

**CORVA**

CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD  
VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

[www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)

# ***OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION***

## *A United Front*

Currently the motorized recreation community is facing a number of major land use issues throughout the state of California which threaten our legitimate access to public lands. Nowhere is this threat better illustrated than the recent proposal from the Department of Defense (DOD) to transfer all or part of the 189,000 acre Johnson Valley OHV Area from the BLM (with open access) to the military (with no public access).

Based on this recent proposal, representatives from state, local and national OHV organizations have met several times to formulate a comprehensive response. While we certainly support proper training of our troops, especially during a time of war, the groups agreed to champion alternatives or options that will allow the military to fulfill its need without losing a single acre of our beloved recreation opportunities.

In order to be fully prepared to engage in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process that the DOD is required to follow, we will continue to work together to form cohesive strategies and alternatives. We will be submitting comments that will require the DOD to justify the need for this land, especially given the impacts to the OHV recreation, the local community, and the surrounding environment. We will also seek the advice of our attorneys and lobbyists.

Most important, our goal is to use the NEPA process to stop the Marines from moving into Johnson Valley. We acknowledge the importance of collaboration with the numerous stakeholders of Johnson Valley, including but not limited to: local OHV groups; non-motorized recreationists; local residents and communities; OHV businesses; county and state government; elected officials; federal land managers; legislators and California State Parks. Alternatives and suggestions for land replacement (mitigation) must be submitted during the public comment period. The NEPA process requires the agency to consult with the public on issues affecting land management decisions. The legal process does not allow for other options or comments once the public comment period has closed.

Signed by: AMA National, AMA 36, AMA 37, ASA, BRC, Cal4Wheel, CNSA, CORVA, FoJV, FoOD, ORBA, PfJV, SDORC

## *Southern Jamboree a Success!*

We had another great weekend and celebrated our 25th Anniversary of the CORVA Jamboree. The events were held in the morning and afternoon. We had many happy members participate and compete for some great trophies. All events were "timed" and some went down to the tenths of a second in determining the winners.

In the evening we had our BBQ Tri-tip dinner followed by our trophy presentation. Then it was on to our normally huge raffle where we had so many great items to give out. The top raffle prize was a set of 5 BF Goodrich tires up to size 37 inches! Sunday morning we held the Poker Run where the top prize was a cool GPS system.

More details on the Jamboree found on page 8 inside.



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## WHAT IS CORVA?

*The California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA) is a varied group of outdoor recreationalists who are extremely active in promoting the positive aspects of vehicular access on public lands and protecting that right.*

*The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trials bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street legal" 4x4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, baja and desert racers.*

*The main purpose of CORVA is to have fun! We also work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondarily, we educate our membership on the constantly changing rules and regulations and promote conservation, clean-up and trail maintenance projects.*

*We participate in lobbying activities in both Sacramento and Washington DC. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV enthusiasts who believe in using our public lands responsibly.*

*We are active at all levels of the land management public process with both the BLM and USFS. We do this by commenting on many environmental documents on issues that affect us.*

*We coordinate with other multiple use organizations such as snowmobiles to horse enthusiasts to protect multiple use rights that we both share. Only together can we fight the extremists. We are,*

***"Dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."***

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Contact us at: [corvabod@corva.org](mailto:corvabod@corva.org)

Mailing Address: 1500 W. El Camino Ave. #352  
Sacramento, CA 95833-1945

Phone: 800-42-CORVA

Newsletter Editor: VACANT

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By Jim Woods*

### **Please Read - Action Needed!!**

Apathy is the cause of more land loss than any other reason. The normal excuses are no time, Soccer, "Going Wheeling" or just needed the day off. But we as a group have a responsibility to be active as CORVA members and off-roaders, to participate in the process and **OPPOSE** the withdrawal by the Bureau of Land Management of the Johnson Valley Off Highway Vehicle Recreation Area. This process is just starting and now is the time Johnson Valley needs all of our individual efforts.



By the time you get this newsletter the first set of BLM meetings will have already been held and I hope you will be able to respond to our e-mail and attend one. But if you missed those meetings you are not off the hook, it is now time to write letters. It is very important we as members speak up and give our opinion during this and all comment periods. Step one is to respond to the BLM and oppose the withdrawal of the permit as an OHV area and deny the expansion of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-Nine Palms. Let the BLM know we support the military training but not in Johnson Valley. Let the BLM know that our families recreate on that land and how long we have. Send pictures of your family camping and be sure to emphasize the family value of Johnson Valley.

Also discuss that with all of the closures, like recent Clear Creek, where will they expect us to go. If they close the largest OHV Open Area in the United States our National Forests and few State Parks OHV areas can not support that overflow. And how about the Communities that are economically stimulated by our sport. Remind them this is "Public Land" that the State has invested millions of dollars from our Green Sticker funds to create this unique experience and all that money will be lost if the land use is changed.

So some of you are now saying, "but I don't recreate there". The facts are simple, that place you now call your second "home" could soon be overcrowded, less safe and less enjoyable in the near future. You will arrive to find your favorite spot taken by someone that lost their entire favorite place to recreate. Maybe that letter thing wasn't such a chore after all.

So Please send your letters before Dec. 15th to Roxie Trost at the BLM Barstow Field Office as found on page 16. That is where all letters must go to be counted. And copy Mike Poole, head of the CA BLM, Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior, Gov. Schwarzenegger, Sen. Boxer and Sen. Feinstein too. Heck, even copy President Bush. Remember this is a Federal matter and will take many years to settle. If we sit on our hands or hope the other guy will do it we will loose it all. We can't afford that to happen.

So for about the cost of a Gallon of Diesel Fuel and the time it would take you to change the oil in your favorite toy, YOU can help make a difference.

**Please Write!!**

See you on the trail,



# 14th Annual Truckhaven Challenge!



January 24-25, 2009



Near Salton City, CA  
Fun for the Whole Family!

**NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED! PAY AT EVENT SITE!**  
**All OHV's Welcome!\***

## POKER RUN- Saturday, January 24

Registration- Each Vehicle \$35  
Kids (12 and under) on ATV's/MC- \$15  
All Prices include one poker hand and 1 raffle ticket!  
PRIZES: Poker Hands 1st- \$250 2nd- \$100 3rd- \$50  
Games 1st- \$100 2nd- \$50 3rd- \$25



**SEE MAP TO EVENT  
AT [www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)**

START TIME 8:00 AM! Start line closes at 11:00 AM.

**\*ATTENTION!**

The main route is calculated for all OFF ROAD vehicles and experienced riders/drivers. You will encounter steep hills, tight canyons, loose sand and rocks. The main route is tested with a high clearance Jeep in two-wheel drive and open differentials. However, the route will change with the passage of many vehicles and since we can't factor in the experience level of each rider/driver, it may be a tough, technical trailride for some participants, especially drivers of stock SUV's and small children riding ATV's and dirt bikes. If you are not willing to risk damage to your vehicle, or are not sure of your riding/driving skills, do not make the run.

