

MOROKS

SEPTEMBER 2012

Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter

P.O. Box 553

Monrovia, CA 91017

Editor – Janie Duncan



MOROKS SEPTEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 LABOR DAY	4	5	6 Board Mtg. @ Janie's 2pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Gen. Mtg. Janie's Nat Geo.	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MOROKS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2012



MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS



Club Information Our Website is www.moroks.com

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Janie Duncan	(626) 358-8157
VICE PRESIDENT – Cal Matthews	(626) 798-7481
SECRETARY – Michele Silcock	(626) 357 8425
TREASURER – Jim Lloyd	(626) 793-9239
AUDITOR – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
FEDERATION – Jo Anna Ritchey	626) 359-1624



CHAIRPERSONS

HISTORIAN – Nancy Hamrick	(626) 357-4106
BULLETIN – Janie Duncan	(626) 358-8157
CUSTODIAN – Jim Lloyd	(626) 793-9239
PICNIC – Donald Sneberger	(626) 941-6214
SHOW – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
WEBSITE – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
ROCK RAFFLE - Louise Stack	(626) 966 0350
FIELD TRIP – Ray Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
PHOTO – Donald Sneberger	(626) 941 6214
FELLOWSHIP/cards – Louise Stack	(626) 966-0350
REPRESENTATIVE – Gail Parks	(626) 359-6811
REPRESENTATIVE – Camille Rutkowski	(626) 289-2621

Membership: Annual donations are \$15.00 per member and \$5.00 per each additional member at the same address. \$10.00 per name badge is payable on the date of initiation.

Meetings: MOROKS meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. At 7:00 pm, in the basement of the United Methodist Church of Monrovia, located at 140 E. Palm Ave. Monrovia CA 91016. The building is on the corner of Ivy & Palm Ave. We use the door where there is handicapped access in the alley on the west side of the building. Do not try to enter from the front of the building. Guests are always welcome at our General Meetings. Please come and share our love of rocks.

Information: Monrovia Rock Hounds Inc. was founded August 28th, 1957. The club colors are green & white. The club is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing knowledge of the lapidary arts, geology, mineralogy, and other related fields. Members enjoy slide shows, lectures, demonstrations, displays, lapidary classes, our club library as well as field trips for exploration, study and collecting specimens.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Permission to reprint is granted if acknowledgement is given.

We reserve the right to edit all material submitted for publication.

<p style="text-align: center;">Monrovia Rockhounds SEPTEMBER Birthdays</p>	Louise Stack	16
	Ralph Fregoso	18
	Donald Sneberger	17
	Rudy Lopez	12
	Janie Duncan	9
	Rex Chambers	21
	Louisa & Maria Davila	26
	Joel Tureaud	22
	Harold Vannatta	12



Field Trip Schedule for 2012



This is a combined Schedule from the Whittier, Pasadena, North Orange County and Monrovia Clubs. Each club sponsoring a trip will have a form to sign before each trip with the person leading that trip.

This link is the waiver.

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/forms10/waiver/waiver.pdf>
Websites for these club may have maps and detailed information. Call Ray Ritchey or Cal Matthews for more help.

- Oct 6 Trona - Searles Lake
- Nov 3-4 Whittier Club Claim (Barstow)
- Nov 22-25 Stonewall Pass, NV
- Dec 8 Pinto Mountains copper minerals
- Jan 19-20 Quartzsite

ROCK HOUNDING ON PUBLIC LAND From www.blm.gov via Delvings
Rock hounding is a permitted recreational activity on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The usual rock hound materials, including agates and stones, may be collected in reasonable quantities for hobby use. Petrified wood collected on BLM lands is limited to 25 Lbs., plus one piece per day to a maximum of 250 Lbs. per year. Rock hounds are allowed to collect rocks found on the surface of the ground. Power equipment or explosives may not be used for excavation or to collect materials or wood without written authorization from the appropriate BLM office. The Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 prohibits the excavation, taking, or destruction of any historic or prehistoric site or any object of antiquity on lands under federal jurisdiction. Vertebrate and other fossils of "recognized scientific interest" also are protected. The BLM requires permits for the collection of certain fossils. Permits are granted only to qualified institutions for boneafide scientific research and are not issued to casual recreational visitors, even though they may have an interest in fossils. Sites having apparent scientific or historic potential, such as cabins, prehistoric campsites, buffalo jumps, fossil beds, etc., should be reported to the nearest BLM office. They will then be evaluated by a archaeological or paleontological specialist. Always ask permission before crossing or entering upon private property.



