

DESERT EXPLORERS

No. 174 SEPT. 2010

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



IN THIS ISSUE

- Trip Reports 1.
- Future Trips 1.
- Member Doings 3.
- Minutes 5.
- Where Am I? 6.
- E-Mail List 7.
- DE Hams 8.
- Trip Schedule 8.
- Next Meeting 9.
- Fine Print 10.
- Leader List 11.
- Subscription Apps. 11.

Trip Reports

Maybe next time.

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.

Arizona Strip Northwest Side

(M.O.E.)

9/3 - 9/11

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. Our camp will be west of the Wolf Hole area on BLM Route 1004. All those who RSVP will be sent specific directions to the campsite. 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 & 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.

We will do our last supplies, ice and gas at the Super Walmart in Bloomington, UT just off of Exit 4 on I-15. After this last stop, we will head for our campsite via the new Southern Parkway.

If you would like to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com



San Andreas Fault Part I

October 16-17

Leaders: Jacoby/Savage

CB: 13

This is the first of potentially several trips to drive the entire San Andreas Fault or as close to it as we can possibly get. The goal is to be able to see and touch the fault as we travel in a generally southeast to northwest direction

We will meet on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. in the gazebo area next to the parking lot of the Brawley post office at 401 Main St. in Brawley. (This is more or less where the fault begins.) We will then be tracing the fault toward the Salton Sea area and follow it up the east side of the Salton Sea.

Among the areas we will visit the first day are



Issue Number 174

the Imperial Wildlife Refuge, Obsidian Butte, and Painted Canyon. There may be several short hikes along the route, time permitting. There will be opportunities for lodging and camping at the end of the day.

On Sunday we will follow the fault all the way to Blue Cut in Cajon Pass. During this interesting day, we will be visiting White Water Canyon, among other attractions

The majority of the roads both days will be rural, paved roads. However, there will be significant stretches of dirt trails that will require high clearance and four wheel drive. (Four wheel drive will be necessary, because of some sandy washes we will be traversing.)

The best news of all is that Joe de Kehoe has agreed to narrate the entire trip. Joe's knowledge of geology is outstanding and by the time the weekend is done we will all be a lot more knowledgeable on the fault. If you plan to go on this unique trip, please RSVP to Bob Jacoby via e-mail: jacoby.r@att.net

Temple Bar (or Willow Beach)

(M.O.E.)

10/22/10 - 10/25/10

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This return trip to the RV park at Temple Bar will accommodate any type RV or tent camps. This is just a short camping get-away in a nice location on Lake Mead. On Saturday the 23rd, and Sunday the 24th we will do day trips for folks who wish to come out for one or both events. We will meet at the Temple Bar Restaurant for coffee, breakfast or just good fellowship at 8:00 a.m and depart on our trip at 9:00 a.m. Bring lots to drink and lunch for each day trip.

Now the Willow Beach component: Willow Beach has been under reconstruction as a camping destination. At the time of this update, it is not yet done, but is getting close. We had hoped to make this an excursion to Willow Beach and may still do so if it is opened before the

middle of October. The plan is the same for a day trip on the 23rd and 24th with all times the same. Our meeting site at Willow Beach will be announced later if we change locations.

If you would like to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan.dmess@ctaz.com or Dick.dickandmouse@aol.com Please let us know if you are camping or just doing one or both of the day trips.

Rock Art Day Trip and Hike

Saturday, Oct. 23
Leader: Vicki Hill

Saturday morning we will be in Idyllwild to visit two 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.

Buck and Doe Road

(M.O.E.)

Day Trip
10/30/10

Leader: Sue Baughman

The Dolan Springs Trails group will be doing a trip from Peach Springs along Buck & Doe Road to Diamond Bar Ranch Road to Pierce Ferry. We will meet at the Hualapai Lodge in Peach Springs at 8:30 a.m; have breakfast at the Diamond Creek Restaurant and depart at 9:30 a.m. There will be a permit fee for crossing Buck & Doe Road. You may purchase the permit at the lodge. We will attempt to find the Meriwhitica Canyon Overlook and the ruins at Clay Springs. Anybody having knowledge of these turn offs, please contact Sue Baughman. An RSVP is requested to: Sue at: itchyft2005@yahoo.com

Fenner Valley Piute Mtns.

