

OFF-ROADERS *In Action*

Greenhorn Volunteers Haul Out Debris



The CORVA Northern Jamboree combined fun, family OHV games with Halloween-themed events such as costume contests for kids and adults, and Trick-or-Treating between RVs.

See inside for details of the fun time we had!

Pictured above, the girls go for a ride!

Who said off-roading was a guys' sport!

(Photo by Ken Swenson - Escarabjo Buggy Club)

Pictured at right, CORVA kids enjoy the costume contest.

(Photo by Ed & Linda Waldheim)

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Northern Jamboree Review! New Bill to Nix Recreation Fee Volunteers Fixup Mining Camp

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WHAT IS CORVA?

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. Secondly, 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!

OFF-ROADERS *In Action*

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Inside This Issue

Fun for the Whole Family - CORVA Northern Jamboree is a Family Tradition	4
Northern Jamboree Photos	6
ORBA's Director of Land Use Testifies on Capital Hill Opposing Riverside County Wilderness Bill	8
Stay on Trails or Lose More Ground	8
BLM in Hollister Enters into New Partnership	8
Now Accepting Nominations for the CORVA Awards	10
100+ Local OHV'ers Volunteer at Greenhorn	12
Winter Road and Trail Closures in Los Padres National Forest	12
My Civic Responsibility	12
Baucus, Crapo Bill Would Nix Recreation Fees	13
Endangered Species Closure Continues in Angeles NF	13
OHV Volunteers Help Preserve Old Mining Camp	14
Imperial Sand Dunes 2007-2008 Monitoring Protocols Announced	15
Advertise in the <i>Off-Roaders in Action</i>	16
Welcome New Members	17
Donate to Your Favorite Cause	18
Don't Miss the Fun at These Events	19
Judicial Conduct Act	20
CORVA Directory	21
Associate Members	22
Membership Application	23
CORVA Calendar	24

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

CORVA

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In Overdrive



By Ed Waldheim
President

Fun for the Whole Family *CORVA Northern Jamboree is a Family Tradition*

"Fun for the Whole Family", well, does that ring a bell? Debra Campbell our Northern Regional Secretary wrote an article of that title on page 10 of our January 1999 CORVA "Off-Roaders In Action" newsletter highlighting the CORVA Northern Jamboree and the Johnson family.

Now, fast forward to the Northern Jamboree of 2007 and guess who came out to show me the January 1999 issue of our newsletter with the front cover showing a picture of the Johnson family, no other than Rick Johnson.

The picture is of the Johnson kids in their own 1/2 scale miniature rail with a 5-horsepower motor (Rick's son had already outgrown the 3-horsepower motor!) that dad built, with Mom smiling in the background.

Now at the time of the article, Summer (the passenger) was age 3 and Cory (the driver) was age 6. Inside the newsletter in a wider photo, Mom Alison, and Dad Rick were pictured next to their full scale buggy,

with the kids parked next to them in their 1/2 scale buggy.

So when my wife Linda and I were walking about and greeting old friends at this year's Northern Jamboree at Frank Raines Park, we had a chance to visit with the Johnson family.

I could not help but think how fantastic our sport is that a family recreating together has so much fun that even after all these years here they are again at another CORVA Northern Jamboree.

So we had to take the opportunity to take another photo of this off-roading family – similar to yours I am sure – where the teenagers have grown up in the sport. Summer is now 12 and Cory is now 16. This time they are not



The Johnson Family, 2007

driving rails, but have advanced to motorcycles.

Rick now laments he wished he had a bigger trailer so that he could take the rail out for a run at the Barrel Races, or the Mouse Run, but that will be next time.

How great is this family sport? Pretty darn great, I would say. It amazes me how the media puts us down every chance they get and we are the epitome of the average American family! We enjoy family and friends with campfires, nature, and food and fellowship.

We spend valuable time with our children developing them into fine American citizens. As you know, they grow up so fast, so this time with them is really "valuable".

At this year's Jamboree, so many folks were in the park that you could not find a

- Northern Jamboree -cont'd. on page 6-



The Johnson Family, 1999

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Northern Jamboree

- Northern Jamboree -
cont'd. from page 4 -

parking space for a car. Lois Silvernail our Northern Regional Director and Debi Campbell our Northern Regional Secretary and all the Northern Clubs did an incredible job putting this Jamboree together. Thanks to everyone for their hard work.

Bill Salmon, CORVA Past President and current Northern Regional Assistant Director for Clubs, took me on a drive through the park. I was very pleased to see that Stanislaus County has improved and worked on the roads and some of the trails. Frank Raines Park is a Regional County Park. What a difference from years ago.

