

DESERT EXPLORERS

No. 170 MAY 2010

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



Trip Reports

Cal-Neva Neva Land

By Bob & Sue Jaussaud

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countless belly flowers. At Camp Thurman in the Newberry Mountains the ground was so covered with white flowers that it looked like there had been a fresh snowfall.

On Friday evening before starting the trip, we watched a near full moon rise over the Colorado River and enjoyed a BBQ dinner with good friends Allan & Ding Wicker, Dick & Connie Taylor and Sassy, June Box, Joan McGovern-White, Mignon Slentz and Jim Proffitt.

Our convoluted route Saturday took us on several abandoned alignments of Old Route 66 and Old National Trails Highway. We stopped at historic Santa Fe sidings Java and Ihex. Along the way we saw petroglyphs, ancient hunting blinds, grinding rocks, remains of old rock dwellings, long abandoned corrals, wells and water tanks belonging to the OX Ranch and even a "T. More" inscription. WWII insignias and stars left on the desert by the "Greatest Generation" before they shipped out to the Ardennes were still evident at Camp Ibis. We

The desert is beautiful and her wildflowers once again put on a spectacular show for us. There were lupine, chicory, mallow, phacelia, desert star, brittle bush, dandelions, yucca blossoms and



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Photo by Jim Proffitt

OX Corral

found cave homes left by miners trying to scratch out a living at Homer Mountain many years ago. Two surprise guests on our trek were a friendly desert tortoise and an equally friendly horny-toad.

Saturday evening threatened to be windy and cool, so the group consensus was to head for a lower elevation and camp in style on the Colorado River once again. Dinner was another wonderful feast complete with special margaritas, two versions of chicken, BBQ hot links, cheesy potatoes, a wonderful green salad and home made carrot cake. After dinner we indulged ourselves with Starbucks coffee and Godiva Chocolate Cheesecake. Once again, we watched as the moon rose over the river. Fortified with an abundance of wine, we managed to stay up around the campfire telling stories until the wee hour of 9:00 p.m.

By Sunday morning we were down to just 5 hardy souls. This trip has to go down in the archives of MOE and the Desert Explorers as the trip with the greatest attrition rate. The DE humorously acknowledges that a 10% loss is acceptable, but we far exceeded that. At the peak we had 25 people signed up for the trip but 11 canceled and 5 were no shows. We lost 1 Saturday morning and 4 more left us before the start of the Sunday portion of the trip. That is a full 80% of our participants gone! We surely have set an infamous record for both MOE and the DE that may never be equaled again.

Anyway, Sunday was warm, beautiful and (best of all) there was no wind. The illustrious 5 remaining (Dick & Connie, Mignon, Sue & Bob) headed into the Newberry Mountains. Our first stop was at the Roman Mine where we met the caretaker, Roger. The Roman Mine is not currently active, but is ready to go back into production at any time. All their equipment is still in place. From the Roman Mine we headed up a side canyon to a nice intact cabin beautifully situated at the base of Spirit Mountain. Returning down canyon, we reached the site of Camp Thurman, a 1914 vintage town that was supplied by steam boats coming up the Colorado River. From Camp Thurman we followed another scenic canyon road to the Golden Rod Mine, an abandoned 20th century mine with a beautiful view of Lake Mohave. After lunch, we found the road to Nap Canyon and hiked amidst the prolific rock art there. Continuing north,

we reached the remains of the Mammoth Mine. Tip Top Well was our last stop before arriving at Searchlight and trip's end. Many thanks to all of you who came and contributed your enthusiasm, curiosity, and sense of humor (along with some fabulous food), and special thanks to Dick, Connie, and Sassy for being our very efficient "sweeps" both Saturday and Sunday.

Rendezvous Trip Descriptions

Inbound 2010 Kingston Wash and Kingston Mts.

March 19

By Marian Johns

We arrived at Bob's Big Boy in Baker at 8:00 a.m. right on schedule and found some of the crew already seated and chowing down breakfast. The buffet had a fine selection for those of us who can't resist an all-you-can-eat opportunity.

