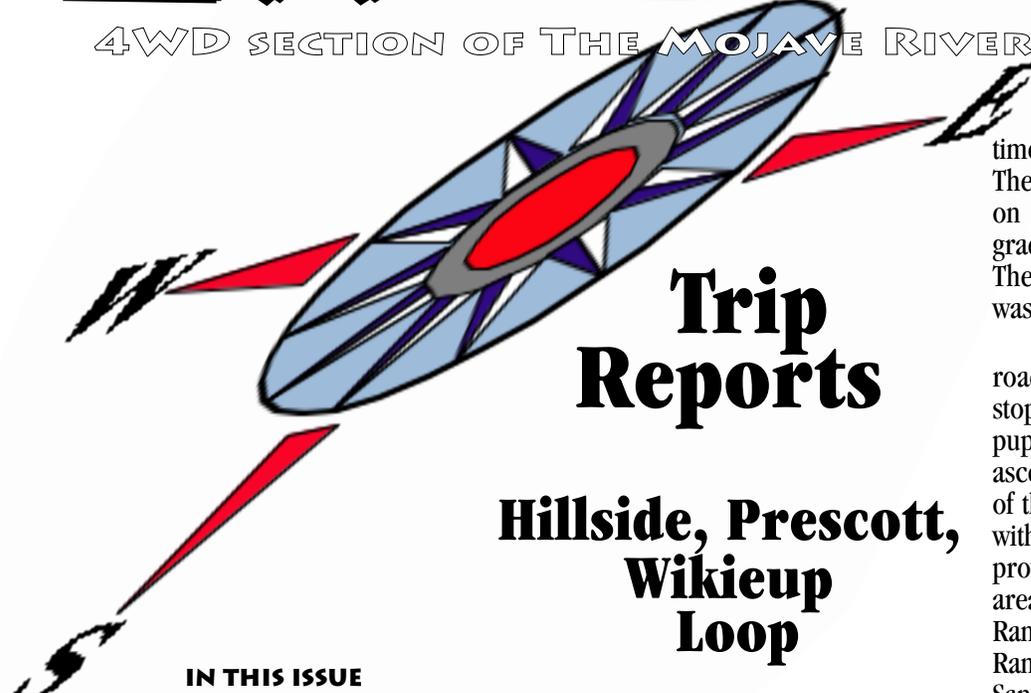


DESERT EXPLORERS

NO. 162 SEPT. 2009

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



Trip Reports

Hillside, Prescott, Wikieup Loop

July 11, 2009

By Dan W. Messersmith

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time and she did not think it was being used. The airstrip had a fair amount of weed growth on it that would indicate it had not been graded or dragged for weed control in a while. The little pond below the ranch headquarters was about 3/4 full of water.

We moved on. At the lowest point in the road in a little feeder wash to Cedar Wash, we stopped for a comfort break for people and puppies. After the break we made the steep ascent up to the mesa levels of the remainder of the Blake Ranch Road to where it connects with US93. This particular area of the road provides spectacular vistas of the surrounding area. You can observe the Hualapai Mountain Range to the west, the Aquarius Mountain Range to the east, the northern part of the Big Sandy Valley and eventually the area of the Cane Springs Ranch. It is also one of the best vehicular rollercoaster rides in the county as the road rises and falls for numerous miles on its downward run toward the highway.

At 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 11 Dick and Connie Taylor with Sassy, Linda Grundy with Georgie, and Dan and Jan Messersmith with Buddy met for coffee and breakfast at McDonalds in Kingman. By 8:00 a.m. no other travelers had arrived so we departed for our trip to Prescott. Jan and I took the lead; Linda was comfortably tucked into the rocking chair position, and Dick and Connie took the sweep position.

We took I-40 east about 13 miles and exited on Blake Ranch Road headed south. I pointed out the Blake Ranch to our small group and noted how active the ranch headquarters seemed to be.

We continued on enjoying our ride through the eastern Hualapai Mountain foothills. At the former Laughlin Ranch, now the Yellow Pine Ranch, we saw a small airplane parked on the west side of the runway with "Yellow Pine Taxi" painted on the side. Linda noted that it had been there for some

After we got through the gate and on to US93, we encountered a fair amount of traffic and wished we were still on the back roads. At Wikieup, we decided no one needed to stop and continued through. As an alternative, Dick suggested we take the old abandoned highway down to the Burro Creek Campground and stop there for a comfort break. Making the turn just prior to the Burro Creek Bridge, we descended down the deteriorating pavement stopping along the way to take in an overlook of the creek and campground. At the campground we found it deserted and without a camp host. We presumed this was because of the summer heat. We used the facilities and headed up the hill to US93 again.

At this point, Dick took the lead and I took the sweep as Dick wanted to run a short dirt road along the Santa Maria River that I had not been on before. Linda just hung in there in that rocking chair position and kept the front end and back end honest.



Issue Number 162

Arriving at the river, we crossed the bridge and took an immediate left turn across the highway. A signpost told us that the Santa Maria Ranch and the Little Santa Maria Ranch were ahead of us. The map showed this trail as Santa Maria Road. We saw the turn off for the Santa Maria Ranch and in about 8 miles came to the Little Santa Maria Ranch area. This ranch, at one time, had some nice signs at every gate hanging from tall signposts announcing that this was indeed the Little Santa Maria Ranch.

A little further along, we encountered four or five abandoned "ranchettes" or "homesteads" that were not particularly old, but stood as quiet witness to dreams and opportunities that did not work out for those who built in this remote area. We also encountered what appeared to be a small settlement at one time that was now just a private home site as one very modern and nice house could be viewed among the abandoned trailers and small houses or shacks nearby. I speculated that it was the remnants of an earlier mining community that someone had purchased and built their private residence among the "ghosts" of the little unidentified mining community. (A later check of my maps of the area did not shed any light upon the little site.)

When we got to the highway (AZ96) we turned right and headed toward our next destination, Hillside.

Hillside is both an old mining community and railroad siding. The old Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe line (now the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe) used the site as a stop for many years. This track ran from Ashfork to Phoenix with side routes into Prescott and Clarkdale. The route is known locally as the "Peavine" because of the way it winds its way through the rugged terrain of Arizona. As we approached the town, a sign on the highway proclaimed that the "HILLSIDE GENERAL STORE IS NOW OPEN." We made the turn and went in to look the town over. When we got to the General Store, we found it was closed. Turning around, we headed back to AZ96 (called the Thompson Valley Road at this point) to continue our way to Prescott and lunch. Dick and I switched leading and sweep duties once more. Linda continued her role of keeping us honest.

