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# THE ROOSTER

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A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

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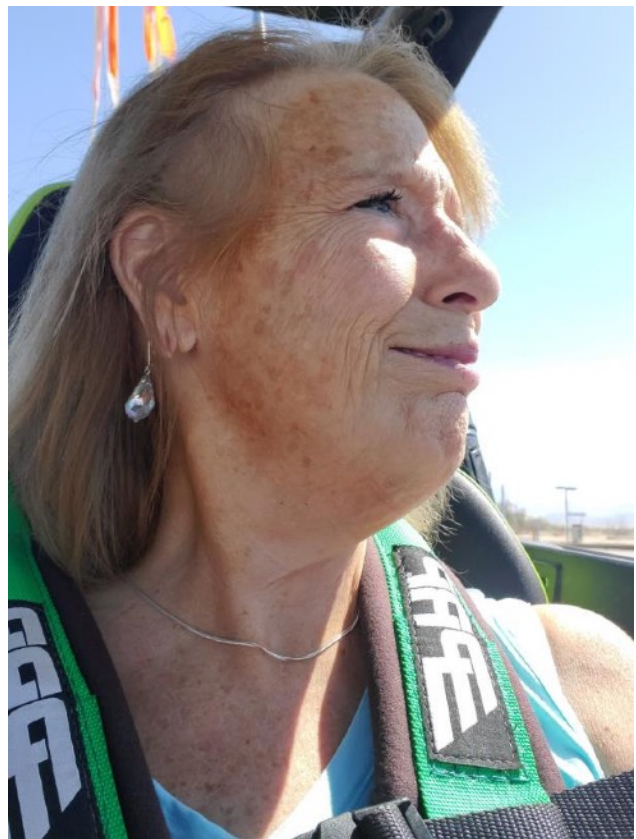
## Patt Starr

*By Mike Bacon*

I am very sorry to announce my dear Pat lost her battle and passed away the day after Christmas. She was 66 years old.

Pat grew up in Detroit and moved to California in 2003. She worked for Allstate Insurance for over 40 years. Her work for Allstate found her traveling all around the Michigan area. After a particularly cold and miserable Tuesday back in 2003 she happen to be looking at the Allstate employment website and found there was an opening for an adjuster in a place called Corona, California. On a whim she sent them a note that she might be interested. The next day she got a call that they would love to have her, the job was Her's if she wanted it, Oh and can you start on Monday! She thought about it for literally 30 sec, took the job, went home and threw some stuff in her car and headed to California, and started the job on Monday!

Pat always liked the desert. Meeting me and my wonderful IEOA family really opened her eyes to the real desert though. She loved camping, riding, and being with all our friends. She was introduced to sand, dirt, and rock riding in many different places including Glamis, Ocotillo Wells, Calico, Coral Pink, and Lake Havasu.



In our few years together we also visited her family in Michigan, cruised Alaska, went to the Grand Canyon, and many other places. We truly enjoyed being with each other. Here are a few pictures of Pat enjoying herself! She will truly be missed.





## What's New

Sadly, we lost a great friend in Patt Starr the day after Christmas. We all miss her, and send our condolences to Mike and the rest of her family.

## New Years Trip

We had a great turn out in camp for the Christmas / New Years trip, with over 20 rigs and about 50 people.

## MLK?

We did not have a club trip this MLK weekend, but we are looking forward to a week long trip for Presidents.

## Presidents Trip

Our next big trip will be for Presidents week in February, and Jim Kastle will come out whenever anyone else will be there. Currently we have people planning on being there from February 16 - 21, but he can head out earlier if others will.

# Glamis New Years 2022-2023

*as remembered by Jim Kastle with help from Mark Knowles and Tesla Kantorowicz*

Ray and Janice arrived just before sunset Christmas afternoon. They were surprised by the large number of camps. They went to sleep, and when they woke up found there were lots of camps very close to them, not leaving enough room for our planned camp. They moved two times before finding the ideal spot, slightly south of the restrooms, which was large enough for our anticipated group and with enough room between our camp and the road for another camp.