By 9:00 a.m. 25 Desert Explorers had assembled in the parking lot. Our troops included: Nan Savage, Gary Preston, Vicki Hill, Dave McFarland, Mike Vollmert, Ron Lipari and son, Jeff, Rebecca and Leonard Friedman and daughter, Hannah, Bob Younger and Mary, Sonny and Jean Hansen, Bob and Shirley Bolin,

T e r r y
O g d e n ,
B o b
J a c o b y ,
N e l s o n
M i l l e r a n d
s i s t e r ,
E l l e n ,
L a r r y
B o e r i o ,
B e r t
E d d i n s ,
G l e n n

Shaw and Marian and Neal Johns.

Our caravan of 14 vehicles headed north out of Baker on Hwy. 127 for about 20 miles, and then turned onto a dirt two-track that headed east across flat terrain. Initially, the scenery was rather dull, but the road was in good condition, so we were able to zip along at a respectable speed. Our first stop was the site of Valjean which was once a settlement on the Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad. The buildings are long gone - just a rusty can dump and other debris remain. 15 miles further on, we joined and followed the Kingston Spring Cutoff of the Old Spanish Trail. About this point the scenery began to improve with interesting and colorful formations and the Kingston Range towering in the near distance.

Next, we arrived at Kingston Springs, a watering hole for those early travelers and more recently a reclusive miner who built a house there. His presence annoyed the BLM, but they allowed him stay. However, upon his death they bulldozed the house and buried it. Future archaeologists should have a wonderful time digging up this remnant of an earlier era.

You would think Kingston Springs would be in Kingston Wash, but this is not the case. We had to drive two miles farther before we reached the main wash. Continuing east up the wash, we could see dense vegetation not too far ahead on the high banks of the north side of the wash, and here, hidden under dense brush we found Coyote Hole. If you know where to look, it's possible to worm your way through the tangle to a small seep which someone has surrounded with a basin made of rocks and concrete.

Just a 1/8 mile farther up the wash, we stopped for lunch at the "Mailbox" which is one of the four East Mojave Heritage



Photo by Rebecca Friedman

Exploring a Can dump



Photo by Rebecca Friedman

Signing In at the Mailbox

Trails mailboxes. After signing our names on the register for posterity's sake, we pressed onward up Kingston Wash and several miles after turning north out of Kingston Wash, we eventually reached the Excelsior Mine Road. From this intersection, we were able to see snow-covered, 11,900 ft., Mt. Charleston in the distant Spring Mountain Range of Nevada.

The Excelsior Mine Road was once the paved access to the mine, but the asphalt is now beginning to deteriorate and eventually disappears completely. Nevertheless, it was faster than the previous two-track we had been following, and we hustled along since Death Valley Junction, our final destination, was miles away.

As we turned west, our road climbed high into the heart of the Kingston Range. Its awesome, craggy, near-vertical peaks, over 7,300' high, still had remnants of winter snow. Side roads leading off into pretty canyons or to old mines beckoned us, and it's a shame we didn't have more

time to spend in this beautiful and interesting area. When we reached the summit and looked west, we had a fantastic view of Telescope Peak, another 11,000 ft, snowy mountain, on the west side of Death Valley in the Panamint Range.

On the way down the flanks of the Kingstons, we passed several more abandoned mines, some of which once produced talc and some lead.

When we finally reached the community of Tecopa, we turned our train of vehicles lose, most heading for the Chevron station in Shoshone (Yikes, nearly \$4.00 a gallon!) before continuing on to the Rony festivities in Death Valley Junction. Thanks Mike Vollmert and the Lipari's for being our sweep and eating the dust of the 13 vehicles!



Gold Valley & Deadman's Pass

March 20, 2010
Leader: Bob Dodds



Photo by Rebecca Friedman

Survivors at Deadman's Pass

Leading our small group; Bob Dodds, MayBelle and Tug. Following us were Ron and Barbara Midlikoski, Leonard, Rebecca and Hannah Friedman, Willie and Faye Kalajian and Mike and Donna Munford. With this small of a group we didn't leave until 08:30, after correcting a C.B. problem. We headed out 7.5

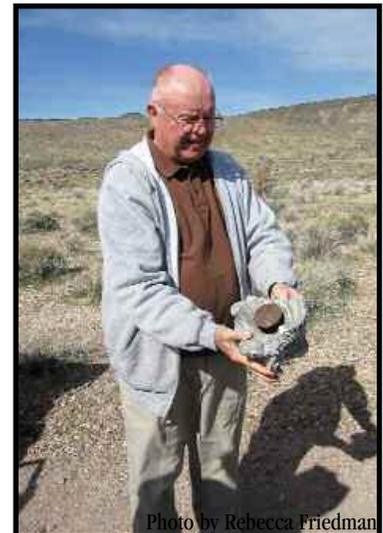


Photo by Rebecca Friedman

Will it Fit in My Car?

miles to the dirt road taking us to Deadman's Pass. The weather was great for being Death Valley. There was a slight cool breeze. Tug loved it. We arrived at our first stop where lots of pictures of the U.S. G.S. marker, elevation 3,264' were taken. The wood sign was 3,300' and my GPS said 3,197', so much for accuracy. Ron found a treasure, a cylinder head with the fins bent and broken with a large valve and valve spring. It appears to be an aircraft cylinder.

