



Trail Tales



July 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From June 14, 2008

by Cliff Meier



Meeting was held at the Meier's in Tijeras. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

Guests: Mike & Linda Sells, Mike & Alex Wolf, Rick & Alicia Sierra, Angela & Joshua Campbell, Nick Sulvato, Rory Schell, and Rollin Cohn.

Members Present: Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Paul Caskey, Rance & Elizabeth Cochrane, Leon and Marcia Duggar, Erwin & Jeannie Greven, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Ed Kausche, Jason Levy, Jerry Marx, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Brandon & Tammy Roby, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Jack Sierra, Justin Simenson & Rebecca Tafoya, Carlos & Laurye Tanner, Craig & Mary Turpin, Jan Waugh, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, Dave Marks.

Secretary's Report -- Cliff Meier: The May 2008 meeting minutes were approved as published in the June 2008 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report -- Paul Thompson: Paul was not able to attend the meeting, but sent his report. The current bank balance was \$3,798.16.

VP Report -- Frank Whiston: Frank reviewed the points system. There was only one fine this month. It was levied against Mary Turpin for reading a book during a trail run on the Memorial Day campout.

Director Environmental Affairs Report -- Mark Werkmeister: Mark was not able to attend the meeting, but sent the following report.

"I will not be in attendance at the meeting on Saturday. Normally I would ask Mark Wolf or someone to read my report for me at the meeting, but there really isn't anything to report on at this point. We are:

- 1) Still waiting for the Sandia District to release their final EA for Travel Management.
- 2) Still waiting for the Santa Fe National Forest to issue their Notice of Intent and Scoping notice that starts the NEPA process.
- 3) Still waiting for the Cibola National Forest to issue their official Scoping notice.
- 4) Still waiting for the Socorro Office to issue the Final Resource Management Plan.
- 5) Still waiting for the Rio Puerco Office to issue their Scoping Report.

As always, the latest Access Issue/Travel Planning information is available on the NMOHVA website at www.nmohva.org. I keep it up to date with the latest info."

Trip Chairman's Report -- Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

- May 17: Peeples' 50th Wedding Anniversary
- May 24-26: Memorial Day camp out
- May 31: Cibola Search & Rescue 4X4 training
- June 7: Dexter Connection trail maintenance
- June 8: NM Council of Car Clubs Car Show – 6 club vehicles from the club

Upcoming Events:

- Jun 21: Tank Trap trail run
- July 4 - 6: Campout in Jemez
- July 12: Annual Picnic
- Jul 31 – Aug 2: SW4WDA Summer Quarterly
- Aug 15-17: Jeeps West Zuni Trip

Program Chairman's Report -- Jason Lavy: Jason brought tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins for sale.

Historian's Report -- Justin Simenson: Jason brought a copy of the 50th Anniversary book. It looked great. Jason is taking orders. The cost is \$25 per copy.

Web Master & Editor's Report -- Glenn Bontly: Guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining. If you ever find a problem with the website, please let Glenn know ASAP.

Old Business:

Wheeling for the Wounded - It was suggested that a committee be formed to define the focus, scope, and what would be required. It was suggested that we contact other New Mexico 4X4 clubs (such as Jeeps West, Sandia Jeep Club, and Las Cruces) to see if we could work together. A motion was made, seconded, and passed. Jan Waugh was appointed as the chairperson of the committee.

Mark Wolf reported on the 50th Anniversary events. The next event is the July 12 picnic at Carolino Canyon picnic area off Hwy 337 in the East Mountains. We will eat at 4:00pm. The club will provide the meat, soft refreshments, and cake. Members were asked to bring a side dish to share. The club will host former members as special guests.

Mary Turpin reported that there are currently 33 registrations for the Summer Quarterly. About half the registrations were from club members. If you haven't registered yet, please do so. There is one RV site left at the Chalk Creek Campground. Please pay Frank Whiston if you ordered any extra trail leader tee shirts.