I arrived Monday 12/26 around 1:00 PM. I got both trailers from storage to help protect the area. Scott, Janice's long time friend, and his wife Robyn soon arrived. The Trevetts: Dave, Kirsten, Kiara, and Matt arrived Tuesday, followed by John and Anna accompanied by Brianna.

Before leaving after Thanksgiving, I decided I needed to relocate my driver's seat slightly. I mentioned to Ray I planned to cut off my seat tabs, and weld in new ones. He gave it a little thought and said it would be much easier to use the existing tabs and attach two seat rails then mount the seat to the rails. Ray has MUCH more experience fabricating than I, so I immediately decided to bring the necessary steel with me this trip. Wednesday I started remounting my seat. Ray came over and offered to help. Ray being Ray, he soon tired of me and my inefficient fabricating skills and took over. Scott, who it turns out also loves fabricating, soon joined Ray. They spent a lot of time making good looking mounts that are a big improvement over my original installation, and over what I had planned. The seat feels much more like my old seats, but it turns out I moved it a little far, as I found out later when I stalled the car on a rather steep uphill, and couldn't reach my starter switch! I should be able to use what I learned from Ray and Scott to move it slightly forward.

Dave Huggard arrived next, followed by Randy Ray who arrived traveling solo for the first time in 18 years. He definitely missed Paige and Cainen, but did take advantage of the opportunity to ride with Scott in the VERY capable Funco. I saw a Facebook post from Randy

that he now has to get a buggy or possibly a truggy. Wednesday Pete, Linda and Jeremy arrived followed later by Karissa and Jason in the Prius.

Mark Knowles arrived to be followed by a large entourage starting with Erik and several friends, including Erik's girlfriend, Kelly Hart, and her mom and dad, Sue and Brett, and their grandson Noah; who joined us for a day at Thanksgiving. This time they brought their fifth wheel and spent a few days. Others in their group included Gillian Coyle, whom I described in an earlier newsletter as a 20-something young lady that impressed us all first by the fact she rides a kick start 250 two stroke motorcycle (that they didn't bring either

## Upcoming Events

- February ? - 21: Presidents week at Glamis, Wash 10. Jim will arrive as early as anyone, so let him know your trip plans. So far we have people arriving as early as the 16th, but others will likely be earlier.
- March ?: Let's plan for a weekend Glamis trip between Presidents and Easter.

February, 2023						
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March, 2023						
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trip) and then by finding out she camps in an unheated van and who has a very outgoing personality, and who I found this trip is an EMT! and her boyfriend, Mike Racioppi, Erik's college friend, now an architect, who also rides a two stroke dirt bike. Gillian and Mike moved to North Carolina during the year, and made the 2000 mile drive to Mesa Arizona to visit family for the holidays and to come to Glamis. Mark tells me they plan to return in December 2023. They'll be welcome anytime! Others in the entourage included Alonso Hildago, friend of Erik since 2nd grade and Alonzo's wife, Savanna, who ride a 2 seat Can Am; Tre who rides a 450 dirt bike and girlfriend, Callie; Cole Bassler one of Erick's high school friends who drives a 4 seat RZR; and Will Goodman who last time had a relatively new-to-him RZR that he thoroughly enjoyed, despite initiating it by doing a slow roll onto its side that fortunately did no damage. He and the RZR were back this time, apparently with no unplanned incidents. I'm glad they chose to camp with us again. They're all welcome anytime.

Then P.J. and family arrived, leaving the elevator business to be managed solely by Scott, as both P.J. and John were with us. As I write this a week later it seems things went well with the business, hopefully leaving the door open for more trips with both P.J. and John in the dunes. That's great for me as my best trips are when they're both there. Another John, this one from San Diego, and his wife, Jennifer, and daughter Brelyn also joined us. They camped with us Thanksgiving after Janice responded to a Facebook post and they enjoyed it enough they came back. They are really friendly and John really drives their side by side. I hope they'll continue to ride with us.

