

Family Fun Days! April 18-20! Join us!



Membership to Prospective Members

> Pictured is Wayne Nosala's buggy at a cabin in the El Paso Mtns. Wayne, a CORVA Field Rep., is a dedicated volunteer working on trail maintenance and legislative issues for CORVA in Kern County.



Northerm Jamboree Winners! Kern County Opposes Wilderness Bill S.493





The California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA) is a varied group of outdoor recreationalists who are extremely active in promoting the positive aspects of vehicular access on public lands and protecting that right.

The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trials bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street-legal" 4X4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, bajas and desert racers.

The main purpose of CORVA is to work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondarily, we educate our membership on the constantly changing rules and regulations and promote conservation, clean-up and trail maintenance projects.

We are very active in the political arena and pay for a lobbyist in Sacramento. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV enthusiasts who believe in responsible vehicular access.

A portion of the budgets for California's national forests and the public lands administered by the BLM is funded by grants from the Green Sticker Program. We work with the land managers to formulate the grants and give our input about the grants to the OHMVR Program which administers them. We also review how effectively our Green Sticker money was used in each program.

We are active at all levels of the land management public process with both the BLM and USFS. We do this by commenting on environmental documents on as many issues as possible and maintaining close relationships with personnel in the field as well as the staff.

We coordinate with other multiple use organizations ranging from snowmobiles to horse enthusiasts to protect multiple-use rights from the environmental extremists. We are "dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."

If you would like to join the fight to protect our public lands for multiple-use recreation, fill in the application in this issue and send it in! If you would like more information, contact us at 1-800-42-CORVA!



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(COVER PHOTOS NEEDED! Send your action shots to Erin Dyer. Digital photos 12" X 13" in 300 dpi, or higher, preferred.)



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By Ed Waldheim President

Well, we have started a new year and work has begun: In the field (our trails), legal arena, legislative area, and public relations arena.

What really is interesting is the degree that our opponents, the radical environmentalists, are taking their position about off-roading to the news media. There is not a day that you do not read something in the media whereby they use the same cry that recreationists are ruining the soil, vegetation, air quality, or quiet/solitude. Of course, their biased opinion is all that is getting printed – not the truth.

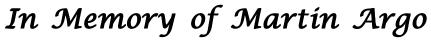
Now the latest from the *New York Times* is an article dated Dec 30, 2007 stating that recreationists are completely disregarding signs, closed areas, making new trails. It also contained quotes from land managers saying they do not have the resources to manage the land, so they feel they have to close areas.

Selfish People Create Closure

In Overdrive

One group, in their December 2007 media blitz, went on a rampage ... like a tabloid paper with all half truths. Their misguided opinions with inflammatory accusations of OHV Division Deputy Director Daphne Greene and CORVA were emphasized.

They should get their facts straight and perhaps spend efforts on things that really matter, like urban sprawl encroaching on open space, use of water by large cities, and help us get more open spaces for OHV recreationists. Without us, the average American fighting to keep public lands open for ALL recreational needs, there would be NO open space left in the U.S.. We keep the government in balance with development (otherwise, they would allow overuse of the open areas) and protect the environment, as conservationists. Is that too elementary for environmental zealots to comprehend?



By Eddie Phillips, Americans for Forest Access (AFFA) & CORVA Member

Martin Argo was killed in a motorcycle accident on the 91 Freeway in October.

Martin will be missed by all. He will be remembered for his relentless efforts in trying to keep our public lands open for motorized recreation and his special love of trail riding.

Martin was a meticulous record keeper and letter writer. In addition, he donated thousands of hours attending meetings and events. He also spent hours trying to map routes on the ground for special events. He specialized in issues involving the San Bernardino National Forest. The special thing about Martin, he was our friend. God speed my friend.

[Martin was a true hero for San Bernardino National Forest. As a CORVA Field Rep., he worked his butt off in the San Bernardino N.F. In turn, this made him lots of enemies with the forest personnel, but we can never doubt his wanting to keep our sport alive.

He was a trials rider, which takes excellent skill and talent. Unfortunately, he was killed on a road bike. We will surely miss this great man and his work on behalf of CORVA members. - Ed Waldheim, CORVA President.] Now you put together land manager's feelings and the environmental zealots wanting to get off-roaders out of public lands, you have a situation that is not good for anyone, including responsible environmentalists.

CORVA, and other organizations involved in OHV issues, work passionately to assist the agencies in their management of the trails and work with new and seasoned off-roaders. We are fervently trying to educate our members on stay-on-trail topics and conservation issues, while also educating land use managers as to what our sport needs (i.e. trail maintenance, loop trails, etc.). We help them achieve a sound management of offroad opportunity by securing grants, volunteering thousands of hours rehabilitating trails and removing dumped debris, hosting/organizing clean-ups (which are also educational events), attaining grants, and the list goes on and on.

What do the environmentalist zealots do? They write articles vilifying us as the bad guy, accusing us of bad deeds, which are complete untruths.. They spend all their time getting the articles published.

Why then are these "supposed" environmentalists continuing to defame the reputation of responsible organizations who are trying to educate the American public on how to recreate responsibly? Do they think that it is only the motorcyclist and four-wheelers do damage on trails. What about the "bad apples" in the equestrian, hiking and the rock climbing communities that are doing damage to trails? Do they forget that these non off-roading communities have members who leave

- Pioneers - cont'd. on page 21 -

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Don't Miss Out on This! April 18 - 20, 2008

By Dan Allison, CORVA Vice President Education

This year N2Dirt has stepped up and will host CORVA's 2nd annual Family Fun Days, April 18-20 at California City.

Last year was a great event and everyone had a great time, but the bar will be raised this year! You don't want to miss a moment. So many new events and attractions will fill the weekend schedule. I would venture to say that this year will be the best OHV event that California City has seen in a long time.

Just to name a few of the events planned (besides new and additional OHV games and challenges), look for: a dog show, music and dancing, a ring of fire pits, Bar-b-que, pancake breakfast, poker run, raffle, vendor alley, as well as many displays, booths, special guest and products. The key words at this event will be FUN for the whole FAMILY!

