

# The Boondocker Chatter

## Senator Wash's Newsletter

newsletterforsenatorwash@gmail.com

November 1, 2015

Volume 1, Issue

### DESERT HAPPENINGS 2015 - 2016

These activities ARE NOT endorsed by BLM

#### Inside this issue:

<b>Health Tip</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dogburn</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Angel's Angles</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Emergency Response Team</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Getting to Know LTVAs</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Wednesday Jaunts</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b>	<b>6</b>

#### Channel 12:

CB Roll Call: Every night at 7pm

CB Swap Shop: Wednesdays after Roll Call

Monthly Dog Burn: To be announced

Trivia or Poetry: Upon Request

#### Gravel Pit Activities

Halloween Party: Saturday, October 31 @ 5pm/Apple cider, water & desert provided by Angel & Redneck (Let's wear a costume and have some fun!!!)

Potlucks: To be announced  
Aerobics with Maxi: M - W - F at 9am - 10am

Yoga: M - W - F at 10am - 11am (To be announced)

Music Jams: Sundays/1:30pm (Weather Permitting)

Horseshoes: Mondays/10am or Anytime

Emergency Response Team/ Tuesday/8am/Small Trailer behind 2<sup>nd</sup> Restroom (Coffee Provided)

Jaw's 4x4 Jaunts: Wednesdays/8:30am/Meet at East end of Gravel Pit Road  
Cadillac Rides: On request

(Contact Slobberjaws in Skunk Hollow)

Hikes w/Lost Canuck: Thursdays/9am/Meet at 2<sup>nd</sup> Restroom  
Ladies Mountain Hikes: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday/9am/Meet at Contact Station

Ladies Ambles: Tuesday/9am/Meet at Contact Station

Traxxas RC Car/Truck Races: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday/10am/Skunk Hollow

Flying RC Airplanes: Anytime/West of 5 Corners/OR Contact Taurus (North Rim South Mesa)

Golf: Anytime/Coyote Ridge/9Hole or Above Gravel Pit

#### Liberry

Daylight Hours Only/North Rim on South Mesa/**FREE**

Book Exchange

FREE TABLE: Next to Liberry/Unwanted, gently used items for giveaway/**PLEASE NO CLOTHES**

Recyclable plastics & aluminum (CRV5)/Collection funds for Liberry & Pot Lucks

#### Christian Service Center

Mail Service, Thrift Store & Bookstore, Sweet Breezes

Computers, water & propane Hours: 9am - Noon (Monday - Tuesday - Thursday - Friday)

Print, copy or fax for a nominal fee/own computer to plug in \$2/Hr

Sunday Services: 10 am & 6pm

Bible Study: Wednesday/6pm  
Choir Practice: Tuesday & Thursday/6pm

Ukulele Classes: Beginner-Monday/2pm; Non-Beginner-Monday/3pm

Art Classes: Check with Christian Service Center

#### Squaw Lake

Beach, Boat Dock, Restrooms & 16 Showers (Token Machine Only)

#### YPG (Yuma Proving Grounds)

Food, Bowling, WiFi, TV's, Free Movie Theater/  
Sunday Services: Catholic Mass 9:30am/Protestant 11am

#### Hidden Shores

The Cove Restaurant: New employees/New menu/ Winter Visitors Welcome!

#### Dates to Remember

- Oct. 31 Halloween Potluck
- Nov. 4 1st Jaws Jaunts
- Nov. 7 1st Skunk Holler Racing
- Nov. 25 Dogburn
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Potluck

### Thanksgiving Potluck @ the Gravel Pit

The annual Thanksgiving Potluck will be on November 26 at 1pm. The turkeys, gravy, mashed potatoes, and stuffing cof-

fee and water will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert, your table service, chair, table and possibly, some-

thing to drink. More information to come on a bulletin board near you soon.

## Health Tip of the Month: : **GO FOR A WALK** (Lyn-Desert Rain)

First I want to say, "Welcome Back" to those of us fortunate enough to spend another winter in the desert. And to those of us who are unable to make it down this season, I extend greetings and hopes and prayers that you'll be back with us soon.

