

DESERT EXPLORERS

No. 166 JAN. 2010

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



Rendezvous 2010

March 19-21

By Vickie Hill

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This March, our rendezvous will be held in Death Valley Junction at the historic Amargosa Hotel and Opera House.

This tiny town of 20 people, east of Death Valley National Park, sits at the intersection of state routes 190 & 127 in Inyo county.

Our usual fun field trips will be offered and the traditional Silent Auction will go on thanks to the offer by Nancy Dodds and Maybelle Lipking. So be sure to bring those auction items along!

There will be a potluck on Friday night, so bring your favorite dish along to share. Happy hour on Friday at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Meet at the camping area to visit with old friends.

Gasoline is not available in town, so be sure to gas up in Baker or Shoshone on your way in.

On Saturday night we will have a wonderful, catered all-you-can-eat dinner of pasta, various sauces, salad, bread, drinks and a dessert of berry cobbler. Afterward, you can attend a show at the Opera House. It will be a live, choreographed performance with mime, music and a film of Marta Becket being interviewed. She is recovering from a broken hip and arm and will not be performing.

The Hotel has 18 rooms available for \$67.20 per night. Be sure to say you are with the Desert Explorers. Call 760-852-4441 for reservations. Ask for Rich. Be sure to reserve your room early. First come - first served.

Camping will be available across the highway for \$5.00 per night. Porta-Potties, fresh water and RV dump will be available. No hookups.

The café is open for breakfast early with home-made pies and pastries.

More information on trips will be coming in the next newsletter. We need leaders!!! Think of a trip you might want to lead, including an in-bound on Friday.

Registration will be \$10.00 per vehicle. Dinner \$15.00 per adult, child 10 and up \$10.00, camping \$5.00 per day.

Tickets for Marta's performance will be available at \$15.00 each.

Put March 19-21 on your calendar now!

Death Valley Junction: Historic and Scenic Site of our 2010 Rondy

By Allan Wicker

What was once the borax mining town of Amargosa (now called Death Valley Junction) is the site of our 2010 Desert Explorers Rendezvous. The dates are March 19 to 21. Make plans now to attend. The registration form is located elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Death Valley Junction's most famous resident is ballerina and artist Marta Becket, of whom every Desert Explorer has heard.



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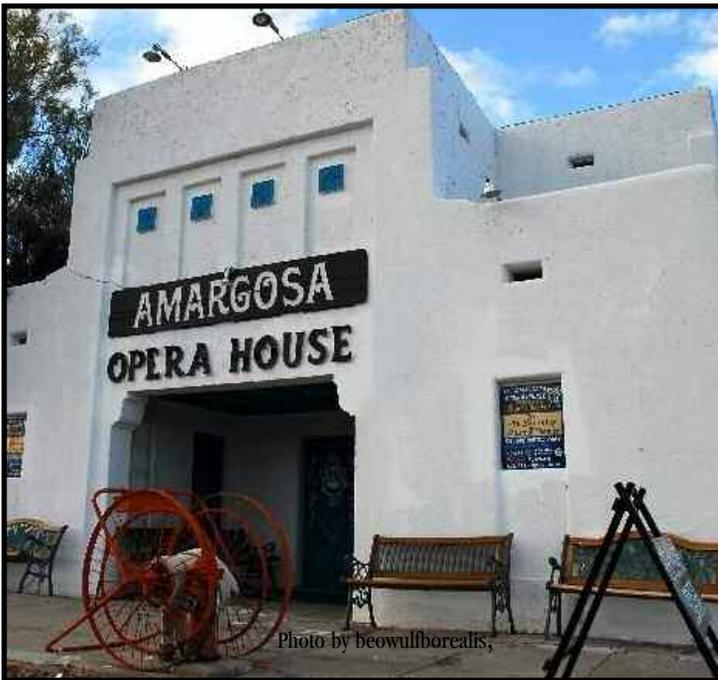


Photo by beowulfborealis,

Marta describes seeing an abandoned theater (now her Amargosa Opera House) in 1967 when she and her husband stopped in Amargosa to have a flat tire repaired:

“...I gazed down the long colonnade of what was known as the Amargosa Hotel... I stood in the noonday sun gazing at this long, beautiful colonnade...then I wandered down to where it turned a corner...suddenly my eyes fell on the largest structure in the row. It looked like a theater...I wandered around the back....

