

DESERT EXPLORERS

No. 172 JUL. 2010

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



Trip Reports Vanderbilt and Homestead Tour

By Debbie Miller Marschke

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Riley did turn around and sell his prospects which contributed to the mining development in this region of the Mojave. We could see his efforts dotting the mountainsides around us, including the Standard Mines One and Two. At the time of his death, Riley still held title to 60 claims. However, his most lasting legacy is the Mojave Cross at Sunrise Rock (near Teutonia Peak). Riley was a World War One veteran and, in 1934, he erected the original cross as a place of reflection for war veterans. Once the site became a part of the Mojave National Preserve, it was constantly plagued with controversy.

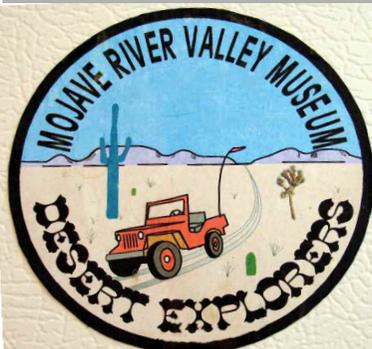
Before moving on from Riley's Camp, we followed the road back behind his cabin to the saddle and overlook down upon the workings of the Morning Star Mine. It was an awesome view, and the surrounding geology was interesting. We moved on to where one of Riley's neighbors, the Geer family, has been established. Our group checked out the Geer Camp cabin and site. Mr. Geer was the foreman at the Standard Mines, and thus the junkpiles were particularly attractive. The group had fanned out behind the cabin discussing our finds.

On Friday, April 9, 2010 at Noon, my husband Steve and I joined our group assembled at the Baker Valero station and headed north on the I-15. We started out with 4 vehicles: Glenn Shaw, Bob & Sue Jaussaud, Dave "BigBird" Given and Sir Bob Rodemeyer. After taking Cima Road south into the Mojave National Preserve, we left the pavement to head east into the Ivanpah Range. First we visited Riley's Camp. This was the primary home of John Riley Bembry, prospector and entrepreneur in this range for more than 50 years. He prospected and filed hundreds of claims in this area; in fact, during my research of "Riley" I obtained a list of his claims which printed out on 6 pages, which boggled my mind. Being a businessman,



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Pause in Memory of Riley



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Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

J. Riley Bembry's Grave

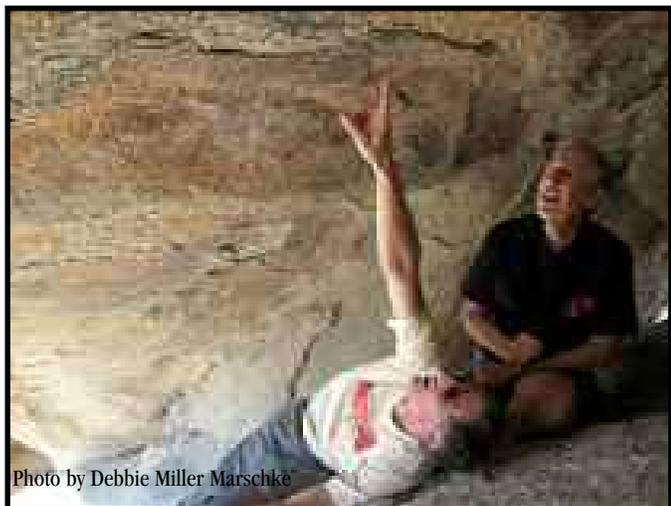


Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Inspecting the Pictographs at Geer's Camp

Since I had visited this site previously, I took the opportunity to explore farther back into the rocks. I found a natural alcove, and after some scrutiny, I discovered some rock art. I beckoned to the group, and we all studied the find together. The pictographs were a faint rust coloration and mostly appeared as score marks. We all were thrilled with the unexpected find

We took our vehicles for a short hop over to the next neighboring camp and cabins – more artifact exploration and mystery junk piles. Within minutes everyone had followed their interests and had spread out over the property. I had been expecting Mal & Jean Roode and Mignon Slentz to join our trip, and when I checked the CB, I could hear them calling us, but they could not receive our transmissions. A quick cell phone call to Mignon put the group on track, and by late afternoon our group was completely assembled and enjoying the scattered

ing upon the structure to get a better look. We had a lightly breezy evening which was pleasant for all but Sir Bob. Apparently, his new air mattress tried to escape in the cover of darkness by jumping out of Bob's truck bed, dumping him off and giving Bob some unintended intimate time with his new Tacoma's bed. Luckily, nobody heard the resultant reaction!

We decided on Saturday morning that our route out of the area should include a pass by Riley's controversial cross. Despite a recent Supreme Court ruling ten days previous that would allow the cross to be displayed, the cross was still

mining cabins together. We found the largest collective dome of claret cup hedgehog cactus any of us had ever seen!. It had a three foot diameter, was in glorious bloom and pretty darn close to being perfect. Wowee! Our last stop was the small cemetery where J. Riley Bembry was buried alongside another prospector. All in all it was a pleasant spring day and the roadsides treated us with displays of desert marigold, paintbrush, indigo, paper bag bush, dominated by great showings of apricot mallow.

Our evening was spent camped at the headframe of one of Riley's 1935 finds, the Evening Star Mine. It is the largest standing headframe in the East Mojave, and impressive. I think I saw Glenn and Mal climb-

encased upon the rock in a plywood box. Nevertheless, our homage to Riley was a meaningful experience for all. The Cima store was open for business, so we treated ourselves to an ice cream breakfast. We traveled on pavement southeast until the road turned to graded gravel at Ivanpah Road.