We crossed over Green Valley Water Road (dirt) and continued on toward Gold Valley and Willow springs taking in the geological formations of the valley. We then drove between the mountain walls and entered Willow Springs and the turn around. By now it was close to lunch time and this was a good place to have a break. We were quite sure we were at the springs. I took a GPS reading and sure enough, right on the spot.

We were a little disappointed the wild flowers had not bloomed yet and I did find out after our return, there were a couple of pools at the springs had we walked further. Our weekend was great and everyone enjoyed the wild horses at the hotel, and I had never seen the paintings on the walls that Marta did. What an artist.

Thanks to all who joined me on this trip.





Photo by Rebecca Friedman

Lunch Break

**China Ranch
Date Farm**

March 20, 2010

Leader: Mignon Slentz

We headed south out of Death Valley Junction with six vehicles and ten people at about 8:30 a.m. Participants included: Bob and Karen Monsen, Bob Younger and Mary Whalen, Nan Savage, Gary Preston, Alan and Karen Hodes and Jim and Kristen Proffitt. We drove through the towns of Shoshone and



Photo by Mignon Slentz

Crack Addicts

Tecopa, trying to reduce our speeds at the appropriate times to the posted 25 MPH signs. At Tecopa we turned east and then onto the Furnace Creek road, following the 'hard to miss' signs to the Ranch. It is hard to imagine that 2 miles away you will dip down into the canyon oasis. Unfortunately, the date trees were 'undressed' at this time of year since harvest was over but it is an odd sight to see when all the clusters of dates are wearing assorted skirts, and shirts to ward off the birds.

Hot Springs for a soak. Nan had to return to work on her dissertation.

Wearing bathing suits, shorts, rolled-up pants and skivvies, we lounged around in the private pool for half an hour before letting a young couple use our remaining time. We were able to take a shower and returned clean and refreshed in time for happy hour and dinner.

We parked our rigs by the gift shop and hurriedly formed a restroom line as a contingent of Model T type vehicles arrived behind us. Most of us started out on the 2 mile hike to The Crack. We passed a historic rock building which used to be the assayers office/saloon at one time

and is being restored. We continued on to the Acme siding, an ore loading site and stop on the Tonopah and Tidewater railroad from 1905 until 1938. You can still see the raised bed of the T&T. We were able to rock-hop across the Amargosa River with the use of hiking poles without getting too wet and then headed up towards The Crack, which is a narrow, twisting slot canyon eroded into the igneous rhyolite rock. We enjoyed the shade and paused for a group picture before heading back. Bob Monsen strayed off to see if he could locate the waterfall that was near, but it was further than we wanted to go since many of us

were already tasting those famous date shakes. Some time was spent at the gift shop, museum and touring the surrounding area. At this point, everyone was on their own since some of the group was rendezvousing at the Tecopa

**Echo Canyon,
Schwab Ghost
Town and Petros**

March 20, 2010

Leaders: Johns and Hansens

With Mike Vollmert and the Liparis once again in the rear, we began our tour by taking Hwy. 190 west from Death Valley Junction. Near the Death Valley National Park boundary we encountered a do-it-yourself pay station which demanded a hefty \$20 fee for a day's visit. Credit cards were gladly accepted, but there was nary a word about Golden Age or other types of park passes. Not wanting to be found inside the park without our official permits, several of us diligently tried to use our passes. Despite our efforts, the machine rebuked our plastic, and we concluded the possession of a pass would have to do.

