



# WAYPOINTS



January-March 2009

Vol. 11, No. 1

## President's Message

From Dennis Yard

Well friends, it has been a great six years as a member of the board and the last two years as president of this great group of friends. Now its time to turn the reigns over to a new board and a new president so they can lead us into more adventures, the learning of new skills and enjoying each others' company around the campfire or dinner table.

We had some great events during the past two years, especially our Ten Year Anniversary this past summer, and some disappointments in events that had to be cancelled by fires and other natural events. But as a club we are strong with a great core of like-minded people who learn from each other and respect each other. We know how to have a good time while being environmentally sensitive to the land we explore. Tread Lightly is not just a phrase, we live it.

I hope that in the coming year we all can push harder to bring in more members to share this adventure with us and to make the club even more educationally enriching and financially secure.

I would like to thank the current board for their support: Carol Samons, Bob Palmer, Olaf Kiltbau and Dan Willibey. They bring a high level of commitment and historical knowledge that keeps the wheels of administration moving.

Thanks to all of you for sharing the trail with us and providing your help in making events happen. It's in the sharing of knowledge and events where the fun of a club really is worthwhile.

See you out on the trail.

## Trip Report: Anza Borrego - South to North

By Bob Palmer

While trips out to the Anza Borrego desert are common, our January trip started in an area most people had never been to before. We started in the south at Ocotillo as I-8 drops out of the mountains into the desert floor with an elevation near sea level, and ended east of Ranchita on S-22 at an elevation of about 4100 feet.

We met Saturday at the gas station just off I-8 at the Ocotillo/Imperial Highway exit. There was a good turnout with 13 trucks, and close to 20 people.

After topping off the gas tanks, we headed west on S-80, the Evan Hewes Highway. This ended fairly quickly, and we were on the dirt trails in BLM territory. We started following the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railroad tracks, and then veered slightly to the north, and looped around the north side of Sugarloaf Mountain. This is not much of a mountain with a summit of about 200 feet above the desert floor. But since the desert is so flat here, anything looks like a mountain. We turned south around the mountain until we came to the railroad tracks again. We crossed the tracks, and then followed the Devils Canyon Wash in a southwesterly direction. For a while we were right against the Caltrans fence for the west bound I-8 as it heads into the mountains.



Photo: Bob Palmer

Photos:

Above: Starting off along the SD & Az Eastern RR

Below: Crossing tracks with Sugarloaf Mountain in the background



Photo: Bob Palmer

Continued on Page 2

We turned west out of the wash, and over some low mud hills. We dropped out of the hills into a desert plain that opened to the northeast. We also left the BLM area, and entered the southern end of the Anza Borrego Desert State Park. We followed along the edge of the Jacumba Mountains. When we got to the Mortero Palms, we turned north, still roughly following the edge of the mountains until we got back to the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railroad, where we stopped for lunch.



Photo: Bob Palmer

After lunch we crossed the tracks again, and followed the road running along the east side of the tracks. Then we turned northeast at the Mortero Wash, and then more northerly as we headed toward the West Mortero Wash in the eastern foothills of the Jacumba Mountains. Here we went through a mild squeeze, and a nice drop-off into another wash. We continued through some volcanic hills, and ended up in the Jojoba Wash, which took us out to S-2.

We took S-2 north to the turnoff for Canyon Sin Nombre. We followed Canyon Sin Nombre to the Carrizo Creek, and then followed Hueso Creek northwest until we came to the Arroyo Seco del Diablo. Normally in this area we take Arroyo Tapiado to the Mud Caves, and then loop around to the north end of Arroyo Seco to the Fish Creek drop-off. However, this time we took the southern part of Arroyo Seco which winds through a deep ravine in the sandstone of the mesa. As we travelled north, the floor of the ravine gradually climbed so that we were on top of the mesa when we reached the Fish Creek turnoff. We kept going north in Arroyo Seco del Diablo and looped over to the Mud Caves in Arroyo Tapiado. After our stop at the Mud Caves, we reversed course and headed back to the Fish Creek turnoff. There is a nice drop-off from the top of the mesa down into Fish Creek, followed by a narrow rocky canyon as the trail opens into the Fish Creek Wash. We turned north into Fish Creek looking for a place to camp.



