



# The Rooster

JANUARY 2008

[www.inlandempireoffroad.org](http://www.inlandempireoffroad.org)

A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

*President:*

*Jim Kastle*

*(909) 584-7003*

*Vice President:*

*Dave Huggard*

*(909) 864-2676*

*Treasurer:*

*Walt Fisher*

*(951) 849-5403*

*Secretary:*

*Melissa Kastle*

*(951) 683-4908*

*Reporter:*

*Paul Kastle*

*(951) 683-4908*

*Board of Directors:*

*Cindy Huggard*

*(909) 864-2676*

*Dave Medlin*

*(909) 681-4547*

*Doug and Kris*

*Schellinger*

*(951) 681-5486*

*Mark and Tanya*

*Rhoades*

*(760) 561-1165*

## Christmas / New Years

For Melissa and me, the Christmas trip to the dunes started the day after Christmas. We were glad to know that Jerry and Linda Tranthom had been there since about the 22nd, and that lots of other members would be arriving that same day. My Dad was leaving Big Bear that morning as well. After moving cars around and hooking up the trailer we were on our way. We arrived at the dunes about 4:00, and found a very large camp with the Tranthams, Steve Porter, The Schellingers, Bacon, Bergers, Grossmanns, Stumps, Doug Becker, the Fords, and likely others who I can't recall already in camp. We unpacked in the daylight and my Dad arrived soon after.

On Thursday morning, we had an unusual goal. My Dad and I had been watching a Mendeola transmission on e-bay for almost a week, and it was to end at 11 AM. We made plans to head for the Brawley McDonalds for breakfast and an internet connection. We found that some bidding had taken place, but the reserve still had not been

*(Continued on page 2)*



**WITH CLUB MEMBERS AT THE DUNES FOR TWO WEEKS, THERE WAS LOTS OF FUN TO BE HAD.**

## What's New

- ◆ MLK weekend is right around the corner, on January 18-21. Some club members will be at Wash 6 at Glamis, and others will be at Dumont. Check the website for more details.
- ◆ The Fords will once again be spending a week in Glamis over Presidents Day, so they will be at Wash 6 from February 8th to 18th, so make your plans now for another long trip mid season.
- ◆ Steve and Janice Tharp are the latest members to substantially upgrade their sandrail after riding with the club. They recently acquired a Suspensions Unlimited mid-engine LS1 car. See a picture on page 2.
- ◆ Dean Carver is just about ready to debut his newly built car with a Shortstar and Mendeola as well. Dean hopes to have it ready by MLK weekend.

# Calendar of Events

**January 9th:**

Annual Election Meeting at the Denny's on Alabama in Redlands, 7:00 PM.

**January 18th-21st:**

MLK Dune Cleanup Weekend at Glamis, Wash 6.

**February 8th-18th:**

Presidents week at Glamis, Wash 6. Barry Baker is planning a Dumont trip for the 15th –18th as well.

**February 13th:**

Club Meeting at the Denny's on Alabama in Redlands

## January

| S  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## February

| S  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |    |

(Continued from page 1)

met. We planned a maximum bid amount, then decided on a higher last minute bid to try to meet the reserve and “win” the trans. Almost an hour after breakfast we sat excitedly watching the laptop screen in the parking lot as we placed our bid with 30 seconds remaining and were the winning bidders at a price of \$4995.

**THE SPAGHETTI DINNER WENT WELL, WITH ALMOST 50 MEMBERS.**

Besides being willing to fund this endeavor, my Dad was also even willing to make the trip to Colorado in his Beetle to pick the trans up. We called the seller (since he had e-mailed us his phone number) and made plans to meet after the dune trip. We will use the transmission to upgrade my car to be equipped like my Dad's, and should help continue our transmission luck. By selling my Megasand, the total expense will be less than if we waited until we needed a Mendeola and paid full price then.