As we passed through the area of Yava,

we encountered a man driving his farm tractor on the highway with a girl and boy holding on behind the seat. It brought back great memories of my uncle giving my cousin and me rides to the fields back in Illinois. From Yava to Kirkland we encountered some very prosperous looking ranches. One raised quarter horses, but the fanciest one had no indication of its purpose but had a huge house, extensive out buildings and outside lighting you would see at an outdoor event field.

Arriving at Kirkland, we turned off of AZ96 and headed northerly toward Skull Valley on Yavapai Co. 10 (Iron Springs Road). Kirkland has some fine old stone buildings that reflect its age and location as a railroad siding. It also has a large restaurant and bar with a rodeo grounds off to its side. At one time this cowboy bar had a reputation of having to fight your way in and fight your way out, but it seems the wild west had toned down some from the welcoming signs and condition of the facility.

Continuing on, we began our slow ascent toward Prescott. At the town of Skull Valley, we found the local Café's parking lot overflowing with cars and pickup trucks. Looks like another visit to Skull Valley to test this café's cooking is going to go in the planning book. It also had a great looking little general store. As we were attempting to get to Prescott for lunch, we did not stop; but we will come back and do a tour of the café, store and small museum.

After Skull Valley, we worked our way toward Prescott through tall pines, church camps and miscellaneous campgrounds. We pulled into downtown Prescott and found it FULL! There were lots of tourists in town, and parking places were at a premium. My original plan had been to park near the courthouse square and take in one of many nice restaurants around the square. After a few around the block efforts, I headed off towards Murphy's, which is a block off the square. Finally finding some parking spots, we headed for Murphy's for lunch. The food was excellent as always, but the service was well below Murphy's usual standards.

We then headed back to our vehicles to go visit the historic Sharlot Hall Museum complex and see the governor's mansion and first territorial capitol (both

the same large log cabin building). When we got there, it had an art festival taking up its grounds, and parking was a premium around the site. We did find spots behind the property and walked around the side to get in. We found that it had a \$5 entry fee, and since we had no interest in doing the festival, we returned to our vehicles to head for home.

We worked our way back to Montezuma Street and AZ89 and headed out of town. We stopped once to top off our gas tanks, then were on our way to enjoy the beautiful but twisting descent that is AZ89. Making our way slowly down the grade and through all the twists and turns, we finally came to Wilhoit and stopped to let the dogs get a break from being in the vehicles.

When we reached Kirkland Junction, I decided that I would rather go back via AZ96 and connect with US93 off of AZ97 rather than continue down AZ89 to US93. It would take longer and retrace some of our earlier road, but it would also keep us off of a substantial portion of US93, which is a good thing if you are not in a hurry.

We enjoyed winding our way back, and when we reached the Santa Maria River area, we enjoyed the air-conditioning in our vehicles as the outside temperature had reached 111 on my truck's outside temperature gauge.

At the AZ96 and AZ97 junction, we turned onto AZ97 and headed for US93. At US93 we headed north and within a short time were approaching Nothing, Arizona. This small stop along US93 was once a fixture for travelers on this route with cold drinks, ice cream and restrooms. Emergency help could be found there from towing to gas and minor repairs. A telephone was another emergency tool the site provided. When US93 was all two-lane travel it was a welcome relief to stop there to recover from the tension of driving a very dangerous road. Besides, where else could one stop at Nothing, relax at Nothing or just do nothing at Nothing. As their bumper stickers used to proclaim: "You haven't seen Nothing if you haven't seen Nothing, AZ."

Well Nothing did become nothing for a while as the folks who owned it moved out after a bad fire took out the large

garage. It went up for sale and just recently a couple (Mike & Bonnie) from Las Vegas, NV bought it and have been advertising its rebirth. We stopped to check them out and perhaps get some ice cream if they had any.

The couple is remodeling the little store with plans to put in a campground as well as a restaurant featuring home-made, wood-fired Italian pizza. They have big plans and dreams for their little "slice" of heaven. They did have fresh hot pizza and ice-cold beer, but no ice cream yet. We passed on the pizza and beer and promised to come back when they are open. We might even do another outing at Burro Creek Campground and build in a pizza night at Nothing.

You can check it out at: www.pizzaman-mike.com

Continuing on, we made our way to Wikieup and stopped for ice cream. One of Dick and Connie's favorite BBQ stops is "Eat At Joe's BBQ" in Wikieup, and it had a closed sign on it when we came through earlier today. The sign was still up so Dick was concerned, as one of the owners had been having some health problems. While the others were finishing their ice cream I drove back to Joe's and found a sign on the door that said they had to close temporarily for some personal business and would be open again real soon.

Back on the road, we were soon coming down the hill on I-40 into Kingman. We had gone about 320 miles today and had a great time for such a simple little trip. We also found some things we want to go back and take another look at in the future. We said our farewells over the radio and headed for our respective homes.

San Bernardino Mountains

July 31, - August 2
By Ted Kalil

Bob and Betty Oliver arrived at Heart Bar Campground at about the same time as I did on Friday afternoon and picked out our campsites from the

many available "walk-up" sites. We each had some separate things to do in Big Bear first then came back to our sites for conversation and dinner. Bob Jacoby had called and said he wasn't feeling well so

wouldn't be coming, and Marian Johns said they had brake problems with both trucks and their coming would depend on getting new shoes. At around the meet-up time on Saturday morning, Nan Savage called to say she was on her way but had gone astray a bit. Bob Oliver had a problem with his CB; I loaned him a hand-held unit, but we were later to find that it also had a problem.

When Nan arrived, the two of us headed to Onyx Summit. Bob and Betty were close by, and I radioed that we were on our way. Unfortunately, he didn't hear me or see us as we passed them. When Nan and I got to Onyx Summit and met Greg Hoffman, the forest ranger, and his wife, Kelly, Bob hadn't shown. We aired down and thought he'd be along any minute. After a while, I went back to where he had been parked along the highway and found him gone. I figured he had somehow passed us up. No cell service then, and the radio wasn't good. We waited a while longer then started out on 1N01 where we could get reception. I called Bob; no answer; left a message. A short while later, he called me and said they were on their way home, having missed us. When he didn't

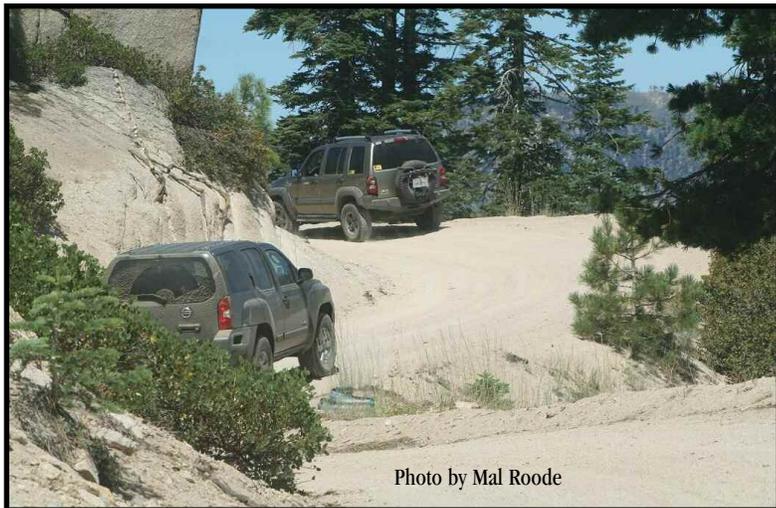


Photo by Mal Roode

Radford Truck Trail

see me, he turned around and went towards Barton Flats, then back to the campground. He left off my radio and a note, he said, and although I said we'd wait for him along the trail, he said they would continue on home. Sorry, Bob and Betty, I owe you one.