The East Bay Hi-Tailers Club continues to adopt 22 miles of the highway on the entrance road to the park to keep it in tip-top shape and they help in the park, as do other clubs. What a great effort they put out to maintain this park. These clubs sure are dedicated. We have a lot to be thankful for to have them working on our behalf.

This Northern Jamboree held the weekend of Halloween each year has an assortment of off-road games and trophies to go along with them, but the Halloween party is a main event at this Jamboree. Year after year it is a big hit with the families.

This is different than the CORVA Southern Jamboree that concentrates on the games and prize drawing since it is held in September each year. At the Northern Jamboree, the CORVA members take Halloween seriously.

There is camp to camp Trick-Or-Treating for the kids, some RV's even set up their own Halloween decorations as you will see in the photos, and the Halloween games and costume contests steal the show.

Kids, kids, kids everywhere! I had the great honor to be a judge for the annual Halloween contest. This was a treat. 35 kids entered the contest. During dinner, another fabulous costume contest took place for the adults.

A great dinner was prepared by the Escarabajo Buggy Club, another fine Northern Club. This was a tasty dinner. This club did a fantastic job.

I personally want to thank every one of the CORVA members who attended, all the clubs and the Northern board members who worked so hard to make this event



such a fun event. I know why parking is limited at Frank Raines, because you guys really know how to put on a party and everyone wants to be there.

My compliments to the CORVA members, you are always positive and are

here to have fun with fellow off-roaders. That is what keeps our families together.

Congratulations to all for a fabulous, fun, and exciting fundraiser for CORVA. You always do a fabulous job for CORVA and we are grateful.



Northern Jamboree



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Ed says, "Too many environmental restrictions will kill ya!"

Photos by Ed & Linda Waldheim & Ken Swenson

Wilderness Bill

ORBA's Director of Land Use Testifies on Capital Hill Opposing Riverside County Wilderness Bill

Dart States That Wilderness Designations Put the Most Extreme Limits on Access to Public Land Including Prohibiting OHV Use

Bill Dart, ORBA's Director of Land Use, recently testified in front of the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Forests, Parks and Public Lands opposing HR 3682, the California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act, introduced by U.S. Representative Mary Bono. This bill would designate almost 200,000 acres in Riverside County as wilderness.

In his testimony, Dart stated, "A wilderness designation places the most extreme limitation on the use of public lands. It prohibits mechanized and

motorized uses including OHVs, bicycles and wheelchairs. As a result, these areas are no longer accessible to a large portion of American society, namely the very young, the elderly and the handicapped, who are not able to hike long distances.

ORBA believes that these areas deserve protection from future development but should not be off limits to such a large segment of the population.

"In a time when the amount of land available for OHV recreation is decreasing we urge congress to consider a different designation for the areas in this bill where

recreation is currently occurring. The recreation community would like to see a "Backcountry" designation created that allows for recreation while at the same time prohibiting future development."

Dart also stated, "We are also concerned because, to our knowledge, Congresswoman Bono has not attempted to seek input from the OHV community with regard to how this bill will affect our recreation opportunities. We are in the process of trying to work with Congresswoman Bono's staff to ensure that she understands the concerns the OHV community has with this bill."

ORBA is a national trade association composed of off-road related businesses united to promote common goals that support the prosperity and growth of the off-road industry.

Stay on Trails or Lose More Ground

Corral Canyon OHV Manager Letter to Riders

By Richard Tull, OHV Program Manager
Descanso Ranger District

I am on my way out the door to work on the OHV area so I only have time for a short note but here is the latest - We received enough rain from the last couple of storms and I will be opening the gate at Corral Canyon today.

Please get the word out that the burned part toward the dam will be open on a trial basis. If people start running around off the designated trails or into the wilderness I will have to close the gates to that part again.

At that point, we could be forced to wait for the vegetation to grow back before re-opening the burned area. I don't think anyone wants that so please help with keeping everyone on the trails. Bear Valley will be open but the area inside the Pine Fire is closed to all entry. Since motorized use is only allowed on the road itself anyway this will not affect OHV'ers.

Just stay on the road and no worries. There are bound to be more new paths from cross border migration that have

formed during the closure but don't be fooled. These are not designated or sustainable and riding on anything but designated routes will cost the OHV community riding opportunities in the long run.

Please get the word out where ever you can : "Stay on designated trails - the trails stay open."

I still have work to do in the burned area so watch out for crews and materials (mostly along the road).

Remember, you determine the future of your motorized recreation opportunities. Do the right thing and teach others too. (I know-I'm preaching to the choir here)

Stay tuned for news of volunteer opportunities and other chances to get involved (or more involved).