The year 2008 is a very special year for CORVA. This is CORVA's 40th year so N2Dirt will be putting on a special CORVA Birthday celebration at this event.

The Board of Directors Annual meeting, Convention and Elections will also occur at Family Fun Days so you are welcome to join in and check out the business part of CORVA.

This is a great opportunity for you and your family, or your club, to come out and join in the fun.

Thank You For 2007

By Terry Work - CORVA Vice President Sales & Marketing

I would like to take a moment to thank some special people, inside and outside of CORVA, that have stepped up to assist to keep our lands open.

First, thanks to Geoff Teare and Rick Fisher for all their hard work last year working and setting up the Truckhaven Challenge. This event was a blow to CORVA due to Event Closure (but we will be back in Truckhaven in 2009).

Thanks to the Trailmasters for everything that they did to provide a great dinner at the Truckhaven event. Also, thanks to all the volunteers that help make this event run every year!

Then there is Wes Hoagland and Kevin and Carol Barber who gave up time, gas, and gave us a place to sleep. Thanks too for helping us start up a great relationship with CORR (Championship Off Road Racing). We are looking forward to the 2008 CORR racing series with their help. Thank you to the people that work the Off Road shows for CORVA, led by Dick Moon and Jim Arbogast, who work tirelessly year in and year out putting together our CORVA booths.

Thank you to Wayne Berg who maintains our webpage and also handles our membership. (One who has been known to fall asleep at his PC while working for CORVA.)

Again, Carol Barber who makes most of the event t-shirts and our great looking CORVA Outlaws shirts. She is another person that "burns the Midnight Oil" making sure that the T-shirts are perfect for events!

Erin Dyer who is our Editor and Publisher of CORVA's *Off Roader's In Action*, nicknamed the voice of CORVA for good reason!

Also to my wife, Faith Work, for all the work getting CORVA sponsors, associate members, and of course, the great raffle We also would appreciate your help with some of the events. If you are interested in pitching in please give us a call. You can call Dan at (805) 443-4558.

Don't miss this - we want to see you there!

(See the flyer on page 7 or visit the CORVA website at www.corva.org for more details.)

Elections!

It's time to start thinking about the next election of CORVA officers. The next election will take place at the CORVA Convention held in the Spring. We have to start early and ask all members to consider running for office.

We know there are many members who can find some time to put their experiences to work for our great organization. We need Board members to help replace those that have served many years. We have 4 Board meetings per year (conference call participation is available) and do most work via email.

Please contact Geoff Teare at geoff@corva.org for more info.

items that we had at all the 2007 events.

In addition, thanks to all of the CORVA Board members, all of whom donate there time and who are not paid for all the work that they do.

I cannot forget Ed Waldheim who has been our President for 15 years. He is a pool of knowledge who keeps our lands open. In the last year and a half, he has been inducted into both the Off Road Hall Fame and the Motorcycle Hall of Fame for all the work that he does to keep our lands open!

And, of course, you, our loyal members, who help support us through membership, as well as donations of time and money. Without you and all the people within CORVA, we would not be here. I thank you.



You Don't Want To Miss This Fun Filled Weekend!

- FREE EVENT ENTRIES to all CORVA Members, including immediate family members. NO CAMPING FEES. Just a whole lot of fun. New members are welcome to join us.
- OPEN TO ALL TYPES OF OFF ROAD VEHICLES. Bikes, Quads, Buggies, 4X4's, Baja's and UTV's. All vehicles must be currently registered, green, red or licensed.
- SATURDAY FUN FILLED EVENTS, DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAM-ILY. More new and exciting challenges, crazy dog show, vendor alley, booths and guest speakers.
- SATURDAY AFTERNOON EVENT AWARDS available for ALL ages & skill levels.
- SATURDAY NIGHT A NIGHT OF DESERT ENTERTAINMENT, CAMPFIRE and BAR-B-QUE.
 BBQ menu and donation amount to be posted.
- SATURDAY NIGHT RAFFLE! Shorter, sweeter and much more fun!
- SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST for a nominal fee to benefit N2Dirt Educational Programs.
- SUNDAY N2DIRT POKER RUN. Proceeds support N2Dirt's Educational Programs.
- SUNDAY ANNUAL CORVA MEETING. Hear the latest reports and election of Directors.
- LAWSUIT UPDATES GUEST SPEAKERS WORKSHOPS DISPLAYS and much more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.CORVA.ORG

All events are tentative. More events may be added later. Volunteers, clubs are encouraged to host an event. Contact Dan@n2dirt.org for details. CORVA annual membership is \$30 & includes the monthly newsletter. Sign up on the website or at the event. CORVA is "Dedicated to Protecting Public Lands For the People, Not From the People."

Northern Jamboree

Northern Jamboree 2007 A Great Success

By Debi Campbell Northern Regional CORVA Secretary

A Great Success – Our Northern California Jamboree came through with flying colors. The park was beyond full, weather was wonderful and the support we received from all the clubs made this the most successful Jamboree ever.

We had people arriving at Frank Raines Park as early as Monday, as they know what large crowds gather for this event. By early Friday every campsite was taken and by Friday evening the parking lot was full. Thank goodness for the large overflow.

Friday morning found the Jamboree crews already setting up for mapping out the events, putting up signs to direct people to the times and events, and decorating the hall for the Halloween dinner and trophy presentations.

For Friday afternoon, we had our annual Horseshoe competition. This year was the best yet, we had teams in the men, women and children. We hope that it becomes a mainstay for Friday afternoon; we had a lot of fun. Maybe next year we'll have more participants and great prizes. I want to mention Joseph, he was one of the kids, his partner backed out but he was recognized Saturday night for just being a good sport. Friday evening found people setting up camp, enjoying campfires, talking about the upcoming events, wishing well to old friends as well as meeting new friends. At 7pm we had our great Bingo games, thanks to Charlie and his group. What a great way to spend the evening.

