



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in October, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in room 407 (Adult Section). The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. (Except as noted.)

Meetings:

January 14: Jack & Stella Sierra

February 11: Guy Conway

March 10: Bear and Deb Harrison

April 14: Chuck and Ethel May Peeples

Meeting Minutes:

(Thank you, Deb Harrison, for taking the minutes. -Miche)

Members present:

No list to publish.

Guests present:

No list to publish.

The potluck meeting started @ 6 p.m. hosted by Mark & Debbie Werkmeister & Jennifer. The meeting was called to order @ 7:15 p.m.

☞ Guests were introduced.

☞ There was no reading of the minutes as the secretary had dropped off the newsletter and left before the meeting started. (Well, Mongo actually dropped off the newsletters, I was asleep in the car)

☞ The Treasurer reported that we have \$2271.05 in the bank.

☞ The Program Chairman has vehicle & jacket stickers for sale, also XLG t-shirts for \$13.

☞ The Sheriff had no formal report. Tom Hurt would like to get rid of the "cow bell". There weren't any volunteers.

☞ SWFWDA - Bob had no report. Pre-registration sheets were passed out for the Winter Quarterly "Chili Challenge" for Feb 23-26 in Las Cruces. Mark Werkmeister announced that the Spring Quarterly has a new location - Dighton, KS. 60 miles NW of Dodge City, May 5-7. The registration will be in the Drive Line due out this month.

☞ The Historian needs pictures so he can fill the bulletin board for every meeting.

☞ The Trip Chairman was absent and reported to be a "free bird" with Lynyrd Skynyrd & "rocking a little south of the border" with ZZ Top. Mark Werkmeister announced an easy to moderate run - La Ventana Mesa, 10 miles south of Cuba, Saturday Dec 18th, 9am at the Texaco 528 & 44.

☞ Environmental - Charlie was absent but sent letters for everyone to sign & send to Bureau of Land Mgmt. Mark Werkmeister reported on some important Forest Service issues: (1) The change in the Planning Regulations. The documents lean toward "pre-European settlement". Written comments are due by Jan 4. (2) Changing the definition of "roadless". Comments are due by Dec 20. (3) Plans to have many roads decommissioned. There will be local meetings (not scheduled yet) Time and place to be announced - we would like to have lots of people show up. Bob Telepak talked briefly on the resurvey of Utah. The first area will be the SE corner. The comment period ends Dec 31.

☞ Old Business - Berry announced that Don Miller, Mark Werkmeister, Berry & his father went to the "Jaws of Death" Nov. 27. The Laguna Indians were upset with them for crossing Laguna Land. He advised that anyone going to the Jaws be careful.

☞ Sue brought up our project for Cuidando Los Ninos, Sat Jan 8. Our project is to isolate an area & fill it in for a playground (set timbers and fill with sand). Mark Wolf made a motion for the club to provide 1 to 2 loads of brick sand (approx. \$200). Sue seconded, the motion passed. Items needed: people, sledge hammers, shovels (square edge), wheel barrels. Meet at the Union 76 @ 8am. Berry is to call & remind everyone.

☞ Mark reminded that some people still had to pay and/or pick up T-shirts that were ordered.

☞ Newsletters were to be picked up after the meeting.

☞ There was no New Business.

☞ Motion to adjourn by Mark Wolf, seconded by Bob Norton. The meeting was adjourned @ 8pm. The gift exchange was held for those who brought gifts. The evening closed with a video of the Sept. "Rock Crawling Competition" in Farmington.

President's Report:

Merry Christmas and a Happy New 2000 Year from the Harrison's.

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Thank you, Mark and Deb Werkmeister, for another great Christmas party. It's always a pleasure and beginning to be a tradition. Mark Werkmeister lead some of us up the La Ventana trail, this is a great trail and expect a trail clearing run in the future. I don't have a whole lot to say except you better be working on your rigs and getting ready for Las Cruces. We will probably do a run to Farmington this month, if you have any questions contact Mark Werkmeister. That's all the garbling for now hope to see you all in Las Cruces. Bear

Trip Reports:

Glenn Bontly's Web Site:

I finally got around to posting my first NM Trail on my web site, the South 14 Loop Trail. Complete with a short description, difficulty rating, topo map, and GPS coordinates. Check it out. I have all of the info for the Sagebrush Flats Loop as well as the La Ventana Mesa Trails, but I don't have either of those posted yet. Hope you all had a nice holiday.

The link directly to the South 14 Loop Trail page is http://home.off-road.com/~gone_jpr/trail-south_14_loop.htm

La Ventana run, December 18. A brief report By Don Miller

Several members and a couple of guests made up the list of participants for the Saturday, December 18 run up to the La Ventana trail. Meeting at the Texaco at Highways 44 & 528 were Don Miller, leading with his CJ-5, Mark Werkmeister and his Dad, Henry (I hope I have that correct) in Henry's Cherokee, Berry and his Scout, Pat Brady with his early Bronco, Pat Slattery driving his Cherokee as his CJ is in pieces still, Joel and Charlie Wilson in the CJ-5. Guests Glenn Bontly with a TJ and John Evaskovich, in the coolest Toyota FJ60 (350 Chevy TBI, NV4500, etc) rounded out the party. About an hour after leaving the Texaco we aired down at the trailhead.

The trail surface is mostly dirt, rock and gravel and suitable for travel in a two wheel drive vehicle for the most part. However, it is an interesting trail that winds up to a mesa top, travels across and then down the other side offering some scenic views. We had a lunch stop at the foot of our first goal, an eroded trail leading up a rocky hillside.

Don was first up and with Pat Brady's guidance made it look easy. His CJ was just narrow enough to pass by a tree on the right without touching any branches and just wide enough to straddle the washout. He grabbed a little air with a front wheel due to the short wheelbase at one point. Next up was Glen. He didn't fair quite as well, but did make it up under his own power. That was after needing a tug back down to get a second start. A locker in either end would have made the day for Glen. Most every one else made it fairly easily, with

Pat Slattery's unlocked Cherokee being an exception. Pat needed a little human powered push.

From there the trail followed a ridgeline, replete with red rocks, upwards. When the overgrowth made progress halting at best, Mark got out and bushwhacked his way on foot. We followed the trail for some distance. I haven't yet downloaded the track from the GPS, so can't tell you exactly how far. Our forward progress was stopped at last by a ravine deep enough to swallow a couple of Scouts. Since we only had one Scout with us we decided that was far enough. The trail was also covered in a light coat of snow that was making the surface a little slippery. We did explore on foot and found that the trail does continue. We also found a meadow that has great potential for a camping spot.

We all got turned around and began to retrace our tracks when the Berry's Blue Whale sprung a leak in a power steering hose. A trailside repair was effected and Pat Brady captured the event with his camera. Certain irregularities in the Scout's underhood wiring were noted and photographed as well.

Our group aired up back at the pavement's edge and headed back to home by late afternoon. It was a great day, those who missed it should watch for a repeat run in late spring or early summer, depending on this winter's snowfall.

For Sale/Want Ads:

None to list.

SWFWDA

Bob Norton, SWFWDA Delegate

The SWFWDA newsletter 4WDrive Lines should be arriving in your mail early in the new year. There are a number of updates of issues that we should be following very closely. And, making sending comments to try to help stop the steamroller closing our 4-WD roads. Get involved.

And for those of you wanting a mid-winter 4-wheeling adventure: Plan to attend the Winter Quarterly of the SWFWDA at Las Cruces February 23-26th. Register as early as possible to have the best choice of trails. Many NM4Wheelers are familiar with the trails at Las Cruces. "Mild" to "Wild", all trails are awesome! Be careful about choosing "Wild" though...your 4x4 may come home in pieces!

Happy Y2K 4-Wheeling! - Bob Norton

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

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Submission Due Date:

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____
Mail to: *Trail Tales*, 4305 Snowden Ct. Rio Rancho, NM 87124,
OR call 505-896-4244
OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery

The NM4W "Tres Amigos" in the "Tres XJs" on the Hotel Rock Trail on Thanksgiving weekend.



Trail Tales
4305 Snowden Ct.
Rio Rancho, NM 87124



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

Jan 8: Cuidando Los Ninos. Volunteer time. Meet at the Union 76 @ 8 A.M. Sue Brady coordinator.

Jan 14: Meeting. The Sierra's hosting. Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church @ 7P.M.

Feb 11: Meeting. Guy Conway hosting.

Feb 23-26: SWFWDA Winter Quarterly Las Cruces.

March 10: Meeting. The Harrison's hosting.

April 14: Meeting. The Peoples' hosting.

May 5-7: SWFWDA Spring Quarterly Dighton, KS.



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Meetings:

February 11: Guy Conway

March 10: Bear and Deb Harrison

April 14: Chuck and Ethel May Peeples

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Don Miller, Mark Werkmeister, Mark & Joan Wolf, Tom Hurt, Carlos Ferrer, Tom Flemins, Sarah McNab, Bonnie Bannigan, Pat Brady, Jim Werkmeister, Jack & Stella Sierra, Kris & Keely Webb, Scott Giles, Pat Slattery, Chuck & Ethel M Peeples, Mongo Brunwasser, Miche Louise Bove', JennN Brunwasser and Berret Harrison.

Guests present:

Taylor Tracy, Fred Pintz, Glenn Bontly, Marcia Cromley, Jeffrey Jacobson, and Nicole Dawson.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:07 p.m.

- ♥ Guests were introduced. Marcia Cromley drives a '96 Cherokee and hails from Texas. She was the Vice-Pres of the San Antonio Jeep Exclusive Club. Fred Pintz drives a '70 Land Cruiser Station Wagon and was invited to join by Garry Brown.
- ♥ Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- ♥ The Treasurer reported that we have \$1970.82 in the bank.
- ♥ The Program Chairman was missing, but later found where we were hiding the meeting. For sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5, Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13. The raffle was held and Mark Werkmeister won \$22.
- ♥ The Sheriff had no report; however, after being shown some photos provided by Pat Brady he was then able to fine our President \$.75. Apparently, a certain blue Scout has an

interesting electrical set-up and the fine use of tin foil.

- ♥ SWFWDA - Bob was not present. Mark Werkmeister just mentioned that the Chile Challenge was not just trails with rocks bigger than Bear. There are also easy/moderate trails and it can be a great time.
- ♥ The Historian has expanded the bulletin board to both sides.
- ♥ The Trip Chairman mentioned that: (1) the La Ventana Run (held on Dec 18 - where Bear got fined) will be revisited in either March or April for a bushwhacking run (to clear a possible good trail). (2) In the plans is a trip to Bland Canyon, north of Cochiti, on a trail that should lead to Hwy 4 with some interesting washed out section. Meeting on Feb. 5, Sat., at 9 a.m. at the Texaco located at Hwys 44 x 528, then will meet at the Hwy 22 (Cochiti Lake) Exit at the Allsup's at 9:30 a.m. The trail is easy/moderate. (3) The New Year's Day in Abiquiu with the Sandia Jeep Club was nice. (4) Note about TRAILERS: the Department of Motor Vehicles offers a permanent registration for a fee of \$26.
- ♥ Environmental - Charlie was absent. Mark Werkmeister reported that the Forest Service Planning Regulations are still open for comments. Written comments are due by Jan 20.
- ♥ The President commented on how very impressed he was with the turn out at Cuidando Los Ninos.

Old Business

- ♥ Wolfie mentioned that special recognition should be given to Sue Brady for her work with Cuidando Los Ninos and to Klinger Construction for providing equipment and timbers.
- ♥ Tom Flemins mentioned the Manzanos trip was easy and that he had a run last weekend to the North end of Rio Puerco Canyon which was cold.

New Business

- ♥ Two new perspective members were voted in: Glenn Bontly and Taylor Tracy.
- ♥ The meeting was adjourned @ about 7:12 p.m. (well, it was impressively short)

President's Report:

Hello everybody, I hope January was a good month for all. First I would like to thank all the people who came out to build and move sand at Cuidando Los

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Ninos. Most of all THANK YOU to Jim and Klinger for the donation of treated wood.

I hope everyone is ready for Las Cruces, I'm not but will be soon. I will be leaving for Las Cruces between 1200 and 1300 Tuesday afternoon, if anyone wants to join me, great.

We need to decide on a day in March or April for trash pickup. I noticed the signs are still up on the 2 mile section. This is good, however I will contact the highway department and ensure they didn't drop the ball again.

Before I forget, I will be tent camping in Cruces at the Fairgrounds.

That's all from me and hope to see another good turnout of New Mexico 4 Wheelers in Las Cruces. Bear

Trip Reports:

Saturday, February 5

Trip to Bland Canyon.

Meet at the Texaco Hwy 44 and 528. Departure time 9:00 AM! Alternative meeting place I-25 at the exit to Cochiti Lake (Hwy.22). I believe that's Exit 259.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

djm@thuntek.net

Sunday, February 20

Trip with as yet undefined destination, probably in the Jemez someplace. Suggestions entertained. Check with leader.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

Saturday, March 11

Another trip with as yet undefined destination. Check with leader.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

For Sale/Want Ads:

Sun Performance 2.5 gal air tank, brand new, cost \$75, sell for \$50; 2" body lift for CJs, new, \$30; OEM '98 Cherokee "stuff": (4) Wrangler 225x15 tires 10K miles; 4 fender flares; rear driveshaft; 4 shocks, track bar, control arms, stock springs, etc - any offer considered
Bob Telepak 869-8117 evenings,
E-mail rtelepak@unm.edu.

Bontly Bulletin

I just finished my latest Jeep project (installation of a York On-Board Air System) and I'm all "pumped up" about it (get it? air compressor - pumped up? uh, never mind). Anyway, if you're interested, the direct link to my On-Board Air Page is at:

http://home.off-road.com/~gone_jpn/jeep-onboard-air1.htm

Also, I don't remember if I posted this one previously, but I finally figured out how to use my Garmin GPS.

The info for that is at:

http://home.off-road.com/~gone_jpn/GPS.htm



If you get Four Wheeler Magazine, please check out the bottom of page 17 in the March 2000 Issue. I sent in my submission for Pet of the Month only a few months ago. I just KNEW that the KJ's would make the cut, but I didn't expect them to get published so soon. And I didn't expect them to print the picture of my Jeep at all. What a proud moment!! :-)

If you don't get the magazine, here are the photos:

Four Wheeler Magazine
March 2000 Issue

Readers' Rigs
&
Pets of the Month



DISPATCH ADVANTAGES?

Glenn Bontly figured out a way to not only get his '97 Wrangler in Readers' Rigs but also two of his trail companions (see "Pets of the Month"). While Glenn may not have received his 12, much, the photo shows it on the trail, just like we want them. As for the pet... how could we not share that photo? Glenn, the 12, and the four-by-fives all wheel the trails around Uteas, New Mexico.



PETS OF THE MONTH

Just for Four Wheelers, a photo month we have a pair of "winning" rigs. What you are strapped in behind the driver seat of Glenn Bontly's 12 are, at the time, 5-week-old CJ (Tiger Jeep) and CJ (Radio Jeep). Although used with hesitations for an eyeball for safety, neither 12 nor CJ seems particularly interested in eliminating who but rather enjoying the trail ride. POC

FOUR WHEELER MARCH 2000 17

Glenn Bontly

NM OHV Coalition

The NMOC (New Mexico OHV Coalition) has a new web page and the beta version of our web page is available for viewing at:

<http://www.warpages.com/nmoc/beta1/>

Please take a look and see what they have done. If you have any comments or suggestions on the web page please send a note to Robert Clark at RClark63@compuserve.com or robert.e.clark@intel.com

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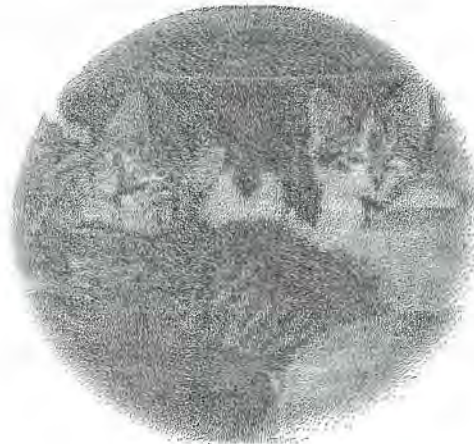
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OR call 505-896-4244
OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

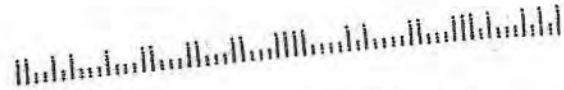
Picture Gallery



Trail Tales
4305 Snowden Ct.
Rio Rancho, NM 87124



01 FEB 20 2001



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

Feb 5: Trip to Bland Canyon. Meet at the Texaco Hwy 44 and 528 at 9AM. Alternative meeting place: I-25 at the exit to Cochiti Lake (Hwy 22) Exit 259. Leader: Don Miller

Feb 11: Meeting. Guy Conway hosting.

Feb 20: Trip to Jemez?? Suggestions entertained. Leader: Don Miller

Feb 23-26: SWFWDA Winter Quarterly Las Cruces.

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Meetings:

March 10: Bear and Deb Harrison

April 14: Chuck and Ethel May Peeples

New Address:

Please note new address for the Trail Tales
P.O. Box 93451
Albuquerque, NM 87199-3451

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Mark Werkmeister, Tom Hurt, Carlos Ferrer, Tom & Corinne Flemings, Bonnie Bannigan, Pat & Sue Brady, Jim Werkmeister, Stella Sierra, Kris & Keely Webb, Scott Giles, Pat Slattery, Chuck & Ethel M. Peeples, Mongo Brunwasser, Miche Louise Bove, JennN Brunwasser, Guy Conway, Bob Norton, Bob Telepak, Arne Gjerring, Paul Thompson, Garry Brown, Mike & Diana Arnett, Brandon Roby and Berrett & Deborah Harrison.

Guests present:

Jeffrey Jacobson, Nate Schott, Scott Politte, Chuck & Sandy Bednarski, Rich & Camille Capener, Glenn Capener, Derren & Sheri Owen, Scott Bowden, Don Tyler, Wade Hicks, Andy Schulze, Byron & Angela Hodges, and Ron Smith.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:10 p.m.

- ♣ Guests were introduced. Nate Schott drives a Bronco "when it is running", Scott Politte has a 98 Jeep TJ, Scott Bowden also has a 98 Jeep TJ, Jeffrey Jacobson has a 81 CJ8 and 87 Wrangler, Chuck Bednarski has a Chevy S10, and Glenn Capener has a 93 Wrangler.
- ♣ Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.

- ♣ The Treasurer reported that we have \$2131.20 in the bank.
- ♣ The Program Chairman has for sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5, Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13. The raffle was held and Taylor Tracy won half of the \$54 pot.
- ♣ The Sheriff reported on the "Most Points": 5th place is Tom Flemings with 19, 4th Chuck Peeples with 20, 3rd Jim Werkmeister 21, 2nd Mark Werkmeister 25, and 1st Mark Wolf with 32. FINES: 25¢ Miche for printing cats (although we should fine the Sheriff for not knowing who the members are - ed.); 25¢ Brandon for dancing the Toyota on its back wheels at the Cobra Run; 25¢ Pat Brady for missing the Cobra run; 25¢ Wolfie "I drive a white Chrysler" for endangering Brandon, reckless misuse of the throttle; 25¢ Kris Webb steering suffered catastrophic failure, non-native air in Farmington (Swampers burped twice); and Bear was given 25¢ for not showing up.
- ♣ SWFWDA - Bob wanted to get a ride with someone so that he can take pictures during the Chile Challenge.
- ♣ The Historian needs pictures, please call him
- ♣ The Trip Chairman was at the Elton John concert, Feb 20—Rio Puerco run: Meet at 9am at Southern and Unser (Southern Plaza) near the Firestone.
- ♣ Environmental - Charlie was in Las Vegas doing more consulting. Needs someone to fill in which was taken by Mark Werkmeister.
- ♣ The President has 35s on the Scout and they fit fine. Also, be ware the BIG UGLY is out and about.
- ♣ **Old Business**
- ♣ Winter Quarterly in Las Cruces, Feb 23-26. Raffle tickets, don't let the pictures keep you only "only the stupid stuff gets printed." There are easy-moderate trails. Sat night is a fully catered meal with raffle. 15000 tickets hope to be sold. Friday is an ice cream social.
- ♣ Spring Quarterly in Dighton, KS, May.
- ♣ Summer Quarterly in Salida, Co, Jul 30 - Aug 1. 80 acres available for primitive camping. Runs will be picked there rather than with the registration package.
- ♣ Trash cleanup will be held on April 1. Meet at the SW corner dirt lot at the Bernalillo exit.

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OR call 505-268-3887
OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery

Submitted by Mark Wolf



New Business:

- ♣ March 11 is Game Day at Rio Rancho. Mark Wolf in charge. If not too much sand blowing, maybe there will be a barbecue.
- ♣ The meeting was adjourned @ about 7:37 p.m.

President's Report:

WOW what a trip to Las Cruces. I don't have a tally except for me on the different types of fun had at the Chile Challenge. If you measure by little dents and dings, what a blast. I only blew out 1 tire and 1 steering box. The club as a whole faired really well and didn't damage a lot of our toys. Did I mention I won a set of any size TA/KO or Mud TA's. If anyone has a winch to trade, call me. I put 35 MT's on the Scout 4 weeks ago. Enough of my winnings, I believe the Sheriff is going to be handing out a plethora of fines I know I'm guilty of swapping paint with the white pig of Brady's, that white just won't buff out. Did I mention the wind. Whew, I even needed rocks in my pockets to keep from blowing away. Mark Wolf's tent served as a sand screen, one day alone he had a half inch of dirt in and on his bed. The food was great once again and the wheeling was great. Be prepared for me to start calling everyone one week before April 1st for the clubs trash pick up.

That's enough from me for now and hope to see as many people at the meeting on Friday the 10th. Bear

Trip Reports:

Sunday, March 19. Trip leader Tom Hurt. Meeting at the Texaco, Hwy 44 & 528. Leaving the Texaco at 9:00 AM and heading north up I-25. Secondary meeting point is the I-25 off ramp at Exit 259 (Hwy 22). From there Tom will lead up north up I-25 to the exit at the foot of La Bajada Hill.

I also have some dates set off in the future. (If there is some event already planned for the April and June dates I could change them.)

Sunday, April 16. Destination undecided, perhaps La Ventana to do some brush trimming.

Sunday, June 4, Bland Canyon.

Labor Day weekend, Friday, Sept. 1 - Monday, Sept. 4: Southeast Utah campout.

Thanksgiving weekend, Thursday, Nov. 23 - Sunday, Nov. 26: Southeast Utah campout.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

For Sale/Want Ads:

Sun Performance 2.5 gal air tank, brand new, cost \$75, sell for \$50; 2" body lift for CJs, new, \$30; OEM '98 Cherokee "stuff": (4) Wrangler 225x15 tires 10K miles; 4 fender flares; rear driveshaft; 4 shocks, track bar, control arms, stock springs, etc - any offer considered Bob Telepak.869-8117 evenings,
E-mail rtelepak@unm.edu.

Jeep parts for sale: Box of spare/replacement parts for 258 engine including air cleaner, coil, computer, fuel pump, distributor & more, all for \$45. K&N air filter, \$15. Ring & pinion for Dana 30, 4.10 ratio, \$35. Roll bar pad/cover for C.J. or early YJ, gray, \$15. Tie rod & drag link \$25. Rancho steering stabilizer, \$20. Currie U-bolt-protector spring plates, \$25. Paul Thompson, 293-8390, pathomp@mcworld.com.

Wanted used but ok set of 4, 35" x 15" tires to put on a K5 Blazer. If you have/know of any please contact Arne Gjerner at 898-3124 or gjerner@flash.net

Chrome bumperettes, all mounting nuts & bolts, fit 76-92 CJs and Wranglers New \$30. Call Glenn at 344-2656

Bontly Bulletin

Hi Everyone,

Just a quick note to let you know that I've moved my "Gone Jeepin Web Page" to its new location at <http://www.webejeepin.com>! It also has a new name and a new look, but the same great info and enthusiasm for our favorite hobby. Check it out and help me run up the hit counter (just kidding about the hit counter)! :-)

BTW (for those of you who are aware of the recent hubbub over an ORC article), my change of web site locations has nothing to do with any negative feelings towards Off-Road.Com!!! I am grateful to them for providing me "free" server space for my personal web site during the past year!!! I just wanted my own domain name, which also required me to obtain (and, of course, now pay) a new web host.

I enjoyed my first Chile Challenge (except for the constant wind and blowing dust, of course). ;-) I'm really looking forward to helping with the Summer event in Salida! Before then, however, I'm planning to make a "few" upgrades to my TJ. I met Tom Horgan at Southwest 4x4 yesterday. He quoted me \$4,500 (plus tax) to do the following work:

- Install Warn front hub conversion and inner axle shafts
- Install Warn full floating rear axle conversion
- Install 4.56 gears and ARBs front and rear

Note: this price does not include a compressor or connection of the ARB air or electrics. I will be plumbing it into my York system.

Questions: Does this sound like a reasonable price? Has anyone used SW 4x4 to have similar work done?

If so, were you happy with the work that they did? What about their "service after the sale"? I'm planning to have the work done within the next 30 days or so (depending on how quickly my income tax refund arrives).

Thanks for your help!!

BLM Resource Advisory Meeting

BLM Resource Advisory Meeting on Off-Highway Vehicles
I attended the BLM-RAC meeting in Roswell on February 25-27. The main subject was Off-Highway Vehicles and how BLM should approach the subject. There were presentations by Roger Pattison on ATVs and motorcycles; by Howard van Zandt on the Robledo Canyon problem, and by myself on a nice easy run east of Parker AZ.

I have a demonstration of rock-crawling on Saturday which was well received by those attending.

The bottom line is that I am cautiously optimistic. The principle that older people and the disabled need some of the roads we wish to keep open is beginning to be recognized by BLM people. The BLM appears open to creating play areas where they make sense for the environment. Chokecherry Canyon at Farmington is such an example. The BLM states that they are not in lock-step with the Forest Service.

