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# THE ROOSTER

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A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

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## What's New

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It is the middle of the off-season (hence the 2 month newsletter) but we had a great time at Coral Pink for the 29th year in a row. Read all about it and start making plans for next year now.

## Summer LS Swaps

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This off-season gives the opportunity for improving the dune toys, and we've been busy on Tuesday nights working on a couple of V8s for Marshall's Grandpas...

## Website Update

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The new club website is online. at [www.inlandempireoffroad.org](http://www.inlandempireoffroad.org) and we have been adding more and more past trip photos to archive 10 plus years of dune trips. Check us out online!

## Coral Pink 2023

*By Paul Kastle*



July 20, 2023:

We got up at 6am on Thursday and started our final packing. I had worked 16 hours the day before and didn't have time to finish packing, so we slept in a bit and left later. We pulled out at 8:45am.

The drive to Mesquite went well, and we had very little traffic. It was



## Upcoming Events

- September 15-17: Sand Sports Super Show at the OC Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa.
- October 13-15: Dumont Weekend.
- October 20-22: Anza Weekend for Mike Bacon's Patt Starr and Mona Bacon Memorial Spook Run and Weenie Roast.

September, 2023						
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October, 2023						
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hot, with forecast highs near record levels, but the truck did great and we hailed right up the pass. We stopped for fuel in Barstow, then for lunch in Baker. It was 105 on the thermometer when we left at 12:30. Mad Greek was good but expensive, no change there. We then went on to Jean and got fuel and drinks for the final stretch to Mesquite. We got to CasaBlanca just before 4:00. We got checked in and hooked up to power to cool the trailer down. I took the kids to the pool at 5:00, and we swam for an hour. The water was nice temperature wise but not very clear.

We met for dinner at the Cafe at 7:00, and got to see Mike for the first time in quite a while. After dinner we headed back to the trailer to put the kids to bed and I went to cash in change at the Eureka and pick up some stuff at Wal Mart. Then Jim and I until about 11 and then went to sleep.

July 21, 2023:

On Friday we met for breakfast at 8:45. Barry and Ann had arrived about 1:30 and were ready to go. Breakfast was good and we got on the road about 10:20. It was already well over 100 and was going to be a hot day. Barry and Ann left first to stop and get fuel in St George. We caught them and passed them but they caught back up before Hurricane. On the big climb out of Hurricane we had to stop for backup from a traffic accident. I was glad we could start going again when the traffic moved. Then we stopped in Apple Valley and it was cooler and so pretty. We were almost there. The rest of the drive was easy and so was setting up in the big group site. I love how easy it is to pull in and unload without the "trailer Tetris" of the old site. We sat around and





unpacked until we decided to go for a dune ride. We took the buggies and Jim's RS1 all the way to the Corral. We saw cows in the dunes and came back down the Disneyland trail.

We spent the rest of the night hanging out and talking and went to bed after 10.

July 22, 2023:

On Saturday we planned our Thunderbird breakfast, so we left camp just after 8am in the trucks. We had 12 of us for breakfast and they handled it great. The food was wonderful. We then headed back to camp and got ready for a ride to the dinosaur tracks. I took the buggy on dirt tires and it did pretty well. I got stuck on a slow climb by Dixie Knoll, but made it on the second shot. At the tracks I flew the drone and some people hiked to the tracks. The. We went back to camp, and the side by sides took the paved road while Barry and I went through the dunes a bit. It was fun on dirt tires.

Then we went in to town for a bit just as Nancy and Allie got to camp. We did some shopping and visiting.

When we got back to camp Barry was working on his car. It seemed to be having fuel issues. We cleaned the fuel filter and got a lot of junk out of it. We went for a short ride to try it. It bobbed a bit still and we decided to replace the fuel pump. I had one but we needed some plumbing fittings to adapt it. Barry decided to get them the next day in Hurricane.

We had pie that Barry bought for Melissa's birthday for dessert and then we went in about 10:15.

July 23, 2023:

On Sunday I took the dogs out at 4:30 and then went back to sleep. I then got up at 7:00 and took all the dogs for a good long walk. It was 61 degrees which felt great. We planned omelettes for 9am so we lit up the burner at 8 and everyone brought out their ingredients. We had 14 people for omelettes and they were quite good. We then did the group photo before Barry went for parts. Ann's family (John, Dave, and Trevor)



went and rented sand boards. Ann tried it and ate some sand but was still cheerful about it. We went for a ride to the lower corral and to see Bigfoot. The car did ok on the sand trails but I needed more momentum on some stuff. I flew the drone to get some Bigfoot pics, then we came back to camp.