Photo: Bob Palmer

On Sunday we headed out Fish Creek toward Split Mountain. But on our way out, there was a nice large boulder in the middle of the wash that was not far from our camp location. We stopped for a group photo. Two groups left Saturday evening, and one more Sunday morning, so we only had 10 trucks left for the photo opportunity. We got back onto pavement, and took Split Mountain Rd, back to dirt on Kane Springs Rd, and back to pavement on Hwy-78. We took Hwy-78 west to S-3, and then immediately back to dirt taking the Yaqui Flat trail. From Yaqui Flat, we took the Grapevine Canyon trail to the Jasper Trail, and ended up on S-22 a couple of miles east of Ranchita. After airing up the tires, we headed back home.



Photo: Bob Palmer



Photo: Dennis Yard

Thanks to Larry and Carol for helping to pre-run the trip the previous weekend. Since we had not been in the area southwest of S-2, maps and overhead imagery from Google Earth were used to plot the trail. Waypoints from Google Earth were transferred into a GPS unit, and this created the route for Saturday's part of the trip.

- Photos (Clockwise from Top):*
- 1: Along the edge of the Jacumba Mountains*
  - 2: Lunch by the SD & Az East RR water tower*
  - 3: Frank climbing back up the 1st drop-off in his D90*
  - 4: Jaime with his Remote Control LR3*
  - 5: Navigating through the rocks leading to Fish Creek*



Photo: Dennis Yard

## Event Report: Lions and Tigers and Bears, OH MY! A Celebration of Ten Years of Land Rover in San Diego

By Dennis Yard

We would like to thank **Land Rover Miramar**, our principal sponsor who helped make this event possible.

Surrounded by exotic wildlife and tropical greenery, Land Rover owners gathered at the San Diego Wild Animal Park's African themed Mombasa Pavilion to celebrate the first ten years of the Land Rover Club of San Diego. This extraordinary event was made possible by the substantial sponsorship of our local Land Rover dealer, **Land Rover Miramar**.

Wearing tropical and safari themed attire, the 44 people in attendance complimented the Mombasa Pavilion's open air ambience. Bright print tops contrasted with khaki skirts and pants to provide a colorful crowd in a festive atmosphere. World music drifted from the pavilion speakers, while tropical bird calls came in from the waterfowl lagoon and jungle canopy. An early arrival by some allowed them to view the Wild Animal Park's exhibits, especially the Lion Country section which has a modified Range Rover Classic, where the lions can be seen to lounge on top and in the Range Rover. Nearby, a Series III 109 Safari station wagon overlooks a lagoon and the African plain exhibit.

Attending the historic event were club members from the earliest days, current members, sponsors and donors to the event. They dined on a buffet rich with grilled salmon, grilled chicken, potatoes, salads, vegetables and breads. The beverage bar was in constant motion the entire evening. Dessert primarily consisted of a multi-layer cake decorated with a club event photograph and the club logo.

Presiding over the festivities Dennis Yard, the current president, welcomed all to the party, recognized sponsors, donators, prior board members, leaders and guided all through the event agenda. Highlighted for their participation over most of the 10 years were: Anna and Kelly Edwards, Gerry and Wally McIntosh, Dr. Jim Price, Carol and Larry Samons, Nick Markiw, and Ron and Barbara Sosnowski. In a very special addition to the affair, the Wild Animal Park presented a one-hour animal display, showing off several occupants of the park, up close and personal. Most impressive were the raptors: Peregrine Falcon, Owls and Hawks. As a special visual treat, a continuous slideshow of club event pictures from the ten years played on a large screen during the entire event. This show was the handwork of pioneer club member Wally McIntosh working with photos supplied by club members. There were over 400 photos used covering the wide variety of activities we have enjoyed.

