



# WAYPOINTS

**January-March 2007**

**Vol. 9, No. 1**

## President's Message

From Dennis Yard

I'm very pleased to be writing my first President's message for **Waypoints**, our very fine newsletter. Under Bob Palmer's capable hands, it is a publication that reflects well on the Club and its members. It's professional in appearance, and full of Club news, events and technical matters.

It's the kind of great service that the Club offers its members. I hope to encourage more content inputs, by members, in the form of technical tips, stories and photos. The more we all provide Bob, the easier it is for him to fill up quarterly printings and the more valuable it is for all. Also, in my book, it is great new member recruiting tool. Between it and the web site, anyone can see that we have a great club; one that is active with a variety of events for any member and/or their families.

Speaking of the web site, our webmaster Frank Gorcsan, is an unsung hero constantly updating the site with new event calendars, pictures, stories, videos, and classifieds. It is not stale and depressing. I mean, how many times have you looked at someone's Land Rover web site and found that the last time it was updated was 2004 or never? Not here, it has fresh content as it is submitted.

As with **Waypoints**, Frank can always use new content in the form of pictures or Land Rover links. Please think about that next time you see some interesting

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## Trip Report: Stoddard Valley OHV

By Bob Palmer

We started the year with a trip to the Stoddard Valley Off-Highway Vehicle Area in the Mojave Desert near Barstow. This was the first trip the Club made to Stoddard Valley, but Olaf, our trip leader, had been there many times. Stoddard Valley OHV is an open unrestricted area administered by the BLM.

We left the Mountain Meadow Park and Ride north of Escondido at about 8:00 Saturday morning, and headed up I-15. We stopped at the Silverwood Lake exit part way up the Cajon Pass to wait for Olaf, and then continued on toward Barstow.

We got off the freeway at the Outlet Mall just before reaching Barstow, got gas, and headed out into the desert.

Stoddard Valley has a wide range of difficulties, but almost always has an easy bypass of a difficult part of the trail. Most of the area was fairly flat composed of course sand and small gravel, which provide easy going for our Land Rovers.

Olaf led us out to check out a couple of possible camping spots. We selected the second spot because it was farther away from some of the main trails. We dropped off our camping equipment and firewood, and continued on the trail.

We headed into some small hills, which are typically more rocky than the desert floor. As always, Club members help other drivers navigate the difficult sections by spotting, and placing rocks to fill in holes and increase traction. Everyone got through the trails without any problems. Olaf got stuck trying a difficult track, and had to be winched out. We got back to camp in time to setup our tents, cook dinner, and enjoy a nice campfire.

### Trip Participants

- Bob Palmer - White Gold Range Rover SE
- Joe Aiello - Red Range Rover SE
- Eddie Mah with Alexio - White Disco I
- Olaf Kilthau - White Disco I
- Roy Hall - White LR3
- Rick Peterson - White Gold Disco II
- Paul & Amy Stastny with Lucca - Black Disco II
- Parker Onufer - Jeep



Photo: Bob Palmer

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# The Land Rover Club of San Diego

## Financial Report

12/31/06

<b>Cash</b>	\$3827.45
<b>2005 Income and Expenses</b>	
<b>Income</b>	\$2510.00
Membership Dues	\$2475.00
Logo Regalia	\$35.00
<b>Expenses</b>	\$4512.53
Insurance	\$2315.00
Postage	\$193.65
Newsletter/Printing	\$907.40
Winery Trip	\$475.00
Food & Drink	\$234.17
Stickers	\$187.10
Misc.- Supplies	\$17.22
P.O. Box	\$72.00
Internet Hosting	\$69.99
Permit Fees	\$21.00
Stop Payment	\$20.00

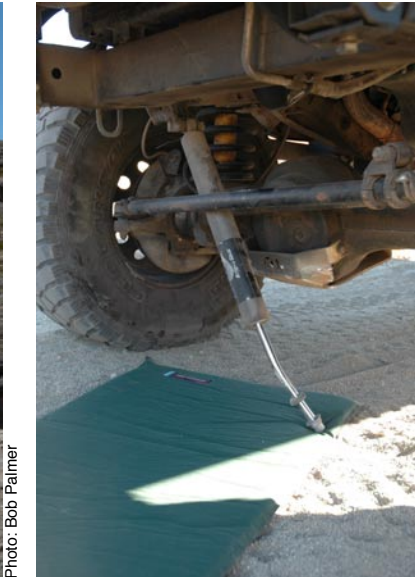
**Notes:** Some expenses were carried over from 2005 because receipts were not presented until early 2006 (ie. 2005 Hosting Fee, Sticker expense, some Postage, some Food & Drink reimbursement.) Approximately \$450 in Membership Dues were carried to 2007 because checks were not entered before 12/31.