Barry had arrived with parts and got my pump on the car. The first test wasn't successful, but it was because the car overheated because he didn't plug the

fans in. He finished cleaning it up and we got ready for a ride.



We did a quick test at 6:00 and it seemed better. I ran warm on the dirt tires and decided to switch back to the paddles for the last ride. Then we went out with Jim, Barry, and John and Dave (Ann's cousins) in their Polaris General. We tried for the Corral but couldn't get up the big hill on any path. Barry got stuck and we had to use the jack to get him out. By then it was 8 so we took a short break and then headed back through the lower dunes to camp. It was a success and everyone had fun.

Then we had dinner and walked to the Ranger Station for a Bigfoot shirt. I showed my Facebook post and got the discount. Then we sat under the canopy

and talked for hours. I put Marshall to bed and then sat out with Bill and talked about all sorts of stuff, including small businesses. We finally went in about 11:30 to go take a shower and go to bed.

July 24, 2023:

On Monday I got up and took the dogs for a walk before coming back and starting to pack up. We took our time and hung out with everyone until they left for their ride to the Thunderbird via the Virgin River valley. We instead loaded up the car and headed for home, making the trip in one day. It was a long day but fortunately the drive went very well. We stopped before Mesquite in Beaver Dam for lunch, then again in Jean before making our way home. Driving on a Monday was nice and we avoided the weekend Vegas traffic. We made it home by 8PM, then were ready to go to work the next day while the rest of the group continued their trip. We are still super glad to have made it for part of the trip, and are looking forward to next year.

## Coral Pink v29, July 18-30, 2023

*As Fondly Remembered by Jim Kastle*

Nancy and I arrived at the Casablanca in Mesquite around 5:00 P.M. Tuesday after driving through Las Vegas rush hour traffic. We had planned an early morning departure to avoid driving in the 110+ degree heat. But due to some poor planning on my part, we had to wait until my replacement phone arrived. Saturday I realized my phone battery had degraded to the point my phone would only maintain a charge for 12 hours or less. I knew I would be using it a lot on the trip, so I decided to visit our local Verizon store. As always they were friendly and helpful, but when I spoke to the customer service agent who would arrange the final details of shipping it, she said it would arrive Tuesday between 10 AM and 2 PM. I explained that would be a problem, she said they could delay shipping but I'd have to start the process over from scratch! As it had taken over two hours to reach this point, and the poor guy helping me at the store had been wonderfully

patient with me, I didn't want to start over again. So I agreed to wait for the phone Tuesday, hoping for a 10:00 AM arrival. It arrived just before 2:00. We headed toward Mesquite with me in the Dually with the fifth wheel and RZR in tow, with Nancy driving the Kia. We had the feared record 110+ heat, but the vehicles handled it well with the truck getting a little hot only one time on the longest grade. At least our room and RV spot were ready when we arrived, and the hot dog stand was still open. We got our requested RV space, the only one in the park that can accommodate the truck and both trailers without unhitching, and a room close to the elevator. I spent some time enjoying the "Nevada style entertainment" and didn't break the bank.

We both enjoy breakfast buffets, and since COVID, they aren't what they used to be. Fortunately, the Virgin River's buffet is as good as it ever was. Not perfect, but quite a step over any buffet in Laughlin. I had the best omelet I've had in years, and Nancy enjoyed the buffet too. We ended up eating there once more on the way up, and once on the way back. Being too food motivated, we made our usual trip to St George for a Texas Roadhouse dinner and some last minute Costco shopping. We planned to buy most of our groceries in Mesquite, and when Nancy checked the fridge Thursday morning, it wasn't as cold as usual. I checked and found I had let it run out of propane. This despite the fact it has an automatic changeover valve, and I had a full extra tank. I swapped in the extra tank, and fortunately the fridge worked as well as can be expected in 110+ heat. Bulk propane is only available at the truck stops at either end of Mesquite. The first one's propane system was down for maintenance, so I had to drive to the other end of town, but got the tanks filled for just 30 cents per gallon more than I pay at home. I played some more while waiting for Mike and the younger Kastles, all of whom arrived in the afternoon. As soon as the younger Kastles arrived we visited the pool and later Mike joined us for a nice dinner in an uncharacteristically uncrowded Casa Café. Before retiring, P.J. and I got to gamble a little. Not productive, but a fun father-son activity.