Frank made a motion to pay for one 50th Anniversary Book and a copy of the Aug 2008 Four Wheel Drive and Sport Utility magazine (which contained Joan Wolf's article on the club anniversary) for the Club Scrapbook. The motion was seconded and passed. Frank also made another motion for the club to purchase 10 extra books for the club to give or sold, as applicable. It was seconded and passed.

Members need to pay their next year dues. The dues are \$35.

New Business:

Nominations are being taken for next year's officers and NM4Wheeler of the Year.

There was an electrical cable left at Cibola SAR training.

The New Mexico Car Clubs swap meet is scheduled for Sept 26 - 28.

Summers Meetings – July – Annual Picnic. We may need a back up host for Keith Chapin - Aug (Chuck & Ethel May Peeples or Jack & Stella Sierra?), and the Levy's - Sept.

Mike and Linda Sells were voted in as new members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Club Dues

By Glenn Bontly

Club dues (\$35) are due the end of THIS month, 31 Jul! There is a one-month grace period, but why wait until the last minute. According to the NM4W Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Article I, Paragraph A, "dues shall be delinquent on the first day of September, and all rights and privileges of membership will end." On that day, those who have not renewed their membership will be removed from the Club Roster and access to the Member's Only Page on the web site will be terminated. **DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!** Please pay your dues before the deadline!



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

Hello fellow club members. Welcome to summer!!! Last month we weren't sure if it was going to get here, but, it's here now!!!! Hope all of you stay cool and that you're swamp coolers don't fail you.

I don't know if anyone noticed at the June club meeting, but, we really are starting to look like the family orientated club that we've been claiming to be. When Jeff and I first joined the club about 6½ years ago, I kept hearing that we were a family club. And, I'd look around and think, we'll, yeah, but I don't see where it would be bad to have your children on a run or at a meeting. I did see families, I just never really saw too many children. **WOW!!!** Has that changed a bunch in the last 3 years! It was so nice to have so many babies and toddlers at the meeting. It's especially nice for us Grandmother wannabes that don't have any grandchildren yet. And, it's nice when a guests hears that we are a family club and they come to a meeting and see so many families and children.

This could be my last President's report. The person that I expect to be voted in as President at the July meeting is nagging me to open the boxes and count the nominations (I think he's just mostly interested in his). So, I'm thinking that he won't want to wait until August 1st to start his duties. So, I'd like to go ahead and say my goodbyes now, because I'll be more than happy to let the new president take over right way.

I really can't think of any words that would describe the honor that it has been to serve such a fabulous club. This club has survived for 50 years, through lots of great presidents and probably some that weren't so great. I wasn't the first female president, and hopefully I won't be the last. I have surprised myself in what I've been able to do as president (OK, so I didn't set that bar very high). And, I'm so grateful that I didn't do anything that caused the club to fold (OK, so maybe the end of my term is coming in just the nick of time). And, I do want to thank everyone for the respect that they have shown me for the position that I've held and the responsibilities that I've had in that position, as I've not really convinced myself yet that I did earn the respect. Also, everyone's patience with me in conducting the meetings and votes is appreciated. I wish I would have known about Robert's Rules before I nominated myself. And, all of this appreciations, gratefulness, thankfulness and such is there, even though no one ran against me in any of the elections. Just so everyone knows, I'm so looking forward to sitting out in the crowd at the August meeting and joining in on the heckling. So watch out new president. I may have not learned much about Robert's Rules in the last 2 years, but I did learn a ton about heckling a president!!!

OK, time for me to go now. I know what I want for my project next year (I need a project, Jeff's worried I'll be bored if I'm not the president) and I've only got a few weeks to gather info to put a proposal together before the next meeting.

This is only my last president's report – you'll still be hearing from me.

Live long and 4-Wheel!!!!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello everyone! I was hoping to have 'news' on one or more of the ongoing travel management planning efforts but, once again, nothing has changed. We are still waiting for the Final Environmental Assessment for the Sandia Ranger District and the Proposed Action from the Santa Fe National Forest.

So.....this month, I would like to focus on the Santa Fe National Forest. Last summer, the club spent a lot of time in the Jemez, frantically identifying and mapping routes and trail opportunities. We were trying very hard to have a complete inventory complete before the snows chased us out of the mountains and the Forest cut off public input on their route inventory efforts. We provided a draft copy of a Citizen's Proposal to the Forest Service that included most, but not all, of the routes we considered as most critical for a quality, sustainable 4WD trail system. We just didn't have time to cover everything last year.

