

POCKET SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE 47th MOJAVE ROAD RENDEZVOUS 15-18 October 2026

*All educational field trips are tentative depending on weather and road conditions.
Scheduling is subject to change or alteration.*

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2026

- **Early Arrival:** Early birds arrive and set up camp throughout the day.
- **12:00 PM – Inbound to Goffs Educational Field Trip (Amboy, CA):**
 - *Trip Leader:* David M'Greene.
 - *Logistics:* Meet at Amboy at 12:00 PM and park by the bungalows. Bring your own food and drinks. The group departs Amboy around 4:00 PM, arriving at Goffs at approximately 5:00 PM.
- **3:00 PM – Millman Meeting:** Located in the Depot Reading Room.
- **5:30 PM – Popcorn Social Hour:** Held at the Flywheel Café for early arrivals. Bring your own beverages; popcorn and butter are provided.
- **6:30 PM – Burgers in the Flywheel** for early birds, courtesy of the Clampers. Sign up for Educational Field Trips leaving Friday morning.

Friday Educational Field Trips

Sign up in the Schoolhouse. Space is limited, and trips are subject to current road conditions.

- **8:30 AM – Lanfair Valley Tour:** Lanfair School, Ernest Lanfair House, OX Ranch, Caruthers Canyon, and Water Dam. Includes a BBQ Lunch (bring your own chair and beverage). *Trip Leaders:* Jim Toenjes, David M'Greene, and Dave Nichols. Meet at the Schoolhouse for a prompt 8:30 AM departure. High-clearance 4WD required. Good walking boots are necessary.
- **9:30 AM – Historic Ranching & Prehistoric Petroglyph Tour:** *Trip Leader:* Dr. Austin Schoenkopf. Meet at the Hole-in-the-Wall Visitor Center parking lot at 9:30

AM. Strictly limited to 10 vehicles. Tour covers Round Valley, the Ausmus homestead, Government Holes (1927 shootout site), Watson Wash, Rock Spring, and unpublished petroglyph sites. Returns by mid-afternoon. *Requirements: 4WD, spare tire, 2/3 tank of gas, food/water, sun protection, steel/composite-toe boots (for loose debris), and a face mask for hantavirus protection inside structures.*

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2026

- **7:30 AM – Coffee & Breakfast:** Served in the Flywheel Café, compliments of Bill & Marsha Moser. Please contribute generously to their donation jar!
- **8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Event Registration:** Located in the Schoolhouse. Registration per MDHCA Member is \$40 (no charge for children under 12). Registration includes 2 door prize tickets per person and the Saturday night BBQ. You can purchase additional door prize/raffle tickets and renew your MDHCA membership (\$50 per family). Sign up here for limited-space Educational Field Trips.
- **8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Silent Auction Opens:** Located in the Schoolhouse. Place your written bids on amazing items. The auction closes Saturday night at 8:30 PM.
- **All-Day Exhibits:** The AT&T Shed, Homestead, and Little Danby Courthouse are open throughout the day.
- **9:00 AM – 10:00 PM – Photography Exhibit:** *"Abandoned Planes, Trains and Automobiles: California Revealed"* by photographer Ken Lee. Open for self-guided viewing in the Exhibit Hall.
- **10:30 AM – 11:30 AM – Presentation:** *"Birds of the East Mojave Desert"* by Rich Cimino, President of the Jedediah Smith Society. Located in the Exhibit Hall.
- **12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – Lunch:** On your own.
- **1:30 PM – 2:30 PM – Presentation:** *"Curtis Springer & Zzyzx,"* by Larry Vredenburg. Located in Exhibit Hall.
- **3:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Workshop:** Orientation for the Saturday Morning Archaeological Dig with Jim Toenjes. Anyone interested must contact Jim prior to the talk at jimtoenjes@gmail.com. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **3:45 PM – 4:45 PM – Stamp Mill Demonstrations:** Live running of the Gyratory Crusher, Stotts 2-Stamp, and American Boy 10-Stamp Mills.
- **5:15 PM – Happy Hour:** Held in the Flywheel Café. Bring your own beverage of choice. Meet the Board of Directors and receive an update from the MDHCA President.
- **6:00 PM – Potluck Dinner:** Located in the Flywheel Café. Please bring a potluck dish or hors d'oeuvres to share, along with your own beverages and dinnerware. Volunteers are needed for setup and cleanup.
- **6:45 PM – Community Update:** Jan Jernigan, Mayor of Needles, CA, will provide an update on the city. Located in the Flywheel Café.

