



Trail Tales



January 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From December 14, 2008
by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Cliff and Jeanne Meier's on December 14th after road conditions prevented several members from getting to Carlos and Laurie Tanners. Frank G Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Guests: Ken and Diane Tinker

Members Present: Mark and Maria Berglund, Leon and Marcia Duggar, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Chris Sears, Justin and Rebecca Simenson, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Paul & Mary Thompson, Craig and Mary Turpin, Frank R and Donna Whiston, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The November 2008 meeting minutes were approved as published in the December 2008 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$4,231.78. The bill for the barbeque is \$104.71. Motion was made to authorize Paul to spend the additional \$4.71.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: There were no fines after it was determined the Christmas party/meeting did not count. Therefore, those members that had not been able to get to Tanners could not be fined.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: It was announced that Socorro district had released their proposed management plans. It appeared they were leaning to Plan B, which is the one most favorable to the club.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- Christmas Tree Run: Apparently there were two runs. Laurye and Carlos did a 'pre-run' on Saturday and Justin and Rebecca led the scheduled event on Sunday. There was a good turn out with several visitors.
- Roadrunner Food Bank Run: There were 19 Jeeps and the club was mentioned on TV and radio.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Jan 1: New Years Rockin Eve – Socorro is tentative

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: No report

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Frank reminded everyone to send in pictures.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

- Monthly Meeting Change - Frank reminded everybody that the meetings would be the fourth Wednesday beginning in January. This is due to room availability at the church.

- 2009 Calendar – Frank indicated that he had calendars with him and anyone that had ordered one, but not picked it up, should get theirs.
- Chile Challenge Raffle tickets – Cliff Meier reminded everybody he had tickets for the SW4WDA raffle held during Chile Challenge. Money was due when the stubs were returned.

New Business:

- Blue Star Mothers Community Service Project – Paul Thompson suggested the club do something with the Blue Star Mother’s as a community project. Possibilities ranged from a monetary donation, collecting gifts, or helping to wrap presents. Further discussion was deferred until January meeting.
- License plates – Keith Jurey had gotten information on the supplier of license plates for the Mile Hi Jeep Club. He did this after some members asked about his plate. There was a minimum order of 125 for \$500.00 dollars. A motion was made that Justin Simenson be responsible for further research into a possible plate for the 50th Anniversary. Keith was going to give him the information and they were going to possibly determine a design.

Meeting was adjourned.

Future Hosts are:

January	Justin & Rebecca Simenson
February	Keith & Linda Jurey
March	Mark & Joan Wolf
April	Cliff & Jeanne Meier



President’s Report
By Frank G. Whiston

Happy New Year everyone! I just returned from the New Year’s Rockin’ Eve at Gordy’s Hill. Yesterday I was wishing that I had worn a short-sleeve T-shirt and today there is a possibility of snow. That’s New Mexico for you. It is nice to see that the mountains are getting some good snow, so hopefully we are not faced with closures of fire restrictions.

I also want to remind everybody of the change for our winter meeting schedule in 2009. The Monthly club meetings at the church will now occur on the 4th Wednesday of the month. This month it falls on the 28th. See you there.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

At first glance, it would appear that ‘nothing’ is happening. No new documents, plans, or whatever from either the BLM or the Forest Service in the past month. So we are just sitting back, polishing our vehicles, and waiting for the next move by the agencies, right? Well, not exactly. In the background, we continue to work to inform, influence, and prepare for the next round of activity. We are also actively engaged with several agencies on the implementation side of decisions that have already been made.

First, on the BLM side, we will be closely monitoring the Socorro Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP) to see if anyone else files an appeal and whether or not the appeal could affect 4WD opportunities at Gordy’s Hill. The deadline for appeals was Jan 4th, so I should be able to find out if any appeals were filed later this week. I am also still trying to set up a meeting between Mike Bilbo, Kevin Carson (who will be taking over Mike’s duties on Gordy’s Hill), and myself to start talking about the next steps. The holiday period has kept us from meeting so far, but I am trying again this week. We know that a Gordy’s Hill recreation management plan needs to be written and we want to ensure that we are doing everything in our ability to move that process along

to a good conclusion. We are also working with the Socorro office on potential Recreational Trails Program grant applications for Gordy's Hill. And don't forget about the Albuquerque Field Office's ongoing revision to their Resource Management Plan. We all provided lots of important comments during the Scoping period and we are anxious to see whether they made it into the Scoping report and when to expect to see the draft RMP.

On the Forest Service side of things, we are quietly preparing ourselves to provide comments when the Santa Fe National Forest releases their Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) for Travel Management. We know that we will only have 45 days in which to make our comments. Forty-five days sounds like a long time, but if think about the time it takes to read the document, take out the time needed for a training session (we should plan to engage Pan Pacific Services for additional EIS training), additional research needed for our comments, etc, 45 days will fly by VERY quickly. We need to be fully prepared so that we can use the 45 day period effectively and efficiently. We are also still waiting for the Mount Taylor Ranger District to release their scoping report and then their draft Environmental Assessment. It will be only a 30 day comment period on the EA so time is of the essence, and like the Santa Fe DEIS, we will need to have all our preparation complete so we can spend the 30 days writing comments and not floundering around figuring out what to do and gathering information. And like the BLM side of things, we will be talking to the Sandia Ranger District about how we can be involved in any RTP grant applications and Travel Management Plan implementation.

Oh, and I will also be attending a New Mexico Legislative Committee meeting this week in Santa Fe. The opposition is trying to get the NM Legislature to use their influence with the Forest Service to limit OHV (including 4WD) in the forests. We need to keep our eyes on that one, too!

So....'nothing' is happening and we are (or should be) very, very busy trying to ensure we have roads and trails to drive on in the future.

Your DEA,
Mark

Kudos to Jeepers Paradise
By Tim Nash

Do you know why the British don't build computers? They haven't figured out how to make them leak oil... You need to own an old British motorcycle to fully understand that joke. But I'm getting distracted...

Prior to going to the summer quarterly in Salida this summer, I installed 'Solid' differential covers on the jeep. I managed to scrape them up a little at the Tank Trap earlier this year and thought it might be good insurance. We made a long day at Salida on Saturday going out with some friends from Longmont, we hit the highway between Monarch and Poncha Springs on the way back to the campground. I noticed some oil under the rig when we got back to camp, but it was light and appeared to be around the power steering, so I figured I might have bumped it on something (like a rock or other immovable object in the road). When we got home, I couldn't find any leaks and did everything I could think of to put pressure on the brakes and the power steering to no avail, so I kind of put it off until we went out with the club on the Pecos Aspencade.

When we joined the group in Santa Fe, you could smell some burning oil and there was a light spray under the hood. We did the parking lot check and the fluids all looked ok, so we motored on to the de-airing site on the trail. There was still a coating of oil under the frame and all of us trail mechanics looked at it and determined that there must be a leak on the power steering line. But the fluid was still up and didn't seem to be affecting the steering, so on we went. Upon getting back home at the end of the day, I still couldn't find the source of the leak and was starting to doubt my manhood because I couldn't find a stupid little leak. I was beginning to think the jeep was learning bad habits from my Norton parked next to it. After listening to me whine for a couple of day, my lovely wife suggested I have someone take a look at it.

So I ran it down to Randy at Jeepers Paradise to see if he could salvage my sanity. Randy had installed the differential covers earlier for me. He couldn't find the source of the leak and isn't the kind of mechanic that just starts changing parts and hopes he gets lucky. I took the jeep out on the Interstate and ran it down the road for about 20 miles and back to the shop; when I pulled into the garage, we had a leak somewhere. We still couldn't find the source of it under the frame, so we popped the hood and were scratching our heads when there was a little hiss and the vent line by the radiator bubbled oil running down the tube.. Randy immediately knew that was the vent for the front differential and we started putting two and two together. He checked the vent line for the rear differential (I didn't know it was located by the gas cap under the fender) and sure enough it had some oil residue also.

Randy had installed the same 'Solid' differential covers on several previous jeeps and hadn't encountered anything like this before, so he started surfing the net and checking his contacts to find out if anyone else had had a similar problem. It wasn't until he could reach the good folks at 'Solid' the next day that the light started to come on at the end of the tunnel. It appears that the vent line on a Dana 35 is on the top of the differential and the vent line on a 44 is on the back side. Many of the aftermarket differential covers have a larger oil capacity than stock to aid in cooling and longevity, the fill plug on the 'Solid' covers is higher up on the cover to get it up out of trouble and that is where we filled the oil up to. There was nothing in the directions to indicate otherwise. Wrong...the oil was overfilled and when barreling down the highway was getting churned up pretty good and escaping out of the vent line, running down the tube (it was sheltered from the wind by the hood and radiator) and then being dispersed under the frame coating the power steering lines etc. leading one to think that was the source of the leak. It was a simple task to pull the covers, install new gaskets and then measure the oil as the differentials were refilled.

Jeepers Paradise spent several hours troubleshooting the problem and then trying to find the source of the leak, Randy wouldn't take a dime for his time or labor and said he should have recognized the problem sooner. I just wanted to share this experience with the rest of the club in case you ever encounter a similar problem; vendors directions aren't always complete and I don't know how they expect you to read between the lines sometimes. If you get a chance, stop in at Jeepers Paradise, if you haven't already, and say hi to Randy and his lovely wife Rose; tell them that Tim sent you.

Gears & Gordy's

By Glenn Bontly

My rear diff (Currie high-pinion 9-inch) had been slowing dripping oil for the past few months. All I needed to do was to remove the 3rd member, clean it up real good, apply a new bead of RTV, and put it all back together. Of course, that also involves removing the rear tires, brake calipers, and rotors, pulling both axles, and dropping the rear drive shaft—in other words, it's a pain in the butt! So I procrastinated until the last minute; finally deciding to tackle the job the weekend before the Rockin' New Years at Gordy's Hill. While sopping up the gear oil in the bottom of the axle housing, I pulled out a broken ring gear tooth. Aw, crap. Upon closer inspection of the ring gear, I found 14 more cracked teeth! Luckily, Desert Rat had the gears in stock and was able to get everything set up that Monday. I installed that axle assembly way back in 2000, and have never had any problems with it. After tearing it down, the tech at Desert Rat immediately understood why most of the teeth were cracked--the pinion



gear was running right at the outer edge of the ring gear! They were surprised the gears lasted as long as they had. In order to set up the new gears correctly, they had to do a little grinding on the housing. For the price I paid for that axle, you would think Currie would have set them up correctly from the start.

Fortunately, the O-rings in the ARB were in perfect condition and didn't need to be replaced. A good thing, since ARB had closed down for the holidays and wouldn't reopen until after the Gordy's trip was over. I put everything back together Monday evening after work, with plenty of time to spare! I figured this would be a good time to test the rear locker to make sure it was working properly after the rebuild. So I took the Jeep out on the street, flipped on the rear locker, and executed a turn. No rear tire chirping, no bucking . . . nothing. Damn those guys at Desert Rat, they screwed up my locker! So I disconnected the air line to the rear locker and flipped the switch. No air came through the line--perhaps the solenoid was bad or the air line was plugged up. And then I got the bright idea to turn on the front locker. HISSSSSSSS! Damnit, I had the front and rear solenoids reversed. I have no idea how long they've been that way. No wonder the rear O-rings were in such good shape, they hadn't been used in who knows how long! Once corrected, everything worked great!



Tuesday evening I loaded the camper onto the truck. We had a New Year's party that evening and decided to "trailer trash" it outside the host's home, instead of driving all the way back down to Belen in the wee hours of the morning. New Year's day, we rested and did our best to recover from the night before. Getting ready for bed that evening, Brandon called. He was on his way to the emergency room after busting his lip from an ice skating accident. Recalling our last experience in the ER, I knew we were in for a long night. Sure enough, we got home around 6 am the next morning! I got only a few hours of sleep; Jan was lucky to get a few more. We were originally planning to leave midday for Socorro, but I wasn't sure we would be going at all at this point. Jan talked me into it

around 3 pm that afternoon. So we packed the camper, loaded the Jeep, and headed south. For us, it's only about a 45-minute drive. We arrived before dark (that's a good thing), set up camp, mixed up a couple of Rum Punches, and lit a camp fire. There were a few campers already there when we arrived, several others who came later that evening, and more on Saturday morning. I didn't count how many were in the "big-tire" group, but we had 19 vehicles in our group! Two casualties consisted of a broken rear axle, and a pretzeled rear drive shaft (both were guest attendees). We helped them off of the trail and got them on their way back to camp. The wind started to kick up a little just before the pot luck that evening, but it wasn't too bad. We strategically positioned some of the Jeeps to serve as a wind block (thanks to Pat for the idea). As usual, we had a ton of great food, and a roaring campfire. Sunday morning was cloudy, as expected (we knew that the forecast was calling for rain and snow that day). So we packed up and headed back home. Despite our hectic week, I'm glad Jan talked me into going. We had a great weekend to start off the New Year!



Toys for Tots from the NM4Wers

By Mary Turpin



Thanks to all the NM4W Club members who brought toys to our Christmas party on Sunday, December 14th. We delivered a van load of new toys to eagerly awaiting Marines on Saturday, December 20th. NM4Wers collected everything from puzzles to dolls to Mr. Potato Heads!

While the party had some challenges (namely the Tanner's hill that proved to be too much for a bunch of 4WD folks), the Toys for Tots drive was a huge success. The pile that eventually formed at the Meier's extended down the hall and spilled over across the floor. Even those who gave up on getting to the party (Jeff & Lauri Rector) made sure to hand off their toys before they left.

Then on Saturday, December 20th, Hannah, Xa, & I went to an empty grocery store at Montgomery and Wyoming where the Marines were gathering the toys in their distribution location, to be handed out later that day. The Marines were in full dress uniforms, and were mighty handsome (but not as cute as my hubby, Craig:). Several young ROTCers helped offload our donations and were very grateful to have them.

When we peeked in the store it was quite a sight - imagine an entire grocery store with stacks and piles of pink boxes and stuffed animals and all kinds of goodies. They had sections cordoned off to assist in moving about the store, and lots of officers on hand to help people. A very impressive undertaking on their part.



A special "Thank You" to Carlos Tanner - he came out to help get us and our non-4WD van to the party, and then got stuck himself. We were happy that he and Laurye did make it to the Meiers in the end. Thanks also to Mark and Joan Wolf for offering seats and space for our family as we tried to get to the Tanners. I'm sure Xa talked your ear off on the drive to the Meiers!



From one NM4Wer to another, it is wonderful to know that we share a commitment to helping the community along with our love of 4-wheeling and the outdoors. Personally, it was a treat to have this event be a part of our family's holiday activities. We love including the girls in anything where they can "give back." Judging by the toys we delivered on the club's behalf, everyone else feels much the same way. :)M



For Sale



1994 Ford Ranger Super Cab 4x4: Information and pictures are on the club web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm. Call Frank G. Whiston at 505-292-1541.

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

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

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

Submission Due Date: Beginning in Jan 09, due to the change of our monthly meeting day to the 4th Wednesday of the month, The *Trail Tales* will be published around the 10th of each month. Submissions for each issue must be *received* by the Editor not later than the **5th of that month**. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

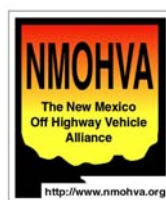
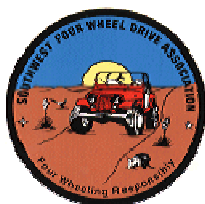
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jan 28	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Feb 18 - 21	SWFWDA Winter Quarterly	http://www.chilechallenge.org/	N/A
Feb 25	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Mar 25	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Russ Kaz 991-0323 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



February 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From January 28, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque on January 28. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Guests: Ernest Marquez, Tedd Romero, Karen Schwach, and Randall Scott.

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Rance Cochrane, Mike and Kristy Coe, Guy Conway, Leon Duggar, Erwin Greven, Andy Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Steve Lamberson, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Chuck and Ethel May Peeples, Jeff and Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Bob Telepak, Paul and Mary Thompson, Jan Waugh, Mark Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The December 2008 meeting minutes approved as published in the January 2009 newsletter with 2 corrections. The first correction was the spelling of Laurye Tanner's name and second related to the Christmas tree run, Laurye's son Joseph Webb did the pre-run, not Carlos.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$4,265.54.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff had no fines, but during the meeting Frank contributed to the kitty for turning around on Gordy's hill. Cliff reviewed the point system for guests and members.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark reported that Sandia's Travel Plan was done, but not implemented. NMOHVA is proposing they implement the 4 wheel drive portion. Mt Taylor is currently working on NEPA. Socorro has completed NEPA and the last date for appeal is in February. It appears that Gordy's Hill will be in the plan. Santa Fe National Forest is issuing a combined plan for all the districts. The scoping has been done and they are in the analysis phase. The deadline for a draft continues to change.

Cibola held the first pre-NEPA meeting in Mountainair on Thursday, January 22nd. There are two more meetings scheduled. There is a meeting in Corona on February 3rd and one in Belen on February 5th. The meeting in Belen is from 6 to 8 pm at the Belen Senior Center at 715-A South Main. Bob Telepak had copies of maps of the Monzano and Gallinas areas included in this study. He then discussed the meeting at Mountainair and the features of the two areas. Everyone was encouraged to attend the meetings and to be prepared to make comments.

Frank Whiston brought up information that had been sent out for the Truth or Consequences area by Hot Springs Land Development. They are trying to get approval for a development that is supposed to include some 4WD opportunities. They would like comments by February 3rd.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz: Russ was not present, so Frank made the report.

Past Events:

New Years Rockin' Eve Frank had 19 vehicles in his 'small tire' group. Two guests had mechanical problems with a broken axle and a rear drive shaft. Mark Werkmeister had 9 vehicles on the 'big tire' run and reported there were no problems.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

Feb 12th Lauri Rector reported that the Super Nationals are coming up. Each car club was given one space to advertise their club. Jeff Rector's Jeep will be our representative. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

Feb 21st-24th Chile Challenge – SW4WDA – Las Cruces. Sign-up is on-line or at the event.

March Mark Wolf plans to lead a run sometime in March. It will probably be west of Santa Fe.

May 23rd-25th Jemez Memorial Day Campout - There will be two days of runs and probably a half-day on Monday.

July 3rd-11th Creede Colorado – Frank is going to lead runs this week in the Creede Colorado area. The trails are all easy, but it is the San Juan Mountains.

Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. It also is usually easy with a couple of places where the 'big tires' can play.

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul was not able to attend the meeting, so Justin Simenson was selling raffle tickets, and he and Frank had merchandise for sale.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Jan reminded everyone to send in pictures.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn told visitors that were interested in joining to sign-up on the web site. If they only wanted the newsletter, email him and he would put them on the distribution. Since the date of the meetings has changed there will be a new deadline of the 5th of the month and the newsletter will publish on the 10th.

Old Business:

Chile Challenge Raffle tickets – Cliff Meier reminded everybody he had tickets for the SW4WDA raffle held during Chile Challenge. The money from this raffle is the major source of funds to SW4WDA and their land use efforts. Winners do not have to be present to win. There was a discussion of whether the NM4W should buy tickets. A motion was made and passed to purchase \$500.00 worth of tickets. Thanks to Laurye Tanner and Keith and Linda Jurey for filling out the tickets.

Club license plates – At the last meeting, Keith Jurey provided some information on license plates similar to the ones Mile-Hi Jeep Club had for their 50th anniversary. There is a minimum order of 125 at a cost of \$540.00. That includes setup. Justin Simenson was going to work on a design. Justin indicated he would try to have something before the next meeting.

2009 Calendars – Frank indicated that he had calendars that had been ordered but not picked up. He will send out a reminder and any calendars that are not picked up in two weeks would become available for sale.

Blue Star Mothers Community Project – Paul Thompson indicated the next project Blue Star Mothers is doing is Valentines Day, but there was not enough time to get involved. It was suggested that we try to help with the boxes for Easter. A motion was made and passed for the club to make a monetary donation of \$150.00. In addition, club members can make individual donations at the February meeting to be added to the clubs donation. Sometime in March, volunteers will help pack boxes for the troops.

New Business:

NMOHVA Anniversary – Mark Werkmeister announced that NMOVA would be celebrating their anniversary on March 21st at 9:00 am at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He encouraged everybody to attend.

Pan Pacific – Frank Whiston and Mark Werkmeister wanted members to consider hiring Pan Pacific to educate some NM4W members. They do training in effective methods to comment on proposed travel management plans. They asked members to think about it and we would be discussing it at future meetings.

Frank thanked Justin and Rebecca for providing refreshments for the meeting. Meeting was adjourned. 50-50 Raffle pot was \$108.00 with Paul Thompson winning \$54.00.

Future Hosts are:

February	Cliff & Jeanne Meier
March	Mark & Joan Wolf
April	Keith & Linda Jurey



President's Report By Frank G. Whiston

Serving as President of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers, I am always thinking about what it means to be a member of this organization. I find that I am looking at the club's By-Laws and SOP's more than ever. In doing so, it reminds me of that meaning and what it is that sets NM4W apart from the rest. This is summed up quite well in Article II of the By-Laws:

ARTICLE II. The New Mexico 4-Wheelers is organized as a non-profit club for the purpose of:

- A. Providing social, educational, and recreational activities for its membership.
- B. Promoting and participating in safe and responsible four wheel drive activities.
- C. Keeping members of legislatures informed of the needs of vehicular recreationists.
- D. Informing members of pending legislation and land-use matters.
- E. Enjoying and protecting all local, state, and national resources.
- F. Assisting various government agencies in the development of off-highway trails and areas.
- G. Rendering aid and assistance as needed.

My inspiration comes from the club members who are active and maintain A through G listed above. What a great group to be a part of! These principles are so important given all of the issues that our

organization and recreation form are currently facing. I encourage all to think about what it means to you to be a member of NM4W in hopes that you too can be motivated to support one or more of the club's core objectives in the future. Active members are what have made NM4W 50 years strong and are crucial to the club's future success.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello NM4W'ers,

This month, my report will be Part 1 of a quick lesson in how NEPA works. This is a review of the material that I talked about at our January meeting. Keep it handy for future reference as we will be working within NEPA processes for some time to come.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is designed to ensure that government decisions that may have environmental consequences are properly analyzed AND that the public has input into the process. NEPA is our Friend! Most OHV'ers cringe when they hear 'NEPA'. They think that is what the greenies use it to close us down. Not true. NEPA law states that all decisions must be made in the open, that the public gets to see everything, and that all decisions must be justified by science. NEPA lays out the rules that the government agencies (including both the Forest Service and the BLM) must follow when making land management decisions that can affect the environment. We can use these processes and rules just as effectively as the opposition. **But in order to use the NEPA process to our advantage, it makes sense that we have to know how it works.** This is only a very quick overview. If you are interested in reading and studying more in-depth information, please contact me.

