

# DESERT EXPLORERS

No. 178 JAN. 2011

4WD SECTION OF THE MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM



## Trip Reports

### Fenner Valley

**Leaders: Mal Roode and Joe de Kehoe**  
**November 6 – 7, 2010**

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tomary hellos, (with Neal off to the side shielding us from his cold) we held a brief trip review meeting.

Leonard Friedman phoned to say they were having car troubles. We agreed to stay in touch with Leonard throughout the day as best we could, and we left Roy's right on time in a 9-vehicle convoy and headed east for Kelbaker Road.

Aside from enjoying some nice desert scenery, one of the purposes of the trip was to visit some popular as well as some obscure sites in this part of the Mojave - sites that I hope will be re-visited and not forgotten.

We turned east off of Kelbaker Road south of Brown Buttes and drove the pipeline road to a site that I have termed the "Mystery Settlement", only because I have never been able to determine why the settlement was there. We all agreed it looked like a 'family' settlement – too many niceties and too much work went into the camp to be a temporary construction camp. There exist the remains of about four cabins, an outhouse, well-defined walking paths and a driveway.

The group consisting of Joe de Kehoe, Leonard, Rebecca and Hannah Friedman, Charles and Mary Hughes, Bob and Sue Jaussaud, Neal and Marian Johns, Ron Lipari, Bob and Betty Oliver, Mal Roode, Glen Shaw, Mignon Slentz, and Mike Vollmert in 10 vehicles agreed to meet at Roy's Café in Amboy at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday for an 8:30 a.m. departure. After the cus-

We all speculated on the reason for the camp, but left without any definitive answers. Mignon Slentz picked up a nice rock with desert varnish on which to do her rock art engraving.

After leaving the Mystery Settlement we continued driving east on the pipeline road to the turnoff to the remains of a stone cabin in the



Photo by Mike Vollmert

**The Gang's All Here**



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Clipper Mountains purported to have been built by Tom Schofield. For lack of a better term I refer to it as the West Side Cabin. There is evidence of digging/mining in the dry wash behind the cabin, and there is also a small spring with water (and lots of bees). The cabin was last occupied in the 1950s, but now only the stone walls remain, the roof having collapsed.

We made our way back to the pipeline road and drove to the remains of the Chambers' mine near Bonanza Springs (aka Danby Springs) where we stopped for lunch. Phillip Chambers and his wife Ellen lived here and operated a placer gold mine for about 35 years. While they were here Phillip and Ellen planted several hundred fruit and shade trees that grew quite tall with the abundant year-round water from the spring. The BLM forced the Chambers to relinquish the mine in the late 1980's, and since their departure the BLM has removed all of the trees as not being native to the desert. The cement foundations of the Chambers' home still remain at Bonanza Springs but little else.

After Bonanza Springs we made the short drive across old Route 66 at Danby and continued southeast to Old Danby. Old Danby was an important watering point for the railroad in the late 1800's and early 1900's, and was home to several railroad families and miners. We were disappointed to see that one of the two old wooden cabins that has been here for 100 years or more had finally succumbed to weathering and collapsed.

The next stop was refreshing in that we left the vehicles and hiked a mile or so up a dirt road to the remains of a rock house that was once owned by Fleet Southcott. Although the roof is gone, the walls are still standing and are in good condition. The site offers a good view of Fenner Valley – we could see Essex and I-40 in the far distance.

After hanging around the rock house, peering in the OX Ranch water tank and throwing rocks down the mine shaft, we headed back to the cars. This is where Bob Oliver came into his own! It is a bit of a slog to the cabin because the road we were walking is sandy with a steady uphill grade. However the trip

back to the vehicles is all downhill. Bob took off, arms raised in a sort of Gabby Hayes gait, and I remember thinking, "I can't wait until I have open heart surgery so I can keep up with Bob!" He made it back to the cars well ahead of the rest of the group.

It gets dark by 5:30 p.m. at this time of the year, so the intent was to leave the rock house and get to our intended camp at Sunflower Springs by about 4:00 p.m. We worked our way past some scenic and very impressive weathered granite cliffs on the northeast flank of the Old Woman Mountains on our way to camp, intersected Sunflower Springs Road southeast of Essex, and arrived at camp right about on time.

On the way we made a brief stop at a very obscure concrete foundation in the pass between the Old Woman Mountains and the Piute Mountains that was formerly the early 1950's residence of Irv and Bea Landreman. Irv worked for the Dept. of Fish and Game maintaining guzzlers in this part of the desert and they once owned the General Store in Goffs.