Saturday morning had everyone up early and eager to start his or her games. Registration opened at 9am. We had many different events and a great registration team. Without the hard work of all the people that setup the events and worked (some of them all day), our Jamboree would not have been such a success.

Registration was very busy, trying to sign everyone up as fast as we could and we would like to thank everyone for being so patient. There was a lot of CORVA and N2Dirt information being passed out.

Safety checks were done for the buggies and quads and everything seemed in order to have a safe run. Thank you to Casey, Tim, Doug and a couple of other guys that helped with these checks.

Everyone had a chance to play as much as they wanted and had a lot of events to choose. We had people coming back for more tickets trying to out do the person in

the lead. This is were the fun begins, as just when you thought you had the best time and no one could beat you, someone would come back and take the time away from you. You could never be sure you were the winner unless you ended up being the last person to run the event.

You didn't even need to play the games to have a great time, you could just go to watch and

Event Directors

Escarabajo Wiggle Worm Mouse Hunt Adult Costume Contest Saturday Dinner

East Bay Hi Tailers Road Clean Up Organizer Friday Night Bingo Pumpkin Carry Sunday Poker Run

Merced Run Abouts Egg Carry

Modesto Ridge Runners Barrel Loop Children Crafts/Costume Contest

Friday Horseshoes Bill, Debi & Pam

Thank You

There are so many people to thank and I am sure that if we tried to mention them all, I would forget someone.

So rather than do that we would just like to THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU GIVE TO CORVA AND THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA JAMBOREE.

laugh your heads off watching those determined drivers, and passengers try to pull the best times.

We had a surprise visitor from the Modesto Bee, Debbie Noda, reporter/ editor. The article (front page) came out on Monday November 5, 2007 by Tim Moran. Ms Noda came Saturday morning before we had started the events. Several of us talked for awhile and then she went with Doug Houser (MRR) all around Frank Raines park and to our events. Doug explained what we were all about, how we have used the park for over 30 years for our Jamboree and how families can still play together. It was a very nice article with lots of positive remarks about the park and how it is used. A picture featured Roy and Kristina (MRR father & daughter) in their buggy going out to the barrel loop site that

- Success - continued on next page



Halloween Costume Contest Participants

Northern Jamboree

- Success - cont'd. from previous page -

Roy runs. A couple of other great pictures that Ms Noda was able to get (no names listed) with Doug's help and you can probably still see the video and story at www.modbee.com/local.

Saturday afternoon we had family and children events during the day. There were Arts and Crafts for the kids but I think the moms had just as much fun. Thank you Pam for the great craft ideas and your helpers, Alicia, Brooke and Cathy. We also had a wonderful Children's Costume Contest. The judges (Ed, Shirley, Brian, Alicia) had a very hard time but finally chose the winners. We want to thank all the parents without their help and support we couldn't get it all done.

After the driving games, the children then all came for trick-or-treating at the different campsites. The costumes were great and what a place for them to be, no worry for the parents about the children getting hurt and many of them went in groups without their parents. Where else do you feel that safe for your children? Also, no worry that all the goodies had to be checked, we knew we had a safe environment. This is what Halloween is about and what CORVA is all about. Having fun, having families together, enjoying our great outdoors.

At 5:30pm people started pouring in for the wonderful Tri Tip dinner and all the fixings. Thank you Escarabajo for our great meal. We were beginning to wonder if the line was ever going to stop and of course they had to buy some of those raffle tickets.

We had so many wonderful items to raffle and we want to thank the businesses, individuals and clubs for donating. Thank you to all that bought tickets for the raffle.

Once all the trophies were awarded, adult costume contest and raffles completed everyone did their own thing. Some stayed and danced, others went back to camp and had campfires and tall stories. It was a long, fun day and everyone had a story or two to tell.

Sunday morning found everyone up early for the Poker Run and then most of our Jamboree participants started packing up early, cleaning camp and heading home.

This was one of the biggest events we have had; we made money for CORVA and

- Success - continued on page 21 -

Event Winners

WIGGLE WORM

Men Class A 1st Russell Romero 2nd Bob H 3rd Todd Smith

Women Class A 1st Anna Callanta 2nd Christina Hoglund 3rd Debi Campbell & Shirley Conover

Men Class B 1st Tom Gnutzman

Women Class B 1st Hannah Gnutzman

Men Class C M/C 1st Alix Smith 2nd Joseph Allnutt 3rd Tyler (D-13)

Men Class D quads 1st Mick Konesky 2nd Brian Houser 3rd Louis (C-6)

Women Class D quads 1st Michelle Gnutzman 2nd Shey (D-14) 3rd Linda (D-16)

MOUSE HUNT

Men Class A 1st Russell Romero 2nd Grayson Myers 3rd Wayne Buckner

Women Class A 1st Anna Callanta 2nd Tina Campbell

Men Class B 1st Matt Padgett 2nd Seth Fain 3rd Tom Gnutzman

Men Class C 1st Alix Smith 2nd Joseph Allnut

Women Class C 1st Monica Sloan

Men Class D 1st Cody Frades 2nd Brian Houser 3rd Louis Corona

Women Class D 1st Michelle Gnutzman

EGG CARRY

Class A 1st Russell Romero & Colleen Heffley 2nd Gordon & Drinda Kipp 3rd Tim & Jody Campbell (Mom and I had a great run but on our last trip around the Egg Carry I hit a rock and ran us in to a tree. Didn't hurt the tree but hurt the buggy. Sorry Mom we will get it next year.)

Class B 1st Seth Fain & Greg Sloan 2nd Seth & Monica Fain 3rd Tom & Hannah Gnutzman

BARREL LOOP

Men Class A 1st Russell Romero 2nd Todd 3rd Bob Harris

Women Class A 1st Kristina Hoglund 2nd Sara Belshaw 3rd Alyssa Hoglund

Class C 1st Tom Gnutzman

Class D 1st Jose Mendoza 2nd Jose Tecala 3rd Angel Mendoza

PUMKIN CARRY A Class 1st Josh & Roger 2nd Mike and Steve 3rd Tie Mike & Steve Josh & Roger

B Class 1st Tom and Hannah

ATV 1st Michele

FRIDAY HORSESHOES Men Doug & Brian Houser

Women Pam Houser & Shirley Conover

Children Rosemary & Justina



Now Accepting Nominations For the CORVA Awards

The following awards will be presented at this year's CORVA Convention. If you know of anyone deserving of one or more of these awards, please send the required information to CORVA at 1500 West El Camino, #352, Sacramento, CA 95833-1945 or email to geoff@corva.org and kx500@pacbell.net. Write one nomination per email and include the award name in the subject line. If you need more info. please call 1-800-42-CORVA ext. 512 (Geoff Teare).

