREAMS

We traveled along I-5 recently and saw an older Airstream for sale at a car dealership near Camping World in Burlington. The next time we went by, a second older Airstream had been added.

David had purchased his Lincoln Blackwood Truck at this dealership and he felt comfortable stopping in and talking to the owner about the Airstreams, so we did just that.

Both Airstreams are 23 feet and are:

- 1972 Airstream Trade Winds: Rear bath, center bed, all original \$11,900
- 1973 Airstream Land Yacht Trade Winds, Rear bath, new flooring \$12,900.

The dealership is Pacific Coast Auto Center at 1953 Walton Drive, Burlington, WA and their web page (where you can see the trailers) is www.pacificcoastauto.com

The owner told us he had been talking with Larry Huddle from Airstream about a possible dealership. He said they require an Airstream dealer to have \$500,000 in inventory. He said that was more than he thought he might be able to handle with the current economic times. We told him that should he decide to proceed with the dealership and if he provided **excellent** service, he would have a lot of business from our Airstreamers. We would be pleased to have a great service dealer in the area (and close to Camping World). We will have to keep our eyes and ears open.

Yesterday David received an advertisement from Poulsbo RV in Kent. They have an Airstream Base Camp for sale for \$16,875 or \$217 a month with 4.99% financing.

I suppose this is a sign of the times or maybe we are more aware because we are Airstreamers. In any case, it is interesting to see how many Airstreams are showing up for sale in such "odd" locations

P.S. We are not encouraging our newsletters to become an outlet for dealers selling their Airstreams. This was just an article for interest purposes only.

Working 2009-2010 Activity Schedule

Saturday, December 12, 2009

December "Christmas" Luncheon, 1:30 p.m.
Location: Denny's Restaurant, I-5 Exit 208
Host: David and Marilynn Sams

Saturday, January 16, 2010

January "Happy New Year" Luncheon, 1:30 p.m.
Location: Denny's Restaurant, I-5 Exit 208
Host: Hostless

Saturday, February 13, 2010

February "Valentine's Day" Luncheon, 1:30 p.m.
Location: Denny's Restaurant, I-5 Exit 208
Host: Hostless

Saturday, March 13, 2010

11:30 am, Lunch at 12:00 pm
March "St. Patrick's Day" Luncheon, 1:30 p.m.
Location: Denny's Restaurant, I-5 Exit 208
Host: Hostless

Thursday, April 22—April 25, 2010

Holland Happenings Rally at Whidbey
Location: North Whidbey RV Park
Host: Nancy and Joe Conrad

Thursday, May 20—May 23, 2010

It's Grand at Grandy Creek Rally
Location: Grandy Creek KOA, Concrete WA
Host: Karen and Gerry Gilliam

Sunday, June 27—Sunday July 4, 2010

53rd International Rally in Gillette, Wyoming

Friday, July 9—Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Region 10 Rally in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
A North Cascade Unit event will be held some time during the rally.
Host: Needed for Unit event only.

Thursday, August 5—Sunday, August 8, 2010

Camano Island Buddy Rally
Location: Odd Fellows Park - Camano Island
Host: Needed

Thursday, August 19—Sunday, August 22, 2010

Rest-a-While Hoodsport Buddy Rally
Location: Rest-a-While RV Park, Hoodsport, WA
Host: Kolhoff/Thompson

Thursday, September 23—Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010

BC & NCW Joint Annual Installation Rally
Location: Northwest Washington
Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA
Host: David and Marilynn Sams

Last updated: 12/05/2009

Member Renewals

The following members have paid their dues for 2010.

Regular Members

Tom and Marilyn Beach
Wendell and Elsie Bonner
Joe and Nancy Conrad
Jerry and Karen Gilliam
Gerry and Judy Greth
David and Debbie Hagen

Jim Kolhoff and Sue Thompson
Wes, Laurie and Callie Lewis
Barbara Lynch
Jack and Billie Lynch
Scotty and Sue O'Neal

Wally and Judy Peper

Bruce and Joan Rohm
David and Marilynn Sams
Bob and Edna Scheeler
Dick and Jeanne Sherwood
Kirt Smith and Shelley Alexander
Bob and Gloria Stilling

Affiliate Members

Tom and Gwen Akam
Larry and Charon Alvar
RB and Zelma Bernd
Ian Cameron
Norm and Audie Finley
Bob and Gayle Halliwell
John and Anne

Henderson
Barry and Marilyn Hook
Adolf and Hazel Knopp
Alex and Arlene Matches
Ron and Kay McQuarrie
Ralph and Lalani

Vanderheide
Gene/Marilyn

VanIderstine
Ron and Carolyn Willis

Friends and Past Owners

John and Shar Hancken
Sandra Kalata
Sonia Nakamoto
Rich and Nancy Peebles

If your name is not on the list, and you still want to be members, ya gotta pay your dues.

Last chance, oh forgetful ones.

We're going to miss you. . . .



*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!*