See you out there

"Ride and Enjoy -
OHV opportunities are kept
Ride and Destroy -
OHV opportunities are lost
It's your choice - Choose wisely"

BLM in Hollister Enters Into New Partnership

The Bureau of Land Management Hollister Field Office signed a memorandum of understanding with three local motorcycle shops to assist BLM with selling season passes to the Clear Creek Management Area.

Rick Cooper, BLM's Hollister field manager is excited about the new partnership to the popular off-highway recreation area. Additional motorcycle shops in Coalinga and Fresno will be added to the partnership in the near future. Beginning December 17, users can purchase a season pass from Hollister Honda, Pinit Motorsports in Salinas, Zoom Cycle in Santa Clara, the Hollister Field Office or at the Clear Creek Management Area on weekends.

The BLM began charging fees at Clear Creek on January 1, 2008. Visitors can

- **BLM** - cont'd on page 21 -

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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-Roadings? 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.)

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Volunteering

100+ Local OHV'ers Volunteer at Greenhorn

By Friends of Greenhorn

Locals respond in record numbers in an attempt to keep Greenhorn Creek area open for OHV use.

Friends of Greenhorn notified the local residents of Nevada County that the Greenhorn Creek area is at risk for closure to off highway vehicles (OHV's) by both the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Tahoe National Forest.

In response, over 100 concerned and caring volunteers gathered at Greenhorn Creek to haul out a vast amount of debris left by the less caring, including tires, automobile parts, scrap metal, abandoned vehicles, household garbage, construction debris, sofas, TV's, computers, and several bags of shotgun shells and bullet casings. Local businesses participated as well; Les Schwab Tire received all the dumped tires at no charge, Auburn Placer Disposal donated 22 cubic yards worth of

free space, and Cal Trans donated over 150 55- gallon trash bags.

An estimated 30 -40 cubic yards of trash and debris were removed from the Greenhorn Creek area, from the Red Dog Rd. crossing, well into the Tahoe National Forest area north and east of Buckeye Rd., near Chalk Bluff, and as far south as Lowell Hill. OHV enthusiasts who frequent the Greenhorn Creek area are upset by the BLM and Tahoe National Forest Route Designation and Travel Management Plans, which could close the area as early as Spring of 2008.

This sweeping volunteer response clearly shows the BLM and the Tahoe National Forest that the OHV community cares, wants to keep the area, and will spend the volunteer time and energy to maintain it.

A master plan for the area is in progress, and will include designating a

- **Greenhorn** - cont'd on page 21 -

My Civic Responsibility

By Dan McGraw, CORVA member

I am always hearing about how we should write letters and call our government officials. I would send e-mails, but always felt that my voice was not heard. After listening to Ed Waldheim and Jim Arbogast, I was motivated to go to my Congresswoman Mary Bono's office and let her know about the Hemet Jeep Club and discuss local land use.

Her staff was very receptive and the meeting ended with me meeting a Deputy Chief of Staff a few days later. I told him of our club, its history, what we do, where we go and member demographics. I told him how Wilderness areas lock us out, forever, to places I'm not able to get to as I did in my younger days. With Riverside County being the third largest growing county in the state, we need more room to play, not more wilderness.

He explained Congressman Bono's reason for sponsoring (H. R. 3682) and explained why. He was also very interested in places like Coyote Canyon, Glamis and other areas taken away and not given back and places like Truckhaven Hills where they are trying to take away a place that has been used for off-roading for decades.

I told him all about how the Center for Biological Diversity screwed me and hundreds of others, out of the CORVA Truckhaven Challenge last January [when they shut down the CORVA event and sued CORVA and State Parks DPR], and you could tell by the look on his face he felt the same way I/we do.

I learned that legislators and their staff want to hear from us. The only ones they hear from are the environmentalist.

The CORVA website www.corva.org has a link to contact your Senator, Congressperson and lots of other government officials who want to hear what you have to say.

Winter Road and Trail Closures in Los Padres National Forest

USFS press release

The Forest Service has begun closing some roads and trails in Los Padres National Forest for the winter season. Additional forest roads may be closed intermittently during wet weather. The purpose of these road and trail closures is to reduce maintenance costs, reduce resource damage, and prevent damage to unpaved road surfaces during wet weather.

During the fall, winter, and spring periods there is typically snow pack at higher elevations and soils can become saturated to a depth where damage occurs if the affected road or trail is driven upon. Gates have been installed at strategic locations in the forest to prevent access by motorized vehicles during wet periods.