PREZ SEZ The picnic was a lot of fun. I had such a good time calling Bingo! We had so much food that you could not even taste it all. Donald did a terrific job cooking all the hot dogs and hamburgers. Thanks Donald!! We are going to show the National Geographic TV Show America's Lost Treasures. I was in See you there!

Janie Duncan



VICE PREZ SEZ If you were not here on August 16th you missed a good program that showed the art of knapping. Beautiful selections of both old African pieces and new, modern replications. September will be the TV show where Janie gets her dinosaur femur identified. October s the Silent auction and that will be the program. I hope you all had as much fun at the picnic as Em and I did.

Cal Matthews

August 2nd

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS BOARD MEETING

President: *Janie Duncan* called The meeting was called to order at 2:20 PM

Vice President: *Cal Matthews* The august meeting program will be Joe Girtner on Flint Knapping and knives.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* The minutes were approved as written in the bulletin.

Representative: *Camille Rutkowski* no report.

Representative: *Gail Parks* was absent

Auditor: *Jo Anna Ritchey* Absent The auditor's report has been completed and we are all in order.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent.

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent. Janie wrote an article for the SCRIBE Newsletter.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* Jo Anna is home recovering from surgery and has Pneumonia but it was caught early and she is improving. Ray has a huge bump on his head. Tom Freeman only has 2 more Chemo treatments. Michele has another serious seizure last week. Janie has cataracts on both eyes.

Treasurer: *Jim Lloyd* He reported 38 paid members.

Photographer: *Donald Sneberger* Donald took good pics at the general meeting. Janie could not find them.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* There is a combined trip to the La Brea Tar Pits on the 18th. You need to RSVP.

Rock of the Month Talk: Ray Ritchey will do one.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* Janie needs money to print.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* We will have a nice Calcite for August.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* We need Jim to spray for termites soon. Jim brought the 2 boxes Bingo and picnic from the garage.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* absent

Picnic: Donald Sneberger is cooking. Janie needs money to purchase. **August 18th at Janie's house 5:pm bring a dish and Bingo prizes Janie will need help setting up at 3:30pm that day and help cleaning up.**

Refreshments: Janie will buy ice cream with club money.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent. Letters went out to all the dealers. De Gem Co. will not be there.

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Janie did a talk for 250 preschool kids in Glendora. She did 3 more talks in Monrovia this month.

New Business: *Janie Duncan* *Janie Duncan* Adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm



Bench Tips by Brad Smith More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at FaceBook facebook.com/BenchTips or at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips

CLEANING SOLDER OUT OF A BEZEL Sometimes when you solder a bezel to a base plate you end up with excess solder that needs to be removed before setting the stone. My choice of tool for this is called an "Inverse Cone" bur used in a rotary tool or flexshaft. It cuts on both the bottom and the side and is shaped so that there's less chance of cutting into the bezel wall than if you used the more common cylinder bur shape. The 2 mm size is useful for most any bezel.

Deburring a Hole

When you drill a hole, there's usually a burr produced on the underside of the metal. Typically you would then file or sand this smooth, but doing so will put scratches on your piece that will take time to polish off. A quick way to remove the burr is to grab a drill that's about three times as large as your hole. Simply twist it in the hole to cut off the burr. I usually do this by hand, but if you have many holes to do, put the drill into a holder like a pin vice.

August 16th

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING

President: *Janie Duncan* called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. and we said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President: *Cal Matthews* Tonight will be Joe Gitner on Flintknapping and knives. Janie will show the TV show America's Lost Treasures for the September Meeting. October is our silent auction.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* was absent. The minutes were approved as written in the bulletin.

Representative: *Camille Rutkowski* No report

Representative: *Gail Parks* No report.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey*

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* We collected nickels.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* 18 members and 3 guests present. Jo Anna is doing much better and now Ray has shingles on his head and is contagious. Janie has cataracts on both eyes.

Auditor: *Jo Anna Ritchey* no report.

Photographer: Donald Sneberger took pictures for the club and will give Janie the ones from last month.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* There is a combined club trip to the La Brea Tar pits in August. Janie is working on a day trip to the Raymond M Alf Museum of Paleontology in Claremont for the end of September.

Rock of the Month Talk: Ray was absent .He will do one in September.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* no report.