We continued on and first went to the communications site on top, which had some great views of the areas below and beyond. Then went back on 1N01, the Pipes Canyon Trail. This was one of the roads from the Big Bear area to Pioneertown before it was closed off at the bottom by private interests. The trail is rated moderate; it starts out easily enough but becomes more challenging as you go down. Greg pointed out many things to us on the CB as we were traveling and also when we stopped. This continued the whole trip. He was born and raised in Big Bear, has worked here all his life, and has an encyclopedic memory. (My memory is



Photo by Jean Roode

Lodgepole Pine Area

also like a book, but it's a loose-leaf with many pages missing and the rest in disarray.) On every trip I've gone on with Greg, and there have been many, I always learned things. I don't always remember them, so it's good to hear them again.

From the top of the trail and on many sections going down, there were terrific views of the desert below, and we could see places where the Sawtooth Fire had destroyed so much. Near the bottom, there's an abandoned house that we stopped to check out and had lunch under a shade tree. There was a former onyx mining site close by, and we saw where an ore tram had been. I'm thinking the original prospector was probably looking for gold but had an "onyx-pected" find. (Note: for those who think puns are the lowest form of humor, it's probably because their minds are far too orderly.)

We went back up the trail the same way we came, no other option. We had already encountered a group of the Freelanders who were doing some trail maintenance work. We again met up with them at the top before continuing to Onyx Summit. By then it was late afternoon; Nan and I decided to get gas in Big Bear City before heading back to the campground. Afterwards, we had our two person potluck, still great, before retiring a bit early since we were both tired.

Sunday, Jean and Sunny Hansen came to the campsite but had to tell us that they were both victims of food poisoning from Saturday night. They weren't yet well enough to go on the run. Jean and Malcolm Roode did come, though, and were in good health. We started by going

down the highway a few miles to the start of 1N45, the Santa Ana River Trail. This took us to Converse Station where 2N06, the Radford Truck Trail starts, and up we went. It climbs all the way from the Seven Oaks area to the top of the mountain, where it meets up with 2N10, the Skyline Drive and Grandview Loop. As you go along, some times you're looking down on the valley we came up and other times at Big Bear Lake. It was another beautiful day, and temperatures were moderate because of the elevation. The views were good, though there was some haze preventing really long distance observation.

Since we were doing well on time, we took a side trip to Lodgepole Pine. It's located at a fifteen minute walk from where we parked, along an interpretive trail that gave various bits of information. Nan read to us from the brochure as we went along. The trees get their name from the fact that saplings were often used as support poles for native American lodges because they grow very straight and have few limbs. And here I thought it was named after a fraternal orga-

nization for Polish people. The memorialized tree itself may not have seemed that impressive but it is one of the largest in the country and the world.



Photo by Ted Kalil

Tight Squeeze, Clark's Grade

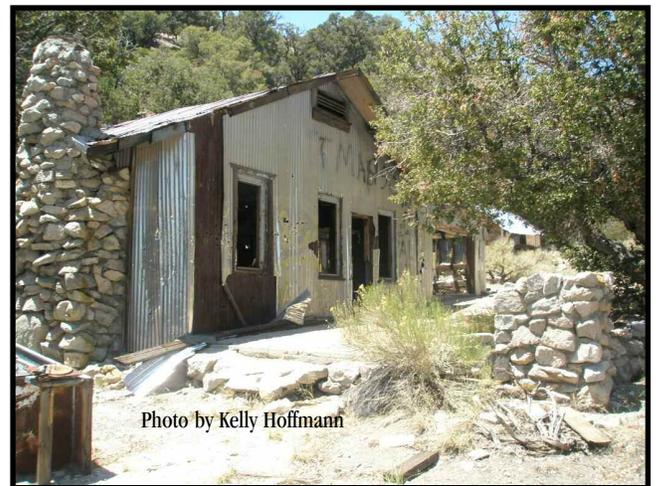


Photo by Kelly Hoffmann

House, Pipe's Canyon

Back to our parking spot where we had lunch in a nice tree shaded area again.

From there we traveled to 1N54, Clark's Grade, rated easy, and on down the mountain. There were many outstanding views along the way and a few other people and vehicles on the trail. This was the original road to Big Bear in the 20's and 30's. It's hard to imagine how those vintage cars and trucks managed to negotiate this trail with all their shortcomings, and four wheel drive was practically non-existent. The road fell into disuse when new highways were constructed and eventually became impassable. It was more recently restored and maintained by the San Bernardino National Forest Association volunteers. We hit pavement near Seven Oaks by mid-afternoon and headed back. Nan and the Roodes took the low



Photo by Ted Kalil

Lunch Break

road to their homes, and I took the high road to mine. Another great day in the forest. While attendance was low, those who came seemed to enjoy the trails; I'm happy if even one other person shows.

Future Trips

All trips require a four wheel drive vehicle and a working CB unless otherwise specified by the trip leader. Non-complying vehicles will not be allowed on trips. Leaders may authorize a variance at their discretion.

Dolan Springs

(M.O.E.)

October 10, 2009

Leader: Sue Baughman

Sue Baughman has provided the following information in conjunction with Dolan Springs, AZ Open Space 5th Annual National Trails Day. This event will be an open multi-use event, hiking, biking, ATV, 4x4 and equestrian. All are invited to come out for the festivities.

On the 10th, there will be:

An ATV run to Taylor Mountain.

An easy 4x4 run to a dry waterfall and then loop out to White Hills.

A horseback trail ride.

A hike on a newly established hiking trail.

A mountain bike ride.