Friday Morning we were joined by Barry and Ann, who arrived after midnight, at the Casa Cafe for a nice breakfast. Barry needed to buy diesel, so he and Ann headed for St George while the rest of us got ready for the drive. Nancy and Allie headed to St George for Nancy's most-looked-forward-to part of the trip, their annual Grandma-Granddaughter trip. They had a ball and saw the movie, Barbie, spent the night in a hotel, and did a bunch of shopping and eating out. The rest of us rendezvoused with Barry and Ann without getting off the freeway. We had an easy drive until the big hill just past Hurricane, where less than a mile into the climb, the traffic came to complete stop, for no apparent reason. After 15 minutes or so, down bound traffic began moving, and shortly thereafter we resumed the climb. About half a mile from where we were stopped we saw several Highway Patrol vehicles blocking the down bound lane, but none of us saw



why. We assume someone ran off the side of the road as that is a very steep section. We continued to the Chevron in Apple Valley, our traditional stopping place for snacks and a restroom before heading on to Coral Pink. We began stopping there on our first trip, 29 years ago when the drive from there was nearly two hours to Coral Pink. About five years ago they paved the last section of "The Cane Beds" road, cutting the drive to about half an hour. Traditions die hard! We then made a nonstop drive to Coral Pink. Waiting in the office were Bill and Stephanie, Pat's brother and sister-in-law. They and Mike have remained in close contact since Pat's passing, and wanted to visit Coral Pink.



They had arrived the day before and camped in an individual site near the group site. They averaged nearly 600 miles a day on their trip from Michigan. We quickly set up camp in the new group site, a task made much simpler than doing so in the old group site by the five large 50 amp and water sites, each with independent access, eliminating the need for Tetras-like parking required to get five rigs set up. After setting up camp there was still plenty of time to ride so Barry, P.J. with Marshall, and I took a ride to the corral. We had our first rain of the trip, but it wasn't hard enough to stop the ride. We made it to the corral with no problems and it was pretty much unchanged from previous years. On the way back to camp we made the trip's one and only ride down the Disneyland trail. Barry's car began to stumble at higher RPM's, but he made it back to camp.

Late Friday or early Saturday Ann's nephews, John and David, and John's son, Trevor arrived. They live in the Salt Lake City area. They had a nearly new, borrowed, Polaris Ranger. They are great guys who make everything fun! We all went to the Thunderbird for our annual breakfast. We had a great waitress, Becky,



who handled the large group, and especially Bill's kidding extremely well. The food was great as always. This has become one of my favorite meals of the year! When we got back to camp, all the off road vehicles visited the dinosaur tracks. P.J. flew the drone. We took the highway back to camp, as nearly all the vehicles are street legal in Utah. Doing so really lessens the time to get anywhere. As we neared camp, Barry's sand rail began missing again, but he made it back to camp. P.J., Melissa, Marshall, and I decided to visit Kanab. As we were loading up P.J.'s truck, Allie and Grandma arrived. Allie quickly got in the truck. We did the usual Kanab stuff: the thrift store, the farm store, Honey's, and the ice cream parlor. While we were in Kanab Barry and the others worked on Barry's car. Barry's cleanable fuel filter was literally  $\frac{3}{4}$  full of what looked like coffee grounds and rust. He cleaned it and tested the car. It was better, but not good. Upon further investigation he determined the fuel pump was not up to snuff, probably damaged by being starved for fuel by the dirty fuel filter. Fortunately P.J. had a spare fuel pump, but we needed a couple of fittings to adapt it to Barry's car. Sunday morning Barry headed to Hurricane to get the needed fittings. Ann stayed in camp and rode with her nephews. We all toured the trails near camp and stopped for pictures at Bigfoot. Two years ago the ranger decided it would be fun to plant a 6 foot tall fiber glass Bigfoot in the dunes. As John would say the side by side drivers need a place to go and play as they easily get bored with riding. We found it two years ago and all got discounted shirts at the ranger station by showing them our photos with it. When we returned to camp Barry had nearly finished installing the fuel pump. He took it for a ride and it was again better, but not perfect. He realized he hadn't put much fuel in the tank, and it was possibly starving for fuel as fuel moved away from the pick up. He filled it, and it worked great the rest of the trip. Congratulations Barry and Ann!