There was a hole in the back door, through which I tried to peer inside. A few sunbeams pierced the dark interior. Finally my eyes were able to make out a

small stage with faded calico curtains hanging from a track. Debris was strewn all over the warped floor boards and several rows of wooden benches faced the stage....Pockets of dust and sand provided a backdrop for kangaroo rats and desert spiders. “

...As I peered through the tiny hole, I had the distinct feeling I was looking at the

other half of my life. The building seemed to be saying, ‘Take me. Do something with me. I offer you life.’ “

(*From To Dance on Sands: The Life And Art of Death Valley's Marta Becket, by Marta Becket, p. 283.*)

After 40 years dancing on that stage, octogenarian Becket now presents a weekly “Sitting Down Show.”

For more information on Becket and the Opera House, see these websites: <http://www.amargosa-opera-house.com/aboutmarta.htm> , and <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=91845687>

Located near the Nevada border at the intersection of California Highways 127 and 190, Death Valley Junction is just outside

Death Valley National Park. The town was built to house workers of the Pacific Coast Borax Company, which had its headquarters there from the 1920's to the

1940s. Death Valley Junction and Ryan were the end points of the Death Valley Railroad that operated between 1914 and 1928.

A few lucky rendezvous participants can stay in the historic Death Valley Junction Hotel, which bloggers variously describe as “fantastic,” “a magical spot, with magical people,” “nice, different, unusual- certainly not run-of-the-mill,” and “careworn but quirky - well worth a look.” Of course there will also be camping opportunities.

Further details on the 2010 Rendezvous will appear in future issues. We will offer trips to historic, scenic and exotic sites. The silent auction will continue in tribute to its founder, our departed good buddy Alan Romspert. Plan now to come out to meet old friends and make new ones and go on interesting trips at our annual gathering.

Silent Auction

Nancy Dodds and MayBelle Lipking have volunteered to take charge of the Silent Auction. They urgently need help with the loading and unloading of the tables. They cannot conduct the silent auction unless someone volunteers to load and unload the tables. Start saving those usable or interesting items to donate.

Bring them with you to the rendezvous, or, if you are not coming, ask someone to bring them for you. E-mail Nancy for further information or to volunteer to give them a hand at:

forthebirds_99@yahoo.com

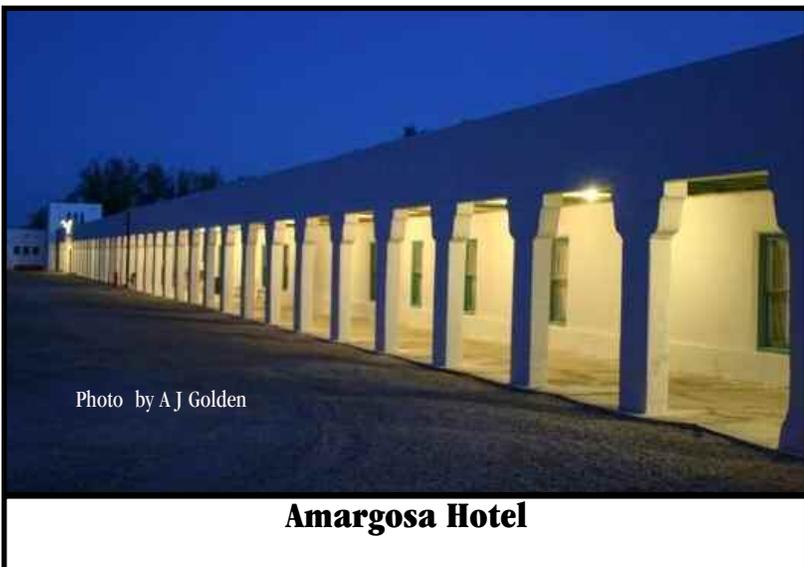


Photo by AJ Golden

Amargosa Hotel

Trip Reports Follow-up on Bristol Lake Trip

By **Debbie Miller Marschke**

Mignon Slentz says: We limped back to Ludlow alternating between 10 and 30 mph as Bob probably told you. AAA came, hooked us up and we took off. I asked if we could go through the Mojave Preserve as it was about 20 miles shorter (although a rougher road). The driver told us that he actually had to pick up a 2nd car broken down car by Kelbaker road and tow it to Kingman BEFORE towing us to Boulder Citygroan. Said he would only charge us \$360 for the additional miles instead of \$520. The other brokee decided to wait and be towed to Baker so we got to be towed directly home via 95, and he stuck with the cheaper price. Waiting to find out what is the problem since the mechanic was out today. Jenny and I spent Sunday driving to spots around the lake and visiting the Wetlands. On a high note.... I realized I didn't have to use my gas on the drive home. We were so impressed by how knowledgable you all are. Looking forward to the next outing.

Thanks for your concern, and thanks to Bob and Sue for the escort. Turns out I had a burnt out ground terminal to the engine (better than the computer I think).