Course length approx. 20 miles  
Alternate "difficult routes" for those willing to "GO FOR IT!"  
Checkpoints have "games of skill" for more family fun and prizes!  
Course closes 4:00 pm  
BBQ dinner (see menu) to follow Poker Run  
Awards and great raffle prizes donated by off road industry!

Trailmasters Club BBQ Dinner Menu	
Hamburger	\$3.00
Hamburger w/side of chill	\$4.00
Hot Dog	\$1.50
Hot Dog w/chill	\$2.00
Bowl of chill	\$1.00

## SATELLITE SAFARI- Sunday, January 25\*

\*GPS receiver required  
9:00 AM to Noon  
Treasure Hunt-type game  
Each Vehicle \$10.00



Great Fun!!!

REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT	
4x4's, Bajas & buggies-	Metal roof or Roll bar
ATV's/MC's-	Helmet, spark arrestor
ATV's must have	whips/flags!
SUGGESTED ITEMS:	
First Aid Kit,	Tow Strap, Spare Tire, Fire Extinguisher

Registration desk will open early Friday (January 23) afternoon at the event

Camping for the event is located in an easily accessible dirt area. Plenty of room for motorhomes and trailers. This is dry desert camping, so no hook-ups. There will, however, be toilets available for those "tenting it".



All proceeds from this event to go to CORVA's Land Use Fund!

**CELEBRATING 14 YEARS OF GREAT OFF-ROADING!!!**





## **Event Update: 14th Annual Truckhaven Challenge Coming Fast!**

*By Geoff Teare*

Yes, it is almost time for the 14th Annual Truckhaven Challenge, and your "Challenge" crew is hard at work in the prep stages! As I said in my last article, State Parks is preparing a new General Plan for the new Truckhaven area acquisition. Officials have told us the plan "should" be done in time for us to hold the event back in our traditional area off of North Marina Drive, and we have already applied for the permit. We however, are not totally convinced the plan will be done in time, and have also applied for a permit to have the event in the same place we had it in 2008, south of highway S-22 in Ocotillo Wells SVRA. This way we are covered no matter what.

At press time, we have a ride-along scheduled (for late October) in our traditional area with the company working on the Environmental Review document for State Parks. They will be travelling with us on the route we have planned for our coming event. We are working hard to get the event back in our traditional location!

Because of the ongoing status of the new general plan for the area, we have not included a map to the event location. **PLEASE GO TO THE CORVA WEBSITE ([www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)) FOR UPDATES ON THE EVENT AND IT'S EXACT LOCATION!** One thing we can tell you with certainty is that we are going to have another fantastic event! The trails will be great as usual, with the route(s) appropriately marked for driver/rider skill level.

Now, CORVA has gained a lot more members in the past year so for those that have not participated in this event before, here is an overview....

The Truckhaven Challenge is held in late January each year just west of Salton City, California. The terrain is primarily decomposing, dry mud hills with some sand washes and rocky sections thrown in for good measure. The area is laced with trails ranging from tight and twisty to steep and hairy. In other words, great off-roading!

It is in this ever-changing terrain that we mark an approximately 20 mile course (changing it each year) for the Saturday Poker Run. There will be several checkpoints. At each checkpoint you will draw a card to assemble a poker hand, and also participate in a "game of skill". The top three winners of both the poker hands and game scores will all win great prizes! There will also be marked "Alternate" routes which will be much more difficult than the main route. These are for those folks really keen on abusing their vehicles! After the run we will have a BBQ dinner prepared by the Trailmasters Four Wheel Drive Club, and a drawing for great prizes donated by the off road industry!

The event is open to all Off Road vehicles, but please remember not all four wheel drive vehicles are suitable for off road use. Stock SUV's with novice drivers run the biggest risk of getting stuck/damaged. Similarly, young children on 50cc- 60cc bikes and ATV's may have a problem with some hills and technical spots. While we test the course with a high-clearance Jeep in 2 wheel drive and open differentials, this does not mean the run will be easy. We do this so we feel the course "should" be navigable by most 4 wheel drives and other OHV's. Since there is no way we can anticipate the experience level of every rider/driver, please consider this paragraph as a "heads-up"! We promise you will be kept busy all day and boredom will not be an option!

The Satellite Safari is for those people who have jumped on the hot GPS (Global Positioning System) bandwagon and are having fun utilizing orbiting satellites to determine their position in the backcountry. Using your portable or built-in GPS units, you will be sent on a "treasure hunt" into the hills to find.....something. You will have no course markers or maps, but will follow only the directions on your GPS screen. Objects will be hidden adjacent to established routes in order to keep the Safari time frame manageable. This is great fun!

The Satellite Safari will be held on Sunday, January 25 between 9:00 AM and Noon. Participants will have enough time to run the Safari before they need to pack up and head for home. And, as usual, we will have our Sunday morning kid's games, so the younger ones not out on the Satellite Safari will have their own little "treasure hunt" near camp!

We already have several businesses signed up for our vendor row, and product for our BIG Saturday night raffle is being lined up now. The Trailmasters Four Wheel Drive Club is once again going to be putting on the killer post-poker run BBQ, with the best fixin's you could ever put on burgers or hot dogs!

As I announced previously, we are opening up this event to the entire OHV community this year! We would like all our CORVA members to let all their non-CORVA member friends know they are welcome at this event! They will even be signed up as FREE 90 Day Members! All OHV's are welcome of course, but everyone needs to read the "Attention" section on the event ad/flyer to make sure they realize this will not be an easy run for everybody. Vehicle damage is always a possibility. But for those that do attend, a great time for the whole family is virtually guaranteed!

**Please circle the weekend of January 24-25, 2009 on your calendar and join us for the fun!**

# CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher

CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

- Johnson Valley

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Marine Corps hosted public meetings in Twentynine Palms and in Victorville to help the public understand the legislative withdrawal process for consideration of the proposal to expand the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base in San Bernardino County. The public meetings were held on October 23, in Twentynine Palms, and on October 24 in Victorville, Calif. Please see pages 16 & 17 and the map on page 20.

- Truckhaven Geothermal Lease Record of Decision Issued 8/08

The Truckhaven Geothermal Leasing Area will affect use of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA. The affected area is located north of State Route 78 and generally west and south of County Highway S-22. The area is part of the California Desert Conservation Area.