It's time to talk about exercise and how it benefits the body. It's common knowledge that being active and fit benefits you physically, but did you know it also benefits you mentally? In a study published in *The Journal of Aging Research*, scientists recruited 86 women ages 70 to 80 who had

mild cognitive impairment, a condition that makes a person's memory and thinking more jumbled than would be expected at their age. Mild cognitive impairment is also a risk factor for developing Alzheimer's.

These women were randomly assigned to six months of supervised exercise twice a week. One group lifted weights, another group walked briskly and a control group stretched and toned instead of doing any type of exercise.

At the beginning and end of the six months, they underwent tests to

study verbal skills and spatial memory. Verbal memory is the ability to remember words, and spatial memory is remembering how things are placed in space. Both decline as we get older, and this loss is exaggerated in people with mild cognitive impairment.

After six months, the women in the third group that didn't exercise scored worse on the memory tests than they had when they began. Those who had done walking or strength training scored better on the memory tests than they had when the study

began.

So, if you're having trouble remembering things, if you can't find your phone--and you know it's right where you left it, go for a brisk walk. Find a partner and make exercise a priority in your life.

## Volunteers

We are looking for someone who likes to play with fire.....

Oops maybe that was a little too over the top.

What we are actually looking for is someone who would be willing to go into Yuma to the pallet place, get a load of wood for the monthly dog burns.

Unfortunately our current fireman is out of commission this year and we need some help.

If this is something you would like to do, please contact Slobberjaws on Ch. 12 or in Skunk Hollow.

Swap Shop is looking for a new home. The mailbox which has been in Skunk Hollow for 2 years is ready to find a new place.

This wonderful radio show is looking for a new voice. So if you love to talk and find out about all the good stuff that people want to sell, buy or give away, then this is for you.

Oddly enough if this is something you would like to do, you too should contact Slobberjaws on Ch. 12 or in Skunk Hollow.

## November Dogburn

The first "official" dogburn will be on Wed. Nov. 25. Everyone should meet at the dump station @ 5pm to follow the leader to the "Secret Undisclosed Location"

If you are new to the LTVA, a dogburn is a weiner roast. Bring your own everything including hot dogs, roasting sticks, sides, a chair and drinks.

# Angels Angles (Joyce—Angel)

The Liberry is open for business along with recycle bins. Here's a brief synopsis of our many genres for your reading enjoyment:

Inspirational; Romance including Romantic Suspense, Historical

Romance, Paranormal Romance, Girly Romance, Nora Roberts, Danielle Steele. Fantasy; Science Fiction; Westerns; Adventure and Military; Early American; Native American; Pre-historic; the Classics: Mystery and

Suspense; True Crime; Biographies; French Language; Large Print. We also have a small Childrens Section, and a large assortment of puzzles. As always, NO hardcover unless it's large print, NO Religious, that

should go to CSC, and no videos.

We hope you travel safely, and when you arrive come by to see us, bring us your donations, choose some reading material, and say hello.

## Emergency Response Team Doug (Northwind) unofficial Team Coordinator

w/ BLM

I am writing this as a relatively new member of the Senator Wash Response Team and wish to extend an open invitation for all to come by on any Tuesday morning and join us for coffee and snacks at 8am at the Response Trailer behind the second bathroom. We discuss our duties and other matters relating to what this team of volunteers does to assist our desert friends in need. We are always looking for new members, so stop by and see what we're all about and consider joining, no special training required. We have people who wish to help along with retired fire, EMT, police, and medical professionals.

A little bit of our duties: Assisting campers in need of emergency services, such as fire or medical assistance, by making contact with YPG Emergency Response and then meeting their vehicles at Senator Wash Rd and Hwy S-24 and leading them to the campers location. We also have members who are AED/CPR certified (automatic external defibrillator) and a couple of us actually carry an AED when responding. Also the BLM is considering having an AED available near the contact station for all to use (budget permitting & whenever they get approval). This

allows for a quicker response in a life threatening situation such as a heart attack. An additional AED has been located at the Christian Center thanks to Preacherman and others.

Our members know the roads and short cuts which allow us to quickly direct emergency vehicles to any scene. We also assist tow trucks locating disabled vehicles or possibly helping stuck vehicles get back on the road.