The site is not very noticeable and most travelers drive by it without knowing it is there. (At this point poor Neal was still not feeling very well and pretty much confined himself to staying in the truck.)

From here we drove the last 6 miles or so and arrived at our camp site amongst a group of granite boulders near Sunflower Springs. The Friedman family, Leonard, Rebecca and Hannah, finally caught up with the group at this point, having had their vehicle repaired in Barstow.

On Sunday morning we spent a couple of hours exploring the abandoned ranch houses at Sunflower Springs and the Peg Leg Smith inscription on the nearby boulders.

We finally got underway at 10:00 a.m., and on our way out, we backtracked on Sunflower Springs Road but made a side trip to Weaver's Well and a nearby site where the Smith family formerly lived when the parents worked in Essex. This was another one of these remote and obscure sites that few people know is there; it is seldom visited, and where only the foundation remains – one of those "I wonder what was here?" places.

We arrived back on pavement in Essex by noon, said our farewells, and with some folks vowing to return for a repeat

visit.

All in all a good trip, and the weather was perfect. My thanks to Mal Roode for helping put the trip together and to Ron Lipari and Mike Vollmert who very capably ran sweep for the trip.

## Buck and Doe Day Run

October 30, 2010  
By Sue "Itchy Foot"  
Baughman

The following took the great "Itchy foot" adventure: Sue Baughman, Leader; Haul & Mary Reddick, Sweep; Julie & Joe Stevens; Ellen Miller; Shelly Lossing; Debbie Frain; Buck & Karol Buckler; Ingrid Purder; Elke Meister; Donna & Dennis Robinson; Cathie & Gary Myers; "O" & Nan Russell; Jim Byrne and Ava & Ken Todd. Two dogs also joined us, Scottie, and I didn't get the name of the other.

The plan of the day was to meet at the Peach Springs Hualapai Lodge, Diamond Creek restaurant, at 8:30 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. departure. Well, "Murphy" came on this trip. The fearless leader thought it would be faster to go via Stockton Hill Rd, since Ingrid & Elke lived closer to Stockton Hill Rd. so we arrived about 15 minutes late.

On Friday, I had called to reserve a table for the group. When we arrived some were already eating; some were waiting, and some of the group came in later for coffee. Since it was time to get on the road I just asked for a go box for my breakfast burrito.

We had 11 vehicles departing the Lodge at about 9:45 a.m., back tracking to Buck & Doe Rd. It is no longer a narrow dirt road which I took by mistake 20 years ago when I drove out to Guano Point (long before Grand Canyon West). Well, now the road is paved, then it turns into a hard gravel, then a wide dirt road. Being the lead vehicle Elke and I spotted two young does along the way.

As we neared the intersection with the road to Grand Canyon West, we found the road is now paved. Since it only took us 2 hours to cross the Reservation, I decided

to take them on a tour of the Diamond Bar Ranch and headed toward the most western end of the Grand Canyon.

Since the last time I was out this way (many years) NPS has erected a fence (this area is known as the triangle). There was a gate we could have gone through but decided that I would rather take them up the "Staircase" to see the overlook. (A journey through the gated area can be another trip exploring Diamond Bar Ranch).

We stopped at the corral for lunch and explored the old ruins. After lunch we were off toward the overlook (again it had been several years since I had been in this area) just before we came to the "Staircase" I recommended that Ellen park her Subaru and ride with somebody. Shelly opted out as she was getting low on gas and she had a carburetor that could not take steep grades. We headed up the "Staircase" and found it an easier climb than last time (I did suggest that they go in low gear). On top you can get views of the Arizona Strip (Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument).

We drove past the pond where there were a lot of cattle. I saw a road going to the left that looked fairly good (I should have taken it), but opted to take a 2-track to the right. Beautiful drive but we came to the NPS fence. There was a 2-track going along the fence, but not knowing where it ended we decided not to follow.

By this time it was 3:00 p.m. some folks were watching their gas gauge so we opted to head home. Some of us stopped off at the Grand Canyon West Ranch (Diamond Bar) for beer. Well, since I was there last, you now have a \$5.00 entry fee, which will buy you a beer or go toward food (unless you want a Corona beer then it's a dollar more). I found out that they have new management so I will go back on Sunday and conduct business (I sell Joshua, Ocotillo and Poppy Seeds).

A good time was had by all.