George Thomas Memorial Trophy For "Off Roader Of The Year"

This trophy was sponsored by Cranley's Desert Cats and is presented to the one individual whose contributions to the betterment of off-roading during the preceding year are worthy of this very special recognition. The recipient may be any individual who has provided special help to off roading. The person does not have to be a member of CORVA or any affiliated organization. The nomination should be submitted to the above address with an explanation of the individual's accomplishments.

Looney Duners Trophy to Charity

To be eligible for this award, the club must belong to CORVA. The award goes to the club that donates the most time and effort to charity. Money is not a factor.

Northern & Southern Club Award

This award is given annually to one club in each region, Northern and Southern. Each club shall submit what it deems to be its outstanding project for the year. These projects will be considered by the Board of Directors, which shall award the trophy to that project it deems best bolsters the image of off roading. If your club has done a project to promote off roading, please send your letter today.

Los Aventureros State Conservation Award

This award is presented to the individual club, which during the year, has contributed the most towards conservation. Nominees are scored by the following system.

- I. Land Conservation
 - A. Acquisition
 - 1. Land grants or open new areas to ORV use.
 - 2. Opening closed areas to ORV use.

- B. Rehabilitation
 - 1. Reforestation (fire or flood)
 - 2. Rebuilding (bridge, building, etc.)
- 3. Removal (rocks, trees, etc. from roads and trails)

Any project in Category I will be scored 40 points.

- II. Clean up
 - A. Public Lands 1. Trash pick up to enhance ORV opportunity
 - B. Camp Areas
 - 1. Clean up camp areas (not your campsite)

Any project in Category II will be scored 20 points.

III. Public Service

- A. Civic Obligation
- B. Promotion of CORVA
- C. Clean Up Private Lands or Leased Lands
- D. Recycling Aluminum Cans (Proceeds donated to CORVA)

Any project in Category III will be scored 10 points.

American Buggy Association Political Activism Award

To have one's name added to this plaque requires exceptional activity in dealing with elected officials and civil servants. This means personal contact as well as effective letter writing. While significant success is not always possible, it is important that some progress toward a goal was achieved. In addition, this person's efforts should always increase the perception of CORVA as a political powerhouse.

Past Presidents' Trophy

This trophy is sponsored by the Past Presidents of CORVA. Unlike the aforementioned trophies which are voted upon by the CORVA Board of Directors after hearing nominations, this trophy is at the sole discretion of the Past Presidents. The recipient is an individual who has shown great merit and achieved honorable accomplishments on behalf of the off-road community.

Let Us Hear From You!

What has your club done this year for Off-Roading? Your club may be eligible for any one of the awards listed above. Send us your list of club accomplishments for the last calendar year including participation in clean-up events, charity events or trail maintenance projects, help at CORVA events, attendance at OHV meetings, letter writing, trail patrols, adopt-a-trail, list of donations to CORVA or other OHV groups, and number of new CORVA members you brought in. Here's your chance to be recognized. Every club should make a list and send it in today!

To become a CORVA Club you need: Either 1) 10 paid CORVA member-families in your club. 2) If your club is less than 10 member-families, you need 100% of your members to be paid CORVA members 3) You can sign up by sending a check for \$300 and a list of 10 club members' names. Each will receive a CORVA membership & newsletter for one year, and voting rights at the CORVA Annual Meeting for by-law changes and officer elections. (Some trophies require CORVA membership.)



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF KERN

December 18, 2007

Honorable Barbara Boxer United States Senate 112 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

RE: Opposition to S. 493

Dear Senator Boxer:

The Kern County Board of Supervisors opposes S. 493, the California Wild Heritage Act of 2007. Public land in Kern County designated in your bill includes areas of the Los Padres National Forest, Sequoia National Forest, and land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Don Maben District 2

Jon McQuiston

District 1

Mike Maggard District 3

Raymond A. Watson District 4

Michael Rubio District 5

1115 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301 (661) 868-3585

Kathleen Krause Clerk of the Board The Wilderness designation places too many restrictions on permitted activities and the manner in which the land is managed. These lands do not fit the matrix of the intent of the Wilderness Act of 1964, as having been "untouched by the hand of man". Many of the areas designated in Kern County are inappropriate for Wilderness designation as they contain multiple-use trails, mining operations, communication facilities, and structures.

The destructive wildfires California experienced in 2007 highlight the importance of fuel reduction and wildland fire management. Adding more layers of management required by the Wilderness designation forces our firefighting agencies to adhere to a cumbersome system of incident management and places our firefighters at greater risk.

Public land use in Kern County is constantly increasing. It is very likely that additional Wilderness designations in Kern County would result in displacing recreational activities that are not suitable in Wilderness to non-Wilderness areas, resulting in overcrowding and resource impacts on those areas.

Therefore, we must oppose the California Wild Heritage Act of 2007, which proposes additional Wilderness designation of Kern County public lands, and we request that you consider our views on this matter.

Respectfully,

Supervisor Don Maben, Chairman Kern County Board of Supervisors



Public Lands

Bill Would Eliminate Recreation Fees -No-Fee Coalition Hails Proposal, Calls For National Public Lands Initiative

By Kitty Benzar, President Western Slope No-Fee Coalition

A bill recently introduced by three western Senators would repeal the Federal Lands Recreation Act and restore free public access to millions of acres of federal public lands managed by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation.

Montana Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester joined with Idaho Senator Mike Crapo as original co-sponsors of S2438, the Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act of 2007. Baucus and Tester are Democrats, Crapo a Republican.