The main issues addressed in the Final EIS were geothermal resource leasing, recreation, and special status species. After careful consideration of all factors, including balancing the need for renewable energy and the need to maintain areas for recreational opportunities associated with the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicle Recreation Area, the BLM has selected Alternative 3 as the preferred alternative. Some areas will be required to consolidate production facilities and, thereby, minimize surface impacts. Two power plants are anticipated to be constructed within the planning area, which would involve an initial disturbance of approximately 502 acres. Following construction, approximately 95 acres would be reclaimed, leaving approximately 405 acres disturbed by roads, well pads, pipelines, and the two plants. Various site-specific Conditions of Approval will be imposed at the development stage to protect other resources and uses.

- Clear Creek Management Area Management Plan Revision

BLM published scoping comments related to the proposed CCMA Area plan revision. The revision is designed to update the management plan for the area to include new considerations such as asbestos exposure. BLM will now prepare alternatives for a draft EIS. We will be submitting comments on this important DEIS. The Record of Decision is anticipated in 2009.

- Red Rock State Park General Plan Update

The Red Rock General Plan update has been under development since 2006. It is designed to update the plan to include expansion of the park that has occurred with the addition of areas such as Last Chance Canyon and Nightmare Gulch. We anticipate public meetings to discuss the plan update in the next few months. Look for announcements, OHV use is certain to be affected. Meeting dates are TBA.

- OHV Draft Grant Regulations

The draft OHV grant regulations will affect funding for OHV recreation everywhere in California. These regulations are posted on the California Parks Department website. The comment period ended October 6, 2008. CORVA submitted comments that addressed possible shortcomings in the 2008 Soils Standards and Guidelines. We were informed that changes in these Guidelines will be considered.

- Forest Service Route Designation

Route designation continues to move forward on California's National Forests. The draft EIS for Tahoe National Forest was released at the end of September and we have begun analyzing the document. A comment writing workshop is scheduled for October 15. The release of draft EIS's for Plumas is anticipated October 25. Lassen National Forests will follow in November. We are entering a critical period for trail use on the National Forests.

- Wilderness Bills

The National Landscape Conservation (NLCS) Bill (S. 3213), also known as the Omnibus Lands Bill, did not receive a vote prior to the recess of Congress. The bill was amended to include the McKeon Boxer Eastern Sierra and San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act and possibly the California Desert and Mountain Heritage and the Sequoia and Kings Canyon Wilderness Act. The bill has caused a drama in Congress and will require a vote during a "Lame Duck" session after the elections. Senator Harry Reid has promised to bring Congress back into session just for this bill, but if it is the only item on the agenda it may not happen in which case the bill have to be reintroduced during the next session.

Stay tuned for developments on this bill, it is a big one. Bruce

Contact me at: [bruce.whitcher@corva.org](mailto:bruce.whitcher@corva.org)

## *Southern Jamboree - Another Success!*



Once again our annual event was held in California City and the surrounding BLM land. We didn't know what to expect for a turnout as the economy was turning ugly and with gas prices still pretty high. With only a week to go, one good thing on our side this time was the weather report as we had sunny skies, no rain and very little wind the entire weekend.

The event kicked off on early Saturday morning when our lovely ladies opened the registration tables for business. A huge thanks to our treasurer Roberta Woods and team of, Tracy Allison, Katherine Kelsey, Tina & Paige Edwards and Loretta & Cassie Casteel who all volunteered and did such a wonderful job. Each member was given an event program thanks to Dan Allison and also a "goodie bag" that included a Simple Green product and a Kal-Gard chain lube, as well as other useful information.

Over the weekend we signed up 25 new members into the organization, many wanting to compete for the great trophies to be given out. Renee Eger did a wonderful job in getting the trophies that had motorcycles, quads, jeeps and a old time buggy on the top. The event t-shirt pictured above was created by Carol Barber of Hardcore Attire and a big hit with the members.

The events were held in 3 areas located just outside of camp where we had the Can Slam!, Barrel Slalom and Telephone Book Challenge all take place in the morning hours. Thanks to Jennifer Gerke and Jim Johnson of the BPMC who ran the Can Slam event. A special thanks to Los Aventureros club member Stan Simmons who couldn't make it this year but provided the use of the equipment. We had Raul Ayaza, Scott Swanson & Wayne Berg of the ABA club do their Barrel Slalom course that is always a big hit. The Telephone Book Challenge was hosted by N2Dirt who had Darren Kelsey and Jim Arbogast test both the riding skills and educational skills of our members.

After lunch we changed 2 of the events adding in the Potato Spear and Wet Lap. Thanks to Dan Allison and Jim Arbogast for running the Potato Spear and Dan Eger for the Wet Lap.



In the late afternoon N2Dirt hosted another Kid's Clean Up to go along with Public Lands Day. The kids did a wonderful job cleaning up the surrounding area bringing back all types of trash.



Another fun time was watching folks play (and get stuck) in the mud pit. We had the nice folks at the Cal City MX Park provide us with the water from their truck to fill the pit and keep the dust down in camp and on some of the events.

Then came Saturday nights BBQ Tri-tip dinner where cook Tom Edwards did an outstanding job. Everyone had plenty of food, from the meat, potato salad, green salad, rolls and a drink. Thanks again to everyone who put this all together, it was truly wonderful.

After dinner we went into giving out all the trophies and we had plenty! President Jim Woods read off the list of winners on stage as we handed them out. Those receiving trophies later took part in a group shot in front of the stage, lots of happy people. See page 10 and 11 for all the winners.



When the raffle started it was time to light up the campfire with the wood provided by Bunn Warmers of California City. We had a nice campfire each night thanks to them.

We had Jim Arbogast on stage calling out the winning raffle ticket numbers. We had so many great items to give out from our sponsors and Associate members. Please remember to support those that support you.

The prizes were catagorized into groups and each person was able to choose what bucket they wanted their tickets put into.

Our grand prize of the night was a set of five (5) BF Goodrich All-Terrain or Mud Terrain T/A KM2 tire up to 37" in diameter. (that's right you get a spare too!) The tires were donated by Joe Mazur of BF Goodrich Company and has promised more in the future to help us raise needed funds. Our winner was Chris Bernard who told us he really needed the tires. Chris later ordered tires he needed and they were shipped directly to his house he told us. The crowd loved the variety of prizes donated and the many great gift certificates they were trying to win. Prizes were also thrown and passed out to the crowd, always a favorite.



On Sunday morning we held the always fun Poker Run. Darren Kelsey designed the course on Friday, put the ribbons up on Saturday and worked a checkpoint on Sunday. Thanks Darren for all your hard work for this fun event. Also helping with checkpoint duty was Neil Cooke, Mark Hendricksen and Jim Arbogast who each took a drive and setup a checkpoint along the 15 mile course. Back at camp we had Katherine Kelsey, Roberta Woods, Tracy & Dan Allison getting the first and last draws on the poker playing cards. See all the winners on page 12.