Monday the younger Kastles had to head home. We took the side by sides and Barry and Ann's car down the canyon and crossed the Virgin River 21 times en route to the Thunderbird where we had another great meal. That ride is my favorite ride anywhere! We've had concerns for years about taking a sand rail on the

trail, but Barry had no trouble. That opens up Coral Pink to sand rails for our future trips. As we often do, we took another route back to camp. Mike led the ride both ways, and as always did a great job as he carefully plans each part of every ride. We rode up a narrow, rocky trail which runs along the highway and then headed off through the forest towards camp. At one point the trail was blocked by a fence, necessitating a u-turn. A simple task for the side by sides, but I thought Barry might have a problem. No problem at all. The side by sides had to do a three point turn, while Barry expertly negotiated a four point turn. Barry did have one problem, however, as he hit a good sized rock, after which his car developed a steering problem: a shimmy (death wobble?) above 30 miles per hour. Mike led us to the highway which we took back to camp. As we entered the entrance station Barry explained to the girl that his car was broken, requiring him to use the road. She replied simply, "No problem." Barry examined the car carefully and couldn't find any obvious damage. He did find a slightly bent bar on his frame and made some suspension adjustments to accommodate the bend. We got the heaviest rain of the trip for about 20 minutes, with thunder and lightning, but no damage.

Tuesday Barry and Ann left to visit her father, about three hours away. They spent the night with him. He recently broke his hip, and at 93 years of age that's significant! She treasured the visit, and hated to leave. We all wish him and Ann the very best and a quick recovery. Mike in his Talon, Bill and Stephanie in Mike's 900, and I in my RS1, took a ride to the overlook that is past the corral. This was one of Pat's favorite places at Coral Pink. Mike, Bill, and Stephanie left a few of her ashes at the overlook, so she'll forever be at one of her favorite places. We headed back towards the corral, and decided to take a detour to "Shirley's waterfall." We took the steep trail to the sand wash and then headed towards the water fall. When we got to where we usually stop and walk the rest of the way

Mike continued down the drop, taking the leftmost path. Bill followed, but was slightly to the right of Mike's path. I watched the RZR slowly roll onto its roof! Mike immediately got to the overturned RZR and helped them get out, a task made difficult the seat belts holding both of them upside down in their seats. Both Bill and Stephanie are pretty big people, and it took what seemed like several minutes to free them. I was still working my way towards the RZR when they both got out. Stephanie had scraped her arm and it was bleeding, which was scary to see, but some quick work with some wet wipes and water quickly stopped the bleeding. Other than Stephanie's arm, they were unscathed, not a



real surprise considering they were moving at a slow crawl when it rolled. Attention turned to righting the RZR. Mike has a winch on the front of his Talon, and he quickly came up with a plan to get it back on all four wheels. The plan worked flawlessly, and he rolled the RZR back on its wheels with just some very minor damage, a slight tear in the canvas roof, and a small ding in the passenger door, which does not affect its closing and latching. Mike let it sit for about five minutes to get the fluids back where they belong, and attempted to start it. It instantly fired and ran perfectly, just as it did before the roll! Bill followed Mike on a different path up the rock with no incident, and then Stephanie got back in the RZ with no visible hesitation!

We made it back to camp with no problems. Back at camp I took advantage of the recently (3 or 4 years ago) installed Wi-Fi to send pictures of the incident to P.J.

Wednesday Bill rode with Mike, and Stephanie stayed in camp. I followed in the RS1 and Mike led us across the highway at the meadow and then on a series of trails that led to the back side of the mountains across the highway from camp. We've done this before and I always enjoy the views and sights that can't be seen from any pavement. We continued on trails to the Elephant Butte Kiosk, which is where we entered the trail that we took to the Thunderbird on Monday. Barry and Ann returned from visiting her father.