There are three different processes that federal agencies use to make and document decisions that can have environmental impacts:

1. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
2. Environmental Assessment (EA)
3. Categorical Exclusions (CatEx)

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the most rigorous of the three processes. The EIS begins with a formal notice called a Notice of Intent (NOI). The NOI starts the formal Scoping process. The Scoping period is the part of the process where the action to be assessed is defined, the range of alternatives is developed, and the impacts to be considered are presented to the public and agency stakeholders.

During Scoping, the public will be invited to comment. Scoping is supposed to help define 'what' is to be included in the analysis. The agency will ask the public to identify 'issues' to ensure they get everything included in the analysis that should be included.

Scoping meetings are held during the Scoping period to ask for comments for incorporation into the Draft EIS (DEIS). The public will also be invited to provide written comments. Remember, any comments made before or after the formal Scoping period can be ignored. While it may be helpful to provide comments to the agency prior to the Scoping period, it is absolutely necessary to provide them again during the Scoping period.

After Scoping is complete, the agency will issue a Scoping Report that is supposed to summarize and categorize what they heard from the public. The next step is the creation of the Draft EIS (DEIS) by the

agency. The process of writing the DEIS can take many months and there is no specific time requirement for completion. The DEIS will include a range of alternatives (including a no-action alternative that is used as a baseline when comparing the other alternatives) and extensive analysis on each alternative describing environmental impacts to soils, water, wildlife, recreation, transportation systems, social impacts, etc.

After the DEIS comes out, the public has a comment period of at least 45 days to review the document and to provide input. This comment period is where a member of the public establishes ‘standing’ to be able to appeal (more on this later in the description of the appeal process). Formal public hearings where comments on the DEIS are received will take place during the 45-day comment period. The public can also submit written comments.

After the comment period closes, the agency once again considers all of the comments and prepares the Final EIS (FEIS). Again, there is no specific time requirement for the completion of the FEIS. In the FEIS, the agency selects an alternative for implementation. The FEIS must also contain the agency’s responses to all comments received and must discuss any opposing views on issues raised.

After the FEIS is issued, the public has a 30 day period to appeal the decision. A member of the public can only appeal on the specific issues that they included in their comments during the DEIS comment period. For the Forest Service, the appeals go to the next level up in the organization, usually the Regional Office for a decision.

Once all of the appeals have been resolved, the agency will issue a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is a written public record explaining why the federal agency has taken the particular course of action they have chosen. The ROD must specifically identify which mitigation measures were selected and adopted as part of the agency’s action and include a monitoring and enforcement program for each mitigation measure.

Next Month – Part 2 – Environmental Assessments and Categorical Exclusions

Mark – NM4W Director of Environmental Affairs

Member Spotlight: Bob Norton

By Joan Wolf



“Remote scenic trails with moderate challenges” is four-wheeling bliss for Bob Norton. His all-time favorite area is Utah’s stunning San Rafael Swell. In the photo, his XJ is articulating on the Devils Racetrack which he proclaims is “a GREAT AND SCENIC TRAIL in the San Rafael Swell.”

For many years Bob owned 4WD vehicles, but went off-highway only for Sunday drives in the forest. In 1994, fellow ham-radio club member, Dr. Bob (Telepak) invited him to Canyonlands and Moab. They ran Elephant Hill and moderate trails in Moab. Bob recalls, “I was amazed how good my stock ’86 F150 pickup did on slickrock. I was hooked, and I

blame Dr. Bob.”

Another four-wheeling ham-radio friend, Arne Gjerner, discovered NM4W when he struck up a conversation with a Cherokee-owning club member at a gas station. Arne spread the word and in 1995, the Tres Amigos (Bob Norton, Dr. Bob, and Arne) joined NM4W.

Bob bought his first Jeep, a white '89 XJ, from Jim Werkmeister and drove that trusty vehicle "until it wore out." Three years ago, Bob acquired his gold '99 XJ. The "new" XJ has a 6" Full Traction long arm suspension, ARB lockers front and rear, custom bumpers, skid plates, rocker protection, and 32" Mud Terrains. A new exhaust system was needed after Bob attempted a steep slickrock climb near Moab (see photo). Bob says, "True to its name of Metal Masher Trail, I pretzeled my exhaust pipe as I slid backwards at this obstacle!"



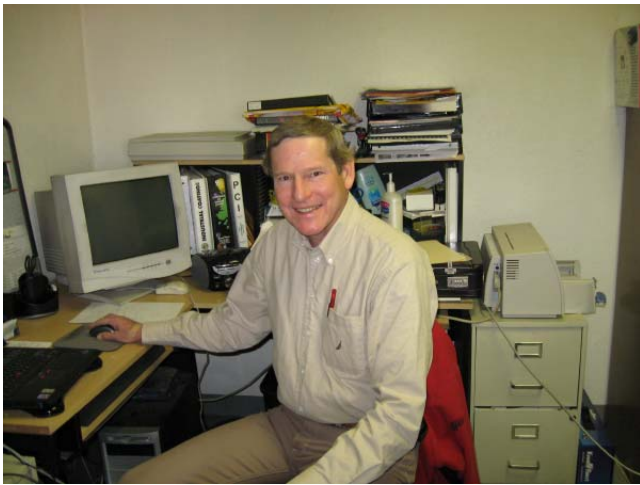
In addition to dozens of backcountry road adventures in Utah, Nevada, and Arizona, Bob has enjoyed three 4WD trips to Ontario, Canada. Bob explains, "I became a friend with Kris Shattmann (from Ontario) who shared a mutual interest in jeeping and C.W. McCall music, specifically the song 'Black Bear Pass'. Kris read my long ago written web-based article and contacted me." Kris has taken Bob to the Canadian Shield area, known for lots of exposed rock and moderate four-wheeling. The Canadian Shield is a beautiful area with small lakes everywhere and hardwood forests that transition to evergreen.

A native of Whitehall, Michigan, Bob takes after his Dad when it comes to the urge to drive into the backcountry. Dad would pile the eight (yes, 8) Norton kids into the Pontiac station wagon and drive deep into the forests of western Michigan. Bob adds, "Dad owned a couple of Willy's Jeeps before the number of kids started adding up."

In college, Bob majored in Education and General Science so he could be a teacher and have summers off. However, one year of teaching in a Dayton (Ohio) inner-city school changed that career path. Bob moved to Albuquerque 30 years ago when his ex-wife got a job offer here. Needing work, Bob happened upon a job in a paint store and has been in the paint business ever since. After several years of managing the Kwal Paint store near downtown Albuquerque, Bob is happy to be back in the architectural sales side of the business. He travels to El Paso and around New Mexico, but now sets his own schedule—including weekends off!

Bob has been an active ham radio operator since 1983. He devotes much of his free time to serving as Editor of 4WDrive Lines, the quarterly newsletter of the Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association. Bob has been the faithful Editor since 1997. He got a one-year break when someone else took over the reins. But the newsletter fell apart and Bob agreed to return as Editor "temporarily". Guess what? He's still at it.

Bob puts out a professional, eye-catching newsletter and won several awards from United Four Wheel Drive Association. Some years ago, the 4WD magazines sponsored contests through UFWDA to recognize association newsletters. The 4WDrive Lines (and Bob as Editor) won awards for best overall newsletter and best photographs. Even though it's sometimes challenging to get reports, Bob finds the editorship to be an artistic outlet. He certainly does a great job on layout and compiling information on club activities, events, trail reports, and SWFWDA business.



Bob also writes articles for the national magazine, 4 Wheel Drive & Sport Utility. He's been published five times in eight years and modestly adds, "I'm not nearly as prolific or talented as Mark Werkmeister." In the February 2009 issue, Bob describes a beautiful trail in the remote backcountry around Quartzite, Arizona (www.4wdandsportutility.com, click on Adventures). A thorough researcher, Bob includes fascinating details on the mining history, landscape, and geology as well as four-wheeling aspects of the Quartzite area.

For many years, Bob served as the New Mexico 4-Wheelers delegate to SWFWDA, and he also represented SWFWDA at the UFWDA level for five years. Well-informed about impending legislation and land use matters, Bob undoubtedly was an articulate representative.

Asked to share a memorable 4x4 experience, hands-down it was a Tres Amigos trip to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument during a huge rainstorm. Dr. Bob and Arne had gotten a head start, so the three were to meet mid-day in the newly-designated park. In pouring-down rain, Bob faced miles and miles of treacherous, wet bentonite clay on the way up Smokey Mountain Road. Bob recalls, "Part of the climb was on a frightful, sheer-edged, narrow, and greasy roadway. Opting to slide into the rocky inside edge rather than off the mountain, I gashed a tire sidewall. That replaced in the rain and slop, I continued upward. Finally the top is in sight, but another tire is losing air from a hole in the side. That one successfully patched with plugs, I moved onward and finally met the other guys. Later, Dr. Bob got stuck in quicksand—in the road!"

Those of us who've been around awhile remember the tag, "Badfinger Bob". This came about when the club was hosting a summer event in Silverton, staged from the Mineral Creek campground. In Bob's typical style, he was camping in the back of his Ford pickup. When getting out of the bed, he caught his little finger between the tailgate and the bed, causing his finger to realign at a 90 degree angle. Bob had to seek medical attention in Durango and get the finger popped back into place. Without missing a beat, Jim Werkmeister tagged him Badfinger Bob.

Bob says, "I enjoy the camaraderie of NM4W. It's people who enjoy four-wheeling at all levels. The club is a great mix of rookies through seasoned veterans." Bob has been a longtime contributor to NM4W and the larger four-wheeling community. Lucky for us, he always returns from those remote backcountry roads.

2008 NM4W Holiday Food Drive Results

By Frank G. Whiston

I just received the following thank you letter written to NM4W from Melody Wattenbarger, Executive Director of Roadrunner Food Bank. Those who participated back in November might recall that they placed each donation on a scale before loading into the truck. As a club, we donated 957 pounds of food! Again, I would like to thank everyone who donated. Now that we have set the bar, I think that we can do much better in 2009. Stay tuned for the kickoff of the 2nd Annual Holiday Food Drive coming Fall, 2009 ☺



January 30, 2009

Frank Whiston
New Mexico 4 Wheelers

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your donation of 957 pounds of food to the 2008 Holiday Food Drive. Your generosity helped Roadrunner Food Bank achieve its most successful food drive ever. Together, we raised 660,000 pounds of food to help feed hungry New Mexicans during these trying times!

This year we have seen the need for food assistance increase more than 30%, beginning with rising fuel and food costs, then compounded by the loss of jobs, homes and savings we are all reading about in the news and experiencing ourselves. Many of the working families who turn to us say they are seeking help with food for the first time in their lives.

New Mexico continues to be the second hungriest state in the country with one out of six people needing help with food each year. An alarming one out of four children in our state falls into this unfortunate category.

Your participation in the 2008 Holiday Food Drive has already made a difference in the lives of your less fortunate neighbors. You have provided a box of nutritious food to a medically-frail senior. You have sent fresh produce to isolated parts of New Mexico where there are no services or grocery stores. You have sent a child home for the weekend knowing he will not be hungry because he has a backpack full of food. All of this, and more, was made possible by all who donated time, food and money to the Holiday Food Drive.

We thank you for caring and for making a difference.

Sincerely,

Melody Wattenbarger
Executive Director

Founding Member of



A Member of



2645 Baylor Drive SE • Albuquerque, NM 87106 • Phone: 505-247-2052 • Fax: 505-242-5471 • www.rffb.org

A Cause We Can All Rally Around

By Adena Cook, BlueRibbon Coalition

Caught up in the attractions of the Internet, television, and the cyber world, too many children have become isolated from nature.

We need to get kids outside! Recreation groups, land managers, youth organizations, health providers, and educators are starting to get serious about this crisis: Kids spend far too little time outdoors enjoying physical activity. It's a cause we can all rally around, one with which we all agree. We need to put it first, before we put effort into who does what on which patch of ground.

Individual interest groups each have their own efforts under way. I'm concerned that this may not be enough. The problem is so massive that a coordinated effort is essential, one that focuses simply on kids, family, and fun. After that message is hammered home, then interest groups and local efforts can add their refinements. With some luck and good will, the cooperation generated in this initial effort will carry through to more focused efforts.

We need to start early, with toddlers. Little kids naturally love to be outdoors, to bask in the sun, crawl in the grass, play in the dirt. A world of natural exploration, away from indoor toys, opens before them. Encouraged at this age, that world of natural exploration can become a lifelong quest.

Winter offers special opportunities, compromised only by the need for appropriate dress. Snow becomes the wonder of a starry flake, the canvas of a snow angel, a ball to throw, the stuff of a man, and a marvelous surface on which to slide whoosh down a hill.

Later on, snow play means skiing, snowboarding, tubing or snowmobiling, all in the company of family and friends. It means learning skills and how to take care of yourself. It means working with family to maintain equipment and help fix machines. Snow can be an enduring passion.

If toddlers are to be encouraged to love the outdoors, then this must start with mom and dad. Parents need to be there, enjoying themselves as much as the kids. This is where a kids-outdoors effort must begin.

I'm worried that it may be too late. How many moms and dads are engrossed in cyber world role playing while the little ones are parked in front of the TV? By the time kids are 10, they can get sucked into the omnipresent Internet-cell-phone communication web that consumes all their attention right down to their very soul. There's no room for outside influences, let alone outdoor activities. They can't go anywhere without being plugged in, and thanks to satellites, they don't have to.

It's a daunting task. We can each go about our efforts and make some progress, but we'll be far more successful if all groups work together in a simple, straightforward way that's pervasive and consistent. All together now, moms, dads, kids -- outside.

Cook is a consultant with the BlueRibbon Coalition. She may be contacted directly here:

Phone: 208-522-7339

e-mail: bradena@sharetrails.org

The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible recreation, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1,200 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. 1-800-258-3742 www.sharetrails.org



For Sale



Jeep Rims: Four rims from 2007 Wrangler, asking \$400 or best offer. See a picture on the club web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm. Call Glenn Vialpando at 505-331-1820.

1994 Ford Ranger Super Cab 4x4: Information and pictures are on the club web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm. Call Frank G. Whiston at 505-292-1541.

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

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

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

Submission Due Date: Beginning in Jan 09, due to the change of our monthly meeting day to the 4th Wednesday of the month, The *Trail Tales* will be published around the 10th of each month. Submissions for each issue must be *received* by the Editor not later than the 5th of that month. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

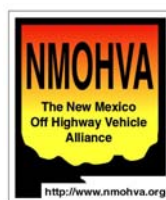
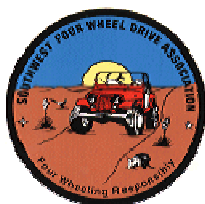
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Feb 18 - 21	SWFWDA Winter Quarterly	http://www.chilechallenge.org/	N/A
Feb 25	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Mar 25	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Apr 29	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Russ Kaz 991-0323 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



March 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From February 25, 2009
by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque on February 25th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Guests: Michael and Linda Beltran, Ernest Marquez, Tedd Romero, Karen Schwach, Cody Romero, Tim Romero, and Randall Scott.

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Glenn and Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Rance Cochrane, Mike and Kristy Coe, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Steve Lamberson, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Jeff and Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Paul and Mary Thompson, Frank & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The January 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the February 2009 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$3,776.32.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: It was suggested that Russ, and Kristy and Mike Coe should be fined for infractions at Chile Challenge. However, it was decided to waive these fines. Cliff reviewed the points system for everyone.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Frank Whiston: Mark was not present. Frank reported he and Mark had a meeting setup with people in the Socorro Ranger district, but it had to be postponed. Mark Wolf brought up the fact that the state legislature had a proposal to use OHVA funds generated from registrations to fund a new department of Ecotourism. Everyone was urged to contact their legislators.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

2009 Chile Challenge Several members had attended the Chile Challenge in Las Cruces the prior week and a good time was had by all. There were no serious mechanical problems.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

March 14th Stock Vehicle Run - Mark Wolf plans to lead this run. It will be to the Socorro area. Meet at the at the Phillips 66 station in Los Lunas on Hwy 6 (across from the Wal-Mart) at 8:30 AM and pull out promptly at 9:00 AM.

- May 17th NMCCC & Albuquerque Museum 25th Annual Automobile Show.
- May 23rd-25th Jemez Memorial Day Campout - There will be two full days of runs, and probably a half-day on Monday.
- July 3rd-11th Creede Colorado – Frank Whiston is going to lead runs this week in the Creede Colorado area. The trails are all ‘easy’, but it is the San Juan Mountains. Several people will be staying at the Mt. Views at Rivers Edge RV Resort and there are other camping grounds in the area.
- Aug 9th NMCCC All-Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park sponsored by Old Car Club of Albuquerque.
- Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday, and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. It also is usually easy with a couple of places where the ‘big tires’ can play.
- Sept 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas
- Oct 3rd-4th Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. The Club may put a trip together at that time.
- Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road Trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight dry camping. Some may expand the trip to Death Valley.

Program Chairman’s Report – Paul Caskey: Paul was not able to attend the meeting and Frank Whiston was not been able to pick up the merchandise and tickets, so there wasn’t a 50-50 raffle.

Historian’s Report - Jan Waugh: Jan was not able to attend. Frank Whiston reminded everyone to send in pictures.

Webmaster & Editor’s Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

Club license plates – Justin Simenson had some proposed design samples that were passed around for comment. It was decided to table any action on this until after the legislature decided whether to require a state license plate on the front of a vehicle.

Chile Challenge Raffle – Cliff Meier reported that the raffle for the Chile Challenge had successfully sold over \$6,900 worth of tickets. Jeannie Greven won the Warn winch, and Pat Brady had won the set of BF Goodrich tires (for the second year in a row!). The club won a tree saver, a gift certificate towards Navajo brakes, and a ‘fuzzy’ hat. It was recommended that some of the prizes be donated to the Jeeps West raffle.

2009 Calendar – Frank Whiston indicated that he had one calendar available for sale.

Blue Star Mothers Community Project – Paul Thompson discussed the list of items that the Blue Star Mothers could send in the Easter boxes, and a copy of the list was passed around for people at the meeting. Cash donations are generally used to cover postage. Paul accepted donations from people at

this meeting. There will be another meeting before the boxes are packed in March, and everyone was encouraged to bring items to that meeting. In addition, volunteers may be needed to help pack the boxes the end of March.

New Business:

Aluminum cans – A volunteer is needed to collect aluminum cans that members bring to the meetings. Tom Hurt has been doing this for several years but would like to pass the responsibility to someone else. Mark Wolf agreed to do this and requested that people smash the cans before bringing them to him.

Summer Meetings – Frank Whiston asked for volunteers to host the summer meetings which are held at member's houses. Joan Wolf volunteered to plan the club picnic which has been held the last two years at Carolino Canyon picnic grounds. This will probably be held sometime in June. Rance Cochran volunteered to host the September meeting, and Mike and Christy Coe volunteered for August. Additional volunteers are needed for May and July.

Club Shirts and merchandise – Frank Whiston reported for Paul Caskey that merchandise was getting low and it may be time to order new shirts. An estimate had been received from Zia Graphics who has provided the shirts in the past. There are different prices based on pieces ordered. A survey of club members will be done to determine the colors and quantities we should order.

SWFWDA Summer Quarterly 2010 - The club has hosted the SWFWDA Summer Quarterly every other year which would be 2010. Frank Whiston suggested that we talk to Jeeps West about co-hosting it in the Gallup area. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that it would be nice to actually have the event in New Mexico. There was concern about the number and difficulty of trails in that area. Frank will look into the matter and report back.

Frank thanked Cliff and Jeanne Meier for providing refreshments for the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Future Hosts are:

March	Mark & Joan Wolf
April	Keith & Linda Jurey
May	
June	Summer Picnic
July	
August	Mike and Christy Coe
September	Rance and Elizabeth Cochran



President's Report By Frank G. Whiston

Anyone have Spring Fever? I do! It is hard to believe what a mild start to 2009 that we have had. The past few weeks with high temps in the 70's, I am starting to see blossoms and new leaves growing on the trees around town. Along with that have come the complaints from allergy sufferers. I am lucky that this time of year has not seemed to have me in an allergic fit. That said, it makes me want to get out. I even have the itch to go camping. Then I remember about the NM4W Memorial Day campout in

the Jemez when it snowed, and that was May, not March! Although this time of year can be somewhat unpredictable as far as the weather, it is a great time to get out and 4-wheel in the lower elevations. The club trip schedule is starting to fill up, but we need some trail leaders for the gap between Wolfie's run on March 14 until Memorial Day. It would be a good time to go to Gordy's Hill or possibly explore in the Mountainair or Magdalena ranger districts to identify routes that the club should protect during the TMR process. I encourage all of you to catch Spring Fever and get out there in your 4x4!

My New Truck

By Leon Duggar

This might sound like an advertisement, but it's not. The first of the year brought me a total transmission meltdown for my '98 Dodge 12 valve Cummins. The family took a trip back to San Antonio for Thanksgiving with the camper. On the way back, we had a 35 mph head wind that put an added strain on an already overworked transmission.

Then one morning, it got me a few miles from the house and then nothing. The torque converter blew up and contaminated the whole transmission. Well, I had wanted an ATS tranny and torque converter, every one has said that they have the best product. I called around, got quotes from three places on performance transmissions, and dollar for dollar, ATS had the best deal. Eric McCabe, a salesman with ATS was very helpful, he figured out what package I needed, and got it ordered. I ordered it on a Monday morning, and had it in my garage on Wednesday. It was very purple, torque converter and all!! I put my core in the shipping crate that the new one came in, and Con-Way picked it up right away. Couldn't have been any easier!!! So you're saying, "Why do I need to know this?" Well, if you pull a Jeep (Bronco in my case) and a camper, or goose neck or fifth wheel, you need this transmission!!! You will not believe you're driving the same truck!!! Empty, I have a race truck that puts all the power to the ground at any rpm. Loaded, set the cruise control and just drive! Fuel economy is up, power is way up, and EGT's are 150 deg. lower than they were with the old tranny with the same load. This truck is a blast to drive now!!! I have to work at keeping my foot off the stupid pedal! Don't wait till yours is stranded on the side of the road on a pass in Colorado. If your diesel is turned up with performance parts, your stock transmission won't last long under a load. None of us wants to put a questionable rig on the rocks, this is no different. Anyone looking to do any upgrades to their diesel truck, check out ATSDiesel.com. You won't be disappointed!!!