Our first stop as we entered the area previously known as Vanderbilt was the fast-fading Vanderbilt cemetery. There are 30 known graves here but only a few can be recognized now. Here we paid our respects to the still present headstone of Charlie Bell, who was buried here after his death June 29, 1932. Bell was the watchman at Vanderbilt's Gold Bronze Mine, and he remained a resident there until his body was found amongst the charred remains of his cabin. Bell was remarkable because he was paralyzed on one side of his body and had adapted to his disability; he drove a Model T and managed the complications of it's operation through ingenuity or utilizing the kindness of others. The historic main "drag" into the 1891 town Vanderbilt is unusual because it tracks in the drainage contours. This meant that the primary street was narrow and the buildings were either on the ascending slopes on each side, or partially dug in around the bottom of the drainage. I took the group to the ruins of the only known stone walled home in Vanderbilt, which was the former residence of Virgil Earp. Earp oper-



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Main Street, Vanderbilt

ated a saloon and dance/meeting hall for two years, about 1892-1894, called "The Whist Club". It was the only two story building in town and open 24 hours. Though not much of the town remains today, there are still some interesting



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Glen, Bob & Steve Checking Camp “Treasures”

dugouts, foundations, adits, shafts, mining ruins, timbers and can dumps. I had some photographs to share which were taken in this area in the 1950's. We moved the group to three different locations so that everyone could have a chance to wander around Vanderbilt and to check out the areas that beckoned to be explored. Vanderbilt's namesake was East Coast tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt; the founding residents had hoped they'd all be "as rich as Vanderbilts" when gold was found by a Piute Indian. "Old Man Beatty" was successful in gold production from the first mine, The Boomerang. The whole operation was initially frustrated by want of adequate transportation of the ore and the locality of spring water. Railroader Issac Blake completed his Nevada Southern line from Goffs to Manvel (Barnwell) in 1893, and Vanderbilt boomed to more than 2000 residents in short order. However, the

group enjoyed our stay at Vanderbilt until, out of nowhere, a very suspicious man popped up. He was dressed in military camouflage bedecked with Indian beading, vagabond-like long hair, and was clearly armed with a sidearm and bowie knife. I approached him and asked if he was visiting Vanderbilt too, to which he dreamily replied, "no, I'm looking for the underground river..." I asked him if he was interested in the nearby legendary Kokoweef Mountain, and he wistfully said "uh, no, it's an underground river that my brother and I swam in when we were kids..." This fellow also did not remember his name, or so he claimed. I handed him a copy of the educational materials I had prepared for the group regarding the town, and we hastily sashayed our vehicles to another location to give this man some space. Then he proceeded to walk out of Vanderbilt (presumably to where he had entered), and we all speculated as

concentrated veins were quickly played out, leaving the more difficult-to-extract gold within mineral sulfides. Technology had not been developed adequately to continue the necessary processes to separate the gold from the earth, and the town slid into a deadly decline. I'm not exactly sure how long it took for the town to ghost, but the post office closed in 1900. Our

to what was REALLY up with this guy. He made us all uncomfortable so we didn't dally longer than it took to eat lunch.

Our next stop was at the Sharp Homestead. In the early 1900's, the East Mojave enjoyed a higher annual rainfall and thus dry farming was successful during this era. The homestead was located right next to the railroad line, and the Sharp Family's post office

box was in Maruba. Dennis Casebier's organization, the MDHCA, published the book "Maruba" which details the life and times of the Sharp family as they treasured their time at the homestead. Not much remains at the site but some bits of junk and concrete work, but the area still is characteristically clear of Joshua trees where the crops had been furrowed. We traveled down Lanfair Road to another homestead site where the Bell family had several homesteads. Lumber remains from the homestead cabins, and I had some historic photographs to tease the images into our minds of how things must have been. We rolled into Goffs around 4 o'clock, and everyone was ready for a cold beverage and a chance to relax. Our group camped literally parallel to the Goffs Depot. This property, owned by the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association, has procured and preserved history and artifacts from the East Mojave. Beginning in 1954, Dennis Casebier has gathered this history and founded an organization that continues through the efforts of volunteers; everyone involved here is interested in supporting the endeavor in perpetuity. The newest structure, the Goffs Depot, is a replica of the original railroad depot with a significant improvement; it is a shell that contains a state-of-the-art library and archive containing the culmination of Casebier's life work. I think the rest goes without clarification, because most Desert Explorers are familiar with the goings-on at Goffs and many of us volunteer there. We had a fabulous potluck dinner at the Goffs Flywheel Café, and we were thrilled to sit down in the restored Goffs Schoolhouse as students (just like the homesteaders children) and be dazzled with Casebier's wonderful powerpoint lecture about the success of the ongoing historical preservation that has continued at Goffs.

Our tour of Goffs was not finished on Saturday. We all were free to experience the property at our leisure. Sunday morning, caretaker Hugh Brown opened up the Goffs Depot so we could see for ourselves what was being procured there. Immediately, everyone was captivated by photographs, albums, or collections that were being processed into the library depository. Hugh really didn't need to say much...the minute the door was opened, we all flowed in with wide eyes. Even Bob Jaussaud was quiet and focused on a



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Dave Given



Photo by Debbie Williams

Steve, Mignon & Mal/Slightly Used Truck

recently procured photo collection! We could have walked around moon-eyed all day, but I finally got the group to saddle up and ride on. We headed north on Lanfair Road and west on Cedar Canyon Road. Before we reached Rock Springs, we veered south to the homestead site of the Lorenzo & Harriet Watson family. The corrals are still there, but no structures remain. However, Casebier has quite a bit of known history of this family from his oral histories taken from Betty Stokes Ordway, sister of Harriet Watson. Betty Stokes was the belle of the East Mojave, and was sweet on a cowboy and gunslinger who had worked for the Rock Springs Cattle Company: Matt Burts. Burts was one of the gunmen involved in the crime mystery shootout at Government Holes November 8, 1925. As a bonus, I took our group up the sandy Watson Wash and had everyone march up a trail-less hill to a large boulder. The boulder bears the inscription "Betty Stokes, March 21, 1921". What fun! In the interest of continuity, the group backtracked the way we had come to an escarpment which bore a nice collection of Indian petroglyphs. We had lunch at the base of the escarpment and Mignon finally got the little bird out of her car that had hitchhiked from Goffs.