This is also a fundraising event for the Open Space group. Tickets are available for a raffle. There is a pancake breakfast at 7:00 a.m. A swap meet will be held. There will be displays by BLM and AZ Game & Fish and others. All activities will take place at the Ranch Club/Rodeo Grounds in downtown Dolan Springs. The runs will take off from that point at 9:00 a.m. and return about 12 noon. Tickets for the raffle may be obtained from Sue Baughman by calling (928) 716-3362. Questions about this event, please call or e-mail Sue. itchyft2005@yahoo.com

Bristol Dry Lake Area

October 17 – 18, 2009

Leader: Joe de Kehoe

This 2-day trip will focus on the area along old Route 66 between Ludlow and Danby, and south into the Old Woman Mountains. A detailed itinerary has not yet been finalized, but will be published in the newsletter several weeks before the trip. This will be a tour focused mainly on the history of towns, railroad sidings and roadside businesses on this stretch of old Route 66, most of which have been long abandoned, and in the process we will visit places of special geologic interest – Siberia, Dish Hill Volcano, Trojan, Amboy Crater, etc.

The trip will begin Saturday morning in Ludlow and end Sunday afternoon, about noon, back on pavement at the railroad siding at Cadiz. Most of Saturday will be highway driving with minor detours on to side roads. Saturday afternoon we will head off road to camp somewhere in the vicinity of the Ship Mtns. or Old Woman Mtns. via Skeleton Pass Road. On Sunday visit Chubbuck and Archer on the way back to Cadiz. The off-highway portion of the trip is dirt and gravel road, some washboard, and high clearance is a must.

Details and times will be provided nearer the time of the trip.

Joe de Kehoe; jdekehoe@bak.rr.com

(661) 331-3377

Gold Butte, NV

(MOE)

Nov. 13-15

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This will be a moving camp run for two nights in the Nevada area east of the Virgin River and south of I-15.

We call it the Nevada Strip. We plan to depart at 8:30 a.m. from the south side parking lot along Beverly Ave. of Kingman Regional Medical Center located at I-40 and Stockton Hill Road in Kingman. Those who wish to show up earlier for breakfast and/or coffee at the hospital cafe may do so. (The food is excellent and inexpensive.) At Overton, NV we will do a lunch stop and get last gas and supplies, then take a cross-country back-road that will allow us to not have to drive I-15. Both camp nights are scheduled to be on the shores of Lake Meade or as close as we can come in the low water conditions. If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via e-mail to Dan at dmess@cdtaz.com or Dick at dickand mouse@aol.com

Desert Bar, Swansea, Bill Williams River

(MOE)

Dec. 5 & 6

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This will be an overnight run with a camp out as near the Bill Williams River as possible. We hope to have Carl and Nancy Noah lead the first part of the trip and treat us to a visit to the famous Desert Bar on Saturday, then head for a campsite on or near the Bill Williams River. On Sunday we will visit Swansea and then make a run for a crossing on the Bill Williams and return home via the trails of southern Mojave County. We'll meet at Calico's in Kingman for coffee and breakfast at 7:15 a.m. and depart for Parker at 8:00 a.m. If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via e-mail to Dick at dickand mouse@aol.com or Dan at dmess@ctqz.com

Minutes

By Jean Hansen
Neal & Marian Johns'
Saturday, February 7, 2009

PRESENT:

Neal & Marian Johns, Sunny & Jean Hansen, Emmett & Ruth Harder, Mal Roode, Nan Savage, Tommy Perasso, Glenda Roach, Lori and Richard Shapel, Susan Harding, Sue Trubovitz, Bob Jacoby, Gary Thomas, Catherine Mayfield, Ted & Sue Kalil, Allan and Ding Wicker, John & Anna Page and Joan McGovern-White.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Marian Johns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Marian thanked Anna Page for bringing John to the meeting. She also thanked Allan Wicker for coming to this meeting so soon after his spectacular recovery from recent surgery. At this point, there was sustained applause.
- 2) Neal took the floor to introduce guests Susan Harding and Sue Trubovitz, who have a volunteer website called "California Off-Road Field Volunteers." Sue and Susan said that they had heard of us and described us as "A friendly group" and enjoy our newsletters. Sue went on to explain a little of what they do in the way of clean up of off-road sites. She stated that in the course of her off-road travels and volunteering for clean-up projects, that there was no connection between groups and that is how the California Off-Road Field Volunteers website came into being. Marian asked them to keep the Desert Explorers posted on events.
- 3) Marian welcomed members Lori and Richard Shapel, who went with Jay & Sylvia Lawrence on their recent trip and were now attending their first Desert Explorers' meeting. Welcome, Lori and Richard!

REGRETS:

Vicki Hill and Dave McFarland, who are currently in Hawaii. Debbie Miller-Marschke and Steve Marschke, who are in San Antonio Texas at the Alamo.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes. Emmett Harder motioned to approve the revised minutes. Bob Jacoby seconded that motion; motion carried.

REPORTS:

Membership:

No report this month. Marilyn just returned from Venezuela to discover that her air conditioning was not working.

Newsletter production:

The newsletter may be late. Joan McGovern-White said that if she receives it by Friday or Saturday she will be able to get it out on time

Treasurer:

We have \$3,949.26 in the treasury. Bob Jacoby passed out a cash summary statement to members. Bob stated that we have now opened a new checking account at Wells Fargo, under the auspices of the Mojave River Valley Museum. John Page inquired if we have a reserve for printing/postage. Neal replied that as assistant editor, he could address the number of members (120) and the average amount owed. He further stated that the Desert Explorers have never had a formal reserve. Further discussion ensued regarding the mutually beneficial relationship between the Desert Explorers and the Mojave River Valley Museum