Chile Challenge 2009







Blue Ribbon Coalition Media Release

By Del Albright

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brian Hawthorne, Public Lands Policy Director
BlueRibbon Coalition
208-237-1008 ext 102
DATE: February 24, 2009

TRAIL-BASED RECREATION GROUP RAISES CONCERNS ABOUT GAO SURVEY

The BlueRibbon Coalition, an off-highway vehicle (OHV) advocacy group, joined eight other off-highway groups in questioning the validity of a nationwide OHV survey of federal land managers. The groups made their concerns known in a February 5, 2009, letter to the Acting Comptroller General of the United States Government Accountability Office http://www.sharetrails.org/uploads/Letter_To_GAO.pdf.

The GAO review of OHV use was originally requested by New Mexico Congressman Raul M. Grijalva, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. The survey is supposedly designed to determine trends in the amount of OHV use, potential environmental and human health and safety impacts, and how federal agencies are managing OHV use and enforcing OHV regulations. Managers from the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service received the survey and were asked to respond. Preservationist groups and OHV access opponents aggressively petitioned President Obama to appoint Representative Grijalva to the Secretary of Interior cabinet post, but Obama declined, opting instead for moderate Ken Salazar of Colorado.

Brian Hawthorne, BRC's Public Lands Policy Director, indicated that BRC and the other national OHV groups sought to work with the GAO to produce a quality product, which would incorporate the perspective of knowledgeable OHV users supportive of active recreation management. BRC spoke to several GAO staffers and provided a variety of information regarding the large volume of vehicle restrictions since the last GAO study (August 19, 1995), as well as examples of successfully managed OHV programs. "Unfortunately, this information was not included, assuming it was even seriously considered, in the final product," observed Hawthorne.

"Any cautious optimism was quickly dashed when we saw a copy of the survey that was going to be sent to federal land managers." Hawthorne said. "Often the call of the question skews the result, and these questions appear skewed to reflect the anti-access agenda from which this project was borne."

Greg Mumm, BRC's Executive Director, said the survey questions are ambiguous and call for subjective feedback not appropriate given the target audience of professional land managers. More importantly, the survey largely ignores the unprecedented and ongoing implementation of a change to "limited to designated roads, trails, and areas" vehicle policies on both Forest Service and BLM lands. "The survey will inevitably lead to inaccurate and irrelevant observations about OHV use and access to federal lands, which will shift reasonable discussion away from fact and improperly fuel the anti-access agenda. All nine national OHV groups formally request its recall," Mumm noted.

House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Ranking Member, Utah's Rob Bishop, also wrote the GAO to express his concerns with the survey. Bishop stated, "First, the survey is critically flawed because it fails to consider that the Forest Service (and) BLM ... are in the process of implementing a relatively new policy for use on their respective lands." Bishop continued, "Second, the survey contains numerous questions that are far too subjective, littered with vague terminology, and lacking context." In a December 22, 2008, letter to Congressman Bishop, the Acting Comptroller General defended the study and flatly refused any further review. <http://www.sharetrails.org/uploads/BishopLtr.pdf>.

OHV use occurring on federal lands has increased significantly. All stakeholders agree, and federal regulations require, that OHV use should be managed to minimize environmental impacts, and agencies are required to include health and safety concerns in their OHV planning. One must question the validity of a study/report that apparently does not take into consideration success stories and ongoing management activities.

The survey is only part, albeit a critical part, of the whole GAO report. "BRC and other interested groups will wait until the report is finalized to pass final judgment. However, we are very concerned that the GAO report is designed to conclude that OHV use is unmanageable by its very nature, and that prohibition is the preferred management 'strategy,'" Mumm concluded.

BRC applauds the Americans for Responsible Recreational Access, American Motorcyclist Association, Motorcycle Industry Council, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Off-Road Business Association, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, Specialty Vehicle Institute of America, and United Four Wheel Drive Associations for their involvement.

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

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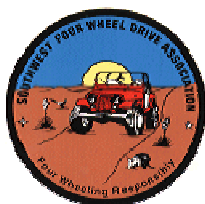
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Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



April 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From March 25, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque on March 25th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Guests: Josh Rede, Tedd Romero, Ernest Marquez, Ron & Becca Hyman, and David Gill.

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Erwin Greven, Keith and Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Jason and Sara Lavy, Tony Lauderbough, Dave Marks, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Chuck and Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Paul and Mary Thompson, Rebagayle and Glenn Vialpando, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The February 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the March 2009 Trail Tales.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$3,729.78 and Paul has a check for \$27.00 from United for rebates of our dues for each of our members who also joined.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Erwin Greven was fined for partially damaging one of his fender flares during the Chile Challenge. Cliff reviewed the points system for everyone.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Frank G. Whiston: At the February meeting we discussed a bill in the state legislature that would use fees collected for OHV purposes to fund a department of Ecotourism. A diluted version of the bill passed the state legislature without the Ecotourism changes. The bill did move OHV enforcement to the Game and Fish Department.

The NMOHVA annual meeting was held the previous week. Jeff Boggs was elected as a member-at-large. During the meeting there was discussion concerning future projects. They may look at some Pro OHV outreach programs.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

Mar 14th Stock Vehicle run - Mark Wolf led a run to Gordy's Hill. There were 16 vehicles with several visitors. After the run about 6 jeeps went on a run to San Lorenzo canyon.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

Mar 28	Cedro Peak run – Cliff Meier – Meet at the Tijeras Forest Service parking lot at 9:00.
May 17 th	NMCCC & Albuquerque Museum 25th Annual Automobile Show.
May 23 rd -25 th	Jemez Memorial Day Campout - There will be two days of runs and probably a half-day on Monday.
Jun 13 th	Carolino Picnic Ground – June meeting. The club will provide the meat and drinks. Everyone should bring a side dish.
Jul 3 rd -11 th	Creede Colorado – Frank G. Whiston is going to lead runs this week in the Creede Colorado area. The trails are all ‘easy’ but it is the San Juan Mountains. Several people will be staying at the Mt Views at Rivers Edge RV Resort and there are other camp grounds in the area. Frank has heard Mt View RV is full.
Aug 9 th	NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park sponsored by Old Car Club of Albuquerque.
Aug 21 st -23 rd	Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. It also is usually easy with a couple of places where the ‘big tires’ can play.
Sep 25 th -27 th	NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas.
Oct 3 rd -4 th	Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. Club may put a trip together at that time.
Nov 1 st - ?	Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight dry camping. Some may expand the trip to Death Valley.

Program Chairman’s Report – Paul Caskey: Paul was not able to attend the meeting. Frank and Beth Whiston had clothing and other merchandise for sale. Justin Simenson did the 50-50 raffle. Frank reminded everyone there was a survey being conducted for what sizes and colors to order.

Historian’s Report - Jan Waugh: Jan was not able to attend. Frank Whiston reminded everyone to send in pictures.

Webmaster & Editor’s Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

Blue Star Mothers Community Project – Paul Thompson indicated that any donations for the Blue Star Mothers should put it on the counter by the door. Anyone that wants to help with packing the boxes for the troops should be at the Troop Support Center, 2919 2nd NW, 9:00 am Saturday March 28th.

The June meeting will be at the Carolino Picnic Grounds. Mark Wolf made a motion NM4W members authorize \$150.00 to rent the picnic area. Motion passed.

Volunteers for May and July meetings – Frank Whiston indicated that volunteers were needed for the May and July meetings.

2010 Summer Quarterly – Frank Whiston indicated he had talked to the people at Jeeps West. After some discussion, they did not believe there were enough trails in the Gallup area for the quarterly. There was a brief discussion of doing a quarterly at Gordy’s hill, but it would be too hot to do the Summer Quarterly there. Mark Wolf indicated that since Gordy’s Hill travel management hasn’t been

finalized it is premature to make any plans for that area. Farmington was also discussed as a possible site but it is also hot in the summer.

Memorial Day Campout – Mark Wolfe suggested the club provide barbecue for the cookout. Sue Brady made a motion to provide \$125.00 for the meat and motion passed.

Club license plates – This item was tabled at the February meeting pending legislation in the state legislature to require license plates on the front of a vehicle. The bill died so it was decided to proceed with the club license plates. Justin Simenson had 3 designs and two possible color combinations. Members decided the yellow and red was the desired color combination. The designs were put on the board and members were asked to vote on the design they preferred. The final tally was:

Design A – Zero

Design B – 1

Design C – 13

New Business:

Montessa Park – Frank Whiston had been contacted by Kent Swanson from Open Space. Some of the land at Montessa Park is private and some owners are fencing their land off. Some off-roaders have been cutting the fences. They are planning an informational event to educate the public. NM4W will be contacted when more information is available.

Frank thanked Joan and Mark Wolf for providing refreshments for the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40. 50-50 Raffle – Total raised was \$70.00. Russ Kaz won 50% or \$35.00.

Future Hosts are:

April Keith & Linda Jurey

May

June Summer Picnic

July

August Mike and Christy Coe

September Rance and Elizabeth Cochran



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

[NMOHVA](#) held their Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 21. I along with several other NM4W members attended. At this meeting, the group reflected on the accomplishments made by the organization during the past year. NMOHVA had a very busy year and grew a lot over the past year. The key thing that stood out to me was the progress made in getting word out to motorized users on issues that impact all types of motorized recreation. Then there was a brainstorming session for ideas and projects that NMOHVA will focus on in the coming year. It was very exciting and motivating to hear all of the ideas that were brought up. Our club has excellent representation in NMOHVA with our own DEA, Mark Werkmeister, currently serving as NMOHVA President, and NM4W member Jeff Boggs who was just elected as NMOHVA board member-at-large. It is a great asset to all modes of motorized recreation to have such an alliance to work with local user groups (4x4, ATV, Motorcycle, Snowmobile) and public land managers to promote responsible use and protect motorized access to public lands. It is great that NM4W supports this organization as a member club and I would encourage our members to get involved.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello everyone,

This month my report is two items. First up is the long-awaited and eagerly anticipated Part 2 quick lesson on NEPA. Then, I will then wrap up with an update on the latest on local projects.

In the Feb newsletter, I covered some NEPA basics and explained the process for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). I suggest you quickly review that material as a starting point for Part 2. Part 2 is going to cover Environmental Assessments (EA) and Categorical Exclusions (Cat Ex). First, let's take a look at the EA.

Like the more rigorous EIS we covered last month, the EA is designed to comply with NEPA's requirements that all decisions be made in the open, that the public gets to see everything, and that all decisions must be justified by science. An EA is not quite as rigorous as an EIS but the process has many parallels.

The purpose of an environmental assessment is three-fold: (1) To briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an EIS; (2) aiding an agency's compliance with NEPA when no EIS is necessary, i.e., it helps to identify better alternatives and mitigation measures; and (3) facilitating preparation of an EIS when one is necessary. As you can see, technically, an agency is supposed to use an EA to determine whether the project has enough impact to warrant a full-blown EIS. Think of it as a 'quick-form' or 'mini-EIS'. In reality, the agency usually has a pretty good idea whether a project can be covered by the shorter and faster (and cheaper) EA or whether an EIS is required. In practice, an EA might 'turn into' an EIS but it doesn't happen very often.

Another interesting point is that an EA is supposed to be a 'concise' document of roughly 10-15 pages. This unofficial limit on length is often ignored. If the project and its impacts are complex enough to require more than 15 pages, it is assumed to move into the 'EIS-required' category.

The exact process for preparing and issuing an EA is not as clearly defined as it is for the EIS, but this is generally what happens: An EA typically starts with a Proposed Action including a 'Purpose and Need' statement. This Proposed Action/Purpose and Need serves roughly the same purpose the Notice of Intent does for an EIS. It informs the public that the agency is going to prepare a document that is required to have public input. For the EA, there is generally a 30-day Scoping period during which the public is invited to provide comments on the Proposed Action. After Scoping concludes, the agency prepares the draft EA. The document is supposed to contain brief discussions of the need for the proposal, a description of the alternatives presented, the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and a listing of agencies and persons consulted.

Once the draft EA is completed, the public is given 30 days to comment on the document. These comments are reviewed and any changes resulting from the comments are incorporated into the EA. The final document is issued to the public with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Remember, it has to be a FONSI because if the impacts are judged to be 'significant', a full EIS is required.

Like the EIS and its Record of Decision, the EA/FONSI can be appealed by the members of the public who made comments during the EA comment period. The appeals are limited to the specific items to which they made comments (again, just like an EIS).

Now, a few quick words on the Categorical Exclusion, the least rigorous of the NEPA processes. The Categorical Exclusion is often referred to as a 'Cat Ex'. The Cat Ex is included in the NEPA requirements for the purpose of covering actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the environment: typically small, routine actions. There are a few exceptions, including some fuel reduction projects that only require a Cat Ex due to a special Executive Order, but most Cat Ex's are for routine actions that the Forest Service undertakes on a semi-regular basis.

There you have it: A very brief overview of the three main NEPA processes. If you want to read more, below are links that provide a much more detailed view of the NEPA process. **Remember, knowledge is power. Knowing NEPA allows us to effectively use NEPA!**

http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm - These are the actual NEPA regulations put forth by the Council on Environmental Quality.

http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/Citizens_Guide_Dec07.pdf - The 'Citizen's Guide to NEPA', also issued by the Council on Environmental Quality.

http://www.metro-solutions.org/posted/1068/NEPA_Process_v2.117833.pps - An excellent presentation on how the EIS process works. This was prepared by a Company called Metro Solutions but is one of the better explanations of the process that I have found.

http://www.delalbright.com/access/nepa_intro.htm - A really good explanation by John Stewart, a long-time motorized access advocate.

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Since I last talked to the club, the Mountainair Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest has issued a Proposed Action as the first step in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment. You can read the Proposed Action at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_mt_air/proposed_action/index.shtml

Don't be confused by the use of the term 'Scoping Report'...the Proposed Action marks the **START** of the Scoping period which runs through May 1st. Get your scoping comments done and send them in!

So here is the updated list on the status of the major road/trail designation for area National Forests and BLM Field Offices. I have **BOLDED** the updates.

- Cibola National Forest (Sandia Ranger District) – NEPA Complete, Waiting on Implementation.
- Cibola National Forest (Mt. Taylor Ranger District) - In NEPA, Scoping Complete, Forest is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).
- Cibola National Forest (Mountainair Ranger District) – **Proposed Action issued, currently in Scoping period until May 1st.**
- Santa Fe National Forest - In NEPA, Scoping complete, Forest is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). **The latest indications are that the Draft EIS will be issued sometime after September.**
- Carson National Forest - **NEPA has started. The Scoping period runs ended Feb 28th, Forest is analyzing.**
- Rio Puerco Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision - In NEPA, Scoping is complete, BLM is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

- Socorro Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision - NEPA Complete, Waiting for Implementation.

Your DEA,

Mark

All "Stock" Run to Socorro

By Mark Wolf

I had heard some people say that "I can't go on that run, it's too hard core". Well, I decided it was time for an "all stock vehicle" run and see if some of those people would show up to go with me. I got 16 vehicles to accompany me that day! It was big surprise to say the least. However, one person I had heard this from didn't make it. I hope that person makes it to another one of these runs some day. The weather even looked like it was going to cooperate and in fact it did quite well all day!

I told everyone that we would be going toward Socorro and left out the name of the place we went to on purpose. I figured that if the "regulars" knew, they wouldn't go. If the visitors knew, they might shy away as they may have heard about its harder vehicle route challenges and I didn't want anyone to get discouraged. After a brief driver's meeting in the parking lot, we all headed out to Socorro with Dr. Bob Telepak following along as my Tailgunner. We even had two people with vehicles on trailers. I was driving our very stock 95 Grand Cherokee and as this is Joan's car to get to work, I couldn't risk any damage or repair. Actually the vehicle is another great Jeep product and handles trails with ease.

It took us about an hour to get to the exit from I-25 and already I could hear some discontent coming across the CB radio. However, most all were good about it and went along with my plan. I had been down to Socorro the week before and pre-ran the intended trail and it was easy to maneuver for stock vehicles. After we all unloaded our vehicles and aired down our tires, we were ready to go. Once again, Dr. Telepak was my Tailgunner and he did an excellent job! It didn't take us too long before we were at the turn off to the trailhead. Everyone was ready to go and we all shifted into low range. The trail heads south from the northern boundary road into a wash. We then headed east until we traveled through a gate and then on to the east along the northern boundary of Gordy's Hill OHV area. It only took a couple of minutes for us to reach our first sight-seeing item -- an abandoned stone house. After a brief visit and taking some pictures, we were just about ready to go when someone noticed some deer on the run. We glanced to see them, but they were in a hurry and didn't stick around very long. It's always good to see some game animals.

We continued east through some varied terrain and over some rock gardens, where everyone came through just fine. We finally made it to the Middle Access Road and turned left towards the eastern boundary of the OHV area. We then turned south on the last trail before leaving the area that heads to the west. At this time we decided it was time for lunch! That took an hour and everyone enjoyed a good chat and lunch. We then loaded up and headed west again. After a few minutes, we found another rock house and stopped to take pictures of it and theorize about what it may have been used for. Once again we headed out and towards the mine. I stopped here and warned EVERYONE about the danger lurking under the covered plywood! People took their time and climbed around and chatted some more. It was finally time to load up and head back to the road. I traveled slowly to the staging area where everyone either aired up their tires or loaded their vehicles on a trailer for the trip home. I want to thank all those that came along and especially those generous NM4W's who opened up their hoods and let people use their air compressors. We had everyone aired up and ready to go in no time at all. Oh yeah,

there was NO vehicle damage whatsoever, that I'm aware of anyway. I believe that everyone had a good time and saw another side of Gordy's Hill OHV area.

Six vehicles decided to follow Jeannie Grevin's wish to go to San Lorenzo Canyon. Erwin and Jeannie led the way and we went north towards Lemitar where we pulled into the store there to top off fuel tanks and get an ice cream cone. We headed out after a few minutes and went north until the road turned right under I-25. We made an immediate left turn and headed into the canyon area which was well marked with signs. We were also headed straight towards a very menacing cloud that looked like it was going to get serious very soon. We made it to the end of the road and several of us hiked up the canyon looking for a waterfall. After about 20 minutes of hiking, we decided that maybe we better turn around and head back to our vehicles. That was a good move as it started snowing pellets just as we were getting back. Some had stayed at their vehicles and aired up their tires. The rest of us would have to do it later. We headed back to I-25 wishing we could have stayed a little longer as this was a pretty neat canyon. At the end of the dirt road I decided to pull over and air up my tires. Boy! Was that a mistake! About the time I had everything out and connected, it really cut loose. Lightning, snow, wind, and cold!! I was pretty soaked by the time I was on my way, but I made it. When I stopped at the rest area a couple miles up the road, there was Dr. Telepak airing up his tires. He told me he didn't want to deal with the lightning and so had elected to drive to the rest area. That would have been a much smarter move in hindsight!

Those in attendance were: Glenn and Rebagayle Vialpando, Erwin and Jeannie Grevin, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Russ Kaz and Glenna Giboney, Paul and Mary Thompson, Chris Sears and friend, Phil and Ilene Rodacy (all the way from Washington D.C.!), Dr. Bob Telepak, and myself for members. Guests were: Josh Rede (Toyota double cab), Larry Ritter (JK), Karen Schwach (XJ), Jon & Janet Sholar with their new daughter (Rubicon LJ), Tedd Romero and Judy Sandoval (TJ), Maggie Craw and Karmen Kleinschmidt (YJ), Eric Martinez (XJ), and Chris Morten and son (Scout! And we thought the "Cornbinder" bunch had retired!!).

**The Future is Calling
Who Will Be There To Answer?**
By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Coalition



Activists in off-road recreation seem to be an aging group – no offense intended. Many of us are “gray hairs” and many are working so hard that “burnout” may cause some premature aging. I worry that not enough young folks are taking up the torch and carrying the flame. When the future calls, will we have folks there to answer?

I was enjoying the business of an annual convention recently of the Calif. Assoc. of 4WD Clubs when I noticed long-time activist Jim Bramham (featured in accompanying photo) sitting nearby with his grandson, Oscar (2 and 1/2 years old). I swung the camera towards Oscar and said, “Hello.” Upon hearing those familiar words, Oscar picked up his play calculator like it was a telephone and answered me back. Cute.

It struck me that Oscar (son of Ernie and Luana Hernandez) is our future – and the phone is ringing. His proud grandpa, Jim is showing Oscar the off-road world, for sure – but Jim and I are part of the, well,

let's just say, more experienced generation. We need young ones like Oscar to grow up with phone in hand, torch lit, and flame burning bright in our fights for access.

How do we ensure that happens? How do we get younger folks ready to answer that future call? I have some ideas to share.

First of all, I echo the wisdom of my friend and BlueRibbon partner, Adena Cook who recently wrote about getting kids outside – doing anything; just doing it outside. See her article on A Cause We Can All Rally Around here: <http://www.sharetrails.org/magazine/article.php?id=1702> (Adena's article was also featured in the Feb 09 Issue of the Trail Tales -ed.)

Secondly, all “old timers” need to be part of or involved in a kids program of some sort – even if that means merely contributing advice, time, or money to such a program. No matter how you do it, find a way to include kids in what you love to do.

Third, let go the reins. Folks who have “been there and done that” need to step aside at strategic points and let others drive. Of course, we can offer advice, talk about the old days, show the mistakes we've made, and even fess up to doing it wrong at some point in the past. But all this is done with the purpose in mind of making the future brighter.

Fourth, set the example and keep to the high ground. I firmly believe those who oppose motorized recreation are after the hearts and minds of our kids. I wrote about this a few years ago here: <http://www.delalbright.com/articles/kids.htm>. We “older folks” need to show the younger crowd the common sense, respectable, and high ground way of recreating so as to keep our image clean. We can continue to do so many simple things like pack it out, stay the trail, and follow the rules.

The last thing we can do is to speak up when folks are not behaving or following the rules (no matter their age or experience). Please do not let your lack of action contribute to someone else bringing down our recreational opportunities. Show kids how we can set the example.

As we enjoy various events, club meetings and rides, ask yourself if there isn't something you can do to ensure someone will be there when the phone rings in the future.

