



t. Vaca Radio Club News

January 1998

P.O. Box 161394
Sacramento, Ca. 95816 -1394

WWW.MVRC.ORG

MVRC General Meeting

Sunday, Jan 18, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00
with dinner following.

Coco's Family Restaurant
1830 Arden Way - Sacramento

MVRC Activities - 1Q 1998

SUN JAN 18 - REGULAR MEETING - 3 PM at
Coco's on Arden Way, Sacramento. Note earlier
time. Optional dinner in main dining room at 5
PM.

SAT FEB 7 - CHILI PARTY - 6 PM at Vicki,
WB6PHQ's QTH in Rancho Cordova. Bring
chili for contest or side dish. RSVP 631-0690
for dish and directions.

WED FEB 18 - BOARD MEETING - KB6RIH/
KC6ZWR

SUN MAR 8 - WINE TOUR - Details at Jan 18
meeting.

WED MAR 18 - BOARD MEETING -
WA6APX

APR 4 - 8 - SPRING DESERT TRIP - Near
Death Valley. Camp tent or RV. RSVP to
W6TEE.

SAT APR 18 - PARTY PARDEE - Public
Service, Bike Century.

SUN APR 19 - REGULAR MEETING

Les, W6TEE, Activities Chairman

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



We WELCOME new member
Jerry Hendrickson KD6JDF and
Rosella KE6FHN from Crockett.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Been trying to gather information on interference
and desense to our high band repeater especially
during public service events. I have most of the
information I need to go to NARCC but if anyone
has experienced any problems on High Band
(147.00) please get to me.

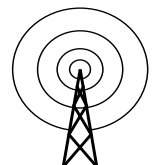
If anyone is interested, NARCC has a Web site
narcc.org. There is some information and more yet
to come.

In November I filed for a MVRC club vanity call
which will replace WA6UGY. These are the calls
filed in order of choice: K6MVR, K6MVC,
WR6MV, W6FM, W6UHF, K6UHF, K6FUN and
K6CAR. There may be some response this month.

See you at the quarterly meeting.

TRUSTEE - George

Please listen to the MVRC NET at
9 p.m. every Monday evening.
Latest club activities are heard on
our net.



Report - Scouting for the MVRC Spring Desert Trip

The proposed MVRC Spring Desert Trip will be on March 28 or April 4 and be for four or five days. Activities centered on the east side of Death Valley have been proposed. A previous group doing the same activities stayed at Death Valley Junction. Campgrounds in Death Valley do not have reservations and were not considered. In view of the popularity of our camp at a commercial RV Park at Lone Pine last year, I decided to scout out similar facilities on the East side, from Beatty to Tecopa. I looked for Parks that could accommodate tents and RVs together.

Matthew and I waited for a break in the weather and visited these locations on January 7, 1998. We visited Beatty, Amargosa Valley, Longstreet, Death Valley Junction, and Pahrump. I skipped Tecopa.

I found five RV Parks in or near Beatty. Only one, Rio Rancho, was listed as taking tents. However, they recently converted their tent sites to full hookups. This is not to say that they would not take tents, but they would like to talk about it later, around the 1st of March. All of the others would be out of the question, too RVish. I did keep one for future reference since it is at a motel where we have stayed as a group coming back from the Mojave, the Burro Inn. Their RV facilities have a number of small trees planted which may someday make it look less like the parking lot at ARCO Arena. This one would work only for a group RVing and moteling with no tents.

Amargosa Valley (Lathrop Wells) has another RV only parking lot recently put in by the casino. It is across the highway, next to the state roadside rest. It is out of the running.

Heading toward Death Valley Junction, on the state line there is a new (1995) casino, Longstreet, with even newer RV parking behind the building. Nice if they get some landscaping, but unsuitable for us.

Death Valley Junction has nothing left but the Inn and an Ice Cream shop.

Pahrump, to the East of Death Valley Junction has a number of RV Parks, but only one, Seven Palms, takes tents. This was the best seen on the trip, but was an older park, with few of the amenities we had at Lone Pine. The trees were mature here, though. They were also not interested in taking reservations until close to the time that we would go.

I'm guessing that Rio Rancho and Seven Palms get enough long term stopovers that they want to work us in between those. Otherwise if they commit a particular block to us for our three or four nights, that ties their hands for someone coming in a month before us that is staying two months.

Pahrump is a growing community with a Smith's supermarket there and a Lucky supermarket and Sav-on Drug under construction. Pahrump is another of those desert sprawl communities where the biggest industry is Social Security.

I skipped Tecopa because it is further than Beatty or Pahrump from Sacramento, and further than Pahrump from the areas we want to visit, and is known to have only more of the same tired old Parks.

Boulder Creek at Lone Pine is still very much in the running. Note that this Park is AAA listed, while NONE of the above towns have ANY camps that are AAA listed.

I have digital photos of the contenders. They will either be on the web, or I can show them on a TV set at the Jan 18 meeting, or both.

Scouting for the MVRC Spring Desert Trip

Summary -

Park	Dist fm Sac	Dist fm DVJ	Advantages	Disadvantages
Rio Rancho, Beatty	450 mi 8 hr	58 mi 1 hr Sac	Closer to facilities	So-so
Seven Palms, Pahrump	530 mi 9.5 hr	30 mi .5 hr	Closer to activities, good stores.	Far from Sac, poorer facilities.
Boulder Creek, Lone Pine	340 mi 6 hr	140 mi 2.5 hr	Nice facilities	Far from activities*, higher price.

Please look at these locations on a map. All of the above would accept tents (not fully resolved with Rio Rancho) and would provide full hookups for RVs. *If we select Lone Pine, we would change most activities to be closer. These would not be the same things as we did last year.

When and Who -

The MVRC board has selected Saturday, April 4 (Easter week) for departure, but we will accept comments in favor of March 28, the previous Saturday, or any date. (These Parks don't notice any difference in or out of Easter week.) Please let me know if you have any interest in this trip, how you would camp, and any problems with these plans. Please comment about the RV Parks above.

Les, W6TEE Jan 8, 1998

Armstrong Redwoods Day Trip

The following hams met at 9 AM on Nov 2 and departed from West Sacramento: Ed, KE6AFB, Sunny, KE6AFA, Bill, WA6IVI, Les, W6TEE, and Matthew, KF6FIQ. 147.555 simplex was used on the first part of the trip. We enjoyed a picnic lunch then took the tour at Korbel Champagne. Next, we proceeded to the Armstrong Redwoods and took the hike. Duncans Mills was the next stop where the State Park store and a candy store drew our attention. Dinner in Occidental completed our day in the Russian River area. After dinner, we switched to 444.0 simplex for the trip home to avoid persistent local traffic on 147.555. We were home by 8 PM.

- Les, W6TEE

