



The Rooster

MARCH 2008

www.inlandempireoffroad.org

A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

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First Presidents Weekend

As Observed by Walt

There was a rumor going around the camp fire Friday night that I was in a hurry to get to Glamis. The truth is that I was peddling as fast as I could to stay ahead of Jeff.

We made it to find that Jerry and Linda had picked "THE SPOT" and Don and Shirley had also just arrived. And after all the honey-dos were done, Jeff, Jerry and I set off for a ride, in an effort for me to relieve a little POSTAL STRESS, and while stopping at the Boardman Memorial Flag, we noticed why I was "out-of-water. (A radiator hose had come off) Now I was out of water and this failure took "all the wind out of my sails". Now depression was starting to set in because I, myself, had just

stopped a WALT RIDE. After putting all of the water we had in, and stopping everybody we saw along the way, Jeff and Jerry stayed with me as we limped back to camp. Gotta hug from Lavon, had a little chow, some chatter around the camp fire, and a few hours of sleep while we awaited the arrival of the other members that were coming this weekend. I was ready to hook in behind Jim, PJ, and Jeff, with Jerry and Don behind me for the Saturday morning ride. After a couple of break stops, one be-



THE GROUP FROM THE FIRST WEEKEND.

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What's New

- ◆ With Presidents Week completed and Easter falling early this year, the next scheduled trip is a week at Gordon's well starting Friday March 21st through Monday March 31st. There will be lots of rides, our adult easter egg hunt, and of course lots of trips to Yuma for food and shopping..
- ◆ The Dumont trip over Presidents weekend was a success as well. We heard that there
- was lots of good riding and minimal repairs. Hopefully we can read more about it in an article next month.
- ◆ Update cards for the club directories should be included in next month's newsletter. If you need a complete directory, contact P.J. at pkastle@msn.com.
- ◆ Thanks to Janece Grossmann for donating a new white board for posting club rides.

Calendar of Events

March 12th:
Club Meeting

March 21st-31st:
Easter weekend and spring break at Gordon's Well. Plan on our second annual adult easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday!

April 9th:
Club Meeting

April 11-13 or 18-20:
April Dumont trip. Some members have expressed a preference for the first weekend, so we are leaning towards the 11th-13th.

March

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
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					

April

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			

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ing at Sweet Marie's for ice cream, we were sure that the ride needed to head straight back, because these buggies don't run far on fumes. (we all used @ 4-6 gal of gas) The weather was perfect, warm, sunny, no wind, so all of the rides were GGGRRRREAT. Shirley brought her new fiberglass car, with a beautiful graphic paint job, so Terra could ride around Glamis in style, too.

(Don and Shirley took her on a lot of rides) Saturday night was Burgers and pizza at Mamma Jeannie's. She could only stop and chat for a minute, she was a little sick and in charge, while her dad was off on a cruise. The Sunday ride took us to the forbidden Hill 5, where we noticed that where my frame was cracked before, was now broken. It was an easy ride back to camp. I was one of those that had to return to work, so I in trusted my stuff to Don and Shirley, and headed home. And that was just the first weekend. -Walt



THOSE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GO FOR THE FRIDAY RIDE.



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Presidents Week 2008

I arrived Friday 2/8 about 8:30 P.M. to find Jeff Oliver, Don and Shirley, Jerry and Linda, and Walt set up in exactly the same spot as the last two trips. A campfire was blazin' and good conversation was had. I headed off to the trailer, and decided to call P.J. and Melissa to see where they were. They were parked right behind me, having just arrived.

Saturday morning we went for the first of several good rides, the first for P.J.'s new-to-him Mendeola. It worked great. We duned all the way to the area east of hill 4 and then headed off to Sweet Maries for ice cream. Don wisely suggested we check our gas supplies, and it's good we did. We must have duned a lot, because several of us were low on fuel. We headed back via the sand highway.

Shirley brought out her new glass bodied street buggy, and it is beautiful. Clearly show car quality, including an extreme lowering job. Shirley towed the car behind the truck. She used it to make runs to the store, to look for firewood, and other runs around the area. She reports the lowered suspension makes it ride pretty rough, and Don spent some time looking into ways to raise it. It seems the front beam was cut and turned to lower the car, and the adjusters won't raise it significantly. It may require a new beam to get some travel. Sure is pretty, though.