## Temple Bar

October 22 - 25 2010  
By Dan W. Messersmith

Participants were: Larry & Edna Brown; Charles & Mary Hughes; Jim & Jeanne Jacobs; Dan & Jan Messersmith, w/Buddy; Haul & Mary Reddick; Mignon Slentz and Dick & Connie Taylor, w/Sassy.

Additional day trip participants on Sunday were: Jim Byrne and Gary & Cathy Myers, all from Kingman.

Friday, October 22

Jan & I, left Kingman at 8:00 a.m. after my weekly Rotary meeting. Just prior to our arrival at about 9:30 a.m., we got a phone call from Dick Taylor. He and Connie had come out the day before to scout us out some sites in the campground. They had just finished breakfast and as I told them we were near they would meet us at the campground.

As Jan and I were working to set up the trailer (with Dick's assistance) Larry Brown came in with his Airstream. He let us know Edna would be joining him later after she got off work.

After all was set up Dick & Connie and Jan & I decided to take a drive up to Hoover Dam to see the newly completed bridge over the canyon. Larry said he would stay in camp.

The trip over the bridge was mostly a non-event as there is little to tell the people in the car where the highway ends and the bridge begins. If we could not have seen the heads of the people walking on the bridge's northern walkway, it may have not been possible to tell where the bridge started. We stopped for a comfort break at the Hacienda Casino and then topped off our gas tanks and returned to camp.

Others arriving after we returned were Jim & Jeanne Jacobs, Charles & Mary Hughes, Haul & Mary Reddick, Mignon Slentz and Edna Brown. I had put my awning down and we all gathered there for conversation and eventually cocktails and snacks.

We broke for dinner and gathered at Dick & Connie's site for a campfire. The campfire was done by 9:00 p.m., and we retreated to our respective camp sites.

Saturday, October 23

Most folks were up and moving around by 6-6:30 a.m. At 8:00 a.m., most of us (8) went down to have breakfast at the marina restaurant. The rest of our group would meet us for coffee later or when we were

ready to leave on the day trip.

Breakfast started out as a nice gathering of people ready to start the day. It turned into a mess. The cook, if he can really be addressed with that title, was just plain incompetent. The restaurant opened at 8:00 a.m. The cook did not even start the grill until 8:00 a.m. There were two other groups that beat us in the door and they numbered about 18 people. We were a third group of eight. The cook processed the orders one meal at a time stacking them under what appeared to be a non-functioning heat lamp. The meals were not served when ready but instead were held until an entire table of orders was completed. We got our food 90 minutes after we ordered and the food was not only cold but was over and under cooked depending on what you got. I was livid and unforgiving. Others were more tolerant of his efforts. It was a bad start, but vows were taken to not let it spoil our whole day. Thus, we got off an hour late about 10:00 a.m. Dick took the lead and I took the sweep.

We headed out PSR134 past the airport and a few miles down the road we would stop at "Zeke's Well Drilling Rig," as Dick named it. We spent some time looking this 1930's model water well drilling rig over and marveled as to why it was there.

Continuing on, we passed the route to Salt Spring and noodled around to find a helicopter landing pad that was set up in the middle of nowhere to provide a refueling spot for the many tourist helicopters that plied their trade around the west end of the Grand Canyon.

Dick and Jim had found the site on an earlier trip and did not know what it was until helicopters started to fly in around them.

We waited for some time and nothing happened other than a truck drove into the site. We had gotten in our vehicles and had begun to leave when here they came. Three in all in the first wave. We got back out of our vehicles and watched the landing and some of the refueling with one chopper taking off just as we were leaving.

Later, we would see other choppers flying into the location as we made our way down the road.

We got back on NPS134 for a short distance until it "T" intersected with NPS135 (Gregg's Hideout Road) which we took a short distance to the right and then turned

left onto Hualapai Wash Road. At NPS142 we headed for the Golden Gate Mine.

Reaching the mine, we stopped for lunch.

During this stop a small group of quads came down the road and stopped to visit. They recommended we not try to go up the trail as it was in very bad condition and thought we would find it impassible in our larger vehicles. We took them at their word, and after lunch returned to Gregg's Hideout Road to get back to Pierce Ferry Road and back to camp via Dolan Springs and US93. Part of the decision was based on it being potluck night and we needed extra cooking time for our Dutch Ovens.

The potluck was another great success with lots of great dishes shared. We followed the potluck with another great campfire and then retired around 9:00 p.m. again.