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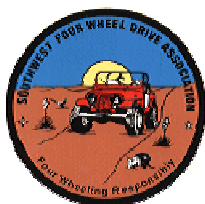
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Jun 13	Club Meeting at Carolino	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539

NM4W Officers

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Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
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Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



May 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From April 22, 2009
by Beth Whiston



Meeting was held Heights Cumberland Church. Frank Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Guests: Ignacio Chavez (former member), Allen Heckart, Tedd Romero.

Members Present: Glenn & Jan Bontly, Mike & Kristy Coe, Keith & Linda Jurey, Ed Kausche, Jason Lavy, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Carlos & Laurye Tanner, Bob Telepak, Frank R. & Donna Whiston, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report – Jeanne Meier: Not present.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: Not present. Bank balance: \$3,662.33.

Vice President's Report – Cliff Meier: Not present. We have a guest eligible to be voted in to the club. Ted Romero was voted into club.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz: Not present.

Past trips--

- March 28: Packing Boxes for Blue Star Mothers.
- March 28: Cedro Peak run: 6-7 vehicles total (five guests). There was 3-4 inches of snow; it went well and everybody had a good time.

Coming up--

- April 25: Wolfie is taking the Commando out to Gordy's Hill. He will be testing his vehicle.
- May 17: NMCCC & Albuquerque Museum 25th Annual Automobile Show. It would be nice to have a few vehicles from the club. Need somebody to be willing to hang out for the day and lead some club vehicles in. There is a \$10 fee to enter a vehicle in the car show. We need people to help park/spot vehicles and registration desk.
- May 23-25: Memorial Day campout.
- July 3-11: 4th of July trip to Creede, Colorado. We will have a potluck on the 4th. Still need to talk to the RV Park to see if it's ok for people who are not staying there to drive in for a pot-luck.
- August 9: NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park sponsored by Old Car Club of Albuquerque. Bring a potluck dish to share.

- August 21-23: Jeeps West campout in Zuni Mountains.
- October 3 – 4: "We Rock" National Finals; Extreme Rock Crawling Event (Farmington). Head out there early to watch, then possibly do some of our own 4-wheeling. Contact: Jeff Boggs.
- First week of November. Mojave road run. Not a difficult trail; will take 2.5 days to run it. More about this trip as it gets closer.
- Weekend after Labor Day: Mount Blanca.
- Caballo Trip possibly in November.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: not present

1. Cibola National Forest – Mountainair Ranger District

- Don't forget that the Scoping comments for the Mountainair Ranger District are due by May 1st. The Mountainair Ranger District has stated that the reason so many roads are being proposed for closure is that no one from the public had requested them to be left open. Let's do what we can to change that. Be as specific in your comments as possible, but A GENERAL COMMENT TO LEAVE ROADS OPEN is better than no comment at all.
- If you get the chance to hit the roads before the end of the month, please try to coordinate with Bob/Cliff so you don't run roads they have already covered.
- Please send Mark copies of all the scoping comments you send in so we can verify that the Forest Service includes all of them in the public record.
- REMEMBER – IF YOUR COMMENTS ARE RECEIVED BEFORE OR AFTER THE COMMENT PERIOD, THE FS CAN IGNORE THEM!

2. Cibola National Forest – Magdalena Ranger District

- They are getting ready to start public 'collaboration' in some form or fashion.
- Mark and others have been contacted by Kathy Bond so they may be planning on using some type of formal collaborative effort. Mark nominated Bob Telepak to be the club's official rep but everyone's comments are needed.
- Mark will let the club know when the formal Scoping comments start and end.

3. Santa Fe National Forest –

- We think the draft Environmental Impact Statement will be out sometime this fall. We will engage Pan Pacific Services for training in how to write substantive comments at that time.
- In the meantime, ANYTHING we can do to convince the FS to include our favorite trails in the alternatives increases our chances of having included when the process is complete. It is a good time to:
 - Volunteer for maintenance projects on the SFNF. The NMOHVA, Blackfeather, and Sierra Riders all have maintenance projects scheduled with the SFNF in the coming months.

- Take the FS out to personally visit any of the routes that we want included that they haven't physically ridden. This includes any of the five Ranger Districts. Coordinate with Mark/Paul Thompson so we don't waste their time and ours on routes we have already visited.
- Visit the Ranger Districts personally. Let them know how important specific routes are to you, your family, and your club.
- Become more knowledgeable about the NEPA process and the SFNF Proposed Action in particular.

That is all. Have fun, go 'wheelin', and never give up!

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Not present.

Historian's Report – Jan Waugh: Not present. Looking for pictures!

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Guests, please fill out application online to get on the guest list.

Old Business:

License plates: We have a quote of 125 plates/\$517.50 plus \$20-25 shipping. Do we want 2 slots, 4 slots, or 4 holes? A design has already been voted on: yellow background w/ red writing & Zia symbol. Thank you Justin for the nice design! Wolfie motioned that we order the plates with 4 slots. Motioned passed. Order will be placed and we will be billed at a later time.

June 27th the City of ABQ open space is planning an off highway event. They are looking for clubs to support this event and set up a booth with information about the club. There will be safety talks, booths by ATV and dirt bike vendors. This would be a decent thing for the club to do; we can network with these agencies. We know that not many members of our club go out there. Let Frank know if you are interested in participating. Nothing set in stone at this point. This will take place early in the morning and they will provide water. They will be initiating a volunteer program for the off-road park. This includes training these volunteers on off-road safety, as well as helping educate other users on regulations and safety. If you know anybody interested spread the word.

Summer meeting schedule:

- May – Whiston's (5/9) Day before Mother's Day
- June – Carolino Canyon Club Picnic (6/13)
- July – Meier's
- August – Coe's
- September- Cochran's

New Business:

NMOVHA – Grant application. Frank has signed the club up for volunteering labor. NMOHVA's Recreational Trails Program grant application; for implementing the Travel Management Rule and route designations in the Cedro Peak area. There will be many volunteer opportunities: trailhead improvements, signing, hauling width limiters to the trails, etc.

The Jurey's won \$24 in the 50/50 raffle!

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM. Thank you to the Jurey's for hosting the meeting!



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

2009 is already flying by! This summer, there is plenty for the club to get involved with.

The club annual election of officers is scheduled to be held at the July meeting. Officer positions of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers include: President, Vice-President, Program Chairman, Trip Chairman, Director of Environmental Affairs, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and SWFWDA Delegate. Any voting member in good standing may be nominated and elected. You can volunteer (self-nominate) yourself. A nominee must be present to accept the nomination, or have filed a letter or email of intent with the secretary. I am sure that some of the long-time officers would gladly take a reprieve and allow some new faces on the board.

Just in case you are willing to take on one of the officer positions, but aren't sure just what you might have to do, the descriptions of each position are listed on the club web site at www.nm4w.org/SOPs.htm.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

A short report this month as no new access activities have started. Some quick thoughts as we get ready to enjoy the summer:

1. I hope everyone found time to send a comment or two on the Mountainair District of the Cibola National Forest. The Scoping comment period closed on May 1st. The club owes a BIG thank you to Dr. Bob Telepak for the extensive information he gathered and presented to the Ranger District.
2. I encourage everyone to use the 'driving season' in the Jemez to spend quality time 'in the field' with the Forest Service on the routes that we have requested. Make sure that they aren't making closure decisions at their desks. Let's ensure that they have actually seen the routes that we want preserved for our kids and grandkids.
3. I encourage everyone to get involved in road and trail maintenance projects this summer and fall. There are a number of opportunities available and we, as a club, should be arranging some of our own with the SFNF. These help prove to the Forest Service that we are serious about working problem areas to a solution and that we are willing to put our backs and some sweat into the routes.

Here is the updated list on the status of the major road/trail designation for area National Forests and BLM Field Offices. I have **BOLDED** the updates.

- Cibola National Forest (Sandia Ranger District) – NEPA Complete, **Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) should be out any day now. When the map comes out, the Travel Management route designations will officially take effect.**

- Cibola National Forest (Mt. Taylor Ranger District) - In NEPA, Scoping Complete, Forest is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).
- Cibola National Forest (Mountainair Ranger District) – **NEPA has started. Scoping Period Ended May 1st, Forest is now analyzing.**
- Santa Fe National Forest - In NEPA, Scoping complete, Forest is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The latest indications are that the Draft EIS will be issued sometime after September.
- Carson National Forest - NEPA has started. The Scoping period runs ended Feb 28th, Forest is analyzing.
- Rio Puerco Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision - In NEPA, Scoping is complete, BLM is Analyzing, Waiting for Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Socorro Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision - NEPA Complete, Waiting for Implementation.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting this weekend.

Your DEA,
Mark

Member Spotlight: Jeff & Paula Boggs

By Joan Wolf



Jeff and Paula love to get far away from the city whenever and however possible. They go hiking, biking, canoeing, skiing, snowshoeing, dirt biking, ATV riding, and camping. Since acquiring their Jeep 1½ years ago, they added four-wheeling to their long list of outdoor fun.

Jeff had always wanted a Jeep, but never pursued it until his brother's 2006 Wrangler Unlimited became available. It was stock until Jeff got a hold of it and began adding "the first of many" after-market products. It was Derren and Mark at Desert Rat who pointed Jeff to the New Mexico 4-Wheelers. Jeff's first club event was the Rockin' New Year's of 2008 at Gordy's Hill. At the 2008 Chile Challenge, he got acquainted with more club members, had a great time playing on the Las Cruces trails, and got hooked.

The 2009 Chile Challenge was one of Paula's first forays into four-wheeling. She says, "The Chile Challenge was enjoyable, more than I expected. We did some rough stuff on Amatista Ledges. I gained

a new appreciation for why you have to modify the vehicle.” (That must’ve been music to Jeff’s ears, but continue reading.)

Jeff and Paula met in Abilene, Texas—Jeff’s hometown and her college town. Paula grew up in Albuquerque and Hobbs. She holds fond memories of picnics in the Sandia Mountains. When she was a child, the Sandia Crest road was dirt and a long way from town. It was exciting to drive up the Crest road before pavement, pullouts, and guardrails! The Boggs now share their Rio Rancho home with cats, Ivan and BW (she’s a Black & White tuxedo cat).

The Boggs are both dedicated medical professionals. In his 30 years as a Registered Nurse, Jeff has mostly worked in dialysis treatment. Currently with the West Albuquerque Dialysis Center, Jeff says, “Patients are raising families, working, and getting kidney dialysis three times per week, four hours per visit. It’s astonishing to see what people go through.” Though days-off vary and he works some Saturdays, Jeff relishes spending occasional six-day weekends on extended bicycling, motorcycling, and Jeeping trips. He recently spent his “long weekend” motorcycling and camping west of Blanding, Utah.



Paula is a Medical Speech Pathologist and has worked at the VA Hospital for 13 years. She specializes in swallowing disorders, often a result of strokes or head injuries. Paula enjoys working with veterans and says most are hilarious. As a supervisor of speech pathology students, Paula spends her own time keeping up on medical research. Though they see many sad cases, Paula and Jeff focus on the rewards of seeing people miraculously get well.



As another way to get away from it all, they’ve developed a strong interest in astronomy. They’re active in the local astronomy club and attend star parties when possible. When by themselves, they like to camp way back in the woods or desert and watch the night sky with their three telescopes. If the weather cooperates, they’ll bring a telescope to the Jemez for the club’s Memorial Day campout. One more reason to join NM4W at Porter Landing, May 23-25.

Jeff’s toys don’t end with the telescopes and Jeep. He owns and rides bicycles (mountain and road), two dirt bikes, a 1998 Honda XR400 dual-sport motorcycle (it goes on highway or trail), a 1986 Yamaha Venture Royale (comparable to a Goldwing, he uses it for work and on day trips), and a trials motorcycle for offroad. Jeff explains that trials motorcycling is similar to four-wheeling except there are two wheels. As a member of NM Trials Association, Jeff competes in the quarterly competitions held at the San Ysidro Trials area. Trials motorcycling is done at slow speeds and requires good balance (so you stand up all the time, no sitting in a cushiony upholstered seat with A/C running).

Out of concern for disappearing public lands access, Jeff joined NMOHVA when he joined NM4W. In March, he began serving as Member-at-Large on the Board of NMOHVA. He wants to be a voice for both trials and four-wheelers. He's chagrined by the draft Travel Management Plan for the Santa Fe National Forest. That USFS proposal reduces trials areas from seven to just one. And every backwoods dry camping site they've camped at for 20 years is proposed for closures. Ironically, one reason the Boggs' left Texas was because camping was limited to state-run parks that filled up by 5 p.m. on Fridays. Jeff will be an advocate for motorized vehicle users and backcountry campers.

There are many four-wheeling areas Jeff wants to visit including more of the Jemez, Caballo Lake/Palomias Gap, anywhere in Utah with slickrock, and Mt. Blanca. His Jeep upgrades to date include 33" tires, 6" lift, bumpers, underbody armor, and a winch. The next big projects are lockers, axles, and gears. When Jeff said he's halfway there, Paula winced "Oh, no! Halfway?" So much for her new appreciation of why vehicle modifications are needed.

Jeff is very happy with the Jeep's performance on moderate trails, especially the flex. He attributes that to the lift kit from Rusty's Offroad. The tires stay on the ground even with just a limited slip and open differential.

Paula and Jeff are finding that NM4W'ers are a friendly, technically-knowledgeable group. They've belonged to many clubs and what stands out for them is the club's generosity towards the community. They're impressed with the frequent and generous donations of money and time (i.e., food bank, toy drive, Blue Star Mothers). Jeff and Paula are great additions to NM4W. They fit right in with the club's culture of being involved citizens who enjoy the great outdoors.

View from the Locked Gate
A bit of sarcasm about an access lesson
By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Coalition

The gal in uniform with the big gun on her hip smiled and waved as she installed the recessed pad lock on the gate. I guess she thought we were happy about the road being closed. Her rugged 4x4 government-bought pickup truck that was kinda parked in our view had all sorts of signs and decals declaring she was a public servant. We figured it must be true.

She had sent us an official-looking letter a while back asking for comments, but the fish were a'bitin' so we missed out on the letter-writin'. We figured someone else would write those darn letters. We figured wrong on all accounts.

It was a heck of a view we had – trees, rocks, trails, roads, wildlife, mountains, creeks, and vast open areas beckoning to the adventurer in all of us. It's easy to recall my Dad, Elmer, telling stories of roaming this kind of back country area 40 years ago with the freedom of a jack rabbit in the Mojave Desert. He always told us to get outdoors and have fun while taking care of the land. He figured we would all have the same freedom. He figured wrong.

The ability, and most importantly the opportunity that my dad had to take his kids out and teach us how to fish, hunt, hike, play, and breathe in the fresh air is all but gone now. My mind wanders off and I think of what can happen if we continue down this dangerous path of management by closure.

Soon it will be just a happy memory of our nine year old when she was able to see nature, hike, take pictures, and jump in and out of our 4 wheel drive while we were on the hunt for a new camp spot. Soon she will not have the opportunity to teach them the same lessons and family traditions that came naturally and innocently in her youth to her tots.

Our view now is tainted, to say the least. Padlocks, iron pipe, closed signs, reinforced hinges, and small-print letting us know under no uncertain circumstances that the land beyond the gate is CLOSED to access – unless of course you want to haul your buns in there via boot rubber.

Now, as I stand here watching that same gal in uniform jump back into her four wheel drive (that I paid for) and drive on down my old favorite trail, I get a lump in my throat and I get a little teary eyed just thinking about the view our kids are going to have from this same locked gate that's in my backyard. I don't think I'm figuring wrong anymore.

Back to the future: in reality, there are things we can all do to prevent this (sarcastic) scenario from happening. You've read tons of articles on getting involved, joining groups like BlueRibbon Coalition, and ensuring your family and friends have a place to ride. **Just do it.** Visit www.delalbright.com and www.sharetrails.org for more things you can do right now. Make a difference and help prevent closures from blocking our "view" any more. Join up, donate and get in the game. Please, before we have nothing left to figure on...

The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible use of public lands and waters, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1,200 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. 1-800-258-3742. <http://www.sharetrails.org>



1994 Ford Ranger Super Cab 4x4: PRICE REDUCED! Information and pictures are on the club web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm. Call Frank G. Whiston at 505-292-1541.

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

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

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

Submission Due Date: Beginning in Jan 09, due to the change of our monthly meeting day to the 4th Wednesday of the month, The *Trail Tales* will be published around the 10th of each month. Submissions for each issue must be *received* by the Editor not later than the **5th of that month**. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

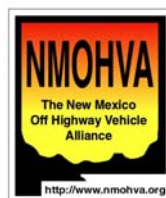
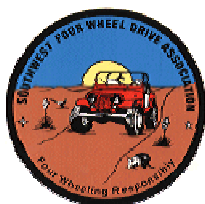
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
May 9	Club Meeting at the Whiston's	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
May 17	NMCCC Automobile Show	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
May 23 – 25	Memorial Day Campout	Call Russ Kaz	505-991-0323
Jun 13	Club Meeting at Carolino	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Russ Kaz 991-0323 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



June 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From May 9, 2009
by Joan Wolf



The first potluck meeting of the season was held at Frank and Beth Whiston's. Frank called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

Guests: Allen and Mary Jo Heckart ('81 CJ5), Coleman and Liz Hudson ('68 Jeepster under construction--no surprise there, '05 Durango, and another '05 truck.)

Members Present: Paul and Eveliina Baca and daughter, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Paul Caskey, Erwin & Jeannie Greven, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Jason & Sarah Lavy and sons, Tony Louderbough, Mike & Linda Sells, Carlos & Laurye Tanner, Mark & Joanne Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston and girls, Mark & Joan Wolf, Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report – Jeanne Meier: Not present.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: Not present. Bank balance \$3,874.78.

VP/Sheriff Report – Cliff Meier: Not present. No fines, except Russ Kaz raised the issue of Wolfie having problems at Gordy's Hill on April 25. Wolfie sidestepped the issue by saying everyone (Rector, Kaz, Berglund) had problems. One extreme trail now features 5-ft ledges that Jeff couldn't climb. The group renamed it "Jeff Rector's It-Was-Never-This-Hard-Before" trail.

Trip Chair's Report – Russ Kaz

Upcoming:

- May 17: NMCCC & Albuquerque Museum's 25th Annual Car Show.
- May 23-25: Memorial Day Campout in the Jemez. Russ expects an excellent turnout as 16 vehicle owners have already RSVP'd. There will be trail runs, Saturday potluck, games for the kids, and trash pickup. On Monday, there will be the club's traditional run to the log skidder. Russ is doing a great job of putting together a fun family outing.
- June 13: Summer Picnic/Meeting. The club will provide the main dish, paper products, and drinks. Bring a side dish, lawn chairs, and a good appetite. Location is the beautiful Carolino Canyon Picnic area on Hwy 337 (south Hwy 14).
- July 3-11: 4th of July trip to Creede, CO. Easy trails, wonderful scenery. Potluck on July 4, starting sometime between 5 and 6 pm. Fifteen vehicles are expected.
- August 9: NMCCC All Clubs Picnic, Villanueva State Park.
- August 21-23: Jeeps West invites NM4W to camp, run trails in the Zuni Mountains, share good food and fun. More details to come.
- September 12: Mt. Blanca, near Alamosa CO, led by Mark Wolf. He's going round-trip same day, but others can stay at the lake if desired. Hard trail, scenic area.
- September 25-27, NMCCC swap meet.

- October 3-4: Rock crawling championship near Farmington. Jeff Boggs wants to try some trails in addition to watching the competition.

Program Chairman's Report: Paul Caskey reported that the Zia Graphics' quote was competitive with an out-of-state quote. It was moved, seconded, and approved to buy 3-dozen shirts from Zia Graphics at a cost of \$400. Paul will look into the suggestion of buying hooded sweatshirts. His survey for clothing ideas is still open. So far, he's found that people like t-shirts in a variety of colors and sizes. Paul also sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle.

Historian's Report: Jan Waugh. Not present.

Webmaster & Editor's Report: Glenn said the deadline for Trail Tales submissions will be shifted back to the 25th of the month, publication ~1st of the month for the summer months. Frank will check with the church to see if our regular meeting time (second Thursday) has become available for October and November. If not, the meetings will be the fourth Wednesday (October 28 and November 25). Due to construction, the church had to rearrange the 2009 meeting room schedules.

Director of Environmental Affairs Report: Mark Werkmeister urged members to use May-June for taking USFS staff out on the trails we use and want to keep open. In particular, the USFS needs to be taken on the Caja trail. The Magdalena District "pre" pre-scoping will start in the next few weeks. Russ Kaz will forward to the club an email he got from the Arizona Virtual Jeep Club requesting help. They want four-wheelers to give feedback on a BLM proposal to shut down six trails in Arizona. Russ wasn't sure if Crown King or Florence Junction were included. Many NM4W'ers have enjoyed those trails over the years.

Old Business:

Montessa Park off-highway event. Frank isn't sure if the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division is still holding this on June 27 as previously announced. Montessa Park isn't an area the club uses, but Frank will watch for updates.

New Business:

Food: Glenn made an awesome salsa for the potluck. It was unanimously voted that special recipes be printed in the Trail Tales, starting with Glenn's salsa.

More Food: It was unanimously approved that the club buy the main dish, drinks, and paper products (not to exceed \$200) for the June 13 picnic/meeting.

Jemez Trail Maintenance: Ron Schubert from an ATV club is organizing trail maintenance projects and is looking for some motorized help. In particular, the Los Griegos area (near FR10 and SR4) needs culverts. Glenn volunteered to use his John Deere tractor for the dirt work. Paliza Canyon needs culverts and major dirt work, but Frank thinks heavy-duty equipment will be required for this project. Frank will notify Ron that of the five project dates, September 12 is Glenn's preference (and Glenn has the tractor). This will be a good opportunity for NM4W to team with ATV folks. Frank noted that if anyone knows of an area that needs repair, we should approach the Forest Service with that information.

In closing, Frank asked Glenn to take his '94 Ranger truck off the For Sale list on the web site. It was a bittersweet moment when Frank sold the truck, his first 4x4, and something he'd spent lots of time modifying. But at this point in life, a Ford Flex will prove more family-friendly.

Frank and Beth were thanked for hosting the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. Tony Louderbough won \$25 from the 50/50 Raffle, and somebody won a NM4W 2009 calendar.