Adding to the specialness of the event, door prizes were given out to each membership in attendance. High value donations spiced up the prize giving with a **Qualcomm** satellite phone, **Paha Que Wilderness** shower enclosure, a Underwater Kinetics travel case donated by **Premier Rover**, a Hi Lift jack from **Off Road Warehouse**, and gift cards from **Rovers North** and **Four Wheel Parts Direct**. Completing the array of gifts were Land Rover Gear Teddy Bears, and a jumbo size remote control LR3 from **Land Rover Mission Viejo**, magazine subscriptions from **Overland Journal**, and **Land Rover Lifestyle**. **Boll Weevil** provided gift certificates. Special thanks need to be noted for helpers in preparing for and conducting the event. They are Olaf Kilthau, Bob Palmer, Kevin and Karen Haywood, Liz Yard, Dan

Willibey, Wally McIntosh, and Carol Samons.



Photo: Bob Palmer



Photo: Bob Palmer



Photo: Bob Palmer



Photo: Jaime Alvarez

**The Land Rover Club of San Diego**  
**Financial Report**  
**12/31/08**

**Cash (Beginning Book Balance) \$3162.43**

**2008 Income and Expenses**

**Income \$7136.00**

Membership Dues	\$2925.00
Regalia (Hats, shirts, etc.)	\$606.00
Wine Tour	\$215.00
10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	\$3390.00

**Expenses \$7750.96**

10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary at WAP	\$4251.55
10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake	\$116.95
Regalia (Hats, shirts, etc.)	\$1113.06
Insurance	\$950.00
Wine Tour	\$552.00
Postage	\$233.95
Internet Hosting	\$239.40
Xmas Tree Lunch Trip	\$210.00
Misc.- P.O. Box	\$68.00
Shipping material (boxes)	\$16.05

**Cash (Adjusted Ending Book Balance) \$2547.47**  
 (\$2996.87-\$449.40 = 2547.47)

**Notes:** Some expenses included here were paid per our bank book in 1/2009 but are accrued in 2008. (ie. 2008 Hosting Fee \$239.40, and Xmas Tree Lunch Trip \$210 = \$449.40). Fictitious name registration Chk.#5193 for \$25, written July 12, 2007 never cleared the bank, and is still reflecting as a charge on the book balance.

## Trip Report: Puerto Nuevo On Highway Event

By Olaf Kiltthau

Our group of Baja adventurers met at the Trolley Station off of E St and 5 highway on Saturday morning at 930am. This meeting place that Dan suggested is a perfect staging area when crossing the border because it's easy access on and off the highway, there's a gas station with convenience store across the street, and several eateries nearby. We hung around until 10am, waiting for any last minute attendees but our group remained intimate. While we hung out, we discussed our route and strategy to stay together, since we were crossing the border and I didn't want to lose anyone.

We had 4 vehicles and 8 adventurers, Jose and Magda in their Disco II, Mike and Constance Bell in their Disco II, Dan with his two buddies, David Stallings and Adrian Van Ravesteyn in Dan's Rangie Classic, and myself in my Disco I.

We crossed the border smoothly but you can never count on the same route being open so I had to make a quick adjustment to left. We didn't lose anyone and we proceeded on the scenic toll road to our first stop. After crossing the toll booth which cost \$2.60 US dollars each way, we stopped at a place that I've driven by for years, yet never stopped. Dan, our tail gunner, brought us to Hotel Calafia, and it had a great view and great amenities. I plan to stay there on my next visit to Baja, and I'll give my report after my stay.

We hopped back in our Rovers and headed to Lobster Village, which was about 15 minutes from Hotel Calafia. The journey from the our meeting spot took about 1 hour. We arrived just before the crowds and were able to find ample secure parking at Villa Ortega's. They seated us promptly, and we began to feast on soup, ceviche, and then our main course. All the while enjoying the ocean view.