The Western Slope No-Fee Coalition, which has championed the effort to end the user fees that began as an experiment in 1996, hailed the bill as the first step in a national initiative to restore public lands to public control.

"The Fee Repeal Act will bring an end to a failed experiment that has for 10 years burdened Americans with a double tax and kept them away from public lands they have always enjoyed," Benzar said. "I applaud this bipartisan effort and call on all public lands supporters to mobilize in support of it."

S2438 would allow National Parks to continue to charge Entrance Fees, but would return all other federal land management agencies to the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, which governed recreation use fees for 32 years.

Fees would be allowed only in developed campgrounds and swim sites, and at specialized boat launch facilities. Fees would be specifically prohibited for the use, either singly or in any combination, of drinking water, wayside exhibits, roads, overlook sites, visitors' centers, scenic drives, toilet facilities, or solely for the use of picnic tables. Fees would also be prohibited for dispersed, undeveloped camping and recreation. The 1965 rules were repealed in late 1996 by the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program that came to be known as Fee Demo. Originally limited to a 2-year experiment at no more than 100 sites, Fee Demo was repeatedly expanded and extended, but met increasing public resistance.

By 2004, there was so much opposition to Fee Demo that another extension was unlikely to pass, and the program was set to expire. Instead, Representative Ralph Regula (R-OH) attached the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to a mustpass omnibus appropriations bill, which went into effect on December 8, 2004.

FLREA, known to its detractors as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT, replaced Fee Demo with a permanent fee program. It was never debated on the floor of the House and was not even introduced in the Senate. Under FLREA, access fees have multiplied, visitation has declined, recreational facilities that cannot pay their own way in fees have been closed, and fee revenue has replaced public funds at the local level.

"Recreation user fees were originally sold as a way for the agencies to raise supplemental funds to address their backlogged maintenance," according to Benzar. "Instead, fee revenue was used for day-to-day operations and to build facilities that have only added to long-term maintenance needs. And now we are facing thousands of site closures and being told they are necessary because there is still no money for the backlog."

Appropriated funding for recreation has increased by 22% over the past 10 years, but administration and overhead costs have skyrocketed, and fewer dollars are making it to the ground. Some local areas saw budget cuts of up to 60% last summer, even though appropriated funding was the same as the prior year.

Even as local managers were facing huge cuts, a 2006 audit of the recreation fee program by the Government

Fee Repeal Bill S2438

The Fee Repeal bill has been given a number: S2438.

You can read the text at <u>www.thomas.loc.gov</u>. Type in the bill number then click Search by Bill Number. It can be tricky to understand since it refers to several other laws and has language repealing previous repeals, which works like a double-negative, i.e. the repeal of a repeal is a re-instatement.

Essentially, the bill restores the rules under which the Forest Service, BLM, Fish & Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation operated for over 30 years under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Please contact your U.S. Representative and both of your U.S. Senators and ask them to support S2438.

Accountability Office (GAO 06-1016) found that \$296 million in unobligated fee receipts was being held by the four federal land management agencies that are authorized to levy fees. A full 93% of National Forests were carrying unobligated fee accounts, and 58% of Forests had more than a year's fee revenue in their unobligated fund.

Benzar sees the policy of Fee Retention at the heart of the problem. "Fee Demo and RAT allowed the local land managers to keep whatever recreation fee revenue they could raise, instead of returning it to the Treasury," she said. "Congressional oversight was lost, and appropriated funding was diverted to other uses. Local managers were left to raise their own budgets, and their incentives changed from land stewardship to revenue generation. They began looking at citizens as customers, instead of as the owners of public lands."

- S2438 - cont'd on page 21





In order for us to keep this great newsletter in print each month, CORVA needs advertisers!

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Off-Roaders In Action is published by Erin Dyer of Mail Management Services. Please send all advertising to Terry & Faith Work at 4565 West Avenue M14, Quartz Hill, CA 93536 (661) 722-3310 (phone). Or send via email to faith@corva.org or terry@corva.org. Faith Work is available during business hours to answer your advertising questions.

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Prices quoted above are for black and white ads only. Rate of advertisements with additional color(s) varies depending on number of issues printed. Call for details if interested in color ads. CORVA and its publisher are not responsible for errors in advertising beyond the cost of the space occupied by the advertisement. If an error does occur which CORVA or the publisher is responsible for making, CORVA will reimburse the customer with one free ad of the same size. Deadlines for ads are 2 months prior to the month of publication.

Thank you for choosing to advertise with CORVA! We appreciate your support!.

Border Patrol Implements Zero Tolerance for Illegal Mexican Border Entries

Beginning in January 2008, the Border Patrol will be conducting enhanced operations along the border encompassing both the Grey's Wells and Midway Campgrounds.

These operations will include a heightened detection and surveillance strategy coupled with an immediate response protocol to intercept all illegal cross border traffic. We will implement a zero tolerance for illegal cross border entries. It is and will remain the responsibility of the recreationists to know and abide by the law. Recreationists who accidentally illegally cross the border are subject to the zero tolerance.

Entry into the United States must be via a Port of Entry. Any individual who effects an illegal entry is subject to arrest and/or fine. Vehicles and personal property are subject to seizure.

Please read the following letter (on the next page) to fully understand the Border Patrol enhanced operations along the border encompassing both Grey's Well, Buttercup and Midway Campgrounds.



President Bob Mason American Sand Association 3113 North 52nd Street Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Mr. Mason:

1111 North Imperial Avenue El Centro, CA 92243



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Let me begin by expressing our gratitude and appreciation for the support and confidence that the American Sand Association has extended to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol, particularly the EI Centro and Yuma Sectors who patrol the Imperial Sand Dune Recreational Area. We, as public servants, can only maximize our success with the cooperation and assistance of our community. Respectfully, we now call upon you and the members of the American Sand Association for assistance as we work to eradicate the criminality of cross border activity in this area and negate the possibility of terrorist infiltration into the United States.

