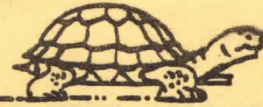


# TORTOISE T-R-A-C-K-S



THE DESERT TORTOISE PRESERVE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER + WINTER, 1982-83  
P.O.Box 453, Ridgecrest, CA 93555 + Vol. 4, #2 + Gloria Nowak, Editor

PERSONAL INVITATION TO A "PIT PARTY"! The Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee is planning a PIT PARTY on Saturday, January 8th, to fill the mining pit in which 3 tortoises were trapped last summer. (See Summer '82 issue of the newsletter.) The Bureau of Land Management has approved our intended action and will assist with it. If you can attend, please RSVP to the Committee address, so that we can plan for refreshments. A map will be sent to you on request. We'll meet at the kiosk at 9 AM and carpool to the pit. Bring your shovel, lunch and water - and join our unique party!

A YEAR'S WORTH OF THANKS - Over this past year, the California Turtle & Tortoise Club Chapters have once again demonstrated their unfailing friendship and dedication to our cause. In summary, we have received from the Foothill, Orange County, Westchester, San Bernardino and Valley Chapters the combined sum of approximately \$2,250 in contributions; as well as over \$800 from individual members. The Committee would like once more to express its deepest appreciation to all concerned.

PLEASE COME TO OUR ANNUAL BANQUET! This year we will hold our annual banquet-meeting on Saturday, January 29th at Hodel's Buffet, Olive Drive & Hwy. 99, Bakersfield; with the meeting at 2 PM, dinner at 6:30 and the program at 7:30. The dinner will be \$6.50 per person, which includes tax and gratuity. The deadline for reservations is January 21st, so cut off the blank shown below and send it in, with your check (payable to the Committee) to Secretary, at the Committee address. Plan now to attend and learn all about the activities and concerns of the Committee. The program will be a fascinating look into the past, presented by Dr. Kristin Berry, our founder and chief advisor; entitled "The Historical Distribution of the Desert Tortoise in the Western Mojave". Illustrated by maps and slides, it is based on information furnished by those who lived, worked visited or traveled through the area from the 1920's on. This will be an enjoyable experience, during which you will gain a greater insight into the changing conditions that brought about the formation of the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee; as well as a better understanding of the many complex problems that must ultimately be resolved before its goals can be attained.

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## RESERVATION FOR ANNUAL BANQUET

Send to Secretary, Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc.,  
P. O. Box 453, Ridgecrest, CA 93555; before January 21, 1983.

Please make a reservation for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) in my name for the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee annual banquet-meeting at Hodel's Buffet, Bakersfield, CA, Sat., Jan. 29, 1983. I understand that the dinner will be \$6.50 per person, including tax and gratuity. I am enclosing a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_, payable to the Committee.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION IF ANY \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST FALL TOUR A GREAT EXPERIENCE - The Committee conducted its first 11 tour of the Natural Area on November 6th. Alan Baldwin of Redwood City usually brings the 6th graders of his school for a week's learning experience during the spring. To avoid the unpredictable March weather, he made it a fall activity this year. As soon as one group ended their week at the DTNA, the other group began theirs. Our concern about the lack of wildlife activity during the late fall was for nought. As usual, the DTNA provided (for those who really looked) a rich natural experience. Supplied with tally sheets for a variety of life forms and evidences of living organisms, the groups of students proved to be great detectives. Highlights of the sightings include: 6 tortoises in burrows; 1 tortoise just outside the burrow; over 15 tarantulas of various sizes; a creosote bush katydid; and 2 hatchling Mojave green rattlers.

1983 SPRING TOURS: We will be using a more directed format for our upcoming group tours this spring. In addition, the Committee is scheduling 2 open tours: Sat., April 16th and Sat., May 7th; for individuals who wish more guidance than is offered at the self-guided Interpretive Center, or who are not affiliated with a group. On both dates, we will meet at the Interpretive Center at 9 AM. Group tour reservations or other information requests should be directed to Tour Chairperson, c/o the Committee address. This should be a beautiful spring on the DTNA, especially during April and May. It's first come, first served; so make your reservations early!

NEW CTTC CHAPTER! Our congratulations and best wishes go to the recently formed Kern County Chapter of the CTTC, and to its president, Kay Hevle.

DTPC MEETINGS - All interested persons are welcome to attend our meetings at any time. They are usually in either Bakersfield, Ridgecrest, Boron or Riverside. The next 2 (following the banquet) happen to be in the Ridgecrest area, on Saturday, March 12th and Sunday, May 1st. Write to the Committee address for information and directions.

Don't forget our fund-raising PRODUCTS; for yourself or all-occasion gifts. Also, write for information about our SLIDE PROGRAMS.

Best wishes in the new year. SEE YOU AT THE BANQUET AND THE PIT PARTY!!!

DESERT TORTOISE PRESERVE COMMITTEE, INC.  
P. O. Box 453, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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