Sunday, October 24

The day trip would start at 9:00 a.m. at the marina's restaurant again. Only two couples attempted breakfast at the restaurant today with the rest of us deciding to eat at our own camp sites. Just before 8:45 a.m., we gathered in the parking lot and found that Jim Byrne and Gary & Cathy Myers from Kingman had come to join us for the day run.

Larry & Edna along with Mignon, had to leave today and bid us farewell before we took off.

We were on the road by 9:00 a.m. with Jan & I in the lead and Dick & Connie in the sweep position. We took the highway back to the turn-off to Bonelli Bay Road and turned right. We followed the dirt road almost to the end where we intersected with Cohenour Mine Loop road. Following this wonderful little trail in and out and along the wash was a treat in itself. After some distance we came to the first petroglyphs in Petroglyph Canyon. We stopped for a number of sites and enjoyed the art sites.

Continuing up the canyon, we entered the road that would take us to the Pope Mine campground and overlook. Making our way up the wash and hill to the narrow saddle that is the Pope Mine location we parked our vehicles where space allowed.

We were treated to grand views over Lake Mead to the north. We could see the brown-clouded Las Vegas area, the solar panels of the solar energy farm along

US95 southwest of Boulder City and numerous tourist helicopters as they buzzed our position.

As it was windy and cool, we called it a good view and retreated down the hill and wash to find a place for lunch. I picked a wide-spot in a narrow part of the canyon we were following, and we circled the wagons for a lunch break.

After lunch we continued to the Gilbert Canyon Road and took it to the left to show the folks the fantastic rocky formations that make up this canyon. After a short time at the end of the canyon to allow folks to take it all in, we returned up the canyon rejoining the Cohenour Mine Road.

At the Cohenour Mine, we stopped to look over the small prospect holes and found some Copper Sulfate color in the rocks indicating this may have been a Copper mine prospect. Jan actually found a small dark blue stone that I believe was an Azurite gemstone.

Back on the trail we came out on the Bonelli Bay Road and headed for the restroom facilities in the parking area. There we bid farewell with those returning home from that point. Dick & Connie, Haul & Mary, Jim & Jeanne and Jan & I remained to see if we could find a way back via the now dry wash the runs into Bonelli Bay.

Our search turned up no connecting routes to the wash and in some places posted no vehicles signs. We then returned to our campsite with Haul & Mary bidding us farewell at the highway to return to Kingman.

At camp, we set up for a grilled Burger fest courtesy of Jim & Jeanne. Other items were brought out and a feast was held for one last night. The wind came up and with it and the chill in the air, no campfire was held and we retired to our respective campers by 8:00 p.m.

Monday, October 25

Today was just for packing up and going home. Jan & I were first to leave and the Jacobs and Taylors took off later. It had been a great little weekend excursion and we will follow it up with another one in November when we do the same type of camping at Burro Creek Campground along US93.

# 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 Calling

(M.O.E./DE)

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, sight-seeing, 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. RSVP!**

## Southeastern Nevada

(M.O.E.)

2/11/11 - 2/14/11

**Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor**

This trip has changed to a campground camp out with two day trips on the agenda. We will camp in either Davis Camp or Katherine's Landing RV parks (we are looking in to that now). We will start the day trips at the Riverside Park located just north of the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, NV with everyone expected to be on site 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. Bring lots to drink and pack a lunch for each trip.

If you would like to go join us this trip, please RSVP via email to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com. Please indicate if you will be camping or doing one or both day trips.

## Piute Mountains Wilderness

**February 19-20**  
**Leader: Mal Roode**  
**CB Channel 13**

Four wheel drive and high clearance are mandatory.

We will meet for this trip in Essex, CA for an 8:30 a.m. departure. We will leave the pavement about 6 miles to the east. We will be exploring right through the middle of the Piute Mountains Wilderness Area. This is a slow-going route. I estimate it to be 32 miles to camp, and it can take all day if we stop a lot.

Sunday morning we will leave camp at 8:30 a.m. and head north about 2 miles to visit Painted Rock.

We can spend an hour or so exploring this area, then head south about 30 miles to rejoin the pavement at Essex. We should be done about noon on Sunday.

The total distance from when we leave the pavement to when we return will be about 60 miles. There will be a 12 vehicle limit on this trip. Traditional DE

potluck will be held on Saturday night. E-mail me if you are interested at mal@roode.com.

## Yuma Area Excursion

(M.O.E.)