Thinking of good people Janice found on Facebook, Brad Kantorowicz with his wife, Tesla and their son, Colter, and daughter, Parker; arrived. He is a chick pea broker from Chester, MT. (30 miles S. of the Canadian border.) Janice saw his post on Facebook inquiring about camping at Glamis and saw the multitude of stupid responses about the spa and pool at Wash 10, and all the other crap that idiots post. Janice has this unique ability to very accurately judge people based on their Facebook inquiries, and somehow knew they would be a great fit, so she invited them to join us. Brad has farming in his blood, and in listening to him I can see lots of similarities between him and Ray, whose family continues to farm in Wisconsin. They certainly are a great fit and we hope to see them again.

Thursday evening Barry and Ann arrived. They have been rebuilding and repowering Dean Carver's old car. Barry has added improved suspension, a heavy duty Weddle transmission

which should be well-capable of handling the 6.0 liter LS engine he has swapped for the V-6. They had hoped to debut it Thanksgiving, but didn't quite make it. The goal got pushed back to this trip, but trouble getting the engine's wiring harness squared away delayed it again. They had a great trip anyway, riding with several different members and are now REALLY anxious to debut the car. I'm glad because they really add to the enjoyment of any trip! I have to mention that he also brought several samples of products from his new employer. He no longer deals with just juices, but snacks as well. It pleases me he has found a job he enjoys so much, and a company which seems to appreciate him. The samples were also great! When he left, he was confident he'll be able to fire the 6.0 within a week or two. It'll be great to have them back on a full-time basis.

Looking over this report, I see I didn't mention Danny and Pam. They had some motorhome problems in Indio on the way out and their arrival was delayed by a day. I think they arrived Thursday, along with Dylan and his RZR, and Charlie and his buggy.

Thursday evening PJ and I went to Brawley to purchase an HDMI cable for their TV. When we got back there was a trailer parked in front of my fifth wheel, and I thought it was Steve, of Steve and Kimmie, who had told Janice he might come by himself. In the morning I recognized the trailer as Ray and Janice's Gooseneck.



Steve never arrived. They had moved the gooseneck to make room for Tom, Sarah, Jacob, and Aubrey. Their arrival MADE the trip for Allie and Marshall! They certainly add for all of us, but the kids love having Jacob and Aubrey. Around 3 AM Friday morning I noticed that it was raining lightly. Both PJ and my cars were uncovered, so I found a couple of tarps in the white trailer and covered the seats of both cars.

I don't have any more notes about people arriving, but realize I haven't said much about the rides. There were no major problems, unlike the Thanksgiving trip, so none really stand out. I believe it was Friday night that we make a good sized night ride to Olds.

Ann rode with me, and Barry with someone else, but we made it to Olds. There was quite a crowd, but it was pretty tame, with little law enforcement activity. It was cold enough the fire felt good, and I wouldn't have wanted to be there without it.

Saturday we had our biggest omelet boil, ever! For the first time we used four pots of water, and at one time all four were full of freezer bags, so I'm confident we had over 40 people. Almost everyone in camp participated. P.J. took some drone shots of the







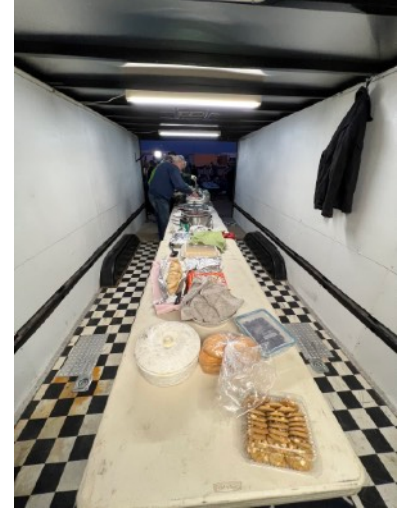
breakfast, and they verified there were a lot of people! We had two rides. Ray led side by sides, and P.J. the buggies. The two groups met at Hill three, then made separate rides to the swing set, where we met again. The buggy ride was fast paced, but not extremely so. I believe it was also on Saturday, but might have been Sunday that Danny led a ride to Duners Diner. I think Charlie and Dylan and maybe some others accompanied him. Danny said the ride was fun, but they would have had to wait for an hour and a half to PLACE their food order! They did without

food and rode back to camp, I want to make another Duners Diner run, but want to do it on a weekday, if we can find one that they'll be open; maybe during the week before President's Day.