Picnic: *Donald Sneberger* The picnic is at Janie Duncan's house August 18th. We will be inside. You may park at the Saint Lukes Church lot. Please bring a side dish salad or dessert to share & prizes. Donald will be doing the BBQ for us again! What are people bringing so other will know what to bring?

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* Gail Parks won a huge sparkly calcite.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* We will need chairs from the garage for the picnic.

Refreshments: Denise and William Davis did them for tonight! Wow! Homemade sausages, carrot cake and dip. The recipe is in this bulletin. In September we will have ice cream.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* More dealers paid. She mailed out letters to all the dealers. Nancy of De Gem Co will not be there.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* was absent.

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* The Monrovia Arts Festival is October 13 & 14th.

New Business: *Janie Duncan*

Janie Duncan Adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm

Rock too big?

Saturate a ½ inch rope with gasoline and tie it around the stone where you want the split to occur. Ignite the rope and wait until the brief hot flame dies away. Strike the stone several times with a sledge hammer, following the charred mark of the burned rope. The stone will fall cleanly apart where the rope has been bound.



<http://www.amlands.org> for more information on what you can do to protect our rock sites.



MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS PICTURE PAGE

AUGUST General Meeting Joe Girtner



Arrowheads knife and tool making and flint knapping





MONROVIA ROCKHOULDS PICTURE PAGE
AUGUST PICNIC PICS BY Donald Sneberger our Cook



September Program Topic: Watch the TV Show America's Lost Treasures / Janie Duncan

Avocado Salsa Dip by Denise Davis

3 avocados diced
 2-3 cups diced Cherry tomatoes
 1 cup dry feta cheese crumbled
 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
 1/4 cup diced red onion
 1 tsp cumin
 2 table spoons chopped fresh cilantro
 2 cloves garlic minced
 Juice from 1 lime
 1/2 cup Kraft Tuscan Italian dressing (optional)
 Serve with tostada scoops

We have had this dip a couple of times and everybody just raved over how good it is. Thanks for the recipe Denise!



Metamorphosis Of A Female Rock hound (A Magic Witch) Via Victor Valley

On meeting night she's a woman of fashion,
 Her make-up's right; she is real dashin'
 Each curl is set, each hair in place.
 All dressed up in silk and lace.

She greets me with a familiar air—
 I know I've met her, but when or where?
 I look at her and I rack my brain
 Till my mind's a-whirl with added strain.

My mind's a blank and my memory demolished
 Until she says, "Did your rock get polished?"
 Aha! I have it! The last field trip!
 This must be the dame who looked like a drip!

Her hair was wind blown, her face was dirty.
 Nothing about her would make you feel flirty.
 Metamorphosis for sure! "Oh can this be
 The gal who dug along side of me?"

ANCIENT IRISH ROCKHOUNDS Portal dolmens

There are about 190 dolmens in Ireland. In some respects these are the most recognizable type of megalithic monument. Dolmens generally have an entrance feature, the 'portal', though this is often closed by a blocking stone. A most characteristic feature is a massive roof stone or slab, usually inclined at an angle with the highest part over the entrance. Most dolmens were covered with mounds of stone, but little remains of these cairns at most sites. The impressive structures we see today are like the skeletons of the monuments. There are many fine



dolmens found all over Ireland. The most famous is probably Poul nabrone at the heart of the Burren in County Clare. The largest is the Brownhill dolmen in County Carlow with a massive 100 ton capstone. There are 11 dolmens in County Sligo, including the Labby Rock on Moytura, with a 70 ton capstone, the very beautiful Giants Griddle in west Sligo, and the massive Cloghcor in north Sligo.

Poul nabrone portal dolmen in County Clare is one of the best known neolithic monuments in Ireland. The chamber was originally covered with a cairn of stone, with just the massive roof-slab visible at the top. Via Chips and Splinter

Five Rules to Remember in Life By John Wayne via El Gamgrisino

1. Money cannot buy happiness but it's more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle.
2. Forgive your enemy but remember the creep's name.
3. Help someone when they are in trouble and they will remember you when they're in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve any problems, but then neither does milk.

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS PICTURE PAGE

JULY General Meeting Oil Seeps in CA

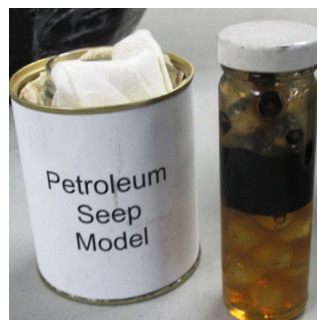


Steve Mulqueen demonstrating tar from the La Brea Tar Pits



Asphaltum Beach Cobble

President Janie Duncan With geode she won.