**3/11/11 - 3/14/11**  
**Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor**

This is planned to be a four day base camp set up in the long term visitor area just out of town. Campers, trailers, motor homes and tents will work well in this area. To accommodate travelers outside of Kingman, our caravan meeting area will be at the Indian Casino parking lot in Parker, AZ at 10:00 a.m. on Friday the 11th. It may also be easier for some travelers from the California area to meet us at the I-10 & AZ95 junction at Quartzsite at approximately 10:45 a.m.

We plan to visit some of the historic places in and around Yuma as well as make a day trip into Picaoho State Recreation Area in California where we will get to see some of the old mining history. We'll also get to visit some Colorado River camp sites generally only accessible by boats as Dick knows some land routes in. Dutch oven cooking and great bull sessions around a campfire are a promise. We hope you can join us for this southern Arizona adventure.

Please let us know if you will join us at Parker or Quartzsite and give us your cell phone number. If you would like to go join us this trip, please RSVP via e-mail to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com

## Willow Beach Camp Out and Day Trips

(M.O.E.)

**4/8 - 4/11**  
**Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor**

The new Willow Beach Campground on the Colorado River south of Hoover Dam should be finished and ready for our visit. RVs, Truck Campers, and Tents are welcome. We'll verify what services are available as soon as possible and get the word out. We'll plan on day trips on the 9th and 10th. More information to follow.

If you would like to go join us this trip, please RSVP via e-mail to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com. Please indicate if you will be camping or doing one or both day trips.

## Utah

**May 13-15**

**Leader: Emmett Harder**

Meet on Friday at Best Western in Mesquite Nevada.

Leave early Saturday; form up in Leeds Utah.

Go into the back country and explore the locations of Mountain Meadows and routes used by the participants.

Stay in Enterprise, Utah Saturday night and visit the massacre site Sunday.

## Prescott Area

(M.O.E.)

**5/19/11 - 5/23/11**  
**Leaders: Messersmith/Taylor**

Base Camp with a Bradshaw Mountains Exploration We plan to camp in the Bradshaw Mountains in an established forest camp ground. RVs, Truck Campers, and Tent camping will work in this area. We will be exploring the back roads to the south and may reach all the way to Lake Pleasant, Lots of neat country to explore and for some it may be the first time in this area.

We will be leaving from the McDonald's

on I-40 & Andy Devine in Kingman at 8:30 a.m. Thursday.

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

## 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 base-camp. 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 e-mail to Dan dmess@ctaz.com or Dick dickandmouse@aol.com

## Minutes

By Jean Hansen  
Allan & Ding Wicker's House  
Saturday, December 4, 2010

### PRESENT:

Sunny & Jean Hansen, Neal & Marian Johns, Ted & Sue Kalil, Jay Lawrence, Bill Neill, John & Anna Page, Vicki Hill, Dave McFarland, Ron Ross & Nancy McLean, Nan Savage, Steve Marschke & Debbie Miller-Marschke, Ana Romero, George & Anne Stoll, Bob & Sue Jaussaud, Bob Jacoby, Emmett & Ruth Harder, Allan & Ding Wicker, Mal & Jean Roode and Gen Wentworth

### CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:18 p.m. by Marian Johns and Vicki Hill

### REGRETS:

Marilyn Martin and Dave Given

### ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes.

### REPORTS:

Membership:

No report

Newsletter:

No report

Treasurer:

Bob Jacoby reported that as of the end of November, we have \$3,171.00 in the treasury and passed around the most recent financial statement. Bob noted that this might be a good opportunity to make a donation, which was discussed at the last meeting.

### Website:

1) Debbie noted that she had problems updating the website in October. She was able to meet with the man who does our web-hosting. Debbie said that he worked on her computer while she was present and it turned out that the problem was with her computer. He also recommended that if we upgrade the software, to use a Microsoft product. Currently, Debbie is using Microsoft Front Page and will upgrade to the current version. At this point, Bob Jaussaud motioned to approve \$100.00 for Debbie to use as needed



**Cooks, Ding & Gen a Work**

for software/training, etc. Emmett Harder seconded that motion; motion approved.

2) Debbie said that she must renew desertexplorers.org address by March. This costs the Desert Explorers of the Mojave River Valley Museum \$100.00 per year. Bob Jacoby said that he has been having trouble with some links. Debbie replied that she appreciates feedback on the website and the members are very good about notifying her of problems.

### Museum:

No report: Now that Bob & Nancy Dodds have permanently moved away, we no longer have a liaison with the Museum. If anyone wishes to attend meetings in Barstow, reports would be welcome. Allan Wicker also suggested that we could e-mail the Museum, Pat Schoffstall in particular, for Museum news.