Stoddard Valley from Page 1

Sunday morning we packed up, and headed east over some more hills. From the top of one of these hills, we could see our destination for lunch, the Slash X restaurant and bar on Hwy-247. After lunch, we headed back to our starting point by the flat well travelled dirt roads through the desert valley floor. Back on pavement, we aired up our tires and headed home.



Photos:  
Above: Olaf gets an assist winching off Bob's Range Rover  
Below Left: Olaf discusses the track to take with Roy before descending through a rocky section in his LR3  
Below Right: The steering stabilizer broke on Olaf's Disco I



The 5 stages of Joe Aiello climbing a rock face in his red Range Rover SE. Starting in front of the rock face (top right above), through climbing with the front tires, straddling the edge between the front and rear tires (rock sliders are really helpful here), to climbing with the rear tires (above), to all the way on top (left).

## Trip Report: GPS Fun in Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area

By Carol Samons

After toying with the idea for a couple of years now, LRCSD finally held its first GPS-related event in February out in the San Felipe Hills at the eastern end of the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area (OWSVRA). We started out small on this one and learned a few things for next time, but overall we thought the event was loads of fun and went well. Unfortunately, I forgot my camera so I don't have any images to share.

For this run, participants had a set of 7 coordinates they were to find in a specific order. At each coordinate was a marker and a Land Rover trivia question to answer. The coordinates were the same for everyone so to find them in a certain order was to separate everyone on the course. The goal was to follow and hopefully find all the coordinates with the smallest amount of miles driven between them—speed didn't matter. We had also deviated from the norm when we did not publish where the actual meeting place would be but instead gave out a series of coordinates for participants to follow to reach the meeting location.

What I learned #1: As clear as I thought the instructions were on the trip info sheet I learned I can always be more clear. Some people thought the 21 coordinates given on the trip info sheet was the actual gps event itself and when I looked at the sheet again I could see how that happened!

Seven vehicles were present but for the gps run itself there were four vehicles. Participants were Nick Markiw and Joe Aiello paired up in Nick's D90; Adam Spiker and friend Vincent in Adam's Range Rover Sport were followed by GPS-less Paul Stastny and Rick Petersen, both in Disco II's ; Michael King with fiancé Sandy and her daughter Ashley in an LR3, and Bob Palmer in a P38 Range Rover. Larry and I had a great vantage point from the meeting location at the gas dome(s), where we set up base camp to hang out for the day. Weather couldn't have been more perfect, sunny but not too hot and little wind. Unlike the previous day, when Larry had attempted to set up course markers but couldn't due to ferocious winds.



Photo: Bob Palmer

What I learned later #2: I took a quick look at the gas dome that is now enclosed by fencing. It's a small incline of a hill about 4 feet high and inside of it looks like a volcanic gray mud pot that erupts periodically. I did a little research later and couldn't find much. However, what I learned was that the gray water is cold to the touch, the dome is made of hard gray clay and if one was to put their ear close to a vent on the top of a dome, one might hear petroleum gases bubbling through water that supposedly runs deep within the hill the dome sits on.

One of the main reasons for picking this area for a gps run is that as an open OHV area one does not have to stay on "established" roads. However, to get from point A to point B isn't necessarily a straight line as seen on a GPS screen. There might be deep gullies or big mounds in the way—the challenge was to minimize mileage without going too far out of the way. We knew there would be those who'd want to try for the straightest line possible, namely those whose names are Nick and Joe, and we were right. We could see Nick's D90 going places we think no vehicle has gone before. This approach might have worked had it not been for some other technical difficulties



Photo: Bob Palmer

they encountered early on and had Nick requesting another navigator! Seems Joe had entered the coordinates for the first 2 locations incorrectly—they were so proud of themselves when they got to the locations in record time and so directly but when they couldn't find the markers they knew something was up. They also went on a nice long drive that apparently had them very close to the Salton Sea.

What I learned #3: When running future gps events like this, it will be a big help to have an observation point similar to what we had so we can keep an eye on how things are going. Especially so we can see when we think people might be "cheating"! I had not thought about the possibility that someone could just park their vehicle and WALK several feet to find coordinates, therefore minimizing miles driven. I'm not saying this actually happened... but the suspected persons involved know who they are! They did eventually drive the route, but

only after we loudly called it to everyone's attention over the CB.

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# Trip Report: Superstition Mountain

By Bob Palmer

Our March trip was to Superstition Mountain Open Area northeast of Ocotillo. Normally, it is still cool enough to go to the desert in March. But this was a weird Winter, and the weekend of March 17-18 happened to be in the middle of a heat wave. The afternoon temperature was over 100 each day.