November 6 - 7
Leader: Roode/Kehoe
CB: 13

Limited to 10 cars total (including mine because of limited parking/turn around area at some stops) so please email alekehoe@bak.rr.com to reserve or verify your attendance. Please include your name, preferred e-mail address and phone number in your e-mail to me. A 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 Plans - 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 in a future 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.
malroode@gmail.com
(909) 864-3525 (Waiting list)

Burro Creek

(M.O.E.)

11/12/10 - 11/15/10

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This will be another trip that will accommodate any type of RV or tent camp at the BLM's Burro Creek Campground. This little campground along beautiful Burro Creek is close to numerous back roads. We will do day trips on both Saturday the 13th and Sunday the 14th. We will gather near the restrooms at the campground for a 9:00 a.m. departure on the 13th and 14th. If you wish to come earlier for some coffee and fellowship prior to the departure time, please do so as we'll keep the coffee pot hot for you.

If you would like to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com Please let us know if you are camping or just doing one or both of the day trips.

Quartzsite Calling

(M.O.E.)

1/21/11 - 1/28/11

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This annual excursion never seems to get old. Too much to do and see. shopping, camping, RV'ing, sightseeing, 4x4ing, dining out, cocktails and campfires all with good friends - it just doesn't get any better than that.

MOE will most likely set up on the East side of AZ 95 as we did last year with Jim and Jeannie Jacobs getting our site for us a little earlier than the published dates. (That OK with you Jim?) Hopefully our DE friends will be in the area during the same time and we can hook up for some shared campfires and trips. Directions to the campsite will be provided to those who let us know they are coming. By the way, you can come for whole week or just some of it, whatever fits your travel needs.

RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com

Note: The DE will combine this outing with MOE this year.

Southeastern Nevada

Day Trip

(M.O.E.)

2/12/11

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

It has been a while since we did a day trip in that area. We will plan on meeting everyone at the Riverside Park located just north of the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, NV by 8:30 a.m. The park has a nice restroom facility for your comfort prior to our departure and grass to walk your K-9 friends. We will depart no later than 8:45 a.m. We'll loop up through Christmas Tree Pass and do some back road loops north of there coming out at Searchlight by the end of the trip. Bring lots to drink, and pack a lunch. this trip, Please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com

An Old Fashioned 4th of July

Parade in Torrey, UT

(M.O.E.)

6/28/11 - 7/3/11

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

This would be our second excursion to Torrey for their 4th of July celebration. Their 4th of July Parade (always held on the Saturday closest to the 4th) is worth the trip all by itself, but the backroads around this part of Utah's "Greatest Earth on Show" is a great reason to go. Our plan at this early date is to travel up on June 28th and camp in our RV's somewhere outside of town that evening. On Wednesday, we would check into an RV park in town for our basecamp. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we would do day trip excursions in the backcountry around Torrey. On Saturday the 2nd, we will take in the full day of events including the town parade. That evening, if we have the energy, we might take in the town dance. Our return trip home would be on Sunday, July 3th. This is designed to be an RV trip, but those who wish to tent camp or motel camp could do that and join us.

If you would like to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com

Member Doings

Baja, Oops!

By Neal Johns

It all started out so well, then everything turned to mush. Several fellow Baja lovers on the internet planned a trip to the most inaccessible Mission ruins in Baja, Mission Santa Maria. The road is about 14 miles long and starts off of Highway One 300 miles below the border. We gathered at the village of El Rosario at the Baja Cactus Motel. The owner, Antonio Munoz, had supported our expeditions for years and was a good and faithful friend. It did not hurt that his Motel was built to American standards and was also inexpensive.

Marian had just returned from Tibet (yes, she saw Mount Everest from Base Camp, but did not climb it) and had

chipped a bone in her foot the second day of her trip, Being somewhat cheap, I

mean frugal, she limped around until she got back to Kaiser. She declined to go on another trip with a limp.

What could I do but ask one of my WiW's (Wife-in-Waiting) to accompany me? Teddi was already in Baja where she had been indulging in her hobby of riding mules over the El Camino Real mule/foot trail that connected the Missions. She met me in El Rosario with her dog, an aging Shepard named Dixie she

claimed would protect her from my advances. Dixie ambled over and licked my hand. So much for protection. Threatening to tell Marian (whom she knew) did work.

The next day we drove an hour to Rancho Santa Inez and started on the dirt and rock four wheel drive road to the Mission ruins. The first twelve miles were "interesting" but no one had any trouble. The last two miles were more than "interesting". The steep, rocky hill known as "The Widow Maker" was downhill this direction but made you pause and think about the ability to get up it. Then came the first "Oops", the dreaded Swamp. A lovely palm grove in the canyon was usually dry, but as palm trees require their feet to be in damp soil, sometime it was a Swamp. Due to recent rains, this was one of those times. The narrow road that took you to the other side of the Swamp was lined with palm trees and covered with black water up to three feet deep. Oops!