### Trips and other events:

Mal Roode passed around his trip list, noting that we still need trips for June, July and August.

1) December 10, 11, 12,



**Enjoying the Feast**



**Nan & Jean**

Panamint/Death Valleys-Leaders Bill & Barbara Gossett

2 January 21-28, Quartzsite, AZ – Combo trip D.E. & M.O.E

- 3) February 11-14 – M.O.E. Southeastern NV day trip – Leader – Dan Messersmith
  - 4) February 19 – Fenner Valley #2 – Leader – Mal Roode
  - 5) April 11 – M.O.E. Willow Beach Campout and Day Trips
  - 6) May 14-15 – Mountain Meadows Massacre site – Leader Emmett Harder
  - 7) May 19-23 – M.O.E. Bradshaw Mountains Exploration
  - 8) June 28-July 3 – M.O.E. Old Fashioned 4th of July in Torrey, UT – Leader Dan Messersmith
  - 9) August 17-22 – M.O.E. Kaibab Plateau High-Country Camp
  - 10) September 18-24 – M.O.E. Arizona Strip – Poverty Camp
- Tentatively Planned Trips:

- 1) San Andreas Fault #2 (Carrizo Plain) – Leaders Bob Jacoby and Nan Savage
- Rendezvous:  
Possible locations for next year's Rendezvous were discussed. Pioneertown was dropped from consideration for the Rendezvous, due to various concerns,



**Neal Johns**

## CURRENT DESERT EXPLORERS WITH E-MAIL

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John Henderson	jhenderson6@socal.rr.com	Robert Peltzman	bopeltzman@aol.com	Bob Younger	bobyonger@verizon.net
Brett Henrich	bhenrich@gmail.com	John Perko	jperko003@earthlink.net		



**Bob Jaussaud & Emmett Harder**

such as no place to have the banquet, since the restaurant there won't close to the public for the Saturday night festivities. Bob Oliver checked out another locale in Joshua Tree, the Sportsman's RV Park, which does have a place for a ban-

quet. Allan Wicker noted that we could consider a group campout in Joshua Tree, since the camaraderie and trips are the main attractions of the Rendezvous anyway. Shoshone and Goffs were subsequently mentioned as good candidates for the Rendezvous and we came up with Plan A and Plan B as follows:

1) Plan A: Bob Jaussaud motioned and Emmett Harder seconded that motion, to authorize Debbie Miller-Marschke to investigate the possibility of having the Rendezvous at Goffs. We would have to receive approval from the Board of Directors (can do this via e-mail) and contingent upon Board approval, a \$500 donation to Goffs would be included. We would like to