The primary reason for our team is to speed up the process of getting emergency services to those in need. We call YPG directly and then 911 to inform them of what is needed and then get the emergency personnel on scene safely. This speeds up the response by up to 25 minutes compared to someone calling 911 and then trying to explain how to get to where they need assistance. Our normal response time from the initial call via CB channel 12 to the arrival of YPG personnel is about 7 minutes.

Concerning the 911 system: It is great, but one must be aware that 911 calls from Senator Wash go to the CHP office in El Centro (they may not be familiar with Senator Wash) and then after you answer several questions they will direct you to the Yuma

911 center, who then calls YPG to respond. All this takes time and then the YPG personnel have to find you without our assistance. That adds additional time to the response.

If you need help call EMERGENCY on channel 12. We will ask only if its fire or the type of medical issue and where you are. Our team will be responding to Hwy S-24 and your location while another member calls YPG and 911 on your behalf. Meanwhile our "first on scene" responders are on the way to assist you as needed until YPG emergency crews arrive.

If you decide to call 911 yourself, fine but still call emergency on the CB so that we have half a chance of getting our personnel to Hwy S-24 to meet and direct the YPG vehicles to your location.

Remember if you call an emergency, turn on all your lights, flashers etc., to assist us in finding your specific location. If your vehicle has an alarm system use your key fob to activate it. Don't have a CB? We have a few loaners, or an inexpensive hand held will do the trick. The team monitors CB channel 12 24/7 during the season.

All personal information concerning a call is kept private.

## Getting to know LTVAers

An answer to "Who has been coming to the LTVA the longest?"

From Rosebud (Thorny) via DitDot & Baxter Gal: "The first year that we started camping on the LTVA was the winter of 1946--1947 and the last trip down was 2011--2012. We were married almost 70 years. 1943--2013."

From DitDot: I know that Hugh was born in Yuma. His father was a school teacher and a lawyer. They moved to northern California when Hugh was still young. After serving in the Army during WWII, Hugh was a fruit inspector for Dole. He had time off during the off season and they came to the desert to camp. I believe that he retired in 1973. I know they camped here in the location of Hidden Shores before it was anything and before the BLM camp had opened. They also participated in helping the Christian Center to be established.

Newcomers Gyropilot (John) and Sweet Cheeks (Karen)

Where are you from?

Seaview, WA in the southwest corner of WA state.

How many yrs have you been coming now?

Two. The winter of 2015/16 will be our third of many to come.

How did you find Senator Wash for your winter home?

We heard about boondocking in Quartzsite. An Internet research led us to the BLM, LTVA's, and ultimately the Imperial Dam area.

Are you retired? A full time RVer?

Yes... we're retired and full timers.

What did you both do before coming to Senator Wash?

Karen (Sweet Cheeks) was a pediatric nurse at Seattle Children's Hospital. John (Gyropilot) had a purchasing career after flying helicopters in the Army.

Where did you park the 1st time? Why?

At the extreme south end of South Florida Flats between Ferguson and Wye roads. We had no idea where to go and were concerned about getting our-

selves into an area where we might get stuck or be able to turn around. We asked for suggestions at the check station and were told it was safe to go to the end of the black top road and follow Wye road south to look for a spot. We liked what we saw at South Florida Flats, parked, and immediately fell in love with the spot.

Are you still parked there?

Definitely. When we came back our second winter, we were thrilled to find the same exact spot open and waiting for us. It felt like coming home.

What is the best thing about Senator Wash?

There are so many things we like it's impossible to narrow it down to only one thing. We like the friendly community, wide open spaces, the quiet at night, and the recreation opportunities right outside our doorstep.

Any other comments?

The Imperial Dam LTVA is almost too good to be true!  
John (Gyropilot)Karen (Sweet Cheeks)

### Wednesday Jaunts—Bob(Slobberjaws)

Ya' know I sure miss that old red Jeep. I even drive it in my sleep!

(To Steal a line,--- Over Hill, Over Dale, We Will Hit the DUSTY Trail.)

I'm settin' at the old stop sign, Wednesday morning and we're feelin' fine!

We get in and slam the door, Then set the radio to channel four.

We're off. Where to? I dunno there's lotsa places we can go. Ole Bullshipper would say "Your goin' too slow!

Well it's time to air Em down, There's lotsa rocks out there to pound.

