

"Hi all:

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort put in by our CHIEF Chris Catchlove in organising the breakfast fund raiser. It was a "Herculean" task and he has selflessly dedicated his time and effort to ensure this event was a success... .. albeit he deserted us on the last day and jumped ship for better pastures .... never-the-less we had an "able seaman" in Mike who steered the ship in his absence. Thank you Chief!!!

### **Post Mortem:**

1. From close of the first day of the event it became evident that the figures (no. of Marshalls) provided to our Chief were inflated. I had the opportunity of talking to a couple of Senior Marshalls who indicated that there were about 550 Marshalls on the roster, however around 254 Marshalls had turned up for the event each day, of which our service level averaged around 55% over the 3 days.
2. The location and ambience of the ranch where we camped was awesome .... albeit the amenities provided were very basic and much to be desired about the toilet facilities (one of the two out of action).
3. At the debriefing session to be organised by Chief perhaps the team could provide inputs to work out effective strategies for such future events.

### **Experiences:**

1. Sleeping arrangements were great □ The first night we had 6 in the only bedroom, 1 in the living room, 1 stargazing and watching the galaxies in the pool area and 1 in the pool change room. Then there was a couple in the luxury suite of the St. Regis caravan, 1 in the comfort of a star rated campervan and the 13th member in the comfort of his home! Chaos reigned in the bedroom during the first night ... physiological effects .... the risk of noise-induced hearing loss influenced by the sounds of freight train movement and their whistles triggering stress hormone secretions was a bit too much for some to handle. The next night, 3 inmates were involuntarily made to move out. Chief found it uncomfortable to continue in the pool change room and the team, sensing his reduced capacity to carry out his tasks, offered him a double bed with single occupancy in the main bedroom. The second night sleeping configuration altered with 5 in the main bedroom and 3 in the living/dining area with one team member moving out from the bedroom to the comfort of her car. The third night saw the after effects of the severe and high dosage liquid diet intake during the course of the day and evening with frequent movement in and out of the bedroom over creaking floors ..... the only toilet being out of action .... and the urgent dilemma nagging at both our bladders and conscience ... there was a total disregard to the widespread cultural aversion to performing basic bodily functions in the open air .... the lawn beside the "Jucy El Cheapo" van became acutely enriched with high concentrations of urea, hormones and a wide range of metabolites.
2. The ladies demonstrated excellent cooperative skills in diligently preparing the meals and cleaning up the dishes thereafter. The meals

were sumptuous ... special mention in despatches to Mike for the great steak served at the "last supper".

3. Post dinner debates on current controversial topics with divergent views created a hysterical and comical atmosphere ... at one stage the "self-styled" moderator frequently demanding that the only thing needed to be genetically modified were his opponents' case!

I would like to thank the entire team for the great effort put in by everyone. It was a time well spent in bonding, developing great friendship, and experiencing selfless cooperation. In the words of Franklin D Roosevelt " I'm not the smartest fellow in the world ... but I can sure pick smart colleagues". I am privileged to be a member of this team ☐

Love to do this again.

Best.

Ish"