Because these trails are not cleared of snow, vehicles attempting to travel these trails when there is more than a few inches of snow are subject to becoming stuck. In

the remote setting of the Los Padres National Forest this may result in a serious safety situation requiring search and rescue.

Closing these trails to motorized use during the snow season reduces this risk.

Forest Supervisor Peggy Hernandez stated, "I have determined that enforcement of these closures will protect the public and prevent trail damage and soil erosion."

Forest visitors are advised to call the Ranger Station nearest their destination for the latest conditions, closures and permit requirements. In addition, area closures associated with the Zaca and Ranch fires are still in effect on the Santa Lucia, Santa Barbara, and Ojai Ranger Districts in the Santa Barbara and Ventura County portion of the forest. These area closures will be

- **Los Padres** - cont'd on page 21 -

Public Lands

Baucus, Crapo Bill Would Nix Recreation Fees

Montana, Idaho Senators Team Up To Repeal Recreation Access Tax

DEAR PUBLIC LANDS SUPPORTER,

The day has finally arrived when we can begin to see the end of access fees for public lands. A bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate, with bipartisan sponsorship, to repeal the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, also known as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT.

Please take a few moments to celebrate, and pat yourself on the back for all the effort over the last 10 years by every one of you that has brought this about.

Then get ready to go to work. This landmark legislation is going to require an all-out grassroots effort to achieve passage. We do not yet have a bill number assigned, so hold off briefly from contacting Congress, as having a number will be important when you ask for their support.

We will be sending more details about the bill and how you can help get it passed in the coming days and weeks.

THANK YOU for your support, which is what made this happen.

Kitty Benzar, President

www.WesternSlopeNoFee.org

Press Release of Senator Crapo

December 2007 — The U.S. Forest Service and other federal agencies would be blocked from charging Americans higher fees to access their public lands under legislation introduced today by two prominent Western lawmakers.

Idaho Senator Mike Crapo today joined Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Montana) in introducing the much-anticipated Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act of 2007.

The bill would revoke authority given federal agencies, with the exception of the National Park Service, in 2004 to institute new fees and increase existing fees at campgrounds, trailheads, and other public areas.

Specifically, the bill repeals the 2004-passed Federal Lands Recreational Enhancement Act, sometimes called the recreational access tax, and reinstates legislation dating back to 1965 that limits the use of fees on public lands.

Baucus, a long-time critic of the fees, said the current system amounts to double taxation.

"Americans already pay to use their public lands on April 15," Baucus said. "We shouldn't be taxed twice to go fishing, hiking, or camping on OUR public lands. It just doesn't make any sense. That's why Mike and I are going to fight like the dickens to get this bill passed."

The senators noted that both the Montana and Idaho State Legislatures passed resolutions to repeal FLREA.

Crapo said, "As an outdoorsman and legislator, I have always supported fair and reasonable access to our nation's public lands. Mandatory user fees for access to many of those lands limits accessibility to those who can afford the cost and results in a "pay-to-play" system that is unacceptable. I also fully recognize that we need to adequately fund recreation activities on federal lands and will continue to fight in Congress to make sure the funding needs of our public lands management agencies are met."

Debates have flared up in communities across the West as fees began to rise after the 2004 bill was passed. Baucus said he hopes his bill will help resolve those disputes.

Kitty Benzar, president of the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition, hailed the bill. Baucus worked closely with Benzar as well as the late Robert Funkhouser, who recently passed away, in crafting the legislation.

"This bill 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."

The Baucus-Crapo bill would:

- Repeal the FLREA
- Reinstates the fee authorities established by the 1965 Land and Water Conservation Act
- Reinstates the National Parks Pass system
- Cap the amount that can be charged for entrance to national parks.

Roost and taking the highway to Cloudburst Summit, a distance of 4.5 miles. The Angeles National Forest is located northeast of Los Angeles. It is approximately 655,000 acres in size and includes the San Gabriel Mountains. For more information, please contact District Ranger John Capell, at (661) 296-9710.

Endangered Species Closure Continues in Angeles NF

USFS press release

(ARCADIA, CA) In order to protect critical habitat of the mountain yellow-legged frog, the U.S. Forest Service will extend the Williamson Rock temporary closure until December 31, 2008. This is an ongoing closure which limits access to approximately 1,000 acres in the area north of the Angeles Crest Highway (SR 2) in the vicinity of Cooper Canyon and has been in place since December 2005.

The new forest order became effective Tuesday, January 1, 2008. This effort allows the U.S. Forest Service to follow the guidelines for protecting the habitat of the

mountain yellow-legged frog, an endangered species.

Specifically, a Biological Assessment was undertaken to analyze the effects of human activities (including recreation) within the area which was designated as critical habitat by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service per the Endangered Species Act.

