

PRAIRIE CITY SVRA NEWSLETTER

TAILING TRIBUNE

Spring 2012

Newsletter

Welcome to the Tailing Tribune, the newsletter for Prairie City SVRA. This quarterly newsletter will provide you with information about the park, upcoming events, and projects. Your feedback is welcomed. Please email your newsletter ideas to prairie_city@parks.ca.gov.

4x4 Project

The 4X4 project is nearly complete. The improvements that have been made so far have been well received. Four new rest areas with bathrooms, picnic tables, and shade ramadas have been constructed; while ten obstacles have been added or improved so far. A few of the new obstacles include:



The Alamo



Devil's Rock Pile



Differential Dragger

Please enjoy the completed obstacles and amenities while we continue to work on the final phase that will include a challenging trail weaving through the entire 4X4 area. Thank you for your continued patience during construction.

ATV Safety Training

The ATV Safety Institute offers an ATV Rider Course that provides a fast-paced, half-day, hands-on training session which includes pre-ride inspection, starting and stopping, quick turns, hill riding, emergency stopping and swerving and riding over obstacles. You'll also learn about protective gear, California regulations, places to ride and environmental concerns. Call 800 887-2887 or see atvsafety.org for more information.



In addition Prairie City SVRA offers youth (under 18) ATV classes at no charge. Call (916) 985-1093 to schedule an ATV class or to find out more information.

Youth ATV Laws

If you or someone in your care is under 18 then you should be aware of California Vehicle Code §38503.

California Vehicle Code states no person under age 18 shall operate an ATV on public lands unless satisfying one of the following conditions:

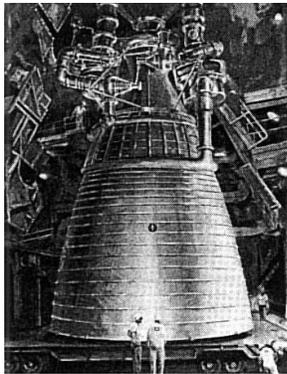
- They are taking a prescribed safety training course under the direct supervision of a certified all-terrain vehicle safety instructor.
- They are in possession of an appropriate ATV safety certificate issued by this state or issued under the authority of another state.
- They are under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian, or an adult authorized by the parent or guardian, who is in possession of an appropriate ATV safety certificate.
- Riders under the age of 14 must either possess an ATV safety certificate or the adult supervising the rider must possess an ATV safety certificate.
- All riders age 14 and under must be supervised by an adult.
- Riders age 14-17 may ride without adult supervision, but must possess an ATV safety certificate.

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Moon Room

Have you ever questioned why there is a concrete bunker at Prairie City SVRA? The park was once owned by Aerojet and home to the world's largest site for rocket engine development. The Moon Room was built to protect scientists while testing one of the most powerful rocket engines ever developed.



Artists' impressions illustrate of the M-1 rocket engine.
Source: FLIGHT International January 23, 1964

The M-1 was designed to supply potential lunar colonies and manned missions to mars. It needed to be able to lift a million pounds into space. That is equivalent to the weight of 36 school busses. The need for this extremely powerful engine was short lived. President Kennedy set a national goal of a manned lunar landing before 1970. This changed the focus for manned Mars missions and lunar colonies to a trip to the moon. NASA felt that the M-1 could not be developed in time to meet the goal.

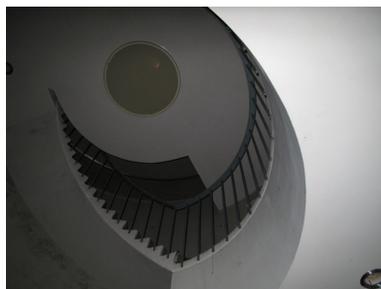
By the end of 1963 NASA no longer foresaw any need for such huge launch vehicles. Studies indicated that using solid strap-on motors would be sufficient to deliver up to a million pounds to orbit without the need to build new vehicles or facilities. The M-1 program was canceled in August 1965 with the indefinite postponement of the vehicle program, at which time most of the major components had undergone testing, although the complete engine was never tested. However, all was not lost; innovations and technology developed here were used on future programs including the Space Shuttle.



Control Tower



Motor



Central Stairway

Upcoming Events:

March

- 4 E Street Winter Series
- 10 AQMA Open House
- 11 AQMA Club Race
- 18 E Street Winter Series
- 24-25 Sacramento PITS Trials
- 25 All-Star Karting
- 28 Mt. Bike Race Series

April

- 4 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 11 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 14 Big Time Speedway
- 14-15 AQMA Club Race
- 14-15 VORRA Race
- 18 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 25 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 30 Last Day of Red Sticker

May

- 2 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 6 AQMA States Race
- 6 All-Star Karting
- 9 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 12 AQMA Club Race
- 17-19 Park Closed
- 18 Bigtime Speedway
- 18-19 Hangtown MX Classic
- 23 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 26-27 AQMA Regional Race
- 27 Mt. Bike Race Series
- 30 All-Star Karting