Then Bomber D gets this sensation, It's time for a wee wee

Intermission. Ladies to the left gents to the right. Follow the rules don't start a fight.

We still don't know where to go, Don't ask Jaws Cuz he don't know!

There's a Batcave right over there, We'll go some night and raise your hair.

Then Liberty says Watsa matter Jaws U a Chicken? WELL---!! THAT really gets my heart to tickin'!

First up Is hand break hill. Try coastin, down that one, Enough parts will fly off to lighten the rig some.

And if you make it down by chance, We'll give you time, to clean up your pants.

Just up this bump are many sights. The joy Of Yuma with it's city lights.

It's worth your time if you've got the grit, to see Imperial Valley when it's lit.

Ever see a bridge for water over water? Don't make much sense but Your Governments gotter!

Then on up there's a tricky little hill. It's a bit off camber and a good place to spill.

Then on down but not too far. The trail splits by an old shot up old car.

Hey Snappy there's some old Gnarley old wood! To see it again makes me feel mighty good.

You feel like your lost then suddenly found you're passing an old Patton training ground.

HQ 6Bn is written with rocks that we found.

Oh it's on and on through sand and grass, All of a sudden, there it is- Hidden Canyon Pass!

When you get into this wash you can't get lost, You stay in that pass cause it's the boss!

Now most folks are in for a shock, Kill'in Times ol "Dog Poop Rock". On and on through brush and rocks, Another stop, don't pee on your socks.

Now another adventure begins, The trail narrows and the walls close in.

Take a look way up high and you can see, A desert home for the Honey Bee.

From here on in the fun begins, You might go back to where you begin.

THEN there it is the SQUEEZE!!!!There is no room to cough or sneeze ~~

It's time to check your four wheel drive, And hope you clear this thing alive.

Oh yes, we've had a scratch or two, Mcgyver lost a mirror. Liberties Given up Eagle too, Their jeep's too Fat they won't fit through.

The Canyon walls. A Rattle Snake. A Muley Deer. All kinds of "Stuff" we see in here.

We go on and on sometimes into the setting Sun, But when we're home the rides not done.

Honey, We saw a Tarantula big a a saucer! Big enough to give me an Ulcer!

And so the day is done, We've nothing to do but have some fun.

Do we have your birthday? Your anniversary? Your email address? When we email, we use BCC (Blind Carbon Copy) so no one sees your email address. You can email me @ [maryvixen1944@yahoo.com](mailto:maryvixen1944@yahoo.com) or come & visit @ the north end of Skunk Hollow.

Vixen



**“November”**



- 1st: Lucky Charm
- 2nd: Bovine Man/Milkmaid dler Teardrop Bayou Ped-
- 3rd: Backpacker Hiker Wheeler Dealer
- 4th: CSC Preacher/Helpmate (Jim/Katie) Gray Fox
- 5th: Slobber Jaws Waterdabber
- 6th: Hoss
- 7th: Sodbuster
- 8th: Frog/Poliwog Solo Cup
- 9th: Dwayne/Jan Jackson
- 10th: Mr Clean
- 11th: Candy (M&M)
- 12th: Northwest Lynn Coyote Ridge Adele
- 13th: Head Nurse
- 14th: L:ady Coyote Gravel Pit Pam
- 15th: Mr Clean/Mrs Clean Beast Tim Skipedo
- 16th: Shaker/Ladyfingers
- 18th: Bomber D/J D Road Dog
- 19th: Broadcaster
- 20th: Tinkerbell California Dreamer Grey Wolf/Smiley Silver Fox/Badger
- 21st: Solo Cup & Ma Bell Red Dove
- 22nd: Wildflower Tenderfoot Tree Planter
- 23rd: Patty Alaska China Doll
- 24th: Liberty/Gingersnap Roadrunner (Granny)
- 25th: Oregon Lela
- 26th: Georgia Overdrive
- 27th: Gunny Ben Hammy Mobile Maiden
- 28th: Big Hook/Little Hook Hoss/Dutchess CSC Elaine J Alberta Garth/Sue Al-
- 29th: Alaska 2 Run 1/Alaska 2 Run 2 Silver Fox Cruzin Susan Sasquatch
- 30th: Cruisen Cruiser Chicken Choker Flyrod Professor/ Miss Avon Skunk Hollow Grace