Now we are back in the height of summertime. The trails are once again open. What should we be doing? In spite of the 100+ meetings, the endless hours of driving and mapping, the long 'black-out' period while the SFNF puts together the Proposed Action (going on eight months now!), the SFNF still has not started into the official NEPA process. That's right, the official process of public involvement and using the best known science hasn't even started yet!! What that means to us is that is not too late to add that 'one last route' that should be included in the trail system, not too late to go out and map that obscure little trail that has been a club favorite for years, and not too late to continue to try to influence the outcome of the travel management planning process.

As we have discussed many times, all of the previous input was unofficial. In order to ensure that our input is acknowledged and recorded, we need to provide everything, in writing, during the official Scoping period. This includes our Citizen's Proposal, which we will finally OFFICIALLY submit during that Scoping Process. Up until the time we submit it, we can continue to define, expand, and enrich our Citizen's Proposal document.

So what should we be doing? We should be out running the trails of the SFNF, bringing back track logs of our travels, and helping incorporate the appropriate routes into the Citizen's Proposal. And you should also be collecting any information that you want to submit separately during the Scoping period. While it is not a 'popularity vote', the input received during the Scoping process helps shape and define the more detailed study that the SFNF will undertake when crafting their various alternatives. THE MORE INFORMATION FROM THE 4WD PUBLIC THAT IS RECEIVED DURING THE SCOPING PERIOD, AND THE MORE PEOPLE THEY HEAR IT FROM, THE BETTER!!!! We will only have 30 days to respond to the Proposed Action during the Scoping Period and the clock could start running almost any day now. It is time to start writing up your Scoping comments and be ready to send them in.

The Travel Management Planning process is probably the most significant opportunity we have had to help shape our local recreation in decades. We need to continue to work very hard to ensure that the outcome will meet our needs and the needs of our children for decades to come.

Your DEA,

Mark

<p style="text-align: center;">Tank Trap Trail By Justin Simenson</p>
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A total of thirteen vehicles made it out on Saturday, June 21 to have fun west of Santa Fe. Everyone was in good spirits and glad to be out in their vehicles. The one line that everyone kept saying was, "It has been too long since we have been out."

The day started out early and those of us that gathered at the usual spot at 550 & 528 caravanned up toward Santa Fe. The remaining people met us at the air down spot. After we aired down and disconnected sway bars, we headed out toward the trail.

Tank Trap runs in an arroyo that is nestled along the beautiful mesas and rolling hills that separate Santa Fe from Los Alamos and White Rock. The arroyo that we know as Tank Trap has an amazing outfall into the Rio Grande, dropping hundreds of feet in a very short distance. The Rio Grande cuts its way through landscape, sitting hundreds of feet below the mesa.

Instead of heading right to the head of the trail, I decided to make a detour to an overlook that I found while viewing the area on Google Earth. After all the pictures were taken we headed over to the start of the trail.

Just after dropping into the arroyo, we encountered the first and most difficult obstacle. Surprisingly, there was very little water in the arroyo, leaving the rocky ledge exposed and everyone had a chance to play. After two hours on the first obstacle, we had one flat tire and one person that needed the winch.

On top of the first obstacle the arroyo flattens out. There are stretches with large boulders that are spread out along the sandy arroyo. Some of the tight turns proved challenging for the four Toyota's. Only one had notable damage though. Rory Schell crushed his exhaust pipe on a rock, pushing his muffler into his rear drive-shaft. Other incidents included a rear spring popping out of its seat on the Toyota driven by Ashfaq Ali, and flat tire on Keith Jurey's Jeep.

This was only my second time on the trail and the first time leading it, so when the time came to find the exit I was stumped. I knew where I needed to be, but finding the way that people got out proved difficult. Eventually I found a path and most of the group followed. Glenn found another way out. I got to the road and everything seemed OK, except there was a blue YJ missing. Jan Waugh had gotten separated from the group and was still in the arroyo.