Marilyn Martin said that she made it home fine and that she was feeling much better. She did not go to the hospital. She had not been feeling 100% when she embarked on the trip and thought maybe she'd feel better later in the day. Between the heat and other things, she was not feeling better. She and Kevin really enjoyed the trip and Kevin hung around at her house while Marilyn put him to work for the rest of the weekend.

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. Quartzsite

Jan. 22-24, 2009
Leader: Neal Johns
CB: 33

Shop 'til you drop. We'll be going to Quartzsite one more time. All venues will be open that weekend.

We'll camp at our usual spot: Exit at Dome Rock Rd. Go about 3 miles east. At the steel power poles going left, north, look for a dirt track leading towards the freeway. Camp is on the edge of the wash on the right, east, of the power line

Marian will be shopping, but Neal will lead a four wheel drive trip. There will be show and tell and happy hour every afternoon, but no potlucks.

Bullhead City Area

January 30-31
Leader: Bob Jacoby

This two day trip will focus on the area north of Bullhead City, Arizona. On Day 1 we will be taking the picturesque trail to the historic Moss Mine. In addition we will traverse the Mossback Wash Trail which will provide great scenery in the Black Mountains as well potential views of wild burros and bighorn sheep. We also will be visiting the Silver City Ruins. On Day 2 we will be following the Thumb Butte Trail through the other side of the Black Mountains with a chance to view a lot of old mine remains. We will also visit Fig Springs. We will likely be camping somewhere in the Black Mountains..

Details and times will be provided nearer the time of the trip. High clearance and four wheel drive are a must.

For more information contact Jacoby.R@worldnet.att.net, or (310) 490-6873.

Cal-Neu Trip

(MOE)

March 26-28, 2010
Leaders: The Jaussauds

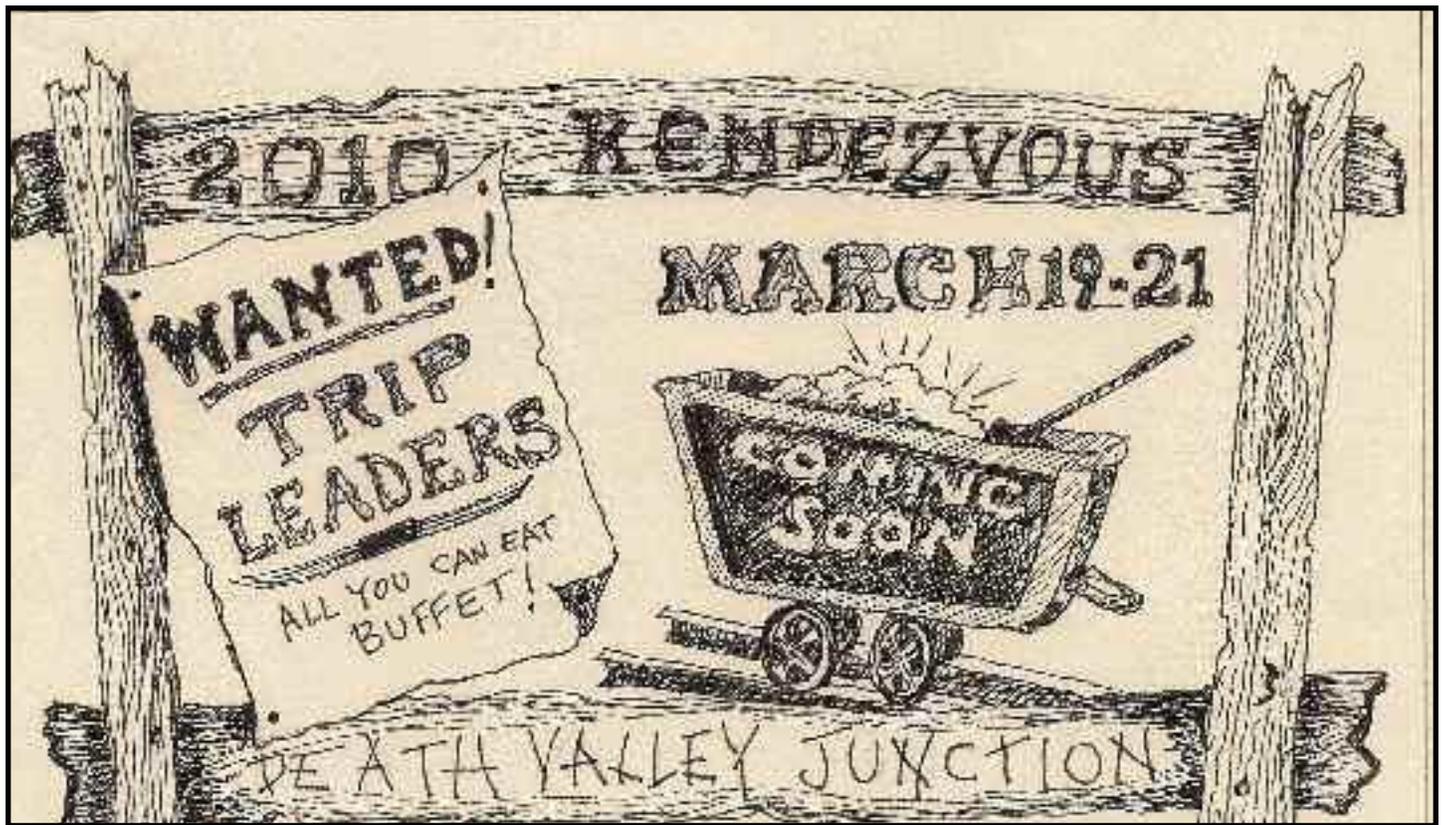
Bob and Sue will lead and start this excursion by hosting a barbecue chicken dinner and camp at their place on the Colorado River Friday March 26. (Directions to Jaussaud's will be sent to those who RSVP for the event.)