- **7:00 PM – Awards Ceremony:** The Annual Wagon Master Awards & Recognitions Ceremony. Grand Marshals Scott ("Scooter") and Geri Wall will be introduced. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **8:00 PM – Silent Film & Live Music:** Pianist Ryan Wishner accompanies "*The Uncovered Wagon*," a parody of the classic first great western film. Please bring your own folding chair. Located in the Schoolhouse.
- **Evening – Stargazing & Campfire:** Weather and moonlight permitting.

SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2026

- **All-Day Exhibits:** The AT&T Shed, Homestead, and Little Danby Courthouse remain open.
- **7:30 AM – Coffee & Breakfast:** In the Flywheel Café, compliments of Bill & Marsha Moser. Please donate generously!
- **8:00 AM – 8:45 AM – First Aid Workshop:** Onsite response training presented by Site Manager Chris Wirth, featuring a desert snake update by Scooter Wall. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Event Registration & Prize Setup:** Final chance to register, buy raffle tickets, or check out door prizes in the Schoolhouse. *Note: You must be present at 5:30 PM to win a door prize.*
- **9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Children's Scavenger Hunt:** Meet at the Flywheel Café at 9:00 AM for instructions. Search the property for painted rocks; the child with the most rocks by 12:00 PM wins a prize.
- **9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Archaeological Excavation Workshop:** *Lead:* Jim Toenjes. Meet outside the Library Depot. Participate in a hands-on test excavation of a historic circular stone depression north of the Depot, dating between the homestead period (1910–1930) and the WWII Desert Training Center era (1942–1944). Requires a 3-person crew to dig, transport, and screen soil.
- **9:00 AM – 9:30 AM – Archives Tour:** Located in the Library Depot Reading Room.
- **9:30 AM – 10:30 AM – "CatalogIt" Workshop:** Archive Committee Chair Austin Schoenkopf demonstrates our collections management software. Learn how we document the "Story of Things" and find out how to volunteer. Located in the Library Depot Reading Room.
- **9:30 AM – 10:30 AM – Goffs Cemetery Walking Tour:** Led by Ryan Wishner. Meet at the Schoolhouse to walk to the Goffs Cemetery and the nearby historic "Mexican Cemetery".
- **10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Board Meeting** (open to membership). Located in Library Depot.

- **10:45 AM – 11:30 AM – Presentation:** *"The California Eastern / Nevada Southern Railway"* by Paul Renner and Neal Samson. Learn how this line brought miners and homesteaders to the valley. Located in the Exhibit Hall.
- **11:30 AM – 11:50 AM – Conservation Update:** *"Update from The Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep"* by Arioeh M'Greene. Located in the Exhibit Hall.
- **12:00 PM – 1:15 PM – Lunch:** On your own.
- **1:30 PM – 2:00 PM – Conversation:** Join local rancher Jacob Overson for a casual Q&A on his family's Ranching History. Bring your questions. Located in Flywheel Café.
- **2:30 PM – 3:15 PM – Presentation:** *"Managing Cultural Resources at Mojave National Preserve"* by archaeologist Dave Nichols, MA, RPA. Located in the Exhibit Hall.
- **3:30 PM – 4:00 PM – Fort Piute Open House:** Meet exhibit curator David M'Greene at the historic building.
- **4:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Artist Talk:** Photographer Ken Lee discusses his *"Abandoned Trains, Planes and Automobiles"* exhibition. Located in the Exhibit Hall.
- **4:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Stamp Mill Demonstrations:** Running of the Gyratory Crusher, Stotts, and American Boy Stamp Mills.
- **5:15 PM – Raffle Drawing:** Begins in the Flywheel Café. *Winners do NOT need to be present to win*—unclaimed prizes will be mailed.
- **5:30 PM – Happy Hour & Door Prize Drawing:** Located in the Flywheel Café. *You MUST be present to win door prizes.*
- **6:00 PM – BBQ Dinner:** Hosted by Grand Marshals Scott & Geri Wall. Prepared by our Clamper volunteers. Bring your own beverages and dinnerware. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **6:45 PM – Open Storytelling:** Visiting FOMRs are welcome to share early memories of the Friends of the Mojave Road. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **7:00 PM – Keynote Address:** *"Military History of the Mojave Road"* by Paul Renner. Located in the Flywheel Café.
- **8:00 PM – Final Silent Auction Bids:** The Schoolhouse opens for final, competitive bids. Mingle and raise those bids for the fundraiser!
- **8:30 PM – Silent Auction Closes:** Bids lock. Winners can pay for and claim items tonight until 9:00 PM or Sunday morning starting at 8:30 AM.
- **Evening – Stargazing & Campfire:** Weather permitting.