The potluck was the biggest we've had in years with approximately 50 people participating. It is my favorite potluck of the year and this one did not disappoint. Thanks to all the chefs, I loved every bite, and that meant I had a lot of love! Thanks also to Jeremy for clearing out his trailer and allowing us to set the food inside. The weather was nice enough we could eat together outside the trailer. After dinner PJ and Melissa set up their inflatable screen and we watched Top Gun Maverick. Thanks Paul and Melissa! Around 20 of us made it to midnight to watch



the firework show. I thought it was not as big as in recent years, where it seemed everyone was glad to be somewhat free of COVID, but it was still very impressive. P.J. and Jeremy put their drones at risk to get some aerial footage.



Sunday, due to the late evening the night before, we didn't go for a ride until noon. It was very windy, but we figured, "It's always better in the dunes,"

so P.J. led a mix of a dozen or so buggies and side by sides. It was not as good as expected and at times we couldn't see the vehicle ahead due to "sand out" conditions! Most of us had no idea where we were as we pulled up to Olds. We continued on into the dunes where it got slightly better than it had been and we had a good pretty fast ride out almost to Gecko Road. We stopped for a break, and it was very windy, but we enjoyed our last break of the trip for most of us. The ride back to camp was at a milder pace and we all got back safely.

Melissa found out Sunday morning that Allie has school Monday, the legal holiday!, so they packed up and headed home just before sunset.

Sunday evening Ray and Janice; Scott and Robyn; Pete, Linda, and Jeremy; Dave Huggard; John, Anna, and Brianna; Barry and Ann; Dave, Kirsten, Kiara, and Matt Trevett; and I remained in camp. We had a nice campfire with very little wind. The hit of the fire was Clyde, Scott and Robyn's nearly 200 pound Rhodesian (I think) Ridgeback. The huge dog showed he is just a puppy at heart as he made his way around the campfire (we were passing the end of the leash around the circle following him) lovin' everyone's attention.

Monday Ray led all the cars still in camp on a nice fast-paced ride on very smooth sand out well past Osborne. Jeremy gave Barry and Ann a ride. With all the power and suspension I'm sure they had a good time. I really enjoyed it, as despite the fast pace, Ray made wide turns that allowed the slower cars (mine) to cheat on the corners and not ruin the ride for the faster cars. It was one of the best rides of the trip for me. Thanks Ray!

Before the ride, Dave Trevett mentioned to me his motorhome wouldn't start. I tried jump starting it from my portable jump starter, but it made no difference. I borrowed a set of jumper cables from John, again to no avail. John came over and "laid his magic hands upon it." Hand tightened a few connections, and it started! Dave had been having some charging issues, and using Ray's meter, John confirmed there was a problem. After the ride I was preparing the Yellow trailer and my buggy box to be towed to storage. I looked over at Dave's motorhome and John, Ray, Scott, and Barry were working on it with Barry underneath it, John somewhere on the other side, Ray in front with his meter and Scott somewhere where I couldn't see him!

Sure enough, when I got back from storing the first trailer, they had the problem fixed! What a group!!



WOW! It's 2023, and the dune season is nearly half over! I don't think I'll make the MLK clean up, but plan to spend as long as 12 days in the dunes arriving as early as February 10th, and leaving as late as the 21st. I hope we have a big group, but be forewarned, Ray and Janice will not be able to make this trip. I NEED others to show up, as I won't go alone. Please post when you can make it and I should be there. Let's go duning'!

This month we'd like to thank Jim Kastle and Mike Bacon for submitting articles, and encourage anyone else to contribute whatever they can. We are right in the middle of another great sand season and there is a lot going on. Please send your contributions for future newsletters to me at [pkastle@msn.com](mailto:pkastle@msn.com) and we will publish them along with a calendar of events each month. -Paul, Melissa, Allie, and Marshall.