Most of us met at the Buckman Springs Rest Stop on I-8. Nick hauled his trailer out Friday evening, and Olaf has a long way to drive to meet us. We left the rest stop at about 8:45, and headed east. After a fueling stop in Jacumba, we dropped down into the desert and took the Dunaway Rd exit. We turned east on Evan Hewes Hwy (S-80), and then north on Huff Rd. Finally turning west on Wheeler Rd, we made our way out to meet up with Nick. We waited awhile for Olaf to arrive. He missed the Wheeler Rd turn, and ended up coming in from the north. When he did arrive, Nick noticed Olaf's truck had an exhaust leak. Olaf spent most of the day working on his truck. He met up with us as we were making our way back to camp.

We started by going around to the back side via the east end, near where we were camping. We went through some soft dunes to get to the trail on the back side of Superstition Mountain, which runs along the boundary of a Navy Bombing Range. We took this trail west, dipping in and out of various wash ravines coming off the mountain until we came to a paved road leading up to the middle group of radio and microwave towers. Next we headed down the Lucky Lady Trail, which had both soft sand and rocky section. We ended up on the main trail along the backside again. We turned back south up into the mountain, and then into the soft sand dunes prevalent on the south face of Superstition Mountain. Due to the heat, we decided to break off in the mid-afternoon, and head back to camp.

Sunday, we decided to try to go all the way around the mountain on the back side. We started out the same as the previous day, but kept going west. There were a couple of places where it looked like fingers from the bombing range extended out toward the mountain. We were crossing those fingers. Finally, it looked like we could not go all the way around the mountain, so we turned south looking for a way across the mountain. Nick was following some faint tire tracks. At one point the tracks led to a drop off. Nick decided to get out of his truck to check out the path, a wise choice because it was a shear cliff drop off of over 30 feet. We easily found the path into the wash below the drop off, and continued weaving our way south. We met some ATV and dirt bikes coming the other way, so we knew there had to be a path, but was it big enough for our Rovers. Soon we came to a large sand hill with a lot of sand rails and buggies climbing the hill. We were back into the dunes. Most drivers did not air down enough for soft sand dunes. Nick did and had no problems climbing the dunes. The others had to find bypasses to the really soft parts. We had fun playing around in the dunes as we slowly made our way back to camp.

On the way back home as we climbed the grade on I-8 toward Jacumba, Nick's truck suddenly started belching a lot of smoke. Olaf, Nick, and Bob pulled off onto the shoulder. The smoke was coming from the engine compartment. Nick quickly identified a power steering leak. Fortunately, it was only a loose hose clamp. We made it back home without any other problems.



Photo: Bob Palmer

- Trip Participants:
- Dennis Yard - Dk Blue Disco I
  - Bob Palmer - White Gold Range Rover SE
  - Dan Willibey with Charlie - Dk Gray Range Rover Classic
  - Olaf Kilthau - White Disco I
  - Nick Markiw - Black D90
  - Rick Peterson - White Gold Disco II



Photo: Dan Willibey



Photo: Dan Willibey



Photo: Dan Willibey

Photos:

Above: Dan up to his axles in soft sand

Top Right: On a small bluff after climbing a sand dune

Middle Right: Nick kicking up the sand as he climbs a dune

Bottom Right: Back in camp braving the heat and blowing sand

## The LR2 Arrives in San Diego Showroom

By Dennis Yard

**L**and Rover Miramar presented the latest addition to the Land Rover product line on Thursday March 28, 2007 in its San Diego showroom at 9455 Clayton Drive. The gala affair was attended by dozens of interested parties including Michelle and Frank Motley, Carol and Larry Samons, John Bepko, and Dennis Yard from the Land Rover Club of San Diego.

LRM had two vehicles on display – one of which was sold by the end of the event – in Tambora Flame Metallic and Zermatt Silver Metallic. The LR2 was impressive with a transversely mounted in-line 3.2 liter six, a top hinged upwardly swinging tailgate, and greater interior room than its predecessor Freelander. Showroom personnel say it's much smoother and more powerful than the Freelander with significantly reduced interior noise.

Also on the floor was the new General Manager, Larry Suarez, previously known to Club members as a Pioneer Centres service manager and previous Club member. Even though Larry has been with the Porsche side of Pioneer in recent years, he still owns two Range Rovers. Larry recounted his activity with the Club fondly and hopes he can find time to get out on one of our adventures. Dennis and Larry spoke about the need for more interaction between the Club and LRM to the mutual benefit to each.