After lunch, we walked off our full bellies through the curio shops, bought a few things and then started back. I took us on a short detour to check on some property that I own, just across the highway from Lobster Village, and then our route back took us through the town of Rosarito, and through Tijuana. Our tail gunner, Dan, missed the on-ramp to the toll road but he made it back to the border slightly ahead of us. We saw him about 20 cars ahead in the line and were wondering how that happened. We spent about 1.5 hours in the line to cross the border and then headed home.

It was a short and sweet trip! Next time I will make it an overnight trip to incorporate horseback riding and some rest and relaxation by the pool! See you on our next adventure.

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## Event Report: LRJMV Off Road Open House

By Olaf Kiltthau

On April 12, 2008 our club, and the Southern California Land Rover club along with many others descended on Land Rover Mission Viejo for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Land Rover Mission Viejo Off Road Open House.

The idea started when I approached Rich Guzman and Darrin Simmons of LRMV with the idea of having a club meeting and tour at their facility. As we continued the discussion, I found that they were very enthusiastic and the idea grew. I suggested involving SCLR and making this a bigger meeting, so that it would be worth the dealer's time and effort and again Rich and Darrin were all for it. Then somehow we started talking about inviting after-market accessory vendors and at that point we found the synergy for the event.

We had Land Rovers from all over the place on display with roof tents, running bio-diesel, and all sorts of other accessories. The speakers and vendors present were: Dale Johnson from the San Bernadino National Forest Association, Randy Banis discussing Bureau of Land Management issues, Dave Strader from Land University, Off Roving, Land Rover Lifestyle Magazine, Overland Journal, SIRIUS satellite radio, Adventure Trailers, Premier Rovers, OC Rovers, West Coast Rovers, Fuze Beverage, Winchline, Underwater Kinetics cases, Kelty carport awnings, SPOT Messenger, and Land Rover Gear.

Our first year's event was a great presentation and we look forward to the event growing in popularity in the coming years. Thanks to Nathan Woods' from SCLR for putting the event design on paper, as well as obtaining a speaker and vendors. Thanks to Adam Spiker of Off Roving for designing the event flyer. Many thanks to Rich, Darrin, Ed and Ted from LRMV for organizing food, the sound system, SIRIUS satellite music and Dave from Land Rover University.



## Trip Report: 2008 Wine Tour and BBQ

By Dennis Yard

Green hills, blooming wildflowers, running water in creek beds, small waterfalls and patches of unburned trees brightened up the countryside in the back country north of Ramona. The area we traveled through on our 2008 Club winery tour was burned over in the October 2007 wildfires. It showed in the form of ash filled catch basins, grey or brown dead trees, and scorched black Manzanita stalks. But the devastation was considerably softened by this winter's rains and the spring awakening of seeds, tree sprouts and meadows.



Photo: Dennis Yard



Photo: Dennis Yard

Event hosts Dennis and Liz Yard led seven other member vehicles from the meeting point on Scripps- Poway Parkway through Ramona, Mesa Grande and Warner Springs to visit Shadow Mountain Vineyard and Winery. Along the northbound route from Ramona via Magnolia Ave and Black Canyon Road, the group was surprised to see running water in some creek beds, leading Ralph and Anne Neiger to declare that they would come back to explore the fishing possibilities. We passed over one of the county's oldest bridges built in 1913 and on the County of San Diego's "should be replaced list".

In the main body of the convoy were Anne and Ralph Neiger (Disco I), Larry Samons (D-90), Karen and Kevin Haywood (Disco II), Tom Henderson with Susie Snow (Disco II), Peter and Lena Matusov with their daughter (Disco I), Cathy and Mark Steele with Chris Marshall (RR3), and Dan and son Charlie Willibey (RRC). The participants welcomed a cooler filled with ice and bottled water for cool drinks on a pretty warm day. It was in the 90's but it was "a dry heat" helped by a light breeze which allowed it to be comfortable in the shade.