Our trip concluded at this point, and we split off at Cedar Canyon Road to make a beeline home. You would think this is the end of the story, but it's not! I was back at work on Monday morning, and I got a call from Dave Given alerting me that Riley's controversial cross had been stolen by protestors that Sunday evening! What a shock! For the next two weeks, the Cross was spotlighted on local

news and CNN. A \$125,000 reward was posted. The perpetrators released word that the cross will be returned only when a "non-offensive" alternative is erected in its place. Then on May 21, someone erected a replacement cross, which the Park service promptly removed. The story does not end here, but continues and can be easily followed through internet postings. It is a poignant reminder to me that we must appreciate what is still left to see, and treasure the memories we build together because you never can predict what will happen next.

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

Return to Utah

(M.O.E.)

July 2 to 7

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

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. We will make time to take in 4th of July activities and fireworks in one of the towns. (We are currently looking at Torrey, UT for our 4th of July fun.) We will do a fair amount of running on top of and across the fabulous Wasatch Plateau.

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 treat.

We will depart from the Kingman

Regional Medical Center south parking lot (across from In-N-Out Burger) just north of I-40 exit 51 at 8:30 a.m. Those who want to come early for breakfast in the hospital cafe may do so. (It is Very Good.) Those coming from outside Kingman may make arrangements to meet us along the way in Mesquite, NV or St. George, UT. Lots of details are being worked on and will be shared with those who sign up. If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick: dickandmouse@aol.com

White Mountains and Ancient Bristlecone Pines

July 24-25

Leaders: Jay & Sylvia Lawrence

We're repeating a great little two day trip in the Eastern Sierra region: Leave from Big Pine east on Hwy. 168 to the site of White Mountain City. Up Wyman Canyon through Roberts Ranch the "back way" into the White Mountains and on to the Ancient Bristlecone Pine forest and Patriarch Grove. Camp overnight in Cottonwood Canyon. Sunday visit Schulman Grove and park HQ. Good short hikes near former HQ ranger station and pavement exit for those who need a quick exit to get home.

The more intrepid can join leader to head to Silver Canyon for a spectacular descent from 11,400' to 4,200 feet into Laws (4 miles east of Bishop). Be prepared for high altitude, cold and warm weather and very scenic trip. 4WD with decent clearance and CB required.

Meet in Big Pine at the junction of highway 395 and 168 at the base of the three giant flagpoles in front of the campground. Contact trip leader for details and sign up.

San Juan Mountains Colorado

August 16 - 21
Leader: Ted Kalil
CB: 13

Several have expressed interest in this trip to the Ouray and Silverton area. Though we originally planned this for July, I found that there would have been a conflict with a major event then.

At least one couple would like to dry camp, and there is a site near on the Animas Forks Trail near Silverton. There are also some campgrounds with hookups in the area, as well as lots of hotel and motel accommodations - don't expect bargain rates. Last year I stayed at the KOA in Ouray, a nice place convenient to many of the trails. We can make arrangements of when and where to meet later. Here are proposed runs:

1. Black Bear Pass, Imogene Pass
2. Corkscrew Pass, Hurricane Pass, California Pass, Animas Forks
3. Engineer Pass, Cinnamon Pass
4. Break day or unscheduled run, train ride, laundry, R&R, whatever
5. Yankee Boy Basin, Governor Basin
6. Stony Pass, Bear Town

Of course any of these can be shuffled or substituted to suit those attending. All are suitable for four wheel drive with decent clearance. I didn't include Poughkeepsie Gulch since one section is more difficult. I needed to winch up and had to winch several others, but we can do it if there's interest.

Charles Wells' "Colorado Backroads and 4-Wheel Drive Trails" has good detailed info about all of these. Come for a day or the week. Let me know if you're interested, please. Home: 760-240-0406; Cell: 760-985-6307 or e-mail tskalil@msn.com

Arizona Strip Northwest Side

(M.O.E.)

September 3 to 11
Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This is a return trip to the northwest side of the Arizona Strip, Base camp approximately 30 miles in from St. George and 4 miles west of the Wolf Hole area on BLM Route 1004. [THIS MAY CHANGE AS WOOD CUTTERS HAVE BEEN AT THE SITE] While we will not do any Grand Canyon overlooks on this trip, we will take in great scenery, views and great 4x4 trails while traversing the tops of Black Rock Mountain, Seegmiller Mountain, Wolf Hole Mountain and Hidden Rim. Also included may be runs through the canyons of Hidden, Hole-in-Wall, Jump, St. George and Tombstone. We will depart from the Kingman Regional Medical Center south parking lot (across from In-N-Out Burger) just north of I-40 exit 51 at 8:30 a.m. Those who want to come early for breakfast in the hospital cafe may do so. (It is Very Good.) Those coming from outside Kingman may make arrangements to meet us along the way in Mesquite, NV or St. George, UT.