**BURNING A CHRISTMAS TREE.**

Back to the duning, on Friday we went for some great rides and had dinner at Jeannie's. More club members arrived, and we ended up with quite a large camp. The washes were a bit of a maze, but we were able to lead Dale and Rebecca in on Friday night during the height of the crowd. On Saturday we had

some more great rides, and explored the dunes south of hill 3. I got the chance to have Walt as a passenger for the first time in my 15 years of driving a sandrail. We ended the day with our Spaghetti dinner, with plenty of noodles, sauce, garlic bread, and goodies for the almost 50 people that joined us. Another Saturday highlight was the arrival of Steve and Janice Tharp's car, a very nice mid engine Suspensions Unlimited car that serves as yet another example of the ways this club can cost new members money. The car looks great, and Steve enjoyed driving it on the rides that followed. On Sunday we had a very long and fast ride in the morning that reached



**THE THARPS BEAUTIFUL NEW CAR.**

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

almost to hill 5 before winding its way back for a break at Olds. After returning from the ride, I got a cell phone message that through the network of members at the high school we had my transmission sold. Melissa and I went and cruised the vendors that afternoon, and went to Yuma the next day to take the dogs on an adventure. During Monday's ride Bill Martine unfortunately broke a transmission at hill 4, which gave Barry Baker's car a chance to shine. He towed Bill back through the dunes seemingly effortlessly. Then the wind picked up somewhat and we didn't go for any other rides, besides my Dad running to Big Bear to get the Beetle in anticipation of his trip to Colorado. We didn't even stay up for New Years, as with the 1st falling on Tuesday many members had headed for home and it was quite chilly outside. We heard the fireworks welcoming 2008 from the warmth of our trailer. On the 1st, we packed up and my Dad headed for Colorado. We then loaded up and headed for home. With as many people as were on the trip and its long duration I am sure others will have more stories to add. -P.J.

# Walt's New Years Weekend

What ever got into me? I got everything all loaded up Friday evening, except the stuff I forgot, and headed to Glamis @ 6:00. While going through the Salton Sea area, I got a call, seems we didn't have any Cheese for the spaghetti, and after a quick stop in Brawly, I was glad I called Jeff for an escort me into camp, oh what a maze. The Saturday ride was scheduled for 9:00 and I was ready.

We left camp going out the back of wash 6, and as I could see that PJ was testing his "spin and slide" techniques out, I decided to have some fun too, after a couple of sippid-dos-daus and do-dads, a little hip-hop jump, then the last right turn.

When the sand cloud I was sitting in finally settled, I watched my left front tire rolling in across the dunes, trying to catch Jim and PJ to let them know that I was no longer attached to it, and probably needed a little help.(A spindle had broken) Whata group. They all stayed with me, as I hobbled back to camp. (I getting pretty good at dunning on three wheels) Everyone with an empty seat offered.



**WALT'S MINOR TIRE ISSUE DIDN'T KEEP HIM OFF THE RIDE..**

I choose PJ, and it only took a couple of dunes to figure out how I learned how to drive one these contraptions. On the after noon ride I was taunted with a overwhelming amount of HORSEPOWER, with this being my first ride with Jeff Oliver. (I gotta get me one of those) and the scarier thing is, the kid drives just like this ol-man!

The Spaghetti dinner was great, with plenty of delicious food. (all my wives are good cooks)

Steve and Janice have a real pretty new little red wagon, with flames on the sides. (Suspensions Unlimited, LS-1, Mendeola, dual shocks, ect,ect)

I had to get help to push the buggy into the trailer, because with only three wheels, it just wasn't going into the trailer on its own, and headed home Sunday morning.

Even though I was broken, everyone in camp made this another great trip to the dunes.

THANX, The hitch-hicker Walt





Complete RV Service & Repair

Extended Warranties · Generators · "Mor-Ryde" · Levelers · Electrical  
Gear Vendors · Banks & U.S. Gear

295 N. Hermosa Avenue (909) 824-9674  
Colton, California 92324 Fax: (909) 825-3933  
Email: acaciaryv@cs.com

*Sport Trailers*



271 South "I" Street  
San Bernardino, 92410

KEN KORMILO  
Fax 909-888-0133

# Veterans Day By Jim

Editor's Note- I received this article shortly before Thanksgiving, but with the commotion of Thanksgiving articles I forgot to include it in last month's newsletter. Since most of us didn't make this trip, hopefully it will be better to read the details late than never. It's always nice to read about club members trips to the dunes.

## Veteran's Day at Glamis

I arrived at Wash 6 around 9:00 P.M. Thursday to find Jeff Oliver's truck and trailer and a small campfire. Jeff had told me earlier he'd be asleep by 8:00 so I didn't bother him. I quickly set up the strobes and within minutes Dale and Rebecca arrived. It was a rather quiet night and I slept great.