As we drove on down the highway, CB comments were made about the rich colors of the eroded formations in that area. Plus, there were small patches of colorful wildflowers along the way that caught our eyes. At the turn off to Echo Canyon we made a finally tally of our entourage - 13 vehicles and 26 passengers who included: five members of the Berger Family: Ted, Joan, Emily, Katie, and Mike, Mel and Nette Patterson, Glenn Shaw, Danny and Norma Siler, Dave and Penelope Bullock, Terry Ogden, Mike Vollmert and Ron and Jeff Lipari, Nelson Miller and sister, Ellen, Bob and Shirley Bolin, Bert Eddins, Homer Meek, Jean and Sunny Hansen and Neal and Marian Johns.

Before entering the canyon itself, we made a stop to follow Glenn Shaw on a hike along the powerline poles to an archaeological site with sleeping circles and rock alignments. There is also supposed to be a geoglyph, but we had to skip that because of time constraints.

After Glenn's hike, we proceeded on into the narrows of Echo Canyon which is a stunning defile with high cliffs on either side. On the way, we kept a vigilant watch for the "Eye of the Needle", a small arch on the left side of the trail. To our surprise we found two such mini-

arches, both on the left side.

Next, Sunny and Jean Hansen led us on a short hike to a nice petroglyph site. While the more agile among us scrambled up the rocks for closer photos, we who are vertically challenged remained on terra firma and used our cameras' zoom features.

For lunch, we stopped by the ruins of the Inyo mining camp and then took a side road and headed for the infamous dry waterfalls where our trail became a real 4x4 challenge. Most everyone piled out of their vehicles to inspect this bedrock staircase. Marian drove up first and made it with no problem. About then a herd of motorcycles and quads came from the other direction and stayed to watch the entertainment. Our audience later said they didn't think we would make it. Ha! Five of our caravan decided this was not something they wanted to try, but they also stayed to watch. With plenty of by-standing supervisors handing out advice, all who tried made it. Then, while the remaining folks returned to camp at Death Valley Junction, we continued on - and on and on.

It had been about 12 years since we last made this trek and doubts were setting in because the further we went the less familiar our trail seemed. At last we reached a bedrock go-down that did stir memories, and we breathed a sigh of relief. With a little help from Sonny, we all made it down that obstacle. From there on it was a cinch and we were soon out of the mountains and safely back on pavement. (I won't mention the names of those that bent down and kissed it.) Thanks again, Mike, Ron, and Jeff for being sweep.

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

East Mojave Vanderbilt Tour

May 7-9

Leaders: Debbie Miller & Steve Marschke

CB: 13

Our trip will highlight some early mining and homesteading locations in the East Mojave. For those who can't participate on Friday, we will arrange a location to rendezvous on Saturday morning so others can join the trip. Most stock SUVs can handle this trip; high clearance and 4WD is required.

Optional Friday excursion: Meet at the Baker Valero gas station (west end of Main Street). You will need to be gassed up, have eaten lunch, and ready to leave Valero at Noon. Friday will highlight on the mining activity in the Ivanpah Mining District located within the Mojave National Preserve. We'll stop at Riley's Camp, Geer Camp, and we'll point out locations of the Standard Mine #2. We'll stop at the Copper King mine to look for some color before setting up camp at the stabilized headframe of the Evening Star Mine.

Saturday – Main Event: We will break camp at 8:30 a.m. and travel to Cima. Those joining the trip on Saturday need to arrive at the Cima Store/Post Office location by 9:00 a.m. We'll have time to look at the old store, post office, the "we", and depart at 9:30 a.m. From Cima we will head directly to Vanderbilt. Gold was discovered here in 1891, and in short order the new town expanded to 2000 inhabitants. Vanderbilt could be the oldest ghost town in the East Mojave. Not much is left of that, but we will stop at three different spots in Vanderbilt to see the cemetery, stone house, dugouts, and other detritus. We have some historic photos from the 1950's, and I will reveal the name of it's most notable entrepreneur. After leaving Vanderbilt we travel south on Ivanpah-Lanfair Rd, passing by several interesting settlements and stopping at the Sharp Homestead for lunch. After lunch we will head for Goffs where you can spend the afternoon viewing artifacts of the East Mojave. We will be overnight guests on the property of the

Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association at Goffs, home of the restored one room schoolhouse and recently replicated Goffs Depot. We will have the traditional potluck and make use of the modern (but rustic) facilities, including a kitchen, hot water, showers, flush toilets and electricity.

Sunday we plan to break camp and leave Goffs at 9:00 a.m. Some of you may choose to head directly home; we will take the remaining group north to Watson Wash for a little more early heritage locations before ending at Cedar Canyon and Cima Road about noon.

