

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE

After what seemed days of loading stuff into the motor home, we opted to leave the Redlands 102 deg heat. Our first stop for two nights was at the Thousand Trails, Acton Preserve north of San Fernando Valley. There we stayed with temperatures of 106 deg. We then moved to the coast highway where the temp read 65 deg. As we left Santa Barbara for the Rancho Oso Preserve in the mountains, we had two days of 107 deg! On our fifth day the temps have fallen to the mid 80's.



Moving on, we toddled to Pismo Beach. It was so nice to turn the electric heater on to take the chill off in the morning! Pismo Beach has a few redeeming qualities. It is the only beach in California one can drive a vehicle on, if you pay the entrance fee that is. There are also large dunes to the south at Oceano that appeal to off roaders. There are also two nude beaches in the area that appeal to off swim suiters.

The major attraction between Oct. and Feb. is the largest collection of Monarch butterflies in the US. During those months there are an average of 25,000 butterflies. I should hope they are not collected on one tree! The number of tourists during that time is 60,000. More than two tourists per butterfly!

There is also the Pismo Pier. It is one of the most photographed sights in Central California. There are great views of the coast from the end of the pier, as told by folks who are still able to walk the distance!

At the sand dune area, there are available for rental, all sizes of dune buggies to accommodate any number of passengers from two to six. All have roll-bars and many with automatic transmission features.

Dave & Bonnie