Photo from Allan Wicker

July & August Birthday Celebrants

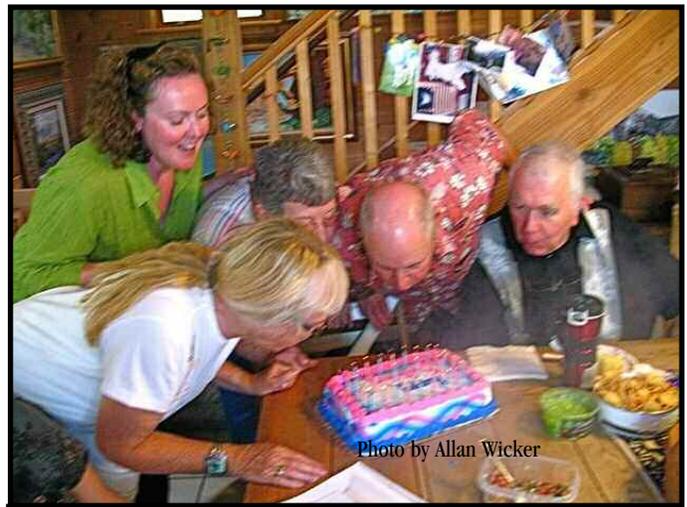


Photo by Allan Wicker

Candle Blowout

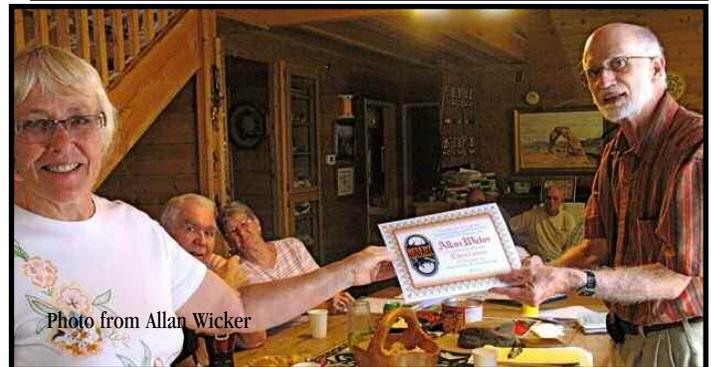


Photo from Allan Wicker

Allan Receives His Certificate

Website

Debbie Miller-Marschke sent an e-mail explaining that her computer crashed. She installed a new hard drive. Luckily, her files were not destroyed. She needs website material from Bob Dodds, Nan Savage, Bob Jacoby and Neal from their recent trips. She would also like to receive an update on the Tibetan trip.

Debbie additionally requested that trip write-ups go to her as well as Neal, Marian and Marilyn. Last of all, Debbie asked for more information on Lorene Crawford, longtime Desert Explorer, who recently passed away

Trips and other events:

- 1) Friday, July 32 – Sunday, August 2 – San Bernardino Mountains – Leader – Ted Kalil
- 2) Sunday, August 9 – Hualapai Mountain Lodge – MOE
- 3) Saturday, October 10 – Dolan Springs Open Space 5th Annual National Trails Day – MOE
- 4) Saturday, October 17 – Sunday, October 18 – Bristol Dry Lake Area – Leader – Joe de Kehoe
- 5) Saturday, November 14 – Historically oriented trip along

Randsburg Railroad right-of-way – Leaders- Bob Jacoby and Nan Savage International Trip– to be led by Marian and Reda via Access Tibet Tours:

- 1) October 1-13 (13 day trip) – Tibet and Sky train to Beijing

New Business:

- 1) Marian informed the group that she purchased and had delivered to the funeral home, a lovely bouquet of flowers from the Desert Explorers in honor of Lorene. She stated that the flowers cost \$65.00 and asked if we wanted to reimburse all or part of the expense. John Page motioned to reimburse Marian and Emmett Harder seconded that motion; motion carried. Bob Jacoby requested that Marian send him an e-mail detailing the expense, for Desert Explorers records.

2) We received a response from Dan Messersmith regarding the Dwight Stroud rock art collection. He said he received proposal and forwarded it to the museum. The question was raised as to which museum

Rendezvous:

- 1) We have two sites under consideration: The first is the Amargosa Opera House, owned by the famous Marta Becket and the second, Pioneertown. Discussion ensued regarding the number of rooms available, catering, etc. Emmett and Ruth said that Amargosa has a restaurateur who would be glad to cater and that there would be inside seating for the Saturday night banquet. Marian shared the report on Pioneertown with the group. She stated that “Pappy & Harriet’s” restaurant could cater the meal, but did

CURRENT DESERT EXPLORERS WITH E-MAIL

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John Hoopes	jnhooopes@sbcglobal.net	John Perko	jperko003@earthlink.net	Bob Younger	bobyounger@verizon.net
Charles Hughes	mhach@juno.com	Jim Proffitt	jproffitt@sbcglobal.net		



Susan and Sue Listen to Neal

not want to exclusively turn the restaurant over to the Desert Explorers, as they wish to oblige their regular customers as

Saturday night banquet, but all agreed it was probably too soon to make decisions in this area.

well. This would mean that we could not have the banquet inside.

2) A vote was taken; Amargosa vs. Pioneertown. Amargosa seemed to be the favorite. Nan Savage motioned to have the Rendezvous at Amargosa, pending further reasonable exploration. Ding Wicker seconded that motion; motion carried

3) Further discussion ensued regarding possible speakers for the

Other Business:

1) Marian presented two beautiful certificates, both made by Jay Lawrence: The first was a certificate of appreciation to Allan Wicker from the Desert Explorers for his outstanding service to the group.

2) The second was a certificate of appreciation to Alan Romspert, Master Auctioneer, from the Desert Explorers. "He moved merchandise and filled our coffers." Alan will receive his certificate the next time we see him.

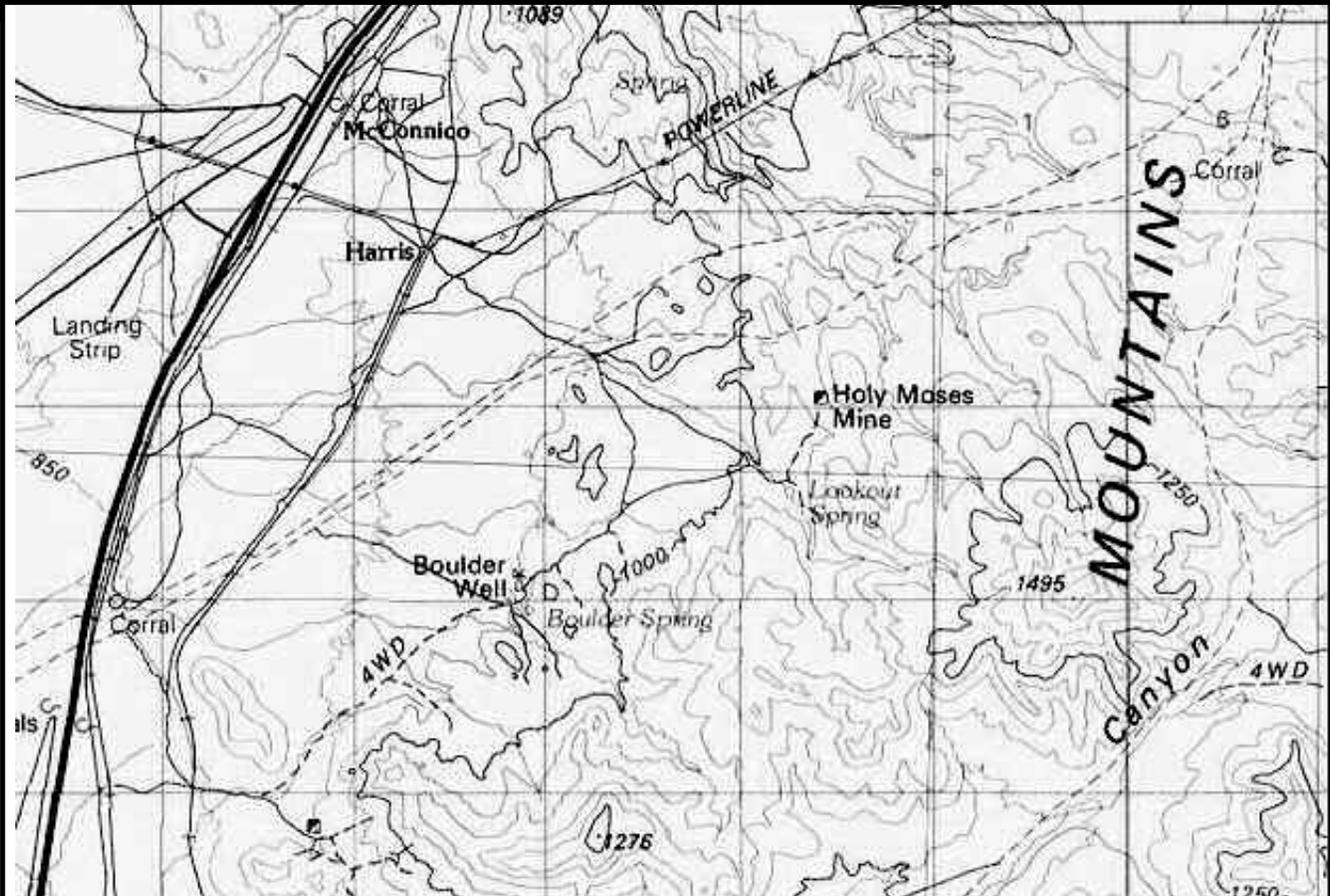
3) Marian thanked Debbie Miller-Marschke for buying the card for Allan Wicker, which we all signed.