The trip is limited to 30 individuals or 10 vehicles. Well-behaved dogs must be leashed outside your vehicle. Expect 200 miles roundtrip Fri-Sun, mostly highway or graded. Sign up with Debbie Miller Marschke in advance at dmiller@guideone.com or call 310-543-1862.

Panamint Mountains/Butte Valley

May 22-23

Leader: Emmett Harder

CB: 13

Limited to 10 cars so please call (909) 887-3436 or e-mail Lechco@verizon.net to the Harders to reserve or verify your place on the list or for additional information.

Some places will require high-clearance, grade-four 4X4 – possibly some road work.

We will line up Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. near the store in Shoshone to caravan to the floor of Death Valley. Our first stop will be at the Warm Springs Talc Mine Camp. We will proceed from there to Butte Valley where we will visit Russell's Camp, Stella's Camp, and the Geologist's Cabin. We will go down Redlands Canyon to Woods Canyon to visit Harder's cabin. We will probably spend the night in Butte Valley Bring water and warm clothing - the evening may be cool. We will have the traditional Saturday potluck dinner.

Sunday morning we will go over Mengel Pass and down Goler Wash, stopping at the site of the Barker Ranch. From there we will head up Panamint Valley to Ballarat and proceed home from there.



Skull Valley, Prescott and Kirkland

(MOE)

June 12 & 13, 2010

Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor

A mostly paved overnight run to Kirkland and Skull Valley areas to investigate the historic and culinary offerings of the area with an overnight camp near or motel stay in the Prescott area. While in Prescott on Sunday, we'll take in some of the historic sites.

We will meet at 7:00 a.m. for coffee and breakfast at The Crookery Restaurant at Flying J Truck Stop on Andy Devine in Kingman and depart for the Kirkland area at 8:00 a.m. If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via e-mail to Dick at: dickandmouse@aol.com or Dan at: dmess@ctaz.com