Lets keep up the pressure to keep the open, but lets have some fun in the meantime.

Phil Kennicott

ckennicott@worldnet.att.net

Family Fun Game Day

by Mark Wolf

On Saturday, March 11th there will be a family fun game day that will be held on the west mesa at the west end of Southern Blvd in Rio Rancho. Games are played with the vehicles that do not contribute to speed or dangerous conditions. Last year we held this affair in the same location and all had fun. Competition is fierce, but fun. Make sure you come out to play and bring a co-driver. This is for highly modified to stock vehicles. We will meet at the Firestone Store just east of Unser on the north side of Southern at 9:30 AM. From there, you will be led out to the location of fun. Bring your lunch as we will probably not finish up until about 1:30 or 2:00. The only thing to cancel this event is high wind, snow, or rain ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT! Snow the night before has no bearing on the cancellation. Therefore, I'll see you there! Bring the kids as they can play in the sand.

BlueRibbon Coalition E-mail Mailing List

http://sc-rad.com/forms/bluerib/mailling_list.html
or go to our website

<http://www.sharetrails.org> and click on the "Join BlueRibbon Mailing List" link on our home page.

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2000 Northwest of Cochiti Lake

By Don Miller

This trip was re-routed from the previously announced Bland Canyon, due to a seasonal closure by the FS. Don Miller, leader, with his CJ5 was joined by Tom Hurt (CJ5) with friend Roxanne Walke and her son Morgan, Tom & Corinne Flemins in the early Bronco, Carlos Ferrer with his Scout and his friend Neil Wasson, Bob Telepak with his CJ5 and pat Slattery still making do with the white Cherokee. The group left the Texaco a minute or so after 9:00 AM and headed up I-25 to the secondary meeting point, the Cochiti Lake exit at Hwy 22. There we rendezvoused with Glenn Bontley in his TJ, Bonnie Bannigan and friend Bob Mcauley in her YJ, Scott Bowden and Scott Giles, each in their respective TJ's. Rounding out the followers were Keith & Carol Cheshire in a Y2K TJ.

Highway 22 west led us to the foot of the Cochiti Dam where we aired down before continuing. The chosen path led up the gravel road past Tent Rocks. The gravelled road deteriorates quickly once past the Tents Rocks Fee Area. So did the poor little ole Scout belonging to Carlos. Tom Hurt stopped to assist and he was on the way again, although not running smoothly. A short time later he decided it was best to call it a day and head for home.

Somewhat to our surprise a little later a faint call was heard on the CB. I'm still not certain what Carlos did, but the Scout was running better and he caught up with us.

Once at the end of the "improved" road we were confronted with side by side gates; one, locked and barring entrance to Jemez Pueblo lands, and the other bearing a rusty Forest Service plaque. The trail on the left led us onto FS land. This trail twists and turns a meandering way through the forest. We wound our way down into Seguro Canyon until we came to an earthen dam across the canyon. As dry as it has been it was no surprise to find it completely void of water. We stopped for lunch and socialization. The trail continued past this point, but given the time of day, the uncertainty of where it ended (at a locked gate was likely) a turnabout was decided on.

A couple of elderly Indians from the Cochiti Pueblo came past on a 4x4 ATV. The driver informed me that this was his new horse. "I only have to feed it when I use it", he proclaimed proudly.

Four of our group split off heading home early, when we came to a T-junction near to our entrance point. The rest of us took a different route that eventually joined up with the main FS trail we used on the way in.

Just because "it was there" our smaller group took a short side trip off the graveled road on the way down towards Tent Rocks. It was the most interesting piece of trail of the day, although too short. It rejoined the gravel road a short distance from the point where we turned off.

The parking lot at the dam served us as the air up point.

Sunday, February 20, 2000 West of Rio Rancho

By Don Miller

I arrived at the appointed meeting place fifteen minutes before the scheduled departure time and found myself all alone with my CJ5 and my morning cup of coffee. However, soon I was joined by prospective NM4W member Marcia Cromley with her '96 Cherokee mounting Texas plates. Soon after, Pat Slattery arrived driving his newly Ford Mustang 5.0 re-powered CJ5. Michael Conway in his '87 YJ arrived with him. Both were open topped even though the weather was downright chilly. Michael's concession to the coolness was to wear long pants instead of the shorts he usually seems to wear. One by one in quick succession we were joined by guests, Don Tyler with a '76 Chevy pickup, Kevin Cox in his '85 CJ7 hardtop, Chuck Bednarski and wife (I missed getting the name... sorry) in a black '98 Chevy S10 pickup and Tim Tucker with his '98 TJ. Bonnie Bannigan and her friend Bob McAuley arrived took up the tailgunner position.

We halted by the sand hills to air down and then took off playing follow the leader. A brief stop at the high point allowed everyone a view of the Rio Puerco Valley to the west and south. Then we were off again, dropping into the canyon. Once at the bottom we traveled in a westerly direction twisting here and there. At times we following the wandering trail, and at others the whims of this trail leader as variations in the route presented themselves. One of these whims led to contact between a tree and the plastic bumper cover of one of our guests vehicles (black S10 pickup). Alas, it was not the only scrape of the day.

Eventually we found ourselves close to the objective of the days run; Snoopy Rock. To truly appreciate why this white rock was named Snoopy,

by Bonnie about a year ago, you must ascend a not unduly steep, but loose rock and dirt covered trail up to an overlook point. The loose surface cover, combined with a nice ledge proved too much for Tim's unlocked and pretty much stock CJ7. Rather than beat it to death he chose to accept a lift to the top. There's only room for about 3 vehicles, maybe 4, at or near the top so we did it in small groups.

Next stop, Snoopy. Snoopy Rock is deceptively difficult to climb. The surface is always covered with loose sand. There are a couple of doable routes up and over. However as Michael and several others discovered it is impossible to climb at many points. If the rock was more like the famous Red Rock sandstone of Moab we could have had many spectacular photo-ops.

After Snoopy we headed up Tom's Gully. In the past 18 months this route has gone from one that was traveled only by motorcycle to one that has become a well defined two-track. It still has a nice rock ledge to ascend it was this ledge that claimed a small piece of plastic from the S10's bumper air dam.

Near the upper end of Tom's Gully the terrain gets highly off camber if one ventures off the usual route. This will be attested to by Pat Slattery, who was overheard asking, "Why does this feel so bad?!". "Because it is", was Michael's reply. I have a new digital camera and there are photos of this spot and others. Some may be printed in this newsletter. As well there will be color prints at the next meeting.

We then followed a ridge line in an easterly direction, and dropped down into a small canyon where we had a lunch stop. Other than the route we descended there is another route up/down the canyon side. It presents a nice challenge, with a ledge that your left rear must climb at the same time your right front has to climb a rock; all the while you must turn left. I readily volunteered to make the first ascent. In one fluid forward motion (that's how I picture it.) I was up and over. Michael was next. He did make it, but it was less than elegant (sorry Mike). Well, at that point I should have left well enough alone, and waited for someone else to have a. But, no, I couldn't leave well enough alone and decided to do it again. It was not to be. All I succeeded in doing was to churn up the dirt and move some of the smaller pieces of rock around.

After backing down several people had a closer look at the rock. Marcia decided to try it. Her main problem was that her Cherokee isn't hinged in the middle... just too long, not enough ground clearance, not fully locked. But she gave it a valiant effort. Guest Tim Tucker gave it a try and ended up with a large rock nestled tightly in behind the rear pumpkin. He couldn't back down, and he couldn't get traction to go forward and up. So with my CJ as an anchor we used his winch to drag his TJ up. Bonnie made the final attempt of the day. Unfortunately she had no success either.

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

At that we turned out of the canyon and headed north over a couple of pointed hills. At the point where we descended from the hills into One Arroyo we came upon an old campfire spot littered with beer cans. Of course they were empty and full of bullet holes. Marcia and I were the first ones down and we filled two grocery bags with them. Following the arroyo east we ended back where we began, aired up and headed off home.

Some Photos

Submitted by Don Miller (sorry, photographer did not include any identification for the photos)



**2000 Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association Summer Quarterly Meeting
Registration Form**

Name:											
Address:											
City:	State: Zip Code:										
Telephone:											
Club Affiliation:											
Insurance Carrier:	Policy Number:										
Vehicle Type:											
Camping Registration is \$20.00 per member family on or before July 1st, \$30.00 per member family after July 1st. Registration covers any or all nights.	<table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">Camping Registration:</td> <td style="width:50%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult Meals (\$17.00 each):</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children 12 and Under (\$8.00 each):</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trail Registration is Free:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Enclosed:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Camping Registration:		Adult Meals (\$17.00 each):		Children 12 and Under (\$8.00 each):		Trail Registration is Free:		Total Enclosed:	
Camping Registration:											
Adult Meals (\$17.00 each):											
Children 12 and Under (\$8.00 each):											
Trail Registration is Free:											
Total Enclosed:											
Make Checks payable to: New Mexico 4-Wheelers P.O. Box 93451 Albuquerque, NM 87199-3451	All vehicles must be licenced and insured. No alcohol allowed on the trails. All participants will be required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement.										

Trail Rides

We want to ensure that everyone has ample opportunity to enjoy the beauty and the challenge of the Salida area's great trails. In order for our trail rides to remain casual, non-commercial use so as not to require a Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management permit, it is important to note the following items: 1) All trail use is on public land and does not require a fee or payment of any kind from the SWFWDA participants. 2) None of the trail leaders or helpers are receiving compensation of any type. 3) To maximize your enjoyment and minimize impact on other users, all trail runs will be strictly limited to no more than fifteen (15) vehicles per trip including the leader and any helpers. 4) All trail rides will be filled on a first-come, first served basis based on the sign-up sheets posted the night before the trail is run. 5) We will do our best to give everyone the trails they desire so we may add additional runs based on response. 6) We reserve the right to change the trail selection based on weather, need, access availability, etc. In the event we change your trail preference, we will reassign you but you may change to other trails at the event based on availability on a first-come, first served basis. 7) You may run any trails on your own (it is your public land, after all) but we would ask that you not leave for a trail before the trail runs leave on that day as a courtesy to the rest of the participants. 8) All trail run participants must sign a "Hold Harmless" form each day. 9) All trail run participants must comply with all state and federal regulations while using Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management system roads and trails. 10) We want everyone to enjoy the trails. Some trails require vehicle-modifications to ensure timely and appropriate passage. It will be up to the trail leader to determine any appropriate vehicle requirements for a given trail and post them on the sign-up sheet. Trail leaders are responsible for ensuring that all vehicles on their assigned trail ride are appropriately equipped for the challenge involved. All trail leader decisions are final. Please cooperate and use good judgement when selecting your trail options. This will make all of the trails enjoyable for everyone.

Trail Tales
PO Box 93451
Albuquerque, NM 87199-3451



27111-1081 30



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

March 10: Meeting. The Harrison's hosting.

March 11: Family. Leader: Don Miller

March 19: La Bajada Hill. Leader Tom Hurt. Meet at 9am at Texaco located at Hwy 44 & 528. Secondary meeting spot is I-25 off ramp at Exit 259 (Hwy 22).

April 1: Highway cleanup.

April 14: Meeting. The Peeples' hosting.

April 16: La Ventana (?). Leader Don Miller. Bush trimming time, maybe?

May 5-7: SWFWDA Spring Quarterly Dighton, KS.

June 4: Bland Canyon.

Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in October, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in room 407 (Adult Section). The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm.

Meetings:

April 14: Chuck and Ethel May Peeples
May: Volunteer to be determined
June 10: Don Miller's house
July ?: Jim Werkmeister for the Beer Fest
Aug ?: Pat and Sue Brady
September ?: The Harrison's (maybe)

New Address:

Please note new address for the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers and Trail Tales
P.O. Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Tom Hurt, Carlos Ferrer, Tom & Corinne Flemins, Bonnie Bannigan, Pat & Sue Brady, Jim Werkmeister, Kris & Keely Webb, Scott Giles, Pat Slattery, Chuck & Ethel M Peeples, Mongo Brunwasser, Miche Louise Bove', Bob Norton, Arne Gjering, Paul Thompson, Garry Brown, Mark & Joan Wolf, Don Miller, Butch & Anne Bryarly, Ed Kausche, Glenn Bontly, Taylor Tracy, Andy Schulze, and Berrett & Deborah Harrison.

Guests present:

Jeannie Garro, Chuck & Sandy Bednarski, Richard Capener, Glenn Capener, Nathan Schuit, Don Tyler, Clint Maestas, Marcia Cromley, Clint Pilgrim, Scott Bowden, Jeffrey and Nicky Jacobson and Ron Smith.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:09 p.m.

- **Guests** were introduced. Jeannie Garro has a 97 TJ, Marcia Cromley's Bronco started up, Clint Pilgrim has a 95 Wrangler, and Ronald Smith has a 61 Willys truck.
- **Minutes** were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- The **Treasurer** reported that we have \$1848.20 in the bank.
- The **Program Chairman** has for sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5, Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13. The raffle was held and Taylor Tracy won half of the \$54 pot.
- The **Sheriff** reported on the fines for the Las Cruces "Chile Challenge". FINES: 25¢ Robert Clark has a new Currie axle and did not show. 25¢ Bob Norton drove a Ford Probe and left 2 4x4s a home. 25¢ Pat Brady for leaving Bronco tracks all over Rocatillo Rapids and leaving paint. 25¢ Mark Werkmeister showing off his new FREE tires and wheels. 25¢ Rick Sierra breaking u-joint on last obstacle on Rocatillo Rapids and a non-trail fine of 25¢ for public drunkenness. 25¢ Bear for steering box, 25¢ __ joint, 25¢ winning a set of tires at the raffle, 25¢ new Dodge that smells like a Scout (flaunting wealth), 25¢ being intoxicated Sat night, 25¢ old enough to know better, 25¢ wasting perfectly good Tylenol the next morning. Bear was awarded the CEDAR FENCE AWARD (honors Pat Brady at the Alamogordo KOA incident...which is another story). Mark Wolf fined Kris, Keely, Nathan, Taylor \$1 each for scaring the elderly. Apparently a game of strip pictionary was in session when Kris stepped out of the camper with just a pair of boots on, mind you, it was 25F out... Pat Brady fined Jim Werkmeister for not doing proper maintenance on his red jeep, lug nuts were loose and the seat belt came off the roll cage. The Sheriff's total fine was \$4.
- **SWFWDA** – Bob Norton reported that 4WD Lines has 3 officer positions open, and Web Master applications are being accepted. The association consists of 33 clubs, about 1400 club members, and 69 individual members.
- The **Historian** was happy to get pictures for the bulletin board.
- The **Trip Chairman** reminded us about Family Fun Day. March 19- Tom Hurt will lead a trail to LaBajada/Santa Fe River (easy). April 16- Don Miller will lead to trim bush in La Ventana (near Cuba) meet at 9am at the Texaco at 44x528.

OFFICERS

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~~Berry Harrison~~
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505-792-0097

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505-994-2515

Director of Environmental Affairs

Mark Werkmeister

Historian

Tom Flemins
734 Whitney Rd. SE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
505-891-2998

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

~~NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the Trail Tales, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the Trail Tales to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!~~

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to Trail Tales, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **26 April 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail: NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery



Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

June 4- Don Miller will lead Bland Canyon to Hwy 4. Sept 1-4 & Nov 23-26 SE Utah Campout. Kris Webb mentioned a run to the Rio Puerco, same day as the Family Fun Day.

- **Environmental** - Bob Norton mentioned a third change by the Forest Service to leave 18% open roads. 60 day comment period and wants everything done by Sept 1. Details: fs.fed.us/new/roads Also, BLM creating a nationwide OHV policy. Utah congress bill "San Rafael Western Legacy" conservation area. It is lose some access vs. all access. Regarding the Robledo Mountain closure, there are two attorneys hired, one from Las Cruces and the other from Utah.
- The President won tires at the raffle and is willing to trade for winch...

New Business

- The club welcomed three new members. Glenn Capener, Richard Capener, and Don Tyler.
- Summer meeting hosts were decided. Still need a volunteer for May. June is Don Miller, July-Jim & the manly yard sale, Aug-Brady's, Sept-Harrison's (maybe).
- Memorial Day Treasure Hunt will be in the Jemez Mountains as it has been traditionally for many, many years.
- Trash cleanup will be held on April 1. Meet at the Park & Ride at the SW corner dirt lot at the Bernalillo exit at 8am. Highway department called and will supply vest and bags. The more people the quicker and this year the club will buy lunch for the volunteers.
- Volunteers needed for Summer Quarterly to lead trails. The event is being held in Salida, CO from July 30-Aug 1. Mongo will lead Mosquito Pass.
- Carlos Ferrer won the raffle.
- The meeting was adjourned @ about 8:57 p.m.

President's Report:

Hi all, one month has past since the winter quarterly, and I still have the certificate for those BFG Mud Terrain's. I went ahead and sent it in today and plan on mounting them on a new set of wheels. I will be more than happy if someone made me a offer of cash or trade for them.

The Trail Tales will arrive after the trash pick up so I am thanking everyone who showed up.

I will be going to the spring quarterly in Dighton, KS. I think I will be leaving late Thursday afternoon like 3 or 4-ish. If anyone would like to go or ride with me give me a call. There has been a couple articles in the paper recently that could be very important.

The BLM is taking nominations for 5 people to join the 15 member New Mexico Advisory Council if you

would like more information call Kathleen Mulkey or Tanna Chattin at (505) 438-7501.

That is about all can talk about for now so I will end my ramblings.

BEAR

Just in case you thought it was an April Fool joke...

The trash pick up is canceled because of wind and rain. We will reschedule at the next meeting. The Highway department asked if we could reschedule because the wind tomorrow would blow all the bags back into the ditch. Bear

Posted 03/31/2000 12:26:18 PM Mountain Daylight Time

Trip Reports:

Friday, April 7: Hotel Rock Trail in Utah. Meet at the camping area in Comb Wash just south of Hwy 95 by 9 AM at the latest. Call Bob Telepak at 869-8117 after April 2nd for details (will be out of town until then).

The April 16, La Ventana run will go on, weather/trail conditions permitting. Leader: Don Miller. The snow we had may have had an impact on the upper stretches of trail (the portion that needs brush clearing). Bring a machete or some other trimming clearing tools. Bring lunch. I will be checking out the trail on my way back from Utah April 8.

Sunday, June 4, Bland Canyon.

Labor Day weekend, Friday, Sept. 1 - Monday, Sept. 4: Southeast Utah campout.

Thanksgiving weekend, Thursday, Nov. 23 - Sunday, Nov. 26: Southeast Utah campout.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

For Sale/Want Ads:

I will print for sale/want ads once and will reprint if you tell me to. If I don't hear from you, I can only guess that you either sold it or got it...MB

BRAND NEW, never even been installed AM/FM/Cass stereo from 97 TJ, \$100. Mopar side-steps for TJ, \$50. Call Glenn Bontly @286-4851 or 286-4861 Email: gbontly@usa.net

CAMPING GEAR FOR SALE: 2 Bumer propane stove \$20, Liquid fuel 1 burner stoves \$20 to \$30.

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Lanterns new and used propane & fuel \$15 to \$25. 2 Dome tents \$10 and \$15. Screen House \$25. Call Glenn Capener @344-2656

Carlos Ferrer told me that he had some cute kittens to be given away. I am not sure if he had any left, but in case he did, you may contact him at 275-6773. The Sheriff should look into adopting one.

Bontly Bulletin

How 'bout a joke?

A motorist was unknowingly caught in an automated speed trap that measured his speed using radar and photographed his car. He later received in the mail a ticket for \$40 and a photo of his car. Instead of payment, he sent the police department a photograph of \$40. Several days later, he received a letter from the police that contained another picture ... of handcuffs!

Does anyone have Delorme's new 7.5-minute TopoQuad Map of NM on CD. Actually there are 2 CDs for NM (one for North and another for South half of the state). I have the Old Topo USA 2.0 (all 50 states on 6 CDs) and wanted to see how much more detailed the new maps are. Please let me know if you have either or both NM CDs and if I could borrow them for a couple of days.

Thanks!!

LaBajada Hill Report

By Tom Hurt

<Still waiting on that report - ed.>

Family Fun Game Day in the Sand

by Mark Wolf

Eleven vehicles showed up on a bright, sunny, but slightly breezy day to have some fun on the sand west of Rio Rancho on Saturday, March 11th. Of those, two were guests - Clint Maestas driving what's left of a Bronco and Jeanie Garro driving a 2000 TJ. Members Tom Hurt, Tom & Corinne Flemings (in separate vehicles), Don Miller, Bonnie Bannigan, Pat Slattery, Don Tyler, and long-time-no-see members Jason & Romi Martinez! Romi only had three weeks of school left at this event so she was real excited!

I enlisted members Tom Hurt and Don Miller to assist me with setting up a difficult course for the contestants that day. I'm glad Tom talked his brother Andrew in coming along as we were able to setup the course (and make adjustments as it was too tight for us longer vehicles!) in time for Tom Flemings to bring the rest of the group out to the play area. Everyone pretty much had to air down their tires just to get out to the top of the dune where we were, so very little time was lost to that effort. I rounded everyone up and we walked the course to show people how things were laid out so as to hopefully not confuse anyone. Well that was a futile effort, right Bonnie!! Seems once they all got going, they had some problems!

We started a clocked race in reverse to see how fast you make the course. It was looking like Tom Hurt was going to get this one when Pat Slattery in his Ford powered CJ-5 showed them how it's done! Congratulations Pat! We then had a Pick-the-can-off-the-stick-and-put-it-back-on-the-stick race. This was a team effort as the driver had to get close enough to allow the passenger to grab the cans without having to get out of the vehicle. Pat Slattery once again was looking victorious when it was reported that an infraction for being off course - not once, but twice!! - would cost him penalties. That means that none other than Don Tyler was the winner. Don is a bona-fide crazy man in that full size Chevrolet pickup truck of his! An honorable mention for following all safety rules goes to our first time guest Jeanie Garro. She, along with Bonnie's assistance, managed to stay on course regardless of Bonnie's help! It seems those automatic transmissions are real helpful here! The last race we watched was the blind driver's race (divorce race, in other words!). This entails a driver getting blindfolded and the passenger telling them when to turn and when to stop. Well this got things a little interesting. Tom & Corinne were having fun, but I don't think the words coming from that Bronco II were repeatable! Jason and Romi set a world record for the slowest, but they were rather quiet coming around by the spectators. All the rest had fun and all merely crawled their way around the course.

I think everyone had fun and all helped me take the course down to wait until next year to do it again. If you didn't make it this year, try it next year!

It's more fun than a barrel of monkeys!

What not to do while in Las Cruces for the 'Chile Challenge'

By John Bell

The request is made by the LC4WD club for participants to refrain from rogue runs during the annual Chile Challenge. There is good reason for this, as I will relate in the following tale.

We made it to "Cruces" Thursday eve, and were looking for a good 3 days of fine four-wheeling down south. Friday morning came, and we signed up for the Hopping Jalapeno trail to start the fun off kind of easy, as we had just got the "Rocklimo" back together on Wed. night. The Jeep performed just fine, but there were severe winds, dust, and a few break downs by some other unfortunates during the day, which made for a long, Hurry-up-and-wait kind of day.

Saturday dawned, we headed for the fair grounds, checked out the activities, and instead of trying to 'wheel, decided we did not want a repeat of the previous days' hurry-and-wait thing, decided we would go on the observation run and watch the "crazies" attempt the falls up "Amatista Ledges". This went fine till about 2:30 PM, when we had had enough of "observing" and decided we did not drive 300 miles just to watch. We thought that the crowds would have passed by then, and departed for adventure. Having just run "Hopping Jalapeno" the day before, and not really knowing the trails as intimately as some other areas we headed for HJ once again, and proceeded down towards the "Grease Pit" with a smile and the promise of Adventure.

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Now, while our group consisted of the "Rocklimo", and a well-equipped XJ, we also had two very stock TJs' along. The trip down hill to the grease pit was fun, and offered just enough challenge to keep the TJ-pilots attention focussed and the two locked-up jeeps looking for the ever tougher line. When we got to the grease pit, Rocklimo, and XJ eased right through. But it was by now still early (3:00) we still had several hours till the Dinner, and Raffle! Let's go Play!!! Instead of turning right at tree after the Grease Pit, we reasoned turn left toward town and no doubt we could meander downhill and arrive with time to spare for dinner/raffle.

By 5:30 we were hot for challenge, life was good. So far only some fun rock gardens, a few small ledges. With careful spotting the TJs' were doing just fine, and the two "fun" jeeps were finding plenty of action. Only 6:00, no problem, we still had an hour, town must just be right around the corner. All still had plenty of fuel, the ice chest still had food/drink, we all had warm clothes, life is good!

6:30. No problem. LC is just around the corner! Cool waterfall to play on, everyone is impressed with the finesse of Rocklimo/driver, lets GO!

7:30. Its still alright, we did not have to be present to win, and besides last years dinner was not all that great. McDonalds will be fine.

8:30... 9:30... 10:30, LC just has to be around the next bend! Night "wheeling" is really fun, but hey we've had enough fun for today, one more corner, we can see the lights of town now, we'll be there by 11:00 for sure! Not!!! Around the "next" corner, Mike says over the CB "Ok guys only 3 more obstacles and we're home free!!!! " Cool lets walk over and see the last 3.

11:30. Standing at the top, in the dark, flashlights all dead everyone "funned" out, we all stare down at 20' of the ugliest waterfall most of us have seen. Except me, I've seen it before, from the bottom, I know what it is, and what is after it: "Nemesis 2", "Nemesis 1" and "The Sharks Tooth". "All hopes fade at once. "Maybe we can fill this big hole with rocks," says one. "Maybe we can winch the jeeps down," says another. After some moments of searching for alternate routes, scheming for ideas and just plain wishing for wings, it was deemed hopeless. So we installed all the clevises, tow points, and courage, turned around, and started back up the trail. Coming down is easy, you can just sort of fall over most things. Up, in the dark, two stock jeeps, oh well let's go.