Currently the U.S. Forest Service is in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop mitigation measures. The portion of the Pacific Crest Trail which lies within the impacted area allows hikers to take a detour around the area by departing the trail (northbound) at Eagles

Get Involved

OHV Volunteers Help Preserve Old Mining Camp

By Charlie, www.bickelcamp.org

Friends of Jawbone Canyon and Bickel Camp volunteers (which include some CORVA members), along with the BLM providing supplies, did a wonderful job putting parking area boundaries and motorcycle posts at Bickel Camp recently. A big thanks goes to the few who did a hot and sweaty job so well!

Please feel free to visit Bickel Camp on your desert travels. You can purchase a Friends of Jawbone map to find out where Bickel Camp is located. It is a treasure trove of old mining equipment. Donations are being accepted via PayPal on the group's website. Why not consider a small donation today?

What is Bickel Camp?

The Bickel Camp website is dedicated to the memory of Walt Bickel, and to

sharing the enterprising spirit of a true "old-timer" prospector, inventor, humanitarian, and much more. Walt's Camp is located in Last Chance Canyon of the El Paso Mountains, Mojave Desert, California. The pictures were taken of sights in the area. Take a look around and enjoy this small but significant part of "Your Public Lands" and history.

Your help is greatly appreciated in preserving Walt's Camp for future generations. We also appreciate your support for our current caretaker, Jose Poblano, and for our new non-profit organization called "Friends of Last Chance Canyon" (www.tflcc.org). We plan on helping to preserve areas such as this, Burro Schmidt's Tunnel, and adopted cabins and areas within the El Paso Mtns. Please help support our efforts through the PayPal donation link.

FLCC fundraising will include car and hiking tours offered of these and other areas....stay tuned! Check the weblog on our website for current happenings, we try to update it as needed.

Note that the gracious help of the Friends of Jawbone non-profit organization is instrumental in allowing us to fund for the caretaker - they are a great bunch of people and do good work towards helping to care for our multiple-use lands.

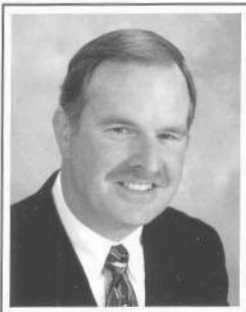
Volunteers are also welcome to contact us - send email to the webmaster of this site. Please remember when visiting the camp, the items Walt lived with are historical artifacts. They are free to look at, but are not to be taken. Thanks for visiting!



Who Are We?

Friends of Last Chance Canyon is an organized group of people interested in sustaining and protecting areas within the El Paso Mountains, near Ridgecrest CA. To learn more detail of the organization, please visit the web links regarding our incorporation and bylaws. Our organization's main focus is preserving and protecting historic sites like Burro Schmidt's tunnel and the Walt Bickel Camp. Burro Schmidt's legacy is his tunnel and cabin remains (which we hope to rebuild).

- Mining - cont'd on next page -



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BLM News

- Mining - cont'd from previous page -

Walt Bickel really touched a lot of people in his years in Last Chance Canyon. His thirst for knowledge, humor, and quick wit made him friends with most he met. He was always ready to help a stranded motorist in the canyon, where aid can be difficult to come by.

Friends of Last Chance Canyon (FLCC) can be easily joined by sending us your contact information, please be patient as this website is in a state of being updated and some links might not yet be available. Your Paypal donations and foodstuffs dropped off to our caretaker, (such as canned goods, water and your encouragement), will certainly help us continue to keep things going. Passing along encouragement to the local BLM office for sustaining Bickel Camp and providing a caretaker at Burro Schmidt's Tunnel is a good idea, too.

Any questions or comments please write to me (Charlie) at webmaster@tflcc.org.



Imperial Sand Dunes 2007-2008 Monitoring Protocols Announced

BLM News Release

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the University of California, Davis, (UC Davis) plans to conduct two new study protocols at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA), while postponing a third due to lack of rainfall.

Vicki Wood, BLM El Centro field manager, said the two new studies focus on principal pollinators of the Peirson's milk-vetch, a plant listed as threatened by the USFWS under the Endangered Species Act, as well as sampling of seedpods to determine seed quantities for reproduction. The third study, the seed bank persistence sampling study must be postponed for a future year when rainfall conditions are met.

The UC Davis study will be conducted under a cooperative ecosystems studies unit agreement with BLM under the supervision of Dr. Lynn Kimsey of the Bohart Museum of Entomology. That study will be conducted in spring 2008.

