



The Rooster

FEBRUARY 2008

www.inlandempireoffroad.org

A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

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MLK Dune Cleanup Weekend

We missed everyone over the Christmas-New Year gathering, so we were all excited about starting 2008 with a good weekend. Our friends the Loer's (Ed, Janel and Hayden) came out with us. It was Friday, 3pm and I had just hooked up the trailer and was testing all the lights when I noticed my headlights were not working. I was in a panic and asked Edward to come over and help find the problem. I had the dash apart when Edward arrived with test light in hand.

After 10 mins we discovered some burnt wires at a connection junction. With some wire nuts and electrical tape we were back in business and on the road by 4pm. We found camp around 7:30 and completed the circle. We noticed several folks around the fire already. Many were bachelors that weekend, including Jim Kastle, Doug Becker and Jeff Oliver. The rest of the group consisted of the Tranthams, Porters, Fords, Tharps and Justin Grossmann and his girlfriend Katlin. After unloading and setting up, we sat around the fire a little and hit the hay. Wash 6 was unusually quiet compared to previous weekends. After breakfast the club headed over to the Clean Up Tent and filled many bags of trash. (Some day we hope not to be able to find any

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THE GROUP FROM ONE OF THE RIDES.

What's New

- ◆ MLK weekend had the largest turnout for that trip in a number of years. It looks like everybody had lots of fun and helped pick up lots of trash, and fortunately the temperature was warmer than last year.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ To avoid the long drive to Glamis, the Baker family will be headed to Dumont for the Presidents Day weekend and would enjoy the company of other members.
- ◆ The BLM has announced that the fees for next season will remain the same if purchased ahead of time, but will cost more if purchased at the dunes. Read more on page 4.

Calendar of Events

February 8th-18th:

Presidents week at Glamis, Wash 6.

February 13th:

Club Meeting

February 15th-18th:

Barry Baker is planning a Dumont trip.

March 12th:

Club Meeting

March 21st-30th:

Easter weekend and spring break at Gordon's Well. Plan on our second annual adult easter egg hunt!

February

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March

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trash!!!) We earned a few raffle tickets and gave them away to the Fords and Tranthams and wished them luck. We took a quad/buggy ride with the kids and the Loer's and headed toward Hill 3 and then to Oldsmobile Hill. Edward, Hayden and Jeremy found a nice dune to hone their jumping skills. We also



DISCUSSION DURING A RIDE BREAK.

enjoyed watching the kids ride thru the bigger bowls. They have turned into really good quad riders. Bringing them to the dunes since



THE HAGENS AND LOERS AT OLDSMOBILE.

they were 6 months old has paid off. The weather could not have been better, with clear blue skies, temps in the low 70's and no wind at all. That afternoon Linda Trantham came by the RV with a whole bag of goodies she won at the raffle. We had told her the tickets were for them but they insisted that we accept the bag. Thank you Jerry and Linda. The evening cooled down

quickly and we spent some quality time around the fire. Justin shot off some big fireworks. Candy and hot peanuts were passed around several times until we all retired to the warm RV's. Sunday was another picture perfect day. Jim led a group of 6 buggies on a fast buggy ride. All of us came home in one piece and just in time for the 2 NFL playoff games. Go Chargers!!!!!!!!!! 3 hours later and bummed out we squeezed



ED LOER JUMPING.

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in another quad/buggy ride to Hill 3 with the kids. On the way back Hayden took a bad spill and rolled his quad. He was shaken up but fine. The bike on the other hand sustained a bent steering stem and handle bars. Also the frame was tweaked. We made it home just before sun down. That evening was spent around the fire talking about the 2 big games. I guess its--Go Giants!!!! now. We torched 2 Christmas trees and one by one went to bed. Monday we packed up as the rest of the club headed out on a morning ride. No traffic over the mountain and we were home by 2pm. Hope to see a bigger crowd on Presidents Day weekend.

-The Fallbrook Four and Rudy the Duning Dachshund



SUNSET OVER THE CLUB CAMP.

MLK at Anza Borrego

The Schellingers and the Bacons decided on a low key relaxing weekend in Anza for MLK this year. Doug and I arrived early Friday afternoon, just in time for lunch at the Travertine Grill.

A quick note here, the Travertine Grill is located at the southwest corner of Hwy 22, and Hwy 86, in Salton City. During our weekend we had the opportunity to have breakfast, lunch, and dinner there. Everything was great! The place is nicely outfitted, and the food was fantastic. For those of you on your way to the dunes via Hwy 86 it is well worth the stop.

Anyway, after lunch Doug and I did a little riding and exploring. We scrounged some firewood and just toiled around looking at the sights. Saturday morning Mona and Kris arrived, and after breakfast at Travertine Grill, we headed off on a ride through some of the canyons in the area. We were well back in a canyon, stopped looking at some rocks and things, when a young man came by on a quad and said they had another young man just up the trail who had crashed and broken his arm and could we help get him back to camp? Of course! We didn't go 100 yards, but around two corners, and found this young man lying in the middle of the trail. Funny, they were that close and we didn't hear a thing!