Other volunteers helping out were George Paniagua and Scott O'Connell who both worked the weekend at the CORVA Store. We sold all kinds of items from shirts to hats, sweat-shirts to fanny packs, bumper stickers and so many closeout items. Bud Schick, the backbone of the store, wasn't able to

make it out this time but sent along some nice raffle items he donated. Also thanks to Warren Schwarm, Paul Kober, Wayne Nosala, Renee Eger and Jeff Leonard. Thanks again to Hefty Straps for making it and providing some great raffle items.

This event was another group effort, all our projects take many hours before the actual event takes place to organize. It starts with a committee forming and finding a volunteer to head the committee. This year I had the pleasure to chair this committee, we held several meetings (conference calls) and plenty of emails were sent to prepare for this one weekend event. Each committee member taking on a task(s) would have a deadline date assigned to it and it was my task to keep everyone informed on the progress. This was done with an Excel spreadsheet that would get updated. If you would like to be part of a committee we always welcome the help. As our volunteer time goes, you never seem to have enough of it. So I encourage you to take a little of your free time and join a committee, you will work with some of the best people in the organization and make a valuable contribution.

Thanks again to everyone who made the Southern Jamboree a big success.

2008 Chairman, Jim Colln



**The 2008 Southern Jamboree Winners**

**Barrel Slalom**

**Buggy**

- 1st Richard Kelsey
- 2nd Richard Anderson
- 3rd Dan Younger

**Motorcycle 7-15 yrs.**

- 1st Heath Molleer
- 2nd Aaron Andree
- 3rd Kevin McKeehan

**ATV 0-7 yrs.**

- 1st Bradley Ekfoth
- 2nd Hailey Smith
- 3rd Hanna Pionke

**Motorcycle 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Rick Galbraith
- 2nd Richard Kelsey
- 3rd Danny Unger

**ATV 8-15 yrs.**

- 1st Heather Moller
- 2nd Aaron Andree

**Jeep / Truck / Rhino**

- 1st Mike Lohr
- 2nd Kevin McKechean
- 3rd Sean McKef

**ATV 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Javior Ochoa
- 2nd Jerimie Kelling
- 3rd Tom Pionke



**Can Slam!**

**Buggy**

- 1st Richard Anderson
- 2nd Ron Sweetingham
- 3rd Danny Unger

**Motorcycle 7-15 yrs.**

- 1st Keaton Mahler
- 2nd Devon Britton
- 3rd Wesley Mahler

**ATV 0-7 yrs.**

- 1st Bradley Erforth
- 2nd Hailey Smith

**Motorcycle 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Rick Galbraith
- 2nd Richard Kelsey
- 3rd Danny Unger

**ATV 8-15 yrs.**

- 1st Conner Galbraith

**Jeep / Truck / Rhino**

- 1st Candice Kelling
- 2nd Wayne Gallagher
- 3rd Scott Mosey

**ATV 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Alec Welch
- 2nd Josh Sanchez
- 3rd Javier Ochoa



**Potato Spear**

**Buggy**

- 1st Richard Kelsey
- 2nd Richard Anderson
- 3rd Ron Sweetingham

**Motorcycle 7-15 yrs.**

- 1st Keaton Mahler
- 2nd Eric Iverson
- 3rd Ryan Elklor

**ATV 0-7 yrs.**

- 1st Bradley Erforth
- 2nd Hailey Smith

**Motorcycle 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Rick Galbraith
- 2nd Derek Galbraith
- 3rd Danny Unger

**ATV 8-15 yrs.**

- 1st Conner Galbraith
- 2nd Keaton Mahler
- 3rd Ricky Moss

**Jeep / Truck / Rhino**

- 1st Jerimie Kelling
- 2nd Wayne Gallagher

**ATV 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Nicole Gallager
- 2nd Jerimie Kelling
- 3rd Bernado Erforth



Pictures taken by Secretary Katherine Kelsey  
See more event pictures on our web site.



### Telephone Book Challenge

**Buggy**

- 1st Ron Sweetingham
- 2nd Richard Kelsey
- 3rd Danny Unger

**ATV 0-7 yrs.**

- 1st Bradey Ekfoth
- 2nd Hailey Smith

**ATV 8-15 yrs.**

- 1st Connor Galbraith
- 2nd Ricky Moss

**ATV 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Jerimie Kelling
- 2nd Leanne Pionke
- 3rd Nicole Gallagher

**Motorcycle 16+ yrs.**

- 1st Danny Unger
- 2nd Richard Kelsey
- 3rd Rick Galbraith

**Jeep / Truck / Rhino**

- 1st Wayne Gallagher
- 2nd Jerimie Kelling
- 3rd Dave Sousa



### Wet Lap

**Buggy**

- 1st Shawn McKeehan
- 2nd Kevin McKeehan

**ATV**

- 1st Tom Pionke
- 2nd Leanne Pionke
- 3rd Martha Mahler

**Motorcycle**

- 1st Keaton Mahler
- 2nd Rick Galbraith
- 3rd Aaron Andree

**Jeep / Truck / Rhino**

- 1st Wayne Gallagher
- 2nd Candice Smith
- 3rd Jerimie Kelling



THANKS again to all the volunteers and members who came out and participated. Without YOU we wouldn't be able to have such a great time!

### Thanks to our Wonderful Sponsors

- 4 Wheel Parts Performance
- Bayless Engineering
- Bayless Brakes
- BF Goodrich
- Bud Schick
- BuggyLites
- Championship Off Road Racing
- Chaparral Motorsports
- Crazy Keven's
- Dan & Tracy Allison
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- Extreme Outback
- F-Word Industries
- Funrunner
- Gen-Right Off Road Products
- Global Moto Outlet, Inc.
- Hefty Straps
- High Octane
- Interstate Battery
- Jim Arbogast
- Kal-Gard Products
- Napier Enterprises

- N2Dirt
- Politi Designs
- Powder Coat Plus
- Pro Grip Straps
- Rockhard 4x4
- Ron Bridges
- SandSational Gear and Apparel
- Simi RV
- Simi Valley Honda CanAm
- Simple Green
- Trader Joe's



# 2008 POKER RUN 2008

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1st Place  
Steve Dornay  
Won with a Straight  
Prize - GPS  
Donated by Ron Bridges  
of Jeeping Jeepers JC



2nd Place  
Danny Unger  
3 of a Kind, Aces  
Prize - Helmet,  
2 Jersey's & Riding Pants  
Donated by  
Chaparral Motor Sports



3rd Place  
Evan Hendricksen  
3 of a Kind, Nines  
Prize - Optima Battery  
Donated by Interstate Battery

## CORVA Poker Run

♥	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♥
♦	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♦
♠	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♠
♣	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♣



## **THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL REPORT**

*by Jim Arbogast*

This is always a busy time of the year that kicks off with three full weekends in a row, beginning with the Sand Sports Super Show (SSSS) September 19-21 in Costa Mesa, our Southern Jamboree September 26-28 in California City and the Off Road Expo (ORE) October 3-5 in Pomona. On behalf of Dick Moon who is now stepping down after 8 years as our Show/Expo Coordinator, Bud Schick and I, we want to thank all of our volunteers who helped us staff our booth efforts that brought in 49 new CORVA members at the shows.