Beginning in January 2008, the Border Patrol will be conducting enhanced operations along the border encompassing both the Grey's Wells and Midway Campgrounds. Our intent is to gain operational control over this area, which has long been a dangerous, highly trafficked corridor by alien and narcotic smugglers. Last year, over 33,000 pounds of narcotics was seized and 2,137 aliens apprehended in the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreational Area alone.

These operations will include a heightened detection and surveillance strategy coupled with an immediate response protocol to intercept all illegal cross border traffic. We will implement a zero tolerance for illegal cross border entries. It is and will remain the responsibility of the recreationists to know and abide by the law. Recreationists who accidentally illegally cross the border are subject to the zero tolerance.

Any individual who affects an illegal entry into the United States is subject to arrest and/or fine. CBP requires that all individuals report to a CBP Port of Entry when returning to the United States. CBP's border search authority is derived through Title 19 Section 1581, which provides that all persons, baggage and merchandise arriving in the United States are subject to inspection. Failure to report to a port of entry could result in a fine and/or seizure of your conveyance. CBP's seizure authority is derived through Title 19 Section 1595a.

If you enter Mexican territory during your visit to the Imperial Sand Dunes, you must make proper re-entry at a U.S. Port of Entry.

There are future plans to construct a permanent anti-vehicle fence clearly defining the border, however; in the short term to avoid any confusion the border will be marked with temporary paddle markers and pre-existing border monuments. These paddle markers are similar to those used by the Bureau of Land Management as trail markers. Please see the attached photograph.

In short, strict adherence to the law regarding the entry into the United States, by United States citizens or otherwise, must be observed. Securing this area by eliminating the illegal activity is critical to protecting our homeland. I hope to work together and reduce any misinformation or confusion regarding this matter in the present and future as our collaborative efforts will undoubtedly yield a successful resolution to the challenges we now face.

Again, please assist the El Centro and Yuma Border Patrol Sectors by disseminating the aforementioned information regarding our intentions to strictly enforce the law as it applies to illegal border entry to your members. It is our sincere desire to inform and educate all those who camp and recreate in the Imperial Sand Dunes so that vacationers can enjoy the dunes in partnership with our efforts to enforce the laws and remove the criminal threat.

As a result of your valued assistance and commitment to the security of our great nation, our combined efforts will prove yet again that we can accomplish as a team our shared goal of improving the quality of life in our community.

Acting Chief Patrol Agent CBP Border Patrol, El Centro Sector Chief Patrol Agent CBP Border Patrol, Yuma Sector

lizurt It's a Hard Road

By Dan Allison - Program Director of N2Dirt

Off-roading used to be so easy. Things are much different today than when going out trail riding or 4x4ing in the past. Offroading has many complications and restrictions - "don't do this and don't do that". Just going out and having fun sometimes seems like a lot of trouble.

The world around us is changing. Everything is turning green and the pressure to be "environmental" is getting greater every year. The old way of off-road thinking is not always what will be best in the future. Most changes could be for a reason and many changes are good. The off-road community now needs to look at itself and find a way that we can fit into this complicated picture.

I enjoy a good 4x4 trail, or taking my dual-sport motorcycle out on a great single track trail. I want to preserve our trails that we have, and keep them just the way they are, for my grandkids to enjoy too. The reality is that we are losing trails and finding places to off-road is getting harder. Our own actions can be cause for losing many riding areas.

At times, I have seen other people do inappropriate activities that would harm our trails or campsites. Some people are not even aware of what they do or how it affects the areas around us.

Over the holidays this year, I was out off-roading and camping with some friends. I am known by everyone now as the "N2Dirt guy" so even my close friends look at me knowing that I operate under a little different set of standards. I have made a commitment to conduct myself in an aware state of mind when I camp or offroad and do all that I can to reduce the impact of my presence. I try to set the example for others around me to see. This is where the "hard road" begins.

When I see people around me do stuff that may be inappropriate, do I say something? Do I just turn my back and let it happen? Now I am not talking about life changing events here. I am talking about simple things that we really should be doing anyway, like not littering, throwing trash into the fire pit, burning pallets and stuff your Mother would not be proud of. Of course some things are not small, and there is no question whether I should speak up or not. I will not tolerate people, even friends, who violate or damage our off-road future or the area that we recreate in.

I am not the enforcer. I don't write tickets, carry a gun or escort people off the property. I am just a guy that really cares about my off-road recreation areas. When something is observed that is not appropriate, deciding how to turn it into an educational moment is the tricky part. Often these people are my friends, clubs or groups that I have been invited to join in.

I try not to be their "mother" or nag or preach to them, but I feel my actions speak louder than words. I know that they see it, because if I screw up and don't do something, they let me know about it. It is a fine line between being too hard and being hypercritical. How can I stand up for what is important, yet not alienate those around me? This is the hard road to follow.

I personally have to keep on following my course, set good examples and use opportunities to teach without preaching. As a leader in an off-road organization, I have to be the example of the good things and not be seen doing bad things. It is a hard road that I have chosen, but one that I know will allow me to do what I enjoy my favorite pastime, off-roading in California.

I know people see what our new world of off-road requires and how we should conduct ourselves. The old ways of tear and destroy really are the past.

We are the new off-road enthusiasts for a new world of trail enjoyment to be here into the future. Soon it will be the norm for all of us to make the commitment to conduct ourselves in an aware state of mind when we camp or off-road and do all that we can to reduce the impact of our presence. It may be a hard road, but it sure is worth it.

For volunteer information, contact dan@n2dirt.org or Visit the interactive N2Dirt web site today. www.n2dirt.org

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Help CORVA Help You! Send your Donations Today!



BLM News

BLM Releases Eastern San Diego Proposed Resource Management Plan

BLM News Release (December 2007)

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) recently announced the availability of the Eastern San Diego County Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/ FEIS).

The PRMP/FEIS addresses public lands managed by the BLM's El Centro Field Office in the eastern portion of San Diego County, CA. These public lands cover about 100,000 acres, spanning a portion of the eastern escarpment of Southern California's Peninsular Ranges. The area is adjacent to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, the Cleveland National Forest, several Indian reservations, and the U.S.-Mexico border. The PRMP will provide future management guidance for use and protection of the resources in this area.