Saturday morning we will leave from the Needles, CA Denney's Restaurant at 8:30 a.m. (CA and AZ should be on the same time by then). Weather permitting we'll camp out in a pretty wash Saturday night and enjoy a traditional potluck dinner after happy hour. Sunday we will end the trip mid-afternoon just south of Searchlight. There will be easy highway access Saturday evening for those who can only be with us one day or in case we need to head for shelter due to weather.

During the trip we will noodle on back roads from Needles to Searchlight, experiencing lots of Route 66, railroad, military, mining, Indian, ranching and surveying history along with some beautiful country. As always, 4-wheel drive is mandatory with a working CB. There is one tail-dragger to go down on the Sunday trip. Come prepared to share a dish at the potluck on Saturday night and bringing along a little firewood would be helpful. Please send your RSVP to attend to Bob at: joeso@lonepinetv.com and please copy Dan at: dmess@ctaz.com and Dick at: dickandmouse@aol.com

Grass Valley Wilderness

April 10, 2010
(Subject to change)
Leaders; Bob Dodds and Tug, shot gun, (Oh, Nancy too) and our new rear gunner Snickers.
CB: 21



We will meet at Kramer Junction (58 and 395) across the RR tracks, northeast corner at 8:30 a.m.

This trip will be thru the Grass Valley Wilderness; included stops at, Steam Well, Brown's Ranch site, Black Water Well, the motorcycle memorial site and others. Gas at Kramer, don't forget to bring the usual stuff for a day trip. See you then. Bob Dodds [forthebirds_@yahoo.com]

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 email to Dick at: dickandmouse@aol.com or Dan at: dmess@ctaz.com

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

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 a overnight camp near or motel stay in the Prescott area. While in Prescott on Sunday, we'll

Arizona Strip Northwest Side

(MOE)

September 4-11, 2010
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. 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

Minutes

By Jean Hansen

Sunday, November 8, 2009

PRESENT:

Neal & Marian Johns, Sunny & Jean Hansen, Bob & Nancy Dodds, Vicki Hill, Dave McFarland, Mal Roode, Emmett & Ruth Harder, Marilyn Martin, AllenSchoenherr, Bob Jacoby, Debbie Miller-Marschke, Steve Marschke, Catherine Mayfield.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Vicki Hill and Marian

Johns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) Allan Schoenherr spoke about the Alan Romsper memorial, held the previous day, Saturday, November 7.

REGRETS: Jay Lawrence - it is his Dad's birthday.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes. Emmett Harder motioned to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Membership:

Marilyn stated that we have 100 paid members, with 14 past due. Marilyn also brought up the subject of "free" newsletters to Dennis Casebier, Dan Messersmith, Cliff Walker and Gene Stoops. It was decided to send free newsletters only to Cliff Walker, Dan Messersmith, Dennis Casebier and the Mojave River Valley Museum. Neal said that we need to ask Dennis Casebier to send the Friends of the Mojave Road Newsletter to Vicki Hill.

Marilyn also requested that we don't make paste-up changes in the newsletter at the last minute (right before it goes to the printer). Nancy Dodds said that she will e-mail Marilyn re: e-mail change and will let Maybelle know.

Treasurer:

We have \$3,163.97 in the checking account and \$76.05 in a related savings. Bob Jacoby stated that we will probably have more in the account after the next rendezvous. Marilyn Martin raised the subject of the silent auction, which has always been popular with members.