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

June already! This month, I want to remind everyone that it is not too early to think about paying your annual club dues. Voting members pay \$35.00 and Associate dues are \$17.50. The June and July club meetings are a convenient time to pay your dues. Dues may also be mailed to the club's mailing address (P.O. Box 90154, Albuquerque, NM 87199-0154). Remember, dues are delinquent on the first day of September, and all rights and privileges of membership will end. It is important to get your dues in on time due to the fact that we send an updated roster to SW4WDA in September to ensure that all current NM4W members receive the benefits of membership in that organization, including the subscription to 4WDrivelines. Also, please check the roster on the members' only page to ensure that the information posted there is up-to-date. If you have moved and the roster has not been updated, you will not receive your subscription to 4WDrivelines. Send any corrections to webmaster@nm4w.org and secretary@nm4w.org. See you at the Club Summer Picnic on June 13.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello everyone!

Two items this month:

1. The Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest has released the [Motor Vehicle Use Map \(MVUM\)](#) for the District. This is significant because the route designations made during the Travel Management planning process are now OFFICIAL. As of now, the only motorized use that is allowed is what is shown on this map. NMOHVA is working to help provide a major amount of trail enhancements in support of these designations, including better signage and a better map. But until then, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER to be in compliance with the map. A copy of the map can be found on the Sandia Ranger District web site at http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_sandia/mvum/sandia_mvum_0509.pdf. You can also pick up a hard copy of the map at the Ranger Station in Tijeras.
2. The Cibola National Forest is also getting ready to kick off the 'pre-scoping' for the Magdalena Ranger District's Travel Management Plans. This is the last of the Cibola National Forest's Districts (Sandia, Mt. Taylor, Mountainair, and Magdalena) to embark on the Travel Management Planning process. The club needs a representative or two to help coordinate and encourage our club's participation in the process. Dr. Bob did a great job on the Mountainair coordination and data collection effort, now it is time for someone else to step up to the plate and lead the effort on the Magdalena District. Why should we care when we haven't historically done much 'wheeling there? There are great routes there! Anybody remember the days of going to "Brady Canyon" in the mid-90's? The Magdalena District may also play a much more important role in the club's future, especially if our use of the Santa Fe National Forest gets curtailed by the ongoing travel management planning there. The more routes we ask for, the more routes there will be in the future. Exploring and mapping the routes in the Magdalena District is also a GREAT opportunity to get out and explore some new areas for the club.

So there you have it - two quick items. Have a happy and productive summer of four wheeling!

Annual Club Picnic & Meeting at Carolino Canyon Park

By Joan Wolf

NM4W picnic/meeting on Saturday, June 13. Area opens at 3:30 p.m. Eat at 5:00 p.m. Meeting follows. This is a beautiful area in the cool pines south of Tijeras, just 20 minutes from I-40 and Tramway (directions below).

Bring a side dish or dessert (**A thru L--dessert; M thru Z--side dish**) and a lawn chair. There are picnic tables--but in case of rain, lawn chairs will ensure getting underneath the picnic shelters.

Club is providing meat (hamburgers and hot dogs), buns, plates, utensils, and drinks. The facility has bathrooms, running water, one electric outlet, horseshoes, and volleyball.

Directions to Carolino Canyon Picnic Area: From I-40 & Tramway, take I-40 east, exit #175 (Tijeras/Cedar Crest/Hwy 337). Turn right (south) onto Hwy 337 and proceed south 9.0 miles (the Oak Flat picnic area is 8.5 miles south, Carolino Canyon is 0.5 miles farther south). Turn left into Carolino Canyon Park, we're the upper picnic area. From I-40 & Tramway, it's a 20-minute drive. No glass allowed. Dogs on leash o.k.

Recipe of the Month: Jennifer's Salsa

By Glenn Bontly

It's been quite a while since we've had a Recipe of the Month submission, so I'm happy to post Jennifer's Salsa Recipe. Jennifer is my boss at work, and she's the one who gave me this recipe, so I can't call it mine. Anyway, her original recipe made over a GALLON of salsa, and that was too much for us to eat in a timely manner, so this recipe is cut in half:

In a small saucepan, bring to a boil:

- 1/4 Cup White Vinegar
- 1/4 Cup Minced Garlic
- 2 Tablespoons Accent Seasoning
- 1/2 Tablespoon Salt

In a food processor, chop:

- 1 Large White Onion
- 6 Fresh Jalapenos (remove all seeds for mild; leave some in for hotter)
- 1/2 Bunch Cilantro

In a really big bowl, combine:

- 1/2 Gallon (or 2 – 28 oz cans) Diced Tomatoes
- All other ingredients above, and mix well

Chill overnight before serving.

Memorial Day Campout and Trail Ride 2009

By Russ Kaz



Greetings all, just wanted to give you a short synopsis of our trip to the Jemez over the Memorial Day weekend. Friday was the start of our long weekend, Glenna and I were both looking forward to sunny days and beautiful weather. NOT, it was totally the opposite. The day started out ok, cloudy but no rain, if only I could get the camper loaded and get the Jeep onto the trailer before it rained. Success! I was feeling pretty good and confident that maybe it was going to be a good day. We headed out of town around 9, roads still dry and light traffic

on 25. As we approached San Ysidro, we could see the dark clouds looming over the mountains and all I could think about was our trip last year... rain and snow, rain and snow, OMG rain and snow. We made it to the campsite relatively unscathed, just a little mud from a previous day's rain. We had staked out a spot the previous week and I pulled the camper in. I had picked an area that wasn't too level, so I spent a good part of an hour trying to get level. No luck! It started to rain and I started to get frustrated. Just then, the Thompson's, Peeple's, and Meier's returned from a ride through Church Canyon. Sensing my frustration, Paul offered some help and Chuck offered some very expensive trail-priced leveling blocks which I gladly allowed him to bill me for. Finally! The camper was level. The flow of rain kept coming, but not the people... where are the people? I started to panic, but then I realized that it was beyond my control. Folks did finally start rolling in and before long our campsite looked like a little RV community. The rain let up around dusk and we all sat around the campfire talking and roasting marshmallows. The rain decided to come back and it rained most of the night and into a good part of Saturday.

We had some more vehicles roll in that morning for the trail ride. All in all, we had 15 rigs on Saturday's ride, a very good turnout for such a miserable day. Paul Thompson led the trail, which took us up around the Peggy Mesa area. The trail for the most part was pretty good until we got into some muddy areas, which was slicker than you know what. The decision was made to turn around as it was thought that it would be difficult to make it past that area for people without lockers. A few adventurous souls decided to try it and all made it. We met them at the top and continued on with our ride. The colors of our surroundings enhanced by the rain were truly awesome. It was time for lunch and Paul had



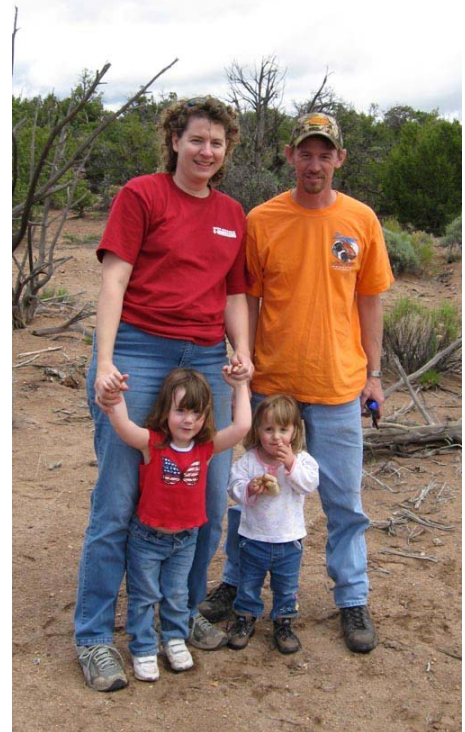
found a green meadow for us to eat at. As if on cue, the rain stopped and we all got out to eat lunch. It was time to get back on the trail and got back to camp in a timely manner, for Saturday was the day we were having a barbecue. We all made it back to camp safe and sound with our mouths watering for what we were going to be enjoying that evening. The command came down to "light the coals"; the coals were lit, but not getting hot, they needed more air. To our rescue, Pat Brady, flapping like a one winged chicken, was able to get the coals going. Our cook for the evening was former member Berrett

Harrison, who had driven up/over from Clovis for the weekend. On the menu... pork ribs, beef brisket, and all the side dishes that members and guests brought. What a feast! If you weren't there, you weren't living. The meat just fell off the bones and the brisket was perfect. Hats off to Berrett for such a great job of cooking. Also, I'd like to thank Tom Hurt for blessing the meal and praying for our service men and women past and present. After we all filled our bellies to max capacity, we retired to the campfire for some more talk and marshmallow roasting. It was a long day and most of us retired to our sleeping quarters early.



What would day 2 have in store for us, would it be rainy, sunny, or both? We had a couple more rigs show up for Sunday's run up to Cat Mesa. We hit the trail with 19 rigs, led by Jeff Boggs. We entered the trail in Canon and took us through a residential area. Once we got past the houses, we started our ascent up the mesa, traversing back and forth on a switch back road. The view of the mountains and valley was spectacular. The weather was fantastic that day, just enough cloud cover to keep the heat down. Once on top of the mesa, we arrived at our first obstacle, just a few rocks with a little dirt berm. When Jeff, Paul, Chuck, and myself pre-ran this trail, we tested

this obstacle and all made it over okay. I thought to myself that people would find it too easy and just drive over it. Nope, didn't happen that way, I guess with the rain and such it made it harder for the wheels to grip and truly made this a challenging obstacle. With everyone up and over, we continued on the trail. What a contrast of scenery to the East of Hwy 4 as opposed to the West side. On the East side you have junipers and pinons, and on the West side you have ponderosas, both areas in their own way beautiful. After a few more little obstacles, we stopped and had lunch in an area that had shade (if you wanted) or nice sunny exposure. We once again hit the trail and came to a play area where you could take several options to get up the hill; a majority of us took the direct way. It was only Pat who wanted to climb up and over a giant boulder; would have made it too, if he only had a few more inches of clearance. Valor getting the best of him, Pat decided to go the way of the others. I wish I could say that I didn't have problems traversing some of the obstacles, but alas I did. It would have been nice to have a locker in the front and then maybe I wouldn't have had Pat tormenting me by waving a strap in front of me. We finally made it to the top of the trail and hit the main road for the trip back to camp. It had been a long day and thought that most would be upset, but it was totally the opposite. I was told by most that they had never been on that trail and how much they enjoyed their day. Kudos to Jeff for taking us on this trail. Back at camp, some folks had to pack up and head home; we bid them farewell and then quickly wrapped the ribs in foil and put them on the fire to warm them up. Ribs always taste better the second day.



Monday, 7 rigs took off for the annual run to see the log skidder, which was left in place after logging of the Jemez was ceased. Some folks believe that the rig has been in the mountains since the 40's. The day was great, sunny and warm, and the roads not dusty. Our first stop was the waterfall in Joaquin Valley; a great place for photo opps. We then took the trail towards the skidder, stopping just at the base of the climb for a short break. Since it had rained, we had no idea what the hill would be like, so I went on ahead to

check it out. The climb was great; it was almost like it had not rained. We all made it to the top and spent about 45 minutes looking at and talking about the skidder. The only one and most important thing missing was our fearless story teller, Chuck. Just wasn't the same not having Chuck sitting up on the seat where the operator would sit to load logs telling us stories about the logging operations. After everyone looked at the skidder and took their pictures (by the way... no one touched the steering wheel), we all headed down to the logging camp to eat lunch. We headed back to camp to load up to make the trip back home to reality. I want to thank everyone who made this weekend possible...

The Thompson's - For reserving our campsite and trail leading
The People's - For reserving our campsite and trail gunning
The Meier's - For reserving our campsite
Paul Caskey - For pulling the portable BBQ trailer behind his Jeep
Jeff Boggs - For trail leading
Tom Hurt - For the inspirational blessing
Berrett -- For cooking a wonderful dinner
The club - For approving the purchase of the meat
All the members and guests who braved the weather, without you I'd have a mess load of ribs in my freezer! Thanks again to all, I enjoyed doing this.

Russ

Little Wins and Rays of Hope

By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Coalition

I've discovered there are "phases" in this off-road life we all love so much, especially if you are in the game of fighting for trails and riding areas. Like a lot of other things in life, it appears there are steps we go through - kind of like losing someone - withdrawal, denial, anger, and resentment. I've been through it all at one time or another. But the little wins and the rays of hope are what keep me going. Allow me to share with you how that hope and light can help you as well.

I've been assisting a lot of folks lately with club elders, conflict in clubs, as well as personalities and infighting. But hey, the fact that I'm being asked to help tells me SOMEONE is doing something or trying to do something about it. The fact that folks are asking for help means these things are being brought out into the open so they can be FIXED. Yup! Fixed! ☺

Even better, I've been asked more often than ever about the advanced steps for getting in the game and saving trails. Folks are ready to do more; save more trails; and fight harder. Now more than ever is a great time for this to happen.

But on the down side, over the last couple of decades I've noticed some trends and phases with folks trying to do land use and access work. I think by sharing this, perhaps you'll see where you are and what you might want to do to avoid burn out or dropping out.

Here are the "phases" I've noticed (and that we can prevent).

First, the **awakening** happens and folks see a bleak future. Then **enthusiasm** kicks in full throttle to make some sort of changes. Over a period of struggles, the fuel supply does not match the throttle and **disappointment** starts to pull things down. Of course, when you lead, there are always folks who do not like your leading, so infighting and back-stabbing might happen that causes **frustration** to ride

shotgun with you. Finally, the white flag goes up, you're glad there's someone else in the game still fighting, and you phase out or **disappear**.

We must stop this disappearing act!

A lot of folks wake up one day, see a new gate, and start jumping in with both feet. Unfortunately, we lose these warriors because they are not totally prepared for battle. Armies win wars based on intelligence, supplies, and dedicated, well-trained soldiers equipped with the right gear. In the OHV world, we have to do the same thing in order to prevent the "phases" from dragging us down.

We can prevent this ugly formula from happening. Here are my suggestions based on my talking to and helping folks all over the country (for longer than I care to remember).

Battle Plan #1 - Get Healthy: Spend the time and effort to get yourself "healthy" in the land use game so you can help others. [Learn the ropes; get some training](#); read the land use forums; and get a grasp on the big picture and what it means locally to you. Of course, this implies you are a member of every organization you think can help (like your state association and the [BlueRibbon Coalition](#)).

Battle Plan #2 - Avoid Booby Traps: Avoid the booby traps and pitfalls. Make note of the ugly formula above, and do everything in your power to not let this happen to you as you find yourself walking through land use minefields now and then. Land use and access issues have their share of controversy, but we can't let this eat us up.

We can use this controversy to our advantage. Heck, nothing wakes up an online forum like a new gate, an unexpected trail closure, or some yo-yo from our esteemed government acting like they own our public lands and professing that locking us out is a good thing. That's when you kick into "full steam ahead" gear -- when controversy rears up -- and use it as a platform for motivating others to [join up](#), get in the game, learn more about access, and become better soldiers. It's never too late.

Battle Plan #3 - Market the Rays of Hope: Publicize and market every little ray of hope or win that comes along. Post on forums; share with your club; tell people of the little wins so they don't lose hope. Find a way to be the light in the dark closet, even if you're only a small flashlight in a big dark room. Even that much light can make the difference.

The bottom line is that we spin-positive the little wins and rays of hope so our folks don't get too discouraged give up and get gone. We need an Army to win this war, and WE are the Army. Let's not lose any more soldiers.

Contact Del Albright at brdel@sharetrails.org. The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible recreation, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1,200 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. 1-800-258-3742. www.sharetrails.org



For Sale



Parting Out A 2004 Jeep Rubicon: My Silver 2004 Jeep Rubicon was recently hit from the passenger rear quarter panel and totaled. Am looking to part it out. I am keeping the bumpers, lift, wheels, and tires and transferring them onto my newer Jeep. What's available is the engine with 49,000 miles; transmission (Standard); transfer case (original gears); front axle; rear axle (damage to the passenger side - don't know if there was damage to the ring and pinion); hood, doors, and tailgate (are all in perfect shape); interior (driver seat seems to be bent - don't know if it is just the brackets that got bent); hard top (cracked in two places above back window and small amount of damage to passenger bottom corner- repair man said it was fixable); stock wheels and tires off of 2005 Rubicon with 11,000 miles; stock front and back bumpers off of 2005 Rubicon (new condition). If anyone is interested please call Carrie Phillips at 610-5663.

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Club Notes

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

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

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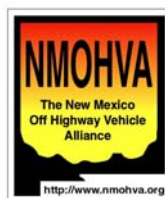
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jun 13	Club Meeting at Carolino Caynon	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539
Jul 3-11	Colorado Trip	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Aug 9	NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
Aug 21-23	Zuni Mountain Campout with Jeeps West	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Sep 12-13	Mt. Blanca Trip	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Russ Kaz 991-0323 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



July 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From June 13, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Carolino Canyon Picnic area off of south Hwy 14 on June 13th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Guests: Ignacio and Felia Chavez, Coleman and Liz Hudson, Ken and Diane Tinker, and Ron and Becca Hyman.

Members Present: Jeff Atchison, Jan and Glenn Bontly, Paul Caskey, Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane, Mike and Kristy Coe, Leon and Marcia Duggar, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Tom Hurt, Keith Jurey, Ed and Lyn Kausche, Tony Lauderbough, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Dan and Chris Pritchard, Jeff and Lauri Rector, Tedd Romero, Judy Sandoval, Chris Sears, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Paul and Mary Thompson, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf, Tahoe and Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The May 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance is \$3,615.72.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: The Memorial Day Campout was a good opportunity for fines. Rance Cochrane was fined for running a generator near the fire area and for road damage (playing road grader with his motor home bumper). Russ Kaz was fined for a trail departure, playing in a puddle, equipment damage, and making a U-turn on the log skidder trail. The U-turn on the log skidder trail also led to a fine for Chuck Peeples (who was not present), because he was to lead the trail but went home early. And a fine for Paul Thompson who Chuck had delegated his duties to, but then got Russ to lead the trail and gave Russ bad turn instructions. Jeff Boggs was also fined for something, but Cliff couldn't remember what for. It was suggested Cliff should be fined for not remembering what Jeff had done.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Frank G Whiston: Mark Werkmeister was not present. Frank reported that things were pretty much the same since the last report.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

May 23-25 Memorial Day Weekend campout in the Jemez. In spite of lots of rain, there was a good turnout.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

June 21st Jeff Boggs is leading a run to the Jemez Bland Canyon near Cochiti. This is an exploration run of Bland Canyon and side roads.

July 3rd-11th Creede Colorado – Frank Whiston is going to lead runs this week in the Creede Colorado area. The trails are all 'easy', but it is the San Juan Mountains. Several people will be staying at the Mt Views at Rivers Edge RV Resort, which may be full. Creede has a great July 4th celebration, so we will not be running trails that day. There will be a potluck that night.

July 18th Club meeting at Cliff & Jeanne Meier's

July 19th Trail Ride to Cerro Pelado Fire Lookout in the Jemez.

Aug 9th NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park sponsored by Old Car Club of Albuquerque.

Aug 15th Club meeting at Mike & Kristy Coe's

Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday, and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. It also is usually easy with a couple of places where the 'big tires' can play.

Sept 12th-13th Mt Blanca trip – This is planned as in and out the same day instead of a campout at the top.

Sept 19th Club meeting at Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane

Sept 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas

Oct 3rd-4th 'We Rock' Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. Club is planning on a trip to Farmington for the event.

Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight dry camping two nights. A trip to Death Valley is planned after the Mojave run for those interested.

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul had a large selection from the new order. It includes hoodies, tall T's, and lots of new colors. He was also selling tickets for the 50-50 raffle.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Jan was not able to attend.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

Club License Plates – Frank Whiston had the licenses plates at the meeting. The



original order had been for 125 license plates, but we received 134. This was due to a clause in the contract indicating that due to quality control there could be a shortage or overage. This increased the cost for a total of \$571.47. A motion was made to authorize the extra amount. Motion passed. The cost is \$4.26 per plate and it was recommended the club sell the plates for \$5.00. A motion was made and carried.

Montessa Off-Road event – Frank reported the event had been pushed out from late July to early August.

NMOHVA Trail Maintenance in the Jemez – Ron Shubert is leading a trail maintenance day on Saturday June 20th. See NMOHVA web site for details.

New Business:



Officer Election for 2009/2010 – Frank reminded everyone that officer election would be held in July. Some current officers are willing to continue in the job, but new entries are needed for Treasurer, Program Chairman, and Historian. Frank indicated that he is willing to continue as president. Cliff Meier, (vice-president) and Jeanne Meier (secretary) are also willing to continue as officers. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting in July or let Frank know prior to the meeting. Mike Coe was nominated for the treasurer position and agreed to run.

Four Wheeler of the Year -- The selection for 4-Wheeler of the Year is coming up. Everyone should think about possible candidates.

2009-2010 Dues – Dues for the next year are due by the end of July. Anyone that has not paid by September 1st will not be on the membership list for the next 4WDrive Lines and will have to start over to earn points for membership.

SWFWDA Summer Quarterly – Bob Norton indicated the annual meeting was going to be held during an event that Lone Star Jeep Club is holding in July. As editor, he will be attending and indicated he would be willing to represent the club. A motion was made that Bob Norton represent NM4W at the SWFWDA meeting and passed.



Memorial Day Trash Bags – Russ Kaz had ordered trash bags (burlap) for the Memorial Day Campout, but received them late (after the campout). Anyone that wanted one should see him.

New Members – There were three sets of new members voted in. They are Ken and Diane Tinker, Coleman and Liz Hudson, and Ron and Becca Hyman. Welcome!

Frank thanked Joan and Mark Wolf for all the work they had done for the picnic. He also thanked Rance Cochrane for cooking the hamburger and hot dogs. Meeting was adjourned

Calendars -- Winners were Chris Sears, and Mike & Kristy Coe
50-50 Raffle – Total raised was \$85.00. Chris Sears won \$42.50

Future Hosts are:

July	Cliff and Jeanne Meier
August	Mike and Kristy Coe
September	Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane



President's Report By Frank G. Whiston

I expect that most of you will read this when we are in Creede Colorado enjoying the beautiful scenery in the San Juan Mountains. With the busy summer that I am having, this trip is a much needed escape from everyday tasks. We are going to have a much larger group than I had expected. We are up to about 18 vehicles now! When I announced this trip this past winter, I was expecting about 6 to 8 vehicles to tag along, much like the trip to Canyonlands Utah that I lead a couple of years back. It is great to be a part of a club like this. If you have the urge to go someplace in your 4x4 and do not want to go alone, just announce it along with a date, and someone from the club will tag along. Yes, we tease with fines, but the club is very laid back and there is no reason to be afraid to lead a trip. If you missed this trip, get out there and enjoy the fourwheeling pastime that we all share! Summer is upon us!