Past midnight: Hands, fingers, bruised, smashed, bleeding, from throwing rocks, in the dark, due to all the flashlights having hours ago given up the ghost. We have managed to recover about one fourth of the distance needed to get back to "hearth, and home", we come across a group of 'wheelers camped-out literally in the middle of the "trail", complete with campfire, smack dab in the middle of the road. "What's up guys?" Turns out they're having almost as much fun as we are! (Although not nearly as determined, we would still like to continue!) Finally after some discussion it is determined they will move along and let us pass.

To make a long story just a bit shorter, we eventually make it back to the grease pit, and while not quite home free, it is a known landmark (at least to us (ME!!)) The other group (the ones previously camped in the center of the trail), succumbing to fatigue, and this time fire and camp built well off the beaten path are passed by with little notice due in no small part to now being 4:30AM. We trudge on toward town.

At 5:30 in the morn we are now at the all night "Gas and Go" filling tires, and tanks and heading off for much needed R&R.

There is no moral to this story; it is just a good story (in my opinion, not necessarily in the telling but in the living!) But if there is a moral it is only to write your congressman, representative, BLM, or Forrest Chief, and tell them whatever you think necessary to keep the public domain open to the public, so that you too can still have such adventures, and struggle through the retelling, long after, over campfire or computer keypad.

Happy Trails,
Captain Rocklimo

Gas Out (April 7-9)

Submitted by John Bell

Last year on April 30, 1999, a gas out was staged across the U.S. and Canada to bring the price of gas down, and it worked. It's time to do something about it again. Only this time lets make it for three days instead of just one. The so-called oil cartel decided to slow production to drive up gasoline prices.

Lets see how many Canadian/American people we can get to ban together for a three-day period in April. NOT TO BUY ANY GASOLINE, during those three days.

LET'S HAVE A GAS OUT. Do not buy any gasoline from APRIL 7, 2000, THROUGH APRIL 9, 2000.

Buy what you need before the dates listed above, or after, but try not to buy any during the GAS OUT.

MUST READ

How would you like to surprise and endear yourself to your Trip Chairman? I would like to be surprised by someone (or several someones) volunteering to lead a trip someplace, sometime. It should be far enough in advance to print in a newsletter in a timely manner. If you've never led a trip, it's fun. It does take a little effort; like be sure the trail is open, be sure you know your way in and out, etc. One of the cool things about leading a trail is that your part of the trail (the front) is just free!!

Where is he?

Brandon Roby Update:

I'm here in Boise Idaho right now still trying to find a buyer on my Land Cruiser. For those of you who don't know yet, I'm building a buggy from a 1948 CJ3A M38 Willy's. At this point I have the frame and body tub done, with the two gas tanks, windshield, bumpers, and tailgate in progress at work. Speaking of that, I'm a welder (or at least that's what I'm paid to be). Looking forward to seeing you all again, but not until I have this buggy up and running. At the end of July I am scheduled for a Rubicon trip, so that's my deadline. Happy trails to everyone!

Brandon Roby

Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure **everything is a "go."**

April 1: Highway cleanup. <CANCELED>

April 7: Hotel Rock in Utah. Leader Bob Telepak. Meet at the camping area in Comb Wash just south of Hwy 95 by 9 AM at the latest.

April 14: Meeting. The Peeples' hosting.

April 16: La Ventana. Leader Don Miller. Bring a machete or some other trimming clearing tools. Bring lunch.

May 5-7: SWFWDA Spring Quarterly Dighton, KS.

May ??: Meeting. Pick a day, and you could be our host for the monthly meeting at your house!

June 4: Bland Canyon.

July 27-30. SWFWDA Summer Quarterly, Salida, CO.

Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm.

Meetings: SATURDAYS

May 13: Brady's home (map in this issue)

June 10: Don Miller's house

July ?: Jim Werkmeister for the Beer Fest

Aug 12: Rich Capener's place

September ?: The Clarks' abode

New Address:

Please note new address for the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers and Trail Tales
P.O. Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Tom Flemins, Bonnie Bannigan, Kris Webb, Scott Giles, Chuck Peeples, Mongo Brunwasser, Miche Louise Bove', Garry Brown, Mark Wolf, Don Miller, Glenn Bontly, Taylor Tracy, Berry & Deb Harrison, Tom Hurt, Glenn Capener, Rich Capener, Don Tyler, Robert Clark, and Sarah McNab.

Guests present:

Jeannie Garro and Nathan Schuit.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:07 p.m.

- Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- The Treasurer reported that we have \$1747.30 in the bank.
- The Program Chairman has for sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5, Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13
- The Sheriff was unavailable. Mongo suggested that we fine our V.P. 25¢ for lack of humor.
- SWFWDA – Bob Norton will be attending the Spring quarterly in Dighton, KS, this month and he will be taking his jeep.
- Environmental – Dr. Bob brought a few hand outs. He spoke about losing 1/3 of the trails in the Silverton-Telluride area. White River Nat'l

Forest also threatens closure. Bonnie Bannigan mentioned that she was at Kmart when a Sierra Club member approached her with easy to sign and send postcards...needless to say, she went "off".

- The Trip Chairman mentioned that the April 16 La Ventana run has been canceled and will be turned into a campout for May 20-21. Meet at 9am at 550(44) and 528. April 16 will be A Rio Puerco run. June 4 Bland Canyon run. May 14 Mother's Day and Nathan Schuit's birthday. May 8 Cattle Growers meeting and a one day training of the NEPA process. It will cost \$70 but Don Miller is willing to go and learn if we pay...motion passed. Bonnie Bannigan is taking care of the Memorial Day Weekend Campout.
- The President was in hot and dusty Phoenix with hot and dusty Scouts. May 7 is the NM Council Car Club swap meet at UNM parking lot.
- Family fun day (where Bonnie drove better blind folded) will be a definite go next year after Las Cruces.
- Tom Hurt reported that his LaBajada Hill run was mostly a 2wd run which more guests than members participated in.

New Business

- Summer meeting hosts were decided.
- Officer positions are up for grabs in July...

Old Business

- April 29 is the Trash Pick-up for Adopt-A-Highway!
- Memorial Day Treasure Hunt will be in the Jemez Mountains The prize will be better than last year. \$20 per family. Mail to Bonnie Bannigan at 1019-H Marion Circle NE, ABQ, NM 87112
- Volunteers needed for Summer Quarterly to lead trails. The event is being held in Salida, CO from July 30-Aug 1. Mongo will lead Mosquito Pass on Saturday. Alpine Tunnel will be lead by Bonnie with Glenn Bontly following. HARD: Holy Cross, Mine Sweep, Chinaman's Gulch, Wheeler Lake, Iron Chest. MODERATE: Mosquito Pass, Mount Antero, Grizzly Lake. EASY: Tomichi/Hancock Pass, Hayden/Hermit Pass, and Tincup Pass. SWFWDA meeting is on Sat morn with a dinner Sat night.
- The meeting was adjourned @ about 8:04 p.m.

President's Report:

April is almost over and Summer is almost here. I don't have much to say this month, just remember I need nominations and volunteers for Club Officers. I

will be leaving for the Spring Quarterly on the 4th sometime in the late afternoon. I have room for one or two passengers. The Treasure Hunt is coming up quick ask Bonnie if she needs any help. The second week in June I will be doing my pre run of Holy Cross City and a couple of others. Remember that we have started our summer club meeting schedule. This means the meetings are pot-luck 5 pm at a predetermined club members home and they are all on Saturdays. That's all I have to say see ya soon. Bear

Attention Owners of '91 - '95 YJs

Submitted by Don Miller

You may already know this, then again, you may not. I ran across this information while searching for information on CJ fuel tanks.

This will be of particular interest if you have one of these with a 15 gallon fuel capacity. Of course it'll also be of interest if bought your '91 - '95 YJ new and paid extra for the 20 gallon fuel capacity. Note I stated 20 gallon fuel "capacity", not 20 gallon fuel "tank"

That's because from '91 - '95 YJ's all came with the same tank, a 20 gallon tank. What differs between the two is the length of the vent tube inside the tank. If you have a 15 gallon tank the vent tube extends further down inside the tank. During fueling, the fuel level reaches the lower end of the vent tube and venting ceases. The tank won't accept any more fuel, so it's "full".

The missing 5 gallon capacity can be claimed by shortening the internal vent tube. The tank must be at least partially dropped to make the modification. Details may be found on the Web at <http://www.jedi.com/obiwan/jeep/15to20gal.html>

I wish it was as easy to increase the fuel carrying capacity of my CJ.

Trip Reports:

Sunday, June 4, Bland Canyon.

Labor Day weekend, Friday, Sept. 1 - Monday, Sept. 4: Southeast Utah campout.

Thanksgiving weekend, Thursday, Nov. 23 - Sunday, Nov. 26: Southeast Utah campout.

Contact leader: Don Miller 892-3925

For Sale/Want Ads:

I will print for sale/want ads once and will reprint if you tell me to. If I don't hear from you, I can only guess that you either sold it or got it...MB

Wanted: Late model Dana 18 transfer case (1-1/4" intermediate shaft preferred). Oh! Cheap of course! Call Wolfie - 505-856-8539 Email: Aesth Ch1n@aol.com

For Sale: A T-15 transmission and a Dana 20 transfer case (coupled), 1978 Ford 2WD T-18 transmission. Call for price. Maybe a trade? Call Wolfie - 505-856-8539 Email Aesth Ch1n@aol.com

Bontly Bulletin

Our highway clean-up went well. We had 10 people and it took us a couple of hours. Only did one mile instead of two, though. We filled approximately 45 - 50 bags of trash! People are PIGS, I tell you! Know what we found the most of? BEER BOTTLES! I must be naive, cuz I was shocked. Well, see ya at the next meeting.

Treasure Hunt

Memorial Day Weekend (May 27-29) Bonnie Bannigan is in charge.

We will be camping on Forest Service land near Porter Landing in the Jemez District of the Santa Fe National Forest. Our favorite spot is about 1 mile west of the intersection of FR 534 and FR 376 on FR 534. This intersection is located about 11 miles west of NM Hwy 4 north of Jemez Pueblo. Turn left onto NM 485 about a mile north of Cañon. Stay on 485 as it turns into FR 376 immediately west of the infamous tunnels. Please be advised this is primitive camping. There are no facilities available, so come prepared. Yes! Motorhomes can get into this campsite

Rio Puerco

By Don Miller
Sunday, April 16, 2000

With the snow still laying in places on the La Ventana trail, we took a trip out to the nearby "Rio Puerco" area west of Rio Rancho.

Don Miller in his CJ5 led the small group. Some time between the trip and the writing of this, I misplaced the official Trip Chairman's clipboard complete with the record of attendees. Short term memory being what it is these days if I miss you or forget who are

are, please forgive. Don Tyler tagged along in his '76 Chevy pickup with Tom Flemins as passenger. Guests Bryant & Jan Stock with daughter Megan and a friend of Megan's filled Bryant's CJ5. Guest Clint Maestas (?) came with a friend, driving what used to be an early Bronco. There's no body at all, just a bunch of tubing welded together with very big Super Swappers at each corner. We also had a full size white Bronco along, and I completely forget your names. Very sorry.

We ran the big arroyo, named One Arroyo on some maps, nearly as far west as the Laguna Indians fence. We branched off south up a narrow arroyo a short distance before climbing a trail up to a mesa top. A short spur led us out to point with a great view off to the north. We retraced our tracks and then made another turn off the main trail onto a narrow track mostly frequented by dirt bikes and ATV's. Nothing very difficult for the most part, but a scenic route that until recently I had not traveled.

The trail follows a westerly direction towards Sproopy Rock. I pointed out a couple of narrow trails that descend to canyons on the south side. They pose a challenge with steep climbs, littered with rock, and narrow in places. We traveled to the foot of one of them and walked up a ways. No one else was eager to try the climb so I left it for another day. It was here that the full size white Bronco left us. At one point we climbed one nice sized ledge. Some had more difficulty than others. At a point where the route traveled by motorcycles became very side sloped we explored two routes across some slickrock.

We made a lunch stop in a wind sheltered area off the main trail that leads from the top of Tom's Canyon east to the descent to the old mine site. A fire pit was dug, wood gathered and burned. After roasting weinies we doused the fire with 4 gallons of water and mixed it up good with a shovel.

After the lunch break we retraced the route most of the way, to near the top of the first mesa we climbed. There Bryant left us for home, while Don Tyler, Tom Flemins and Clint continued to follow me up another ridge and along a cliff top for a ways. We descended a rocky slope towards a small arroyo. Just before reaching the arroyo there is a very steep descent; perhaps plunge would best describe it. I went over in the CJ5 first. Clint, Don and Tom got out to investigate. Clint appeared to be a little worried, but Tom pointed out that my CJ is even shorter than his early Bronco, and I just went straight down, no problem.

Soon we were all at the bottom and headed up the little arroyo. A short trip up the Red Dirt Road had us a the collapsed windmill near Windmill Hill. The three of us headed for home from there.

Optima Batteries

Submitted by Don Miller

I recently made a dual battery mounting tray for my CJ. I had one Optima and wanted a second. I purchased one from my nearby Interstate Battery. It's a genuine Optima, same warranty, etc. and has an Interstate Battery label applied to the top. Apparently the same battery is available from Napa Dealers as well.

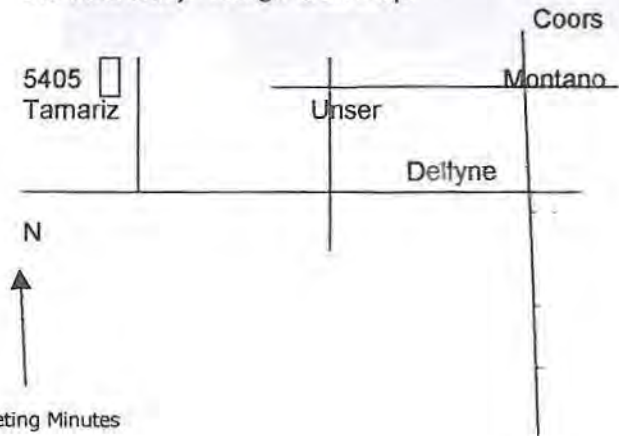
Cautionary Note: It occurred to me that the side terminals on (some) Optimas would be a convenient point to connect the winch power leads. I mentioned this to a fellow clubmember who had heard from yet another clubmember that there was a potential problem with this. I checked with Optima, and sure enough, using the side terminals for winch power points could lead to a battery failure. Here follows the email I received from Optima... sholland@optimabatteries.com
Shana Holland wrote:

Don,
Yes there is truth to the claim! Do not hook up the winch to the side terminals!!! As you mentioned, it will blow out the side terminals. Why? The side terminals are connected through the top terminals so it cannot withstand as high of currents as the top posts. It has a weaker connection. Winches require a lot of current and the side terminals cannot withstand that high of current. If you have any other questions you can contact me at the above address.
Best Regards,
Shana Holland

Now, with that said, I'll also point out that at least one club member has his winch hooked up to the side terminals and at last check the batteries were still in one piece. And that after enough heavy winching to cause some frame damage. So now you all know the "official" position on winch power cables. You can make your own decision for your own application, but be forewarned.

Directions to the Brady's

Take N. Coors to Dellyne (which is south of Montano). Turn west on Dellyne, continue straight through the Unser intersection and continue until you spot Tamariz... at which point turn right (or north) until you see 5405 Tamariz on your left hand side (or on the west side). Rough draft map:



Picture Gallery

Photographer Don Miller



Bryant's CJ-5



Clint's "early Bronco"



Don Miller's CJ5... nobody else followed me here?



A rock bites Don Tyler's Chevy's fender



Submitted by Bob Norton Adopt-A-Hwy clean-up

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Historian

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734 Whitney Rd. SE
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505-891-2998

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

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **24 May 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery



Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

May 5-7: SWFWDA Spring Quarterly Dighton, KS.

May 7: NM Council Car Club swap meet. UNM parking lot.

May 13: Meeting. Brady's home

May 20-21: La Ventana Campout. Don Miller leading. Meet at 9am at the corner US550 (44) & 528 at the Texaco.

May 27-29: Treasure Hunt. Jemez Mountains. Bonnie Bannigan is in charge (and if someone knows her current phone number...let me know)

June 4: Bland Canyon. Don Miller leading.

June 10: Meeting. Don Miller's house.

June 30-July 4: Ouray area. Bonnie Bannigan leading.

July 27-30. SWFWDA Summer Quarterly, Salida, CO. Mongo Brunwasser is the contact.

Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm.

Meetings:

June 10: Don Miller's house (map & directions included)

July 15: Jim Werkmeister's for the 4WD parts sale (& Beer Fest)

Aug 12: Rich Capener's place

September ?: The Clarks' abode

New Address:

Please note new address for the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers and Trail Tales
P.O. Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Don & Karen Miller, Guy Conway, Tom Flemins, Andy Schulze, Tom Hurt, Mark & Joan Wolf, Berrett & Deborah Harrison, Jim & Sarah McNab, Pat Slattery, Glenn, Susan, & Stephen Bontly, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Jack & Stella Sierra, Rick Sierra, Rich & Camille Capener, Bob Norton, Bob Telepak, Arne Gjerning, Don Tyler, Pat & Sue Brady, Mark & Jennifer Werkmeister, Chuck & Etel M Peeples, Susan & Charlie Wilson, Mongo Brunwasser, Paul & Mary Thompson, the Clarks and Miche Louise Bové

Guests present:

Ronald Smith, Joel Apodaca, and Chuck & Sandy Bednarski

The meeting was called to order @ 6:35 p.m.

- ⇒ Guests were introduced. Joel Apodaca has a '62 Scout.
- ⇒ Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- ⇒ The Treasurer reported that we have \$1926.35 in the bank.

- ⇒ The **Program Chairman** has for sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5, Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13. The raffle was held and the Clarks won \$21.
- ⇒ It was noted that the **Sheriff** was wearing spandex and not at the meeting. Wolfie motioned that the sheriff be fined \$1, then Robert Clark motioned that the fine be doubled...motion carried. The Sheriff owes \$2.
- ⇒ **SWFWDA** – Bob Norton reported that ½ mile from Dighton, Kansas area is a depression he called "badlands". It was challenging and he sustained various damage like the tire flare gone, busted tail light, lost 4wd, lost electrics (Jeep thing), backed up too often speeding. Rowena will be Membership Secretary, Rick Neill – secretary, Homer Van Zant – Pres., and David Oldenowski – web master. 33 clubs and 1432 members. Mark Werkmeister mentioned to vote to acquire HOST SWFWDA.org site. \$1000 for land-action fund. Robledo standpoint is filing in court in the next three weeks.
- ⇒ The **Historian** will bring the bulletin board next time.
- ⇒ The **Trip Chairman** reminded us about the next weekend trip, which was changed to a Saturday trip (since it is foolish to have a campfire). Due to the published misquote of Bear, perhaps they should invite a reporter along. The trip entails whacking bush, use of small saws and branch trimming equipment. June 4-Bland Canyon June 11-Rio Puerco VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO LEAD TRAILS!
- ⇒ **Environmental** – Charlie Wilson (YAY!) Arroyo de Placio, BLM-vehicle recreation area near Espanola, has Jake Connerty assigned. His intentions are to keep all roads in area open & loop roads (build new roads). Sandia Jeep Club will host a trash pick up in June on Nat'l Trail Day and BLM will bring the big equipment to move fridges, stoves...the big stuff.
- ⇒ The **President** said that Kansas was great, nice, windy, and warm. The reporter from Albuquerque Journal is his first ordeal. A good side is that ranchers locally, in Cuba, wanted them to use horseback only. Paragon-Cindy-NMOR Coalition, everyone should "sing same song".

New Business

- ⇒ Don Miller will attend the Roadless Policy at the Forest Service meeting on May 18 which will be informational at the Albuquerque Convention

OFFICERS

President

Berry Harrison
10751 Capricorn Pl. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
505-792-0097

Vice-President

Jim Werkmeister
1620 Parsifal NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
505-898-6449

Program Chairman

Chuck Peebles
03 El Cielo
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505-866-1185

Trip Chairman

Don Miller
2750 Pinewood Dr.
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
505-892-3925

Secretary

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Treasurer

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505-994-2515

Director of Environmental Affairs

Charlie Wilson

Historian

Tom Flemins
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Rio Rancho, NM 87124
505-891-2998

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

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **28 June 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154
OR call 505-268-3887
OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery



Hmmmm, there's a trail in here someplace (La Ventana)

Trail Tales title picture is "Wolfie lifts a wheel (or two)"

Center at 6:30 p.m. Then June 20-July is the comments period, so please get letters in before deadline. Using logo for Access for All, Don Miller made a T-shirt. "2.5 Million acres in New Mexico are marked to be roadless."

- ↪ Phil Kennicott mentioned that Rush Limbaugh was hammering environmentalists' roadless policy when discussing forest fires and clearing bush. Not possible without roads.
- ↪ New Member: Ron Smith
- ↪ Pat Brady has a Sears Craftsmen welder for sale, \$50 cables/plugs. (Sold to the highest bidder)

Old Business

- ↪ **Nominations for the NM4W offices:** President: Bonnie, Treasurer: Tom, Vice President (Sheriff): Jim, Environmental: OPEN, Trip Chairman: Don Miller, Program Chairman: Chuck (if no one else wants it), SWFWDA delegate: Bob Norton, Secretary: Miche.
- ↪ Treasure Hunt is believed to be still on but no Bonnie with information. Send \$25 to her house and it is understood that gas or Coleman stoves are allowed.
- ↪ Thanks to the people who did the trash pick up.
- ↪ SWFWDA Summer Quarterly still needs volunteers to do trails, just say what day!
- ↪ Phone list to be published in next trail tails.
- ↪ Mount Blanca run which is usually after Labor Day weekend HAS BEEN MOVED to the weekend prior to (25-27 August) due to a Nebraska game.
- ↪ The meeting was adjourned @ 7:10 p.m.

President's Report:

Hi All, it's been very busy this past month with school ending and kids home for the summer. I don't have much to say this month. Remember we need max participation at the next meeting because as you know elections are taking place at the next meeting. Too bad for the Treasure Hunt, I think we will be able to enjoy it the weekend before the 4th. Make sure you let Mongo know if you want to lead a trail for the summer quarterly. I know that this is a very weak Pres. Report so I promise to do a better one for my last Presidents Report next month.

BEAR

Thank you from the Brunwassers

Mongo and I would like to THANK everyone who signed our card and enjoyed the special cake that Debbie Werkmeister made for us. If you missed it, WOW, what a masterpiece! It is official...as of May 20, we are Mr. and Mrs. Mongo Brunwasser.

Miche

Memorial Day Treasure Hunt Postponed

Tom Hurt and I went up to the Jemez this weekend and it is fairly well closed off. They have the gate closed right after the tunnels. I spoke with the folks at the forest service office in Jemez and they promised to keep it closed "until we have a real good rain". Funny that we ran the hill and dale trail and it had more moisture than I have ever seen on it! Right now I am planning on rescheduling it for the weekend of July 1st and 2nd...the weekend before the 4th holiday. If the majority of the individuals who were planning on attending have any other options, feel free to let me know. Other than that, I will have complete details written up for the next trail tales edition. If you have already sent me a check, I will hang on to it until the event. Let me know if anyone has any questions!!

Bonnie Bannigan

Saturday, May 20, 2000 La Ventana Trail

There are only two places on the La Ventana Trail where you can make an "incorrect" turn. Mark Wolf ('71 Commando), Paul Thompson ('90 YJ), Glenn Bontly ('97 TJ), and Don Tyler (Chevy pickup) with Tom Flemings as passenger all faithfully followed Don Miller ('79 CJ5) a short distance up both of them. (This was going to come out sooner or later, so there it is!)

However we all had a good time, and that's what's important. The trip up NM 44 / US 550 took slightly longer than normal due to the 45 MPH construction zones. When we aired down those of us who had traveled up with doors on removed them as the day was warming nicely. Parts of this trail have been described before so I'll just state that the first section is an easy and scenic run, though slightly bumpy in places. The first obstacle of any difficulty is an uphill dirt ridge that has a washout more or less in the center. It was easily straddled by all on this day. The only real difficulty lay in having to cross the "vee" before ascending, however it's becoming easier with more use.

Next is a section of trail covered with pieces of broken red rock. The trail climbs as it re-enters the trees. After gaining some altitude we halted for a lunch break and enjoyed the cooler temperature. We were then into the less traveled section of trail and got out the branch trimmers, machetes, and saws. Here and there we trimmed back some of the larger

encroachments. At last we reached the spot where the snow blocked our advancement last December.

This is a downhill, mostly dirt, section with a sharp left-hand hairpin. First thing the 3-inch diameter tree in the middle of the trail was removed, and branches from other trees trimmed back. (Branch trimming and removal of small diameter trees growing in a road or trail is permitted maintenance). Next around the bend was obstacle number two, another large sized washout. The washout begins as you are turning left, then straightens. Around the bend the trail straightened to a narrow, bumpy old overgrown section of trail. This is where we worked the hardest at clearing the overgrowth. We spent well over an hour or so making the route passable. Time flies by when you're having fun! After the long hike back up to the vehicles it was time to drive it.

The washouts first victim was Don Miller. His CJ's right rear tire slipped into the bottom of the vee and soon his CJ was tipped far to the right. There was no danger of tip over as the dirt side of the washout prevented that. Wolfie and his Commando were next into the trap. He too fell into the washout. Don Tyler was next in line and the extra width of the full size Chevy proved to be adept at straddling the vee. Paul and Glenn made it look easy. Of course they had the advantage of the first two vehicles having pushed aside all the loose dirt.