Thursday Mike with Bill riding passenger in the Honda, Barry and Ann in the buggy, and I in the RS1, took the Sand Dunes Road past highway 89 then onto the sandy trails that lead to the Peek a Boo slot canyon. Barry's sand rail still had the 'death wobble' above 30 miles an hour, so we kept it under 30. This has become a must do ride and short hike every year as it is beautiful and amazing that water could have cut such a high, narrow canyon. Many places along the canyon you can't see the sky when you look up. It has become very popular with tourists and their off road tours. After a short break we fired up to return to camp. Barry called out that he had lost his steering. We noticed the wheels would steer slightly and asked if he thought he could make to the highway where we planned to go get a trailer to get it back to camp. Barry agreed to try and several times he reported that the car would "sort of respond" to steering input. When we got to the highway he said he thought he could make it back to camp via the Sand Dunes Road. We took the pavement all the way from Highway 89 to camp, where the attendant had no problem with the buggy on the highway. In camp Barry found the problem was caused by a broken U-joint between the Charlyn and the rack. The pins that hold the center block in place had fallen out, followed by the block. Two of the three pins and the block were sitting on the floorboard. It was interference between the yokes that steered the car! We got lucky on that one. We all went to the Junction in Kanab for dinner. There were several other customers, but there was no excuse for the over 30 minute wait. It still remains on the near-must do list.



Friday Barry and Ann leisurely packed up and headed for the Casablanca and the pool. Stephanie took us to the Thunderbird in her Subaru. We had the same great waitress we had on Saturday, and I realized by far most of the pie I've eaten in the last five or so years was from the Thunderbird! I think the rest of the day we all just stayed around camp, and made use of the internet at the ranger station.

Saturday we repeated the ride we took Wednesday, but this time Bill and Stephanie took the RZR. We then started packing up. Nancy and I took one last trip to Kanab, highlighted by my first-ever meal at Houston's, a Kanab landmark. I don't know what took me so long, but it's on my must do list for future trips. It's just a good old fashioned coffee shop, but I had probably the best nachos I've ever had, and I was born and raised in Los Angeles County! Nancy had a hamburger with mashed potatoes as a side. She loved it. As we reentered the park, we were greeted by the head ranger, Patrick, who we had missed the whole trip. He was



happy to see us back again. He told us he finally got approval for an additional 60 campsite campground that will be located to the left of the road right after the original sand dune entrance. I believe, and in talking to Don he agrees, this is where the second campground was to be before they built the "new" campground we now use. The sites will all have electricity, but no water as they are currently using their full water allotment. He said they regularly sell out in the spring and fall, and believes the new sites will be heavily used. I told him we'd be back next year for our 30th anniversary trip.

Sunday morning we all got up fairly early and dumped before heading for home. A good time was had by all, but the summer heat was a bit much for the Michiganders. They were a lot of fun and a great fit with the rest of us. I do hope they'll join us again, maybe at Glamis.

We are planning to make a 7 day trip next year, and Doug has said he wants to come back. I spoke with Walt and he also wants to make it next year. We haven't picked a date, but I imagine we'll stick with a July date, but nothing is set in stone. Remember there are lots of sites with electricity and water near the group sites so there's room for everyone!

## Coral Pink 2023

*By Mike Bacon*

My Coral Pink trip this year started in April when my Brother & Sister in-law, Pat's brother, said they would like to come out from Michigan to join us. He intended to rent a RZR somewhere local to Coral Pink to ride with us. Well, that was just going to be too expensive. Best we could find was about \$3,000 for the nine days. Since I had an extra RZR I offered it to them, all I had to do was figure out how I was going to get it there!

While at Glamis in April I happen to mention to Jim that Bill & Stephanie were going to come out for Coral Pink and I was going to let them use my RZR and all I had to do was figure out how I was going to get it there. Jim offered that he had Brandy's old truck buggy rack at his house. I remembered Jim had hauled his RZR on that rack a few times, so I arranged with him to borrow it for the trip. Problem Solved!!!!

I installed the rack on my truck and decided I would carry my Talon on the truck and put the RZR in my toy hauler simply because the RZR fit better in the trailer. The first time I loaded the Talon on the truck the pipe ramps bowed significantly. I straightened them out by running over them with my truck, but it was obvious I needed to reinforce them. While I was going over different ways to do this I happen to come across some very nice folding aluminum ramps for sale in Kingman. I made a quick trip to Kingman to pick them up and the problem was



solved!