Friday morning we took the three buggies for a morning ride. The sand near Olds and Comp was pretty rough, but south of Olds it was smooth. While working our way back towards camp, I found a pretty good sized hole and bent my car's left steering arm, causing some severe toe out, and making it nearly impossible to turn right. It made for an interesting ride back to camp. Steve Tharp arrived while we were on our ride. We rolled out the workbench and with everyone's help, soon had my car fixed. This was the first time my new car needed a repair. That's quite a change from my last one!

Soon Doug Becker and his friend Chuck arrived. Before dark, Chuck's sons and his brother-in-law arrived, as did Gary and Young Stump, and Dean and Joanne Schellinger. What we thought would be a very small camp was now pretty good sized.

A word about Chuck and his family. Chuck is a long time friend of Doug, and he used to go to Glamis in the 1970's with a turbo Corvair sandrail... He now has a VERY trick Rhino. He and his sons, Jeremy and Justin, are a great fit with our club, immediately offering help in any circumstance. Justin has a beautiful new 39 foot Weekend Warrior. Jeremy and Justin have two wheelers.

I had an electrical short in the buggy Friday night, and Jeremy was right there to help fix it, in fact, he actually found the short and taped it up. In addition, the family business is a diesel injector shop, and with the ever-increasing number of diesels in the club, they are a great source of information. Based on a conversation with Chuck, I'm going to start running an additive in my diesel fuel in hopes of lessening the effect of low sulfur fuel on my injector pumps. Bill is Chuck's brother-in-law, and has a Rhino, and his son has a two wheeler. They also fit in well with the club. I hope they'll camp with us again.

(Note: The Grossmanns joined after the trip, and were out for Thanksgiving and New Years and are looking



THE VETERANS DAY GROUP ON A RIDE BREAK.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)  
at Sandrails.)

We went for an uneventful sunset ride and Steve, Jeff, and I headed off to Pizza at Jeannie's. As always, it was great food and conversation. We had a campfire and then to bed.

Saturday we headed off for an 8:00 A.M. ride with the buggies, two Rhinos and some bikes. Shortly before Olds, Steve's left trailing arm broke. In typical IEOR fashion everyone pitched in and we pulled the broken part, took it back to camp, welded it back together, and reinstalled it for the short ride back to camp. That ended Steve's driving as the repair was temporary, and the car needs at least a CV boot and probably a CV.



**A TORN TRAILING ARM DOESN'T STOP AN INLAND EMPIRE RIDE FOR LONG.**

Saturday afternoon the buggies and one of Chuck's son's bikes went for another ride beyond hills 3 and 4. The sand was nice and smooth and we were moving along pretty well when I entered a bowl and discovered a two foot wall of sand just a few feet into the bowl. I hit it and was

pleased not to have bent my steering arm. Most of us managed to miss it or hit it without damage, but Doug hit the brakes and his car slid sideways into the wall, causing it to roll. Doug was hanging by his seatbelt, and gas and oil were leaking, so we got Doug out quickly to find one of his gloves was dripping blood. He had cut his left hand quite deeply between his little and ring fingers. Gary immediately bandaged the hand and it didn't bleed another drop until we got back to camp. The car came through with no damage except the whip and mirror. Chuck drove it back to camp. Chuck then drove Doug to the hospital in Brawley. It turns out Doug was the emergency room's 100th patient of the weekend. 17 stitches, but no broken bones, but a lot of swelling, and about 6 hours and Doug was back in camp. Jeff and Steve headed home Saturday afternoon.

Dean and Joanne didn't think she was up to an IEOR paced ride, so Saturday morning, he somehow he convinced her to take the quads to Mammoth Wash, which must be twenty miles north on the railroad road. They then cut across to the canal, and back to Sweet Marie's and then camp. It had to be a 60+ mile ride. Kudos to Joanne!

Saturday evening several of us went to Pizza. Dean tried to make up for the endurance test by surprising Joanne with some nachos. She seemed to appreciate the gesture and except for the obvious sore thumb, seemingly wasn't bothered at all by the long ride. Pizza two nights in a row could quickly spoil me. Why bring food?

Sunday we went for more rides, all uneventful, and some headed home. Doug, Chuck, Dale and Rebecca, and I stayed Sunday night. It rained quite a long time during the night, and Monday morning there was nearly half an inch of water in the trash cans outside the trailer. Dale, Rebecca and I couldn't resist the temptation of a dust free ride, so we headed off beyond hills 3 and 4 again. No dust, but the ruts from earlier were now hard because of the rain and it was a rather rough ride. Interestingly enough, even though I was not using the GPS to navigate, we entered the bowl in which Doug rolled in the exact same way. This time both cars avoided the wall. It's odd to me that with all the sand and bowls out there we would follow the exact same track two days later.