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

Mono Basin and Ichthyosaur State Park

June 18-20

Leader: Allan Schoenherr

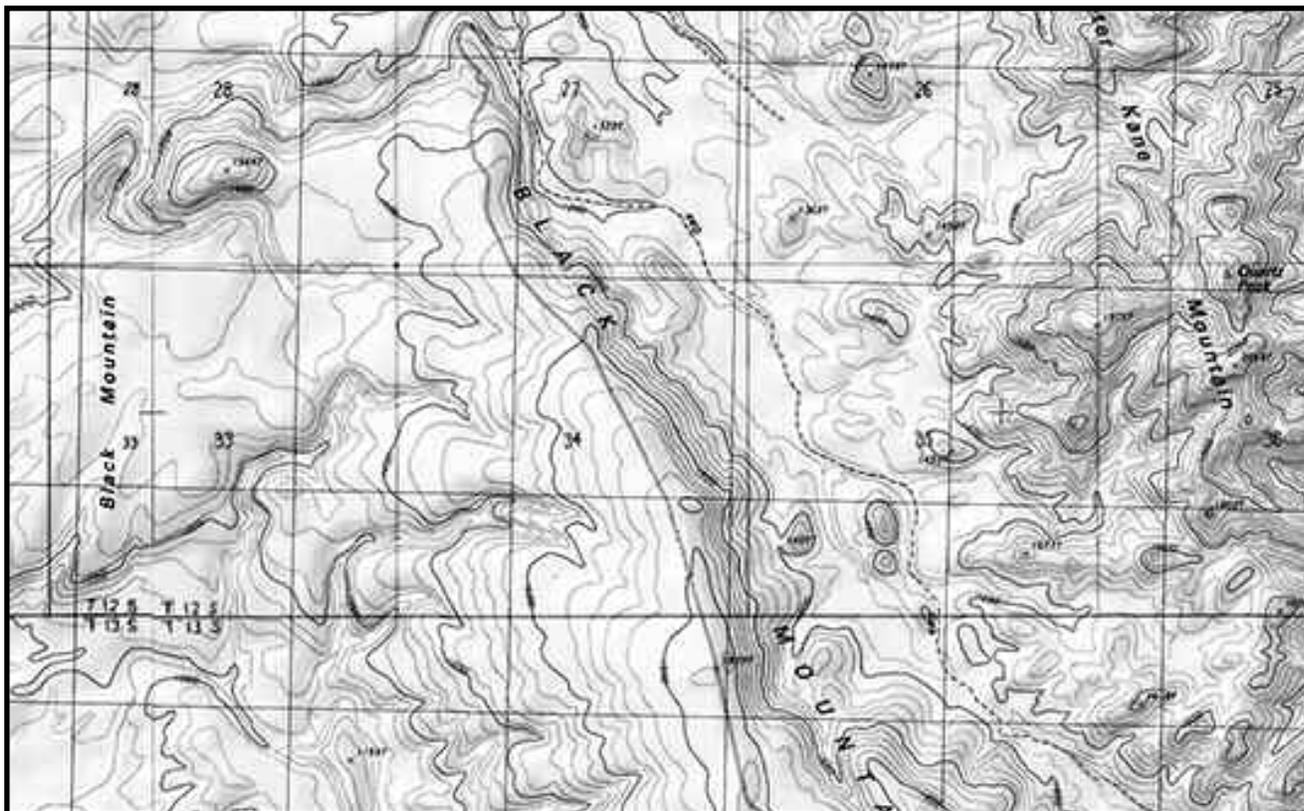
CB: 13

Allan Schoenherr, minus his faithful companion Alan Romspert, will lead this trip to eastern California and southern Nevada. The plan is to meet at 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning at the roadside rest on Highway 395, just north of the Mammoth Lakes Scenic Loop. The roadside rest is on the west side of the highway about 5-6 miles north of the main turnoff to Mammoth (Highway

Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for April: Location for April was Southwest corner of Death Valley, east of Ballarat. Winners were: Mal Roode, James Proffitt, Joan Steiner, Allan Schoenherr and Beverly & 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".



203). For those who want to camp on Thursday night we will gather at the Deadman Campground, about 3 miles west of Highway 395. The turnoff to the campground is a left turn off 395 on Deadman Creek Road about a mile north of the rest area.

This trip will be natural history oriented. We will visit geological wonders such as Obsidian Dome, Inyo Craters, Mono Craters (Panum Crater), Mono Lake, and Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, in Nevada. Giant fossils of these Ichthyosaurs represent the Nevada State Fossil. Also featured will be stops at various ghost towns such as Bodie, Berlin, and Ione. Of course, for those that are interested, we will talk about the trees, flowers, and animals we see along the way.

A tentative itinerary includes stops on

Friday at Inyo Craters, Obsidian Dome, Panum Crater, and Mono Lake and a primitive campsite on Friday night in the pines with a panoramic view of Mono Lake. Saturday we will travel to Bodie and then take a dirt road toward Hawthorne, Nevada. Conditions on this road are unknown. We plan to stay at Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park on Saturday night, 23 miles east of Gabbs. The fee should be about \$16.00 per car. The campground is located in a Pinyon Pine woodland at 7,000 feet elevation in the Shoshone Mountains. Tours of the fossils and the ghost town of Berlin are available. The Diana Mine tours have been suspended for the time being. For more information you can go on line to the Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park web site.

(Due to economic hardships experi-

enced by the Nevada State Parks system fees have been increased as follows: The reservation fee is \$15.00 for the group camp. The entrance fee is \$5.00 per car with an additional fee of \$2.00 for out of state vehicles. The camping fee for the group camp is \$10.00 per vehicle. Tours cost \$3.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child.)

As usual we will have a potluck dinner on Friday night at the Mono Lake campsite. Well-mannered dogs are welcome. Four-wheel drive and a working CB are required (Channel 13). If you plan to attend or need more information contact Allan at his email:

aschoenherr@fullcoll.edu or phone (949) 494-0675.

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Arizona Strip Northwest Side

(MOE)

September 4-11

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 four miles west of the Wolf Hole area on BLM Route 1004. 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. More details will follow, as we get closer to the trip. If you intend to go on this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan at: dmess@ctaz.com or Dick at: dickandmouse@aol.com

Minutes

Neal & Marian Johns' House
Sunday, April 4, 2010
By Jean Hansen

PRESENT:

Allan Wicker, Sunny & Jean Hansen, Neal & Marian Johns, Emmett & Ruth Harder, Nan Savage, Bob Jacoby, Mary Jo Bartholomew, Mal Roode

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 11:52 a.m. by Marian Johns

REGRETS:

Vicki Hill, Marilyn Martin, Debbie Miller, Ding, Bob Dodds.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes. Emmett Harder moved that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Membership:

No report.