**Anne & George Stoll**

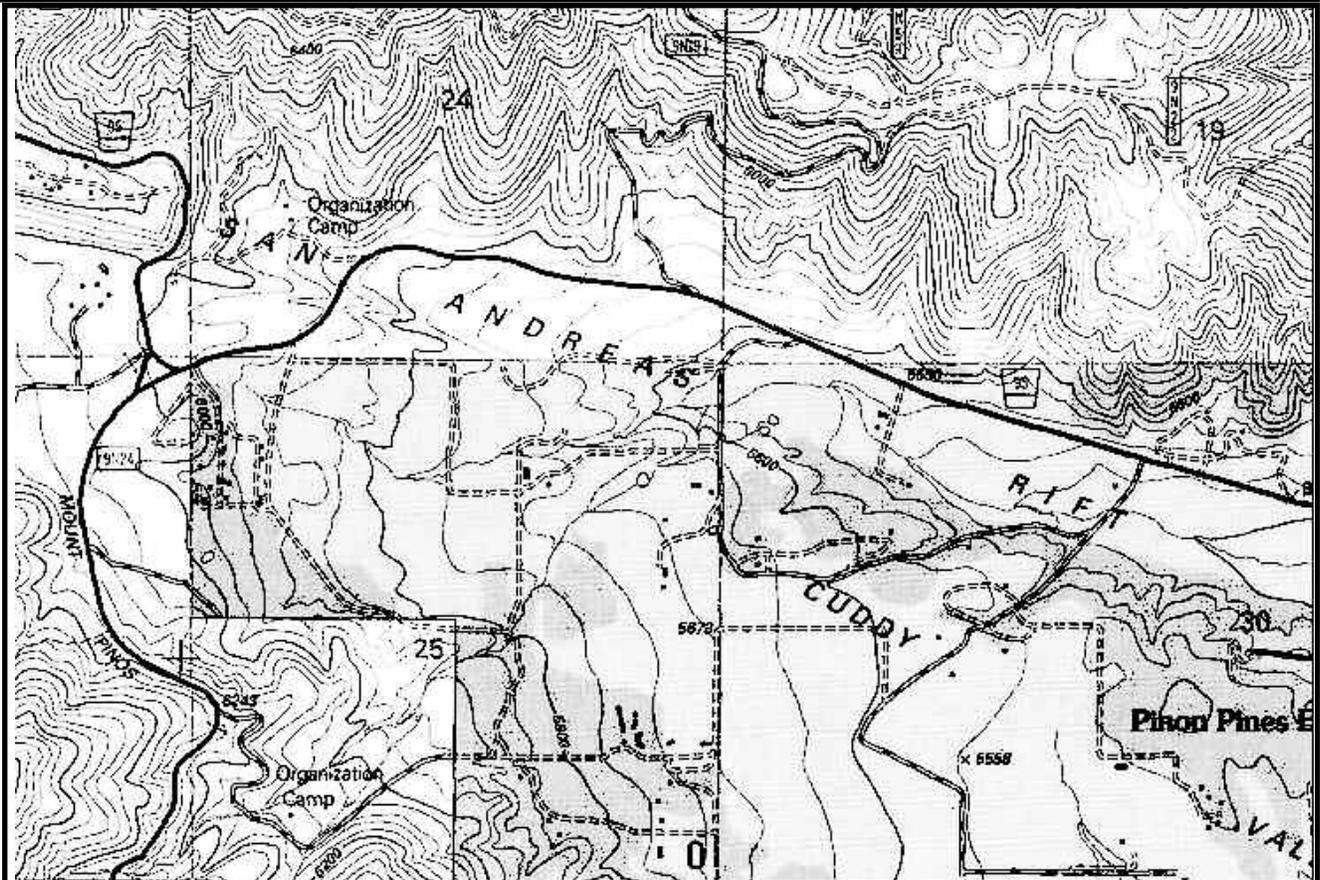
have Dennis as speaker for Saturday night. Motion approved.

- 2) Plan B: Shoshone
- 3) In either case, we could have the Rib

### Where am I?

Here are the location and winners for Dec.: Beverly & Gene Stoops, Allan Schoenherr, Jams Proffitt, Mal Roode. Location: Just east of Randsburg.

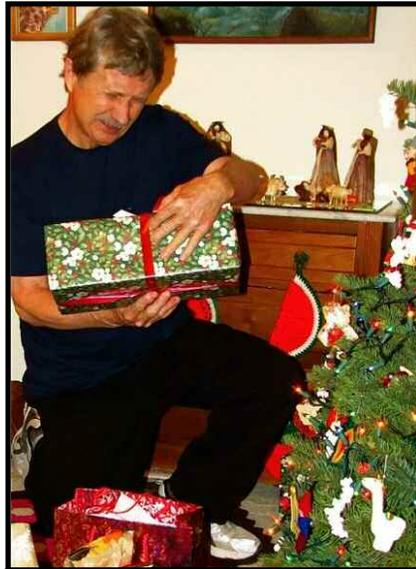
Bob Peltzman is lost again. "Where am I? Bob went right, when everyone else went left, and is completely lost. Send your guess as to where he is to Bob at bopeltzman@aol.com (with the word lost in the subject), and he will send me the names of people who correctly guess the location along with a different 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".



Company cater, as they have traveled long distances for our events twice; once in Amboy and most recently, Nipton.

4) Silent Auction: Bob Jaussaud noted that the Silent Auction is important to the DE, as it enables us to have a surplus. We need someone to oversee the Silent Auction, basically a "baby-sitter." Ted Kalil inquired as to how much money is typically raised at these auctions. Bob Jacoby replied that last year we raised over \$700.00, which was more than in some previous years. Bob Jaussaud and Steve Marschke then volunteered themselves to take charge of the Silent Auction at the next Rendezvous.

5) Emmett Harder suggested that we could also raise funds through a "treasure hunt." Neal could be in charge of that. Marian said that she will plan with Neal and Emmett for this additional fundraiser for the Rendezvous.