Trail Ride to Bland Canyon and Del Norte Canyon

By Jeff Boggs



Eight 4x4's gathered together on Sunday, June 21st, for a drive up to the Jemez Mountains. We all met at Hwy 550 and Hwy 528 at 9:00 am. The route was north, to go through the Pueblos along the Rio Grande River. The group went to Algodones, Santa Ana, San Felipe, a dirt road to Santa Domingo, and then to Cochiti Pueblo. Beautiful farms and open range horses and cattle kept the group rubber necking until we arrived at the gas station at Cochiti Lake. Time to fill up, air down, and disconnect.

From the gas station, it was north to Bland Canyon and dirt roads. Bland Canyon has an interesting history, because in 1890 gold and silver were discovered. That brought several thousand people into this narrow steep canyon, and they worked this area for fourteen years until the yields diminished and the boom years were over. The town site of Bland is on private property, so we saw none of the remaining structures, but we did see the Bland

cemetery and an old mine opening up a side road west of the main Bland Canyon road. The group had lunch on one of the hilltops above Bland Canyon.

After lunch we got into the more technical areas that take the forest road up and out of Bland Canyon. Washouts, boulders, and off cambers were numerous, and kept the drivers busy, until we reached the start of Del Norte Canyon road. North on Del Norte Canyon road, we got into the first of many mud puddles on a flat section of the road. Then we started climbing again, with boulders on a narrow road that forced us to work on our tire placement skills.



We made a stop at an old mill foundation just off the right side of the road. A large rock and concrete site had old rusty pipes with water still flowing out of them. We could only guess at the original purpose of this site. Does anyone know any history of this site?



From there, we got into a road covered in boulders, nothing huge, but always a choice of lines. Del Norte Canyon road is lush, narrow, and rugged. We finally turned right and up out of this canyon and got on a smooth forest road heading northeast. There was a garbled CB message about a missed turn back in the pack by someone. We slowed down up front and eventually the tailgunner, Erwin Greven, brought the group back together.

We drove east to St. Peter's Dome road and headed south back to Cochiti Lake. St. Peter's Dome road has a lot of great views, and we worked our way down in

elevation. Back to the gas station to air up, and the group took time to talk 4-wheeling in the shade of some trees. From there everybody headed home.

Thanks to everyone for making it a wonderful day in the Jemez Mountains. And for those who did not make the trip, well, you sure missed out. So, make plans now for the next club event.



For Sale



Tires: 4ea P235/75-15 Michelin LTX A/T tires for sale . They have 40k miles LEFT on them. We are upgrading to a larger size and won't need these any more. \$250 OBO. I will even throw in a BFG A/T tire of the same size as a spare. Call Wolfie at 505-856-8539.

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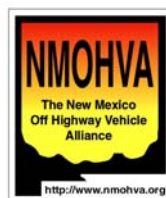
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jul 3-11	Colorado Trip	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Aug 9	NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
Aug 21-23	Zuni Mountain Campout with Jeeps West	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Jan Waugh 250-6962 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Russ Kaz 991-0323 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



August 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From July 18, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at the home of Cliff and Jeanne Meier on July 18th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Guests: Dixon and Zelda Patrick, Rod Martin, Gabriel Bingham, and A. Ali.

Members Present: Mark and Maria Berglund, Jeff and Paula Boggs, Mike and Kristy Coe, Nancy Crowley, Leon and Marcia Duggar, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Robert and Hollie Hohlfelder, Ron and Becca Hyman, Keith and Linda Jurey, Ed and Lyn Kausche, Russ Kaz, Tony Lauderbough, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Jeff and Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Mike and Linda Sells, Jack and Stella Sierra, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Paul and Mary Thompson, Mark Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The June 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the July 2009 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance is \$3,429.78.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: There were no fines for the week in Creede.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark reported that there was a trail maintenance project for Santa Fe Ranger district and that they would be filming an informational film that may feature some people we know. We should expect the Santa Fe proposed travel management plan in the fall. There will probably be some EIS training before then.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- July 3-11 Creede 4th of July outing. The trip started with about 16 Jeeps Sunday and tapered off to about 6 at the end of the week. The parade on the 4th was a lot of fun and a pot-luck was held that evening before watching the fireworks.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- July 19th Trail ride to Cerro Pelado Fire Lookout in the Jemez. Jeff Boggs will lead the group to the Jemez. Meet at Conoco in Bernalillo by 8:30.

- Aug 9th NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park sponsored by Old Car Club of Albuquerque. Participants should meet at the Smith's on Tramway at 9:00. Group will leave no later than 10:00. Picnic will begin by 11:00.
- Aug 15th August club meeting at Mike and Kristy Coe's
- Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday, and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. Please notify Frank Whiston if you are planning on attending.
- Sept 12th-13th Mt Blanca trip – This is planned as in and out the same day instead of a campout at the top. There is a one locker minimum.
- Sept 19th September meeting at Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane's
- Sept 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas
- Oct 3rd-4th 'We Rock' Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. Club is planning on a trip to Farmington for the event.
- Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight tent camping two nights. A trip to Death Valley is planned after the Mojave run for those interested.

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: No report.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: No report.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

Montessa Off-road event – Frank Whiston reported the event is now scheduled for Sept 12th with sometime in October as a backup.

Summer Quarterly SW4WDA – Bob Norton reported that the officer election was delayed until the Fall Quarterly because neither candidate for president was present, and one of the candidates was not known by most of the members. The Fall Quarterly will be Oct 3-4 near Wichita Kansas. He reminded everyone that SW4WDA is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for someone to write a history for SW4WDA. Check the SWFWDA web site for details if interested.

New Business:

Officer Election results for 2009/2010:

- Frank G Whiston, President
- Cliff Meier, Vice-President
- Jeanne Meier, Secretary
- Mike Coe, Treasurer
- Mark Werkmeister, Director of Environmental Affairs

There were no candidates for the offices of Trip Chairman, Program Chairman, and Historian.

Four Wheeler of the Year - Ballots were available for the NM4W 4-Wheeler of the Year. Frank encouraged everyone to vote for a member they felt should receive the award. The winner will be announced at the next meeting.

2009-2010 Dues – Dues for the next year are due by 31 July. Anyone that has not paid by August 31st will not be on the membership list for the next 4WDrive Lines and will have to start over to earn points for membership.

SW4WDA Summer Quarterly 2010 – Frank Whiston reminded members that New Mexico 4 Wheelers normally sponsors the summer quarterly every other year. The next time would be 2010. He suggested that we hold the meeting in Creede, CO. A motion was made and passed.

Cliff Meier indicated that the most active family was Frank and Beth Whiston based on participation points. Second place was Russ Kaz and Glenna Giboney. The most active family receives a \$100 award.

New Members – Dixon and Zelda Patrick were voted in as new members.

Frank thanked Cliff and Jeanne Meier for hosting the meeting. Jeanne thanked Linda Jurey and Mary Thompson for their assistance setting up the food. Meeting was adjourned at 7:10. There was no 50-50 raffle.



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

July was such a busy month! In fact, I was only in town one week the entire month. So, I am on the road as I write this. I began the month by going to Creede Colorado with the club. I would have liked to have written an article on the trip for this issue of the Trail Tales, but I did not have time; maybe next month. Anyway, we enjoyed ourselves so much; I have decided to organize another event in Creede in July 2010 as a Summer Quarterly, if approved by SW4WDA. As chairman of this event, I'll be looking for volunteers to help out. I already have Cliff Meier as the Trail Boss and Jeannie Meier teaming with the Tanners for Registration. Please contact me if you would like to help out.

Editorial Rant, by a 15-Year Member

By Mark Wolf

Hi, folks! How are things today? Good I hope. I recently noticed a plague that has enveloped our wonderful 4WD Club. Have you noticed it too? I really think it has grown to major proportions and is seriously affecting our will to survive! Have you figured out what this "plague" is yet? It is affecting the 4WD community greatly, and no one can fight it off by themselves. I'm not sure there is a drug for it either.

Volunteerism has always been easy in this club, but recently it has seemed to have died! Why? There are approximately 70 member families at last count and the recent elections saw an insufficient number of candidates to run for office. If it wasn't for the current Officers agreeing to run again, I'm not sure we would have filled those positions, let alone the ones we couldn't fill. You know, it is nice of people

to run for election, but it is hard on them to keep doing the work year after year when there are so many others out there that are plenty capable of filling one or more of those positions. These positions are not all that difficult, but do require some dedication and personal commitment to perform. However, when the same person has to do the work for that position for an extended period of time, it makes it hard on them and easy for them to get burned out. Each position is critical to our survival and important for us to carry on business. They also help us tell the world we like to go four wheeling and we are responsible users of the land. It takes ALL of us to pass along that information to every new member and visitor that comes through our doors. We need new members and when we act like we are all working together to carry on our mission, it is easy for them to get involved. In fact, most visitors will join up right way when they see how well organized we are and how EVERYONE is willing to contribute to the mission of our fun.

There is a constant threat of closure on public lands and if we intend to get members that may be on the fence about our use of the lands, we've all got to pitch in and make it happen. When we all volunteer it is easy for new members and guests to want to help out. Everyone wants to be with the winners. It's time for those of you who have never led a trail to get out there and lead one! Besides, the Leader NEVER eats dust. Glenn Bontly has numerous trails on his personal web site at <http://www.webejeepin.com/Trails/Trails.htm>, all of which include directions to the trail head, information about the terrain, GPS coordinates, pictures of the trail, and printable maps. Also, you can ask someone who is familiar with the trail to take the #2 position. Running trails over and over is fine with me and several others who have joined me multiple times on each trail I have led over the years.

Please consider the remaining positions that are available (Program Chairman and Historian), especially you new members and some that haven't filled a position yet. No one will let you fail, as every Officer wants to encourage new people to "get involved" and are concerned about each position. You can read about the responsibilities of each of these positions on our website under "Bylaws and SOPs".

If everyone did just ONE thing a year, that would make a big difference! Lead one run, hold one office, volunteer for one special project, or host one meeting. See? It is that easy.

GET INVOLVED!!! NM4W NEEDS YOU!!! Remember, this is a CLUB!

Cerro Palado Trip

By Jeff Boggs

Five 4x4s met at the gas station at 550 and 528 at 8:00 am on July 19th, 2009. Our goal was to travel up into the Jemez Mountains via Hwy 4, through Jemez Springs, and to meet our trail leaders at the intersection of Hwy 4 and FR 10. We had a smooth ride up the highway and we met Don and Karen Miller, our trail leaders for the day. Don and Karen have a cabin in the Jemez Mountains.

After airing down, we proceeded south on FR 10 several miles. Then Don turned his Jeep Cherokee to the left on a side road. This route took us a back way through the forest, instead of going on the main road to Cerro Palado. Tight to narrow trails through ponderosa forest and also through an area that had been thinned recently. We came out on the main forest road up Cerro Palado and worked our way up to the top, where the forest service lookout tower is situated. Talk about views! We could see Cochiti Lake, Sandia Mountains, Mount Taylor, Valle Caldera, and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains by Santa Fe. Rusty and his dog were manning the lookout tower. Rusty is from Montana, and has been working at the lookout tower through the summer. He's headed back to Montana in a few weeks. He let us go up into the lookout tower for an even better view. After enjoying the view for a while, we headed back down the mountain and took a back road to Don and Karen's cabin for lunch. They have a wonderful

place, and we all enjoyed our lunch. The kids stayed entertained with Karen's assortment of toys. After a relaxing time at their place, it was time to head back into town. Cerro Palado is a must-see destination and has a history of being a NM 4 Wheeler Club trip in the past (the last picture below is from a 1958 trip—sent in by Joan Wolf). Highly recommended! Enjoy the pictures!





For Sale



Rear Bumper for Jeep TJ. Wilderness brand -- see part # 34910 at http://www.wildernessracks.com/jeep_wild_bump.html. Good condition, all hardware included, \$150. Also **OE Rubicon Fender Flares** (slightly "pre-scuffed" at no extra charge :), \$60. E-mail [Paul Thompson](mailto:Paul.Thompson) or call 505-293-8390.

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

Club Notes

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

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

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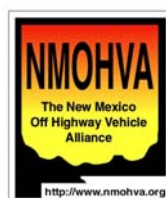
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Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Aug 9	NMCCC All Clubs Picnic at Villanueva State Park	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
Aug 15	Club Meeting at the Coe's	Call Mike or Kristy	505-896-9581
Aug 21-23	Zuni Mountain Campout with Jeeps West	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541
Sep 12-13	Mt. Blanca Trip	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Sep 19	Club Meeting at the Cochrane's	Call Rance or Elizabeth	505-896-0878

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Mike Coe 896-9581 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman <div style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">VACANT</div>	Historian <div style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">VACANT</div>
Trip Chairman Mark Wolf 856-8539 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



September 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From August 15, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at the home of Mike and Kristy Coe on August 15th. Frank Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:30.

Guests: Ignacio and Felia Chavez, Gabriel Bingham, and Jennifer Werkmeister.

Members Present: Paul Caskey, Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane, Mike and Kristy Coe, Kevin Cox, Nancy Crowley, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Andy Hurt, Tom Hurt, Keith and Linda Jurey, Ed and Lyn Kausche, Jason and Sara Lavy, Tony Lauderbaugh, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Dixon & Zelda Patrick, Mike and Linda Sells, Jack and Stella Sierra, Justin and Rebecca Simenson, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Paul and Mary Thompson, Glenn and Rebagayle Vialpando, Mark and Joanne Werkmeister, Frank and Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf.

Special Business - Election of Officers for Empty Positions: Last month during the election of officers there were no candidates for Program Chairman, Trip Chairman, or Historian. Frank Whiston addressed this issue before conducting the normal meeting. Paul Caskey has agreed to continue as Program Chairman, Mark Wolf indicated he would be willing to be Trip Chairman, and Justin Simenson agreed to be the Historian. A motion was made to accept these individuals by acclamation; motion passed.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The July 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Mike Coe: The current bank balance is \$4,050.23, plus \$175.00 in dues collected at the meeting. There are 35 families that have not paid dues.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff indicated he had no fines and asked if any deputies had fines. There were none.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark Werkmeister reported that the Mt. Taylor Environmental Action would probably be out next week. He encouraged everyone to review it and make comments.

Carson National Forest released proposed action documents for five districts instead of an Environmental Action. This created many comments concerning the fact this did not conform to the rules, which prompted a meeting with the forest district. They have now announced an Environmental Action will be released the first part of September.

Santa Fe National Forest should release an environmental impact statement in November or December.

NMOHVA is trying to arrange with Nora Hamilton for a training class on writing comments. Mark asked for a show of hands as to how many would be interested in attending an 8 hour class, probably on a Saturday.

Trip Chairman's Report – Mark Wolf

Past Events:

- Jul 19th Trail Ride to Cerro Pelado Fire Lookout in the Jemez. Jeff Boggs led 5 vehicles to the Jemez where Don Miller met them and led them to the fire lookout. There was a picture in the 50th anniversary book they tried to match with some success. After they completed the run some joined Don Miller at his cabin in the Jemez for a tour and visit.
- Jul 31st Trail Cleanup north of Espanola. Carlos and Laurye Tanner went up with their pickup which ended up not being needed. Jeff and Lauri Rector had gone up, but were not able to find the meeting site due to an error in the instructions. There were several vehicles from a Santa Fe horse group, but someone had brought a dump truck and front-end loader which accommodated the debris.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West - This includes breakfast and pot-luck on Saturday and trails led by the Jeeps West group. This has been a great event in the past. Please notify Frank Whiston if you are planning on attending.
- Sept 12th-13th Mt. Blanca trip – This is planned as in and out the same day instead of a campout at the top. There is a one locker minimum and 33” tires are recommended. Meet at the turn off for the trail.
- Sep 19th September meeting at Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane
- Sep 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas
- Oct 3rd-4th ‘We Rock’ Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. Club is planning on a trip to Farmington for the event.
- Oct 17th-18th Campin’ and Jeepin’ at Caballo - Jeff Boggs or Glenn Bontly will lead the run at Caballo. Run will be to Caballo Mtn area.
- Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight tent camping two nights. A trip to Death Valley is planned after the Mojave run for those interested.

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul had shirts and other merchandise for sale. He was also selling tickets for the 50-50 raffle.

Historian's Report - Justin Simenson: Justin had no report since he had just been elected. He reminded everyone to send him pictures, either via a CD or by uploading to the club website.

Web Master & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

2009-2010 Dues – Dues for the coming club year were due Jul 31st. Anyone that has not paid by August 31st will not be on the membership list for the next 4WDrive Lines and will have to start over to earn points for membership.

4-Wheeler of the Year - Frank Whiston announced that Cliff Meier had won 4-Wheeler of the Year and awarded him a plaque.

Most Points & Most Trails awards - Paul Thompson gave checks for these awards to Frank G Whiston and family.

New Business:

There was no new business, but Mark and Joanne Werkmeister discussed some of the issues with the land use process and answered several questions.

Frank thanked Mike and Kristy Coe for hosting the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20

Raffle: Mark Wolf and Carlos Tanner won 2009 Calendars. Mary Thompson won the 50-50 raffle which totaled \$90.00. Mary's share was \$45.00.

Future Hosts are:

September Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane



President's Report By Frank G. Whiston

I would like to thank Wolfie, Paul Caskey, Justin Simenson, Carlos Tanner, and Mike Sells for stepping up to fill the empty officer positions. There were not enough vacancies to utilize all of the volunteers, but it is nice to know that all of you came forward when the club was in need. We are embarking on an exciting fiscal year for the club. This fall we are looking for EAs from various forests in the state and we need members to write comments when they are released to the public. Plans for hosting the Summer Quarterly are underway, so if you would like to get involved, please let me know. Another thing to note, starting in January 2010; the monthly club meetings will return to the 2nd Thursday of each month. It will be good to get back to our regular schedule. I am really looking forward to the year ahead.

NM 4-Wheeler of the Year By Joan Wolf

By member vote, **Cliff Meier** was chosen 2009 NM 4-Wheeler of the Year at the August 15, 2009 meeting. Cliff has given a tremendous amount to the club since his membership in 2004. Accomplishments over the past year include stepping up to fill the Events Chair position in the Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association. As Events Chair, Cliff organized the 2009 Chile Challenge raffle and raised \$8,000+ for the SWFWDA. The raffle is a huge, time-consuming job that involves contacting 4WD vendors for contributions as well as managing ticket sales. Cliff handled the raffle with enthusiasm and professionalism.

Cliff has held club offices for years and is serving his second stint at VP/Sheriff. In addition to administrative stuff, Cliff makes the time to go Jeeping in his TJ. He participated in many club runs and also scouted trails with Dr. Bob (Telepak) in the Mountainair Ranger District. Cliff and Dr. Bob documented the established roads in that area of the Cibola National Forest. Their efforts could influence the USFS Travel Management process to keep the roads open for the rest of us to enjoy.

Thanks, Cliff, for your contributions to NM4W and the four-wheeling community!

Past 4-Wheelers of the Year

- 2008 Frank G. Whiston
- 2007 Mark Werkmeister
- 2006 Glenn Bontly
- 2005 Lauri and Jeff Rector
- 2004 Chuck Peeples
- 2003 Leon Duggar
- 2002 Glenn Bontly
- 2001 Pat Brady
- 2000 Mark Wolf
- 1999 Mark Wolf
- 1998 Bob Telepak
- 1997 Charlie Wilson
- 1996 Mark Werkmeister



Most Points and Trail Leader Winner

By Joan Wolf



Frank G. Whiston had a busy year! He led the NM4W'ers in both points earned **and** trails led. He deservedly took home two \$100 gift certificates from Desert Rat. Frank (with support from Beth, Kimberly, and Rebecca) earned points by hosting meetings, attending runs and events, and leading runs. Among others, Frank spearheaded the successful July 4th event at Creede, CO, and the Holiday Roadrunner Food Bank run which garnered TV coverage. Frank will apply the Desert Rat gift certificates towards wider fender flares for his Jeep. Hats off to Frank for his dedication to NM4W.

Rio Del Oso Cleanup

By Carlos Tanner

Saturday, August 1st was designated as the Rio Del Oso Cleanup Day in the Espanola Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest. Located in Chili, 8 miles north of Espanola, the Rio Del Oso Watershed is a beautiful, but very abused area littered with cans, bottles, wire, carpet, and other debris.

The Back Country Horseman of New Mexico, Santa Fe Chapter, along with Miles Standish and Mary Orr from the Espanola Ranger District, coordinated this effort. The New Mexico 4 Wheelers were contacted and requested to provide assistance, especially with providing trucks in which to haul the trash to dumpsters.

About 7 or 8 members of the Horseman's Club were present. My truck and I represented the New Mexico 4 Wheelers. Lauri and Jeff Rector drove all the way up to help; unfortunately the directions sent out by the Horse People gave the wrong road number. After spending considerable time looking for the right location, they gave up and returned home.

Two additional people from the local area showed up with a dump truck and a front-end loader ... WOW were we glad to see them! The volunteers were able to fill up the dump truck. Unfortunately, all the debris was not able to be picked up. There's still some work to be done at a later date. However, the area looks considerably better now.

According to Mary Orr, who has been with the District for 20 years, this is only the third clean-up since she has been there. The first two were just after she arrived and the first one was primarily the removal of autos and large vehicle parts.

Miles Standish gave repeated thanks to NM4W for our participation.

I would encourage all members to pitch in and help with any future work or clean-up efforts within any of the National Forest or other areas we use. A little time and effort on our part goes a long ways and it's a good way to give back some of what we use for wheelin'.

4th Zuni Mountain Campout

By Frank G. Whiston



August 21-23, 2009 was the fourth time that NM4W joined at the McKinley County Wildlife Federation building for the Zuni Mountain Campout, hosted by Jeeps West. Friday, I was the first of the NM4W gang to arrive. We were greeted by Doug Brownell and Jim Todt of Jeeps West. That afternoon, members of both clubs continued to pour in even after dark. Members present included Carlos Tanner, the Peoples, the Thompsons, the Meiers, the Bontlys, the Turpin family, the Vialpando family, the Duggar family, the Boggs, Rance Cochrane and his son, the Whiston family

(including Frank R. and Donna), the Jureys, the Walkers, and the Wolfs. First thing Saturday morning, the Jeeps West crew made a wonderful breakfast including eggs, sausage, bacon, pancakes, hash browns, fresh fruit, pastries, coffee, and juice. After breakfast, we all lined up for the trail ride totaling to 26 vehicles. Once lined up, Jim and Doug handed out hold harmless agreements to be signed along with a dash plaque and a raffle ticket.