The USFWS study will also be conducted in spring 2008 and will involve collection of 600 pods from 80-100 milkvetch. The Fish and Wildlife Service plans to send the pods to Dr. Kimsey's laboratory at UC Davis where they

will be dissected, viable seeds counted, and seed dimensions measured.

Wood said BLM recognizes the importance of the seed bank study, noting it supplements the three-year plant population study done in 2004-2006. "We initiated the seed bank study in spring 2007, and planned to conduct the second seed bank study after the fall rains." However, as of Dec. 17, she noted only 1.45 inches of rain have been recorded at the Dunes since Oct. 1. Due to scientific protocol requirements, at least 2 inches of rainfall are required for the study to go forward, she explained.

As the 15-day forecast ahead calls for no measurable rainfall in the area, Wood said, "We reluctantly made the decision to postpone the seed bank part of the study until the rainfall conditions meet the minimum levels. Otherwise, we cannot justify the cost benefit or endorse the validity of any data gathered.

"We are, however, looking forward to the data to be gathered by UC Davis and USFWS and believe both will add significantly to our understanding of the Peirson's milk-vetch's ecology and how best to manage the Dunes to ensure the plant's recovery," Wood said.

For more information, contact the BLM's El Centro Field Office at (760) 337-4400.



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1/4 Page (3 5/8" x 4 3/4")	\$165	\$300	\$540
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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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Southern Jamboree



Reese, the Rhino riding dog, wearing doggles.

Jim Colln, CORVA Southern Secretary and R & R Duners Club, helps participant with Telephone Book Search Event

More photos of the fun at Southern Jamboree

(See last month's issue of *Off-Roaders In Action* for Southern Jamboree Article and additional photos)

**Photos by
Robert Childs**



CORVA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Here are the main projects that CORVA is involved with at this time. Please cut this form out and mail with your donation to:

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The Any Bike You Want Sweepstakes Grand Prize will be awarded to one (1) lucky bike lover when we have collected 3000 tickets or on Nov 1 2008, whichever occurs first. Suggested donation is \$10 per ticket, which will benefit The RiderDown Foundation & SmileyRiley.org Help Injured Riders Up!



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

- ♦ February 23- 24, 2008 - Desert Vipers Grand Prix in Adelanto
- ♦ April 7, 2008 - 14th Annual Off Road Lobby Day - Sacramento
- ♦ April 26-27, 2008 - 12th Annual Moose Anderson Days Clean Up & BBQ - At Jawbone Canyon Visitor Center.
www.jawbone.org for info.
- ♦ 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
- ♦ January 2009 - Truckhaven Challenge Poker Run

Legislation

Judicial Conduct Act

Submitted by Eddie Phillips, Americans for Forest Access (AFFA) & CORVA Member
Press Release by Joyce Meyer Ministries

James Madison, who is often called the Father of America's Constitution, once said, "If men were angels, no government would be necessary.... In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself."

Recently, a bill that seeks to discourage judicial activism was introduced in Congress.

H.R. 2898, the Judicial Conduct Act, "refreshes" the grounds for judicial discipline and serves as a reminder that legislating from the bench is an impermissible judicial function.

To control power's corrupting influence in the hands of sinful men, our Founding Fathers divided the power structure of our government into three branches. This created a system of checks and balances between them. When one of the three branches, whether legislative, executive, or judicial, oversteps their boundaries and exercises power belonging to another, it may, as Madison also observed, "justly [pronounce] the very definition of tyranny." In other words, no single branch should become more powerful than the other branches.

According to a recent American Bar Association poll, the American people by a margin of nearly two to one (56% to 30%) understand that judicial activism has reached a crisis stage.

Through this bill, activist judges will be put on notice that the current Congress not only has the will, but also the authority to address the problem of judges who usurp legislative authority.

What YOU Can do to help!

Contact your representative and urge them to support the **Judicial Conduct Act (H.R. 2898)**.

Take a few moments and send an email to your representative. If you want to contact your member of Congress by telephone, you may reach them through the Capitol Hill switchboard at (202) 224-3121. Please share this message with your friends and family.

For more information about this issue, VISIT:

Joyce Meyer Ministries
www.joycemeyer.org
700 Grace Parkway
Fenton, MO 63026

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.



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- Greenhorn - cont'd from page 12 -

trail system, designating camping areas, signing for private property owners, signing for the trail areas, and reminders to "Leave no trace", "Pack it in. Pack it out" and "No Dumping".

Private property owners in attendance, were encouraged and enthusiastic, and expressly commented that they had purchased property in the surrounding area because they spent a great deal of family time at the creek, and that closing the area would be a local tragedy.