Petroleum Seep Model



07/19/2012

CFMS SEPTEMBER SHOW DATES

September 15 - 16: DOWNEY, CA NEW DATE Delvers Gem & Mineral Society Woman's Club of Downey 9813 Paramount Blvd. Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Jon Fults, (714) 856-7548, (714) 287-5743 cell Email: jhfults@verizon.net

September 15 - 16: BORON, CA Mojave Mineralogical Society Boron Community Park & Building 27177 - 20 Mule Team Road Hours: 8 - 4 daily Contacts: Steve Breckenridge (760) 559-0872, Rock5b@starband.net David Eyre, (760) 762-6861, david_eyre@mail.com

September 15 - 16: PASO ROBLES, CA Santa Lucia Rockhounds Pioneer Park & Museum 2010 Riverside Avenue Hours: 9 - 5 daily-Contact: Dale Conrad, (805) 226-0719 Website: www.slrockhounds.org

September 15 - 16: REDWOOD CITY, CA Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Community Activities Building 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Mary Lou Froese, (650) 755-8753 Email: mfroese@sbcglobal.net Website: <http://sgms.driftmine.com>

September 22 - 23: CHICO, CA Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 John Scott, (530) 321-6331 Email: jweazel@sbcglobal.net Website: www.orovillerocks.com

September 29 - 30: MONTEREY, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311, cell (831) 521-8226 Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net Website: www.cvgms.org

September 29 - 30: SANTA ROSA, CA Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Wells Fargo Center for the Art 50 Mark West Springs Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Jolene Coon, (707) 849-9551 Email: coons@sonic.net Website: www.srmgs.org

September 29 - 30: STOCKTON, CA Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Scottish Rite Masonic Center 33 W. Alpine Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Dorothy Tonnacliff (209) 603-4539 or Jan Bradley (209) 629-3878 Email: slmcs@juno.com Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

There was a bit of confusion at the store this morning. When I was ready to pay for my groceries, the cashier said, "Strip down, facing me." Making a mental note to complain to my congressman about Homeland Security running amok, I did just as she had instructed. When the hysterical shrieking and alarms finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to my credit card. I have been asked to shop elsewhere in the future.

They need to make their instructions to us seniors a little clearer!

WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW ~ Fall

NOV. 9 - 11, 2012

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Careful! It's Contagious!

By Michele Yamanaka, former Midwest Federation Jr. Activities Chair, Via Strata Gem
Transmission: Rockhounditis can be caught all year around, but it is more noticeable in warm weather. It can be transmitted via people, sunshine, museums, rock piles, and many other ways.

Incubation Period: Variable. Genetic? Probably not part of any chromosome, but susceptibility or tendency seems to run in families.

Duration: Once caught, it usually is permanent, however, if caught when young; it may enter a period of remission and become reactivated later in life.

Symptoms: Has trouble sleeping before a field trip; keeps eyes on the ground, parks car in driveway because garage is full of rocks; gets up at preposterous hours to drive in ridiculous weather just to dig around in dirt or mud; may return from a vacation with suitcases full of rocks; accumulates boxes of rocks, minerals or fossils in the basement, under couches and beds, in closets and generally any formerly empty space; and, most importantly, is always giving specimens away to any willing soul.

Dinosaur bone mystery solved on show

By Brenda Gazzar, SGVN
twitter.com/bgazzar

MONROVIA — Rockhound Janie Duncan may not have won the top prize for her roughly 150-million-year-old dinosaur bone featured recently on the National Geographic Channel's "America's Lost Treasures."

But the jewelry maker, whose late father dug up the 3-foot-long fossilized bone in northern Wyoming 74 years ago, discovered something far more precious during the taping of the new reality TV show.

"I didn't get the big prize — the \$10,000 — but I don't really care," said Duncan, who is president of the Monrovia Rockhounds. "I got to find out what kind of bone I had. That's priceless to me because my family has never known."

Duncan, 59, learned that the dinosaur bone was a femur,

hailed from the late Jurassic period and was about 100 million years older than she previously thought.

She considered that a strange coincidence since she named her jewelry business, which she started five years ago, Jurassic Jewelry by Janie.