The SSSS & ORE volunteers included Paul Kober, Vinnie Barbarino, Jeff Leonard, Jim Woods, Katherine Kelsey, Jim Colln, Mike LePenske, Bil Seymour, Dan & Renee Eger and finally last but not least Clayton Miller who printed up hundreds of informative flyers to save Johnson Valley from the 29 Palms Marine Base expansion and talked with hundreds of attendees at the Off Road Expo. Please see his article on page 12.

At the conclusion of Saturday nights ORE show we had 25 people attend a scheduled CORVA Board meeting at a nearby restaurant with the entire State Board that included Bruce Whitcher and his son driving in from San Luis Obispo, our entire Southern Board and Northern Board member Amy Granat and husband Joe driving in from Sacramento. We had Guest Speaker Helen Baker give us a very informative update on Johnson Valley (JV). We appreciate Helen & Harry Baker's efforts to help create a coalition of National, State and Regional OHV organizations as well as many local Friends Groups who stand together to halt the 29 Palms Marine Base expansion into JV. Clayton Miller also spoke in support of Helen's update.

The Southern Jamboree at Cal City was a success though we had a decline in participation due to the economy and price of gas. The weather was quite warm, but nice since there were no wild winds. We had 9 board members present and volunteering along with several others to be mentioned in the detailed report from Jim Colln. Having said that I want to recognize the heavy lifting of Jim Colln, Jim & Roberta Woods, Darren & Katherine Kelsey, Dan & Renee Eger, Dan & Tracy Allison, George Paniagua and Scott O'Connell for making such a fun event for all.

Note: Dick Moon and I recently had a discussion regarding the CORVA Board that I have been serving on for the last 10 years. We both feel that we are now over the hangover from the thorny elections of earlier this year. We discussed the current make-up of our 17 Northern, Southern and State Board members. Both of us agree that we have a more balanced Board that is far closer to firing on all eight cylinders than at anytime over the last 10 years! Kudos to the entire CORVA Board for your tireless volunteerism and open communication with one another.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Arbogast

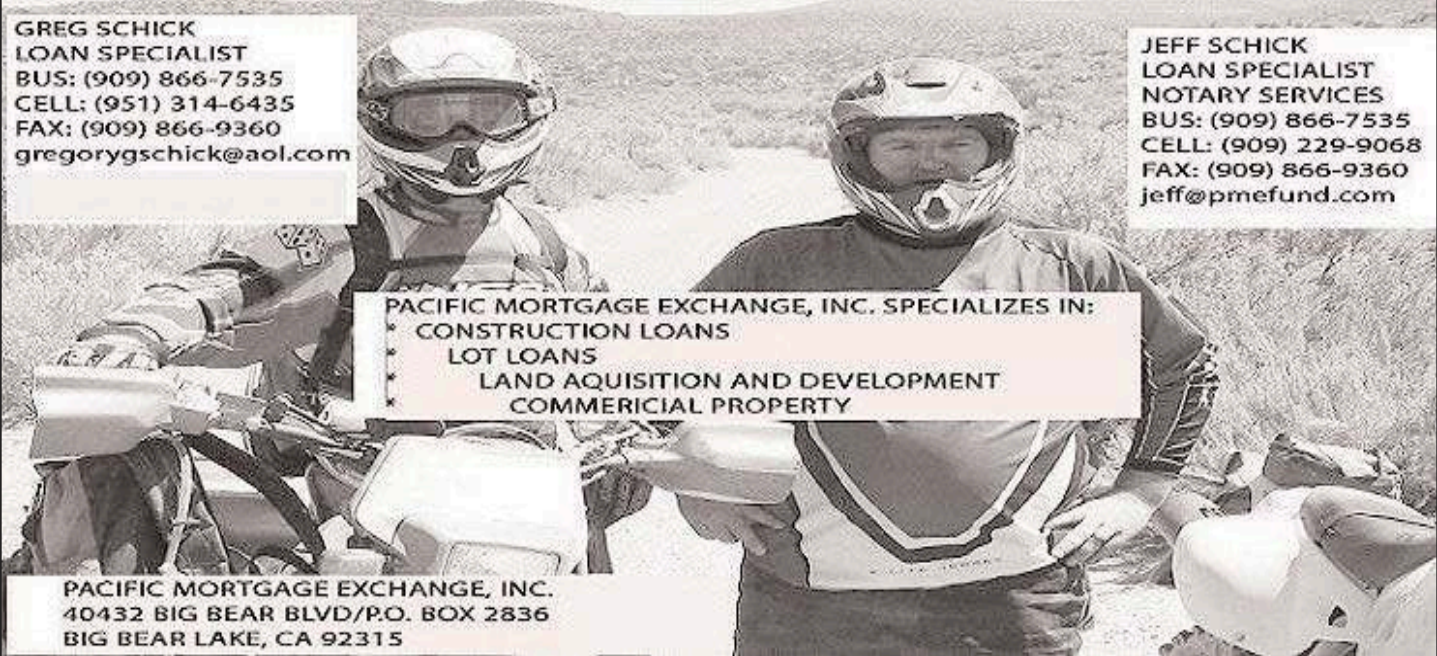
Contact me at: [jim.arbogast@corva.org](mailto:jim.arbogast@corva.org)

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**EDUCATIONAL NEWS**

**BY DAN EGER**

**TRAIL BASICS**

Off-road trail riding is gaining in popularity every year. Anyone can enjoy and participate from families to the serious trail rider. We have available to us a wide range of type of trails for all skill levels and style of riding. With increased traffic, riders must take added precautions in order to insure their own safety as well as to preserve the integrity of the trails. Negotiating trails can be treacherous, and often riders need to be aware of the riding conditions and their own ability to handle each situation. Riders need to know how to prepare for each ride in order to handle any potential problem, be it an issue of trail etiquette, mechanical malfunction or injury.

Ride within your own abilities. Trails can be very hard and technical. Do not try to keep up with someone more advanced and beyond your skills as you may lose control and cause serious injuries. This is not a race track; take each trail "one at a time". Practice and experience are your best teachers. Ride safe and Ride smart!