Friends of Greenhorn are committed to a working relationship with Land Management agencies and to addressing the concerns of private property owners in the area. "We need to make it work, for everyone," said Jacquelyne Theisen, member of Friends of Greenhorn.

For additional information see: friends-of-greenhorn@googlegroups.com or contact:

<http://groups.google.com/group/friends-of-greenhorn>

[Kyra, CORVA Northern Regional Grants Director, has been working on this issue. Please contact Kyra at krya@corva.org - Erin Dyer, Editor]

- Los Padres - cont'd from page 12 -

evaluated on a regular basis and some lands will be reopened to the public as conditions allow and will be updated on the Current Conditions page at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres/conditions/> Forest Order 07-17-7700-2 and 07-18-2300-2 pertaining to the above closures, are posted on the Los Padres National Forest website at: www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres/about/rules/regulations/

- BLM - cont'd from page 8 -

either purchase a season pass for the calendar year or a weekly pass good from Wednesday through Tuesday regardless of the day of purchase. The season pass will cost \$80 for a primary vehicle and up to two OHVs. Additional OHVs can be added to the season pass for \$20 per vehicle. The weekly pass will cost \$5 for the primary vehicle and \$10 per OHV. Season passes are also available at the BLM - Hollister Field Office, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

The fees collected will be used to maintain existing facilities, develop additional services, provide for law enforcement and help protect sensitive resources in the area.

For more information, contact Lesly Smith at (831) 630-5015 or call the office at 831-630-5000.

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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
Hilltoppers -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., #E, Riverside, CA 92507 (951) 653-7720
J's Maintenance Service, Inc. - Nationwide Commercial & Industrial Janitorial Service. 33 Years in the Business! Residential Service available to local customers - 3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale, CA 91214 (818) 247-8778
Jart Direct Mail Services - 1210-H N. Jefferson St., Anaheim, CA 92807 (714) 666-0136.
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, CA 91801, (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 Department offers up to a 20% discount on parts & accessories to CORVA Members. 3601 Auto Mall Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA (805) 497-7522
Lock Jaw Racing Products - Bullhead City, AZ 86442 (928) 234-1546 lockjawracing.com
Lost Coyotes MC Racing Club - P.O. Box 6665, Lancaster, CA 93539 (661) 942-5462
Maier Mfg. Co. - 416 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA 95945 (530) 272-9036 (530) 272-4306 fax. www.maier-mfg.com
Malcolm Smith Motorsports - 7563 Indiana Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 (951) 687-1300
Marina Suzuki - 12973 Washington, Los Angeles, CA (310) 306-8595. www.marina.suzuki.com.
McKenzie's Performance Products - 2366 E. Orangethorpe, Anaheim, CA 92806 (714) 441-1212 (714) 441-1622 fax
Napier Enterprises -Designed for the great outdoors! 2315 Whirlpool St. 161, Niagra Falls, NY (905) 935-2918 sportz@niagara.com
Off-Road Warehouse - 7915 Balboa Ave., San Diego, CA 92111-2414 (858) 565-7792 Two other locations in El Cajon and Escondido
OMF Performance Products - 9860 Indiana Ave., #17, Riverside, CA 92504 (951)354-8272
Petroworks Off-Road Products, Inc. - 111 W. Aviation Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028 (760) 731-9434 or Petroworks@gmail.com www.petroworks.com
Powder Coating Plus - 26140 Avenue Hall, Valencia, CA 91355 (661) 295-0205
Pro Comp Suspension -2360 Boswell Rd., Chula Vista, CA 91914(619) 216-1444 (800) 776-0767 ext. 110
PU-Products, LLC - 204 Greenfield Dr., # G, El Cajon, CA 92020 (619) 334-1913 info@pu-products.com www.pu-products.com
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.

Associate Members Continued

Sand Supply - 22839 Saticoy St., Canoga Park, CA 91304 (818) 437-4452

Santa Barbara Motorsports - 5718 Hollister Ave., Goleta, CA 93117 (805) 967-9898

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

Simi Valley Honda CanAm - Offers a 10% discount to CORVA members. 4346 E. Los Angeles Ave., Simi Valley, CA (On Los Angeles Ave. near Tapo) (805) 526-4122

www.simivalleyhondaseadoo.com

Sneakers MC Club - Bishop, CA (760) 873-4121 www.sneakersmc.com

Speaker Works - 1030 N. Main Street, Orange, CA 92867 (714) 997-9880 www.usdaudio.com

Split Mountain Park - 5525 Split Mountain Rd., Borrego Springs, CA 92004 (760) 767-3811 www.splitmtpark.com