We made it through the Swamp, but at one point an unseen dip in one side of the road tilted the top of my Pop-Top camper into the adjacent palm tree. Even at the slow speed of 5-10 MPH, this resulted in a double Oops! The camper top will require major repair or replacement.

Arriving at the Mission, we admired the choice location and the concomitant view. Then on the way out, things got really interesting. The road did it to me again! Different dip, different palm tree,



The Road (!?) to Santa Maria



More Road !?



Oasis at Santa Maria



Oops!

same result. Pish and dottle! No, it ain't cussing, look it up. The Swamp Gods were not through with me, for no known reason, my rear differential ring and pinion broke, and I had to be towed up The Widow Maker hill. But wait! There were other lesser hills that I had to be towed or winched up. In the process of being towed, I could not control the speed or always the direction in the curves so I hit a rock and bent a tie rod. This made my tires look in different directions and my steering even worse. At 1:30 in the morning we gave up, camped, and the next morning the crew left me to die alone in the wilderness eight miles from civilization. Well not quite, one of the guys drove to El Rosario, bought parts for the steering back a day and a half later, and I drove out in front wheel drive with an occasional tow up a hill.

We drove to El Rosario where Antonio gave us free rooms and spent two days finding a ring and pinion for my differential, He arranged for a local mechanic to install it and finally I was able to drive home.

Just another great vacation in Baja.



Damaged Camper

All photos for this article from Neal Johns

DESERT EXPLORERS
Newsletter
Editor: Marilyn Martin
Asst. Editors: Marian & Neal Johns

Minutes

Neal & Marian Johns' House By Jean Hansen Saturday, July 31, 2010

PRESENT:

Sunny & Jean Hansen, Neal & Marian Johns, Bill & Barbara Gossett, Nan Savage, Bob Jacoby, Marilyn Martin, Emmett & Ruth Harder, Tommy Perasso and Glenda Roach, Allan Wicker, Debbie Miller-Marschke, Mal & Jean Roode, Jay Lawrence, Bob & Nancy Dodds

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Marian Johns

REGRETS:

Vicki Hill, Betty Wallin, Don Sweinhart, Dave Given, Steve Marschke.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes.

REPORTS:

Membership:

We currently have 101 members, with 5 past due. Marilyn noted that this is normal for the Desert Explorers of the Mojave River Valley Museum, with membership fluctuating between 100 to 105. The highest number ever was 120 members.

Newsletter:

Marilyn said that the newsletter is coming along OK, with promises of articles for the next one. Allan Wicker remarked that his

newsletter is arriving very wrinkled and asked if she had heard of others with this same issue. Marilyn said that this is a problem and the Post Office told her that it is a problem with the machine which sorts the mail.

Treasurer:

Bob Jacoby reported that we currently have \$3,627 in the treasury and passed around his Treasurer's report. We received \$80 in membership revenue in

July and paid out a total of \$612.05 in annual satellite phone fees and July mailing expenses.

Website:

Debbie Miller-Marschke reported that the website is running very well. She is watching desertexplorers.com, but so far, it has not been released by the "pirates." She believes that they got it for two years after the dues did not get paid and is hopeful that they will release it at the end of next year.

Museum:

1) Bob Dodds said that the Museum is involved in a project to send postcards to our troops overseas and all are welcome to participate.

2) The next Museum barbecue will be held May 14, 2011.

3) The Museum is actively working toward getting the Lockhart Ranch on the preservation list.

4) A member named Sam wrote a book about Inscription & Black Canyons. He did 12 years of research and has a theory that part of the area was, at one time, an Indian battleground. Bob said that it is a good book, but the author will not allow it to be printed. Members can come into the museum to read it, but it cannot be removed from the premises.

Trips and other events:

1) August 16-21, San Juan Mountains, Colorado-Leader Ted Kalil (This trip was canceled by Ted due to lack of participants)

2) September 4-11, Arizona Strip, northwest side – MOE

3) October 16-17, San Andreas Fault-Part I-Leaders Bob Jacoby/Nan Savage

4) October 23, Idyllwild, Rock Art of Riverside County, Whitewater – Leader – Vicki Hill

5) November 6-7, Fenner Valley, Piute Mountains – Leader Joe de Kehoe. (This trip was cancelled by Joe after a member became upset and started sending him multiple e-mails objecting to his setting a limit on the number of trip participants).