Website:

Debbie said that this was not a smooth period for the website; she and Steve came home from a trip to a "Doom & Gloom" phone call from Neal - the website was gone - hacked. Debbie called the web host and desertexplorers.org came back, but desertexplorers.com was gone - pirated!

Apparently, the renewal for desertexplorers.com had been sent to John Page and by the time we realized we needed to renew, the website had been taken over by someone else, who offered to sell it back to us for \$2,400.00 - Debbie

offered \$800.00, just to see what they would come back with. Then she received something in the mail offering a domain registry for \$50.00. All very confusing. Neal said that we definitely want desertexplorers.com back because most people type in .com. Debbie will go ahead and pay \$100.00 for the domain name for desertexplorers.org. This bill has been going to John Page as well. Apparently, domain names are run by a government organization which assigns names. Vicki asked Debbie how much time per month she spends on the website. Debbie answered that pictures take the most time. Neal interjected that this is not a trivial task, but very time-consuming. Neal also mentioned that DesertUSA.com has invited us to contribute to their website (one article, etc. per month) and that we should follow-up. Neal motioned that we give DesertUSA.com \$100.00 and Nancy Dodds seconded that motion. But before the vote, the question was raised as to who would be the blogger? Marilyn said that we need more information - it could be an advertisement. Someone suggested to Debbie that we could put the DE on Facebook. Motion put to a vote and denied.

Museum:

1) Bob Dodds reported that Peter Wilde passed away and his estate donated \$18,977 to the MRVM. Additionally, the Museum will receive 1% of all royalties from the estate.

2) The Museum is thinking of purchasing the vacant lot south of the museum for expansion, but will need financial help.

3) Bob reported that the Museum received a donation from an outfit in Big Bear - a small log cabin. The Museum has decided to place it at the end of the old Drover Car. The cabin will hold old machinery and will need to have a floor installed.

4) The Museum has new shirts and books for sale.

5) Bob reported that Don Putnam's bladder cancer is worsening, but apparently this has not slowed him down much because Myrtie had to get rid of all the ladders. Bob said that Don and Myrtie would love to get e-mails from all of us.

Trips and other events:

Mal Roode passed out his trip list:

1) Saturday, November 14 - Historically oriented trip along Randsburg Railroad right-of-way - Leaders - Bob Jacoby and Nan Savage

2) December 5 - Day trip to Joe Elliott Tree, San Sevaine Road - Leaders - Johns and Harders

3) December 5- 6 - Desert Bar, Swansea and Bill Williams River area - MOE

4) December 13 - Desert Explorers Christmas Party at the home of Allan & Ding Wicker

5) January 14-19 - Quartzsite - MOE

6) January 22-24 - Quartzsite - DE

7) January 30-31 - Black Mountains, AZ - Leaders - Bob Jacoby and Mary Hughes

8) February 12-14 - Temple Bar - MOE

9) February 19-20 - El Paso Mountains - Leaders - Neal & Marian Johns and Sunny & Jean Hansen

10) March 6-7 - Rock Art of the Big Horn Mountains - Leaders - Sunny & Jean Hansen and Neal & Marian Johns

11) March 19-21 - Rendezvous at Death Valley Junction DE

12) March 26-28 - Cal-Nev trip - MOE - Leaders-Bob & Sue Jaussaud and Dan Messersmith

13) April 10 - Yates Well - Leader Bob Dodds

14) April-tentative - flower trip to Anza Borrego

15) April (dates TBD) - Trip over Wheeler Pass to Pahrump- Leader - Glenn Shaw

16) April (dates TBD)- Ghost town of Vanderbilt, w/camping at Goffs - Leaders - Debbie Miller-Marschke and Steve Marschke

17) April/May (dates TBD) - Eastern Arizona and Western New Mexico -MOE

18) April/May (dates TBD) - Arizona, Historic Route 66 - MOE

19) May 1-2 - Carrizo Plain/San Andreas Fault - Leader - Bob Jacoby

20) May 14-16 - Panamint Range - east side - Leaders - Emmett & Ruth Harder and Reda Anderson

21) June (dates TBD) - Mammoth area to Bodie, Hawthorn, NV and Berlin-

Ichthyosaur State Park. originally planned with Alan Romspert, 3 days and 2 nights - Leader - Allan Schoenherr

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

23) July (dates TBD) - White Mountains - Leader - Jay Lawrence

24) July 31-August 8 - Colorado, San Juan Mountains - Leaders - Neal &

Marian Johns

25) September 4-11, Arizona Strip, northwest side - MOE

26) October (dates TBD) - Idyllwild - Leader - Vicki Hill

International Trip: - to be led by Marian and Reda: Tibet II - Last two weeks of April (13 day trip) - Tibet and Sky train to Beijing Of the original group of 12, only 6 went on the Tibet trip in October; the other 6 will go in spring (dates to be determined). Catherine Mayfield, one of the 6 who went to Tibet in October, came to this meeting with some of her photographs and presented a very interesting slide show on her recent trip to Tibet.