If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan: dness@ctaz.com or Dick: dickandmouse@aol.com.

Rock Art Day Trip and Hike

Saturday, Oct 23
Leader: Vicki Hill

Saturday morning we will be in Idyllwild to visit 2 pictograph sites featuring elements known as the San Luis Rey style of the Mountain Cahuilla in Riverside County. Then we will drive down from the pines to the palms and up Whitewater Canyon to visit the new

Whitewater Preserve. There are trout ponds, picnic areas and many trails leading up the canyon. Those who want to can take a walk with me on a trail, or look for bighorn sheep, photograph the river or just relax and watch the bird life in the surrounding trees.

Children and families are welcome on this trip, which does not require 4wheel drive. There will be several miles on the I-10 with great views on the north face of San Jacinto mountain.

Fenner Valley Piute Mtns.

November 6 - 7
Leader: Joe de Kehoe
CB: 13

Limited to 10 cars total (including mine because of limited parking/turn around area at some stops) so please e-mail jdekehoe@bak.rr.com to reserve or verify your attendance. Please include your name, preferred e-mail address and cell phone number in your e-mail to me. A 4 x 4 vehicle is highly recommended because of the necessity of driving in several sandy washes, and a high clearance vehicle is essential. Except for the drive to the starting point at Old Danby, all of the trip is off road.

Preliminary Plan - subject to revision in the coming weeks: Meet at Roy's Cafe in Amboy at 8:00 a.m. and leave there at 8:30 sharp. For those of you arriving from the east, via Essex, you can wait for the group at Danby - our first stop after leaving Amboy. From Danby (on National Trails Highway) we will take Danby Road south to Old Danby, and take time to air down for those who wish to do so (me for instance).

I will have a more descriptive itinerary by the time of the August newsletter, but in addition to the driving there will be a couple of short hikes on Saturday (optional: +/- 2 miles max round trip on relatively flat, sandy terrain), a visit to a stone cabin, visit

some semi-historic sites in the area near Weaver's Well, and drive to Sunflower Spring where we will make camp amidst the boulders Saturday night. On Sunday backtrack a bit to the east and drive through the Piute Mtns and arrive back on pavement at National Trails Highway a few miles east of Essex about 12:00 or 1:00 p.m.

Saturday night is a dry camp - bring everything - food, water, etc.

jdekehoe@bak.rr.com

(661) 331-3377

Jim Watson

Nothing had been heard from Jim since we reported he was home recuperating from his aortic surgery. E-mails were returned and phones didn't work. Marian and I tracked him down. We are happy to report he is doing fine and has returned to work.

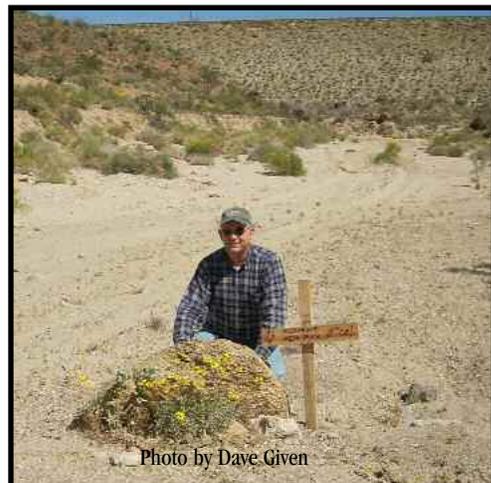


Photo by Dave Given

"SirBob" at His Memorial

Member Doings

Bob Rodemeyer

By Dave Given

In april of 2008 "SirBob" Rodemeyer and I went out to do some maintenance on a drinker for the sheep society. I was in the lead when I looked in my rear view mirror and saw...nothing, no "SirBob". I went back looking for him,

and he was stuck. When he tried to back up he turned his steering wheel and promptly parked high up on a rock. It took a few hours to get him off of the rock. What he had for a jack would barely jack up a 2x4.

In april of 2010 we went back to the same place and installed this sign

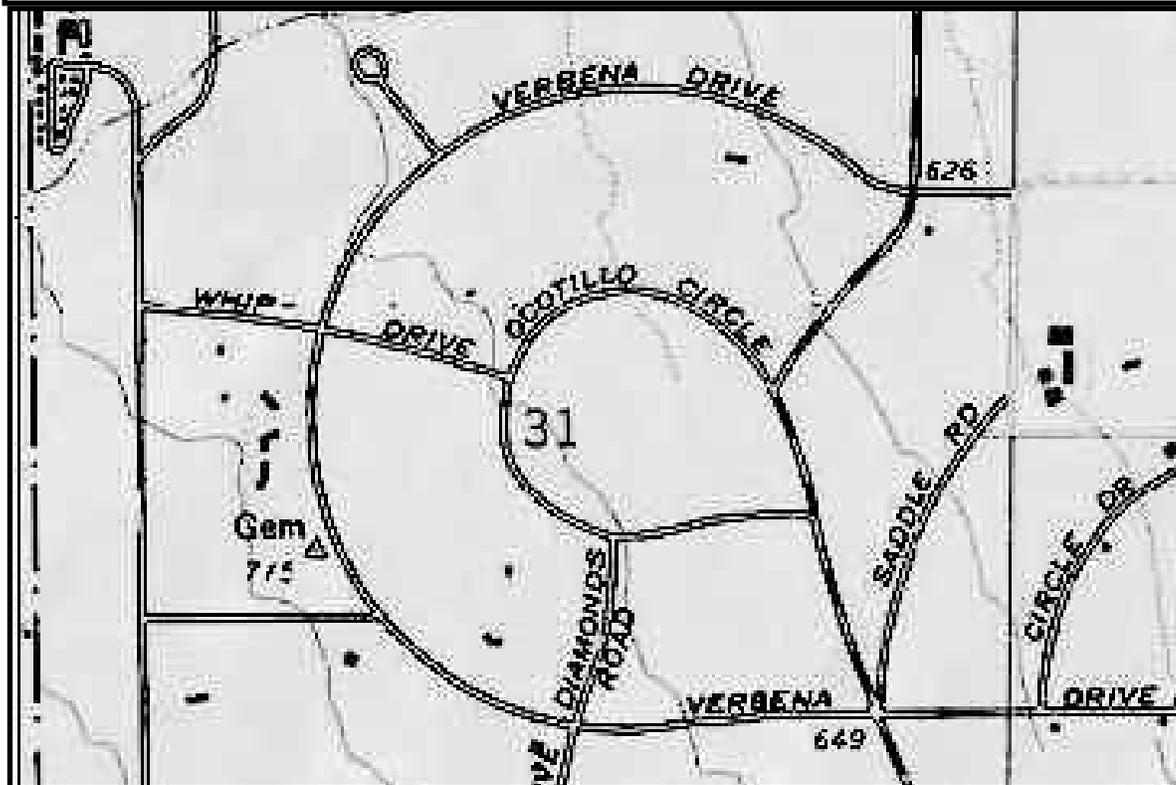
"SirBob Rodemeyer Memorial Rock" for all to see and admire. He is so proud he can barely speak.