But the bigger surprise came when a paleontologist from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles took the bone to the "Dino Lab" and determined it belonged to a stegosaurus, her favorite dinosaur for as long as she could remember.

"When I was a little kid ... I had this book called 'The Shy Stegosaurus of Cricket Creek,'" she said.

"I read that book in the little town I lived in, in Laurel, Mont., in the public library so many times that ... they had to buy a new book because I wore it out."

She said she loved the book

"I didn't get the big prize — the \$10,000 — but I don't really care. I got to find out what kind of bone I had. That's priceless to me because my family has never known."

JANIE DUNCAN, dinosaur enthusiast

partly because the dinosaur's name was George, which is her maiden name.

Duncan's bone was one of the top picks of "America's Lost Treasures" host Curt Doussett, who along with co-host Kinga Phillips scours the country for museum-worthy artifacts that have been forgotten.

In the episode that first aired July 18, the dinosaur bone competed with a range of artifacts including a 34-star Civil War-era flag, a C-melody saxophone, an ancient fish fossil and a light bulb that was believed to be tied to inventor Thomas Edison.

The winner of each episode, in addition to winning \$10,000, has his or her artifact placed in the Natural Geographic Museum in Washington, D.C., for one year.

The stegosaurus bone is one of thousands of fossils, minerals, stones and other natural and man-made items that Duncan keeps in her musty basement labeled "The Good Old Days Museum."

The wife, mother of two sons and cat enthusiast, calls herself a "third-generation rockhound." Her impressive collection includes items not only garnered by her and her father,

Karl George, but by her grandfather as well.

Her collection also boasts a beautiful fossil sea snail, also discovered in northern Wyoming, that is probably about 50 million years old, she said. Her father found half of the fossil in 1938 and spoke to another rockhound who had found the second half on the same hillside.

When the two finally got together five years later, George had to trade a quarter of his entire collection to acquire the other half, she said. He then glued the two pieces together in his gas station office, which also served as a rock museum, in Montana.

Duncan, who has spoken to about 5,000 local Scouts over the years, said her father took the fossil to the Smithsonian Institution in his pick-up truck in 1943. There, he was informed that it was the sixth

ONLINE EXTRA

To view video of the fossils, visit our website at: pasadenastarnews.com

largest of that species found at the time, she said.

She has no idea about the worth of these items as they are family heirlooms that will never be sold, she said.

As for the dinosaur bone, Duncan was told during the show that it was "not a museum-quality specimen." It broke into three pieces when she was transporting it from Montana to California in a semi-truck some 25 years ago.

But falling short of first place is just fine with her.

"I don't want them to take the bone," Duncan said. "I enjoy showing it to people."

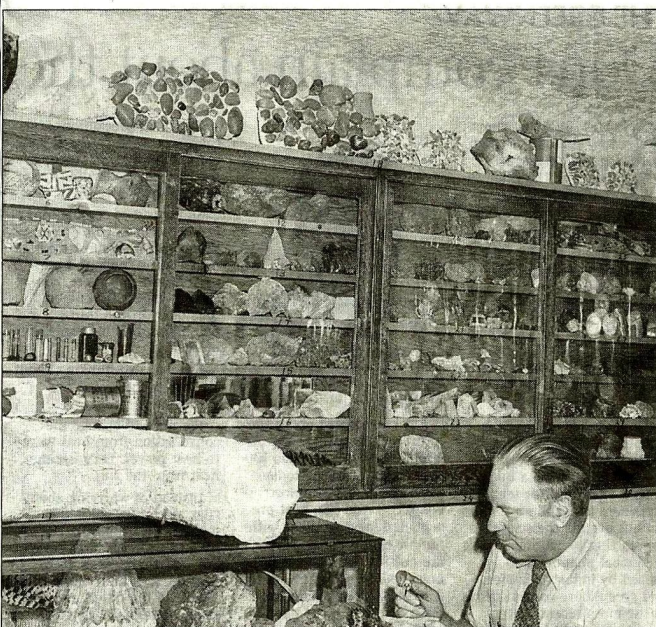
brenda.gazzar@sgvn.com
626-578-6300, ext. 4496

Janie is the current President of the Monrovia Rockhounds & Newsletter Editor

Pasadena Star News Paper Article Sunday August 12th Printed again in Tribune, Monrovia Star and there is a video link on the Pasadena Star News Website.

