

Adventurers! Bless me 'cuz **I have seen the Promised Land** 😊 😊 !!

This 36-hour epic-journey started 36 hours ago. Epic. Journey.

The goal was to find a new habitat. "Way out there". Like "boldly go where no ("USC"?) guy had ever gone..." The great Wild West! **Ridgecrest!**

Tasks...

- 1) Check out the hi/med/lo end of the **rent home** spectrum.
- 2) Assure riding-area access "direct from garage" via *moto-x bike* (i.e. "not street-legal")

I had done homework, lined up candidates, below is the medium-range...



"Instantly acceptable". I chatted the neighbors 😊, the house had A/C (not the "swamp cooler" deemed "not up to the task of a desert summer"). Note no realtors were available on Sunday (honest). So I could just "peer in". Rent here \$1100/month. Does "not exactly" meet the definition of "MX bike ok out-the-door" (but close, oh-so-close).

Next, because I was "connecting the dots" and doing this search in

logical/geographical order, I was off to the *hi-end*...

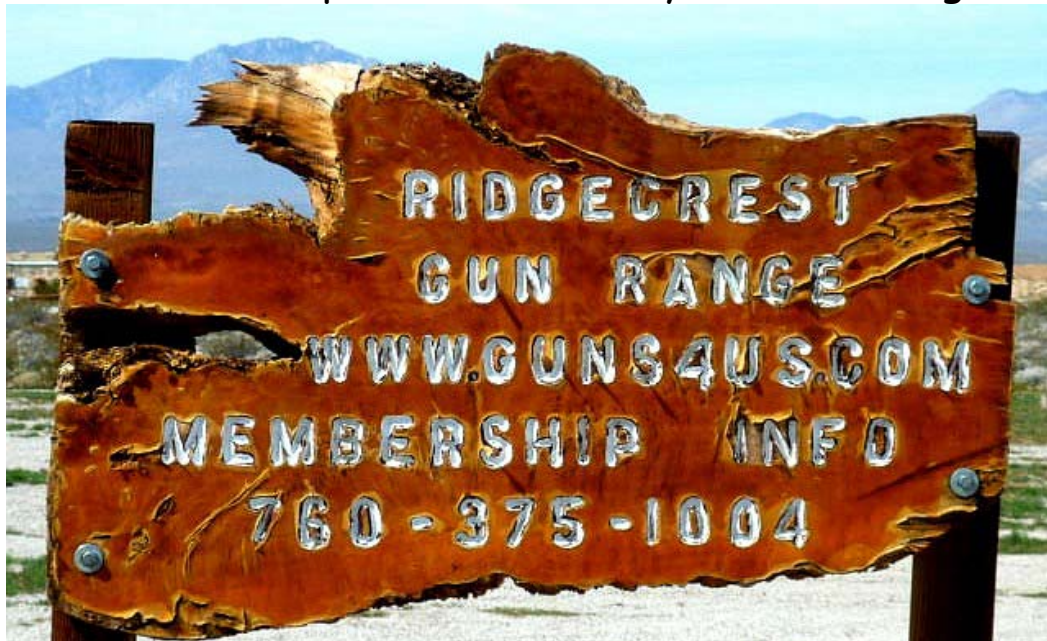


Yikes. 3500' of living space, un-furnished, all cathedral-ceilings, no utilities included. Not clear that at \$2400/month rent I could afford to heat/cool the place. Below is the view over the back fence...



...and wow regarding "the riding area" in this house *you are there!*

I knew the last place was out very near the Ridgcrest Gun Range...



...where I am a member. So, I trailered there...



...and prepared to saddle-up (red flag means "range is hot")...



Point: Ridgecrest is (my definition) "epicenter of the dirt-riding universe". For example, through this entire part of the country, railroad "right-of-ways" ("rights-of-way"?) seemingly "go everywhere" like below, passing directly outside the range, headed "pretty much in the direction I wanted to go"...



Pretty neat eh? After an *all-dirt* ride from the range, wow, I arrived...



The Promised Land! Mid-day, "awesomely quiet". Neighbors are Naval officers at the local base (Naval Air Station China Lake). Huge garage...



...which has skylights & windows...



...and does not matter to me if "not attached".

This place is just 3 years old, has "real A/C" 😊 😊 😊.

A really neat feature is fully-fenced yard, plus a storage-shed...



The monthly rent? **\$900 including water** (which can be a significant cost). Another tangible-benefit is "city gas" meaning winter heating no-problemo. **Home Sweet Home?** I told the realtor "send paperwork" and I will submit!