Tentatively Planned Trips:

1) San Bernardino Mountains - Arrowhead environs, Deep Creek

2) Tomo Kahni State Historic Park (Tehachapi area) and Burham Canyon

3) Old Woman Mountains

4) Alaska - Drive Alcan Highway and return via Inside Passage on a ferry - Leaders- Marian Johns and Reda Anderson

Rendezvous:

1) Vicki is looking for people to lead trips for the rendezvous.

2) Vicki also heard from Susan Sorrells that Marta Becket fell and broke her hip and is still performing, but sits for the performance. Emmett said that he and Ruth would ascertain Marta's condition, but felt sure that if Marta was unable to perform, they would show clips from her previous shows.

3) Vicki also said that Susan Sorrells would like to lead a rendezvous trip.

4) Saturday night banquet: Pasta dinner had been suggested by the chef at the Amargosa Opera House. Marian motioned that we accept the pasta option,

Emmett and Ruth seconded that motion - motion carried.

5) Discussion ensued regarding e-mail information vs. newsletter.

6) Silent Auction: Nancy Dodds and Maybelle will oversee the Silent Auction, but will need help with loading and unloading the tables.

Other Business:

1) Vicki said that we need to thank Ken Sears for all his years of tireless service to the Desert Explorers. Vicki will call Diane, as she has not been feeling well.

2) Vicki stated that there is a not for profit organization out of Landers, called Keep California Desert Clean and wondered if the DE would like to make a donation to this organization.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be the annual Desert Explorers Christmas Party, held on December 13 at the home of Allan & Ding Wicker. This will be a potluck and gift exchange. Mark gift male or female, or unisex, limit \$15.00.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.



Member Doings

Marian Johns

Marian's only brother Bill was seriously injured in a bicycle accident. He was hit by a car and wasn't wearing a helmet. He sustained traumatic head/brain injuries and will need long term care.

Send in your
Rondy Registration form!
Include a SASE

Bob Jaussaud and Bob Peltzman

Here's a letter from Bob Jaussaud to Bob Peltzman that is of interest to all of us:

Hi Bob,

Although I have always enjoyed figuring out "where I am", I have never responded before to your "Where Am I?" section of the DE Newsletter. The current map, however, really tweaks many of us, and I hope you may be interested in knowing why.

Your map shows an area in the Chemehuevi Mountains south of Needles, CA along highway 95 that we used to lead Backroad Explorer trips into. This area was declared wilderness when the Desert Bill of the '90's was signed into law by

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 key-board 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.

President Clinton. As a result, the 4wd roads shown on your map into the Blue Boy Mine and Trampas Wash are closed.

In the late '80's and early '90's before the area was closed, Sue and I led the Backroad Explorers (predecessor of the DE) on at least two trips from highway 95 into Studio Springs in the Chemeheuvi Mountains. Along the way we usually stopped at Red Rock Falls and hiked to the Devil's Elbow area along the Colorado River. Returning to the vehicles, we would travel to Studio Springs Wash and enter an area we affectionately named "Goblin Valley" because of all the standing rock formations there. Through Goblin Valley it was possible to drive all the way to the Colorado River, arriving at a beautiful bay with Newspaper Rock just a bit north on the other side of the river. Leaving the river and going west up Studio Springs Wash, we would drive to within half a

mile of Studio Springs, where we usually camped for the night. From the camp area, we'd hike to Studio Springs. We found abundant surface water every time we were there. The Indians obviously enjoyed the spring site as well. In the rocks around the spring one could find many pictographs and petroglyphs. A particularly beautiful pictograph was probably some type of solstice calculation symbol. With all the ancient art work in the area it was easy to understand why the spring was named "Studio Spring".

West of Highway 95 your map shows the Snaggetooth (sic) formation, which is about 18 miles south of Needles. Maggie McShan, the late Needles historian, once told Sue and I that in pre-air conditioning days, the people of Needles would often times drive to Snaggetooth to escape the heat. The Snaggetooth for-

mation is at an elevation of over 1900 feet. We have explored the formation and there are some interesting habitation caves. Toward the north there is a beautiful canyon to picnic or camp in.