After winding through the pine tree forest for a while, the group reached a green grassy meadow as trail leader Jim Todt announced the first hard obstacle over the CB radio. Jim noted that this was an optional ledge to climb with body damage possible. Jim's Jeep is well prepared for this and took a hit on his steel corner guard just above the tail light. From there he would winch the rest of the way up. Our trail leader's display made the decision for most drivers as to whether or not they would attempt this one. Rance Cochrane was the next to attempt the climb and ended up on his belly pan with both front wheels off the ground.



If my memory serves me, Glenn Bontly and Marcia Duggar were the only others from NM4W that at least lined up to the ledge. Only two Jeeps cleared the ledge without taking the winch. From there, we continued into a canyon where the bottom is completely lined with sandstone to stop for lunch. After lunch, the group would only travel about 100 yards to where the terrain became extreme, should you chose to traverse it. An orange CJ with coilovers on BFG Krawlers, a freshly painted bright Green YJ, and a Tan FJ were the only ones to attempt it and put on a show for everyone. The group then returned to camp for some downtime before the evening's festivities began.



That evening, the Jeeps West crew hit the kitchen again to grill up hamburgers and hot dogs while everyone brought a dish to share. By the time the first people made it through the food line, the DJ was in place and provided music to dine to. The food was excellent as was the camaraderie; nobody went away hungry. After eating, Mark Wolf, aka Wolfie, of NM4W volunteered to sell additional tickets for the raffle that would be held minutes later. Jeeps West gathered an impressive array of prizes donated by club members, local businesses, and NM4W. A high lift jack, jumper cables, fire extinguishers, first aid kits, winch accessory kits, and 35 lb. bags of Hatch green chile are just a few of the prizes that were given out. There was even a LCD HDTV! Chuck and Ethel May were the lucky winners of that. Once all of the prizes were gone, the music and dancing began. The members of Jeeps West are the best hosts that I know. Calling this get together a campout does not even begin to describe the hospitality that I believe is on par with nationally known 4x4 events. Thanks again, Jeeps West, for a great weekend!





For Sale



Tires & Shocks: 4ea 235x75x15 Michelin LTX A/T tires with approximately 35,000 miles of tread remaining on them. Great shape! \$300 obo. Also, one pair of front shocks for stock height 93-98 Grand Cherokee – RANCHO RS-5000s in excellent, \$50/pr obo. Call Wolfie at 856-8539.

Rear Bumper for Jeep TJ. Wilderness brand -- see part # 34910 at http://www.wildernessracks.com/jeep_wild_bump.html. Good condition, all hardware included, \$150. Also **OE Rubicon Fender Flares** (slightly "pre-scuffed" at no extra charge :), \$60. Call Paul Thompson at 505-293-8390.

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Submission Due Date: Now that we are on our summer schedule, with meetings normally the 2nd Saturday of each month, **due date for newsletter submissions will return to the 25th of each month**, with publication around the 1st of each month. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

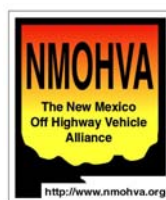
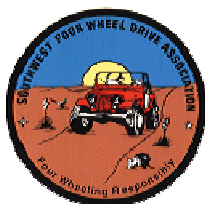
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Sep 12 – 13	Mt. Blanca Trip	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Sep 19	Club Meeting at the Cochrane's	Call Rance or Elizabeth	505-896-0878
Sep 25 – 27	NMCCC Swap Meet in Los Lunas	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
Oct 3 – 4	"We Rock" National Finals	Call Jeff Boggs	505-867-5848
Oct 17 – 18	Caballo Lake Trip	Call Jeff Boggs	505-867-5848
Oct 28	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Mike Coe 896-9581 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Mark Wolf 856-8539 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



October 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From September 19, 2009
by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at the home of Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane on September 19th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:15.

Guests Present: Lois Wolf (Wolfie's Mom)

Members Present: Glenn and Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane, Leon and Marcia Duggar, Erwin and Jeannie Greven, Keith and Linda Jurey, Steve Lamberson, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Chris Sears, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Frank & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf, Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The August 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – Frank G. Whiston: Mike Coe was not present, but he gave Frank the balance, which is \$5,012.94.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: There were many fines some of which had been held over due to the member not being present the meeting after the fine was assessed.

Chris Sears	Creede	- Playing "bad" music over the CB
Rance Cochrane	Zuni	- 'Got Moab' sticker blocked - No spare tire - Shiny Diff Cover blinded the driver behind him
Mark Wolf	Zuni	- Blinded lunch crowd using sun shield
Mark Wolf	Mt. Blanca	- Having to be pulled backward - During breakfast stop Joan arrived with Wolfie's lunch which he had forgotten. Joan was award 25c for driving the truck with a trailer
Cliff Meier	Zuni	- Failing to turn on CB first third of run
Cliff Meier	Mt. Blanca	- Blaming his spotter for taking the wrong track - Environmental damage, small pieces of his U joint - Having to be strapped multiple times

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Frank G Whiston: Mark Werkmeister was not present. Frank announced that Gila had released their proposed action. There is a 45 day comment period, so check the website. Lincoln has released their decision.

Trip Chairman's Report – Mark Wolf:

Past Events:

- Aug 21st-23rd Zuni Mountains – Jeeps West – There was a large turnout for this run. Jeeps West did breakfast Saturday morning, and hamburgers and hot dogs Saturday night. They also had a disc jockey for those that wanted to dance.
- Sept 12th-13th Mt Blanca trip – There were 4 vehicles on this run. They went in at 9:00 am and came out at 5:30 pm. It would have been sooner, but Cliff Meier broke a U joint. Keith Jurey had a spare.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Sept 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas
- Oct 1st-4th Abiquiu Lake Fall Campout – Frank G. Whiston is leading the trips for this. There will be a potluck on Saturday. **(CANCELLED)**
- Oct 3rd-4th ‘We Rock’ Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals will be held in Farmington. Jeff Boggs is going up to watch and may do a short run in the area.
- Oct 17th-18th Caballo Lake Campout – Jeff Boggs and Glenn Bontly will co-lead this run. Camping will be at our "usual" spot, Caballo State Park Riverside Camp area. Take I-25 South to Exit # 59 (about 20 miles south of Truth or Consequences). Turn left and directly into the Riverside Camp area. Trail ride on Saturday to the Caballo Mountain area will leave the camp area at 8 am sharp (it's a long trail). The trail is moderate in difficulty. Potluck dinner on Saturday night. Return home Sunday morning.
- Oct 28th Club Meeting at Heights Cumberland Church
- Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The road requires 3 days with overnight tent camping two nights. Travel to the trail near Avi Arizona is on the 1st. A trip to Death Valley is planned after the Mojave run for those interested.
- Nov 25th Club Meeting at Heights Cumberland Church
- Dec 5th Christmas Tree Run
- Dec 20th Christmas Party at Glenn and Jan Bontly's
- Dec 31st-Jan 3rd Rockin' New Years @ Gordy's Hill
- July 21st-24th 2010 SWFWDA Summer Quarterly--Creede, CO

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul was not present, but Carlos Tanner was filling in for him. There was merchandise for anyone interested and he was selling 50-50 raffle tickets.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin was not present. Frank Whiston reminded people to send pictures to Justin.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: No report.

Old Business:

Montessa OHV Park event – Frank Whiston reported that Paul Caskey and Tony Louderbough represented the club at this event. There is some indication that the city might be willing to bring in rocks to make a more difficult trail.

Summer Quarterly 2010 – The dates of July 21st through 24th have been put on the event schedule. Cliff and Jeanne Meier went to Creede after the Mt Blanca run. In addition to running a couple of trails which might be good for the event, Cliff met with the lady in charge of the fairgrounds which has been tentatively reserved for the event. He also got contact information for dumpsters and porta-potties. A volunteer is needed for facilities and food.

Bob Norton was nominated to represent the club at the SWFWDA Fall Quarterly.

New Business:

Frank Whiston announced that we will be able to resume meeting at the church on the 2nd Thursday beginning in January. The meetings for October and November will be the 4th Wednesday. Hosts for the winter meetings are needed. Linda and Keith Jurey volunteered for January, Cliff and Jeanne Meier will do October.

A motion was made to make a donation to the Heights Cumberland Church in the amount of \$200.00. Motion passed.

Frank Whiston indicated that we would be doing the Holiday Food Drive. Since the November meeting is the 4th Wednesday the drive will probably be over. Therefore, those members that want to participate, but that won't be able to attend the food drive, may bring their donation to the October meeting.

Mark Wolf made a motion to make a donation of \$300.00 to Jeeps West to help defray some of their costs. Motion passed.

Frank thanked Rance and Elizabeth Cochrane for hosting the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Raffle: There was a total of \$40.00 in the 50-50 raffle. Keith Jurey won \$20.00.

Future Hosts are:

October	Cliff and Jeanne Meier
November	
December	Glenn and Jan Bontly
January	Keith and Linda Jurey
February	
March	
April	



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

Fall is here! That means that the Club meetings are back to weeknights at the Church. We are still scheduled for the 4th Wednesday in October and November. Let's thank the Bontly's for inviting us to their home in Belen for the Christmas Party Dec. 20. I am sure that Laurye Tanner greatly appreciates it ☺ Starting in January, we will be back to the 2nd Thursday of each month. Maybe we will see more of the Rectors. They have been representing NM4W at the New Mexico Council of Car Clubs who meet on the same night that we have this past year. Thank you Rectors!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello all,

I apologize for not boring you with fascinating land use policy analysis and intriguing strategy breakdowns last month (or the month before that), but as I'm back this month. Seriously, I will try to keep it short. A couple of things to keep an eye on:

Travel Management Rule

Carson National Forest Environmental Assessments – After announcing that they were going to issue draft EA's for the public to review after all, the Carson has been eerily quiet. While they announced that they anticipated the EA's would be out in early September, we have not heard anything more or seen any EA's. Maybe they weren't referring to 2009.....

Mount Taylor Ranger District Environmental Assessment (Cibola National Forest) – Word on the street is that the draft EA will be out for public review and comment any day now. We will keep an eye out for this one and let you know as soon as we see it.

Mountainair Ranger District Environmental Assessment (Cibola National Forest) – Nothing seen or heard so far on this document, but we suspect that its release can't be too far off.

Gila National Forest Proposed Action – At long last, the Gila National Forest has issued its Notice of Intent and Proposed Action. This kicks off the official NEPA process with a 45-day Scoping period. The Gila will be covering the entire Forest with a single EIS (similar to the Santa Fe NF approach). Scoping comments are due by Oct 26th. I encourage everyone to provide comments to help identify issues and process concerns.

Santa Fe National Forest Draft – We expect the draft EIS to be out just after the 1st of the year.

Chokecherry Canyon Under Attack?

In other developments, it seems that the Farmington BLM and the City of Farmington are kicking around the idea of moving at least portions of the Glade Recreation Area (Chokecherry Canyon to you rock enthusiasts) from BLM management to City ownership. This certainly wouldn't be good for motorized access. We are trying to get the straight story on what is happening, but there was already a semi-public meeting where the BLM presented four alternatives. Once again, we will keep you posted on what might be happening to the Southwest's BEST rock crawling playground.

As always, you can get up-to-date information and key dates at the NMOHVA website (www.nmohva.org).

Mark

2009 NM4W Holiday Food Drive

By Frank G. Whiston

We had so much fun last year, I am organizing the NM4W Holiday Food Drive again. We will use the same drop-off location as last year at ABQ Uptown on Saturday, November 21 at 4 PM. Further details

as it gets closer. If you cannot join us for the drop-off but would still like to donate, bring your non-perishable food to the October Club meeting. Each year Roadrunner Food Bank holds its annual Holiday Food Drive from October through December. This food drive is actually made up of many food drives sponsored by apartment complexes, retail centers, community groups, schools, neighborhoods, and businesses. Please help the club give back to the community by contributing donations.

The Mt. Blanca Assault

By Mark Wolf



On Saturday, September 12, 2009 four hardy souls assembled to make their assault on Mt. Blanca, Colorado. Mt. Blanca is one of Colorado's famed 56 "fourteeners". However, this day would bring us close, but not quite to the 14,000 foot level of the mountain. That was okay for us as we had a good time just getting to the 12,100 foot level! Cliff Meier, "The Rookie", was in his trusty 99 TJ, Keith Jurey was in his 99 TJ, Leon Duggar was in his well prepared 67 Ford Bronco, and I in my newly assembled (read...not done by any means!) 71 Jeepster Commando. We were to leave promptly at 9:00 AM and that we did. Everyone had assembled early enough to get

their tires aired down and their hubs locked (where applicable of course). Anticipation was mounting!

We started off up the trail in fine fashion. Leon had volunteered for "Tail Gunner" duties (and did a fine job!) with Keith in front of him and Rookie right behind me. We just got into the early rocky trail section when Rookie remembered he had forgotten to disconnect his front sway bar in all the excitement. He quickly got it disconnected and we all reassembled to continue on. Just around a few corners, a bobcat jumped out in front of Rookie and I and we relayed our sightings to the others. That is an unusual sighting and we were happy to have experienced it. No issues came up as we trekked on to the infamous "Jaws 1" obstacle.

Arriving at Jaws 1, we all walked up and studied the potential hazards and possible routes to conquering this obstacle. Keith, who had the most recent experience with this obstacle, offered an approach that all seemed to be comfortable with. I being the first, drove onto the obstacle and quickly pulled right through it! Success! It felt so good after having not driven this obstacle for about 10 years to actually drive on it and right through it easily. Thanks to Mr. Brady for the fine suspension work and to Mr. Rector for installing those limiting straps! I used all of that stuff right there! Rookie was next and made his best attempt before becoming attached to the dreaded strap. Oh well, can't win them all



Rookie! Of course, he made it clear he had no shame and wasn't afraid of that strap and that seemed to work well for him. I give him credit for not trying it a hundred times until he succeeded in breaking stuff. That is never fun on the trail! Keith was next and he promptly followed the line he had the rest of us using and he too drove right through it. Next came Mr. Duggar and his fine Bronco. Once again, he followed the chosen line and right when it looked like he would conquer it easily, those front control arm mounts snagged him! No problem he said, and backed up about 3 inches and then gunned it

forward. That did it! It sure makes a difference when you build your own vehicle as you are very familiar with its weaknesses and/or quirks. You always know what the problem is and how to remedy a quick fix! On we went to Jaws 2.

When we all got to this obstacle, we once again got out and studied the possible approaches. I remembered a “straight on” approach and that worked easily for me. I went right up. Next came Rookie. He tried the same approach, but it wasn’t to be. After a couple of tries, Rookie went to the left a little and crawled right through it using the smaller rocks and the log that had been placed by others before us. That addition seemed to make this obstacle much more safe and doable. Next came Keith following the same line as mine. He had to hit it twice, but made it look easy. Leon then approached it in his Bronco and took the same line as Keith and I, but his Bronco refused to cooperate. He just decided to go through Rookie’s line and not keep trying the more difficult line. On to Jaws 2 ½.



Jaws 2 ½ is much more of an obstacle than I remembered. It is a rock outcropping stuck on the right side of the trail that goes from upper right to lower left with a three foot wide “groove” created by a washed out section of dirt with the bank of the mountain on the far left. It may sound easy, but when you are there looking it square in the face, there’s nothing easy about it! The far right side of this



obstacle is a cliff leading down to a ravine some 100 feet below. Using the right side appears to be suicide in the making! We’ll pass on that! I was the first to try it and climbed up the left side of the obstacle as I should have. Although not as eloquent as I would have liked, I made it easily (glad to have 3/8” thick trailing arms!). Rookie came next. By the time he tried it, the other two guys had gathered to watch. He hit it on the left as he should, but his gearing would not let him finesse it. During his third try we all heard a very loud bang! I quickly drew upon experience to know that sounded exactly like a broken axle u-joint. Rookie backed down and a quick look determined that yes indeed, he was in need of a new left

front axle u-joint! Between the four of us we had everything needed to make the repairs and we got after it. Leon has an excellent work bench in that solid American steel Bronco tail gate! It came in very handy. Keith had the new u-joint and I had two hands to help. We got that thing in the air, jerked out that axle, and worked for an hour to get the old u-joint out and a new one put in place. It may have been a little easier if when it blew apart it would not have slightly elongated the holes for the caps and spread the axle ends. But, we persevered! In about an hour and a half that thing was back together and ready for work. I backed up the Jeepster and hooked up that strap to Rookie’s TJ. We then pulled forward and he came through the obstacle quite well. After I unhooked him, I pulled forward enough to make room for the others at the top of the obstacle and got out to watch the others climb up. Keith made it look easy and Leon was not far behind. After Leon tried it once, he got over a little farther to the left and then followed the spotting we gave him to the tee. He made it look easy as well. There had been some fellow walking down the trail that stopped to watch us climb up. He was truly awed by Leon’s climb! I think Leon was also thrilled with how easy he made it. On to Jaws 3!

Jaws three is an obstacle with rocks on both sides of the trail and a 'V' section of opening between them. However it is pretty wide and getting your tires on the right side a little to miss most of the jagged rocks protruding from the left side will ensure a successful climb and no torn tire sidewalls. That is pretty much how I approached it. I made it easily. Rookie had decided that he would take the bypass and drove around it without incident (not as easy as you may think!). Keith went through the middle and came right up. Leon was next and he too made it look easy. By this time the clouds were starting to gather a little more closely and an impending storm was brewing. But, onward we went!



We have to make it to the top of this mountain. It was already 1:15 PM and lunch was sounding pretty good, but we needed to make the lake before eating. Sorry Leon, but the three others had stopped for a hearty breakfast in Blanca and could make it until we stopped.

We trekked on to Como Lake and stopped for a very quick lunch. The weather was starting to look gloomy, so time was of the essence. We headed around the lake to the far side, where we were greeted with a small stream crossing followed immediately by a 3 foot vertical climb onto a tree root on the right side, a large 2 ½ foot boulder on the left side, and many other species of those hard things Mother Nature filled the gap in between with! Oh...fun! I had to hit it couple of times, but got through it. When I did, I just climbed out and got the strap out for Rookie. He didn't need to break again. I strapped him up and it wasn't easy. I finally had to back up and jerk him over a rock. He made it



through without a scratch and on to Jaws 4 we went. I didn't wait for the others as the weather was looking more like rain every minute. However, I did stare at the rear view mirror enough to know Keith had made it through. Jaws 4 is a rounded rock outcropping that is the width of the trail. When you drive on it, it is very steep with a nice tree on the right side of the trail. The correct approach is to come close to the tree without hitting it. That's what I did and it went fine. Before I could stop to see if Rookie was going to be able to make it, he was right on my tail! I guess he didn't know that was a hard obstacle! Never mind a wounded Jeep with questionable repairs! Make it or break it! He's a trooper!

I continued towards the Blue Lakes and just about the time I made it, it began to rain. After a few minutes it turned to snow pellets and the wind decided to blow with all of that. It took several minutes before the others made it this far, but we all basked in our glory even though it took a pair of gloves and two coats! Leon's GPS read 12,100 feet sitting at the Blue Lakes. We all took some obligatory pictures and then promptly turned around and headed towards the bottom of the mountain. It never let up much with the rain and snow all the way down!

We ran into several hikers above Como Lake and they were all very nice people. Most were amazed by our ability to climb this mountain in our Jeeps. That was very refreshing!



Getting down to Jaws 3 was easy and I made it through. Rookie went around again, and Keith and Leon I believe went through the obstacle. We all gathered at Jaws 2 ½ again to consider a reasonable approach. I went first and made it down. Rookie was next and so on. Each had their fair share of fun with wet rocks and loss of traction, but no problems. Just before Jaws 2 there is a really large boulder in the middle of trail. Going up it was easy to see that you had to move to the right or far left to make it through, but going down is another story! I drove over the rock and scraped my rear quite a bit. However, between the Detroit lockers front and rear, 37 inch tires, and a long wheelbase, I was fortunate enough

to make it through. Rookie was not so fortunate! He tried to conquer the rock the same way as me, but his results led to a lot of work. It involved a Hi-Lift jack, stacked boulders, a winch with a line doubler (and Keith and Leon's vehicles tied together to prevent from pulling Keith's Jeep down the hill into Rookie!) . . . and lots of rain/snow! After jacking up the front tires to get the front driveshaft, front differential, and lower control arms to clear of the rock he was hung on, the winch line finally pulled him off of the boulder. He then backed up far enough to turn far left and easily cleared the boulder. The others followed suit and we were heading for Jaws 2.

All of us decided to take the right side (left side going up) approach to Jaws 2, and that made it easier for us all. Jaws 1 again had us out looking at it. I tried what I thought was the correct approach only to find out I was on the wrong line. That Jeepster felt like it was at about a 50 degree angle leaning right and I decided to back off. That's when I noticed that the failure of the transmission to hold me back for the last half hour was also keeping me from backing up. I had no reverse! Out came the strap again and this time **Rookie** pulled me back through the obstacle to get another approach. I still hit it wrong, but made it anyway. The others again followed suit (only, on the correct line) and all made it fine. By this time it had let up on the rain/snow and it was starting to look much better. We made the bottom at about 5:30 PM to air up our tires and unlock our hubs. We all then decided to go back to the motel or camper of our choice. Joan and I, and Keith and Linda were staying at a motel in Ft. Garland; Rookie and Jeanne were staying in Ft. Garland in their camper. And we were all anticipating a steak meal. We invited Leon, but he had gotten probably a high altitude head ache and decided to go back to the camper, drink a beer, and go to sleep. That sounded good too, but on to Ft. Garland I must go. We all got ready quickly to go to the steak place across the street from the motel. When we arrived, the place was packed and there would not be enough food or a place to sit that night there, so we went down the street for some Italian food. Unbelievably good food is all I can say! The All-Gon Restaurant is a place you have to visit if you are ever in Ft. Garland! Their fresh eggplant parmesan and fresh Colorado peach short cake was beyond excellent! I highly recommend this place!



The next morning, I tried the transmission one more time to see if maybe it was cooled off enough to allow reverse to work, but to no avail. I got out the winch and winched myself onto the trailer backwards as that is the only way that thing will fit a 14' trailer. The others went to breakfast, and Joan and I headed home. It was a great weekend and I was very happy with the Jeepster, except the work

involved with replacing the transmission that is!! I believe the others enjoyed the ride and Rookie now has the infamous Mt. Blanca (Colorado rated 9 out of 10 in hardness) trail under his belt (even though he was wounded a little!). We'll be back another day for that mountain! Rain or shine we shall conquer!