Sunday Educational Field Trips

Sign up in the Schoolhouse. Space is limited, and trips are subject to current road conditions. Meet at the Schoolhouse for 8:30 AM departures.

- **8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Fort Piute Trip:** Led by David M'Greene. High-clearance vehicle required; 4WD highly recommended. Meet at Schoolhouse at 8:30 AM.
- **8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Off-Road & E-Bike Tour:** Led by Rick Jackson. Explore relics from WWII and the 1964 Exercise Desert Strike. Meet at Schoolhouse at 8:30 AM.

SUNDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2026

- **7:30 AM – Coffee & Breakfast:** In the Flywheel Café, courtesy of Bill & Marsha Moser. Please support their donation jar!
- **8:30 AM – 5:00 PM – Auction Pickup:** Schoolhouse and Gift Shop open to collect and pay for Silent Auction items.
- **9:00 AM – Site Restoration:** Excavation site backfill with Jim Toenjes.
- **9:30 AM – 11:45 AM – Stamp Mill Workshop (Tentative):** Live demonstration, maintenance, and training.
- **12:00 PM – 1:00 PM – Lunch:** On your own.
- **5:30 PM – Leftover Potluck Dinner:** Located in the Flywheel Café. Supply your own beverages and dinnerware.

HELP WANTED!

We rely entirely on our incredible volunteers. If you can assist, please sign up on the Flywheel Information Board, call [760-733-4482](tel:760-733-4482), or email mdhca.goffs@gmail.com. We need help with:

- Popcorn preparation (Thursday evening)
- Registration desk support (Friday & Saturday, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM)
- Auction payment & pickup desk (Sunday, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM)
- Setup and cleanup teams (Friday Potluck and Saturday BBQ)
- IT and Audio/Visual support for guest speakers

Please check the bulletin boards at the Flywheel Café for any live schedule updates during the event.

ENJOY YOUR STAY IN GOFFS AND THE ACTIVITIES OF OUR 47th MOJAVE ROAD RENDEZVOUS!

- Laura Misajet, *Rendezvous Co-Chair 2026*
- Bill Slutter, *Rendezvous Co-Chair 2026*

Mojave Desert Heritage & Cultural Association

Goffs Schoolhouse: 37198 Lanfair Rd - G-15, Essex, California 92332



EVENT LOGISTICS & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

- **Radio Communication:** MDHCA staff carry FRS radios set to **Channel 14-0**. For routine information or help, call for Laura Misajet, Bill Slutter, or Chris Wirth. Keep transmissions brief.
- **Onsite Wi-Fi:** Network: **Goffs** | Password: [3107662450](#)
- **Onsite Emergencies:** Reach staff immediately via FRS Channel 14-0 or via mobile:
 - Laura Misajet: [760-401-1475](#)
 - Bill Slutter: [310-766-2450](#)
- **Medical Equipment:** An **AED** and comprehensive first-aid equipment are located inside the Cookhouse.