We returned to camp, loaded up, and are anxiously awaiting Thanksgiving. -Jim

# Happy Birthday!

- Michael Utterback 1/5
- Matthew Cole 1/9
- Jeannie Le Blanc 1/14
- Walt Fisher 1/14
- Steve Soto 1/15
- Paul Kastle 1/22
- Tanya Rhodes 1/25
- Heather Beard 1/25
- Susan Martine 1/28
- Debbie Berger 1/29
- Kadie Larson 1/31

# For Sale



2000 Weekend Warrior FTB 2600:  
 Full options, 45" TV included, Onan Generator, fully stocked, lots of extras.  
 T-Top Buggy World Sandrail:  
 4 seats, 2332 engine, close 3rd and 4th trans, chrome wheels, newer paddles.

\$20,000 for all Contact: Lance (760)464-3727 remaxinps@aol.com

**BAD MEDICINE**  
*Motorsports*  
 Sandrail repair, maintenance, upgrades and fabrication.  
**760-774-1032**  
 Call for 24/7 Drop Off  
 72216 North Shore Street Unit 101  
 Thousand Palms, Ca. 92276  
**Jeff Smith-Owner**

Lance R. Robutz  
**Re/max Real Estate Consultants**  
 760-320-0200 Direct Office  
 760-464-3727 Direct Cell  
 760-837-1470 Direct E-Fax  
 Please visit our website at [www.realpalmspringsestates.com](http://www.realpalmspringsestates.com)

*Mama Jeanie's* **PIZZA**  
 "Home of the original Breakfast Pizza"  
**5775 E. US Hwy 78**  
**Glamis, CA 92227**  
**(760) 344-9090**  
**B. Jeannie Le Blanc, Manager**  
 Look for Inland Empire Offroad at Mama Jeanie's on Saturday nights

**Kar Tek Off Road**  
 2871 Ragle Way Corona, CA 92879  
 (951) 737-7223

**CAR CRAFT**  
 TURBO KITS  
 SANDRAIL PARTS  
 MACHINE SHOP  
 FULL SERVICE  
 1900 E. LA CADENA DEL RIVERBEND, CA 92501 (760) 731-4400

We would like to thank Jim Kastle and Walt Fisher for submitting articles for this month's newsletter. We sure would like to hear from you and enjoy a different perspective on recent trips. We would also like to apologize for not including the Veterans day article in the last newsletter. Finally, we would like to introduce Bad Medicine Motorsports as a new business sponsor. They have done some work for Jeff Oliver, and he arranged for them to become a business sponsor. Thanks Jeff. -P.J. and Melissa Kastle



# Inland Empire Offroad Association

P.O. Box 132411  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

## Membership Application

Please Print

Birthday

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Would you like your name and address put into our club directory? (The directory is given to club members only)

YES NO

---

If you would like your business included in the directory please include the information below:

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

As with any organization there are guidelines we operate within. Please read and abide by the following:

1. NO FIREWORKS ALLOWED WITHIN CAMP BOUNDRIES
2. DOGS MUST BE KEPT UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIMES (BLM law)
3. ON A RIDE, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VEHICLE AHEAD OF YOU AND THE VEHICLE BEHIND YOU. If they stop, you stop and wait for the group to return to you. This prevents separation and in this manner we never leave a member in the dunes. Remember, it's easier to find you if you stay still: "a moving target is harder to hit"
4. PLEASE OBSERVE THE "RIDE RATINGS" ON THE CLUB BOARD AND SELECT THOSE RIDES YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN. If you wish to lead a ride, put the time and type of ride you want to lead on the board and then stick to that time. No passing on rides (except #6 rides). You can always change your place in line at a break or if you are waved on by the driver ahead of you.
5. REMEMBER, WE ARE A GROUP OF FRIENDS who share a common interest in riding in the desert. Always keep in mind how your actions affect the other members.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the club? \_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues are \$35 per family. Each 12 month membership includes a monthly newsletter. Send your check or money order to:

Inland Empire Offroad Association  
P.O. Box 132411  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Inland Empire Offroad Association  
3457 Carlsbad Way  
Riverside, CA 92506