Stockton Honda-Yamaha - 3295 Ad Art Rd., Stockton, CA 95215 (209) 931-7940

Tmax Winch - 1510 West Bristol St., Elkhart, IN 46514 (574) 266-1444

Temecula Motor Sports - 26860 Jefferson Ave., Murrieta, CA 92562 (951) 698-4123

Transaxle Engineering - 9763 Variel Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311 (818) 998-2739

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

Truck & Jeep Performance, Inc. - 1002 West Collins Ave., Orange, CA 92867 (714) 633-0991

Tuffy Security Products - 25733 Road H, Cortez, CO 81321. (800) 348-8339

Vehicle Liquidation- 8719 E. Pearlblossom Hwy., Littlerock, CA 93543, (661) 944-9300

Venture Out Recreational Vehicles - 6801 Colony St., Bakersfield, CA 93307 (800) 767-5451

Weekend Warrior - 1320 Oleander Ave., Perris, CA 92571 (909) 940-5556

Wetco Inc. - PO Box 4307, Mission Viejo, CA 92690 (949) 510-8765 www.wetco.biz

Wide Open Baja - 6 Bendix, Irvine, CA 92618 (949) 635-2292 www.wideopenbaja.com

Xtreme Quad Performance - P.O. Box 9230, Chico, CA 95927 (866) UGO-FAST

Yarman Drive Shafts - 166 W. Avenue J-5, Lancaster, CA 93534 (661) 723-1272

Yarnell Specialties - 541 E. Juanita Ave., #5, Mesa, AZ 85204 (480) 982-3942

Z Racing - 608 W. Katella Ave., Orange, CA 92867 (714) 633-3115 ktm@zracinginc.com www.ktm-zracing.com

Membership

Why YOU should JOIN CORVA?

The California Off-Road Vehicle Association is a "grass roots" membership organization representing all recreational off-road vehicle users -- whether you ride motorcycles, 3- or 4-wheelers, dune buggies, sand rails, 4x4s, SUVs or off-road racing vehicles.

CORVA is protecting your land-use rights! Since 1968, millions of acres of California's public land have been closed to off-road recreationists. Despite the many closures, CORVA has been successful for over 39 years in keeping California riding areas open and appealing those which have closed.

California's public lands are for the public's use -- off-roaders included. When you join CORVA, you are joining thousands of off-roaders who want the same thing...a safe and fun place to ride. We encourage you to join our off-roading family, today!

CORVA proudly provides its members...

- Over 39 years of continuous promotion of multiple land use objectives!
- Professional lobbyist representation in Sacramento and Washington, DC!
- Continuous appeals of unfair and unjust closure of access to public lands!
- Extensive oversight of the California OHV "Green Sticker" Fund and OHMVR Commission.
- *OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION* subscription to keep you informed of off-road legislative battles affecting your sport!
- California League of Off Road Voters' Voting Guide!
- EcoLogic Partners, Inc. group member. Full time Legal Representation on OHV land access issues.

(Cut out and mail in today)

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Your Membership in CORVA supports the work of Ecologic Partners - Full Time OHV Legal Counsel

YES! Sign me up as a CORVA member today!

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CORVA Calendar

2/2-3 Smitty's Desert Riders, Dirt
Diggers Grand Prix, Taft, CA
Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817

2/8 - 10 Smitty's Desert Riders, California
City, Camp B, Play Weekend
Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817

2/9-10 ORBA Expo, Del Mar Fairgrounds
www.orba.biz

2/13 Friends of El Mirage Meeting,
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., El Mirage
Community Center
www.elmirage.org. Contact Ed
Waldheim edwaldheim@aol.com

2/20 Friends of Jawbone Meeting,
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Jawbone
Canyon Station www.jawbone.org
Contact Ed Waldheim at
edwaldheim@aol.com

2/23-24 Smitty's Desert Riders, Desert
Vipers Grand Prix, Adelanto
Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817

2/29-3/2 Tierra del Sol Four Wheel Drive
Club of San Diego, 45th Annual
Desert Safari. Slated to be held at
the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular
Recreation Area

3/1-2 Smitty's Desert Riders, Prairie Dogs
Grand Prix, Glen Helen
Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817

3/14-16 Smitty's Desert Riders, California
City, Camp B, Play Weekend
Call: Alex Smith 714-528-1817

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

4/26-27 12th Annual Moose Anderson
Days Clean Up & BBQ - At
Jawbone Canyon Visitor Center.
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In Memorium

CORVA sends its deep-felt sympathy to the family of Martin Argo.

Martin passed away recently. He was a CORVA Field
Representative and worked on our behalf to save our sport.

Donations in his name are seen on page 17.