While sipping local brews and dining on fine foods; Michelle, Frank, John, Carol, Larry, and Dennis shared Land Rover stories. In fact they were having such a good time they were the last ones to leave the event. Each attendee was given an LR2 party bag consisting of an LR2 embossed chocolate square, a Land Rover logo'd picture frame and LR2 brochure in a Land Rover gift bag.

Out in the parking lot were the Motley and Yard NAS Defender 110 trucks, which provoked questions from LRM staff members.

John Bepko reported that he is no longer an owner, having recently sold his Land Rover. We will miss John's smile at our events.



Photo: Dennis Yard

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### LRCSD Board of Directors

Olaf Kiltbau, 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 Kiltbau

**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

**Remember to check out the  
Club's Website at  
<http://www.lrcsd.com>  
for the latest news, pictures,  
calendar updates, and other  
useful information**

After everyone returned to base to swap stories and Larry tallied results, congratulations, kudos and a bottle of wine went to Adam Spiker and Vincent, our guests from Corona, who managed the shortest distances between coordinates despite having some frustrating technical glitches with their GPS unit. Next in line was Michael King, followed by Bob Palmer. And the LOSERS, I mean the ones with the most mileage were Nick and Joe. Their efforts were not for nothing, however, as their last place finish earned them the booby prize of an FJ Cruiser hat.

What I learned #4: That Larry did a great job setting up a course and it can be fun to run as I found out myself when I was the guinea pig driver on a pre-run. I think a good time was had by all and we'll do more of these events in the future. And don't forget the camera!

Here are the waypoints from Hwy-78 into the starting point. Be sure the Map Datum of your GPS unit is set to WGS84:

- 1: 33° 7.552' N 115° 58.641' W This is Hwy-78 and Pole Line Rd East (there are 2 parallel roads here)
- 2: 33° 8.649' N 115° 58.641' W
- 3: 33° 8.717' N 115° 58.359' W
- 4: 33° 9.086' N 115° 58.234' W
- 5: 33° 9.151' N 115° 57.828' W
- 6: 33° 9.321' N 115° 57.185' W
- 7: 33° 9.561' N 115° 56.935' W
- 8: 33° 9.595' N 115° 56.959' W
- 9: 33° 9.649' N 115° 56.927' W
- 10: 33° 9.675' N 115° 56.943' W
- 11: 33° 9.783' N 115° 56.900' W
- 12: 33° 9.986' N 115° 56.654' W
- 13: 33° 10.006' N 115° 56.646' W
- 14: 33° 10.015' N 115° 56.729' W
- 15: 33° 10.235' N 115° 56.921' W
- 16: 33° 10.290' N 115° 56.937' W
- 17: 33° 10.370' N 115° 57.008' W
- 18: 33° 10.419' N 115° 56.980' W
- 19: 33° 10.509' N 115° 56.950' W
- 20: 33° 10.536' N 115° 56.986' W
- 21: 33° 10.685' N 115° 56.993' W At the Gas Dome

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President's Message from Page 1

news about Land Rover or off roading in our area or take digital pictures at one of our outings.

When we had our first new board meeting recently, one of the topics that begged attention was that of membership recruiting and retention. I think that you will see this board focus more of its attention and energy on improving membership numbers and services. Your advice and suggestions are eagerly sought. Please email or corner one of the board members at a meeting to share your thoughts.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to Joe Aiello and Frank Gorcsan for their board membership the past 4 or more years. They have been an important part of the glue that holds us together. We are very fortunate that even though they have "retired" from the board, they have remained active and provide support as chairmen.

So, keep the rubber side down and see you at the next event.

Dennis

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  
San Diego, CA 92126  
858.693.1400**

## 2007 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.*

Apr	17	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	21-22	Sat-Sun		<i>Rover Rendezvous VII in Panamint Springs (Death Valley) SCLR Event</i>
	28-29	Sat-Sun		Calico Tour and Exploration (Easy)
May	15	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	19-20	Sat-Sun		Jacumba (Hard)
Jun	19	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	23-24	Sat-Sun		Cleghorn Trail and Exploration (Various)
Jul	17	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	21-22	Sat-Sun		Big Bear Trails and Exploration (Easy & Hard)
Aug	15-18	Wed-Sat		Solihull LR National Rally in Colorado
	21	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	25-26	Sat-Sun		Night Rally and Tour of Anza-Borrego (Easy)
Sep	15-16	Sat-Sun		Pine Valley Off Road Training & Corral Canyon Trail Maintenance (Easy)
	18	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
Oct	16	Tue	06:30 PM	Monthly Informal Meeting
	15-18	Mon-Thur		Moab (Hard, Modified Vehicles Only) - Contact Joe Aiello (drjoe@cox.net) for information

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



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**DATE SENSITIVE MATERIAL**  
Address Correction Requested