The public assisted BLM in identifying key land use issues in this area through a formal scoping process conducted in 2004. The draft RMP/EIS was released in March 2007 with over 230 public comments received by the May 31 deadline. The draft RMP/EIS analyzed the environmental impacts of these and other land use issues, and a wide range of management alternatives. Publication of the availability initiates the 30-day protest period. Specific protest procedures are outlined in the proposed resource management plan.

Paper and digital (compact disk) copies of the PRMP/FEIS are available at the EI Centro Field Office at the above address and at the California BLM State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825. The document is also available online at www.ca.blm.gov/elcentro.

For further information, contact Erin Dreyfuss, BLM El Centro Field Office, (760) 337-4436.



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Don't Miss the Fun at these Events

Visit the CORVA website at www.corva.org for more information on these events!

- April 7, 2008 14th Annual Off Road Lobby Day Sacramento
- April 18 20, 2008 CORVA's 2nd annual Family Fun Days, California City (see flyer elsewhere in this issue)

Robert Mahler

- April 26-27, 2008 12th Annual Moose Anderson Days Clean Up & BBQ At Jawbone Canyon Visitor Center. www.jawbone.org for more information
- May 3-4, 2008 9th Annual El Mirage Days Clean up & BBQ in El Mirage Dry Lake. www.elmirage.org for more information
- September 2008 CORVA Southern Jamboree
- October 2008 CORVA Northern Jamboree

Chris Nakahara

- January 24-25, 2009 Truckhaven Challenge Poker Run
- February 2009 Desert Vipers Grand Prix in Adelanto

- Pioneers - continued from page 4 -

trash (and yes set large scale fires in the forest by burning toilet paper – hikers are known for that!), cause trail erosion, cause management problems, etc. Why don't these recreational communities receive the same wrath that they continue to dish out on us? Can you say "biased"?

The bottom line on all this is that the federal public land management policy in the entire U.S. is moving toward a "Designated Route" system. Right or wrong, this is already in motion. A "Designated Route" system is one whereby all trails are closed unless marked open. In the past, our country has always been on a system whereby all trails are open unless marked closed.

We are working very hard within CORVA to make sure all 19 national forests in California have all routes listed and analyzed before the trails are designated and many trails are closed.

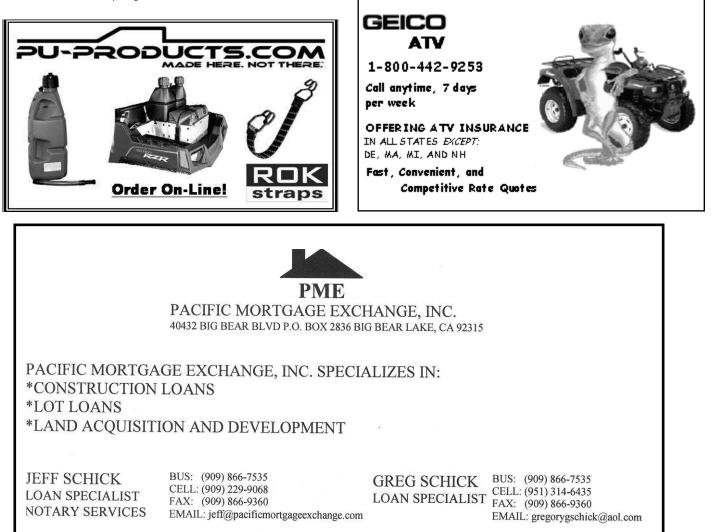
Each and every one of you has to be part of this trail inventory listing, helping us collect data on the trails out there and making comments on the plan. Once this route system is in place and trails are officially designated, you MUST stay on those routes no "ifs" and, or "buts". When you see a sign that says "Limited Use Area" that is exactly that.. You must use trails that are signed. Anything else, regardless if you used it all your life, is off limits. In the Jawbone/Dove Springs area, The Friends of Jawbone are placing red signs on those closed routes, making mounds of dirt at the trail crossing, and putting new "Do Not Enter" signs on these trails, because they are not part of the trail system anymore.

You have no choice but to obey these signs. We, at CORVA and those at any other participating organization, did not create this final route designation; it was an agency management plan that has been done over the years with input from the public .Once these plans are adopted, you are stuck with it and you had better comply. Otherwise you will lose your right to ride by getting full closure of our trails systems. **That is something we will not accept!** Please do not be part of the problem — just for a short, selfish thrill of riding a closed trail — or we will lose our trail system. This can happen because some sole individual just did not obey the law.

If you do not understand what I am saying, please send me an e-mail at edwaldheim@aol.com. If you want more riding areas, then help us by complying with the existing travel management plans and help us manage our sport. It really comes down to every single person riding their off-road vehicle by following the trail networks that we have.

On the highway, if you drive 75 miles an hour in a 55 mile per hour zone, eventually you will be caught. Do it enough times and you will lose your license. The only difference here is that you

- Pioneers - continued on next page -



- Pioneers - cont'd. from previous page -

monetarily pay for your actions. On the trails, if you go off-trail riding, all of us pay for YOUR bad actions. Frankly, we are not prepared to accept that. So, if you see someone not obeying our trail system, talk to them, and if they do not listen to your recommendations turn them in to an enforcement agency, or as a last resort ban them from your list of riding friend's. They will kill our sport, and your fun, faster than anyone else could.

Let's go riding responsibly. Let me know if you want to help us on trail maintenance projects, or at our OHV Lobby Day in Sacramento on April 7, 2008. We hope you will join CORVA in some official capacity. We have many openings that will help to keep our sport alive. You can use your best talents to help save your sport, and have fun while doing it, too.

Contact me at edwaldheim@aol.com. I would love to hear from you.

- Northern Jamboree - cont'd from page 9 -

had a good time doing it. We hope that everyone will think hard about becoming a member of CORVA, if they are not already. Let's try to make the 2008 Jamboree as big or bigger. We need lots of individuals to participate in the planning and execution of the Jamboree. Anyone in the North that has an idea or wants to help next year, just call Lois or Debi and we will get you involved.