Ed. note: Look closely. It's the only rock of any size in the area.

Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for June: Location: Near Trona and the "Pinnacles". Winners were: Mal Roode, James Proffitt, Leonard Friedman, Allan Schoenherr, Beverly and Gene Stoops

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".



Neal Johns

By Marilyn Martin

There I was on Memorial Day working to empty all the closets and cabinets in my house – a monumental job - so I could be ready for the new carpet to be installed and feeling very sorry for myself being so alone, when my phone rang. “Hello, this is David K” I prepared to hang up on yet another salesperson. “I’m a friend of Neal Johns.” Oops! I decided to listen. “We’re down in Baja and –” I interrupted. “Is Neal OK.?” “Neal’s OK, but his truck broke down. He tried to reach Marian by satellite phone, but for some reason he barely got through and the phone went dead.

We were down at Mission Santa Maria

when (here my memory fails me) and Neal had no four wheel drive”.

Now the road into Santa Maria is one of the worst I have been on so even I knew there was no way even Marian could get up it in 2-wheel-drive.

David continued, “The road was in the worst shape I have ever seen it. Our six vehicles worked until 1:00 a.m. getting Neal to the top of the hill. Then his tie rod broke.” Shades of déjà vu, but this time there were no John Page or Bob Martin to attempt to rescue Neal.

Unable to reach anyone they had contacted me. Could I let Marian know? Even though they had reached a phone they could not contact Marian. She simply didn’t answer her phone.

Somebody named Chris would head for Tijuana and try to get the parts and return with the parts. Meantime Neal wanted it known he had enough food

and water to last 2 weeks. (How many cold cans of soup is that?)

After hanging up, I tried reaching Marian. No luck. Even the answering machine didn’t answer.

Now what to do? If Marian had received the partial call she must be worried. Was Marian OK? The only folks I know in the canyon apparently have an unlisted phone. The other person I know there has gone away for the summer. Finally it occurred to me Marian might have gone to visit her brother who is still hospitalized. I decided to wait until Tuesday while trying the phone every hour.

Finally in late afternoon I got through to Marian who had indeed been visiting her brother.

I can hardly wait to read Neal’s story which you can bet I have demanded for the Newsletter.