**Sunny Hansen**

for minutes used and shipping costs. We do receive 20 minutes free per month with the satellite telephone

4) Vicki Hill mentioned the Amargosa Conservancy as a good candidate for a

donation from our organization, saying that they are doing good things. Discussion on this subject ensued, with one member noting that since we are donating to Goffs, perhaps we should not donate to anyone else this year.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held Saturday, February 12, at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Neal & Marian Johns (the new house). As always, this will be a pot-luck.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

## Next Meeting

**February 12, 2011**

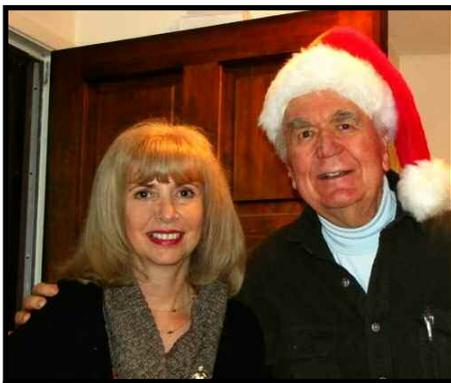
**11:00 a.m. Potluck**

**at**

**The Johns'**

**13825 Lytle Grove Lane**

**Phone: 909-473-1916**



**Anna and John Page**

## Directions to the Johns'

**13825 Lytle Grove Lane**

Other Business:

1) Neal mentioned that several Desert Explorers had received a bogus e-mail from someone claiming to be Jim Proffitt, asking for money. He asked for anyone who received such an e-mail to raise their hands and almost everyone in the room raised their hands. Neal said that under no circumstances should anyone respond to this e-mail, let alone send money.

2) Allan Wicker said that someone left a Desert Explorers cap at his house and urged its owner to retrieve it.

3) Nan Savage reminded us that the satellite telephone is always available for trip leaders and that she had it with her at this meeting. She noted that it can also be shipped, if needed. It is also available for members' private trips, but in that case, we would need to be reimbursed

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

### 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 - - - - - Kingman - KE6RFR  
 Herb Clark - - - - - Mission Viejo - KF6EAU  
 Joseph A. Daly - - - - - Saugus - KG6GCW  
 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

All Christmas photos by Allan Wicker

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!**

**Welcome**  
John Henderson Santa Clarita

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

**Welcome Back**  
Betty Wallin Desert Hot Springs  
Al Walter San Diego  
Peter Austiin Diamond Bar

**M.O.E. Trip Schedule**  
Jan. 21-28 Quartzsite Messersmith/Taylor  
Feb. 11-14 Southeastern NV. Messersmith/Taylor  
March 11-14 Yuma Messersmith/Taylor  
April 8-11 Willow Beach Messersmith/Taylor  
May 19-23 Prescott Messersmith/Taylor  
Jun. 28 - July 3 Torrey UT Messersmith/Taylor

**Desert Explorers Trip Schedule**

Jan. 21-28	Quartzsite	MOE/DE
Feb. 19-20	Piute Mts.	Roode
May 14	Museum BBQ	MRVM
May 13-15	Utah	Harder

**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**

- The Mojave River Valley Museum has two sections (groups) that explore the desert environment (Museum membership required):
  - 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.
  - 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.
- You **MUST** be a member of the Mojave River Valley Museum to attend a trip. Membership applications are included in every newsletter.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. Its 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:**

- 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.)
- 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.
- 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.
- Support your other leaders' trips (by attending) or the Trail Gods will get you.
- Maximum loss (vehicles or people) is 10% per trip.
- 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.

- Bringing a dog on a trip requires the **ADVANCE PERMISSION** of the Leader!
- Dogs will be leashed/confined during happy hour & mealtimes.
- People with dogs will be expected to clean up any poop in the campsite.
- 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
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Sunny Hansen	Glyphologist	P.O. Bx. 290729	Phelan	California	92329	760-868-5316	760-217-7555
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Sue Jaussaud	Chairchick Vieja	P. O. Box 789	Lone Pine	California	93545-0789	760-876-9227	joeso@lonopinetcv.com
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Neal Johns	Chm. Emeritus, Aridologist, Asst. Ed.	13825 Lytle Grove Ln.	Lytle Creek	California	92358	909-887-1549	aridneal@gmail.com
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Steve Marschke	The Quiet Man	4904 Reynolds Rd.	Torrance	California	90505	310-543-1862	951-316-6545
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John Page	Trip Coordinator Emeritus, Aridologist	3675 Gingerwood Ct.	Thousand Oaks	California	91360	805-493-1128	805-660-1218
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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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 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  
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!!!**