I proceeded to prep two cars for the trip and had everything ready a week or so before leaving. My trip to Mesquite was uneventful and I met up with the Kastles for dinner, then again for breakfast when Barry and Anne arrived. After breakfast we proceeded to Coral Pink where we found Bill & Stephanie had arrived the night before and had spent the night in Spot 31. Once we came in they moved over to the Group Site and we all got settled.

On Saturday we went for a ride to the dinosaur tracks. It was a very hot day and with the windshields on both the Talon and RZR the heat was really magnified. Stephanie was riding with me as Bill wanted to take their dog, Gus, with him to see how he did riding. With the heat none of us were comfortable. We did make it back and the first thing I did was remove the windshield from the RZR, it really helped them, but I didn't remove the Talon's because it was much more involved, I just had to suffer!

On Sunday we all went to the Thunderbird for breakfast, which was great. When we got back we rode around in the dunes a bit and visited Bigfoot.

Monday PJ, Melisa, and the kids had to go home. The rest of us went for a ride through the Virgin River Canyon to the Thunderbird again, this time for lunch, and PIE!

I frankly don't remember what we did on Tuesday! I'm sure we went for a ride somewhere, but I'm drawing a complete blank, and I neglected to make any notes that day. Either way I'm sure it was fun!

On Wednesday Jim, Bill & Stephanie, and I drove up on the hill above camp to the overlook and we placed some of Pat's ashes there. Pat just loved Coral Pink and we had some great times in our trips there, so I knew



she would like to be there. On our way back we went to visit Shirley's Drop Off. On our way there I went past our normal stopping place to try to get down closer to the actual drop off. I went over a small drop and although a little sketchy it wasn't bad. Bill chose to follow me, but he didn't take my exact line and ended up finding a hole at the bottom of the drop which caused him to roll the car over. It took a few minutes to get him and Stephanie out of the car, and other than a scraped up arm on Stephanie there were no major injuries. I was able to use my winch for the first time and roll the car back over with no real damage. It fired right up and I was able to take Stephanie down to the big drop off, as she didn't want to make the quarter mile walk in the sand.





Thursday we made the trip to Peek-A-Boo Canyon, taking the highway most of the way. Peek-A-Boo Canyon has become very popular with the tour companies in the area and they have done a real job on the road going in to the canyon. It is almost impassable it is so rough. On our way out Barry lost the steering on his buggy. We weren't sure what was wrong and while trying to figure out how we were going to get it out of there he

said he still had some control, so we decided to see how far we could go. In a masterful stroke of bravery and skill he was able to drive the car all the way back to camp! Once back in camp we found his U-joint had broken and it was just catching the edge as it turned giving him enough to keep in going. We were very lucky!





On Friday Barry & Anne left to go back to Mesquite, so Jim and I joined Bill & Stephanie to make one more visit to the Thunderbird for lunch. My sandwich was great, and the apple pie was even better!

Saturday we decided to take Stephanie on a shorter ride up in to the hills west of Coral Pink. It is a ride we've been on before and the views are fantastic. Once we got back to camp we all started getting things together as we had to leave Sunday morning. I got the Talon loaded on the truck and the trailer hooked up.

Sunday I loaded the RZR in the trailer, went over and dumped tanks, and headed for home. I had some things to do on Monday so I did not stop at Casa Blanca on my way home. I arrived at home on Sunday afternoon with no issues. On Monday I went over to my storage unit to unload the Talon off the truck rack. I got everything untied, the ramps all set up, and climbed up in to the Talon (no small feat!) only to find I had left the key in the trailer at home! Instead of breaking everything down and retying the Talon I left everything as was, and drove my Tracker home to get the key. Good thing I had left the Tracker in the storage unit! After that it was all pretty straight forward.

I want to thank Jim and Brandy for the loan of the truck rack! You guys saved us a lot of time and money, and made it a great trip for Bill & Stephanie! Thank You, Thank You!

I'm now getting things ready for the Mona Bacon/Pat Starr Memorial Poker Run on October 21st at Salton City, and the Lost Cabin Ride in Lake Havasu on December 9th. Hope to see all of you at these events!!!!



This month we'd like to thank Jim Kastle and Mike Bacon for submitting articles, and encourage anyone else to write articles as well to let us know what you have been up to this summer. With the sand season fast approaching, it is time to start planning dune trips once again. 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.