4) Emmett Harder announced that Fox News had hired him as a consultant on the Manson Family in Death Valley. He said that the subject documentary would air on Fox News August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for August: James Proffitt, Malcolm Roode. Allan Schoenherr, Leonard Friedman. Location: Death Valley near the Race Track.

Bob Peltzman is lost again. "Where am I? Bob went right, when everyone else went left, and is completely lost. Send your guess as to where he is to Bob at bopeltzman@aol.com (with the word lost in the subject), and he will send me the names of people who correctly guess the location along with a different lost map to publish in another newsletter. Your answer to Bob should let him know what area he is in such as "The southern part of Death Valley near the Devil's Golf Course."



Directions to Wickers

In Claremont go north on Indian Hill Blvd. past Foothill Blvd. At the third break in the median (counting from Foothill) turn left into the entrance to Griswold's townhomes. You will see a set of three gates connected to an ivy-covered wall and tile-roofed townhomes.

From the I-210 eastbound the closest exit is Towne Ave. Then south (right) on Towne to Foothill, (left) on Foothill to Indian Hill.

From the I-210 westbound get off at Baseline and go west on Baseline to Indian Hill Blvd. Turn left (south), Approach the northern-most gate at the entrance. Stop there, and at the keyboard punch 037. (There is a directory) That will ring Allan's phone, and he will answer and open the gate from his phone.

Once the gate opens, pass through it turning right immediately. Then follow the street until the first left opportunity. Turn left and again left at the next opportunity. Park in any available parking area - not along the curb. The 1430 on the side of the house should be visible from the street.

Walk up the driveway, and follow the sidewalk to the house entrance. Desperation calls for assistance (909) 445-0082.

We'll be watching for it Emmett! Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on September 26, at 11:00. at the home of Allan & Ding Wicker. This will be a potluck.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

5 MINUTE CHOCOLATE MUG CAKE

4 tablespoons flour
 4 tablespoons sugar
 2 tablespoons cocoa
 1 egg
 3 tablespoons milk
 3 tablespoons oil
 3 tablespoons chocolate chips (optional)
 A small splash of vanilla extract
 1 large coffee mug (Microwave safe)
 Add dry ingredients to a microwaveable

Desert Explorers Trip Schedule

Bristol Dry Lake Oct. 17 – 20	de Kehoe
Dolan Springs Oct. 18	M/O.E
Nov. 14 Randsburg RR	Savage/Jacoby
Nov. 14-15	MOE.
Dec. 5 & 6	MOE

mug, and mix well. Add the egg and mix thoroughly.

Pour in the milk and oil and mix well..

Add the chocolate chips (if desired) and vanilla extract, and mix again.

Put your mug in the microwave and cook for 3 minutes at 1000 watts.

The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed!

Allow to cool a little, and tip out onto a plate if desired.

EAT ! (This can serve 2 if you want to feel virtuous.)

Please!!

Check your e-mail address. Send corrections to

<mjmartin@dslextreme.com>

Thank You!

Next Meeting

11:00 a.m. Potluck
 Sept. 26, Saturday
 At the Wickers'
 1430 Sitka, Claremont, CA
 Ph. (909) 445-0082

Some Good Folks to Know

Mojave River Valley Museum

<http://www.mojaverivervalleymuseum.org>
 Dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the scientific, historical and cultural heritage of the Mojave Desert

Colorado River Historical Society and Museum

2201 Highway 68, Bullhead City, AZ
 Located in historic 1940's Catholic Church
 Exhibits: steamboats, early ranching, mining, Mojave Indians, Hardyville, gifts.

Friends of the Eastern California Museum

Independence, CA
 Check them out! Open weekends. Old farm machinery, bookstore, reference library, great old photos and Owens Valley memorabilia. Nice folks, too.

Mohave Outback Explorations

2945 E. Leroy Ave. Kingman, AZ 86409,
dmess@ctaz.com
 Motto: "The world isn't too bad if you can just get out in it."

Searles Valley Historical Society Museum

In Trona just off the main highway

Friends of the Mojave Road

37198 Lanfair Rd.G-15 Essex, CA 92332
 (760) 733-4482 <http://www.mdhca.org/>
 Historian Dennis Casebier writes desert guidebooks, leads trips, builds museums(!) and has other odd habits. Newsletter subscription is \$20.

Shoshone Museum Association

118 Hwy. 127 P. O. Box 38 Shoshone, CA
<http://www.discoverbaja.com>
 Great newsletter, spectacular insurance prices, weather and road reports, etc.

Flash

...more sad news:

Allan Romspert died at 12:15 p.m. on August 19th. No more details at this time.