Kris got right to stabilizing him. His wrist looked bad, definitely broken, and he was hurting. She got him wrapped up and we got him up on his feet and in to our Ranger. Mona and Kris drove Doug's Ranger, and Doug rode one of the quads, while one of the other guys rode the injured guy's bike back. While we were attending to the injured one of the other guys there rode on ahead and got the young man's parents. His dad met us about half way back with his truck, so we got him out of the Ranger and in to the truck, then followed them back to pick up Doug. We wished him luck and got back to our ride.

We spent the rest of the morning cruising canyons and washes and made it back to camp for lunch.

After lunch we went on another ride, this time down one of the washes towards the Salton Sea. As we drove down the wash I noticed an odd colored area off to the left, so we rode over to see what it was. We found a small area of oddly colored and shaped rocks, some appearing to be rocks within other rocks. Absolutely no reason why this would be there, it matched nothing else in the area. Very odd, but very interesting!



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KEN KORMILO
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Sunday dawned bright and sunny and we were ready for an epic ride. Kris wanted to explore the mud hills so off we went. After an hour or so we ended up at the Pumpkin Patch where we saw more people there than ever before. We left the Pumpkin Patch and cruised through the mud hills for a while ending up back at the Pumpkin Patch, but we didn't stop this time. We went on by and headed out on another trail. After crossing some very rocky terrain we came to an interesting looking canyon that oddly beckoned to me.

As we started up this canyon I noticed the trail was used, but not as much as most. We continued on as the canyon got tighter and tighter, and rougher, a lot of rocks. We ended up in an area that was tighter than a bull's butt in fly season! We had to turn around but both Doug and I rolled front tires off the rims trying to get back out. Did I mention it was tight? After a little tire repair we finally made it back out of the canyon, but Mona and Kris decided I wasn't allowed to lead us in to any canyons the rest of the trip. We cruised down a wash for a while until we came across a trail we recognized. After turning on to the trail and going a mile or so we crested a ridge and could see camp about a mile away. Both Mona and Kris were cheering and doing the happy dance! We finally got back to camp late in the afternoon, just in time to clean up and go to the Travertine for dinner. All in all an exciting, but very relaxing weekend.

Mike Bacon



THAT TRAIL DOESN'T LOOK SO NARROW.

BLM Fee Update

The following information was sent out in an American Sand Association Press release. It looks like we will definitely want to be buying our passes ahead of time for next season, and for weekly passes it will definitely be worth buying them before you get to the dunes.

During the 2008/2009 season, dunes permits will remain at the same price if purchased off-site. Permits will continue to be \$25 per week or \$90 per season if purchased at a vendor outside the ISDRA, over the internet, over the phone, or at an off-highway vehicle (OHV) show. If a visitor chooses to purchase a permit upon arrival in the ISDRA, the cost will be \$40 per week or \$120 per season. This on-site adjustment will allow additional revenues to be allocated towards ever increasing recreation area expenses. The on-site adjustment is also in-line with fees at other BLM recreation areas such as Dumont Dunes, CA, Sand Mtn., NV, and St. Anthony Dunes, ID.

Visitors are strongly encouraged to keep updated on changes by visiting:
www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra.html and
www.isdrart.org.

The Other Side Of Camp

New Years at Glamis

We arrived at Wash 6 on the morning of the 26th to find more people in camp than we are used to. Recently we have been one of the first few to arrive, but this time we pulled in and found the Tranthams, Fords, Porters, Olivers, Huggards, and Stumps already there. So for the first time in years we went over to the "other" side of camp. It turned out to be a nice change seeing the sunrise and sunset from a different angle. We'll have to try some other locations in the future.

We also found the weather to be a lot cooler, and a little windier than it has been. Sweatshirts and jackets were definitely the attire of the day. We rode around for a couple of days without incident as more people arrived at camp. In the end it was one of the bigger camps we have had in some time, by my estimations.

On Friday, Doug, Ashley and I went for an afternoon ride ending up at Olds to watch the action for a while. Lots of crazies there, but no bad incidents. As the sun was starting to go down we headed off towards camp. About half way back I lost Doug in my mirror, so we circled around and there he was in a small bowl giving me the "broken" sign. Turns out he broke his drive belt. This is the Achilles Heal of our Rangers, but we are prepared! We both carry extra belts and can change them within a half hour or so. This time actually took a little longer as the "strings" in the belt had wound themselves in, around, and through his main drive clutch, so we had to remove the clutch to get everything out. 45 minutes and we were back running again, and made it back to camp with time to spare before dark.

The next day AJ and his friend Jess had to go home. AJ would be back the next day with Mona, who had to work the three days between holidays, and his girlfriend Kendal. Doug, Kris, Ashley, and I all went for a Ranger ride that afternoon ending up again at Olds for some "spectating". While sitting on the ridge above Olds, Kris said "Hey, that looks like Jim's car!" Sure enough Jim was leading the buggy ride right through the Olds basin and up, over the dunes back towards camp. I snapped a couple of pictures of the entire IEOA lineup going up over the dunes out of Olds. PJ has put a couple of these shots on the website. Check 'em out and see if you can find yourself. Saturday saw Mona, AJ and Kendal arrive, and after a day of riding, the epic IEOA Spaghetti Dinner. As usual the food was great, and the company even better. Although I have to say I was very disappointed I only got two of Mona's deviled eggs. I know, I know, some of you didn't get that many, or any at all, but I'm married to her, darnit! A nice, big fire capped a perfect evening.