After lunch we went for another ride back to the hill 4 area. We used the new radios and are very pleased with how well they work. At one point we were able to talk to camp which was over 3 miles away. The club has purchased 4 radios and headsets. We now can always have communication between the front and back of a ride. The dunes were pretty rutted up, making for a rough ride for standard travel cars. I think we might need to go back to a ride rating system to keep from beating up drivers of traditional cars. I think a morning ride that is somewhat moderate, followed by a fast, rough, afternoon ride might be a good plan. We need to publicize the ride rating on the whiteboard.

Several of us headed off to pizza and Jeannie's. Great food, good beverage, and great company were enjoyed by all.



A RARE SIGHT, THE CARS AT HILL FIVE.

Sunday morning it was another long ride that ended up at hill 5. This is the first time in a long time we've visited this hill, as it seems we always have something bad happen, from broken frames, rollovers, broken transmissions or blown engines. I have avoided the place for nearly two years. In fact, this was the first time P.J. or my new cars have been to hill 5. This time we were lucky and the only issue was a crack in Walt's frame.

P.J. and Melissa had to head back to work, and Jeff had already left, so I decided to finalize the repairs to my front end after patching it up at MLK. We had another good campfire with the Fords and the Tranthams. I want to be retired! Monday morning (my school district had Monday off) I decided to make the same improvement to my car's right side as I had the left on Sunday. I finished up with some help from Don and Jerry, locked up the

cars, and headed home for four days of work.

While at home we had the club meeting Wednesday night. I mentioned I saw a need to post ride ratings, and explained our whiteboard had seen better days. Janece Grossman immediately said she would get us a new one. We discussed the dates and plans for the Havasu and Cottonwood trips, and Janece immediately offered their river place as an alternative for dinner. I knew the Grossman's were going to be a great addi-

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tion to our club! It was decided that despite the generous offer, we'd give Havasu another try for Saturday dinner, with the newly opened Golden Corral getting the nod. Don and Shirley will try to get a private room for us. It has to be better than our last 2 year's Pizza Hut experiences! There was some confusion about the best date for Cottonwood and potential conflicts with the Sand Show, but Chuck called Justin and found the Sand Show was later in the month, so we decided on the weekend after Labor Day for Cottonwood.

With the discussion of Havasu and Cottonwood, Coral Pink must be getting closer. Reservations can be made beginning March 31.

Friday it was back to the dunes. I couldn't believe the difference the four days made. I think President's day was the busiest in years, rivaling Thanksgiving in crowd size. I'll try to mention everyone who was there when I arrived or who showed up. Steve Porter was there solo; Chuck, and Janece and later Justin Grossman; Walt; Gary and Young Stump; Jeff and Lavonne; Pete, Linda, Jeremy and Karissa Hagen; Ed, Janel, and Hayden Loer; Brandy Tidball and company including Shawn; Dave and Cindy Huggard; Steve and Janet Tharp, Doug Becker, P.J. and Melissa and the dogs; Jeff and Shel Berger; several friends of the Grossmans, Hagens and Loers, and others. I'm sure I missed many others, and I'm sorry, but it was a great crowd!



THE LARGE CROWD AT OLDS ON SATURDAY.

One of the first things Saturday, Janece delivered on her promise to replace the whiteboard. Thanks again! She also offered me a great breakfast burrito which I devoured between welding passes on Walt's car (repairing the transmission mount broken the previous weekend at hill 5.) I really like Janece!! We had many good rides, but with each ride it became harder and harder to find decent sand. Shel Berger made several rides on his quad, and I was very impressed with his ability. He kept up on every ride.



One fun thing Saturday was the horseshoes brought out by Pete Hagen. I didn't get a chance to pitch any shoes, but it's a great way to relax and come together. It's been a long time since we pitched shoes in an IEOB camp. I'm not completely sure we ever have, but I think we did. I know the duners from Big Bear spent a lot of time pitching shoes. In any case, I hope Pete (or someone) brings them Easter.