Desert Explorer Ham List

Pete Austin -----Diamond Bar - KF6FZD
Janet Austin -----Diamond Bar - KF6FZE
Craig Baker -----Sylmar - KC6KKR
David Bullock -----Los Angeles - N3CUE
Jim Byrne -----Chatsworth - KE6RFR
Herb Clark -----Mission Viejo - KF6EAU
Joseph A. Daly -----Saugus - KG6GCW
Axel Heller ---Huntington Beach - KG6DII
Ted Kalil -----Apple Valley - KG6AIT
Chuch Lahmeyer -----Calif. City - AF6GT
Jay Lawrence -----Long Beach - K16KAV
Homer Meek -----Torrance - K6HKT
Carl Noah -----Lake Forest - AB7KD
Nancy Noah -----Lake Forest - AE6XL
Jim Proffitt -----Garden Grove - WB6FXG
Don Putnam -----Barstow - KC6SMI
Malcolm Roode-----Highland - KF6GZH
Cyrus Sarange -----Anaheim - KF6SME
Ken Sears-----Cerritos - KD6UHY
Bob Thille -----West Hill - KF6OWH
Brad Thompson-----Valencia - KA6UED
Betty Wallin -- Desert Hot Springs - KD6GY
Al Walter -----San Diego - KG6SGM
Bob Younger -----Santa Barbara - N6VMN

M.O.E. Trip Schedule

Wait for their final listing on the front of the MOE newsletter before making any firm plans to join one of these.

October 10: Dolan Springs
November: Mojave Road Loop. This could be an overnight run. Date(s) and details to follow.

November 13-15: Gold Butte, NV
December 5 & 6: Bill Williams, Swansea, Desert Bar and Parker. This could be an overnight run.

January 2010: Quartzsite run, with more 4x4 trips than shopping trips. This may or may not be timed with the annual DE excursion. Jim & Jeanne Jacobs will organize this one for MOE.

February 13 & 14: An overnighter to Temple Bar.

March: Bob and Sue Jaussaud will take us on a loop road from Needles into the California and Nevada deserts. We may start this with breakfast in Needles end this with a BBQ & Potluck at Bob and Sue's place on the river.

April: Eastern Arizona and Western New Mexico as we tour Canyon de Chelly and other ancient Indian sites. Haul and Mary Reddick are working on this trip. This will be a multiple day trip.

May: A multi-day run across Arizona to trace and drive as much of the various tracks of Historic Route 66 we

can find. Not just the ones you find in the tour guides. We have found, by accident, that there is more left out there than most folks know about or can be found on the modern maps. We intend to do our best to find out just what is left. 4x4 will be required as we may encounter some really old pieces that require some "go around noodling."

June: A day run or perhaps overnight run back to Kirkland and Skull Valley to investigate the historic and culinary offerings of the area with a possible overnight in Prescott. Planning dates are 6/11/10 and/or 6/12/10.

July: Return trip to Utah around the US89 corridor. We will be making some visits to some of our favorite small towns in Utah for great food and hospitality. This is a running camp and motel trip. We will try and build in an overnight stay at the Rockin' R Ranch and Lodge in Antimony which would be a great little treat.

August: Nothing in planning yet
September: Return trip to the northwest side of the Arizona Strip, Base camp approximately 30 miles in from St. George and 4 miles west of Wolf Hole area on BLM Route 1004. Current planning dates are Saturday 9/11/10 to Saturday 9/18/10.

Visit Desert Explorers on the Web

See more pictures and in color!

<http://desertexplorers.org>

Organizational Fine Print and Choice Pieces of Potentially Useful Info

General Trip Information

1. The Mojave River Valley Museum has two sections (groups) that explore the desert environment (Museum membership required):

a. The Desert Explorers, who use 4WD vehicles and cover the Southwestern states and Mexico/Baja, camping out wherever nightfall catches them. The trips are led by numerous experienced Desert Explorers subscribers. The Desert Explorers newsletter is available for \$18 a year.

b. The Mojave River Explorers, who establish a base camp in the Mojave desert, usually with motorhomes and trailers, and make daily 4WD/2WD sorties, attempting to find seats for those without 4WD vehicles, returning to camp each night. The trips are led by experienced Museum members who, collectively, have spent decades learning the hidden wonders of the Mojave. Their newsletter is available for \$7/year from editor Gene Stoops (760) 253-2419.

2. You MUST be a member of the Mojave River Valley Museum to attend a trip. Membership applications are included in every newsletter on the back of the last page.

3. When you join a trip, you agree to abide by the decisions and directives of the leader throughout the trip or until such time as you inform the leader that you are leaving the group to proceed on your own. The leader may, if his decisions or directives are not followed, inform a participant that his participation in the trip is terminated.

4. The Desert Explorers is a family oriented 4WD organization. Spouses and kids are welcome. Friendly dogs are OK as specified below. Trips will meet and depart from somewhere near the trip route, usually near the Museum.

5. To receive the Desert Explorers' Newsletter, send \$18 for a subscription to Marilyn Martin, PO Box 291759, Phelan, CA 92329-1759. Make the check out to Desert Explorers.

Communications: CB is required and is the normal mode of communications between vehicles on a trip. Channel 13 is the Desert Explorers' channel. It's a good idea to monitor it whenever you are driving so that other members can contact you should they spot your vehicle on the road.

Weekend Trips: There is normally one major trip each month. This will be the trip on which you can look around and find old friends, new friends, collect debts, flirt with other wives/husbands and lie about other trips. There may be another trip during the month for people who have time for it or can't make the main trip. The purpose of all this is to generate more coherence as a group and get everybody to know everybody. We stole this idea from the Mojave River Explorers. Don't forget their fixed-camp trips on the first weekend of the month.

Trip Coordinator: John Page. Send your trip proposals to John. John will resolve any time conflicts and maybe bug you if you are late with a promised trip write-up. He will also coordinate private trips for subscribers upon request (see below).

Non Museum sponsored trip Point of Contact: We publish reports of subscribers' non museum sponsored trips in order to fill the pages, encourage you to get out into The Great American Desert, and to amuse and entertain you. Some trips, because of time or limited number of people, are not suitable for official museum trip status. Our Trip Coordinator is

the point of contact for Subscribers having or wanting to go on a non museum sponsored trip.

Potluck: There will be a Potluck on Saturday night of our weekend trips unless otherwise noted by the Leader.

Trip Details: Participants may be required to send a SASE to the trip leader to receive information on trip meeting place and other details. A SASE is a self addressed stamped envelope.

Finances: The cost of preparing and mailing the Desert Explorers newsletter is covered by the annual subscription fee as are extraordinary out-of-pocket expenses by Trip Leaders or members, which are incurred as a result of Desert Explorers activities. These expenses include costs of telephone calls, office supplies and postage but do not include any travel expenses, vehicle damage or personal injuries. Other extraordinary expenses must be authorized by the Executive Committee.

Hot Tips for Leaders:

1. The leader is responsible for sending the trip announcement and trip report to the newsletter editor. The write-ups should be detailed enough so the participants will know what to expect and, if possible, have enough information in it so that a SASE is not necessary. (See the ones in this issue for examples.)

2. Try not to schedule trips on the first weekend of the month. This weekend is used regularly by the Mojave River Explorers for their outings.

3. Try not to use a reservation system or vehicle limits unless absolutely necessary. This will save paperwork for everyone. Request a SASE if necessary for sending out further trip details, meeting place, time, etc.