Sunday found us working on AJ's car. It seems 35 years is about the useful life of Corvair carburetors, and no matter what I did to modify, cannibalize, or jury-rig them, they were done. Sorry AJ, I tried. With his car not running AJ and Kendal decided to go home and spend New Years with Kendal's dad.

Monday dawned and the Great Ranger Pair-A-Dice run was on! After the club buggy ride left camp Doug, Mona, Ashley, and I loaded up the Rangers with coolers and gas cans and headed out

to Pair-A-Dice down at Gordon's Well. We duned over to Olds then decided to play it safe and followed the road out of Olds to Sand Hwy and headed towards Sweet Maries. Once Sweet Maries was in site we cut off a little and followed the road past Gecko and Roadrunner. This was by far the worst part of the trip. That area around Gecko and Roadrunner is so tore up we bounced all over the place getting past there. Once past Roadrunner things smoothed out a bit. The road from Roadrunner to Gordon's Well is pretty straight and not many places you really have to slow down. The real problem we had was the ruts in the road, they were pretty deep and a lot further apart than our Ranger tires. This meant we were fighting the steering wheel all the way just to keep everything straight. Still fun though. It was cold, and the wind was blowing pretty good, but we were all bundled up and the Ranger's body work adds a little more protection from the wind.

About half way down to Gordon's we came across a black Suburban with blacked out windows, flashing strobes in the tail and headlights, and a US Forest Service sticker on the door. He had a small group of quads stopped and was reading them the riot act for riding in the closed area. (The closed area skirts right along side the road to Gordon's for more than half the way between Roadrunner and Gordon's.) Not sure if he was giving them a ticket, and we didn't hang around to find out, but we did keep a good eye on the stakes marking the closed area the rest of the trip.

We arrived at Gordon's Well about 2-1/2 hours after leaving camp and then to Pair-A-Dice, which is now called Duner's Diner. For those of you who don't know, Pair-A-Dice was sold some time back to a Phoenix land developer who has built a nice house on the property adjacent to Duner's Diner, and has done a number of improvements to the diner and store. Unfortunately, he has hired the original owners to run the place and their attitudes haven't improved as much as the property has, but what can you do.

After a nice lunch we filled the gas tanks and headed out back to camp. An hour and a half later as we were going past Sweet Maries Doug broke another drive belt. Well, that's not supposed to happen that fast! After inspecting we found he had broke a front motor mount, a common problem with the Rangers, and that had caused a misalignment situation that caused the belt to wear and break prematurely. Well, we still had extra belts so we changed it and got on our way as "gingerly" as possible so we could get back to camp. As I mentioned, this motor mount is a common problem with the Rangers, and after researching it on the internet we found the best fix is to replace the Polaris motor mount with a NAPA transmission mount for a 1962 Ford Falcon! Who would have guessed that one! It was a long trip. 6-1/2 hours and nearly 75 miles, but we had a great time. Can't wait to do it again!

We putzed around camp most of the day Tuesday and loaded everything up Tuesday afternoon as we had to leave Wednesday morning and get home. Doug and I had machines to deliver on Thursday and Friday and Mona had to go back to work. We made it home without incident and we are all anxiously awaiting President's Day and the next trip.

See you all in the dunes!

Happy Birthday!

Young Stump 2/02

Andrew Fuquay 2/06

Jeff Oliver 2/07

Jeff Berger 2/8

Jeananne Becker 2/09

Easton Sherman 2/11

Doug Schellinger 2/12

Rebecca Downsworth 2/26

For Sale

The Hagens have two child's helmets for sale:

Both were purchased at Chaparral, 3 years ago. Both are full face with visors. Exterior is in good shape, minor scratches. Inside is in perfect shape, foam intact, no tears. Black one is a child Small and the Yellow one is a child Medium. \$50 each. Contact Pete/Linda at 760-451-0845



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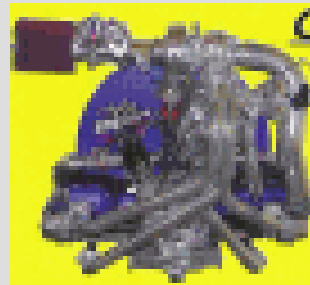
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We would like to thank Mike Bacon and The Hagens for submitting articles for this month's newsletter. As this newsletter shows once again, it is always fun to read about members having fun. We would also like to again thank Steve Tharp and the Hagens for taking pictures over MLK. Finally, we would like to introduce Doug Becker as the incoming Vice President. Doug is one of our long-time members and he agreed to join the board as the Huggards take some deserved time off from the board. Thank you all for your contributions to make this club the great factor that it is in our lives. -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:

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