

DMRPC NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2017

Compiled by SplitHoof, #282

DMRPC's Newsletter Returns!

As many long time members of DMRPC may recall from the distant past, our club on occasion would produce and mail to all current members a hard copy newsletter, of which featured club activity info, important calendar dates, feature articles, membership application/renewal, and other important topics that effected the membership. A number of factors, including the rising rates of postage, production, and the maintenance of an accurate database of member mailing addresses made it less feasible, and the newsletter ceased to exist.

As DMRPC has grown in membership, and as we are constantly improving our website, the newsletter now returns in a quarterly edition, and will expand on the previous section titled "Club Bulletins". DMRCP group disciplines will continue to maintain and produce their own website sections; specific inquires about such activities should be directed to those disciplines.

Look forward to sections such as Q&A, guest articles, letters, pictures, announcements, USFS updates, etc. If you have anything to contribute, send it to the editor using the contact info following each web section.

Special Event

Antelope Valley Ducks Unlimited is holding their 44th Annual Banquet/Auction on Friday, March 10th. Doors open at 5:00; Dinner at 7:00. There will be games, silent auction, raffles, and a live auction. A table of eight is \$600, and the buyer gets a chance on a nice gun, and \$100 in raffle tickets. Tickets for couples are \$110, singles \$65, and Greenwings (up to eighteen) \$45. For more information and tickets, contact Patti or Wayne at 661-943-5456 to beat the March 3rd deadline.

Road Conditions

Our recent rains have brought much needed relief to our fire conditions, however we often receive substantial volumes in short time periods. This can create access issues to the DMRPC complex, and occasionally members will become stuck or stranded in their vehicles, often far away from the paved highway. DMRPC's security staff monitors ongoing weather conditions, and makes the determination on road closures. **GENERALLY, IF THE ROADWAY IS NOT PASSABLE FOR A TWO-WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE, THE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.** This condition is usually updated on the DMRPC website, with improvements underway to ensure this is done in a timely manner. **GRADING** is scheduled periodically depending on road conditions, and members are asked to travel our roads carefully, and to avoid creating deep ruts that only result in increased erosion.

Another point to consider regarding our road/gate access: know your surroundings, especially when going through our main highway gate! Be on the lookout for those who don't belong, or may have other intentions. We will review this in detail in the future.

Membership Renewals

Members may start the membership renewal process on April 1st; please be prompt, as we currently have over 1,400 members to process. We ask members to get this done by June, with the processing time taking generally two+ weeks. Materials are sent out during June, as the main gate combination is changed July 1st. The job of processing DMRPC memberships is **HUGE**, and is one of the most time consuming chores to be had. Special thanks to Jackie and team for this tremendous effort.

Campfire Update

USFS Fire management has advised DMRPC that campfires are permitted in designated areas, with a valid permit. DMRPC members and guests are to use the following guidelines:

- Campfires at DMRPC are permitted in the main/central campfire ring only. It is the large fire ring in the open area located between the campground area and the practical firing range. **DO NOT** construct any fire pits anywhere else at this time.
- Cooking appliances and small BBQ's may be used in the camping area with caution, and well away from any trees or other vegetation. DMRPC has a large, sturdy BBQ for member use located adjacent to the Black Powder covered range; this is the preferred location to use.
- A valid, current USFS issued campfire permit is required when using any campfire, open-flame cooking appliance, or gas-powered lantern. Permits are available online.
- This current policy may be rescinded at any time, without prior notice. Please use extreme caution; Campfires, BBQ'S, cooking appliances shall **NOT** be used during windy conditions, fire weather, or at any time that USFS advises against such.