Newsletter:

No report.

Treasurer:

1) Bob Jacoby reported that we currently have \$4,398.39 in the treasury.

2) We realized \$701.00 in revenue from the Silent Auction.

3) He paid an invoice of \$430.00 for four porta-potties. Bob was concerned that the price for these porta-potties was high, but after discussion around the table, there was a general consensus that the price was within reason, especially since they had to be delivered from Pahrump, Nevada.

4) Bob mentioned that some of the rooms at the Amargosa Hotel are rumored to be haunted and that, in fact, he had occupied one of the "haunted" rooms, but had seen no ghosts. The television program Ghost Hunters is to air a 2-hour show on the Amargosa Hotel.

5) Bob asked if anyone present had seen the show on Saturday night – was it worth \$15.00? Several members present spoke up and said that, even though Marta did not perform, it was still a very interesting presentation and well worth the money.

6) Catering – Bob paid the caterer \$800.00 and noted that the food was very good. Everyone present agreed.

7) Bob expressed concern at the low turnout of this year's Rendezvous.

8) Bob thanked Emmett Harder for arranging the Sunday trip to Sheri's in Pahrump.

9) Bob brought up the subject of perhaps having a written contract for future rendezvous. Neal said that we have done so in the past. Allan mentioned that we have had a contract with the Rib Company both times, based upon the expected number of attendees.

10) Bob also stated that he feels we no longer need to provide tickets to Rendezvous attendees. Again, some discussion ensued – the main problem is to make sure that those who paid are fed. Perhaps, instead of tickets, some sort of checklist.

11) Bob said that we netted \$450.00 on the Rendezvous, after we paid all expenses.

12) Bob Dodds had mentioned earlier that we should offer a free membership to Rich. Ruth noted that they need dona-

tions to the Opera House and motioned that we donate \$50.00 to the Opera House. Bob Jacoby seconded that motion – motion carried. Allan Wicker motioned that if Rich has not yet become a member, to donate a 1-year subscription to the Newsletter to him. Emmett Harder seconded that motion – motion carried.

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	-----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

13) Sunny Hansen said that we should thank Bob & Nancy Dodds and Maybelle Lipking for all the hard work they have done on behalf of the Desert Explorers (and especially at the Silent Auction). Marian seconded that motion – motion carried.

Website:

No report – but Marian reported that Debbie told her that the website is up to date and running well.

Museum:

No report

Trips and other events:

1) April 10 – Quail Valley, Steam Well, Motorcycle Monument – Leader Bob Dodds

2) May 7-9 – Ghost town of Vanderbilt, w/camping at Goffs – Leaders – Debbie

Miller-Marschke and Steve Marschke

3) May 22-23 – Panamint Range – east side – Leaders – Emmett & Ruth Harder and Reda Anderson

4) June 12-13 – Kirkland, Skull Valley and Prescott – MOE

5) June 18-20 – Mammoth area to Bodie, Hawthorn, NV and Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park. originally planned with Alan Romspert, 3 days and 2 nights – Leader – Allan Schoenherr

6) July (dates TBD) – White Mountains – Leader – Jay Lawrence

7) August (Marian will call Ted for dates) – Colorado, San Juan Mountains – Leader – Ted Kalil – Ted will do trip write-up

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

9) October 9 – Idyllwild, Rock Art of Riverside County, Whitewater – Leader – Vicki Hill

Tentatively Planned Trips:

1) San Bernardino Mountains – Arrowhead environs, Deep Creek

2) Tomo Kahn State Historic Park (Tehachapi area).

3) Old Woman Mountains – Fall - Leader – Joe deKehoe

4) Bob Jacoby would like to do a trip along the San Andreas Fault. This might involve several separate days/segments of the Fault: (1) Brawley to Desert Hot Springs east of the Salton Sea. (2) Desert Hot Springs to Cajon Pass.

5) Bob Jacoby – June/July (TBD) back side of the White Mountains, Dead Horse Meadow, Cottonwood Creek.