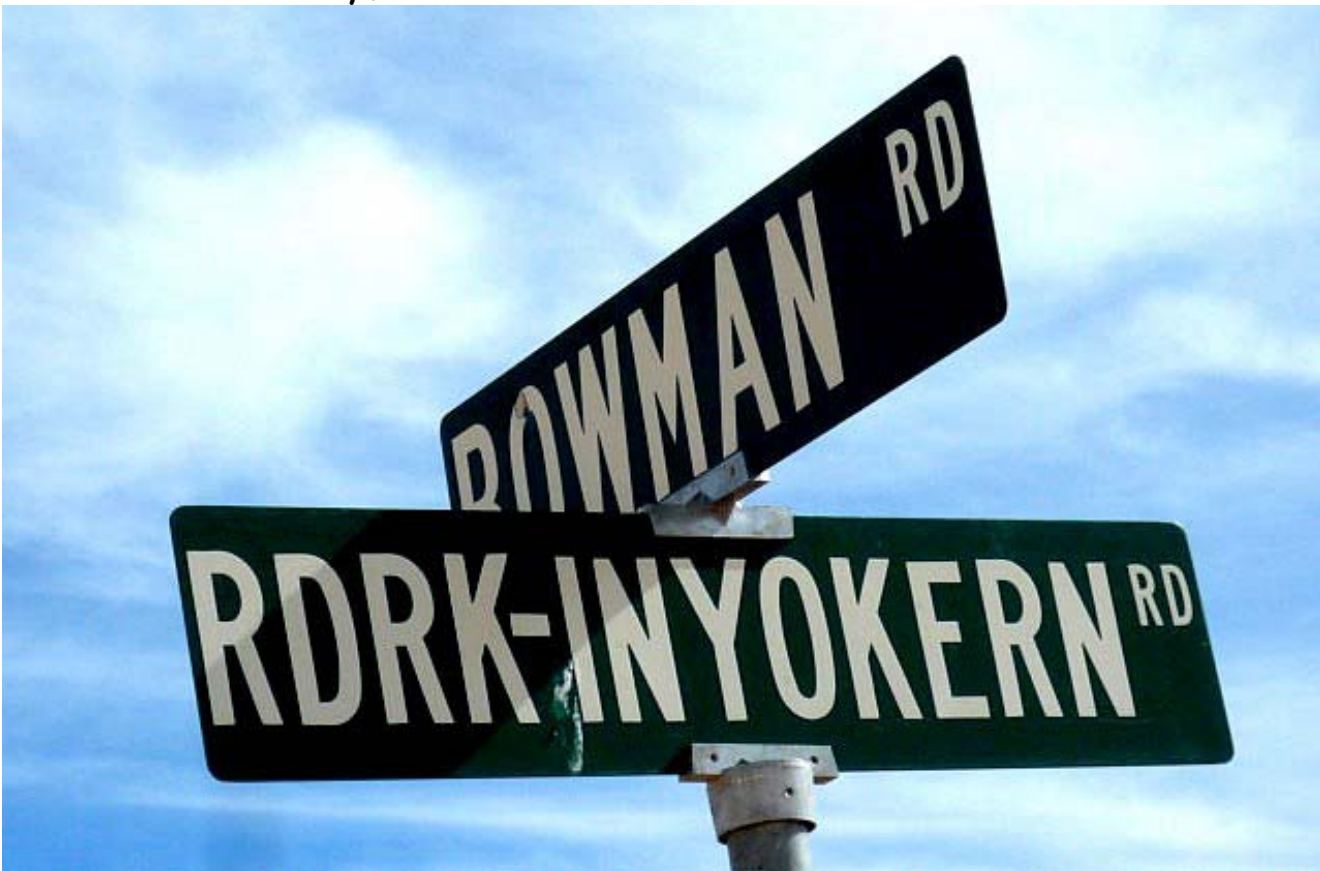


Today was an interesting weather-day. At 70 degrees, I was *hot*. Until I started riding, then way-cool! This because approx 10% "relative humidity" means very dry. When dry-air blows over you, "cooling" is immediate!

What now? Hmmm explore the neighborhood? **Lets' ride!!** I "headed west" (all-dirt) and saw "Robbers Roost" approx 20 miles away. Tele-pic...



I headed that way, ran into a favorite/known intersection...



RDRK = "Red Rock".

I knew I had to get up on the Los Angeles Aqueduct (here I am)...



...note most of the aqueduct is *not* a "pipe" but a "big cement box" that you can drive on top of!

Your tax dollars at work (below)...



...which is muy-importante because "#1 cause of greased dirt-bikers" is following a dirt-road that crosses a paved-road ("splat" as 70mph cage whacks the dirt-bike; real bumner eh?).

Using the aqueduct as a bridge...



...here I am on-top...



...and when very near Robbers Roost oops...



...the gate was locked. But hey, **I support the birds!** July-1st I'll be back! Robbers Roost (background) still another 5 miles away.

I headed back toward the car/trailer via a powerline road...



...and passed by this awesome garage! The heck w/the house, WooHoo!!!



Semi-lost on the way home...



...I stumbled into this truly awesome green valley...



...where I hailed a Jeep on "jeep safari" (note the guide-ribbon)...



...who was kind enough to stop and take my picture (note shadow)...



As usual, the KDX-200 was a great ride. Once again, I "chose it" because it was already on the trailer!

Well... My life is going to certainly change-direction here.

Really, "time to move on". My dream is "a new world, fresh start".

Why not? I really have always been an adventurer (typical Naval Aviator, that's for sure).

But, "this time" I'm hoping for the last (longest/greatest) chapter.

Stay tuned, no-matter-what it's going to be an interesting ride ☺ ☺ ☺.

Paul P. pencipa@yahoo.com