At the bottom of this hill we found ourselves in a clearing with a few very large, very old Ponderosa Pines towering over us. This space would make a fine campsite. The path of the continuing trail was visible through the brush. Alas, a short distance ahead was the grand daddy of washouts, one that could swallow a couple of Scouts and hardly notice. We had hiked through the snow down to this spot last December. Somehow it seemed larger on this day.

We spent some time surveying the possibilities of getting to the other side. There are possibilities. On the other side of this washout is a truly nice meadow, another very nice campsite. A red rock canyon wall, reminiscent of Utah, looms over the green grass. There are what appear to be traces of an old road wandering off through the grass, however it has been many years since the last time a vehicle has traveled there. The day was getting on and after a group photo we decided to re-trace our tracks and head on home.

The return trip was more or less uneventful, unless you count Don getting his CJ5 hung up for a moment, balanced with a big rock under the transfer case skid plate. No picture!

Don Miller

For Sale/Want Ads:

I will print for sale/want ads once and will reprint if you tell me to. If I don't hear from you, I can only guess that you either sold it or got it...MB

For Sale: DeWalt 4 1/2 angle grinder

Virtually new DeWalt model DW-400 grinder. Home Depot sells for \$70. Make reasonable offer and it's yours. Don Miller 892-3925

Bontly Bulletin

In the short time that I've been a member of the NM 4-Wheelers, I've learned that Mongo and Miche (among others) do an awful lot of work for our Club. They have recently agreed to let me help out by taking over Webmaster duties, for which I am very excited. All the same good stuff is still on the site, but with a bit of a face-lift. Just like Trail Tales, the Club Web Site belongs to you, the member. So please let me know if you would like me to post anything on the site for you (e.g., pictures, favorite links, trail reports, wanted/for sale items, etc, etc). I will, of course, keep the events schedule up to date, and post the Trail Tales each month. The May 2000 issue is already posted. But Miche also sent me all of the issues since Jan 2000; I plan to get those back issues posted in the near future.

One thing I've changed slightly on the site is to combine the Members Page and the Members' Rigs Page. Clicking on any of the members NAMES (only the ones that are linked/underlined, of course), will take you to their "Profile Page". If you would like for me to build a page for you, just mail or e-mail me whatever picture and/or information you want me to include (I promise to return any hard copy pictures that you provide to me).

I guess that's about it for now. Oh, I almost forgot, the new address is <http://www.nm4w.org>. The old geocities location has a redirect on it, so anyone who tries to access it will be directed to the new address.

Glenn Bontly

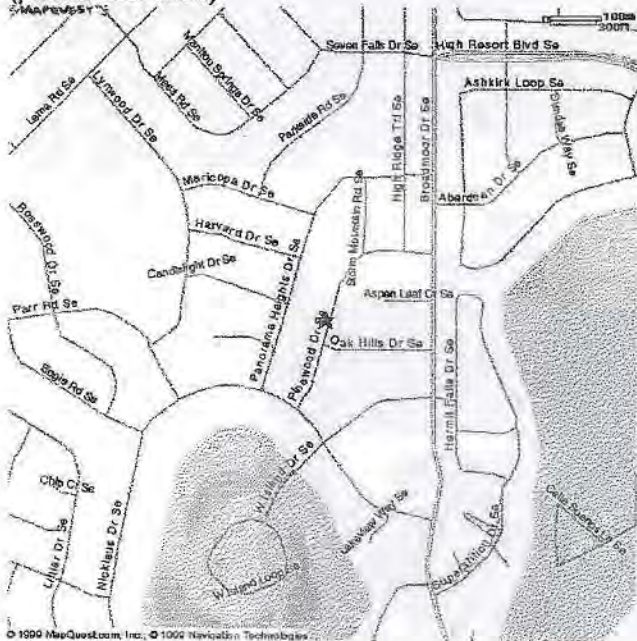
P.S. – If you find any errors on the site (misspelled names, broken links, etc), please let me know so that I can correct them. Thanks!!

A "Roadless" Forest Service?

The first of our areas two scheduled Forest Service meetings on the Roadless Areas Conservation DEIS was held on May 18 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. I would like to thank those members who showed up to hear what the FS had to say. This was an information meeting. They had the usual

Directions to Don Miller's house

2750 Pinewood Drive SE,
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
(phone 892-3925)



© 1999 MapQuest.com, Inc. © 1999 Navigation Technologies
Map from WWW.MAPQUEST.COM

From the North:

Exit I-25 at the Bernalillo exit-Travel West on Hwy 44 (US 550)-
Turn Left onto Highway 528-Follow 528 South through the
Industrial Park area.-At the top of "the hill" Turn Right onto
Ridgecrest.-Follow Ridgecrest until it T-bones into High Resort
Blvd.-Turn Right onto High Resort Blvd.-Turn Left onto Broadmoor
at the traffic light.-Turn Right onto Pinewood Drive.-Go to 2750 (left
side of street)

From the South: via Unser

Follow Unser north to Southern Blvd in Rio Rancho-Turn Right on
Southern Blvd.-Follow Southern to Nicklaus (traffic light)-Turn Left
onto Nicklaus-Follow Nicklaus-There are about three stop signed
intersections-Pinewood Drive will be a Left turn-Go to 2750 (right
side of street)

From the South: via Coors

Follow Coors Blvd. north-Take the Coors Bypass (left curve)
around Cottonwood Mall-Follow the main road up the hill and into
Rio Rancho-Turn Left on Sara Road (traffic light controlled
intersection)-Follow Sara Road and cross Southern Blvd (traffic
light)-The street name changes to Country Club Drive.-Turn Left
onto Broadmoor-Follow Broadmoor north-Continue through the
Nicklaus traffic light.-Pinewood Drive will be the turn on your Left.-
Go to 2750 (left side of street)

From the East Side:

Take Paseo Del Norte to Coors Blvd.-then follow directions above

Roby Report

Here's a general question for some of you since I'm
about 1000 miles too far to stop by one evening. My
buggy uses a Scout rear axle that's stock width. It's

51" or so measured from the inside of the drum to the
other side. If I were to find a stock Scout front axle to
use how wide and/or strong would it be? Also, did
they run disk brakes on any of the Scout 44 fronts?

And for that matter, here's another question. My rear
axle is converted to full floater now with the Detroit
and my 4.88's etc. But, I don't have the rear disks on
yet. Mainly because I don't know where to get them
or how to rig up a set from a junkyard donor. As Pat
Brady has said, a rig with a crawl ratio over 100:1
needs disks. If so, I'm going to sit at 120:1, hence, I'll
need some disks. Any help would be great. (And
Mark, I don't have the price about the case yet
because I forgot about it)

Brandon Roby
rocusr@hotmail.com

BLM Resource Advisory Council

The next meeting of the BLM Resource Advisory
Council is June 15 and 16 in Taos. These meetings
are open to the public, and anyone can attend. I
don't have the final agenda, but Wild Rivers (Rio
Grande Corridor) and Wildlife are likely topics. I
doubt much on road closures, but we can never tell.
If anyone is interested in attending, please contact
me and I'll send details.

Phil Kennicott
ckennicott@worldnet.att.net
(505)281-9581

Picture Gallery

submitted by Don Miller from the LaVentana trail
clearing.



Don Miller slides into trap 2



exercising the front end



Don Tyler stuffs a tire



some air for Glenn



Paul does it elegantly



Our Intrepid Group

Trip Notes

Bland Canyon Run, June 4, 2000; POSTPONED

Well this drought and the associated restrictions and F.R. closures due to the extreme fire hazard is taking its toll on the club activities. First the Memorial Day Weekend Campout had to be postponed. Now, the June 4 Bland Canyon run must suffer the same fate. All the Forest Service roads that are in the fun category seem to be closed until the fire hazard is reduced by significant rainfall. We will do this trip, just a little later in the year.

I have a substitute trip in mind north of Ponderosa in the Jemez. It's mostly scenic, not at all difficult. However I am told FR 10 is open all the way through to Highway 4. I know of an old road I would like to follow. As long as the area is open it'll at least be nice to get out in the Jeep (or Scout, Bronco, whatever...). The FS people have told me that several roads and roadside areas have been closed off with ribbon tape and "closed due to extreme fire danger" signs. We shall meet as planned, at the

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Texaco at NM 44 / US 550 and NM 528, north of Rio Rancho. We'll leave there at 9 AM Sunday, June 4 and head west. I hope to see some of you. Thanks to those of you who do call or email me ahead of time, indicating that you intend to go.

If any of you have an idea for a trail to run please contact me via email or telephone. Also if you are in contact with any fellow clubmembers please let them know of this change in plans, as not everyone has email.

NOTE: This is copied from the FS Fire restrictions; "It is prohibited to go into or be upon National Forest System Land..." and "Violation of these prohibitions are punishable as Class B misdemeanors by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual, or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both."

I mention this as the idea of going in "the back way" may occur to some of you. Whereas you might normally talk your way out of a citation by insisting that you didn't go through or bypass any gates and therefore committed no wrong, that won't make the grade right now.

Sunday, June 11, 2000 Rio Puerco's Scenic Rocks Day trip west of Rio Rancho. I'll show you a rocky area for a little fun. Meet at the Walgreen's on Southern Blvd. and Unser (NW corner) in Rio Rancho. (Note: The Walgreens at UNSER, not the other one on Southern. I won't even mention the name of the street of the other one.) There is a road that runs north-south beside the store. We'll leave from there at 9 AM. Leader: Don Miller

Forest Service Comments Meeting, June 20, 2000
Albuquerque Convention Center, 6:30 PM - ? This is our area's chance to give comments in public on the FS Roadless Issue. Even if you don't necessarily want to get up and speak you can make your view known by showing up and wearing an "Access for ALL" sticker. Of course letters are an excellent method of delivering your message to the Forest Service.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS:
Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

June 4: Bland Canyon. POSTPONED.

June 4: north of Ponderosa in the Jemez. Meet at the Texaco at NM 44 / US 550 and NM 528, north of Rio Rancho. We'll leave there at 9 a.m. and head west. I hope to see some of you. Thanks to those of you who do call or email me ahead of time, indicating that you intend to go.
Leader: Don Miller

June 10: Meeting. Don Miller's house.

June 11: 2000 Rio Puerco's Scenic Rocks Day trip west of Rio Rancho. Meet at the Walgreen's on Southern Blvd. and Unser (NW corner) in Rio Rancho. (Note: The Walgreens at UNSER, not the other one on Southern.) We'll leave from there at 9 AM. Leader: Don Miller

June 20: Forest Service Comments Meeting Albuquerque Convention Center, 6:30 PM - ?

July 1-July 2: Treasure Hunt. Bonnie Bannigan is the contact.

July 27-30. SWFWDA Summer Quarterly, Salida, CO. Mongo Brunwasser is the contact.

Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.



TRAIL TALES

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm.

Meetings:

- July 15: Jim Werkmeister's for the 4WD parts sale (& Beer Fest) (map included)
- Aug 12: Rich Capener's place
- September ?: The Clarks' abode

New Address:

Please note new address for the New Mexico 4-Wheelers and Trail Tales
P.O. Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Arne Gjerning, Mark & Joan Wolf, Ethel M & Chuck Peeples, Tom Flemins, Jack & Stella Sierra, Glenn & Susan Bontly, Bonnie Bannigan, Jim Werkmeister, Bear & Deb Harrison, Mongo & Miche Brunwasser, Tom Hurt, Don Miller, Paul Thompson, Robert, Doreen, & kids Clark, Taylor Tracy, and Tim & Sarah MacNab.

Guests present:

Marcia Cromley, Chuck & Sandy Bednarski, Bob & Michelle Kimbrell, Derren Owen, Clint Maestas, Wade Hicks.

The meeting was called to order @ 6:21 p.m.

- ☛ **Guests** were introduced. Bob Kimbrell hails from DesMoines, Iowa (Scout country) and Clint Maestas mentioned something about a bug thing.
- ☛ **Minutes** were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- ☛ The **Treasurer** reported that we have \$1743.07 in the bank.
- ☛ The **Program Chairman** has for sale: Vehicle stickers for \$5 (out of SWFWDA), Jacket patches (small) for \$3.50, (large) for \$10, and XLG t-shirts for \$13.
- ☛ The **Sheriff** reported on Memorial Day Madness in Montrose, CO. He attended with Pat Brady

and Mark Werkmeister where it is world class rock crawling. Brady's steering stabilizer started leaking then gushed all in 30 seconds. Witnesses, but no pictures. Wolfie asked if it was before or after dragging red Scrambler up hill? VP retorted that it was irrelevant. It was decided to table fine until Brady was present to defend himself.

- ☛ **SWFWDA** – Bob Norton was doing the report for Drive Lines. Next quarterly in Salida.
- ☛ The **Historian** brought 70s Scrapbooks and there was a "load of pics" running around.
- ☛ The **Trip Chairman** one of two club runs. Closed forests has put a kink into planning trips. La Ventana trails brush clearing, Bontly had an older map showing 1 mile more, stopped a t big wash out. Bland Canyon trail still closed. Tomorrow a Rio Puerco run. Treasure Hunt will be held July 4th weekend.
- ☛ **Environmental** – Don Miller reminded that the Forest Service meeting is June 20, 6:30pm Alb Convention Center, it is a comments meeting (define what a road is) write letters, he provided a handout. BLM National Off-Highway Management strategy is currently formulating rules since more ORVs now then in the 1970s. Arne mentioned that the San Rafael Swell bill was killed. Bonnie read in the weekly Alibi about Capt O's opinion which was on our side, but the response was negative.

New Business

- ☛ We voted to make new members out of the Bednarskis and Marcia Cromley.
- ☛ Don Miller showed off his fancy club business card. It was voted that cards will be purchased for the officers and members can purchase their own.
- ☛ A flyer will be done and kindly printed by Guy Conway to distribute at dealerships and such.

Old Business

- ☛ **SWFWDA** – registrations are going to the wrong PO box but it has been handled. Still need a bunch of leaders and tailgunners. Please pre-run prior to Quarterly. If there is a trail not listed, let Mongo know. **Deadline July 1!** Caterers need to know numbers. It was noted that Mongo should be commended.
- ☛ **Nominations for the NM4W offices:**
President: Bonnie, Jim Werkmeister, & Mongo.
Treasurer: Tom. Vice President (Sheriff): Jim, & Bonnie.
Environmental: Don Miller.
Trip Chairman: Don Miller & Jack Sierra,
Program Chairman: Chuck (if no one else wants it),
SWFWDA delegate: Bob Norton.
Secretary: Miche.
Historian: Tom Flemins,

OFFICERS

President

Berry Harrison

Who will be next? Bonnie "No Big Dog" Bannigan or Jim "If you comment on my spandex I just might fine you" Werkmeister?

Vice-President

Jim Werkmeister

Will Mongo be able to fill his shoes, let's not even talk about the spandex...

Program Chairman

Chuck Peeples

Will he still be toting that briefcase around or will someone step up and challenge him?

Trip Chairman

Don Miller

Will Jack Sierra win because of Stella's great cooking?

Secretary

Miche Brunwasser

Is her only challenge to get the newsletter out before the first of the month?

Treasurer

Tom Hurt

Is he the only one with a calculator?

Director of Environmental Affairs

Charlie Wilson

Isn't Don Miller already doing a great job at this job?

Historian

Tom Flemins

Who might the winner be putting together the quickest collage, Tom Flemins or Tim MacNab?

SWFWDA Delegate

Bob Norton

Face it, he does a great job that no one else wants.

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **26 July 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com .

Picture Gallery



Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Tim MacNab. ***Please note that this isn't possible to have one person run for two positions, this will be changed to President: Jim & Bonnie. VP: Mongo. Trip Chairman: Jack Sierra. I am sure this will cause quite a bit of discussion at the next meeting. "Good" - Miche***

- ☛ Treasure Hunt will be cancelled if the Forests are not open by June 17. It is \$25 per family and \$15 for singles. Planning to have it July 1-2. Bonnie is the one in charge.
 - ☛ Glenn Bontly is the WEBMASTER! Check out the website at NM4W.org. It was voted that Glenn be reimbursed for the cost of the site. Please get involved and update your own members profile page.
 - ☛ July 15 is the yard sale at 8am - 1pm. Please donate 4wd parts and camping equipment. There will be an ad in the newspaper. %pm is the meeting which features adult beverages (bring big cup). There was a motion to pay for the ad.
 - ☛ Please bring aluminum cans by so that Tom can cash them and donate the money to the club.
- The meeting was adjourned @ 7:10 p.m.

President's Report:

Did anyone read the Sunday letters to the Editor in the ABQ Journal? What is this new club I have not heard of 4W4W. I guess this is a small group of people who go to Montessa Park and 9 Mile on the occasional weekend because the way this mentally challenge individual talked he doesn't get out much or he just doesn't know what he is talking about. Enough talk about street jeep owners. Hope everyone knows whom he or she wants for officers. I won't be there at the next meeting because the only vacation time that works for both Deborah and myself is the week of 8 July to 15 July. Our Vice President Jim will be presiding over the meeting. That's all from me and next month my report will be a thank you and a congratulation to all the new officers.
See ya BEAR

Fire Restrictions and Closures

Submitted by Don Miller (information as of June 21)

As yet no trips set for anywhere in NM. I've copied this list of closures from the Fire Restrictions and Closures webpage
<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/forestry/RESTRICTION/SantaFe.htm>
main page at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire/>

Espanola Ranger District - All of the national forest land within the ranger district is closed, except for the

Caja del Rio area. This includes all the Cerro Grande Fire area.

Jemez Ranger District - All of the national forest land within the Jemez Ranger district is closed.

Cuba Ranger District - The national forest lands east of State Highway 44 and south of State Road 96 and south of the Cuba-Coyote Ranger District's boundary are closed. All of the San Pedro Park Wilderness is closed.

Coyote Ranger District - All national forest land within the Coyote Ranger District is open except for the San Pedro Parks Wilderness.

Pecos/Las Vegas Ranger District - The areas beyond gates are closed on:

Forest Road 636, Capulin Road
Forest Road 123A, North Dalton
Forest Road 83, Barillas Road at Lower Colonia
Forest Road 375, Glorieta Baldy
Forest Road 646, Davis-Willow
Forest Road 156, Johnson Mesa
Development Road 18, Mineral Hill Road

FYI: NM Forest Service Ranger Districts
Here's a listing of the Santa Fe National Forest Ranger Districts with telephone numbers so you can check on road closures & re-openings.

Coyote RD
P.O. Box 160, Coyote, NM 87012
(505) 638-5526

Cuba RD
P.O. Box 130, Cuba, NM 87013
(505) 289-3264

Espanola RD
P.O. Box 3307, 1710 N. Riverside Drive, Espanola, NM 87533
(505) 753-7331

Los Alamos Office
475 20th St. B, Los Alamos, NM 87544
(505) 667-5120

Jemez RD
P.O. Box 150, Jemez Springs, NM 87025
(505) 829-3535

Las Vegas RD
1926 N. 7th Street, Las Vegas, NM 87701
(505) 425-3534

Pecos/Las Vegas RD
P.O. Drawer 429, Pecos, NM 87552-0429
(505) 757-6121

Memorial Day Treasure Hunt Postponed

The Treasure Hunt is postponed once again due to the closures but, I do have an alternate run. Since the Coyote District is still open I am planning on doing an overnight camping trip there. I will be pre-running it this weekend. Nothing hard, just some fun away from the big city life. No fees will be charged for this run, everyone will provide for themselves. There is supposedly a nice stream that goes right through the meadow that we will camp in and some good areas to fish close by for those who just want to relax. Still no fires allowed and also no smoking allowed outside per the Coyote Ranger Station. I will have more details after the weekend but we will leave from the Texaco at 44 and 528 at 9am Saturday 4/1. Oh yeah.....if anyone has a volleyball/racquetball set, can the club borrow it? Please get in touch with me if you do and you don't mind. Thanks!

Bonnie Bannigan

THEN:

Cancelled once again! I went to pre-run the trails in the Coyote district and ran into some of the forest service guys.....and low and behold they told me to call today because they were closing their area too! They advised me that we may be able to get a special permit since I mentioned cleaning up the trash (there was a lot of it!). I did call this afternoon and they will not allow us to obtain a special permit because they are not allowing anyone to at this time. SHUCKS!!!!!! So much for this weekend!

Sorry everyone!

Bonnie

Sunday, June 11, 2000

Rio Puerco

This fine Sunday morning found 5 club members and 2 guests ready to explore some rocks and ravines out in the Rio Puerco. Don Miller led (CJ5) and was followed by a variety of vehicles. Tim Macnab drove the 1998 Jeep Cherokee SE (Sawzall Edition), guest Clint Maestas brought along his early Bronco based Thing. The remainder were vehicles of the more usual type: Don Tyler ('76 Chevy pickup), Tom Flemins ('73 Bronco), guest Jonathon Owens (yellow '80 CJ5), and Glenn Bontly ('97 TJ with new axles and gears).

As this was Glenn's first time out in that neck of the woods (scrubby though they are, there are trees) we took the scenic route off the southside, ran to Windmill Hill, then over the red Dirt Road to Snoopy,

rather than the planned, more direct route west through One Arroyo on the north.

Most everyone gave the varied sloping sides of Snoopy a try. Some angles of attack were more successful than others. Then we all trekked up Tom's Canyon. This route is now well traveled and much less of a challenge than it was the day it was named after our own Tom Flemins.

A right turn at the top led us to the less traveled stretch that crosses one of the tilted broken rock ridges. During a travel break Tim asked me if I knew of any routes up to where we were standing, from down below where we were looking. I replied that we'd go find as shady a spot as possible for lunch and I would show him.

The best lunch shade to be found among the scraggly pinons was to be found under Clint's Thing. After lunch some of us walked up and back down the narrow route I indicated. I seemed to have a willing crew, so decided to be the first. Well, the sharp twists coupled with the loose nature of the ravine sides soon had the CJ5 leaning way to the left. A slight reversal and change of direction had things level again. Almost immediately another slip resulted in a tilt far to the right. Up hill progress was a series of slips and slides and tilts this way and that. Climbing over a large rock resulted in a small amount of damage to the lower edge of the right front fender, right behind the wheel. Wouldn't you know it; this short piece of body was the only section not protected by a rock rail! As of last weekend this portion is covered as well. Eventually with help from the willing helpers and the ARB's the top was reached.

Tim Macnab decided he had to be next. Tim walked the Cherokee Sawzall Edition through the first section easily. This was in part due to Don's CJ5 having already displaced the loosest of the dirt, and the wider track of the Cherokee. However the longer wheelbase, lower clearance, smaller tires and lack of lockers combined to make progress through the rocks nigh on impossible without some rock rolling. It was difficult to ascertain if the Cherokee SE suffered any new body damage.

For those who have not yet seen the Sawzall Edition, a brief description is called for. This is your basic four door 1998 Cherokee, with six cylinder, automatic, factory air conditioning, with body by Roll-Over and a custom large (very large) sunroof and wheel well cutouts by Sawzall.

Next up was Johnny in his yellow CJ5. He had a little trouble at the rocks, but did eventually make his way through. As his clutch was a little warm after the

rocks he parked before the final ascent to allow things to cool down before abusing it some more.

Don Tyler was the next brave soul in his wide Chevy pickup. As it turned out it wasn't so much his width that did him in as it was the lack of ground clearance. Big rocks ended up behind the rear diff, in front of the front diff, jammed under the right rocker and door, etc. A front locker might have helped but I think it's doubtful. Don settled for a strap from Johnny's CJ5, after we spent much time jacking and piling rocks wheel by wheel.

Johnny himself needed a strap to make the final ascent. After all this fun it was well past mid afternoon and Glenn, Don Tyler and myself had to leave to meet some prior commitments. The three of us split off and headed for home.

Since the canyon starts up behind (east) of Snoopy Rock, I've named this run Snoopy Canyon. A sampling of photos may be found elsewhere in this newsletter, while the full compliment of images are online at

http://pinewood.freeservers.com/rio_puerco 6 11

Thanks to all who came along. Remember that not only your Trip Chairman can lead trips.

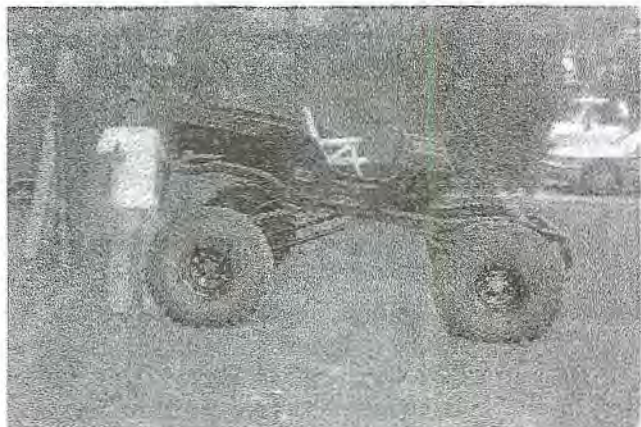
Don Miller



Roby Report

As promised, it rolled out of the shed last weekend. Slightly bigger than I had pictured, but then again, it doesn't have any weight in it yet. This week should see the soft top, rollcage, seats, CB, harnesses, and finished windshield frame. Also I've gotten the grille and valve covers back from the powder coaters and they look great. I have a picture of that too, but it's a .bmp, which is too big to attach to an email. I'll work on that when I get back to Boise.