Riding trail is much different than riding a track or riding in the open space areas. Be it desert, forest or a SVRA, (State Vehicle Recreation Area), trail riding has additional considerations one must pay close attention to when riding. The limited visibility, natural terrain and hazards, uncontrolled, narrow single track conditions add both to the thrill and to the risk of the experience. With a few basic points, your riding can be safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

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**Letter to the Editor**

I would like to commend Norm Lenhart and the article that he wrote for the September ORIA and I would like to say welcome back. This is the type of information and people that we need working on our side. When I say "people" I mean someone that has knowledge of something that can help off-roading outside of the main stream off-road community. As an example, where he mentions to take out a full page ad or run a commercial on TV, this may be better than printing up thousands of brochures and handing them out.

I have talked to many people that could help off-roading thru their respective occupations but never though to do so. I don't know a single off-roader that hasn't bought a car from a dealer, or needed insurance of some kind. We all go to the doctor and buy food from the grocery store so why not try to get them involved.

Next time you go to your dentist or have your car repaired see if they would like to advertise in the "Off-Roaders In Action". Bring in your old copy and ask to leave it in their lobby. Who knows, we might just pick up some new members.

Darren Kelsey, CORVA Member #103565

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**New Column  
 Letter to the Editor**

*please write us a letter  
 regarding your OHV  
 questions, comments  
 and concerns.*

*CORVA - Editor  
 1500 W. El Camino Ave. #352  
 Sacramento, CA 95833-1945  
 Email to: [editor@corva.org](mailto:editor@corva.org)*



## **THE NORTHERN REGIONAL REPORT**

*by Amy Granat*

The Northern Region Board of CORVA, and the "Comments Project" team held two workshops in Auburn in October. These workshops were dedicated to teaching OHV users how to become involved in the Route Designation project in the local forests, and got an opportunity to expand our mission, and hold a meeting in Pleasant Hill on October 29, designed to enable OHV users in the Bay Area to meet with the staff of the Tahoe National Forest.



The Tahoe National Forest issued their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on September 26, 2008, and held a series of 4 public meetings in the sparsely populated areas surrounding the forest. These meetings served to explain to the public the proposed Route Designation plan detailed in the DEIS, and gave the users an opportunity to ask questions, look at maps, and meet members of the team that created the document. It's hard to overestimate the importance of these meetings.

Considering the location of the Tahoe National Forest, only an hour or two travel from most parts of the Bay Area, many requests were made to the forest to hold a workshop somewhere in the Bay Area. This would have followed a precedent set by the Eldorado National Forest, which held a meeting in Pleasant Hill last year. The Bay Area meeting for the Eldorado was their largest public meeting, drawing approximately 400 forest users to listen to the Forest Service, and ask questions relating to their proposed plan of action.

Despite the users' pleas, the Tahoe National Forest, citing monetary issues among others, denied all requests to hold a Bay Area meeting. But they gave us one option - the ID Team Leader in charge of preparing the DEIS would come to a club meeting, and talk to all those assembled. Immediately CORVA and our "Comments Project" team stepped up to the plate to provide funding for this meeting. We worked with clubs in the Bay Area, notably the Diablo 4 Wheelers, to secure a location in Pleasant Hill, and plan a meeting so all OHV users in the Bay Area will have a chance to come and learn about the proposed Route Designation plan for the Tahoe National Forest. The meeting was held on October 29, 2008.

CORVA wants all OHV users to have the information necessary to become involved in the process. It's only by becoming educated, and understanding Route Designation, that OHV users can make a difference in their favorite areas. When you contribute to CORVA, your contribution helps us educate and empower all OHV users around the state to make a difference in their local areas.

To get involved or for more information: [commentsproject@corva.org](mailto:commentsproject@corva.org)

### **CORVA NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Here are the main projects that CORVA is involved with at this time. Please cut this form out and mail with your donation to:

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**Possible Closure of Johnson Valley, Is It a "Done Deal"?**

Clayton Miller - CORVA Member

The simple answer is no! But its future remains uncertain and the possibility that Johnson Valley will be closed to public use is very real. Public involvement will be critical in the decision making process to determine how Johnson Valley will be used in the years to come.

What does this mean and what can you do? Be ready to let the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Marine Corps know that closing or "withdrawing" Johnson Valley from public use will have significant impacts with the loss of this irreplaceable and unique area. Be ready to attend public information meetings, write a letter and talk to your friends about the process. These are some of the things you can do to help shape the future of Johnson Valley.

The Marines Corps recently initiated a public process to examine the possible expansion of the Marine Corps Air and Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms to accommodate the future training needs of the Corps. This includes land to the east, south and west of the base, including Johnson Valley.

The BLM will work with the Marine Corps to develop a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider the many impacts a possible base expansion will have on the community, environment and resources. The EIS will study a range of reasonable alternatives to meet Marine Corps training requirements. The EIS will be developed within what is known as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The NEPA process was initiated this year and is scheduled through 2011. There will be key opportunities for public involvement during this process. Johnson Valley will remain open to the public during this period. After consideration of comments and input received, the final EIS will recommend a preferred alternative for a base expansion that could include the Johnson Valley area.

One of the first steps in the public process took place in late October. The BLM and Marine Corps held public meetings in Twentynine Palms and Victorville to share information about the possible base expansion, answer questions and outline the public process that will be followed to develop the EIS.

The next "formal" step to provide input in the process is the opportunity to submit a letter to BLM by December 15th with your comments, suggestions, or objections regarding the appropriateness of considering the Johnson Valley area for the base expansion. Information and ideas about writing a letter to BLM can be found at the CORVA website ([www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)). Also visit the Partnership for Johnson Valley website ([www.pfjv.com](http://www.pfjv.com)) for updates and information.

The NEPA process will provide a chance to let BLM know how important the continued availability of Johnson Valley is to the public. It is critical to participate in each stage of the process to let your voice be heard.

Tell BLM that Johnson Valley offers unmatched year-round outdoor opportunities for multiple use visitors and residents throughout high desert communities. Its varied landscape is highlighted by steep rocky mountains, rolling hills, open valleys dry lake beds, sandy washes and wide vistas. It is used for competitive racing events, off road free play, gem and mineral collecting, rocketry, land sailing, filming and has numerous opportunities for hiking, rock hounding, wildlife watching and dispersed camping. All these support the local and California economy. No other designated "open" area in the California desert provides the broad range of resources and value on this scale.

The BLM must hear from you! The removal of Johnson Valley from public use must not happen without offsetting the enormous loss of recreational lands that will occur if the current base expansion plan moves forward as proposed.

Write your letter to BLM today and stay tuned for more information about how you can make a difference in this process.

Letters to BLM should be addressed to: Mrs. Roxie Trost, Field Manager  
Barstow Field Office  
2601 Barstow Road  
Barstow, CA 92311

Include in heading of the letter:  
Re: Notice of withdrawal application and segregation - FR Doc. E8-21397  
(MCAGCC in Twentynine Palms)

Remember that your written comments will become part of the public record for this process including names, street addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses contained in your comments and will be available for public review at the BLM Barstow Field office.