But luck was on our side and Glenn located her quickly. The weather was on our side too. As the sun and the temperature started to rise the clouds rolled off the Jemez Mountains and provided us with a cool breeze.

In all, it was a good outing for the club. We had a few new faces and everyone made it out without any severe damage.



Rear Fender Flares for TJ: Brand-new-still-in-the-box-never-been-installed pair of Xenon 6" rear fender flares (new style) for Jeep TJ. My new Poison Spyder tube fenders have 3" flares and the 6" flares in the rear just won't work for me. They were a special order through Desert Rat, and Xenon won't let us return them. I paid \$245; will sell the pair for \$175. Call Glenn at 505-249-1127.

Dana 44 Parts, rear (from '97 TJ): Chrome moly Axles, pair for \$150; Cast iron cover with bolts, \$60; ARB, \$200; Brake drums, pair for \$35. Axles and Cover are recent. ARB is 10 years old, but checks out OK. Selling because they are the parts Kristy DIDN'T break. Stuff is in Springville, Utah, but if interested we will find a way. Call Mike Coe at 801-491-0700, ext 5604.

9" rear differential: with 58" track width, 4.56 gears, Detroit locker, 35 spline axles, Strange engineering center section, Daytona pinion support, center section skid plate, 11' drum brakes e-brake lines, 1350 yoke, 5 on 5.5 bolt pattern, Currie 9+ housing, housing skid plate, extra 1.5" wheel spacers included, \$1500.00. Call Pat Brady at 505-898-6449.

For CJ: 3 inch lift springs with drop pitman arm, extra add-a-leaves for front and back. \$100.00. Call Tahoe at 505-269-7811.

CTM U-Joint: Dana-Spicer 44. Pressed into the axle shafts and then pressed out. Never seen the road or trail. \$75. Call Leon at 505-850-7768.

TJ Rear Dana 44: 4.56 Gears, ARB Locker, Superior 30-spline alloy axles, Tubular Diff Guard, Spidertrax 1.25" wheel spacers, Nth degree pinon guard/slider, lower shock sliders, heavy duty trac bar mount with trac bar to diff support, new brakes shoes, new drums, complete setup, excellent condition. \$1,999 OBO. Call Brad Opatz at 505-858-0832.

Springs & Mounts: One pair of front 4” lift Teraflex front springs, brand new, never used. \$150/pair OBO. One pair of front custom spring/shock mounts similar to a TJ, brand new, never used, \$150/pair OBO. Call Wolfie at 505-856-8539.

For more stuff for sale, please visit our web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm

Club Notes

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Money from the sale of cans goes into our club treasury. Please bring your (CRUSHED) aluminum cans to each meeting, and somebody will take them to the recycling center.

To Our Guests: If you attend a club meeting or event and provide us with your e-mail address, we will add you to our guest e-mail list to receive notices of future events as well as the monthly posting of the club newsletter, The Trail Tales, on the web site. *If you are interested in becoming a member of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers, please complete an application for membership*, available on our web site at www.nm4w.org/join-the-club.htm.

Trail Tales on the Web Site: In a continuing effort help save natural resources and to control costs, you are encouraged to read the Trail Tales newsletter on the Club Web Site in lieu of receiving a hard copy in the mail. So if you want to help “save some trees”, please send an e-mail to TrailTales@nm4w.org stating that you do not need to receive the hard copy of the newsletter. Thanks for your cooperation.

Submission Due Date: The *Trail Tales* is published on the first of each month. Submissions for each issue must be *received* by the Editor not later than the **25th of the prior month**. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jul 4 - 6	July 4 th Weekend Campout in the Jemez	Call Jan Waugh	505-250-6962
Jul 12	Club Meeting at Carolino Canyon Park	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539
Jul 31 – Aug 2	SWFWDA Summer Quarterly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Aug 15 – 17	Zuni Mountain Campout w/Jeeps West	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517

NM4W Officers

President Lauri Rector 228-6547 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Cliff Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Jason Lavy 792-8035 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Jan Waugh 250-6962 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

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