Brandon Roby



For Sale/Want Ads:

I will print for sale/want ads once and will reprint if you tell me to. If I don't hear from you, I can only guess that you either sold it or got it...MB

+++++
Toyota Campershell standard bed beautiful red \$200 obo, 4 stock 15X7? Toyota rims (the SR5 ones) with 31" BFG all terrains \$125 for all four with tires, five 15X10 six lug rims (also Toyota) well used rims but still straight for \$100 obo, one 35X12.50 BFG mud with at least 3/4 tread \$75 obo, one rollbar for a compact pick-up for \$50, various other small Toyota parts open to any inquiry, and a 1986 Nissan 200SX turbo with 115,000 miles that runs great but won't get you any ladies for \$500. - Kris Webb Yoda4x420@cs.com or Cell: 350-6238 or Home: 292-8203

79 Jeep CJ5. Brand new 304 with Edelbrock carb, manifold, and headers. Matching 3 speed tranny. Lift kit. 33x12.50s. American racing rims. Steel Horse bumpers, push guard, light bar, and nerf bars. 8k Warn winch. Gas can rack built for two cans. Bikini or full soft top. Owner reset odometer when he built it and is now reads only 6800 miles. The body may be 79 but this is a brand new rock crawling rig. 792-7017 Scott "The Bear"

Bontly Bulletin

Greetings All,

I just installed a new little gadget in my Jeep yesterday. It was a WHOLE lot cheaper than the last gadgets I installed (axles, etc), but is just as useful as far as I'm concerned. It reminds me if I leave my lights on (with the ignition off), while running with my doors off all summer. The write-up and a picture is on my web site Tech Tips Page, if you interested at <http://www.webejeepin.com/techtips.htm#headlights-left-on>. See ya.

Glenn Bontly

BLM Resolution

Whereas: Many New Mexicans and countless visitors to this state currently enjoy outdoor recreation on public roads and trails, with motorized and mechanized vehicles.

Whereas: The BLM has adopted a national policy of restricting motorized and mechanized vehicular travel to designated roads and trails, and this policy may eventually be implemented in New Mexico.

Whereas: The majority of currently utilized routes in New Mexico are undesignated and would therefore be considered non-existent under such a policy.

Whereas: It is vital to a healthy environment, economy, and society in New Mexico to maintain open off-highway routes for motorized and mechanized recreation.

Whereas: Environmental, economical, and public pressures have sometimes resulted in historically utilized routes being closed to off-highway-vehicle use.

Whereas: Many people are physically unable to hike long distances in order to enjoy the back country and must therefore rely on motorized transportation for access.

And whereas: In some instances legitimate closures of routes in over-used areas such as oil fields must be accomplished to maintain the health of the overall area.

Therefore, the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council recommends the following actions:

1. Form a partnership including persons of BLM Staff; all route user groups, New Mexico OHV Coalition, and other interested publics and affected agencies to actively and aggressively begin a route designation program for the entire state.
2. Utilize volunteers from the partnership to accumulate a database of GPS track logs, showing currently utilized routes. Volunteers can also complete standardized site specific information forms for each route.
3. Develop standards and guidelines for designation and classifications.
4. Utilize the information gathered to make decisions about route designation, classification, cataloging, and maintenance.

Publish a series of maps showing all designated routes in New Mexico.

RAC, June 15-16

Two things of importance happened at the BLM Resource Advisory Council (RAC) meeting in Taos on June 15-16. Three "Listening Sessions" intended to obtain input from the general public are scheduled. These are
Espanola
July 11 7-9 PM
County Annex

Albuquerque
July 12
Time and place to be announced

Las Cruces
July 13 7-9 PM
Farming and Ranching Museum

These are equivalent to the recent Forest Service meetings, and the 4-wheeling community needs to be present in force. For those unable to attend one of these meetings, there is a questionnaire on the web at www.blm.gov. Comments must be in by August 31.

The second event of importance was the drafting of a resolution on OHV management by the Roads and Trails Subcommittee of the RAC. The resolution will be debated at the August meeting of the RAC in Gallup. If anyone wants to attend the debate, let me know and I'll send an agenda when I receive it.

Two things are of note in the resolution: the use of volunteer help for inventorying the roads in New

Mexico and a commitment on the part of the RAC to develop a set of standards and guidelines for management of OHV use on BLM lands. I stated in the RAC meeting that the purpose of these standards and guidelines is to make clear what roads can be closed and what cannot, based on the roads themselves and the surrounding environment. I'd like to avoid the kind of problem they had in Southeastern Utah.

Rio Puerco at Night

In efforts to keep our sanity while the forests are closed I thought a get together to watch club wheelin videos, look at all the club scrapbooks (dating back to the 60's), eat a little food, then going out on a night run would be fun! The actual run will start at 8:15 leaving from Tom Hurt's house and heading out to the much familiar Rio Puerco area. I promise it won't look too much the same at night though!! There will be the remains of a full moon leftover from earlier that week so it shouldn't be too bad. Even though it will be a Saturday night, there won't be any drinking on the trails or before the run unless your riding. **5pm August 19th!!!** Starts the videos and food! Meet at Tom Hurt's house (see roster for address) and call Bonnie 296-4300 or Tom at 994-2515 for directions.....I know it's in a development west of Rio Rancho off of Southern but don't have exact street names at this point and Tom took off out of town for the weekend. Bring your favorite dish and come join in on the fun and history of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers!

Keep Writing

Submitted by Don Miller

Another place you can write to and make you wants, desires, needs, likes, dislikes known

<<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/recstrategy/RecStratV8c.html>>

Comments due August 12, 2000

Remember July 17 is the deadline for comments to the Forest Service. It's important to remember that the comments must be received by the FS on or before July 17.

I received the following url from Ron Stricklin, webmaster & board member for the Idaho ATV Association. They are one of the groups making use of the Access for ALL logo for stickers and T-shirts. For everyone who has some difficulty in writing their own letters, Ron developed a Letter Generator. Go have a look. You could either use it as is or borrow from it to write your own letter.

http://www.outdooridaho.com/idatv/r2r/r1_gen.htm

Directions to Jim Werkmeister's house

1620 Parsifal NE
Albuquerque
Phone: 299-5771



Map from WWW.MAPQUEST.COM

East of the intersection of Wyoming and Indian School – travel east on Indian School and turn south on Parsifal, house will be on east side of street.

Albuquerque Tribune

Off-roaders speak out to save N.M. forest roads
http://www.abqtrib.com/news/062100_forest.shtml

Excerpt:

Off-roaders speak out to save N.M. forest roads

By Lowry McAllen
Tribune reporter

Who wants to maintain existing roads in New Mexico's national forests?

Off-roaders.

A dozen fans of dirt bikes and other off-road vehicles late Tuesday registered their opposition to a U.S. Forest Service plan to close off nearly 1.5 million acres in the state to future road building and maintenance.

...The off-roaders said the Forest Service would limit their freedom to roam some of their favorite woodlands.

"This would force a lot of users onto a smaller number of roads," said Mark Wolf.

The problem, said another motor enthusiast, is that the Forest Service is proposing cutting off access to all trails that are currently not being maintained but that are being used by motor vehicles. "We agree that no new roads in roadless areas are needed,"

said Mark Werkmeister, "but it's unfair to eliminate hundreds of thousands of roads just because they fall into one of the designated areas."

...

Picture Gallery

submitted by Don Miller from the Rio Puerco trail run



Starting Up



Cherokee Sawzall Edition



Obstacle Number 3



Whoops 1 (little)



Whoops 2 (BIG)

NOTE NEW ADDRESS:
Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

July 1-July 2: Treasure Hunt. (POSTPONED)

July 1-4: Salida Pre-Runs.

July 8-9: Salida Pre-Runs.

July 15: NM4W Yard Sale and Meeting: Jim Werkmeister's house. Yard Sale from 8am – 1pm.
VOTE for your favorite new officer!

July 22-23: Salida Pre-Runs.

July 27-30. SWFWDA Summer Quarterly, Salida, CO. Mongo Brunwasser is the contact.

August 19: Rio Puerco Night Run. Bonnie Bannigan and Tom Hurt leading. *Enjoy an evening of watching videos of what we could have done this summer had it not been for dry conditions, and then enjoy a challenging night on the Rio Puerco. - Miche*

Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm. *(Avoid onions and garlic if you can so that I can eat)*

Meetings:

Aug 12: Rich Capener's place (map in issue)
September 16: Mark & Debbie Werkmeister's
October 13: Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church
November 10:
December/Christmas Party: The Clark's

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Tom Hurt, Jim Werkmeister, Bob Telepak, Mark, Debbie, & Jennifer Werkmeister, Glenn, Susan & Stephen Bontly, Robert & Doreen Clark, Nate & Jess Schuit, Kris Webb, Taylor & Colleen Tracy, Tom Flemins, Carlos Ferrer, Pat Slattery, Pat & Sue Brady, Garry Brown, Rick & Camille Capener, Glenn Capener, Andy Schulze, Jack & Stella Sierra, Bob Norton, Arne Gjeming, Mark & Joan Wolf, and Marcia & Leon Duggar

Guests present:

Kirk Jordan, Bob & Michelle Kimbrell, Jason D Gallegos, Anita Ransom, Jay Kabler, Daniel Szenasi, Derren & Sheri Owen, Jonathan Owens, Wade Hicks, Kevin Cox, and Joel & Kim Apodaca

The meeting was called to order @ 6:30 p.m.

- ☑ **Guests** were introduced. Jason has a CJ-7, Anita drives a 95 Cherokee, Jay has a 79 CJ-5, Daniel has a 83 CJ-7, Jonathan drives a CJ-5, Joel & Kim have a 62 Scout and a 95 F150, and Kirk has a 93 Cherokee.
- ☑ Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- ☑ The **Treasurer** reported that we have \$1622.85 in the bank.
- ☑ The **Program Chairman** was unavailable. A raffle was not held.
- ☑ The **Sheriff** had no report. Calamity Canyon was brought up, as it was tabled from last meeting.

Mark Werkmeister could not recall any leakage from Pat's Pig, and Brady swore there wasn't any leakage. Fine was dropped.

- ☑ **SWFWDA** – Bob Norton had no report.
- ☑ The **Historian** did not bring anything to the meeting.
- ☑ The **Trip Chairman** was absent.
- ☑ **Environmental** – Dr. Bob Telepak reminded us that Monday comments are due and he provided the email address and a toll-free fax number. The roads will be closed unless signed open on public land, which is opposite way of handling it. There will be signs for braided roads to help fix the problem.

Old Business

- ☑ **Parts Sale** – Thanks to Wolfie who set up the ads, which cost \$110.00. Brady thinks he sold the most.
- ☑ There were no trail reports.
- ☑ Salida, Co – Mongo is still organizing the SWFWDA Spring meeting and still needs volunteers.

New Business

- ☑ New members voted in were Wade Hicks and Derren and Sheri Owen (yay!).

Election results for the NM4W offices:

- ☑ A tie had to be broken between Scott "Mongo" Brunwasser and Bonnie Bannigan for the Vice-President position.
- ☑ **President:** Jim Werkmeister, **Vice-President:** Bonnie Bannigan, **Secretary:** Miche Brunwasser, **Program Chairman:** Glenn Bontly, **Historian:** Tom Flemins, **Dir. of Environmental Affairs:** Don Miller, **Trip Chairman:** Jack Sierra, **Treasurer:** Tom Hurt, and **SWFWDA Delegate:** Bob Norton.

- ☑ **NM4W of the year:** Mark Wolf
- ☑ **NM4W with most participation in the club:** Mark Wolf.
- ☑ **Dues are Due!** Please note that Garry Brown paid his dues for the first time on time.
- ☑ The meeting was adjourned @ 7:10 p.m.

President's Report:

Hello everybody! First of all I'd like to send a big thanks out to Berry (Big Bear) Harrison for a job well done. Berry served this club as president for two years, and his contributions are greatly

OFFICERS

President

Jim Werkmeister
jwerkmeister@klinger-const.com
505-299-5771

Vice-President

Bonnie Bannigan
Bonnie@excelstaff.com
505-296-4300

Program Chairman

Glenn Bontly
gdbontly@usa.net
505-286-4851

Trip Chairman

Jack Sierra
505-892-4301

Secretary

Miche Brunwasser
NM4Wsecretary@aol.com
505-268-3887

Treasurer

Tom Hurt
505-994-2515

Director of Environmental Affairs

Don Miller
djm@thuntek.net OR
don@donspc.net
505-892-3925

Historian

Tom Flemins
505-891-2998

SWFWDA Delegate

Bob Norton
N5epa@flash.net
505-281-5315

Webmaster

Glenn Bontly
gdbontly@usa.net
505-286-4851

Check us out on the web:
www.NM4W.org

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **25 August 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

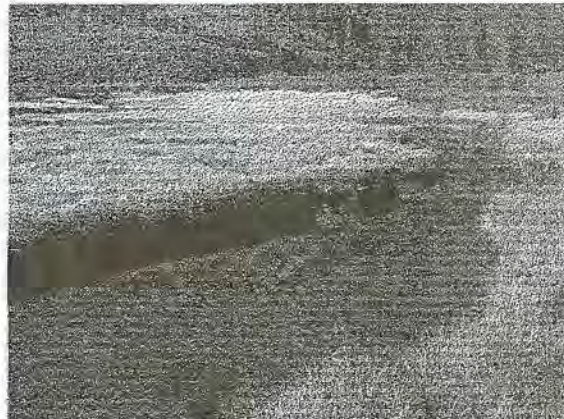
E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail NM4Wsecretary@aol.com.

Picture Gallery



Fourteen thousand footers spawn Balwin Creek high in the Colorado Rockies. Spectacular scenery was a treat for New Mexico 4-Wheelers on many of the trail runs at the Summer Quarterly. (B.Norton)

appreciated. Thanks also go out to the other officers and chairmen of the club who served out their terms. As the newly elected officers of the club settle into their roles, its time to start thinking about what the future holds for NM4W, and what direction we want the club to move in. Some of the things I'd like to see are as follows:

1. Continued growth-As the sport of 4-wheeling has grown the past few years, it has been relatively easy to attract a steady influx of new members. We must continue to extend ourselves to potential members.

2. More participation from current members. - Our club, like any other organization, gets most of its participation and work from a relatively small cadre of members. The more our "less active" members get involved with the club's workings and events, the healthier our club will be.

3. Continued activities- NM4W actually has a healthy slate of runs, events, and get-togethers to choose from. However, these only happen because that same small group of members mentioned above go out and make them happen. If more members step up to the plate and organize runs and events, our list of activities will only get better.

If anyone else has any ideas or input on how to make the club better, call me or one of the other officers. This is your organization!

July was a busy month for NM4W. Between the yard sale, the meeting, preparing for Salida, and hosting the actual event, July has kept us all hopping. Thanks to Scott "Mongo" Brunwasser for all the work he put into making the event a success. There are more runs, both local and non-local, coming up in the next several weeks, so get ready!

Jim

Director of Environmental Affairs

Submitted by Don Miller

My thanks to all who voted to entrust me with the important task of keeping the club members apprised of the issues facing our sport on the environmental front. I promise to do my best to keep you informed. From time to time I will be requesting your help. This

could be in the form of attending meetings or writing letters to various government agencies and our elected representatives. I'd also like to request input from you to me; if you see or hear of something that could be important to us, don't assume that I'll see it too. Contact me by Email at djm@thuntek.net OR don@donspc.net, or by telephone at 892-3925.

BLM National OHV Strategy

Submitted by Don Miller

August 31 is the deadline for input from the public. The public; that's you. Thanks to all those who came out to the BLM's "Listening Meeting" at the Convention Center. A special thanks to those who got up to speak. There's still time for everyone to send comments in to the BLM. You can access their website: <http://www.blm.gov/ohv/ohvstrategy.htm>. There is a link to their electronic comments form. They call it the "OHV Mailer". To quote from the BLM, "Using comments you submit to us as a foundation, the BLM will develop guidance for local solutions." The BLM (M=management) manages the public lands under their jurisdiction for you. You must tell them what you like to do and where you like to do it. Another quote from the BLM, "OHV recreation is a legitimate use of public land, however, it should be done in an environmentally responsible manner." You can either send comments electronically, or by regular US Mail to U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management 1849 C. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.; 20240

The BLM has set forth four general areas for comments,

LAND USE CONCERNS:

1) Keep recreation dispersed. This will help to minimize recreation conflicts. OHV use will not conflict with non-motorized use if you maintain dispersed recreation. Hikers, equestrians, walkers, joggers, and other non-motorized recreationists are welcome to utilize the 5.2 million acres of designated Wilderness under the management of the BLM if they chose to have an experience that is free from motorized uses.

2) Partner with motorized users to help educate the public about visitor safety by utilizing the TreadLightly! Program materials. Furthermore, other safety education programs are available for four wheel drive use (United's Four Wheel Drive Awareness Clinics), snowmobile use, ATV safety, and motorcycle use.

3) Maintenance needs should be addressed by working cooperatively with user groups to utilize the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) administered in

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

every state in the U.S. and to utilize an adopt-a-route program where user groups provide free volunteer labor.

RESOURCE CONCERNS:

1) There should be no concerns over motorized use in designated Wilderness. Motorized users can NOT self-police in areas that prohibit motorized access by law. Violators who ride in designated Wilderness should be ticketed like any other citizens that break the law.

2) Wilderness Study Areas must be maintained for the uses present at the time the area was declared a WSA. The best technique for addressing any adverse impacts in WSAs is to utilize volunteer adopt-a-route programs and access RTP funds for maintenance, as suggested above.

3) Use volunteers through adopt-a-route programs to monitor for unacceptable impacts. Each Field Office should be prepared to educate user groups on a scientific basis as to what constitutes a "resource concern". Follow up by working with user groups to assist in areas which require the BLM to address resource concerns.

MANAGEMENT TOOLS:

1) When faced with the job of making a decision use the agency's expertise in land management to provide workable alternatives to closures that the public can chose from. Generate good ideas from within the agency.

2) To address the need for inventories and maintenance needs:

Months 1-3: Request user inventories; Months 4-6: Evaluate route conditions and resource concerns if any; Months 7-9: Develop solutions for maintenance, relocation, or as a last resort closure; Months 10-12: Work with user groups to complete RTP applications for funds; Months 13-15: Accomplish work using RTP funds and volunteer adopt-a-route programs

3) Write project notices and environmental analyses in plain language. Don't just state that an area faces "cultural and historic resource concerns". Explain what the problem is and ask the public for solutions.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1) If there is no short-term answer to a legal question such as an RS 2477 assertion, subsistence rights, or easements, then the agency must maintain the status quo. If a road is open and there is a right, an easement, or an assertion, the road must remain open until the legal question is answered.

paying around \$700 to \$800 for each first place in 3 classes.

Thanks Steve George (Rock Garden Four Wheelers) nsgeorge@cyberport.com

For Sale/Want Ads:

I will print for sale/want ads once and will reprint if you tell me to. If I don't hear from you, I can only guess that you either sold it or got it...MB

1968 Jeepster \$1200, has many extras. Page Chad at 229-2858

Jeep Willys \$400 (or trade for Power Stroke) contact Mongo at 268-3887 or Mongo171@aol.com

Bontly Bulletin

Reminder about the NM4W.org website. A member's only page is available, but in order for you to access it you must contact the Webmaster with your password. You will be assigned a User Name with your password.

Glenn Bontly gdbontly@usa.net

Cartoon

Submitted by Rich Capener

<http://www.cnsnews.com/cartoon/asavarchive/cart20000721.asp>



By Chuck Asay

Rock Crawling in Farmington

We still have spots open for our clubs rock crawling contest on August 12-13 there is a form to enter in the new issue of 4wDrive Lines it's a great contest set up for normal people that like to rock crawl NOT LIKE THE ARCA events!!! First place should end up

Editorial ramblings from a proud Member

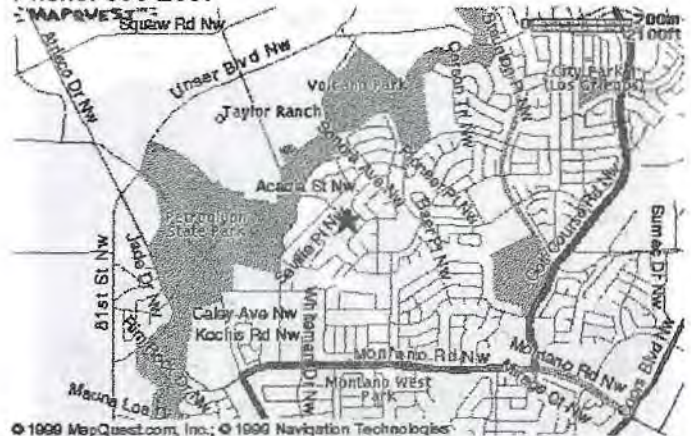
I would like to take this opportunity to write down some sincere thoughts about the dedication of some of the club members. The NM4W's recently hosted the SWFWDA Summer Quarterly and several members helped out with various duties on a volunteer basis. Hoorah for those folks! In particular, one person stood out as a champion of volunteerism, our infamous "Mongo" (Scott Brunwasser).

Scott took it upon himself to setup the meal, the porta-potties, and the land rental. He took on the responsibility of organizing the trail runs, finding leaders, and printing all of the registration forms. He also made sure we all had the customary "Release" forms for all participants to sign on every trail run. After all of this, he returned to the field on Sunday morning (after staying in town Saturday evening) and made sure all trash pickup was complete to keep the landowner happy. (Note: The land rental was exactly half cost from last time, which tells me the land owner was very happy with the way we left his property last time. Hopefully, we left it as clean this time.) He even managed to get this done while planning and attending a wedding as a groom! Scott deserves a big round of applause! Thanks! You serve as a model member that all could learn from. (You too Miche! You provide good moral support!)

This club has several members that regularly help out and they are to be commended. Although "kidding" can go too far some times, those involved will most likely be the first ones there when help is really needed. This is true whether it be for the club or an individual. I'm glad that Alan Gilmore suggested this club when I wrote to him almost seven years ago asking about clubs in the area. Thanks, Alan! I'm proud to be a member of the New Mexico 4 Wheelers! Oh! I almost forgot thanks everyone for voting for me as Four Wheeler of the Year for the second consecutive year! That means a lot to me. "WOLFIE"

Directions to Rich Capener's house

6101 Hokona Place NW
Albuquerque
Phone: 899-2367



Map from WWW.MAPQUEST.COM (Now has TOPOS.)

From Coors and Montano, go West on Montano to Tesuque and turn right. Stay on Tesuque for about a mile. At a four way stop sign at Acacia and Tesuque turn right on Acacia and my house is on the corner of Acacia and Hokona

Field Hearing on Forest Fire Management

Notice:

There will be a field hearing on forest fire management for federal lands has been on August 14, 2000, 10:00 am, at the Albuquerque convention center. I don't know very much about what this entails but it might be interesting...

Mark Werkmeister

Picture Gallery

Submitted by Bob Norton

Robert Clark tackles the big climb on the Chinamans Gulch Trail. A few scary slides to the left before ultimate success!



The Cherokee of Bob Telepak tip toes through the "rock garden" on the Iron Chest Trail.



The Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association presents Mark Werkmeister with a plaque in honor of his years of service as the association's President.



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Dues are Due!

New Mexico 4-Wheelers is a non-profit club whose primary purpose is to provide social, educational, and recreational activities related to the sport of "Four Wheeling" for its members. To become a member you must accumulate 5 points. You get 1 point for a meeting or a run. Two points for an overnight run. Membership is \$30.00 per family per year, pro-rated for new members. Associate membership for our out-of-town members who cannot attend regularly is \$15.00 per year, also pro-rated.

I (WE) WISH TO BE CONSIDERED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NEW MEXICO 4-WHEELERS:

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: (circle one)

* REGULAR (VOTING) (\$30.00)

* ASSOCIATE (OUT-OF-TOWN) (NON-VOTING) (\$15.00)

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

YOUR BIRTHDAY: _____ SPOUSE'S BIRTHDAY: _____ ANNIVERSARY: _____

CHILDREN:

NAME: _____ BIRTHDAY: _____

NAME: _____ BIRTHDAY: _____

NAME: _____ BIRTHDAY: _____

4X4 MAKE & MODEL: _____

THE SIGNATURE BELOW SIGNIFIES THAT I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE BY-LAWS AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) OF THE NEW MEXICO 4-WHEELERS:

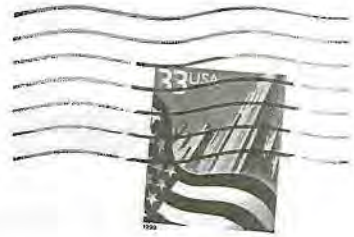
SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

ORDER FORM---PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
NM4W Jacket Patches (## inches)	\$3.50 each		
NM4W Decals (4 inches)	\$5.00 each		
NM4W Business Cards	\$1.00 for 25		
SWFWDA Jacket Patches (## inches)	\$4.00 each		
SWFWDA Decals (# inches)	\$5.00 each		
Shipping and Packaging	\$0.50 per order		\$0.50
Total			

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NM4W

P.O. Box 90154; Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

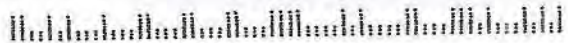


NOTE NEW ADDRESS:

**Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154**



87111X1051 30



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

- August 12: Meeting.** Rich Capener's house. DUES ARE past DUE!
- August 12-13: Farmington Rock Crawling.** Rock Garden Four Wheeler invite.
- August 14: Field Hearing at the Albuquerque Convention Center. 10:00am**
- August 19: Rio Puerco Night Run.** Bonnie Bannigan and Tom Hurt leading.
- August 31: Comments Due.** BLM National OHV Strategy.
- Sept 1-4(Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.**
- Sept 1-4 (Labor Day Weekend): ARCA, Farmington, NM.**
- September 16: Meeting.** Mark & Debbie Werkmeister's house.
- October 13: Meeting at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church.**
- November 10: Meeting.**
- Nov 23-26(Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.**



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in May, the meetings will be a potluck affair at various members' homes. The host provides the drinks. Everybody else brings a dish (main course, salad, dessert, etc...), a chair, plates and utensils. The meetings will start at 5pm. Starting in October, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in the Senior High room. The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. (Except as noted.)

Meetings:

September 16: Mark & Debbie Werkmeister's

October 13: volunteer

November 10: volunteer

December/Christmas Party: The Clark's

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Derren & Sheri Owen, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Pat & Sue Brady, Jim Werkmeister, Glenn Capener, Rich & Camille Capener, Jack & Stella Sierra, Richard Sierra, Marcia & Leon Duggar, Sarah & Tim McNab, Tom Flemings, Bob Telepak, Bob Norton, Arne Gjerning, Tom Hurt, Don Tyler, Bonnie Bannigan, Glenn, Susan, & Stephen Bontly, Wade Hicks, and Mongo & his girl.

