

Through the lens



L-R; Al Savoy, Billy McDonald, Bryan McDonald, Victor Figueroa, Martin Rangel and Josh Schobel

Owner **Billy McDonald** rents and services equipment by day and is an avid photographer on the side.

"I love landscape and wildlife photography," McDonald said. "I quit hunting quite a few years ago. Now, I just take photos, sell the pictures and then go buy a nice steak. I don't eat as much deer meat, but that is okay."

"I have taken photos on my travels to Alaska, the Rocky Mountains and Canada."

McDonald founded **Southwest Equipment Rentals Inc.** in 1994 and **Atlas Equipment Rental Inc.** in 1992.

"I grew up in the construction business," McDonald said. "I went to work for my uncle when I was 8 and had my first foreman job at 19. I have always wanted to be self-employed."

Today, **Al Savoy** is the head of the

outside service work. McDonald's wife **Beverly** takes care of the financial side of the business and their son, **Bryan**, is in charge of the inside service and parts department.

"Last year after the hurricane, sales went down so we were really reliant on our rentals," he said. "In October, that started to wane quite a bit and so we began to concentrate more on service."

McDonald says he recently put in a new office and storage building at the 14519 I-10 East location.

"We have been at this location a while, we just kept growing and needed more space for our sales and bookkeeping departments."

Southwest Equipment Rentals handles equipment service and sales and Atlas Equipment Rentals does all the rentals.

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