6) December 10, 11, 12, Panamint/Death Valleys-Leaders Bill & Barbara Gossett

Tentatively Planned Trips:

1) April (dates TBD), Nevada – Leaders- Bill & Barbara Gossett

2) May (4 days-dates TBD), Utah –

Leaders – Emmett Harder and Bob Jacoby. Begin trip at Mesquite and see the site of Mountain Meadows Massacre.

Other Business:

- 1) Mention was made of the rattlesnake photo in the most recent newsletter. A lively discussion ensued, with the general consensus being that due to a rainy winter, there is lots of food for these snakes and everyone should be extremely careful this year.
- 2) Jay Lawrence brought a beautiful certificate for presentation to our former Treasurer, Ken Sears, who worked very hard at that task for many years. Thank you very much Ken!!!!
- 3) Nan Savage said that because we pay our Satellite Telephone bill yearly, we get 20 minutes air time free, which is great benefit.
- 4) Further discussion regarding trips, trip limits and complaining members:

The anonymous member mentioned above objects to limitation of trip participants, perceives that trips are “always filled up prior to publishing in the newsletter” and generally feels this is “elitist.”

Many members present expressed opinions on this subject and all agreed that sometimes trips are in the newsletter for several months prior to trip dates and fur-



Photo by Allan Wicker

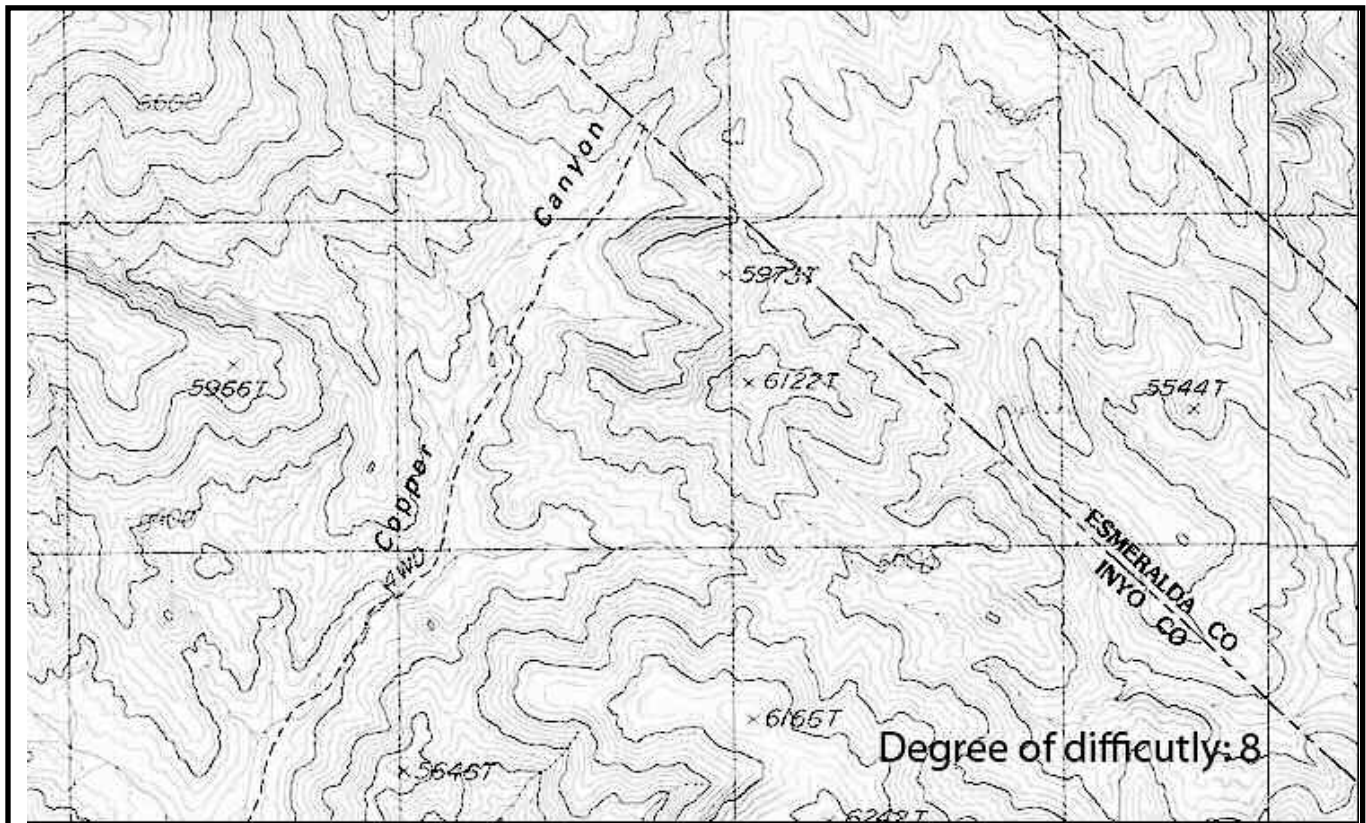
Mal, Emmett, Bill and Neal at 7/31 Meeting