Many of us have discussed the possibility of returning to Studio Springs. The best legal option would be from the river. This would require boating to the mouth of Studio Springs Wash, then hiking with backpacks over 7 miles up a sandy wash to Studio Springs. It would be a two-day trip and necessitate carrying enough water for both days. Vicki Hill and I are

Send in your registration form. Don't forget to include a SASE

CURRENT DESERT EXPLORERS WITH E-MAIL

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John Hoopes	jnhooops@sbcglobal.net	Jim Proffitt	jproffitt@sbcglobal.net		
Charles Hughes	mhach@juno.com	Don Putnam	wegotoo@yahoo.com		
Robert J. Jacoby	jacoby.r@worldnet.att.net	Fred Raab	fjr@fredraab.com		

considering doing this, possibly next spring. If any Desert Explorers have access to a canoe or kayak and would like to join us they can e-mail either of us.

Again, many thanks, Bob, for your

PLEASE!!

**Check your e-mail address. Send corrections to mjmartin@dslex-treme.com
Thank You!**

Welcome

William Baird
Daniel Sanchez

Yucaipa
Samta Ana

contribution to the DE Newsletter.

Personal Wealth

Silver in the Hair
Gold in the Teeth.
Stones in the Kidneys
Sugar in the Blood.
Lead in the Feet.
Iron in the Arteries.
And an inexhaustible supply of
natural gas.
We never thought we'd accumulate
such wealth.