Saturday night we went back to Jeannie's for Pizza. Jeannie took some time to sit with us, and for the third year in a row made a generous cash contribution, as well as donating two pizza gift certificates for the season

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kick off raffle. She also mentioned she served great biscuits and gravy. That's all it took for me to decide on breakfast for Monday. Several of us had breakfast at Jeannie's Monday, and Jeannie's right, she makes great biscuits and gravy. That's a tradition I could see starting right there!

After breakfast we made one last ride. Then back to camp and to pack up. We loaded the trailer with the workbench and all the other stuff used in a week at the dunes, and as I was loading my car, the throw out bearing, which has ALWAYS squeaked, decided it was time to go. That made loading it a bit difficult, but Dave, Doug, and Steve helped load it. This also necessitated a last minute change of plans for the trip which now was all the way home, not just to Holtville. Melissa offered to drive my second truck home, allowing me to save a month's storage, and to get the buggy home for the needed repairs and some minor welding reinforcements. This way I'll be good and ready for Gordon's Well, Dumont and Coral Pink! Thanks, Melissa, I really appreciate it. -Jim



AT BREAKFAST, JEANNIE DONATED TWO GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR PIZZAS FOR THE PICNIC RAFFLE, IN ADDITION TO HER ANNUAL CASH DONATION. THANKS JEANNIE!



Adult Easter Egg Hunt:

A tradition continues Sunday March 23rd

With the increasing number of adults in camp relative to the number of kids, this year we will have our second annual Adult Easter egg hunt where the kids (including P.J. and Melissa) hide the eggs for the adults. This was great fun last year. The club will be providing cash prizes for the eggs, so plan to participate. If you can, please bring 6-12 of your own eggs to hide for the grown ups to search for as well.

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There's lots to see on the club's website, www.inlandempireoffroad.org

1. The club now has a Yahoo Group thanks to Steve Tharp's efforts. From the club site you can link to the Yahoo group and enter your e-mail address to post messages for everyone to see and to be e-mailed whenever there is a new message. This is another way for members to communicate and share knowledge about our sport.
2. There is another "guess which car" photo contest starting March 1st. This time the pictures are in black and white, but more of the cars are shown. The first one to guess the owner of all 10 cars correctly will win a prize.
3. If you haven't seen it yet, be sure to check out the satellite map of Glamis that you can link to from the club home page. The photos were taken over MLK weekend 2005, and you can see the club camp at Wash 14. Other points of interest are marked on the map, so you can zoom in on the hills and other campsites to see what's going on.
4. Pete Hagen had a good idea for the website about a year ago, and now we are going to post a "Member's Cars" page which will eventually have pictures of every sand toy in the club. This was Bill Martine's initial intention for the "Wall of Fame". It would be great if each member could write a short bit describing the interesting features of their car to be posted with a picture on the website, and one could be featured in the newsletter each month as well. Keep watching the site for details.

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Happy Birthday!

- Sharon Porter 3/01
- Brooke Larson 3/02
- Gary Stump 3/05
- Sharyn Sherman 3/08
- Bruno Kolbrek 3/09
- Jerry Trantham 3/14
- Brandy Tidball 3/17
- Jack Olson 3/20
- Miranda Larson 3/21
- Don Ford 3/22
- Darrell Harju 3/23
- AJ Bacon 3/24
- Breauna Rhoades 3/25
- Trevor Rhoades 3/28
- Brianna Cole 3/30

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



Larry (Dean Schellinger's son) recently bought a truck that runs on propane and it came with 7 extra propane tanks. All are in really good shape, and two are brand new. They are all aluminum. He is selling them for \$20 a tank or all 7 for \$100.

Contact Larry on his cell phone after 4 PM at (909) 538-7054

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We would like to thank Walt Fisher and Jim Kastle for submitting articles for this month's newsletter. Remember that if you want to see something different in the newsletter, the easiest way to accomplish that is to write an article. We'd also like to thank The Fords and Tranthoms for watching our stuff over Presidents week. It makes the dune trip so much more enjoyable to get to spend back to back weekends without towing everything home, and we are looking forward to doing the same thing at Easter. It is hard to believe the Glamis season is over for some of us, but we can't wait for Gordon's Well, Dumont, and Coral Pink! -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
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Inland Empire Offroad Association
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