4. Support your other leaders' trips (by attending) or the Trail Gods will get you.

5. Maximum loss (vehicles or people) is 10% per trip.

6. Leaders, please put your CB channel 13 (or other channel if circumstances prevent using Desert Explorers' channel 13) in your trip write-up.

Dog Policy:

Dogs can become a problem in camp mainly because of the large number of them and the sometimes blind eye of their humans. Therefore, and forevermore we will have a Dog Policy so that shy leaders will not have to make ad hoc policy.

1. Bringing a dog on a trip requires the ADVANCE PERMISSION of the Leader!

2. Dogs will be leashed/confined during happy hour & mealtimes.

3. People with dogs will be expected to clean up any poop in the campsite.

4. Dogs that fight, harass wildlife, eat small children etc., will be confined and banned from future trips.

• OUR FEARFUL LEADERS •

NAME	KNOWN AS	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
Robb Anderson	Rawbananarob	1161 W. Duarte Rd. #4	Arcadia	California	91007	626-572-6015	avsoulfly@aol.com
Robert & Shirley Bolin	Distributors Emeritus	1606 Corsica Pl.	Costa Mesa	California	92626	714-549-4361	robertshirl@earthlink.net
Robert & Nancy Dodds	Rock Bucket/No More Rocks	20035 Hodge Rd.	Barstow	California	92311	760-253-7506	forthebirds_99@yahoo.com
David Given	Tire-Some Fellow :-)	12871 Gifford Way	Victorville	California	92392	760-956-1776	daveg1_2000@yahoo.com
Bill Gossett	Wild Bill	433 Valley St.	Ridgecrest	California	93555	760-375-6169	bandbgossett@verizon.net
Jean Hansen	Sure Foot	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316	sjhsn@verizon.net
Sunny Hansen	Glyphologist	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316	760-217-7555 sjhsn@verizon.net
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Vicki Hill	Glyphartist, Co-chairperson	26111 Parmelee Ct.	Hemet	California	92544	951-927-6476	vlanehill@verizon.net
Charles & Mary Hughes	Chas	1675 Highway 95 A2	Bullhead City	Arizona	86441	928-763-3927	mhach2juno.com
Bob Jacoby	Treasurer	2245 Wellesley Ave.	Los Angeles	California	90064	310-490-6873	bobjacoby.r@worldnet.att.net
Bob Jaussaud	Sue's Husband & Chairman Viejo	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	818-585-6468	joeso@lonepinetv.com
Sue Jaussaud	Toby Feeder & Chairchick Vieja	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	760-876-9227	joeso@lonepinetv.com
Marian Johns	Co-Chairperson & Neal Keeper	406 Lytle Creek Road	Lytle Creek	California	92358	909-887-1549	aridneal@gmail.com
Neal Johns	Chm. Emeritus, Aridologist, Asst. Ed.	406 Lytle Creek Road	Lytle Creek	California	92358	909-887-1549	aridneal@gmail.com
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Marilyn Martin	Subscriptions & Newsletter Editor	P.O. Box 291759	Phelan	California	92329-1759	760-868-6606	760-641-1483 mjmartin@dslextr.com
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Steve Marschke	The Quiet Man	4904 Reynolds Rd.	Torrance	California	90505	310-543-1862	951-316-6545 samarschke@raytheon.com
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Dan Messersmith	M.O.E. Chief & Jeep Sleeper	2945 E. Leroy Avenue	Kingman	Arizona	86409	928-757-8953	928-715-0579 dmess@ctaz.com
Bill Neill	Tamarisk Eradicator	6623 Craner Ave.	North Hollywood	California	91606-2022	818-769-0678	bgneill@earthlink.net
John Page	Trip Coordinator Emeritus, Aridologist	3675 Gingerwood Ct.	Thousand Oaks	California	91360	805-493-1128	805-660-1218 jppage@roadrunner.com
Bob Peltzman	Lost Again	32014 Grenville Ct.	Westlake Village	California	91361	818-865-8464	bopeltzman@aol.com
Ana M. Romero	RawbananaAna	1161 W. Duarte Rd. #4	Arcadia	California	91007	626-821-0044	626-483-6540 anamari418@yahoo.com
Alan Romsper	Flower Child	605 No. Pomona Ave.	Fullerton	California	92832	714-870-0946	aromsper@fullerton.edu
Malcolm Roode	Trip Coordinator	7014 Mountain	Highland	California	92346	909-864-3525	malroode@gmail.com
Nan Savage	Xterra Terror & Sat Chick	12354 Sarah St.	Studio City	California	91604	818-766-0401	nansavage@sbcglobal.net
Allan Schoenherr	The Good Allan	414 Bluebird Canyon Dr.	Laguna Beach	California	92651	949-494-0675	aschoenherr@fullcoll.edu
Ken Sears	Money Man Emeritus	P.O. Box 4689	Cerritos	California	90703	562-404-1772	562-650-0461 dsearer@earthlink.net
Anne Stoll	Canologist	143 Monterrey Drive	Claremont	California	91711	909-621-7521	909-730-0137 annestoll@srircm.com
George Stoll	Lens Cleaner	143 Monterrey Drive	Claremont	California	91711	909-621-7521	agstoll@csupomona.edu
Donald Swinhart	Mr. Nice	P.O. Box 23061	Santa Ana	California	92711	3061	ecv1069@earthlink.net
Gary Thomas	Cranky	1039 W. Seventh	Upland	California	91786	909-981-5487	g.cranky@verizon.net
Betty Wallin	Blender Queen	P. O. Box 1214	Desert Hot Springs	California	92240	760-329-2403	wingit@ix.netcom.com

Museum Membership Application - *Send a separate envelope to and a check made out to:*

Mojave River Valley Museum Association, Inc.

PO Box 1282, Barstow, CA 92312-1282 • Phone: (760) 256-5452

Family - Annual ----- \$25.00
Entitles family to all privileges of membership (One vote per Annual Membership) including Museum Newsletter, ten per cent discount on publications sold by the Museum, participation in Association activities.

Individual - Annual ----- \$20.00

Name _____ Spouse _____ Children _____
 Address _____ State _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____

DESERT EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To subscribe for one year to the monthly newsletter of the Desert Explorers of the Mojave River Valley Museum send a check for **\$20.00 made out to: Mojave River Valley Museum** to Marilyn Martin, PO Box 291759, Phelan, CA 92329

Name _____ Spouse _____
 Address _____ Children _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____
 Cell Phone (____) _____ Ham Call Sign _____



**DESERT EXPLORERS
OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM**

Marilyn Martin
P. O. Box 291759
Phelan • California • 92329-1759

.Deadline for stuff for the Oct. Newsletter is Sept. 10th.
Please!!! Send something...

! FLASH!
**Check your subscription date to see if you need to
renew!!!**