Here's looking to another great Jamboree in 2008.

- S2438 - cont'd from page 13 -

After ten years of increasing reliance on fee revenue, the program will not be easy to uproot. Benzar is calling on public land users and supporters to rally behind the fee repeal bill as the first step in a new National Public Lands Initiative.

"Numerous state legislatures, county commissions, city councils, and civic organizations have passed resolutions opposing Fee Demo and RAT," said Benzar. "We will be asking all of them, and additional groups as well, to support S2438.

"For a decade, the agencies have been acting as if they own our public lands," she concluded. "It's time for the real owners the American people - to step up and assert our rights. This bill offers us a golden opportunity to take back our precious public lands."



California Off Road Vehicle Association, Inc.

Info Line

1-800-42-CORVA

Terry Work (VM# 513)

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Vice President Land Use* Larry Robertson (VM#511) larry@corva.org

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Associate MemberS

CORVA Associate Members & Sponsors are vital to our land use fight. This category of membership is for those businesses and clubs who wish to align their name with CORVA and show their continued support of our land access projects by providing monetary assistance. They go the extra mile for CORVA. CORVA urges you to support those who support your sport and use these companies whenever possible.

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Haulin Toyz, Inc.-Weekend Warrior Toy Hauler sales, 2606 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 641-2869

www.haulintoyz.com, info@haulintoyz.com Hefner Electric -52 E. Santa Anita Ave., Burbank, CA 91502 (818) 566-8820 Hi-Lift Jack -46 W. Spring St., Bloomfield, IN 47424 (800) 233-2051, ex 15 Hilloppers -6340 Indiana Ave., Long Beach,

CA 90805 (562) 423-1889 Honda, Kawasaki of Modesto - 1120 N. Carpenter Rd., Modesto, CA 95351 (209) 529-5424

Honda of Santa Barbara - 408 Chapala St.,
Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 965-4814
Hutchins Motor Sports, Inc. - 55405
29 Palms Hwy. Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 365-6311 www.hutchinshd.com
IMS Products - 6240 Box Springs Rd. Blvd.,
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JIMCO Electrical - 26752 Oake Ave., #H, Santa Clarita, CA 91351 (661) 252-1227 **John Burr Cycles** - 9008 Sierra Ave., Fontana, CA 92335

Kawasaki -kawasaki.com/html/ Check our website for a dealer near you

Kawasaki of Simi Valley - 4821 E. Los Angeles Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063 (805) 522-6119 Kennedy Engineering - 38830 17th St. East, Palmdale, CA 93550, 661-272-1147 Kerechuk Motor Service - Billy De Bere, Honda/Toyota Repairs, 120 East Valley Blvd., Alhambra,CA91801, (626) 308-0811, kerechuk@sbcglobal.net. Kline's Creations - 9077 Westeria Way, Orangevale, CA 95662 (916) 988-8433 Kyle A. Goin Masonry - 731 W. Elm St., Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 873-3322 Land Rover Thousand Oaks - Parts

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Marina Suzuki - 12973 Washington, Los Angeles, CA (310) 306-8595.

www.marina.suzuki.com. McKenzies Performance Products -

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Petroworks Off-Road Products, Inc. - 111 W. Aviation Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028

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Powder Coating Plus - 26140 Avenue Hall, Valencia, CA 91355 (661) 295-0205

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PU-Products, LLC - 204 Greenfield Dr., # G, El Cajon, CA 92020 (619) 334-1913 info@pu-products.com

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Restoration Supply Co. - 15182-B Highland Valley Road, Escondido, CA 92025

(760) 741-4014 www.RestorationStuff.com **Robertson Honda of North Hollywood** – 5626 Tujunga Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91601 (818) 766-6134

Rocky Mountain ATV 1551 West American Wy., Payson, UT 84651 (801) 798-7715 RPM Automotive - Complete Automotive & Off-Road Vehicle repair. 130 A N. Verdugo Rd. Glendale, CA 91206 (818) 247-4513. Sand Sports Magazine - P.O. Box 2260, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 (714) 979-2560.

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Scott's Performance Products - 2625 Honolulu Ave., Montrose, CA 91020 (818) 248-6747

Scott's USA - Freeport Center Bldg. E-12, Clearfield, UT 84016 (208) 622-1000

Simi Recreational Vehicle Sales -1568 Los Angeles Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93065

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Tri-County Gear - 1143 W. Second St., Pomona, CA 91766 (909) 623-3373

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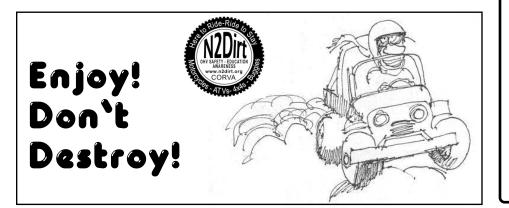
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- 3/14-16 Smitty's Desert Riders, California City, Camp B, Play Weekend Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817
- 3/12Friends of El Mirage Meeting, at 9 a.m. El Mirage Community Center www.elmirage.org Contact: Ed Waldheim at edwaldheim@aol.com
- 3/13-16 High Octane Motorsports Expo at the California Speedway www.highoctanemotorsportsexpo.com
- 3/156th Annual Dumont Dunes Cleanup 951-738-9047 vickiw@friendsofdumontdunes.org

- 3/19Friends of Jawbone Meeting at 9 a.m., Jawbone Canyon Station, www.jawbone.org Contact: Ed Waldheim at edwaldheim@aol.com 800-42-CORVA
- 4/5-6.....Smitty's Desert Riders, Hill toppers Grand Prix, 29 Palms, CA Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817
- 4/7 14th Annual Off Road Lobby Day - Sacramento
- 4/18-20 CORVA's 2nd annual Family Fun Days, California City (See flyer inside this issue)
- 4/26-27 12th Annual Moose Anderson Days Clean Up & BBQ - At Jawbone Canyon Visitor Center. www.jawbone.org for info



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