CURRENT DESERT EXPLORERS WITH E-MAIL

Reda Anderson	redaflygal@aol.com	Dean W. Hilleman	deanh707@msn.com	John Perko	jperko003@earthlink.net
Craig Baker	seahawk190@mail.com	John Hoopes	jnhooopes@sbcglobal.net	Jim Proffitt	jproffitt@sbcglobal.net
Bruce Barnett	bns.barnett@sbcglobal.net	Charles Hughes	mhach@juno.com	Don Putnam	wegotoo@yahoo.com
H. S. Barsam	barsam67@earthlink.net	Robert J. Jacoby	jacoby.r@worldnet.att.net	Fred Raab	fjr@fredraab.com
Larry Boerio	larrybemail@yahoo.com	Bob Jaussaud	joeso@lonopinew.com	Wm. A. Ramsden	alquoc@aol.com
Ted Berger	berger200@comcast.net	Neal Johns	aridneal@gmail.com	Bob Rodemeyer	chiefrodey@ca.rr.com
Robert Bolin	robertnshirl@earthlink.net	George Johnston	johnst24@cebridge.com	Ana Romero	aromero0418@sbcglobal.net
June Box	foxieboxie@msn.com	Willie Kalajian	williesoffroad@hughes.net	Malcolm Roode	malroode@gmail.com
David Bullock	eeecue@eeecue.com	Ted Kalil	tskalil@msn.com	Ron Ross	rgrossjr@jpl.nasa.gov
Steve Burks	soburks@pacbell.net	Jim Kay	jkay13@ca.rr.com	Daniel Sanchez	helvetica@earthlink.net
Jim Byrne	jim_byrne@sbcglobal.net	Richard Kenney	kenneyc@sbcglobal.net	Dario Sanchez	dsanmtnrat@aol.com
Herb Clark	herbclark@cox.net	Jerry Koplowitz	jkopnv@aol.com	Cyrus Sarange	csarange@semprautilities.com
Bill Cook	oldyloco@aol.com	John Kuzma	jk4wlow@pacbell.net	Nan Savage	nansavage@sbcglobal.net
Graham Cooper	coop@coopcoyote.com	Chuck Lahmeyer	clahmeyer@earthlink.net	Sherry Schmidt	sierranv21@aol.com
Rick Cords	rcords@roadrunner.com	Jay Lawrence	solariscomm@earthlink.net	Allan Schoenherr	aschoenherr@fullcoll.edu
Bruce Dart	brucedart@yahoo.com	Ron Lewis	lrgmgaz@yahoo.com	Richard Shapel	lshapel@yahoo.com
Robert J. Day	kd22@cox.net	Ron Lipari	rlipari@conejo.k12ca.us	Glen Shaw	desert.wanderer@hotmail.com
Herb Deeks	h.deeks@sbcglobal.net	Steve Marschke	stvemarschke@gmail.com	Stan Sholik	ssholik@pacbell.net
Marten DeGroot	martendegroot@yahoo.com	Marilyn Martin	mjmartin@dslextre.me.com	Julian Singer	singer@ucla.edu
Joe de Kehoe	dekehoej@hotmail.com	Dave McFarland	jd_mcfarland@att.net	Mignon Slentz	mignonslentz@gmail.com
Robert DeWolf	bobs5@lafn.org	Joan McGovern-White	jmcgw@verizon.net	Ed Steiner	joansteiner@cox.net
Robert Dodds	forthebirds_99@yahoo.com	Homer Meek	hmeek@socal.rr.com	Anne Stoll	annestoll@verizon.net
Bill Dunlap	wdunlap@lausd.k12.ca.us	Dan Messersmith	dmess@ctaz.com	George Stoll	agstoll@csupomona.edu
Bert Eddins	aseddins@msn.com	Ronald Midlikoski	midlikoski@verizon.net	Gene Stoops	genebevs@msn.com
Paul Ferry	pbferry@hotmail.com	Debbie Miller	dmiller@guideone.com	Donald Sweinhart	ecv1069@earthlink.net
Valerie Finstad	mojaveval@yahoo.com	Nelson Miller	nmiller@hogleireland.com	Richard Taylor	dickandmouse@aol.com
Leonard Friedman	l.friedman@att.net	Chuck Mitchell	cmitchellmbc@att.net	Bob Thille	grthille@yahoo.com
Ann Fulton	jfult@aol.com	Robert M. Monsen	monsensu@infowest.com	Gary Thomas	g.cranky@verizon.net
George Gilster	carol10040@msn.com	David Mott	compass_dave@webtv.net	Tom Thompson	tom@tins.com
David P. Given	daveg1_2000@yahoo.com	Emily Murphy	patandem@everizon.net	Sue Trubovitz	catcher4x4@yahoo.com
Pauline A. Goss	pgss@qnet.com	Jeanne Murrin	rockchaser@peoplepc.com	Loren Upton	patricia@outbackofbeyond.com
Nancy Gorham	ngcarroway@yahoo.com	Robert M. Myers	rmyersjeeper@sbcglobal.net	Michael Volberg	mdcccmmike@gmail.com
Bill Gossett	bandbgossett@verizon.net	Deborah Nakamoto	sky-horse@att.net	Don Vollmert	mvollmert@roadrunner.com
Scott Hanenkrat	kratcrew@sbcglobal.net	Bill Neill	bneill@earthlink.net	Cliff Walker	cjwalker@mindspring.com
Sunny Hansen	sjhsn@verizon.net	Stuart Nicol	stn.nicol@att.net	Betty Wallin	wingit@ix.netcom.com
Jerry Harada	jkh357.sbcglobal.net	Carl Noah	ncnoah2@yahoo.com	James Watson	jwtatson444@yahoo.com
Emmett Harder	echco@verizon.net	Doug Nunn	rdn@gotmsk.com	Matt Westlake	ifollowtheson@hotmail.com
Terry Hardwicke	thardwicke@charter.net	Terry Ogden	togden@cox.net	Allan Wicker	allan.wicker@verizon.net
Robbie Hefner	rob_hefner@hotmail.com	Bob Oliver	mexntex2@yahoo.com	Bob Wieting	bwieting@mac.com
Axel Heller	axel43@earthlink.net	John Page	jppage@roadrunner.com	Gordon Wilcher	flashg@iwisp.com
Brett Henrich	bhenrich@gmail.com	Mel Patterson	pattermr@cox.net	Willie Young	byoung39@verizon.com
Vicki Hill	vlanehill@verizon.net	Robert Peltzman	bopeltzman@aol.com	Bob Younger	bobyounger@verizon.net

Nan Savage

By Allan Wicker

At the June 5 meeting, Bob Jacoby brought a cake to celebrate Nan Savage's completion of her Ph.D. degree - an 8-year process. Congratulations, Nan!