A6 | pasadenastarnews.com

Sunday, August 12, 2012



Courtesy photo Staff Photographer

A photo of Janie Duncan's father, Karl George, with the dinosaur bone he discovered in 1943. The stegosaurus bone is one of thousands of fossils that Duncan keeps in her basement labeled "The Good Old Days Museum."



Sarah Reingewirtz Staff Photographer

Janie Duncan, president of the Monrovia Rockhounds, shows off her stegosaurus femur bone seen in the bottom of the glass cabinet at her Monrovia home. The fossil was featured on the National Geographic Channel's "America's Lost Treasures."

Hi everyone, The following letter was submitted by Michele Silcock who is also an off road car racing enthusiast as well as a rock hound. She is asking your help to please write or call our Senators and Representative to ask for support to keep our land for our hobbies.

The following letter was written by Art Savedra

I need your help to get the word out to save out riding and racing desert land. I need you to copy and send each one on the list below a note signed by you! If you can do that for me it would really help! Plus it will keep us from racing up and down your streets! Please take the time to help me stop them from closing down the deserts to OHV (Off Highway Vehicles).....Thank you so much.

This is the list of people who work for you also let them know that you will not vote for them again!

- Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-CA) District Director Tevor Daley Los Angeles 310-914-7300 fax 310-914-7318
- Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA 22) District Director Vince Fong Bakersfield 661-327-3611 fax 661-637-0867
- Rep. Buck McKeon (R-CA 25) Deputy COS Bob Haueter Santa Clarita 661-254-2111 fax 661-254-2380
- Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-CA 41) District Director Rachel Khalili Redlands 909-862-6030 fax 909-335-9155
- Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R-CA 45) District Director Marc Troast Palm Desert 760-320-1076 fax 760-320-0596
- Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA 44) District Director Jolyn Murphy Corona 951-784-4300 fax 951-784-5225
- Rep. David Drier (R-CA 26) District Director Mark Harmsen San Dimas 909-575-6226 fax 909-575-6266

To our voted/hired Representatives and not employees of special interests:

The U.S. Marine Corps issued their Final Environmental Impact Statement (F.E.I.S.) on July 28, 2012 which identified the taking of 160,000+ acres of Johnson Valley as their preferred alternative to expand the Twenty-Nine Palms Marine base. Our personal response is that we feel this document is hugely flawed, numerous errors exist within it that have not been properly addressed as well as the basic fact that The Marines have not proven that the “NEED” this expansion, and especially in such trying economic times as these to spend the millions of dollars required to secure the additional land. Not to mention the severe impact on the local economy and our recreational opportunities. Please consider the following:

- Johnson Valley OHV recreation area is 189,700 acres that develops at least 300,000 visitor days per year and is world renowned as an OHV recreation area.
- Economic impact: BLM estimates \$71.5 million annually into the local economy and \$191.2 Million into the national economy.
- USMC has a new requirement for MEB level maneuver training and intends to acquire 160,000 acres of this the land from BLM and conduct live fire on all but 40,000 acres – permanently closing access to 120,000 acres.
- Local authorities and State authorities and thousands of citizens are opposed to the transfer of this land.
- USMC is well into the EIS process and could issue a Record of decision as early as this summer.
- Options other than those in the Draft EIS need to be considered:
 - o Permitted use of land from BLM (like at other BLM sites used for training)
 - o Other BLM land in the region (not necessarily adjacent).
- More time needed for deliberation and seeking options on both sides and with the State.
 - o Not urgent since Marines have been deploying to combat for 10 years without this extra range – should have more time to seek a broader solution set.
 - o Once live fire starts the land is permanently lost. We need to find accommodation for OHV needs and that will require BLM and State officials.
- The US House of Representatives passed an Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act that requires, prior to transfer, the Secretary of the Navy to provide a report on the new Marine requirement for this land and on the economic impact and on other potential solutions to the elimination of recreational land.

- The intent of the House of Representatives was to slow this down to have a better look at it. The Navy has run roughshod over the House and ignored their intent. The House should be angry. We are.
- Please call the Secretary of the Navy and tell him to stop this process until all the stakeholders – including federal legislators – have had their voices heard.
- If the Marines went through 10 years of war without this extra land, it surely could wait a few months until all interests could be accommodated.

Regards,
Art Savedra



**Michele with her Seizure dog
Scooter who is in training.**

**Michele driving off road. She has won
first place in 2 races that are fundraisers
for breast cancer.**



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