ther, some trips get no participants at all, or only 1 or 2. A motion was made that we should contact Joe de Kehoe to explain that this person does not represent the feelings of the Desert Explorers

Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for Aug. Location: 20 miles NNW of Barstow, South of China Lake. Winners: Mal Roode, James Proffitt, Beverly and Gene Stoops, Bob Younge, Allan Schoenherr and Leonard Friedman

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”.



of the Mojave River Valley Museum and to ask him to please reconsider his trip which so many members were looking forward to (some were on his waiting list). Motion carried. Marian, as Co-President, will send the e-mail to Joe after Nan composes it.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held Saturday, September 18 at 11:00 at the home of Allan & Ding Wicker. This will be a potluck.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.



A Squirrel's Tale

By Debbie Miller Marschke

I see the complaints everywhere: city squirrels are a pesky nuisance. Testimonials come through the internet and there are countless products invented to discourage greedy feeding squirrels. I'm sure some of my next door neighbors despise me, but I love my neighborhood red squirrels that live in the trees of my area. I don't mind their antics as they plunder my bird feeders, in fact, I make sure that I put out enough for all to share when I fill them. I live in the rolling foothills near the Palos Verdes Peninsula, right next door to a 9-hole golf course. I have lived in other Southern California locations that one

would think would be better habitat for wildlife. However, I have lived here 5 years and have never had such a selection and abundance of critters passing through my yard: squirrels, skunks, raccoons, opossums, rats, mice, and just about every bird indigenous to this area. I work at home and having these friends around makes my week brighter.

One spring morning I walked to my window with my coffee and saw an adult red squirrel lying face down on the backyard lawn. Of course, I had to go see what had happened. I thought he was dead, but when I walked up, his little eye rolled up forlornly to me as if to say, "please don't eat me." He still wasn't moving, and I decided that his end was near and to leave him be. I could see him from my work desk window, and could not resist watching over the poor little thing. It would stir but remained lying there for a

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Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

The Patient

few hours.

Mid morning, two evil crows perched above my yard on a power line. They stared at the squirrel intently. They displayed a predatory posture and looked as if they were actually discussing their next move. I couldn't stand it. I'm okay with the natural order of things, but I was not about to watch these neighborhood gangsters peck the little squirrel to death right before my eyes. I put on protective clothing and headed to the backyard with a shovel. Gently, I eased the squirrel onto the shovel and moved him under my rose bushes where it could die peacefully.

Well, the squirrel didn't die. When Steve got home from work, it was still sitting there under the roses. The squirrel did not have any visible wounds, and I had observed lethargic movements during the day. We decided that it must have consumed poison, not enough to kill but enough to make the squirrel extremely ill. We felt that the condition was recoverable, but leaving it in the yard in its current condition meant that the squirrel would have to be lucky enough not to encounter the night crew of predators, including cats. So I scooped him up again, this time placing him in a plastic cat carrier. After placing shelled raw peanuts and water in with the squirrel, it was brought indoors and placed near a heater.

I didn't expect that the squirrel would survive, but the next morning it stared at me defiantly from the rear of the cage. It was evident that his bowels were working again. It was also obvious that it was still

critically weak and ill. So, for the next few days, I cleaned his cage, food, and water. Its strength was returning in small increments, not good progress, but nevertheless it

was getting better. Steve groaned that we didn't want to turn it into a pet, to which I assured him that this was never my intention. By the end of the week I had a real problem – we were going camping that weekend, what to do about the squirrel? I don't have any sympathetic neighbors who would baby-sit and not think the whole endeavor was a little kooky. I called the Humane Society and explained my situation. The gentleman told me that these animals are euthanized. I argued

that I thought this was unfair, if the little squirrel was going to make it, it should be given a chance. He softened, saw my point, and I had been convincing enough that he agreed to baby-sit the squirrel just as long as I took him back Monday morning (!) He asked me to hold the line, and when he clicked back on he said he had an alternative solution to try first.

