

# Chi-ca-go Times



The San Diego Chapter of Quail Unlimited

(619) 334-5533

www.SDQU.org

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## When Is a Newsletter Not a Newsletter?

Answer: When it's what you're looking at. The reason the regular newsletters stopped a couple years ago was because of the effort in producing an issue every month; with the layout filling the pages, producing interesting content, printing, stuffing envelopes, addressing, etc., etc. I figure if it's less effort, there will be more updates. 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.

## A Couple Reminders

**Reminder**—our next meeting is Thursday, May 13 at the Cubic lunch room, 9233 Balboa Ave at 6:30 pm. We'll make plans for the May project, which will be the weekend of May 22-23.

**Reminder**—If you've got a call route, 'tis the season. The valley quail routes should be completed by the end of May, and the mountain quail in May or June. I don't recall ever having snow in April before. That may mean waiting towards at least the end of May would make sense.

**Mother Goose & Grimm** by Mike Peters



## MARCH PROJECT



In March we had our first weekend project. In all our previous years we had monthly projects that were generally 3/4 day efforts. We've decided to do only three or four projects a year now, but make a weekend of it. That should make it easier to complete an project without returning.

The turn out was very small, as our regulars had legitimate scheduling conflicts. If the old saying, "Two's company, three's a crowd" is true, then a company of men started work Saturday and we had a crowd Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Participants were Hamilton McWhorter, Jack Bransford, Art Shurtleff, and David Preddy.

The goal was to clean a McCain Valley guzzler which appeared to be very full of sand, although holding water pretty well. I say “appeared” because once we pulled the ceiling tiles off we found the sand was piled towards the front, but not filled to the back. Now that we were in a position to do maintenance, we proceeded to pump the water into a large holding tank so we could clean out the muck and reseal the tank to be like new. It was clear nothing had been cleaned out of there in the last 40 years or so, based on the pull tab beer cans found inside. I hope the archeologists don’t mind us removing them. One major crack in the ramp was patched and the entire guzzler, apron and tank, were coated with Thoroseal.



Several of the cement tiles needed replacing as well as a triangular support in the front. Thankfully Art was able to make some trips to the site before the weekend arrived. He created forms and poured concrete to make the replacement parts so they were ready to go as soon as we needed them.



When we replaced the tiles, we covered the tank with a heavy gauge rubber liner from an old pond. It will do an excellent job of keeping dirt from settling back in the tank once it was re-buried.



