

Chi-ca-go Times



The San Diego Chapter of Quail Unlimited

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When Is a Newsletter Not a Newsletter?

Answer: When it's what you're looking at. This started out as an email, but I found that gmail doesn't let one embed pictures. So consider this more of an email update. The reason the regular newsletters stopped a couple years ago was because of the effort in producing an issue every month where the layout filled the pages, producing interesting content, printing, stuffing envelopes, addressing, etc. etc. I figure if it's less effort, there will be more newsletters emails. So there will be no hard copies of this mailed anywhere, and the pages may have blank spaces, etc. But at least those of you who can't make a meeting or project will be informed of the Chapter's goings on.

JULY PROJECT

Our July project went well, despite having to make a few adjustments. We had the pleasure of meeting Ray for the first time, and his two sons; Sam and Anderson.

We knew this guzzler had a leak about 1/3 up from the bottom, but there was still about 1 or 2 inches of water. We've never tried to repair a tank while it still had water. Earlier in the year there was just too much water to try. The dilemma is, do you wait until it's dry (which is hard on the birds), or do you empty the water into holding barrels, which is hard on the birds until you replace the water?

We came upon the idea of putting a valve in the bottom of one a holding barrel and running a garden hose



New guzzler divers, Sam and Anderson.

to a watering dish with a float valve (designed for watering dogs using a garden hose). Great idea, and worked in testing, but on site the valve sealant on the barrel valve gave way and leaked precious water. Although the leak was slow, the water source might have been dry by the time a couple layers of Thoroseal got applied to the tank. So our genius crew rigged things up to feed using the siphon method.



Siphon fed temporary watering dish.

Being anxious to complete the repairs and concerned about the water availability, I returned the next

day. Everything was working fine. I applied a coat of Thoroseal to the entire tank. Despite predictions of temperatures of about 110°, it was really quite pleasant as I was equipped with a sun umbrella for shade and was inside the tank. Not to mention I closed a new floor fan behind me like a trap door for ventilation.

I few days later I returned and refilled the tank. I also took the opportunity to check all the guzzlers in the area. Between the inspection and an observation of Art's, we have a couple project to discuss at the next meeting.



Beach party or Quail Unlimited project? Only the quail know for sure.

Open Items

At the last meeting everyone was reminded there is still a couple items that have never been resolved:

1) We need a new meeting place. Since the DFG announced they could no longer hold their office open for us and the S.D. Wildlife Advisory Commission due to budget constraints, we've been meeting in the Cubic cafeteria where David works. This makes his presence a requirement for every meeting, not to mention

it's working under the "easier to ask forgiveness than permission" mode. Please be on the look out for someplace central, easily accessed, and as close to free as possible.

2) We need a storage place. Thometz used to keep everything in his barn in Campo. Because he went to virtually every project and could carry it all in his 4WD F150, we didn't have the issue for years. Basically we need a securable 8x10 shed. Simply for convenience it would preferably be near I8 in East County.