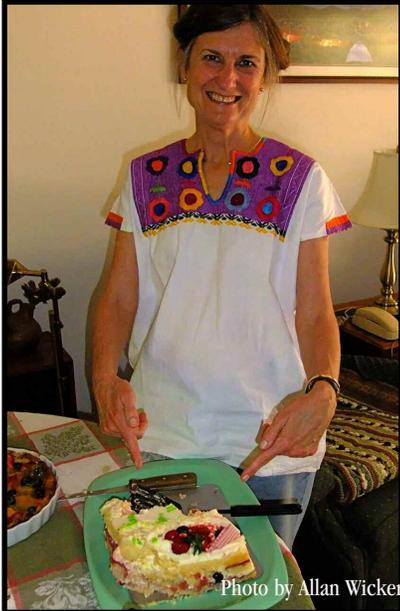


Photo by Allan Wicker

Nan Savage, PhD

Snake Alert

By Marilyn Martin

Every now and then I am forced to go into beautiful downtown Victorville to shop. One of these expeditions took place on June 8. When I pulled into a huge, paved parking lot I noticed several people kneeling, squatting down or just standing around and aiming cameras under the car one space over facing mine. Being the nosy sort I asked what was going on. After cautioning me not to come any closer, I was two cars away, the young man closest to the car in question told me there was a rattlesnake - a Mojave Green - under the car. Rattlesnake I believe. - Mojave Green - maybe. I have only seen one Mojave Green in the wild, and, believe me, it made no effort to hide from the people who were trying to take its picture. On the contrary, it headed into them sending

them racing, I kid you not, for their respective automobiles. At any rate they had called animal control and were waiting for them to come and corral the snake. I went into the store and never heard if it was indeed a Mojave Green. What I did hear was that animal control informed those who stayed to watch the capture that rattlesnakes have been found in many unexpected places, like the center of this huge parking lot in town, this year due to the wet winter we had.

Perhaps we campers need to be extra aware of our surroundings this year.

the kiss the attention it deserves.

Another way to solve the traffic problems of this country is to pass a law that only paid-for cars be allowed to use the highways

Middle age - When you want to see how long your car will last instead of how fast it will go.

Ed. note: Can't recall who sent these to me, but I liked them.

Words of Wisdom

1. You cannot legislate the poor into prosperity, by legislating the wealth out of prosperity.
2. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving.
3. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else.
4. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work, because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that my dear friend, is the beginning of the end of any nation.
6. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it.

Trivia

You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive.

The best car safety device is a rear-view mirror with a cop in it.

A pedestrian is someone who thought there were a couple of gallons in the tank

Any man who can drive safely while kissing a pretty girl is simply not giving

Desert Explorer Ham List

- Janet Austin - - - - -Diamond Bar - KF6FZE
- Pete Austin - - - - -Diamond Bar - KF6FZD
- Bill Baird - - - - - Yucaipa - KF7VE
- Trudy Baird - - - - - Yucaipa KD6NVY
- Craig Baker - - - - - Sylmar - KC6KKR
- Bruce Barnett - - - - - Brea - KD6BOY
- David Bullock - - - - - Los Angeles - N3CUE
- Jim Byrne - - - - - Chatsworth - KE6RFR
- Herb Clark - - - - - Mission Viejo - KF6EAU
- Joseph A. Daly - - - - - Saugus - KG6GCW
- Barbara Gossett - - - - - Ridgecrest - KI6YLR
- Bill Gossett - - - - - Ridgcrest - KI6YLQ
- Axel Heller - - - - - Huntington Beach - KG6DII
- Ted Kalil - - - - - Apple Valley - KG6AIT
- Chuch Lahmeyer - - - - - Calif. City - AF6GT
- Jay Lawrence - - - - - Long Beach - KI6KAV
- 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
- Ed Steiner - - - - - Irvine - AF6RE
- Bob Thille - - - - - West Hill - KF6OWH
- Brad Thompson - - - - - Valencia - KA6UED
- Betty Wallin - - - - - Desert Hot Springs - KD6CY
- Al Walter - - - - - San Diego - KG6SGM
- Bob Younger - - - - - Santa Barbara - N6VMN

Visit Desert Explorers on the Web!

See more pictures and in color!
<http://desertexplorers.org>

Editor's Begging Box

The Desert Explorers are a unique group of people from varied backgrounds and professions. What these folks have in common is a love of four wheel drive touring, as well as perhaps history, the desert, backcountry anywhere and the enjoyment of seeing it with people with the same likes.

What helps hold this group together and makes finding someone to travel with is your Newsletter. This is where future trips are published to let you know if there is one coming up you would like to join, and completed trips are described so you can read about who went and where. Also, if you didn't make the trip for some reason you can decide if it's something you would like to do at a later date.

Most of you know that since I have been a widow I am unable to go on the trips. Boy, do I miss them! I have no information to share with others except what is sent to me. Lately getting trip reports has been a struggle. If you really think writing a trip report is just something you cannot do or just plain don't want to do, how about asking someone who goes on your trip to write it and send it in for you.

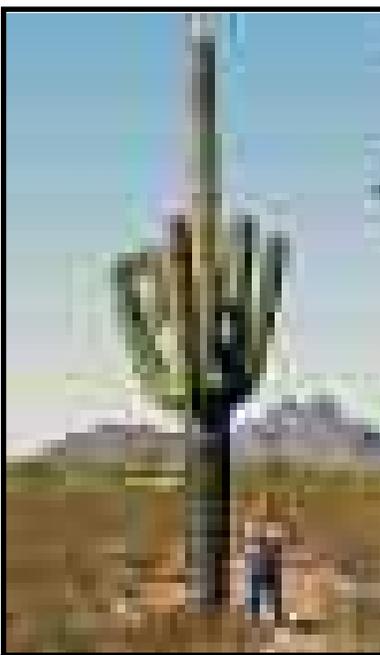
It is trip descriptions, notices about future trips, photographs and news about fellow Desert Explorers that make the newsletter worthwhile.