Guests present:

Bob & Michelle Kimbrell, Anita Ransom, Jay Kabler, Daniel Szenasi, Kevin Phelan, Kirt Martinez, Bob & Shirley Keniston, and Colby Quirk

The meeting was called to order @ 6:20 p.m.

- ☞ Guests were introduced. Kevin drives a 72 Blazer, Bob & Shirley have a 74 CJ-5, and Colby looks at a 74 Blazer.
- ☞ Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- ☞ The Treasurer reported that we have \$2087.93 in the bank. Also, a reminder that dues are absolutely due by the end of August. (If you didn't receive this newsletter by mail, maybe you didn't pay your dues on time. - ed.)
- ☞ The NEW Program Chairman was pleased to announce that the special 10 tickets for \$10

would be the last time he said that (Pat Brady applauded). Half the winnings go to winner (In this case, Dr. Bob won \$22). There are also stickers and patches for sale, but he is still getting use to the briefcase.

- ☞ The NEW Sheriff discussed the "point" system. A family needs 5 points to be voted in, 1 point for meetings and day runs, and 2 points for overnights. These points will accumulate from Salida. There are fines to dole out (Robert Clark's name came up again) Robert has the cow bell... Beware, there are two Big Ugliers out and about.
- ☞ The SWFWDA delegate (Badfinger) discussed the elections, which were held in July. New SWFWDA President is Homer Van Zant, out United Delegate is Mark Werkmeister. In the year 2001 hosting the National United Meeting.
- ☞ The Historian said it is "all history" A plea for a donation of pictures for the scrapbook and bulletin board. The scrapbooks have been collected since 1958 when the club first formed.
- ☞ The NEW Trip Chairman wants club involvement in leading runs. On 8/13 a run to the Rio Puerco. On 8/19 the Night Run of the Rio Puerco.
- ☞ The NEW Environmental Chairman was missing, but there are enough issues. End of month comments are due for the BLM OHV action plan and the President Clinton "Roadless Issue" where the road is closed unless marked open.

Old Business

- ☞ THANK YOU to Mongo for the hard work on the Salida event. It was a success, with 80 families in attendance, about 120 meals bought. Captain Crunch was the rollover, but that was a given. Thanks to all the trailleaders and gunners. Also, a thanks to Guy Conway and his copier.
- ☞ Mt Blanca 8/26-27, meet at 9am at trailhead. (Then somebody mentioned Spandex and shrinkage and I lost my train of thought - ed.)

New Business

- ☞ Should the SOPs be accessible on the Webster? Further discussion tabled until Wolfie can be involved.
- ☞ Hole in the Rock Trail - leader Dr. Bob on Oct 5-8. This is a fun trail that is difficult for Stock-vehicles.

The meeting was adjourned @ 6:49 p.m.

OFFICERS

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Bob Norton

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Webmaster

Glenn Bontly

Webmaster@nm4w.org

505-286-4851

Check us out on the web:

www.NM4W.org

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **26 September 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail secretary@nm4w.org.

Photo Gallery



President's Report:

Greetings fellow four-wheelers! I hope this last month has found you happy and well. I've been well, but not happy! Things have been so hectic at work that the Scrambler has literally not been out of the garage since Salida. The club's activities however, have been full steam ahead. A night run has been held since our last meeting, in addition to the yearly pilgrimage to Mt. Blanca. What's next? Come to the next meeting at Mark & Debbie's house to find out!

Jim

Web Notes (nm4w.org)

Submitted by webmaster Glenn Bontly

Please visit the Club Web Site at www.nm4w.org. If you would like access to the Member's Only Page, a personal "nm4w.org" e-mail address, or a Member's Profile Page to be included on the site, e-mail the webmaster@nm4w.org.

Labor Day in Silverton

Submitted by Arne Gjerner

Bob Norton and I are going to Silverton, CO area for Labor Day weekend. Our plans for trails is as follows:

SATURDAY-Poughkeepsie Gulch, over Hurricane Pass to Cumberland Mine overlooking Lake Como, back over Hurricane Pass to California Pass to Animas Forks, up to Engineer Trail to Mineral Point and return to starting point. Meet at 9 AM Saturday morning at HWY 550 and Engineer Trail (about 4 miles south of Ouray).

SUNDAY-Corkscrew Gulch to HWY 110 near Gladstone, to Lake Emma (its is drained), to Silverton then to Buffalo Boy Mine, then back to Silverton. Meet at 9 AM at HWY 550 and Cork Screw Gulch trail head (near large tailings on east side of HWY 550 about 11 miles south of Ouray. Possible dinner in Silverton.

Sunday-Governor and Sidney Basins near Yankee Boy Basin southwest of Ouray, then return home in afternoon. Meet at 9 Am at start of Yankee Boy Basin road on south side of Ouray.

This is really a very scenic and historic area. Stock vehicles will find Poughkeepsie Gulch challenging in a few places and there is one side trail climb, which should challenge the best of vehicles. There many old mines and mills and even possible to find Silver, Gold and other minerals.

Call Bob at 281-5315H, 887-5051 ext 227W, or Arne (me) at 898-3124H or 552-6041 ext 162.

Friday night stay where you choose. Bob and I will try to be at Webers Camp Ground on HWY 550 about 7 miles north of Ouray on Saturday and Sunday nights. Nice grass tent sites and not well known for tenting, though a bit farther from Ouray.

Directions to Mark & Debbie Werkmeister's house

1700 Willow Rd NE
505-891-0296

From 528: Head North on 528 through Rio Rancho, left on Northern, right on Unser, left on Pine (it is before the entrance to North Hills), left on Willow and it is the first driveway on your left...if you miss it, then it must be real dark!

From any other direction...call.

Note

From Roy Hermanski in a letter addressed to the New Mexico 4-Wheelers:

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for a wonderful time we spent in Colorado this past July.

We know that it is a lot of work to produce a wonderful outing, and do it out of state would even be harder.

I hope that our problems with high altitude adjustments of the carburetors wasn't too stressful for the rest of you. I had not prepared for those complications until we headed out onto the trails. We were cutting time too close to do any checking of performance until trail time.

This being my first SW4WDA ¼ to attend. I can say it went smoothly, friendly, and satisfying. I do look forward to doing more in the future with you guys.

Thanks so much

Rio Puerco at Night

Submitted by Bonnie Bannigan

August 19, 2000. In efforts to make the Rio Puerco more interesting to those who are out there every weekend, I decided to lead a night run, as I thought to myself "How different could it possibly be?" Needless to say, I thought very differently by the end of the night, ummm morning.

We kicked off the night with a potluck at Tom Hurt's house at 5pm. A video of the Intimidator Trail from 96' was keeping everyone on their seats until we finally took a break to eat. After a while of eating great food, watching some exciting videos, and looking at the historical club scrapbooks, I noticed Tom's living room emptying out and people were moving outside to check out everyone's rigs. The videos and increasing number of vehicles arriving outside were making everyone quite *antsy* to get on the trail, but it was only 7pm! How was I to make everyone with vehicles bigger than mine wait another hour?? Being the mean trail leader that I am, I stalled them by telling them to air down their tires and hold their horses.

Members present were: myself in my 95' YJ, Glen Bontly 97' TJ (must have been the round headlights that couldn't help him keep the guy in front of him in his sight...they just don't put out as much light as those square ones do!), Don Tyler and Charlie driving a Wrangler but missing his truck, Tom Hurt 76' CJ-5, Paul and Mary Thompson 90'YJ, Tom Flemins and Terry Shirley 84' Bronco II, Clint Maestas 68' Ford Buggy, Scott, Pam Giles and Group 98' TJ, Don Miller 78' CJ-5, and Leon and Marcia Duggar in their 67' Bronco. Guests included: Brandon and Stephanie Rickerman 94'YJ, Bob and Michelle Kimbrell (soon to be members!) 94' YJ, Jay Kabler and Daniel Szenasi 98' 4-Runner, Kevin Phelan and Colby Quirk 72' Blazer, Chris Johnson 53' CJ3B, Scott "The Bear" Politte 98'TJ, and Jonathon Owens in his CJ-5. Other members who came for the food and history were Alan and Betty Monsees and Pat Slattery.

So we got the driver's meeting over with, preaching the normal, but forgetting to remind everyone to keep the vehicle in back of them in sight at all times, which certainly will never be forgotten by this individual ever again! Then we rolled out, 17 vehicles, reminding me of the first time I joined this club for a trail ride, 5 years ago to this very same area only during the day.... I hadn't seen a group this big since then! It was a great sight as we played on the sand hills and proceeded down the "Whoop-de Woo trail" and up the cliff where we did a rather pathetic attempt at CB introductions. By this time it had become extremely dark and looked nothing like the weekend before when Tom and I had preran it also at night. So much for having the light of the leftover full moon. The clouds were hiding any light that might have been. So I dropped down into the arroyo just East of the one that I intended to be in (I didn't know it at the time of course) and followed it for awhile until Don Tyler ran up ahead to find the trail out of the arroyo that runs into Snoopy Rock. Somewhere in between us getting into the arroyo and finding the trail to Snoopy, we had broken into 3 groups. I kept my group on the trail to Snoopy while Don Miller climbed Windmill Hill to see if he could get a better idea of where everyone was. We saw some lights still in the arroyo and sent Jonathon back to get them to where we were. We

used some new navigation tips when the lightening struck very close to where we were I reported to Tom that we were very near where he just saw the lightening strike and then they knew how to get there. Tom and Don met up and began heading our way. My group wanted to get moving because of the rain so we decided to meet up at Snoopy Rock. Everyone played on Snoopy and covered up their vehicles from the rain until Tom and Don's group finally caught up and we were able to do a count and make sure we hadn't lost anyone. The only excitement at Snoopy was Scott Politte getting his TJ high centered and a bunch of us giving him a shove. Next we went through the canyon behind Snoopy that provided the only technical excitement of the night. Tom Hurt led a few around this canyon to meet up with us over the hill. Don Miller thought we should take everyone out a way that I was not familiar with and because this is basically his backyard, I let him (even though he was just as lost as anyone was an hour earlier, I had faith!). So we went over the hill where Tom almost lost his way to find us, got regrouped and started heading out. It was very quiet on the CB on the way out, some tired, some relieved we were going to survive, and some just bored. I had broken a shock mount that Tom had welded for me the week before (no warranty, darn!). As the moon was finally coming out from behind the clouds, and just as we thought we were almost there, Don Tyler decided he had not had enough fun and went on his own trail as someone from the heavens above showed their distaste by causing him to have a flat tire! After his *passenger* changed it for him we noticed that the rim had bent which in turned let all the air out of his tire-what was he doing? After that, everyone was quick to say his or her good-byes and head for home. Had we not gotten split up and somewhat "lost" I think it would have been just another trip to the Rio Puerco. While I had a great time and a great group of people, I don't think I will be doing this again anytime soon! Thanks to everyone for all the fun!

Trail Etiquette

Submitted by Don Miller

What does trail etiquette mean to you? We would all agree that elements of trail etiquette include adhering to the tenets of Tread Lightly: Travel with minimum impact, Respect the environment and the rights of others, Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go, Allow for future use, Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.

Trail etiquette begins at home before the trip. This means being sure your vehicle is prepared for the journey. Vehicle preparation embraces having those commonly used and easily replaced parts such as hoses, belts, fuses and a usable spare tire, as well as

the appropriate hand tools for emergency repairs. The more rigorous the expected use, the more complete the list of spares and tools. Extra water, fuel and other applicable fluids should be included.

The next step along etiquette trail is to be at the appointed meeting spot at, if not before, the appointed time. If this place and time is the trailhead then you should be aired down and ready to roll at the designated time.

Trail etiquette includes obeying the laws of the state where you are traveling plus the use of "common sense". This may range from having a vehicle with working lights, brakes and so on as well as obeying the no open containers of alcohol rules. The DWI/DUI laws don't stop where the pavement ends. Responsible trail riders enjoy their beer, etc after the day's trail running is completed. To me "common sense" includes carrying out everything I took in and if possible carrying out some of the trash that others left behind. I carry trash bags for this purpose.

When on a trail as a group we have a leader, a tail gunner and in a large group a middle gunner. The trail leader has responsibilities to the group, and the group has responsibilities to the leader and the rest of the group. On a daylong trip the leader should select a lunch stop at approximately mid day, and "reststops" (sometimes referred to 10-100 breaks) at appropriate intervals. It should be noted that the appropriate interval gets shorter as the age of the participant goes up. On a mixed male and female run it has become customary to say the ladies use the right side of the trail and the men the left side. It may not be politically correct to state how this reasoning came about, but until someone can come up with another rule of thumb it'll have to do.

The responsibilities of the followers include the use of appropriate language at all times (on and off the radio) as our trips frequently do encompass entire families with young ears. Lunch and reststop time should have everyone trying their best not to dawdle to cause unnecessary delays.

A very important part of following is keeping sight of the vehicle behind you. A driver's first inclination may be to keep sight of the vehicle in front. This comes naturally, as you don't want to be left behind and get lost. However if everyone places their emphasis on keeping track of the vehicle behind them the group will stay together. If we get too stretched out some vehicles may become detached from the group. In some situations, such as twisty hilly trails with many forks or trail braiding or times of poor general visibility, this becomes even more important.

When following our leader we should follow. Individuals should not leave the group unless it is for a specific leader authorized reason. By way of

illustration I'll cite reconnoitering trail conditions ahead or exploring an unknown fork. There are other probable justifications for a person or two leaving the group. In such instances however the leader should be aware and should approve. Passing and running ahead simply because you know a faster or different route is not good group trail etiquette. You could be endangering yourself if something happens to your vehicle and you are off alone. Also, someone may follow you because they didn't see that you left the main group. They may then become disoriented and lost. This could easily happen to someone unfamiliar with the trail. Time is then spent getting the group back together; time that most of us would rather spend wheeling.

I would also like to mention that good working CB radio is always a plus on a trail. For one thing some enjoy delivering a commentary and some of us enjoy listening in even though we may not contribute. The CB is also a tool for conveying trail information. For instance there are times where there is an obstacle and a bypass. This can be passed on over the CB. The CB is also invaluable for those times when a vehicle or two does become detached from the group. Unfortunately hilly terrain and travel in arroyos can and do severely limit CB range. Radio etiquette includes refraining from improper use of language on the radio, or more plainly put, "no swearing or profane language".

Now here's a question for all. What's the reason we all own 4x4's of various types and capabilities? Why do we belong to the New Mexico 4 Wheelers, one of the best assemblages of 4 wheelers I know of? It's to have fun! So let's get out there and do some trails, have some fun. Let's give Jack Sierra, our new Trip Chairman, our support and help and come up with suggestions for trails that we'd like to see as runs.

Miche's Message

I wanted to apologize for such a late newsletter. I was really hoping to get it out before Labor Day weekend. I could blame the late submissions I received for newsletter input, but that was just a small contribution to the problem. I appreciate all input, and remember to send pictures... that just makes the newsletter that much more fun! Next newsletter deadline will be Sept 26th.

Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



Website: www.nm4w.org check us out



87111+1031



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

Sept 1-4 (Labor Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout. (CANCELED)

Sept 1-4 (Labor Day Weekend): Silverton, CO. Arne Gjerming and Bob Norton leaders

Sept 1-4 (Labor Day Weekend): ARCA, Farmington, NM.

Sept 9-10: Mt Blanca (again). Garry Brown, leader. Meet at the trail head at 8:30 on Saturday Sept 9 and driving up and back on the same day. Blanca is a hard trail. One locker and 33's are required.

September 16: Meeting. Mark & Debbie Werkmeister's house.

September 17: Bland Canyon, NW Cochiti Lake

Meeting place #1: Texaco at Highway 528 and Highway 550 (used to be 44). Departure 9:00 AM sharp. Meeting place #2: I-25 North, exit number 259 (?)... the one to Cochiti Lake. Leave here approx. 9:30 AM. I haven't been up there in months but the FS says it's now open. Don Miller leading.

October 5-8: Hole in the Rock Trail. Dr. Bob leader.

October 13: Meeting at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

November 10: Meeting.

Nov 23-26 (Thanksgiving Day weekend): Southeast Utah campout.

Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in **October**, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in Room 407 in the Adult Wing. The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. (Except as noted.)

Meetings:

October 13: Bonnie Bannigan, VP

November 10: Miche, Secretary

December/Christmas Party: The Clark's

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Glenn Bontly, Mongo, Andy Schulze, Carlos Ferrer, Tom Flemins, Jack, Stella, and Rick Sierra, Bonnie Bannigan, Rich Capener, Glenn Capener, Sarah & Tim MacNab, Don Tyler, Phil & Carol Kennicott, Mark & Deb Werkmeister, Tom Hurt, Derren & Sheri Owen, Doreen & Robert Clark & kids, Pat & Sue Brady.

Guests present:

Bob & Michelle Kimbrell, Preston & Melissa Garner, and Brandon & Stephanie Rickerman

The meeting was called to order @ 6:00 p.m.

- **Guests** were introduced. Melissa & Preston Garner drive 83 CJ7 found us via the Clayton Run. Brandon & Stephanie Rickerman have a 94 Ranger and know Don Tyler.
- **Minutes** were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- The **Treasurer** (Birthday Boy) reported that we have \$2450.03 in the bank.
- The **Program Chairman** found a local source for embroidering hats/shirts. Also, the NM4W store is up and running on the website. Raffle tickets were sold by the Clark's and oddly enough they won the raffle...
- The **Sheriff** fined Don Tyler for getting a bent rim (25¢) and having his passenger change it (10¢). At the next meeting she will bring the actual list for everyone to look at. Mongo was fined 25¢ for saying the "p" word.
- The **SWFWDA** delegate was unavailable. Mark Werkmeister mentioned the Fall Quarterly is the

Clayton Run, Winter Quarterly will be in Las Cruces, Spring will be held in East Texas Barnwell OHV, and the Summer will be the SWFWDA and UFWD 25th Anniversary in Farmington, more information will be in the upcoming Drive Lines.

- The **Historian** gave up the position. Don Tyler was interested in taking it, and after a motion and vote, he was in.
- The **Trip Chairman** mentioned that the Mt Blanca Run involved 7 vehicles (6 at the trailhead and one that lingered up on its own), outstanding weather, trail is getting harder and some were getting hung up on obstacles that don't have names. Impressed by Kevin's (Green CJ5) 16 year old son who drove an open Toyota up the trail *Garry Brown led another run up Mt Blanca. *The night run involved 17 vehicles, many visitors. It was broke into 3 different groups. Slight rain and lightening into the night. *Don Miller's run to Bland Canyon on 9/17. *Red River Overnight to be led by Bonnie Bannigan end of October. *Hole in Rock led by Dr. Bob is the first weekend of October.
- The **Environmental Chairman** was missing (but later showed) Be on the lookout for a small woman with attitude and accent who is talking to people about Closing the Forests. Don Miller is waiting for Forest Service for the final Environmental Impact Statement, which will be due out in Winter 2000. Also BLM OHV Strategy has to announce their next step. Robledo Mountains are waiting for the Feds documents to the court for decision. Nationally 36% of the registered voters actually vote.
- The **President** (aka Grand Pooh-Bah) was unavailable.

New Business

- Bob and Michelle Kimbrell are new members.
- Cuidando Los Ninos, Sue Brady will be getting a list of projects and we will aim to volunteer in January.
- Netherlands Marketing a promotional Jeepers Calendar, (which doesn't imply TreadLightly! anywhere).
- NM Council of Car Clubs annual Lobo Adventure Night is Sept 22 at 7pm
- Renewed membership with Mountain States Legal Fund by donating \$100.
- Advertising cost in Trail Tales was \$10/month. This was tabled for further discussion.
- Club business cards will be sold to members for 100 for \$6.00. Voted that the club will pay for 10 for each motor, which is about 60¢ per 10.

OFFICERS

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Don Tyler

SWFWDA Delegate

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Check us out on the web:
www.NM4W.org

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **24 October 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154
OR call 505-268-3887
OR E-mail secretary@nm4w.org.

Photo Gallery

This was supposed to be a picture of Brandon's Buggy, but unfortunately it was munched into Text (.txt) format and I was unable to open and view... but I did try Brandon!!

- The Baca Acquisition and Jemez District, Sue will give us a name and tel# so that we can call to volunteer to clear trails.

Old Business

- SOPs and By-Laws will be posted on the website.
- Flyers were last updated in 1998. Sample brochure/flyer will be brought to the next meeting (hopefully).

The meeting was adjourned @ 6:40 p.m.

President's Report:

Greetings fellow four-wheelers. I hope everyone has been getting their fill of off-highway fun lately. As for me, I'm up to my ears in work. My lonely little Scrambler hasn't seen the light of day since it was put into the garage after Salida. What little spare time I've had has been taken up with mountain biking. Not to worry, though. I'm already thinking ahead to future trips.

Thanks go out to Bonnie Bannigan, who sat in for me at the September meeting. Thanks also go out to Mark and Debbie, who switched hosting duties with the Clarks. That means we get to spill nice, red Christmas punch on their new carpets. (Just kidding, Doreen)

An abstract thought has been rattling around my gourd lately. Which NM 4Wheeler will be the first to field a workable rock-buggy? Several contenders come to mind. Young Brandon up in Idaho is certainly the farthest along, but has to work within the parameters of a student's budget and time constraints. Mark Werkmeister has many mysterious parts cluttering up his property. That fact, coupled with a Certificate of Occupancy for his spacious new shop, make him an immediate challenge to Brandon. And let's not forget Pat Brady (McGyver), who could doubtless build one from scratch over a three-day weekend. It's remarkable that our club does not yet have a bonafide buggy when you consider the rock-rashed pedigrees of some of our members.

See you all at the next meeting!

Jim

CALL NOW

Submitted by Sue Brady

Baca Acquisition contact Buck Sanchez, Ranger to get your name on the volunteer list: 505-829-353 (oops...I must have been tired when she gave this to me...so, y'all might want to give Sue a call and get the number...sorry)

OHVERS Can Cast Deciding Vote

by BlueRibbon Coalition Public Lands Director Adena Cook (Submitted by Don Miller)

OHVers face a make or break day this Election Day, November 7. If the outcome favors the extreme environmentalists, you can be prepared to post want ads for your dirt bike, your ATV, your snowmobile, and the RV you use to haul them around. We know that this election poses the biggest challenge of all for our recreation and our access to public lands.

We can be overwhelmed by the task. It's been a rough year. In a rush to implement the Clinton- Gore Natural Resource Lock-Up Agenda, the Forest Service has scheduled meeting after meeting, comment after comment. The BLM piled on with their "OHV Recreation Strategy". Interior Secretary Babbitt shows up unannounced in scenic areas scouting for new national monuments. It's easy to wonder if we're accomplishing anything. It's easy to become discouraged.

Incessant polls swing back and forth, breathlessly reported by a liberal media. Our access issues are nowhere near this skewed national radar screen and its warped predictions.

I'm here to tell you that all this hype means nothing. I'm here to tell you that there is only one poll that counts, and that's the one that you enter on Election Day when you vote. And I'm here to tell you that your vote will make the difference.

Big-shot politicians don't realize this. They have written us off. Alliance for America President Bruce Vincent reported that last year Congressman Patrick Kennedy, who is chairman of the Democratic Campaign Committee, told the media that his party has "written off the rural areas" because "they did not need the rural areas to win the White House or to recapture Congress." If they've written off rural areas, then they probably haven't even thought about OHVers.

It's true that only 20% of the American public lives in rural areas. Even fewer enjoy OHV recreation. The 1994-95 National Survey on Recreation and the Environment conducted by the Forest Service and the University of Georgia, Athens found that 13.9% of the population 16 or older participate in OHV recreation. The same survey found that only 3.6% of the population participate in snowmobiling. These are small numbers when compared to the population as a whole.

There's another percent that's small when compared to the population as a whole. It's the number of people who actually vote. Only 36% of the American

voting public actually make it to the polls to cast their vote.

It's not hard to see that if rural folks band together, and if OHVers and other recreationists band together, we can have a real impact. If all of us together vote in proportional numbers far larger than the voting public, if we vote to support access, recreation, and wise use of resources, then we can decide the election.

It's going to take a lot of work, though. The 64% who don't vote could very well be your riding buddies or your grandmother. You need to educate them about the threat to their access, sport, and way of life. You need to convince them of the importance of turning out and voting. It's not enough that you get yourself to the polls. You need to fill your 4WD SUV or truck with these folks and take them to the polls with you.

We've got lots of information and materials if you need it, and please call 1-800-BLUERIB for extra magazines, bumper stickers, fliers, you name it!

But the message is very simple: turn out and vote or put your ATV, dirt bike, snowmobile, or 4WD up for sale! Faced with that choice, and with your hard work, I know that OHVers will turn out. Together with rural Americans, we will make a difference. We can decide the election.

(For additional information about the BlueRibbon Coalition visit our website at www.sharetrails.org or call 1(800)258-3742)

SWFWDA Land Action Fund

Submitted by Don Miller

The SWFWDA has received a contribution to the Land Action Fund from the Mud Chuggers 4WD Club in Michigan. They sent a check for \$500 for the battle against the BLM regarding the Robledo Mtns. in south New Mexico. Their club members voted to send the funds along with the letter encouraging us to "Keep up the good work!" I've sent a personal Thank You note to them. I would encourage everyone to do the same and to think about what contribution we might make ourselves. The Mud Chuggers address follows:

Mud Chuggers 4WD Club Inc.
PO Box 300391
Drayton Plains, MI 48330

Land Use: Concentrating Our Efforts; Avoiding Burnout (Managing Your Monkeys)

By Del Albright
(Submitted by Don Miller)

It's encouraging to see so many recreationists getting involved these days in the land use/public lands access battles. In fact, now we face a time when some of us old land use horses are starting to sag under the burden of doing this so long. We can't afford to lose any of our activists to burnout, so I've come up with a cure to keep our fighters fighting.