## [Guidelines for Writing Comments on the Johnson Valley Land Withdrawal](#)

One of CORVA's primary missions: Educate and empower the OHV public how to make a difference in their local areas. That's why CORVA has created the "Comments Project" workshops throughout California. We're hoping to get the support and financial backing from the OHV public so we can hold a workshop in Johnson Valley after the first NEPA documents are released in early November.

But to help educate everyone on the first issue facing Johnson Valley I have researched the following. It's a lot to read, but hopefully it will go far to help everyone understand the process.

**Issue #1.** The "Notice of Proposed Legislative Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; California" published in the Federal Register on September 15, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-21397.htm> This proposal is submitted by the BLM on behalf of the Marine Corps. The BLM will take the comments, but for the most part, the Marines will be giving the answers. The comment period ends December 15, 2008. This is the only time that members of the public, County Boards of Supervisors, or any other interested party will have to officially voice their concerns. It is important to do so to retain standing in the process. Without standing, any later concerns you have may not be entered into the official record. It is important to note that current uses are not affected by this notice.

A military land withdrawal over 5,000 acres has to be approved by an Act of Congress, according to the provisions in the Engle Act of 1958, and the provisions of the Federal Land Management and Policy Act, or FLPMA, of 1976. Both these acts require oversight and approval by an Act of Congress for a land transfer of this type and this size. It is vital to remember that this is a political process, and it's the politicians who will be approving this withdrawal. And politicians can always be influenced...but it would take a lot of people, and a lot of comments to substantially influence the withdrawal with it's connection to National Security.

After the Notice of Withdrawal, the proposed occupants of the land, the Marine Corps, will start an environmental assessment required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1976, referred to as NEPA. That is the second issue that is ongoing, and is covered below.

So what are the options for comments on the Land Withdrawal?

There are many comments and concerns the public may voice, this is just a short list:

Environmental - Economic concerns - Loss of use, including recreational use - Historical use is also important - Loss of habitat  
Possibilities for disturbance from planned military activities - Taking public land away from public use - Potential earthquake activity  
The existence of a large military base already existent in that area - adding more would be a burden to the community.

For recreational concerns I would suggest quoting from a document like the study "The Health and Social Benefits of Recreation", prepared by California State Parks in 2005. <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/795/files/benefits%20final%20online%20v6-1-05.pdf> or other such documents.

### Alternatives

The real strength of opposition lies in the combined community of users. The combined community would be wise to suggest an alternative and have it documented in the permanent record. Submitting it well BEFORE the end of the comment period would be advised, so it can be evaluated by the Marines, and they may even respond to it, although they are not required to do so. For the most part, the military has endeavored to act as good neighbors, and have historically responded to many of the community's concerns. This alternative must answer the purpose and need of the proposed action; in other words, why the Marines claim they need this land. This can be done by suggesting other areas, facilities in other states, for example. In any case, it must be mentioned in your alternative, otherwise it will not be taken seriously.

So, to sum up - write comments that include by concerns and suggestions, and submit an alternative created by the combined community of users. If enough concerns are received, and are compelling to the politicians, they may make a difference. Remember, the argument has to be strong enough to redirect the concern of national security. Make sure to send a copy of your comments, and prepared alternatives to every politician in the area, along with the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

**Issue #2:** Somewhat concurrently, the Marines will start the NEPA process by issuing a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in early November. This will start a second comment period...not to be confused with the Withdrawal comment period. The focus of NEPA is well defined through the Council for Environmental Quality. More on NEPA in the future.

**It is vital to voice your concerns now! You CAN make a difference, and those of us at CORVA want to help you!**

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**CORR and CORVA 2008***by Terry Work*

What a year this has been, the 2007 CORR season ended with CORVA Life member Jerry Whelchel and his Monster team taking the number 1 plate in Pro 2. We are very happy and thankful for Jerry and his team for the win and for supporting CORVA both by running the CORVA logo on his race truck but by also becoming an Associate and Life Member. In 2008 we are pleased that CORR has again allowed CORVA to be a part of Championship Off Road Racing at all of this year racing events throughout Southern California. The races have also been on NBC and on the Speed Channel, in fact for most of the races it has been televised live on the same day showing Pro 2 and Pro 4. Locations for the races have been at the LA FairPlex in Pomona and at Chula Vista International Raceway. Our thanks to Jim Baldwin, Kathleen Feingold and staff for putting on this event and believe me it is a great show to see!