Apparently there is a network of orphan baby squirrel caregivers in the L.A. area, and one of them lived in Redondo Beach. I called and spoke to Sarah Queen, who was very interested in my squirrel but explained, "I just do orphan babies, I've never had an adult." She asked me to bring the squirrel over to her home.

I felt pretty weird driving around with a squirrel in a cat carrier in the passenger seat. I felt even weirder walking down the street grasping the carrier, which was witnessed by a few pedestrians with quizzical looks. Sarah examined the squirrel and was just as perplexed as I had been. No obvious wounds, and it appeared otherwise alert but very lethargic. She was going to feed it a concoction

Desert Explorers Trip Schedule

Sept. 3 - 11	AZ Strip	M.O.E.
Oct. 16-17	San Andreas Fault	Jacoby/Savag
Oct. 23	Rock Art	Hill
Nov. 6 - 7	Fenner	de Kehoe
Nov 13	Lucente Valley	Dodds
Dec. 4	Xmas Party	DE
10-12	Panamints	Gossett
May 14	Museum BBQ	MRVM
Spring 2011	TBD	Utah Harder

M.O.E. Trip Schedule

Sept. 3 - 11	AZ Strip	Messersmith/Taylor
Oct. 22-25	Temple Bar	Messersmith/Taylor
Oct.30	Buck & Doe Rd.	Baughman
Nov.12 15	Burro Creek	Messersmith/Taylor
Jan.21-28	Quartzsite	Messersmith/Taylor
Feb, 12	Nev. Day Trip	Messersmith/Taylor
Jun. 6 - 7	Torrey Ut.	Messersmith/Taylor

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	- KG6GCV
Joe de Kehoe	-----Bakersfield	- KJ6HKZ
Barbara Gossett	-----Ridgecrest	- KI6YLR
Bill Gossett	-----Ridgecrest	- 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



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Backyard Buddy

made from adult Ensure nutritional shake, blended with peanut butter and fruit. I left the squirrel in her expert care.

Monday morning, I called Sarah to see how our patient was doing. Sarah had conferred with her associates and had a diagnosis: the squirrel had been electrocuted on the power lines, and free-fell which broke its ribs. She said that "Sparky" was eating well and was being transferred to a wildlife rehabilitation facility. We would never know for sure exactly what happened to it. Sparky could have been under attack from a hawk or owl and dug his claws into the power line. Another scenario would be Sparky attempting to jump from one line to another, and being unfortunate enough in his execution to create an arc between the lines. Either way, the squirrel

got lit up and would take a few weeks to recuperate. Sparky was bound for luxury care at a Wildlife Waystation in Malibu ! So this little critter was going to be living on a finer piece of property than I was, being hand fed by volunteer stars like Barbara Streisand and Jane Seymour ! Sparky had won the lottery!

My act of compassion did not cost me a cent, just a few phone calls. It was a small difference in the scope of world events, but I felt like a better human for making it happen. Six weeks after I scooped Sparky off the lawn, Sarah Queen called me and said Sparky was ready to come home. Sparky was released back into my yard to resume its life. I am not sure which of my squirrels is Sparky, but they are more charming than ever.

Growing Older

You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch.

When GOOGLE, ipod, email, modem were unheard of and a mouse was something that made you climb on a table.



Photo by Debbie Miller Marschke

Waiting for a Handout

Next Meeting

Sept. 18

11:00 a.m Potluck at

The Wickers'

1430 Sitka

Claremont, CA

Ph. 909-445-0082

Everyone Come!

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.

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 \$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.
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	8200 N. Laurelglan Blvd.	Bakersfield	California	93311	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	sjhsn@verizon.net
Sunny Hansen	Glyphologist	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316	760-217-7555
Emmett Harder	Scotty	18201 Muriel Ave.	San Bernardino	California	92407	909-887-3436	909-260-7189
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@att.net
Bob Jaussaud	Sue's Husband & Chairman Viejo	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	818-585-6468	joeso@lonopinetc.com
Sue Jaussaud	Chairchick Vieja	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	760-876-9227	joeso@lonopinetc.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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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
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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
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
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
Anne Stoll	Canologist	143 Monterrey Drive	Claremont	California	91711	909-621-7521	909-730-0137
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

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

Mojave River Valley Museum Association, Inc.
270 E. Virginia, Barstow, CA 92311 • 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!!!**