I've found that a key to avoiding burnout and staying effective is to narrow your focus; concentrate your efforts. I like to think of our land use battles as a quail hunt. You ever hunted quail? Well, a typical hunt consists of hours of walking, wearing yourself out, then all of a sudden blazing away at a flurry of birds, usually missing most of them. The only one who gets any enjoyment out of this is your dog – which can't stop dog laughing at your newly found state of frustration.

The land use battles have reached such a flurry that many of us don't know where to start. So we take the shotgun approach. We try to get in all the games. Of course, we want to help out all our partners in other states; other regions; other clubs. So we assist with letters, phone calls, emails, etc. Pretty soon we have an extensive little filing system that may cover many subjects and many letters and many meetings. Then all of a sudden, we realize we're up to our ears!

And hey, what about that lawn that needs mowing? And that car (4wheeler?) that needs detailing; the significant other that is tired of you being at the computer half the night; and the trails that need riding? Next thing you know, burnout sets in. There are just too many battles to fight and soon you begin to drop off in effectiveness.

A friend of mine told me once that in his mind, this tactic of having too many battlefronts is JUST WHAT OUR OPPONENTS WANT. Just like in military maneuvers; if you spread the battle lines thin, pretty soon you'll find a way to penetrate and overwhelm the enemy.

Well, STOP! If you're a land use activist who's been doing MORE than your share, it's time to concentrate your efforts, increase your effectiveness and avoid burnout. Here's some ways to do that.

First Step: Re-affirm your commitment to fighting the land use battles. We all need to keep fighting the good fight. You can't let burnout take you out of the battle. Every letter we write; meeting we attend; run we run; new member we recruit; we make a difference. People we keep in the fight, no matter what their role, we make a difference in the outcome. So STAY IN THE FIGHT. Tell yourself you're going to do your part; just maybe a different part from here on. That's ok.

Second Step: Decide what you're really good at. Are you a letter-writer; a meeting person; an advisor to others; a volunteer leader who organizes others; a writer in general; or just someone who wants to give money and stay in the background?? Find your niche. This may take some soul searching.

Not all of us like to write letters, but we want to help. Not all of us can lead a run or meet face to face with some bigwig bureaucrat and feel comfortable doing it. Not all of us can take the time to attend all these seemingly endless meetings; but we still are interested in many of the meeting topics. The answer is to narrow your efforts and focus on those things you can be good at (your niche).

Third Step: Drop those things you're not good at. Yes, it's like the old management system called "Monkey Management" from the 1980's. In that system, everything on your chore list is a "monkey." Your objective is to either feed the monkey (keep it happy); get rid of it (if it's not yours); or shoot it!

So if your list of things to do, letters to write, meetings to attend, etc. etc. is way longer than you can handle, (in other words some of those monkeys just aren't yours or you're not keeping them happy), GET RID OF THEM!!!

Fourth Step: Help others pick up what you need to drop. The sensible thing to do is to help someone else take over those monkeys for you. Find another activist to jump in where you left off (or never really got started). Don't just leave your partners hanging. If folks are depending on you, find a way to transition out of something you're not good at by helping someone else pick up where you left off. It may take some "cards on the table" talks, but that's better than letting something fall off the table.

Fifth Step: Focus your efforts on your niche. Now that you know what monkeys you want to keep, and have gotten rid of the rest, begin to focus. Concentrate on getting really good at those things you're now doing. Make every effort count. Take classes if appropriate to improve your chosen niche. Get the paybacks. Make a difference.

We all need to be fighting the land use/public land access battles; but we all don't need to fight all the battles. We must find ways to avoid burnout in our fellow club members and keep everyone doing their part. Of course, this assumes we're all already out their joining organized recreation and recruiting new members every chance we get. That's always a given. If you follow these steps, I think you'll find we can stay in the fight and make our efforts more effective.

New Kids on the Block

Submitted by Bonnie Bannigan

Bob and Michelle Kimbrell are now official! Some of you might have noticed a very tall, Gold 94' Wrangler lurking about the latest meetings and trails. Or maybe you've seen them in the comfort of their 89' Cherokee. Regardless, they are the newest members of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers and we're glad they found us.

Bob and Michelle moved here from Iowa in May of this year and found us soon after. They have been wheeling for 9 years. Michelle works for Qwest Communications and Bob is cheerfully unemployed for the time being. In their future, they would love to run the trails in Farmington and Cruces. I won't tell you anything about their rigs, have to leave something to the inquiring minds. Welcome Bob and Michelle, see you on the trails!

Bland Canyon

Submitted by Don Miller

It seems that this trip has been on the Events Calendar forever; December 1999 (winter seasonal trail closure), then Spring 2000, and then Summer 2000 (fire danger closures). We finally made the run up Bland Canyon on **Sunday, September 18, 2000** with eleven vehicles. Leading the trip was yours truly, Don Miller ('79 CJ-5). The followers included club members Tom Hurt with his father as guest ('76 CJ5), Carlos Ferrer (early Scout), Bonnie Bannigan ('95 YJ), Scott Giles ('98 TJ), Tom Flemings with Guest Maxine Hudson ('73 Bronco), Bob Kimbrell ('94 YJ), and Andy Schulze ('75 Bronco). The guests included Brandon Rickeimer ('94 YJ) with member Don Tyler riding shotgun, Neil Wasson ('74 Scout II) and Preston and Melissa Garner ('83 CJ7).

We left the Texaco at 528 and 550 shortly after 9:00 AM. Preston and Melissa Garner joined us at Exit 259 on I-25 North as this was better for them coming from Tijeras. We used one of the parking lots at the foot of Cochiti Dam for airing down, then continued to Forest Road 268, the gateway to Bland Canyon. FR 268 has had signs marking it in the past. On this day signs were absent. (35 41.379' N and 106 22.740' W marks the turn if you're looking at a map.) Once again I enjoyed one of the benefits of trail leading; I didn't have to eat any dust! Hint, hint to all the rest of you!!

Several miles up Bland Canyon is the ghost town of Bland. Unfortunately it is situated on privately owned land. At the chain link fence and locked gates demarking the boundary between private and

National Forest land we climbed an eroded and rocky trail out of Bland Canyon. This was the beginning of the more interesting portion of the day's ride. At the top of the climb there is a rather obscure junction. The more traveled route to the left is the Paso del Norte. If one goes more or less straight ahead and down, a locked FS gate is encountered a short distance from the junction. This trail is open to foot or horse traffic and joins a trail in Cochiti Canyon to the southeast. (Gated at the other end as well.) Taking the right turn will lead the traveler out to a lookout point on Horn Mesa.

We continued left on the Paso del Norte with the Medio Dia Canyon down on our right. Approximately 1.3 miles from the aforementioned junction are the remains of an old sawmill. Tom Flemins saw the old broken down and obscure remains and informed us via the CB that his father had told him that years ago there was a sawmill here. I totally missed seeing it, but as things worked out right when his comment came over the radio, there I was right at the junction of an old trail leading back down into the canyon. We took the turn. My mind was looking for a concrete structure and again didn't recognize it for what it was. The concrete is old and dirty and the same color as the rock surrounding and under it.

We all got out and milled around the old site. All the wood and metal, all the machinery that must have made up the buildings so long ago, is all long gone. All that remains is a concrete slab that sits atop a stone foundation and some concrete sluice channels. This turned out to be an ideal shady lunch stop.

After lunch it was decided to take the challenge that was offered by a short, fairly steep exit to rejoin the road we wanted to be on. There was a short left leaning off camber section at the outset followed by a short steep climb with narrow exit onto the roadway. Bonnie was in the exact right spot to take first attempt. She had a little problem at the top, but cleared the way onto the road with no real great trouble. She had widened and smoothed the route and the next several vehicles did more of the same. At last there were only two vehicles left at the bottom; Neil Wasson's Scout and my CJ-5. I reversed into position, selected lo-lo and began my upward crawl. With my front end nearing the last of the off camber section the dirt gave way and my front-end slid to the left. The left tire slid down. Oh boy! Things were a little bit tilty! Not a big problem, though. I thought I'd simply back down and retry. No sooner had the tires made a quarter turn in reverse than the dirt shifted again. The sideways slide stopped in a foot or so. However, even though the CJ had stopped sliding it leaned more and more to the left. The ground looked very close and appeared to be coming ever closer. Somehow the laws of Physics relented, and my CJ with me tightly gripping the wheel and leaning as far to my right as my harness would let me, ever so

slowly leaned back to the right just a little and stayed there. It was not a comfortable place to be! In a flash Tom Hurt and someone else, I think it was Andy, were hanging on the right side. After backing down all the way I gave Tom a ride to the top. Neil decided he'd just as soon drive out the way we came in. Bonnie named the obstacle the Sawmill Slide.

After that all the real excitement was over and we continued north. Along a rocky section a large rock bit the tail pipe to muffler connection on Neil's Scout. He quickly had the tailpipe removed and we were soon moving again. Rain began to come down lightly as we reached the point where Paso del Norte comes out of the canyon to rejoin the graded Forest Service road. Here I stopped while the string of vehicles caught up. My preannounced plan for the day had been to make the trip up to this point, about a mile from Highway 4, where the official club trip would end. Those who wanted to take the paved road back could do so, and anyone who wanted to retrace our route could join me. I had to get turned around to go back, and decided to do so before every got there and clogged up the space. I guess I forgot where this one particular large rock was. I reversed turning to the left, then cranked the wheels right and went forward. Bump, thump. I found my CJ perched on a rock under the t-case skid plate. Not even lockers afforded any graceful method of regaining solid contact between my 4 tires and the ground. After accepting a strap (my strap... I accepted the tug from guest Brandon) I overheard Bonnie and Tom Hurt muttering something about a Cowbell. I don't know what that was all about.

So one group headed home on the highway, and Bob, Carlos, Neil, Brandon and Don Tyler followed me back down the way we came. We played tag with some rain on the return, but it never became very heavy. In fact it didn't rain at all where it was needed the most; the dusty gravel down where we began.

Nth Annual Post Labor Day Blanca Peak Drive

Submitted by Garry Brown

On September 9, Garry Brown, Chris Brown, and Paul Thompson conducted the Nth annual post Labor Day drive up Blanca Peak. (N is some number larger than 6, I don't know what it is.) An extensive hailstorm on the day before left the trail wet, sometimes slick, and with frequent piles of hailstones. The morning started with the mountain and the town of Alamosa completely fogged in. By mid morning all the clouds and fog were gone and the trail began to dry. There was little traffic on the trail, the usual backpackers and one other small group from Colorado Springs plus a couple of single

vehicles. We negotiated all the obstacles below Lake Como without much difficulty. Hardly a rock was moved intentionally although we took three different lines up Jaws 3. Our only real problem occurred at Jaws four. The ground was so wet that none of us could gain any traction. Even driving within an inch of the tree on the right didn't work. We simply could not coax our tires over the two bumps at the same time. A wet Jaws 4 is a problem. We winched the lead vehicle about four feet and snatched the others. The remainder of the day was the same old spectacular scenery. One of the highlights was being observed by three large rams at close range, perhaps 100 yards, for a long time. We reach the end of the trail. On the way down Paul commented that Jaws 4 no longer seemed to be wet at all and he regretted that he didn't have time to demonstrate this to the other two drivers. We returned to Alamosa in the late afternoon. There was no mechanical difficulty. Garry skinned a hub slightly, Chris peeled a diff cover just enough to require a hammer, and Paul had a flat tire below Jaws 1 on the return. All in all, a very good trip.



Picture Gallery



(Pictures taken by Bob Norton during the Mt Blanca run led by Mark Werkmeister, the one of Bob is taken by the other Bob (Telepak))



Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



Website: www.nm4w.org check us out



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

October 5-8: Hole in the Rock Trail. Dr. Bob leader.

October 13: Meeting at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Hosted by Bonnie.

October 28-29: Red River. Overnight trip led by Bonnie Bannigan.

November 10: Meeting. Hosted by Miche.

December: Christmas Party/Meeting. Clark's Home



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in October, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in Room 407 in the Adult Wing. The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. (Except as noted.)

Meetings:

- October 13: Bonnie Bannigan, VP
- November 10: Pat and Sue Brady
- December 16/Christmas Party: The Clark's

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Don Miller, Glenn Bontly, Pat & Sue Brady, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Tom Hurt, Chuck & Sandra Bednarski, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Robert Clark, Carlos Ferrer, Michelle Kimbrell, Arne Gjeming, Guy Conway, Pat Slattery, Don Tyler, Mongo, Bonnie Bannigan, and Miche Louise Bove.

Guests present:

Ev Westfahl, Preston & Melissa Garner, Brandon & Stephanie Rickerman, Anita Ransom, Kevin Nauer, and Kevin Cox.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:15 p.m.

- * Guests were introduced. Kevin Nauer, from California, spoke with Glenn Bontly on the internet and knows Paul Thompson. His Grand Cherokee was just wrecked. Ev Westfahl drives a 4Runner and is selling a 1971 CJ5.
- * Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.
- * The Treasurer reported that we have \$2456.99 in the bank. He was able to get \$45 + change for aluminum cans.
- * The Program Chairman has SWFWDA decals for \$5, X-Large T-shirts for \$12, and website has details. Chuck Bednarski was this meetings' winner of the raffle.
- * The Sheriff fined Carlos Ferrer (25¢) for guiding his guest at the Bland Canyon run into a tree while the guest was backing up. Also his guest lost his tail pipe (25¢). Don Miller was fined (25¢) for making Tom Hurt run to keep him from going over (Don was on 2 wheels). Don was also fines

(50¢) for running over a tree and since he was strapped by a stock Wrangler he was presented by the prestigious Cow Bell ("dingleness").

- * The SWFWDA delegate was unavailable.
 - * The Historian is getting pictures of Don Miller into the scrapbook.
 - * The Trip Chairman not available. *Arne Gjeming discussed the Silverton Trip. It snowed and Bob's Jeep was out of commission. There is an article at the 4X4Now website. *Garry discussed the Blanca trip, which he led. There was hail, The obstacle Jaws 2 ½ should have a name. There were 3 rams watching. Also the Hole in the Rock run with Bob Telepak and Chuck Peeples was fun driving. *Don Miller discussed Bland Canyon after it had been scheduled 4 times, it's an easy trail as long as you don't do anything stupid. *Bonnie mentioned the up coming Red River run Oct 28-29, campout in a meadow, easy run. *Pat Brady mentioned that the Wild Cat trip was canceled due to mud. *Don Miller mentioned that Sat, Nov 4 a run to the Rio Puerco and that the Thanksgiving run was canceled due to family conflict, and he still wants to be part of the family. *X-Mas tree run led by Mark Werkmeister will be Dec 9.
 - * The Environmental Chairman mentioned that Salt Creek road in Utah, which was closed 2 years ago, is set to be reopened due to court decision. Nat'l Park service increased fees by \$5 so now it is \$15 for hikers and \$30 per vehicle.
 - * The President in Spandex was unavailable.
- ### New Business
- * Brandon & Stephanie Rickerman are new members.
 - * Carlos Ferrer brought some key rings in, front has emblem and back says "NM 4-Wheelers Est. 1958" cost \$8 and at least 50 need to be ordered. (tabled)
 - * Amarillo, TX club wanting to do an extreme trail run (thought La Bajada would be hard, then someone said that they should try the Big I)
- ### Old Business
- * Chuck Peeples thanked everyone involved in the SWFWDA Quarterly in Salida, thanked Bob T and Mark Werkmeister for the runs which they led.
 - * Sue will get tel# for us for the Baca Acquisition, Buck Sanchez at the Jemez Ranger District. (505-829-3535)
 - * Sue has a meeting with the Cuidando Los Ninos on Nov. 4 and will get all the projects then.
 - * New Brochures will be presented next meeting.
 - * INCIDENT: currently allowing past members to pay dues late eventhough the dues should be

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jwerkmeister@klinger-const.com

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Vice-President

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Bonnie@excelstaff.com

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505-286-4851

Check us out on the web:

www.NM4W.org

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

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OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail secretary@nm4w.org.

Photo Gallery



Picture by Bob Telepak

3. What was the highlight of the day for you?

Make sure you get the person's name (and title if appropriate) for the quote.

Next draft up the article explaining the event (your basic who, what (how), where, when, and why). If your media person is not John Hemmingway, don't sweat it. First, most editors of newsletters will help you get it in final form. Second, give the working draft to someone who is a fluent writer and let them help you put it in final form. I'll personally be happy to help anyone get started. Many other folks will help also. Try putting yourself in the shoes of a potential reader. Ask yourself what key points/pictures really best tell the tale and deliver your message.

The point is, you CAN do this. It WILL make a difference. It WILL help our cause (keeping public lands open to the public).

Thank you, Tom, for passing along this message. Feel free to email me with questions/ideas. Del Albright, jeepndel@goldrush.com

BLM RAC

By Phil Kennicott

At the June meeting of the BLM Resource Advisory Council (RAC), the Roads and Trails Committee proposed a set of recommendations on management of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) for approval by the RAC. Now, two meetings later, the RAC has made its set of recommendations (attached). While the final set of recommendations are quite different from the original set, the two most important parts are intact—the commitment to prepare a set of Standards and Guidelines for management of OHVs and to develop an inventory of existing roads and trails in New Mexico.

At the August meeting, the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance (NMWA) was out in force. The president and executive director both spoke against the Roads and Trails recommendations. They made the points that roadless areas should be preserved, that NMWA already has an inventory of roads and trails, and that, if OHV users are allowed to make a new inventory, those users will simply cut new trails in the existing roadless areas.

At October meeting, the Roads and Trails Committee took a set of recommendations for OHV management sent by the RAC to Washington in 1997, added the commitment to produce the Standards and Guidelines, and made several other minor modifications. This is the set of recommendations the RAC approved.

It is important to note several things about the recommendations. First, a working group of all parties will prepare the Standards and Guidelines

(hopefully for approval by the RAC). This effort is expected to require about one year. The BLM proposes a set of facilitated meetings involving people from all points of view with respect to use of BLM land. The NM BLM uses a facilitator who is skilled in getting people to reach a consensus (make appropriate compromises?) on tough problems. I expect the effort to be a success.

Second, the inventory, under a BLM volunteer coordinator, will take place after preparation of the Standards and Guidelines. It is unclear exactly how the inventory will take place, but we can assume that the roadless area advocates will see to it that they are involved.

Third, during the preparation of the Standards and Guidelines, existing roads and trails will remain as they are, subject to existing regulations. In particular, roadless areas will not be declared, and OHV people will not create new trails under the pretext of making an inventory.

Fourth, the terms 'open' and 'closed' are not used. When the effort is complete a set of 'designated' roads and trails will exist conforming to standards all can understand. Signs will mark these routes, and, if signs are missing, one can refer to maps to determine that a route is legal.

The timing of the RAC recommendation just before the BLM OHV plan was to be released is not an accident; it is understood by the RAC that these recommendations will be taken to the group preparing the BLM position. It behooves those of us who want to see roads remain open to watch the process closely and get involved when appropriate. I will let you know when I think this is.

Here is the text of the BLM RAC Recommendations:

Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico Resource Advisory Council
Off Highway Vehicle Recommendations
October 13, 2000

The New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC) has developed proposed standards for sustaining the health of BLM lands in New Mexico.

Proposed guidelines have been developed for users who graze livestock on BLM lands to assist them in meeting the proposed standards.

Recognizing that other public land users also contribute to rangeland health condition, the NM RAC offers the following recommendations that apply to the management of OHV activities on public lands:

1. Utilize the Southwest Strategy group to create an agency working group (consisting of representatives from BLM, Forest Service USDA, NM Department of Game and Fish, NM State Parks, and other federal, state, county and local agencies) to cooperate and coordinate the development of policies for OHV management.

2. Create a statewide working group consisting of representatives from stakeholder groups to develop

standards and guidelines for the inventory, evaluation and designation of OHV routes.

3. Until this process of inventory, evaluation and designation is completed, the status of existing routes and roadless areas shall not be altered, except as needed to complete plans and permits resulting from ongoing management of public lands. Undue and unnecessary resource damage may be sufficient reason to close OHV routes or open areas.

4. Create a position for a Volunteer Coordinator to coordinate volunteer activities by route user groups, roadless area advocates and other interested stakeholder groups to inventory existing routes and provide that information to the BLM for evaluation and designation of routes.

5. Using agency personnel and volunteers, inventory unpaved routes and trails on public lands in New Mexico, using the services and expertise of state and local associations and clubs representing all route user groups. Designate useable roads, trails and open areas, with standardized signage throughout public lands in New Mexico.

6. Change general open OHV designations to limit access to designated roads, trails and specific use locations. Cross-country travel (unmanaged travel not on existing routes) should be limited to designated areas.

7. BLM should develop creative funding mechanisms such as grants, user fees, and/or volunteer services and permit fees in order to help fund the maintenance of OHV routes and open areas, and management practices such as enforcement, inventory, mapping, signage, reclamation, fencing, and gating in these areas.

8. Consider other options for the development of OHV opportunities, such as developing opportunities on private lands and utilizing public/private partnerships.

9. Assign higher priority to OHV management, especially during high-use times such as hunting seasons. Work to coordinate and improve enforcement, especially for better hunt management, including more stringent penalties to deter violations. Increase on-the-ground presence during high use times, and encourage the use of volunteer trails patrols. Develop patrol standards and facilitate education of OHV user groups.

10. In cooperation with other agencies, develop OHV information and training programs for users and managers. Support Tread Lightly and other educational efforts.

11. Consider the needs of persons with disabilities and their access to roads, trails and hunting opportunities on public lands using off-highway vehicles.

12. Consider gating and other options on specific routes to help protect against habitat fragmentation, vandalism and other forms of resource damage.

These recommendations may not apply to permittees due to the fact that their activities are permitted under other authorizations.

From Sport Bike Road Racing To 4-Wheelin'!!

Submitted by Bonnie Bannigan

Please help me welcome our newest New Mexico 4-Wheelers, Brandon and Stephanie Rickerman. Brandon and Stephanie met the 5 point requirement at the last meeting, were voted in and directed toward the Treasurer to pay their dues. They heard about our club through the infamous Don Tyler, club Historian. Brandon is a technician for Qwest and Stephanie is the Office Manager for a popular Architect firm here in Albuquerque. They have been 4-wheelin since 1990 around the Albuquerque area and so far, their favorite trip has been Tom's Hill off the La Bahada trail. Brandon also does sport bike road racing and Stephanie is an active soccer player (but, she's still missing her last game to make it to Red River for some 4-Wheelin)!! When I asked Brandon what trails they were looking forward to in the future, he rolled his eyes and said Stephanie wants to do the Intimidator Trail in Farmington but if she wants to do it then she will have to drive since it is her jeep! You go girl! When you see a little Black 1994 Wrangler riding around on the trails, be sure to introduce yourself and congratulate our newest members on finding our great organization. See you on the trails!

Hill 'n' Dale Trail

Submitted by Don Miller

Is anyone interested in Leading a trip on the Hill'N'Dale trail???? or something else you like in the Jemez????
Suggested dates: Sun, Nov. 12, 19, 26 or Sat. Nov. 25 (my preference)????
(Those are my free dates; if you lead you pick the date.)

For Sale/Want Ads

Ads will be run for one newsletter. Please let Miche know if you need it to run one more time...
secretary@nm4w.org or 268-3887

For Sale: I have a slightly used Powertrax Lock-rite for a 30 spline Dana 44 for \$180 O.B.O., a two month old Trac-Lock posi. for a 30 spline Dana 44 for \$300 O.B.O., and a brand new high performance Auburn Gear posi. for a 28 spline Ford 9" (in the original packing grease) in the box for \$300. Give Taylor Tracy a call at (505) 268-4102 or (505) 980-8898. Email: moondustpaws@msn.com

For Sale: 89 Wrangler, 6-cyl, 5 sp Islander package, 2 limited slips, Hard top \$5200 Call Pete Argo 865-9305 (Chuck Peebles' son-in-law)

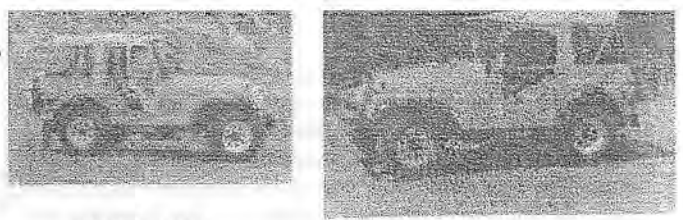
Novice Ride

Submitted by Glenn Bontly

What a disappointment. No, not the ride! Disappointing because my participation was cut short due to mechanical problems!

Stephen (my 10-year-old son) and I were looking forward to the Novice Ride for weeks. We got everything ready the night before since Saturday would be a long day for us. At 0630 the next morning, we were on the road for Creola, Ohio, which is a little better than two hours from our house. We arrived to find more Jeeps than either of us had ever seen in one place. Lots of Jeeps...excellent weather...friendly people...it was going to be a great day! At the drivers' meeting, we got a few quick, but informative, briefings on trail riding and recovery techniques (I happen to be an expert in being recovered; or rescued, depending on how you look at it). Next we headed for the trail. It couldn't have been more than 15 minutes before we hit our first mud hole. A BIG mud hole. It turned out to be much more trouble than most of us anticipated. Almost everyone got stuck in this hole. Some of us got stuck several times in this same hole! How embarrassing...and I had just installed brand new mud tires and a 2" lift! After being pulled out from the rear at least 3 times (I lost count), I finally blasted my way through the muck. I think this is where my troubles began. The rest of the trail was relatively uneventful. But shortly before meeting at the Dairy Queen to regroup for the next trail, my Check Engine light came on. No big deal; it had been on before, but had always corrected itself within a couple of days. Then I got a Check Gauges light. I checked my gauges...they were all still there, great. (that was a joke...get it?) Actually, my battery/alternator gauge was reading zero. With the engine running, we put a meter on the alternator leads. The 12-volt reading confirmed that I was running on battery power only. Still under warranty, and with my 24-hour road assistance brochure in hand, I called the 1-800 number. The remedy was to tow my Jeep to the nearest Jeep dealer and leave it there for repairs. I opted to try to make it the 2-plus hours home on whatever was left on my battery. It worked, although the engine ran extremely rough... "missed" a lot. I figured it was all related. But who knows with these goofy engine computers!