Our long distance award winners, Olaf Kilthau and Cindy Lotz met us at the winery after their trek across the mountains from Mission Viejo. Our distance runner members, Amy and Jaime Alvarez ran the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Coronado Bridge event that morning and drove their Freelander 22 to join us at the winery as well.

Our Shadow Mountain hosts were Pam and Alex McGeary, owners of the winery. These very pleasant people gave us all a thorough background on the winery, tested our knowledge of grapes, fed us wonderful food and poured several wonderful wines. Shadow Mountain grows all its own grapes and makes all its own wines. They know their wines and their grapes, so educating us and making delicious wines came so easily. We tasted two white wines before our meal, a Muscat and a Viognier. During the Santa Maria valley style barbeque, we tasted (large portions) of two reds; Variety 3 and Syrah. Others were available in the store after the meal. Alex has his professional education in winemaking at UC Davis. Clearly Pam has a master's degree in catering, based on the delightful salad, black

beans, and mango salsa, which accompanied the Tri-tip beef and chicken.

By the end of the day, we were well fed, educated, felt completely at home and had tested our palettes on premium wines. The group eagerly toasted the McGeary's for their hospitality before saying goodbye. Following the completion of the formal affair, participants headed off to other points of local interest, like Dudley's bakery and Santa Ysabel Casino while on the way home.

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### LRCSD Board of Directors

Olaf Kilthau, Bob Palmer, Carol Samons, Dan Willibey, Dennis Yard  
E-Mail: [board@lrcsd.com](mailto:board@lrcsd.com)

### LRCSD Officers, and Committee Chairs

**President:** Dennis Yard 858.565.8199

**VP-Membership:** Carol Samons

**Treasurer & CFO:** Olaf Kilthau

**VP-Publications:** Bob Palmer [newsletter@lrcsd.com](mailto:newsletter@lrcsd.com)

**VP-Development & Meetings:** Dan Willibey

**Secretary:** Kelly Edwards

**Safety & Education:** Joe Aiello

**Webmaster:** Frank Gorcsan

Other Photos from Last Year



As always, we want to thank Land Rover Miramar in San Diego, its management and staff, for their continuing support of our efforts and also for the generous financial considerations that they have extended to our membership.  
Thank you very much!



**MEMBERS: Be sure to take advantage of your 15% CLUB DISCOUNT in both the parts and service departments at**

**Land Rover Miramar**

Service is now open from 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM Monday through Friday.



9455 Clayton Drive  
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858.693.1400

## 2009 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates and events subject to change. Normal monthly informal meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month.

*Non-LRCSO events in italicized print.*

Mar	17	Tue	6:30	Annual Meeting, Board Election
	21-22	Sat-Sun		High Desert- Stoddard Wells Recreation Area
Apr	21	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	<i>24-26</i>	<i>Fri-Sun</i>		<i>Overland Expo 2009, Prescott AZ</i>
	25-26	Sat-Sun		Yuha Basin (South of I-8)
May	12	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	16-17	Sat-Sun		LR Conclave at Warner Springs Resort
Jun	16	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	20-21	Sat-Sun		Big Bear
Jul	21	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	25	Sat		Beach Party - Mexico
Aug	18	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	TBD			Rubicon or Duesey (Difficult)
Sep	15	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
	12 or 13	Sat or Sun		Corral Canyon OHV - Sidewinder/Training Day
Oct	13-15	Tue-Thur		Moab, UT. Modified vehicles only. More info contact <a href="mailto:drjoe@cox.net">drjoe@cox.net</a>
	20	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting
Nov	17	Tue	6:30	Monthly Informal Meeting

## **LAND ROVER CLUB OF SAN DIEGO**



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**DATE SENSITIVE MATERIAL**  
Address Correction Requested