M.O.E. Trip Schedule

July 2 - 7 Return trip to Utah
 Sept. 3 - 11 AZ Strip

Desert Explorers Trip Schedule

July 2 - 7	Utah	MOE
July 24-25	White Mts.	Lawrence
Aug 18-21	San Juans	Kalil
Sept. 3 - 11	AZ Strip	M.O.E.
Nov. 6 - 7	Fenner	de Kehoe



Cactus on CA AZ Border

Dementia Test

Without using a calculator - You are driving a bus from London to Milford Haven in Wales.

In London , 17 people get on the bus.
 In Reading , 6 people get off the bus and 9 people get on.
 In Swindon, 2 people get off and 4 get on.
 In Cardiff 11 people get off and 16 people get on.
 In Swansea, 3 people get off and 5 people get on.
 In Carmathen, 6 people get off and 3 get on.
 You then arrive at Milford Haven. Without scrolling back to review, how old is the bus driver?

Answer elsewhere

Next Meeting

July 31st

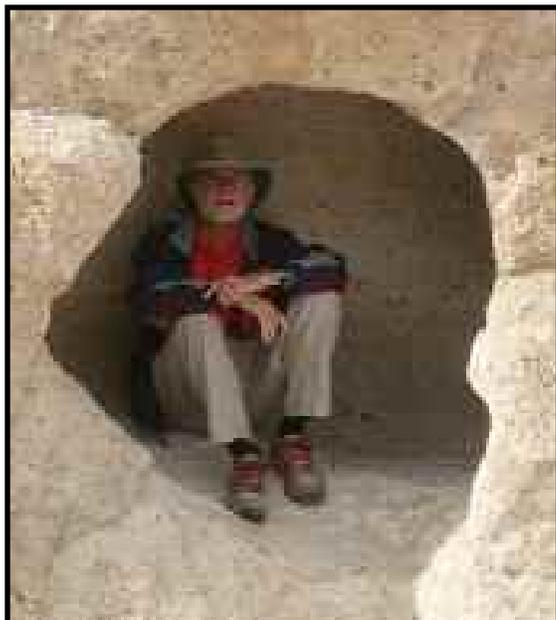
**11:00 a.m. Potluck
 at the Johns' new place
 13825 Lytle Grove Lane
 Lytle Creek, CA
 Phone 909-887-1549**

Answer: Oh, for crying out loud!
 Don't you remember your own age?

Directions to the Johns'

13825 Lytle Grove Lane

From I-15 exit at Sierra, drive past the Johns' current house about one mile. On the way, you will pass the fire station and the Forest Service Applewhite Campground on the right and then the Forest Service picnic area on the left. Immediately after the picnic area, turn left on Sycamore, cross the little white bridge, continue up the little hill and then straight {all the way!} until you reach a "T". At the "T" turn right on narrow Lytle Grove Lane. Go a short distance to near the end. The new place is on the left. Turn left into driveway at the detached three car garage and park First three cars park in the garage!



Allan in a Niche



Wild Bill Reminiscing

All these great photos were taken at the Rendezvous by Mal Roode



Bob and Rob



Debbie and Ana

DESERT EXPLORERS

Newsletter

Editor: Marilyn Martin

Asst. Editors: Marian & Neal Johns

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 \$20 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 and Field Trip Leaders Richard and Lori Shapel 760-254-3897.

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 not from the Museum.

5. To receive the Desert Explorers' Newsletter, send \$20 for a subscription to Marilyn Martin, PO Box 291759, Phelan, CA 92329-1759. Make the check out to Mojave River Valley Museum (MRVM).

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: Malcolm Roode. Send your trip proposals to Mal. Mal 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	1066 Corsica Pl.	Costa Mesa	California	92626	714-549-4361	robertnshirl@earthlink.net
Joe de Kehoe	Easy Writer	9213 McInnes Blvd.	Bakersfield	California	93311	661-665-1230	661-331-3377 jdekehoe@bak.rr.com
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	sjhnsn@verizon.net
Sunny Hansen	Glyphologist	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316	760-217-7555 sjhnsn@verizon.net
Emmett Harder	Scotty	18201 Muriel Ave.	San Bernardino	California	92407	909-887-3436	909-260-7189 echco@verizon.net
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	jacoby.r@worldnet.att.net
Bob Jaussaud	Sue's Husband & Chairman Viejo	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	818-585-6468	joeso@lonopinenv.com
Sue Jaussaud	Chairchick Vieja	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	760-876-9227	joeso@lonopinenv.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
Jay Lawrence	Quicksand Guy, Editor Emeritus	530 Ohio Ave.	Long Beach	California	90814	562-439-5323	solariscomm@earthlink.net
Marilyn Martin	Subscriptions & Newsletter Editor	P.O. Box 291759	Phelan	California	92329-1759	760-868-6606	760-641-1483 mjmartin@dslextreme.com
Debbie Miller Marschke	Webchick/Roadrunner	4904 Reynolds Rd.	Torrance	California	90505	310-543-1862	dmiller@guideone.com
Steve Marschke	The Quiet Man	4904 Reynolds Rd.	Torrance	California	90505	310-543-1862	951-316-6545 stevemarschke@gmail.com
Joan McGovern-White	Newsletter Distributor	33624A Winston Way	Temecula	California	92592	951-303-3021	jmcbgv@verizon.net
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 anamarie418@yahoo.com
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
Richard/Lori Shapel	Museum Trip Leaders	P. O. Box 412	Yermo	California	92398	760-254-3997	406-291-1448 lahapel@yahoo.com
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
Allan Wicker	DE Chairperson Emeritus	1430 Sitka Ct.	Claremont	California	91711	909-445-0082	909-239-5786 allan.wicker@verizon.net

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 _____

celebrate July Fourth!!



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

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

.Deadline for stuff for the Aug. Newsletter is July 10th.
Please!!! Send something...

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