

# Afhetsbrevet

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## SPRING HAS ARRIVED

### CURRENT AND ONGOING PROJECTS:

- Moving in.
- Cleaning up around the cabin after project new roof.
- Safely getting rid of toxic waste.

Thanks to the decent quantities of rain we saw here in the desert this winter we can now enjoy a very colorful spring.

The Joshua Trees started blooming in February, and the Yuccas are showing off some magnificent and large flowers. In the almost 8 years I have lived in Joshua Tree I can not remember a year when the flowers on the Yucca were this big and gorgeous. (See center photo).



starting to bloom. Soon the pink flowers of the Beavertail will bloom. (Bottom right )

Springtime is a welcome break from the cold temperatures of winter here at the ranch. This is the time when there is little or no need to heat the house, and yet still cool enough to be comfortable without any cooling appliances needed. The ceiling fans will soon enough be hard at work.



Wildflowers, even at this elevation of 4000 feet are everywhere. It's like the hibernating desert has exploded with flowers. Yellow, purple, cream, white, pink, short, tall, big, small, tiny, huge, singles, clusters, blankets; the flowers are hard to miss this year. And the cacti are right around the corner, with the claret cups just

HILDE FONDA



## RANCH ANIMALS

All ranches have animals, and the Cohn Ranch is no different. The history of this ranch shows a tradition of cats and dogs, big and small, domestic and exotic. We still have dogs and cats on the ranch.

Clifford the big red

dog was THE Ranch Dog. Clifford was born here and never left the ranch, until he recently got sick and needed to see the vet. It turned out that Clifford had cancer, and on February 28th 2008 he had surgery to remove a large tumor on his back leg. The surgery went well, but sadly Clifford's heart did give in and he

died at the animal hospital. Clifford was brought back home to the ranch the same day, and was buried on the property by Harie, Alex, Nichelle, Robert and Hilde.

Clifford's suffering is over now and he will never again leave the ranch. Alex, with the help of Nichelle, made the marker for Clifford's grave.