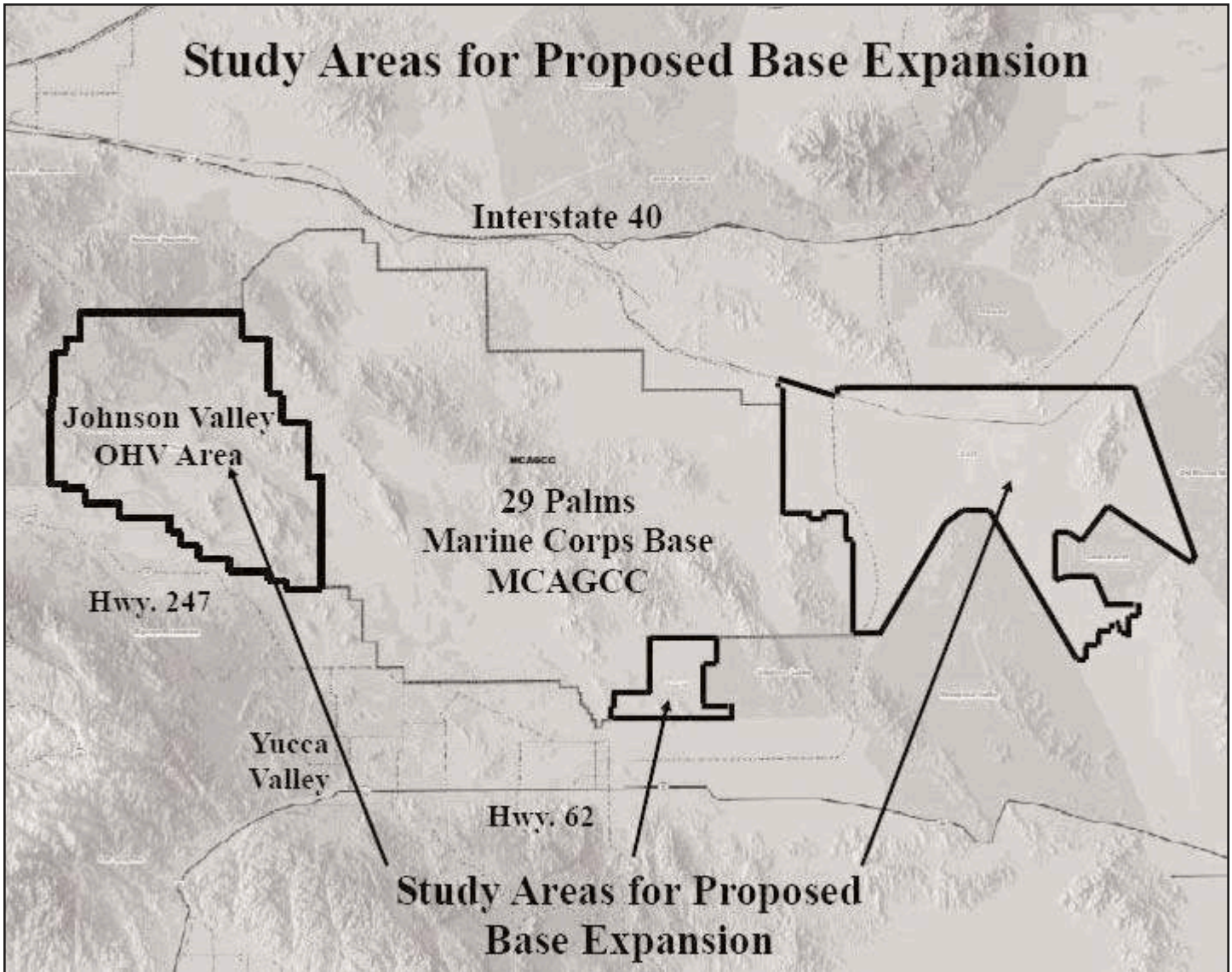
I have to tell you being at a CORR race is something that you should not miss. You are so close to the excitement, every ticket is a Pit pass, vehicles are so close you can touch them and the races are terrific. One of the most memorable and most horrific races was a Pro 4 at Pomona with Johnny Greaves; Pomona is a fast course that is a combination of jumps, dirt and pavement. It was in the pavement section that Johnny's truck rolled 5 times and although it did land on its wheels, Johnny was taken to the hospital. It was later when we were helping Johnny's team check over his truck that we finally learned that Johnny was ok and on his way back. That was a great relief, but it was later as I was standing next to the truck and someone said: it does not look that bad, and as I answered I had to wonder who this was..... it was Johnny, banged up swollen, with back eyes, till I heard his voice I did not know it was him. When I talked to him

later Johnny joked that when he looked into the mirror he did not know who it was either. All the injuries were due to the G force of the impact, the roll cage did exactly what it was built to do and that was to save Johnny's life! Hats off to Johnny's team for building a safe truck. This is part of racing and we are happy that Johnny Greaves is ok and back racing the CORR series.

Again this year we teamed up with Jerry Whelchel and his new team, the team of Chet Huffman Motorsports, [www.chethuffmanmotorsports.com](http://www.chethuffmanmotorsports.com) and with this came a new truck (a very fast Chevy), along with most of his team from last year, there has been a lot of "feeling" the new truck out, but when Jerry has it dialed in there is no one better!

But back to CORVA, like I mentioned we (the CORVA Outlaws: Terry and Faith Work, Kevin and Carol Barber, Travis Work and new Outlaw Mike Yarman a CORVA Associate member) have been lucky enough to have been adopted by Chet Huffman Motorsports, and of course Jerry Whelchel. This has meant that the CORVA booth has always been next to or near their pit, giving us and visitors to our booth a terrific view of the pit crew and what goes on to prepare for a race (you may also notice that Kevin, Travis and I are helping whenever we can). We maybe a little one sided but Jerry Whelchel is one of the best drivers in the CORR series! If you don't believe me then just come out to one of the races, you will not be disappointed, Jerry does things on 4 wheels that would scare most on 2 wheels (and sometimes he does it on 2 wheels! which is something to see). One of the perks of being so close to the team, we have made many friends. Something we have found that every one of the racers and vendors understands is that CORVA is working to keep the lands open and how that does effect them. They are giving us their support in addition to becoming members and Associates! They do understand that without CORVA there would not be places like Stoddard Valley, which is used by many of the teams for testing (we know because we have tested trucks there with Jerry and the team). As I mentioned the CORVA logo is predominately displayed on Jerry's Chet Huffman Pro 2 truck, on Lucas Huffman's Cart Jr 2 truck/cart, Jerry Whelchel's Pro Buggy and on Chet Huffman's Trick Truck racing the Best in the Desert series. So watch for Jerry and the Chet Huffman trucks and for CORVA. Many thanks to Chet Huffman Racing, Jerry and Holly Whelchel, Scott, the team, as always Bill. And of course, Mom and Pop who take care of everyone at the races. So come out and join the excitement and say HI to all of us at the CORVA booth!

For more information on CORR go to [www.corracing.com](http://www.corracing.com) we hope to see you at Chula Vista in December. And for a great bio on Jerry go to: <http://www.dezerttv.com> This is a multiple part series that outlines what it entails to be a racer and all the work that they put into having a race truck. So come on out and see what Jerry does best and that is drive!



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When: Saturday, November 8th, 2008  
 Where: Boardmanville Trading Post  
 Start Time: 9:00am Registration Until 11:00am  
 End Time: 2:00pm At Boardmanville  
 Donation: \$20.00 Per Hand

Proceeds to benefit:



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**CORVA each year helps by setting up and operating one of the checkpoints for the poker run. As always help is needed again this year. Please contact Jim Arbogast for details.**

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**PLEASE ALLOW 4 - 6 WEEKS FOR PROCESSING**

# CORVA CALENDAR

## November:

11/8 8th Annual Glamis Poker Run presented by the Orange County ATV club. Come enjoy a ride in the dunes where the proceeds benefit OHV organizations. Grand prize a portable generator provided by Mid-Cities Honda. See ad on page 23 Contact Jim Arbogast to offer checkpoint help. [jim.arbogast@corva.org](mailto:jim.arbogast@corva.org)

## December:

12/6-7 CORR Offroad Championships at Chula Vista. Website: [www.corracing.com](http://www.corracing.com)

## January:

1/17 12th Annual MLK Weekend Cleanup at the Imperial Sand Dunes. Help clean up the dunes. Registration starts at 8am. Free lunch and a prize drawing. For more information please see [www.uniteddesertgateway.org](http://www.uniteddesertgateway.org) or phone to 760-352-3681

1/24-25 CORVA TRUCKHAVEN CHALLENGE (see article on page 6)

## February:

2/7-8 ORBA Supershow. Del Mar Fairgrounds. 2 Full Buildings of Displays! HUGE OUTDOOR EXHIBIT AREA! Help needed for the CORVA booth. Contact Jim Arbogast to offer help. [jim.arbogast@corva.org](mailto:jim.arbogast@corva.org)


FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE CORVA WEB SITE  
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