

Nature Notes



by Patricia Clark-Gray

Summer Fun in the Pismo Beach Area

age_id=1207. If you like walking on the dunes this is a great place to walk and feel like you are in the Sahara desert. It was a bit windy in the afternoon so we retreated into our Roadtrek and caught up on some reading. Pacific Dunes Ranch RV Park has a stable where you can ride in the dunes. The cost was \$50 per person for the one hour horseback ride and it looked like it would be a pleasant ride in the dunes. Their website is: <http://www.pacificdunes-ranch.info/>.

We then went to Pismo Beach State Beach where you can drive your vehicles on the beach. Because our Roadtrek RV has very low clearance we decided to

Last weekend, we spent the weekend in the Pismo Beach area and we would recommend it as a great weekend get-away. We spent the first night visiting a friend in Arroyo Grande and we went to Avila Beach and enjoyed the weekly Friday night Farmer's Market. There was food, music, and local prod-

ucts to purchase and everyone looked like they were having fun in the sun. The next night we stayed at a private campground and our campsite was right next to Ocean Dunes OHV Park. The park's website if you like to ride off highway vehicles is: <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?p>



park and walk on the beach instead. It was a great way to experience the beach as we saw kids making sand castles, people walking their dogs and people sunbathing. After walking on the beach, we went to 1,200 foot pier and enjoyed the great view.

If you decide to camp at Pismo State Beach you should make reservations in advance. You can go to <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?p> age_id=1207 to get information about the park and the link to make reservations for camping. In addition, you can download a map of the

campground that has the rules and regulations.

For those interested in riding on the beach you can rent ATV within 2 blocks of the park. There are also four restaurants nearby. Ocean Lagoon has a wheel-chair accessible fishing overhang.

When I was doing research for this article I discovered that there is a Monarch Butterfly Grove in the park. Since I recently took a Monarch Butterfly workshop and learned about these amazing and beautiful butterflies I plan to visit the grove during the butterfly

season which is from November through February. During that time the grove is staffed by docents from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. and you can take a tour at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The admission is free. The website is monarchbutterfly.org.

I invite you to explore this nearby area which has something for everyone during all the seasons of the year.

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