



Press Release – 4 February 2011

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Tierra Del Sol would like to invite you to our 49<sup>th</sup> Desert Safari. Mark your calendars, as our 2011 event will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the northern part of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA. The members, families, friends, sponsors, volunteers and a host of others have worked very hard over the past several months planning and organizing this event with the single goal that you are able to come out and enjoy some of the best offroading the state of California has to offer.

Base camp and TDS headquarters will be located 23 miles east from Christmas Circle (Borrego Springs) on S-22 or 3.0 miles west of state highway 86. The exact GPS coordinates are N 33 15.691 W 116 00.857.

With over 100 vendors onsite you will have the opportunity to see the latest products, talk directly to the experts and expand your knowledge. Challenge yourself on the RTI ramp and register to win a set of Goodyear tires. We will have family oriented games, a food court and events for all ages including a special 'surprise' for the kids.

On Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, onsite registration starts at 13:00 and closes at 22:00 with registration reopening at 06:30 on Saturday. The Saturday run will leave from campsite, promptly at 08:00, with easier routes clearly marked "Green" to bypass some of the harder/steeper trails. There will be plenty of trail hands manning strategic points and a sophisticated communication system to ensure that everyone enjoys their day on the trail. Please check the website and onsite information for more info on Sunday runs.

If you register online at [www.tdsdesertsafari.com](http://www.tdsdesertsafari.com) you will automatically be entered into a special "online only" raffle. Registrations postmarked by February 22nd are only \$50 and the on site registration cost is \$60. Included with each registration are a dash plaque, bumper sticker, and one ticket for the famous TDS "raffle" with over \$130K in prize packages. You can also pre-order your Desert Safari t-shirts online and combine your registration with a t-shirt order to

make the process as simple as possible. If you do not pre-order we suggest you head to the t-shirt tent early as we do sell out quickly.

This year there will be an event within an event as the culmination of a joint partnership between Ocotillo Wells SVRA, OHV Division Trails Team, and Tierra Del Sol results in a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 4<sup>th</sup>, for the newly constructed Truckhaven 4x4 Training facility.

The primary purpose of creating this awesome training area is to ensure people with 4x4 vehicles have a place to learn more about how to properly and safely take their rigs "wheeling".

This all started well over a year ago when Bo Neece, from Tierra Del Sol, proposed the project to Kathy Dolinar, the Ocotillo Wells State Park SVRA Superintendent. Last August, with pictures and information from the Hollister and Hungry Valley obstacle courses, a group met in the area and selected the 35-acre site. State Parks trail crews who helped build other courses, arrived and went to work building a number of mild to wild obstacles. Going that extra mile, Tierra Del Sol engaged the help of W.E. Rock, whose expertise in building competitive and challenging obstacle courses is world renown. In total there are 17 obstacles, each with lessons to be learned by novice and expert alike. On Sunday of this year's Desert Safari, vendors will be demonstrating proper winching techniques on several of the obstacles.

Many of the supplies listed below were donated and we would like to thank all of those people who gave willingly to see this project through to completion and to the State Parks and W.E. Rock crews whose dedication, commitment and expertise were instrumental in building this awesome facility.

- 550 tons of rocks and boulders
- 400 yards of Shotcrete (Shotcrete describes spraying concrete or mortar with either a dry or wet mix process, in this case it was wet)
- 100 earth mover tires
- 125 (lengths) of concrete conduit ranging from 18" to 54" diameter
- 40 logs (big logs)
- 2000 feet of rebar
- 2000 lineal feet of chain link fencing
- 200 landscaping blocks each weighing up to 2 tons

It is amazing what a few motivated and passionate people can accomplish and Tierra Del Sol is thankful for all the years of your support in coming to and participating in our annual Desert Safari. This training facility is but one of the many activities the club participates in and this could not have been accomplished without your support. We hope that you will enjoy this facility for many years to come.

Tierra Del Sol is a not-for-profit family club that continues to use part of the proceeds from Desert Safari to fight land closures, and to help those that need our support. Your participation ensures the continued support of the California 4-Wheel Association, San Diego Off-Road Coalition, Blue Ribbon Coalition, Friends of Ocotillo Wells, Thundering Trails, Salton City Fire Department, West Shores Ambulance, Tread Lightly, Polinsky Center, Foster Parents Association, Al Bahr Shrine Transportation Fund and Friends of the Mojave Trail.

In addition to donations made to organizations supporting offroading and the legal battles to keep lands open for recreation, TDS is very active and has been instrumental in Corral Canyon taking a leadership role in helping to build out several new challenging trails.

If you are interested in becoming a member of TDS please check out our website at [www.tds4x4.com](http://www.tds4x4.com) and come to a meeting. We always have room for one more. For more information on the 49th Annual Desert Safari, and to register online please visit [www.tdsdesertsafari.com](http://www.tdsdesertsafari.com).