Sunday, the Jeep started right up, so I drove it to the car wash to clean it before bringing it in for repairs. Then I decided to drive down to Caesar Creek (45 minutes southeast of my home) for some hiking and biking in the woods. Bad idea. On the way home, the battery finally quit. Bad alternator and bad



FOR SALE

OUTSTANDING 1971 CJ5 JEEP

LESS THAN 50K ACTUAL MILES.

ORIGINAL V6 ENGINE WITH HOOKER EXHAUST HEADERS AND DUAL MUFFLERS, HEAVY DUTY COOLING FAN AND SHROUD.

POWER STEERING (SAGINAW FROM BUICK, BOLT ON PUMP).

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KAYLINE GAS CANS/PARE TIRE CARRIER ON REAR, GAS FILLER CAP MOVED FROM REAR TO SIDE, KAYLINE CONVERTIBLE TOP (1971), SOME SUN DAMAGE ON WINDOWS.

FENDER FLARES, PADDED ROLL BAR, ORIGINAL BITCH-

HAS NEVER HAD ANY BODY DAMAGE, SOME RUST AROUND TAIL-LIGHTS, SOME SPARE PARTS INCLUDING HEI DISTRIBUTOR, SERVICE MANUAL.

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ONE OWNER SINCE 1972 \$7900 obo. CALL 275-6089 OR 268-1433

\$7,900 Call 275-6089 or 268-1433

battery means the Jeep won't start or run. I called Susan (my wife) on the cell phone to come rescue me. This is the third time in our 16 years of marriage that she has had to rescue me, she reminded me. We towed the Jeep home the remaining 5 miles and called the 24-hour road assistance again. A flat bed truck showed up early Monday morning and delivered the Jeep & I to Dave Dennis Auto Mall. Yes, I confessed to the service manager, I was off-road Jeepin'. That's what Jeeps are for, aren't they? I told him about all the problems, including the part about the missing engine. Later he called me with good news. They found the engine! It was under the hood all along! (sorry...I couldn't resist) Anyway, to make a long story short, that day I got a brand new 117-amp alternator. A good deal, actually, since my stocker came with a little 81 amp unit. They also recharged the battery and replaced a bad TPS (Throttle Position Sensor). That's what was causing the engine to miss. I'm ready for the trails again!! Though I think I'm going to go around the really BIG mud puddles from now on. I hate having to go home early!!

Miche's Message

In regards to the tabled item from the last meeting, the Cost of Advertising in Trail Tales seems fair to me. However, I think the possible point of the discussion was a networking thing. Jim (our Pres) mentions in his "report" a thanks to Tom and Derren for helping him out. If you are new to the club, one might not know of the benefits of knowing these two guys. I think we don't necessarily have to advertise

ourselves, but knowing what people do might come in handy. For instance, I work at a prosthetics/orthotics clinic. I would be thrilled if one of NM4W members came to my office for their foot orthotics or sport braces. I also have a small Mary Kay business. It is small because I don't want to advertise it, but if someone wants to order something at a discount, I'd be happy to oblige. I am sure that other members either work somewhere or do something that might not have a direct link to the club, but would welcome the business of other club members. Maybe we should think about this...

Picture Gallery



Pictures by Bob Telepak

New Mexico 4-Wheelers Member's Profile Page Submission Form

Instructions: Include a picture if you have one. Send your profile and picture to Webmaster, 21 Rattlesnake Ridge, Tijeras, NM 87059.

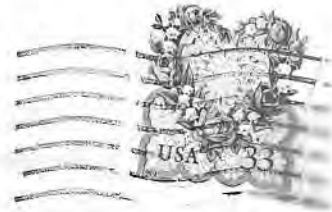
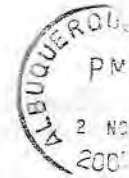
Member Profile	
Name:	
What You Drive:	
Photo Caption:	
E-mail Address:	
Personal Web Site:	
Number of years off-road experience:	
Previous off-road vehicles owned:	
Favorite Trail(s):	
Worst Trail Experience:	
Vehicle Specification	
Year/Make/Model:	
Engine:	
Transmission:	
Transfer Case:	
Front Axle:	
Rear Axle:	
Gears:	
Traction Control:	
Suspension:	
Shocks:	
Tires:	
Wheels:	
Recovery Equip:	
Navigation:	
Communications:	
Interior:	
Exterior:	
Underneath:	

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Misc Other:

Wish List:

Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



Website: www.nm4w.org *check us out*



87111X1051 30



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

November 10: Meeting. Hosted by the Bradys.

Thanksgiving trip to the Canyonlands/Needles area in SE Utah: possibly led by Leon and Marcia Duggar.

December 9: Christmas Tree Run. Led by Mark Werkmeister.

December 16: Christmas Party/Meeting. Clark's Home



Trail Tales

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

Note:

Starting in **October**, the meetings will be held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located on Academy and Moon, just east of Wyoming. The meetings are held the second Friday of the month and will be in Room 407 in the Adult Wing. The host provides snacks and drinks. The meetings will start at 7pm. (Except as noted.)

Meetings:

- December 16/Christmas Party:** The Clark's, 6pm
- January 12:** Mark & Joan Wolf.
- February 9:** Andy Schulze.
- March 9:** Preston & Melissa Garner.

Meeting Minutes:

Members present:

Wade Hicks, Pat & Sue Brady, Wolfie, Glenn Bontly, Rich Capener, Glenn Capener, Bob & Michelle Kimbrell, Paul & Mary Thompson, Teal (Pseudo Member) Warthen, Brandon & Stephanie Rickeman, Tom Fleming, Andy Schulze, Ame Gjering, Bob Telepak, Bob Norton, Ed Kausche, Garry Brown, Berry Harrison, Carlos Ferrer, Leon & Marcia Duggar, Bonnie Bannigan, Taylor & Colleen Tracy, Kris Webb, Jim Werkmeister, and Miche

Guests present:

Joseph Alderete, Preston & Melissa Garner, James Wasson, Ey Westfahl, and Ken O'Niell.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00 p.m.

Guests were introduced. Ken O'Niell has a 74 Scout II, Joseph Alderete drives a 99 Tacoma, Preston Gamer has an 83 CJ7 (and he pointed out that he didn't know who that guy up front was sitting next to the secretary), and Ey Westfahl has a 4Runner.

Minutes were accepted as written in the last Trail Tales.

The **Treasurer** was unavailable, but the amount in the bank is \$1713.49.

The **Program Chairman** brought in denim shirt as sample. A minimum order would be 36 mix and match to be silk screened, \$20/sweatshirt and \$12/t-shirt.

The **Sheriff** was unable to award the Cowbell. Don Tyler broke on a run he was leading and had to be towed by Tom's Bronco.

The **SWFWDA** delegate missed the meeting in Oklahoma. Atty. Carla Boucher has suggested that forms not be signed (South Canyon Rd).

The **Historian** was unavailable.

The **Trip Chairman** not available.

The **Environmental Chairman** mentioned that the Forest Service final environmental impact statement is to be released mid-November and then a 30 day comment period which gives Clinton enough time to sign before he leaves office. Utah is still not open. Pat Brady mentioned that Clinton enacted Nat'l Monuments in Arizona and Idaho and Wilderness land in Colorado, the Spanish Peaks.

The **President** had nothing to report.

New Business

Cuidando Los Ninos – Sue reported that she found 5 projects to do on Saturday, Jan 13. Meet at 8:30 am at the 76 Station (NE quadrant of University and Menaul)

Preston and Melissa Garner were welcomed as new members.

Amarillo, TX club wanting to do an extreme trail run (thought La Bajada would be hard, then someone said that they should try the Big I)

Old Business

Keychains – bronze one brought in by Carlos. \$75 casting charge which will produce 20-25 keychains. \$3/piece and club will pay the casting.

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:35 p.m.

President's Report:

Jim

NM4W Work List for Cuidando Los Ninos

Submitted by Sue Brady

1. Install door closer for bathroom in conference area.

OFFICERS

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505-299-5771

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505-286-4851

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Director of Environmental Affairs

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Webmaster

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Webmaster@nm4w.org
505-286-4851

Check us out on the web:
www.NM4W.org

Aluminum Cans: Our club saves and recycles aluminum cans. Bring your aluminum cans to each meeting, and Tom Hurt will take them to the recycling center. Money from the sale of the cans goes into our club treasury.

NOTE TO GUESTS: If you've been receiving the *Trail Tales*, you may have noticed a number beside your name on the mailing label. We send the *Trail Tales* to prospective members for three months, and we number them. When you see a "3" by your name, that should alert you that you'll be dropped from our mailing list unless we hear from you. Visitors are always welcome at any New Mexico 4-Wheelers event or outing. So check us out!

Submission Due Date:

Articles and planned events should be submitted to *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154 as far in advance as possible. This newsletter is mailed by the 1st day of each month. Information should be received by **26 December 2000** to insure publication in the next *newsletter*.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: _____

New address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: *Trail Tales*, PO Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154

OR call 505-268-3887

OR E-mail secretary@nm4w.org.

Photo Gallery



Picture by Bob Norton

2. Add wood chips to landscape area 14 bags - we/Klinger Const. Provide
3. Replace loose tiles in kitchen
4. Move fence back 4 feet from swing, need 5-6 foot fence posts, 8 foot section of 4 foot chain link fence, 1 piece of top pipe, 5 bags of quick crete - we/Klinger Const. Provide
5. Move box around nursery swing out 4 foot at the back, need 1 4"x6"x8' timber, 4 pieces rebar, liquid nails - we/Klinger provide

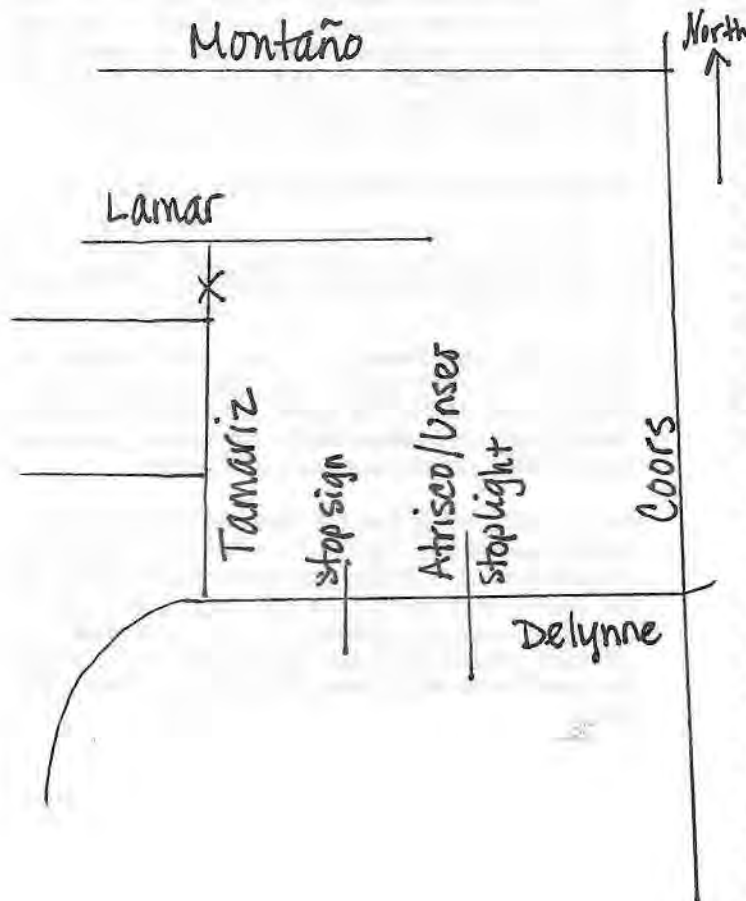
We need to come with gloves, drills, extension cords, hammers, saws. Call Sue Brady 898-6449 or Jim Werkmeister 299-5771.

WE NEED EVERYONE!!

Oryx Party at the Brady's

January 6, 2001 6pm - ??

There will be a variety of Wild Game dishes - no domestic critters. It will be a potluck-type affair, so please RSVP to see what side dish to bring.
898-6449. 5405 Tamariz NW, 87120



There's No Fun Like Snow Fun!

Submitted by Trail Leader Bonnie Bannigan

Well after I finally got the email out with the correct date on it, it seems that everyone was looking forward to a day out in the mountains. Snow or not, it didn't matter. As one New Mexico 4-Wheeler put it, "it seems everyone had a case of Cabin Fever!" We had 21 vehicles show up for the run and an additional one caught up to us as we were on the trail. WOW! Total of 22 vehicles and they were all following me? Guess they didn't know what was ahead for the day! The following members were on the run: Me, Bonnie Bannigan, in my 95' YJ with Passenger Tom (how dare he not drive his own Jeep). Hurt, Rich and Glen Capener (I think Rich was embarrassed about being the only Bronco so he didn't write it down on the sign in sheet), Michelle Kimbrell, 89' Cherokee, Kevin Cox, Jeep, Robert, Doreen Clark and kids, 82' CJ8, Glen Bontly 97' TJ, Preston Garner & Bryce CJ7, Carlos Ferrer, 64' Scout, Stephanie & Brandon Rickerman, 94' YJ, Don Tyler (aka...MR. COWBELL) & CJ Downing, 83' CJ7, Tom Flemings, Bronco, Pat Slattery & Pam, CJ5, Taylor Tracy & Colleen, ScoutII, Bob Kimbrell, 94' Wrangler, Kris Webb, 85' Toyota, and Bob Norton, 86' F-150. Guests who were driving the trail were: Fred Kauz, 88' Toyota 4runner, Rick and Mike Ferguson 84' CJ7, Joseph Alderete, Tacoma, Nate Schuit 83' CJ7, Neil Wasson, 74' ScoutII, and last but not least (we'll tell you why later in the story), Shane B. in his 84' Toyota.

We headed down Route 66 to Hwy 14 and went south to 262. We all aired down and got into the snow. It was not too deep and by the time our tailgunner made it on the trail the snow on the path was pretty well packed in. A couple of miles in on 262 was a little rock climb on the left that we all attempted, defeated after several tries for some, and then drove back down to the main trail again. In the summer time we will come back here and attempt the power line road from this side. As we got closer to Cedro Peak and it's towers we turned right onto 13. This was a very narrow, uneventful, but pleasing to the eyes trail. As the leader I slipped and slid my way down the trail where we stopped for lunch. After lunch we were headed out and Glen told me of another trail to go down and up. It was the trail that leads up the backside of Cedro Peak. We pulled onto the trail and within about 1/2 mile everyone was out of their vehicles looking at a really steep decline with rock ledges of about 3-4 ft high! Glen dared me to go down which in turn meant we would have to come back up but we thought the day was young so we went for it! Glen went down first, then me...a little scary...then Mike Kimbrell, Taylor Tracy, Kris Webb, and Shane B. That was all the takers we could persuade to go down the tricky, rocky, wet, hill. Once we were down and looking at it from the bottom, we all started looking at the other ways out of here. There were other ways, but we decided to go for it and climb the hill...how bad could it be? Glen went first and got himself quite sideways on the hill so he decided to use his winch and winch himself out of the mess he had gotten all of us in to. Then I attempted the hill with the best of intentions and a dare to win. Too bad. I thought I had it but I wasn't listening to my trusty Spotter too well (what's new)? and

into the same predicament that Glen had gotten into. Glen got to use his winch again! Next was Mike and the winch got usage #3 (Glen was getting his money's worth on this winch!). After Mike was Taylor in his beast of a Scout II. Tracy sliced a sidewall and was made to change a tire at a very uneasy angle. Lucky for Glen he had that winch! After hooking it up for safety, Tom Hurt jacked up the Scout and the rest of Taylor's gang changed the tire. Then Glen winched him up too. Kris came up next and had a little trouble on the bottom ledge so he asked Taylor what he needed to do. Taylor told him to go home and get some new tires! Hey, what are friends for? The whole time Kris was trying to climb the hill, his dog sat directly in front of him in the middle of the road, as if he was saying to his human, "ha, ha, you can't get me....come on, come get me." It almost worked because we all thought Kris had it but he just wasn't quite there. When he hit his breaks they didn't work too well and he slid backwards about 15 feet and sideways too. Time for winch pull #4! Got Kris out of the way and Shane decided to give it all he had with his Toyota. After running into a tree and bouncing right off of it he gave it some gas and maneuvered it up the bouldery, muddy mess! He conquered the hill right after Kevin Cox had left, giving up, stating that no one is going to get up this hill! It was quite the experience and we all had a lot of fun. It was great to see so many people out on the trail again.

For Sale / Want Ads

Ads will be run for one newsletter. Please let Miche know if you need it to run one more time...
secretary@nm4w.org or 268-3887

I have a 87 Jeep Wrangler Laredo for Sale.. It is equipped with a 93 Ford 5.0L H.O. (fuel injected) engine (about 45K on the engine). It is backed with a freshly built C-4 Automatic, re-built transfer-case, and a 9in. rear-end out of a 67 bronco (limited slip). All of these parts with only about 15k on them. Other additions include a 4in. Pro-comp suspension, KC-Lights, Custom rear bumper, nerf bars, 33x10.50x15 BFG mud-terrains, adjustable rear air shocks, tow-bar, and I also will include the original 258 engine along with the 904 automatic transmission. I currently have well over 13, 000 invested in it, not including any of the labor, and am asking \$9,500.00 O.B.O. Contact Eric E-mail, JEEP50L@aol.com, or I can be reached at home (505) 747-3908, or cell (505) 660-6081.

"Best Kept Secret in Albuquerque!"

Submitted by VP Bonnie Bannigan

I remember two things about my first meeting with our newest New Mexico 4-Wheelers family, Preston and Melissa Garner. Taking the initiative to introduce myself at the summer meeting at Mark Werkmeister's house, I stuck out my hand to Melissa and said, "Hi, I'm Bonnie" and she shook my hand and said in return, "Hi, I'm Bonnie." Cool...I thought to myself, someone else with my name...as her husband was saying..."no, this is my wife, Melissa!" (I guess I caught her a little off guard) then Preston reported to me that our organization was "The best kept secret in Albuquerque!" They found us on the web and emailed Glenn Bontly, sir Webmaster, and got all the information and haven't left our side since! Melissa and Preston own a 83' CJ-7, really liked Bland Canyon, and have high hopes of making it to Utah in the near future. The Garners have been married for 8 years and both work for Rinchem, Melissa as an Admin Assistant and Preston as a truck tech. I apologize if I am incorrect on any of this information...it was written on the back of a movie ticket during a very loud karaoke session at Chelsea's after the last meeting! For anyone who missed the last meeting when these two were voted in, you missed seeing how well they fit in....they gave our esteemed president "Grand Puba" a hard time and made him introduce himself when the guests did! Preston is interested in knowing where the "Older four wheel drive enthusiast's hang out" after his experience with me.....I told him catch you if he can....on the trails!

Congratulations and Welcome Preston and Melissa!

Christmas at the Clark's

From I 25 take Paseo Del Norte East towards the mountain. Turn left (north) onto Eubank and proceed almost to the end of the street. Turn Right (east) onto Florence Ave. our house is 2/3 the way up the street on the right at 10900. Our phone number is 797-9745.

For the folks coming from the East take the Tramway exit and go North until you get to Paso Del Norte. Take Paso two blocks down to Browning between the Fire station and the Church both are on the left. Turn right (north) on Browning and proceed almost to the end of the street. Turn left (west) onto Florence Ave. our house is 1/3 the way up the street on the left at 10900. Our phone number is 797-9745.

Picture Gallery

Submitted by Bob Norton



"Close to Roll 1"



"Close to Roll 2"



"Crawl Down"



"Mud Ledge"

A Contest

Submitted by your guess is as good as mine...

A contest! YAHOO!!! The winner to be decided at the very NEXT NM4W-Xmas Party.

Rules: (look at picture on the last page)

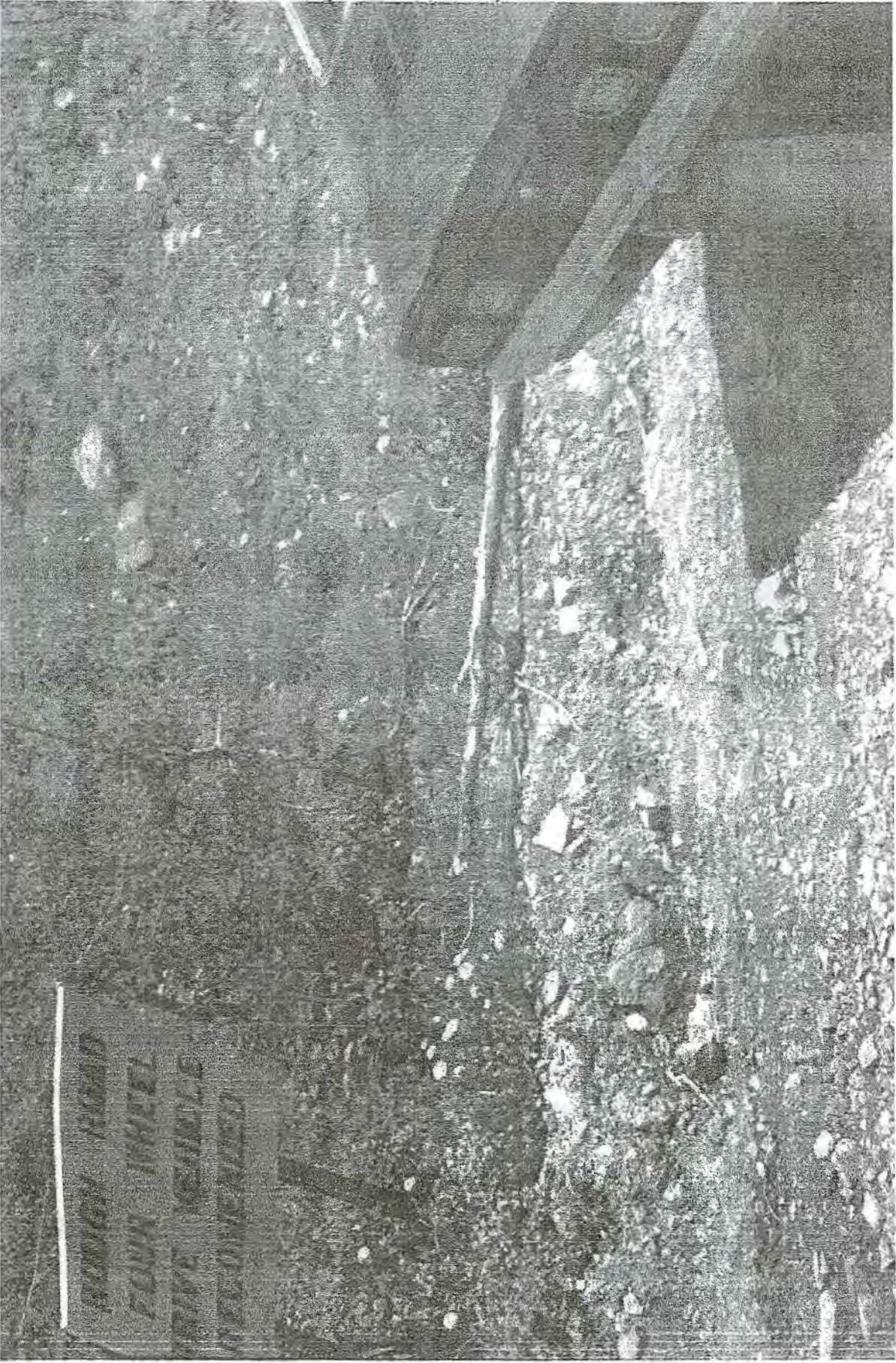
Numero Uno: Just WHO is THIS crazy, current New Mexico 4-Wheeler, willing to push the limits of back-country explorations - whom might show-up for/tackle a 4-wd trail in a street machine?

Numero Dos? Just WHEN, might you gather? Were YOU, NM4W member, born yet?!

Numero Tres? WHERE did this pictorial evidence of vehicular damage occur? No doubt, qualified for SIGNIFICANT FINES to be administered by our current Sheriff? That is, based on such blatant ignorance/ignoring of prudent NM4W's trail ride rules?

So the NM4W member closest to guessing whom, when, where was involved in this flagrant violation, gets the KUDOS at the Xmas party! (Probably no mas! Ha, ha)

Contest...this is the picture to be looking at!



Trail Tales
PO Box 90154
Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154



Website: www.nm4w.org check us out



111X1031 30



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call the Trip Leader if you did not attend the last meeting or the weather has gotten weird. Do yourself a favor, call by Tuesday of the week of the run to be sure everything is a "go."

December 2: Rio Puerco area where there are rocks that need to be explored. Don Miller leader. Meet at 9am at Walgreens (Unser x Southern).

December 9: Christmas Tree Run. Led by Mark Werkmeister. Meet at 9am Texaco at 528 x 550 (44). Will pick up permits at Jemez Springs.

December 16: Christmas Party/Meeting. Clark's new home. 6pm, gift exchange, bring hors d'oeuvres.

January 6: Oryx Party. Brady's house. Starts at 6pm, potluck affair. Please RSVP.

January 12: Meeting. Mark & Joan Wolf hosting.

January 13: Cuidando Los Ninos. Sue Brady in charge. Meet at 8:30am at the 76 Station (Menaul and University) Please bring your tools!

February 9: Meeting. Andy Schulze hosting.

March 9: Meeting. Preston & Melissa Gamer hosting.