Other Business:

1) Discussion on trip leaders. The question is; should Museum Trip

Desert Explorers Trip Schedule

May 7-9	Vanderbilt	Milleray
May 15	MRVM BBQ	Museum
May 22-23	Panamints	Harder
June 12-13	Skull Valley	MOE
June 18-20	Mono/Icthasaur	Shoeherr
July 31- Aug. 8	Colorado	Johns
Sept. 4-11	AZ Strip	MOE

Leaders be listed in Desert Explorer Trip Leader list? After roundtable discussion it was motioned by Neal Johns that Desert Explorers Trip Leaders need to be subscribers to the DE Newsletter. Bob Jacoby seconded that motion – motion carried. Marian will contact Richard and Lori Shapel about becoming subscribers to the Desert Explorers newsletter. (Editors Note: No call made, they had already subscribed)

2) Nan brought the satellite phone to the meeting, in case any trip leader present needed it. Nan’s son has written a complete set of easy to read instructions to accompany it.

3) Allan Wicker said that we should acknowledge Nancy & Bob Dodds and Emmett & Ruth Harder for the hard work

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.

they all have done on behalf of the Desert Explorers. The entire group applauded.

4) Marian asked for a Rendezvous summary. Bob Jacoby will do this and will also write up the trip to Sheri’s.

5) Neal is recruiting for OCTA (Oregon California Trails Association). He said that the Arizona chapter will be tracing the southern emigrant trail, from the Midwest to California, including the Mormon Battalion, Butterfield Stage Route and the Gold Rush. Members will, literally, be mapping on foot, but will also utilize Google Earth and will be looking for things like old trail debris (metal objects) and lead soldered cans, which are pre-1900.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held Saturday, June 5 at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Allan & Ding Wicker. This will be a potluck.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

M.O.E. Trip Schedule

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 US 89 corridor.

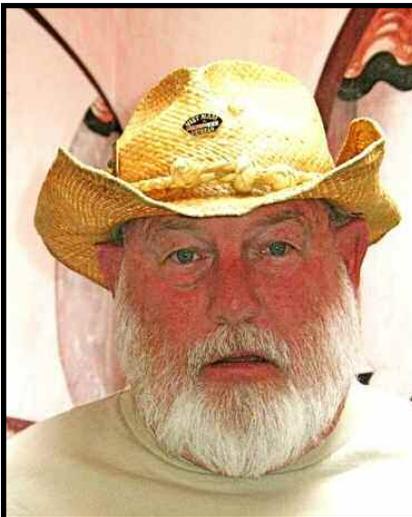
August: Nothing in planning yet.

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.

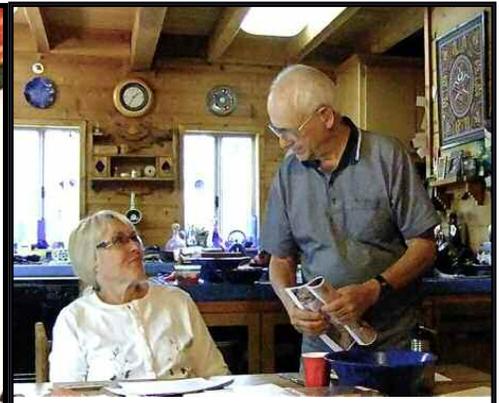
Some of the Folks who Made the Rendezvous Possible



Bob Jacoby and Nancy Dodds



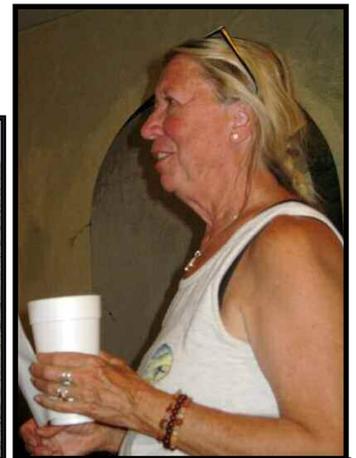
Bob Dodds



The Johns



The Gossetts



Vicki Hill

Next Meeting

**Sat. June 5
11:00 a.m. Potluck
At Alan & Ding Wicker's
1430 Sitka
Claremont, CA
Ph: 909-445-0082**

**All photos by
Allan Wicker
More next issue**

**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 Roodie. 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	sjhsn@verizon.net
Sunny Hansen	Glyphologist	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316 760-217-7555	sjhsn@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
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Marilyn Martin	Subscriptions & Newsletter Editor	P.O. Box 291759	Phelan	California	92329-1759	760-868-6606 760-641-1483	mjmartin@dslextreme.com
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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	bgnell@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 _____

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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 _____
 Ciity _____ 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
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Deadline for stuff for the June Newsletter is May 10th.
Please!!! Send something...

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