
THE ROOSTER

A monthly update from the Inland Empire Offroad Association

What's New

The season is just about to start. The sand show has happened and now we are looking for October to come so we can hit the sand!

Dumont Access

With the recent rain, the road between Baker and Dumont has been damaged. This will likely cancel our start of season Dumont trip. See more on page 4.

Summer LS Swaps Continue

John is tuning his 6.0, and Jim has completed the motor mounts for his new V8 and hopes to finish the install and fire it up soon.

2023 Sand Sports Super Show

By Paul Kastle



This year's Sand Show served as the unofficial start of the dune season, and was as always a nice event to get us thinking about the dunes again. We went on Saturday, but heard that there were good sized crowds on all three days. We found some things we couldn't live without, and enjoyed seeing the cars on display, which once again included quite a few sandrails, even id many of them were in the six-figure plus price range. At least it wasn't just the side by side



Upcoming Events

- October 13-15: Planned Dumont Weekend, likely moved due to road conditions.
- October 20-22: Anza Weekend for Mike Bacon's Patt Starr and Mona Bacon Memorial Spook Run and Weenie Roast.
- November 10-27: Veterans Through Thanksgiving at Glamis. Ray and Janice are planning on a long trip.

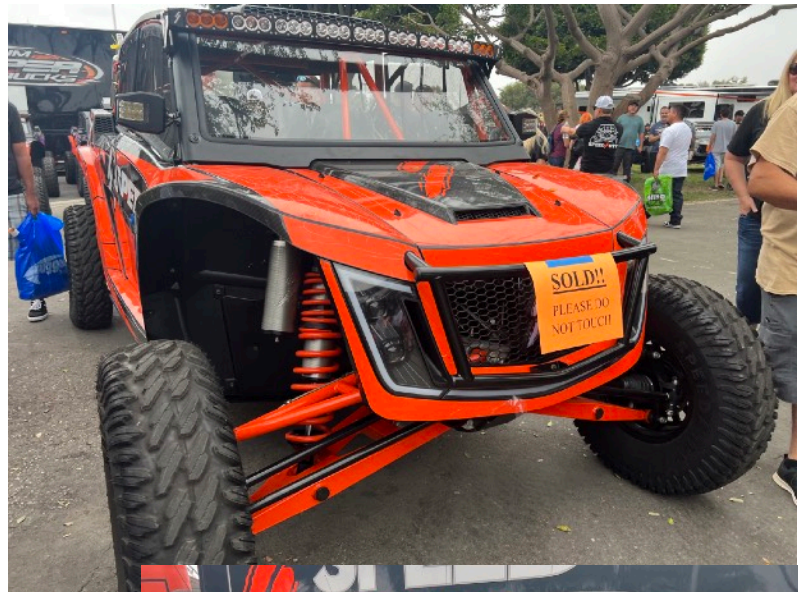
October, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



show... Speaking of side by sides though, there were quite a few new side by sides to look at, including the unique new suspension design from CanAm and even rows of Speed UTVs ready to be delivered to customers.

Christmas is almost here for some lucky Speed Buyers, but many others still will have to wait for their number to come up.

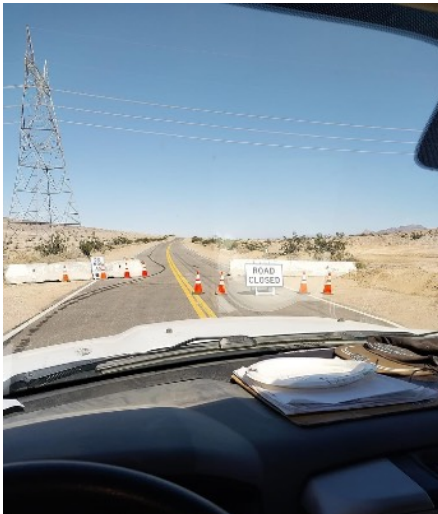


Overall it was a great show to see, and it still amazes me that there is so much interest in the sport. It was also cool that the winner of this year's ASA raffle car (a modified RZR Pro R) was there to win it in person on Sunday. The season is officially here, and we will all be out enjoying the dunes soon.



Dumont Road Washed Out

In recent storms, highway 163 which runs from Baker towards Dumont and on towards Pahrump was washed out and significantly damaged. Current estimates are that it will be months before the road reopens. The alternative for access is to continue on I-15 towards Jean, then continue back West towards Pahrump and then to approach Dumont from the North. While we love kicking off the season at Dumont, we figure it probably would not be worth the long detour. We are not sure at this point if we will cancel the trip or reschedule it for Glamis, but it is likely that the first dune trip of the season will be delayed until the long Veterans Day through Thanksgiving trip to Glamis.



Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

By Mike Bacon

A few weeks ago I saw a video on YouTube about the Durango to Silverton Narrow Gauge Railway and rides they offered through the canyon between Durango and Silverton Colorado. I thought that might be fun so I went to their website and signed up. As it turned out the rides on Sunday, August 27th were a celebration of the Steam Locomotive Convention and we would be using one of their old steam locomotives. They also offer diesel locomotives on normal days.

One thing I got to do on my way to Durango was stop at Four Corners, the spot where Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico all come together. I had never been there before. Interesting place, at least now I can say I've seen it!



I got on the train at 7:30 am and we left the station in Durango to follow the Animas Gorge through the mountains to Silverton. The steam locomotives take about four hours to make the 45 mile trip, and have to stop twice on the run to fill their water tank. It is a wonderfully scenic ride. Because it was a special "convention" ride we stopped three different times to unload passengers, then the train backed up and drove (steamed?) by us so we could get running video of the train. Because of our stops we were caught by the train behind us, a special antique train called the Galloping Goose.





When we arrived at Silverton the train backed in to the siding right next to the center of town. We had a hour and a half to explore town, get something to eat, etc. Before the trip back to Durango. I went to the Shady Lady Café and had a nice hot turkey sandwich for lunch. After lunch I went back to the train just in time to see another steam locomotive train entering town. It pulled right up next to ours and I was surprised to see the engineer was a 20 year old girl, who wasn't 5' tall driving the engine!!! I thought that was pretty cool! She got more attention than the train did!





We soon loaded up to go back to Durango. We had to stop at one point to drop off some cargo we were carrying, and they did a “fly by” for more video while dropping the two rail cars of cargo. By the time we got back to Durango it was after 5 pm, and I had to drive 8 hours to get home. I was tired, but I truly enjoyed the experience and would consider doing it again, maybe a mid winter run???

This month we'd like to thank Mike Bacon for submitting an article, 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 and we will publish them along with a calendar of events each month. -Paul, Melissa, Allie, and Marshall.