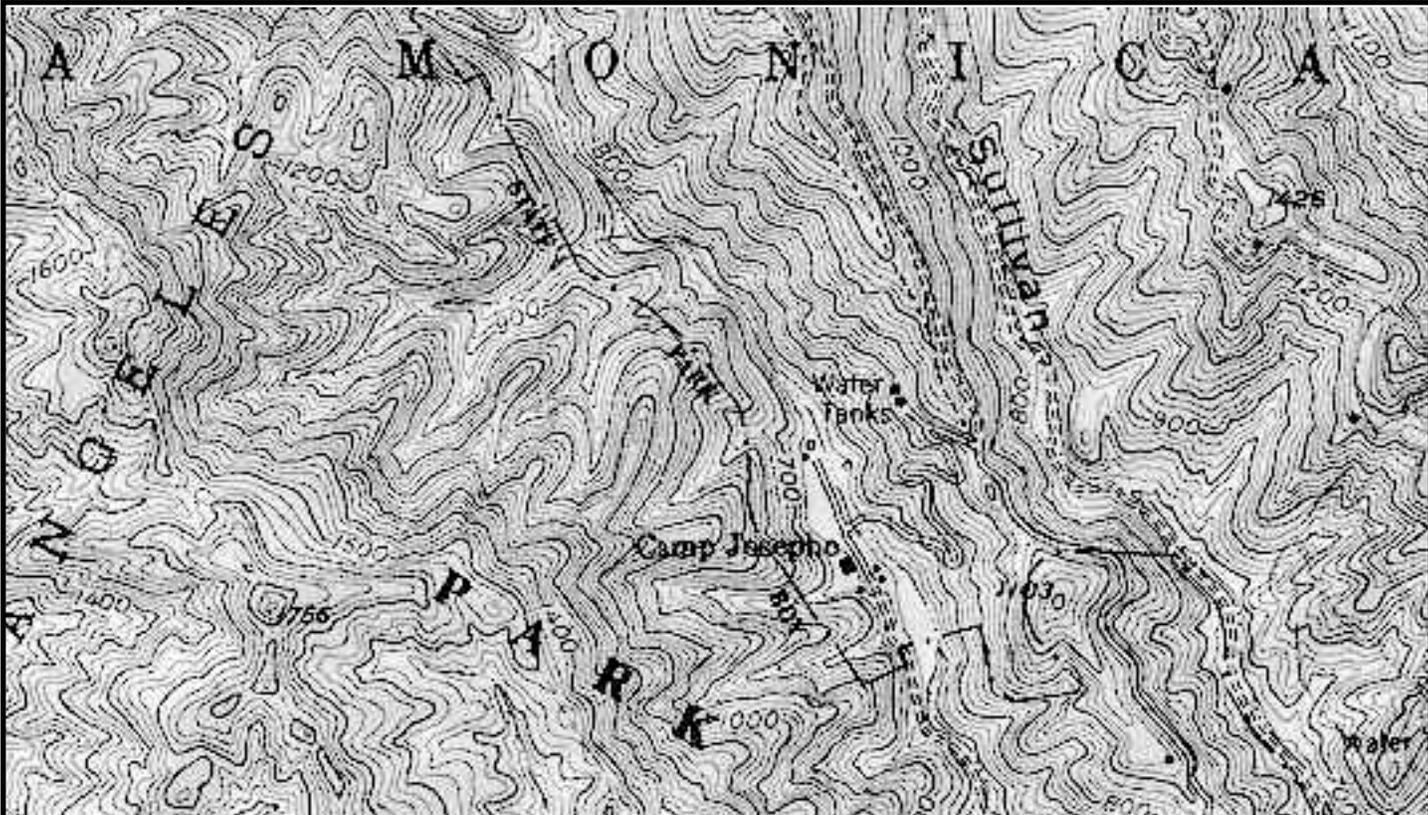
Desert Explorer Ham List

- Pete Austin -----Diamond Bar - KF6FZD
- Bill Baird ----- Yucaipa - KF7VE
- Trudy Baird ----- Yucaipa KD6NYY
- Janet Austin -----Diamond Bar - KF6FZE
- Craig Baker -----Sylmar - KC6KKR
- David Bullock ----- Los Angeles - N3CUE
- Jim Byrne -----Chatsworth - KE6RFR
- Herb Clark -----Mission Viejo - KF6EAU
- Joseph A. Daly----- Saugus - KG6GCW
- Axel Heller --- Huntington Beach - KG6DII
- Ted Kalil ----- Apple Valley - KG6AIT
- Church 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
- Ken Sears----- Cerritos - KD6UHY
- 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

Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for December. The location was: Cal. Hwy. 95 West of Lake Havasu. Winners were: Leonard Friedman, Bob Thille, Malcolm Roode, Allan Schoenherr, James Proffitt, Bob Younger

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".



Rendezvous Registration Form

March 19-21, 2010

All names in party

Address

Phone

E-Mail

Registration Fee (per vehicle) \$10.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Camping Fee \$5.00 (per day) 5.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Night Dinner

Number of meals for your party 15.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Children's (Under 10) meals 10.00 X _____

Grand Total (Registration, Camping , Meals) = \$ _____

Make check out to MRVM (Mojave River Valley Museum). Mail to Bob Jacoby, 2245 Wellesley Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90064 by March 12. No refunds. INCLUDE A SASE!!

You must be a member of MRVM to go on any trip.

Don't forget a dish to share for the Friday evening potluck and something for the Silent Auction.

Tickets for Marta's performance at the Opera House will be available at \$15.00 per person at Death Valley Junction.

DESERT EXPLORERS

Newsletter

Editor: Marilyn Martin

Asst. Editors: Marian & Neal
Johns

Next Meeting

Saturday

February 6

11:00 a.m. Potluck

At the Wickers'

1430 Sitka

Claremont

(909) 445-0082

Desert Explorers Trip Schedule

Dec. 5 - 6	Swansea	MOE
Dec. 13	Xmas Party	DE
Jan. 22-24, 2010	Quartzsite	Johns
Jan. 30-31	Bullhead City	Jacoby
Feb. 19-20	El Paso Mts	Johns/Hansen
Mar 19-21	Rondy	DE
Mar. 26-28	Cal-Nev	MOE
April 10	Grass Valley	Dodds
April - 2th half	Tibet II	Marian/Reda
June 12-13	Skull Valley	MOE
Sept. 4-11	Ariz. Strip	MOE

Organizational Fine Print and Choice Pieces of Potentially Useful Info

General Trip Information

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

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

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

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

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

4. The Desert Explorers is a family oriented 4WD organization. Spouses and kids are welcome. Friendly dogs are OK as specified below. Trips will meet and depart from somewhere near the trip route, usually not 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 may 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.

M.O.E. Trip Schedule

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

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

February 13 & 14: An overnighter to Temple Bar.

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

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

May: A multi-day run across Arizona to trace and drive as much of the various tracks of Historic Route 66 we can find. Not just the ones you find in the tour guides. We have found, by accident, that there is more left out there than most folks know about or can be found on the modern maps. We intend to do our best to find out just what is left. 4x4 will be required

as we may encounter some really old pieces that require some "go around noodling."

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

July: Return trip to Utah around the US 89 corridor. We will be making some visits to some of our favorite small towns in Utah for great food and hospitality. This is a running camp and motel trip. We will try and build in an overnight stay at the Rockin' R Ranch and Lodge in Antimony which would be a great little treat.

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

Visit Desert Explorers on the Web

See more pictures and in color!

<http://desertexplorers.org>

• OUR FEARFUL LEADERS •

NAME	KNOWN AS	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
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Betty Wallin	Blender Queen	P. O. Box 1214	Desert Hot Springs	California	92240	760-329-2403	wingit@ix.netcom.com

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

Mojave River Valley Museum Association, Inc.
PO Box 1282, Barstow, CA 92312-1282 • Phone: (760) 256-5452

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

Individual - Annual -----\$20.00

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

DESERT EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR



DESERT EXPLORERS
OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM

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

Deadline for stuff for the Feb. Newsletter is Jan. 10th.
Please!!! Send something...

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