Rear Bumper for Jeep TJ. Wilderness brand -- see part # 34910 at http://www.wildernessracks.com/jeep_wild_bump.html. Good condition, all hardware included, \$150. Also **OE Rubicon Fender Flares** (slightly "pre-scuffed" at no extra charge :), \$60. Call Paul Thompson at 505-293-8390.

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

Club Notes

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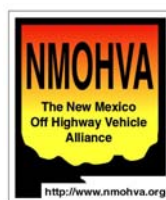
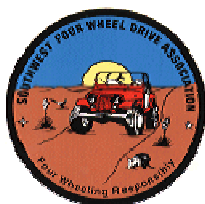
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
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Oct 28	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Nov 21	NM4W Holiday Food Drive	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Nov 25	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Dec 5	Christmas Tree Run	Call Tony Louderbough	505-232-0345
Dec 20	Christmas Party	Call Glenn & Jan Bontly	505-249-1127

NM4W Officers

<p>President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Mike Coe 896-9581 Treasurer@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Trip Chairman Mark Wolf 856-8539 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org</p>	<p>SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!</p>

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



November 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From October 28, 2009

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque on October 28th. Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Guests: None

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Mike and Kristy Coe, Erwin Greven, Ron and Becca Hyman, Keith and Linda Jurey, Ed Kausche, Russ Kaz, Steve Lamberson, Tony Lauderbough, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Dixon Patrick, Jeff Rector, Tedd Romero, Judy Sandoval, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Bob Telepak, Paul and Mary Thompson, Glenn & Rebagayle Vialpando, Mark and Joanne Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark and Joan Wolf.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The Sep 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the Oct 2009 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – Mike Coe: Mike reported a balance of \$4,774.87. He received a check from Mark Wolf for \$9.27 from the sale of aluminum cans.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff reminded anyone that had fines from previous trips to pay up. Fines were assessed to Glenn Bontly for doing 3 U-turns during the Caballo Trip. Glenn was not present.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: EIS comment writing training will be held on Dec 5th. This is an all day session. NMOHVA is paying half and the clubs are expected to cover the other half. An estimated cost is about \$45 per member. The timing is close enough now that Mark needs people to commit to the training. If there are more than 20 people for all the clubs participating then NMOHVA will try to schedule a second training.

The Bureau of Land Management is trying to swap the Glade Recreation area to the city of Farmington, which will then close it to OHV use. NMOHVA is working to get all the groups in the Farmington area to work together on this issue.

Santa Fe National Forest is expected to release the travel management plan in January. Gila National Forest is in the scoping period. We are waiting for Environmental Assessments on Mt Taylor, Cibola, Lincoln, and Carson.

The special session of the New Mexico legislature took the funds from the OHV Fund. This is a special use fund and not part of the general fund. Mark encouraged everyone to contact Bill Richardson to remove this from the bill before signing it.

Trip Chairman's Report – Mark Wolf:

Past Events:

- Sep 25th-27th NMCCC 31st Annual Swap Meet in Los Lunas
Oct 3rd-4th 'We Rock' Extreme Rock Crawling Nationals. Jeff reported he and Paula were the only ones that went up. They watched the event Saturday and then went out on their own Sunday.
- Oct 17th-18th Caballo Lake/Palomias Gap Trip – Jeff Boggs reported that Glenn Bontly led the trip and weather was perfect. There were 5 jeeps. Three camped at Caballo State Park Riverside Camp area and others stayed at motels. Instead of a potluck everyone went out to a restaurant. He would like to do more runs down there, possibly just playing around instead of doing the loop.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Nov 1st - ? Mojave Road trip – Cliff Meier is planning to do the Mojave Road in California the first week in November. The trip will take 4 days with overnight tent camping three nights. Travel to the trail near Avi Arizona is on the 1st. A trip to Death Valley is planned after the Mojave run for those interested.
- Nov 12th Club Meeting at Fuddruckers on Pan American Freeway
Nov 21st Road Runner Food Drive. There is a donation box at Desert Rat and donations can also be brought to the November meeting if not participating in the caravan.
- Dec 5th Christmas Tree Run
Dec 20th Christmas Party at Glenn and Jan Bontly's in Belen
Dec 31st-Jan 3rd Rockin' New Years @ Gordy's Hill
Jul 21st-24th 2010 SWFWDA Summer Quarterly - Creede, CO

Program Chairman's Report – Frank G. Whiston: Paul Caskey was not present. Carlos Tanner was to fill in but he was snowed in. Ron Hyman sold raffle tickets, but no merchandise was available.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin reminded everyone to send pictures of the trips by uploading them to Picasso or giving him a CD. If he gets pictures on the Caballo trip he would do a slide show.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn was not at the meeting so there was no report.

Old Business:

Summer Quarterly 2010 – New Mexico 4-Wheelers will be hosting the SWFWDA Summer Quarterly in Creede, CO Jul 21st - 24th. There will be an organizational meeting at Frank and Beth Whiston's on Nov 19th at 7:00 pm for anyone that wants to help out. Anyone that wants to attend can contact Frank for directions.

Aluminum Can Recycling - Mark Wolf reminded everyone to bring crushed aluminum cans to the meetings. He is collecting them, but there has not been many turned in.

New Business:

November Meeting - Frank G. Whiston announced that November meeting will be on the 12th at the Fuddruckers on Pan American Freeway. The date available at the church was Nov 23rd which was the day before Thanksgiving.

Christmas Party – Toys 4 Tots - Frank G. Whiston brought up the notice on the website about doing something for Toys 4 Tots at the Christmas party. Since the party will be on December 20th this was late for a toy donation. Discussion involved making a cash donation to one of the food charities. It was decided to look into how much we donated last year and bring the information to the November meeting.

Club dues for SWFWDA, NMOHVA, Blue Ribbon Fund, and United – Frank G. Whiston indicated he had membership renewal forms for the 4 clubs. The SWFWDA dues were due in May and other clubs May or later. Discussion was to pay these dues and also whether the club should amend the SOPs to allow these dues to be paid automatically. A motion was made to amend the SOPs and motion passed. A motion was made to pay the dues to SWFWDA of \$6.00 per member and \$50.00 per club, and \$100.00 each for NMOHVA, Blue Ribbon Fund, and United. There is a discount for individual members of United for affiliated clubs. Frank encouraged everyone to use United’s online enrollment to join.

SWFWDA Chile Challenge Raffle tickets – Cliff Meier announced he will be mailing out raffle tickets to the clubs. This raffle provides most of the revenue for SWFWDA.


Quadratec Link – Frank G. Whiston announced that he had been contacted by Quadratec. They have added us to a link they maintain for clubs and would like us to establish a link to them. There is a page on our website for links, but these were local vendors only. It was decided to indicate we could not add them as a link unless they were a sponsor to SWFWDA raffle. They have not been a sponsor in the past.

Frank thanked Cliff and Jeanne Meier for refreshments for the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Raffle: There was a total of \$74.00 in the 50-50 raffle. Keith Jurey won \$37.00.

Future Hosts are:

- December Glenn and Jan Bontly
- January Keith and Linda Jurey
- February
- March
- April

	<p>President’s Report By Frank G. Whiston</p>
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Some of you may not be aware, but the club is keeping up with modern times. NM4W is on Facebook! The Group page titled “New Mexico 4-Wheelers” has been created just for the club. Only club members can view all of the content on the page. 22 of the club members are already on Facebook and have joined the group. If you are a Facebook user and have not joined, search groups for “New Mexico 4-Wheelers” and request to join. Once you have been confirmed as a club member in good standing, you will be set to join the Web-Wheeling!

We-Rock Grand Nationals--Farmington

By Jeff Boggs

Paula and I went to the We-Rock Grand Nationals near Farmington, NM on October 3-4. The action was amazing to say the least. The pictures say it all! P.S.--This area would make a great 2-3 day trip for the club to do.



Caballo Lake/Palomas Gap Trip

By Jeff Boggs

(Editor's Note: Jeff and I were "co-hosts" for this ride. My job was to lead the ride, and Jeff's job was to write the trip report. I want to thank Jeff for only mentioning ONE of my THREE U-turns! ;o)



Five jeeps attended the Caballo Lake/Palomas Gap run on October 17th, 2009. Palomas Gap is in the Caballo Mts. east of Caballo Lake, near Truth or Consequences, NM.

Glenn Bontly (TJ), Paul and Mary Thompson (TJ), Jeff and Paula Boggs (LJ), Steve Lamberson (YJ), and guests Tom and Tommy Sandoval (JK) with two boys. All aired down at the trail head at about 8:00 am. Glenn said this was an all day trip, and even longer if we could not cross the Rio Grande at the low water crossing. The alternate exit point was further north by TorC.

The beginning of the trail was at the Caballo Lake Dam, east side, and headed east up a road that soon became a dry arroyo that started out rather tame. Back onto a road with several off-cambers and back into a dry river bed to the first dry water fall. Glenn showed us the way and one by one we followed. Jeff high centered his rear diff on an unnoticed rock after the waterfall climb, but finally found a better angle and moved forward. Tom spotted Tommy up and over the waterfall, and he slowly found his way through the rudely placed rocks. Steve brought his YJ (with JK axles and lockers) to the top of the waterfall and by taking a few small branches with him, he moved forward also. Last but not least, up came Paul, making a smooth run of it. There were several more sections to navigate in this canyon. Steve flipped a front shackle and popped off a rear axle shock mount, but that didn't stop him. It reminded me of moderate-to-hard trails at the Chile Challenge. Glenn said that the trail had become harder since the last time he had been there. There are many extreme areas in this first canyon and a club ride just to play around there would keep us busy all day. Maybe in the Spring.....





Next, we climbed out of the canyon and started a slow climb up toward the Radio Towers. This was starting to offer up some great views to our east. There was one rather steep road section that had some cool ledge steps. Soon we made it to the tower area for lunch, 12:30 pm. Great scenery, 360 degrees.

At 1:30pm, we started down the main road from the towers. Glenn turned left, then spun around. Missed the turn, but not by much. Still, there was mention of "Fines" over the CB. We were back on a red rock two track, going down to a gate. Back into a dry bed and some tuff sections. Tommy's JK got a flat tire, front passenger side. A quick change and we were off again. Through the gate, and headed toward the Palomas Gap Toll Road. In the early 1900's, a toll road was built through this steep canyon to connect the mining areas to the west of the Rio Grande, and White Oaks to the east.

We entered the canyon on the south wall and followed a shelf down the canyon wall. Not much room for error, especially passenger side!! Down lower, we stopped at an old mine, checked it out and met the resident bat. Paula let out a scream as the bat flew close, or was that Tommy?

Down to the Rio Grande, and Glenn found the crossing point of the river. Safely across, we aired up and headed into TorC for a great supper.

That is my favorite trail that I have done since I got into 4-wheeling! It had sand, water, mud, rocks, views, ups, downs, danger, bats, scraping sounds, all 4low, and everybody had a good time. Thanks Glenn, for showing us through the Palomas Gap trail. I am ready to do it again.

Paula and I went through Monticello Box and up to the top of Mt. Withington on Sunday, Oct 18th. We saw only deer and one other vehicle all day. The Fall colors were beautiful, and the view from the fire lookout station on top of Mt. Withington was good for 100 miles, 360 degrees. We were back at home by 8:30 pm.



Strategies of the War on Access
The Simple Principles Needed for Motorized Recreation to Win
By Del Albright, Recreation Advocate

Let there be no doubt: We are at war over our access to public lands and waterways. Further, we are at war over our basic freedoms like gun ownership, political views, consumer monitoring, and vehicle

ownership. The list goes on, but more importantly, there are strategies we can employ to preserve our freedoms, keep our access, and protect our way of life. Here I offer those strategies to win the war on our freedoms; the war on our access.

War is a strong word, yes, but by definition it means any active hostility, contention, struggle, or conflict (Webster's New World Dictionary). We are in a constant struggle by folks who are hostile to our way of life. To me, this is war. We must fight back or suffer the consequences of losing what we love to do.

A fundamental principle of war is never to remain completely passive, but rather to attack back, at the front and at the flanks, even while under attack. To motorized recreation, that means for us to not stand by and complain while Rome burns, but rather to fight back. The best defense is a good offense, right? RIGHT!

You can no longer wonder why those who oppose our way of life go after those places we really love – like Moab, Utah, the Rubicon Trail, Glamis (Imperial Sand Dunes), or other awesome OHV sites. It is one of the strategies of war – to take away the things your enemy loves. And our enemies are totally after our favorite places.

So how do we stop them?

Sun Tzu (in about 500 B.C.) talked about five essentials for victory. I share two them with you here:

“He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight.”

“He will win whose army is animated by the same spirit throughout all ranks.”

There are a couple strong messages for motorized recreation here. “When to fight” is where the saying comes from about “know thy enemy.” Sun Tzu pointed out that if you know the enemy and know yourself, you'll figure out when to fight, and you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. Eventually victory can be gained when you keep the essentials in mind and keep your army united and fighting with purpose, and of course, pick your battles.

In simple terms, this means trusting those organizations fighting for us and being part of their management and decision-making. It means helping them figure out when to fight and when not to fight (and waste our money). It also means being united (same spirit) in our fight and standing together; not pulling each other down, doing unthinkable things in someone else's boots, or “eating our young.” It means continuing to build an Access Army that knows when and how to fight, led by folks who understand the strategies of this war on access.

Do not be confused about my loyalties as a recreation advocate; I believe the Access Army starts with all of us being members of the BlueRibbon Coalition (www.sharetrails.org) for sure, and for me, my state association, the California Association of 4Wheel Drive Clubs (www.cal4wheel.com). We all need to be part of our regional and state associations – whether they are perfect or not is irrelevant. Joining is the very first step in this war. Together we can make them better; but without them we might as well scrap our rigs.

In summary, the strategies of winning this war on access are the things you've read about before: join up; advocate for your sport; get in the game; get some training; fight back; be united; trust in those fighting for and with you; and find that “same spirit” to help us unite our Army and win this war.



For Sale



Rear Bumper for Jeep TJ. Wilderness brand -- see part # 34910 at http://www.wildernessracks.com/jeep_wild_bump.html. Good condition, all hardware included, \$150. Also **OE Rubicon Fender Flares** (slightly "pre-scuffed" at no extra charge :), \$60. Call Paul Thompson at 505-293-8390.

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

Submission Due Date: Input for the Trail Tales is *normally* due to the Editor not later than the **25th of each month**, with publication around the 1st of each month. When circumstances dictate that the club meeting be later in the month, the Editor will extend the submission due date via e-mail notification. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

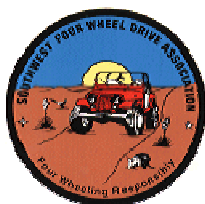
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Nov 12	Club Meeting at Fuddrucker's	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Nov 21	NM4W Holiday Food Drive	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Dec 5	Christmas Tree Run	Call Tony Louderbough	505-232-0345
Dec 20	Christmas Party	Call Glenn & Jan Bontly	505-249-1127
Dec 31–Jan 3	Rockin' New Years at Gordy's Hill	TBD	TBD
Feb 24 - 27	2010 Chile Challenge	http://www.chilechallenge.org/	N/A
Jul 21 – 24	Summer Quarterly, Creede CO	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Mike Coe 896-9581 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Mark Wolf 856-8539 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



December 1, 2009

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From Nov 12, 2009
by Beth Whiston



Meeting was held at Fuddrucker's . Frank Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Guests: Tracy & Cheryle Bakewell, Matthew Fuentes Tanuz.

Members Present: Jeff Atchison & Gina Jones, Jeff Boggs, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Keith Chapin, Mike & Kristy Coe, Keith & Linda Jurey, Ed Kausche, Tony Louderbough, Dixon & Zelda Patrick, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Tedd Romero & Judy Sandoval, Chris Sears, Justin & Rebecca Simenson, Carlos Tanner, Glenn & Rebagayle Vialpando, Mark & Joanne Werkmeister, Frank & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report – Jeanne Meier: Not present.

Treasurer's Report – Mike Coe: \$4,086.27.

Vice President's Report – Cliff Meier: Not present.

Trip Chairman's Report – Mark Wolf:

November 1st - Mojave Road was a great run! Went into Death Valley, which was also a great; good sand and smelly mud, over the axles. Correction—it was smelly goop. Bob Telepak was a great trip leader.

The Alamogordo club wants to go out to Gordy's the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you are interested in leading them down there, let Frank know.

November 19th - Summer Quarterly planning meeting at Frank & Beth's house. We will go over preliminary details. We need to get information together to get out around December. Lodging fills up quick. Will send out an e-mail. Meet at 7 pm.

Upcoming:

November 21st - Roadrunner Food Bank Food Drive @ ABQ Uptown: The club will drop off food donations during Channel 4 live broadcast at ABQ uptown. We will meet in the Winrock parking lot by TGI Friday and Garduno's. We will drive over together. They will interview Frank. We'll drop off our donations like last time. Last year we made a monetary donation of \$150. Would we like to make a monetary donation this year? Wolfie made a motion that we donate \$200 this year. The motion was passed; Frank will give the check during the broadcast.

December 5th - Christmas tree run. Meet at the Conoco at 528/550 at 9 am. We will stop at Walatowa Visitor Center and buy permits. OR just come to play in the snow!

December 20th – Christmas Party at the Bontly’s @ 1 pm. There was a motion for the club to spend \$100 for meat. Motion passed. Beth & Frank Whiston will pick up the meat at Rudy’s and bring it to the party. This is a potluck; please bring a dish to share. There will be a gift exchange again this year! There is a \$10 limit. Bring it wrapped, mark if it is for a male or female. Numbers will be given out and we will do a white elephant type exchange.

January 1-3 – NM4W Rockin’ New Year’s at Gordy’s hill. There will be camping and 4-wheeling. Lauri Rector will be the point of contact.

February 24-27 - Chile Challenge. Registration begins December 1st. Wolfie says this event is on borrowed time; if you get a chance to go, you should! It may not be around for long.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: The trail safety fund has been saved for now! \$8,000! NMOHVA received grant money for trail work at Cedro Peak. This will be a \$450,000 project. Will break ground in the spring. There will be a lot of opportunities for the club to help. There will be more information as the project gets closer.

December 5th will be a training session for how to write comments for the NEPA process. There are still a couple seats available. Contact Mark Werkmeister if you are interested. NM4W will pick up the cost for club members. The training will be all day 9 am - ? Breakfast and lunch will be served. Limited to 20 people. There will be a second session probably in January if enough interest.

Program Chairman’s Report – Paul Caskey: There will be a 50/50 raffle. Raffle tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 tickets for \$5. You also receive an extra ticket if wearing club apparel.

Historian’s Report – Justin Simenson: Give some pictures to Justin for the club records.

Webmaster & Editor’s Report – Glenn Bontly: Nothing at this time.

Old Business: There was an addition to the SOP’s. Motion was made to update the SOP’s with this addition. Motion passed. Here is what was added:

ARTICLE VIII: DUES PAYABLE TO OTHER FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ORGANIZATIONS

A. The New Mexico 4-Wheelers (NM4W) Club maintains standing membership in several Four Wheel Drive organizations, some of which are: United Four Wheel Drive Association (UFWDA), Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association (SWFWDA), New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA), and BlueRibbon Coalition. A portion of every member’s dues helps to support these organizations. Other organizations may be introduced at a later time the Club will see benefit in becoming members of. The Club shall become a member of these organizations with a majority vote.

B. The NM4W Treasurer shall pay the current, applicable annual dues for each of these organizations when they become due. He/she shall also inform the membership if at anytime the membership dues are not sufficient to cover the costs of these organization’s dues.

New Business:

Glenn paid his fine for U-turns at Caballo Lake.

Jeepers Paradise closed their shop for the winter. They will reopen at a new location (in Rio Rancho) around February. They are selling DVD's for \$10; Jeff Boggs has the DVD's.


In January the club will be back at the Church for our meetings. Meetings will be on the 2nd Thursday each month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Winner of the 50/50 drawing: Lauri Rector won \$33! Total money collected: \$66

Future Meeting Hosts:

Christmas Party:	Glenn and Jan Bontly
January:	Keith and Linda Jurey
February:	Ron and Becca Hyman
March:	Mark & Joan Wolf
April:	

	President's Report By Frank G. Whiston
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Well, the Holidays are upon us! The club just completed its 2nd Annual Food Drive, and to me, there is nothing better to get you in the spirit for the holidays. The mood at ABQ Uptown during the event was spectacular. I was really hit with the Christmas spirit there. Our family is really looking forward to the Christmas tree run. There is a snowstorm in the forecast just before the run, so the mountain scenery should be great!

The Summer Quarterly committee is also looking ahead to July. In

the last couple of weeks, we have made stellar progress in planning for the event. Look for information soon on the website (<http://www.nm4w.org/summerquarterly2010.htm>). Why are we doing this so early? Well, if you are not into dry camping, lodging should be booked no later than mid January to make sure that you will have a place to stay. Thanks to all of the committee members for all of the work that you have done in the past few weeks. Rendezvous on the Rio Grande is going to be an event you will not want to miss!

Happy Holidays!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

A DISTANT STORM?

Have you ever heard a distant rumble of thunder on a hot summer day? It might mean cooling rain...it could mean a disastrous storm...or it might dissipate and disappear long before it gets close.

Your Director of Environmental Affairs heard some distant thunder this week. The still far-off thunder rumbled in the form of a notice announcing the start of something called the “SW Jemez Mountains Restoration Strategy”. The purpose? “Help restore sustainable and resilient ecological conditions over a large landscape in the southwestern Jemez Mountains.” All the little hairs on the back of my neck stood up when I read who is going to be initiating this effort: The Forest Service, the Valles Caldera Trust, the Pueblo of Jemez, the Nature Conservancy, and the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute.

Don't get me wrong. One of the most important action items the Forest Service can undertake is to get the huge fuel load (the result of active fire suppression over the last 50 years) sitting in the Jemez Mountains under control. But throw in some of the 'restoration' activities they identify as priorities and the warning bells of the motorized recreation crowd should start going off: “Improve water quality, improve fish and wildlife habitat, maintain and restore old growth stands, and *decommission roads and trails.*”

The area identified in the announcement is the entire southwestern corner of the Jemez. It contains just about every road we identified as important to our club when we gave our Citizen's Proposal for Travel Management.

What does this mean? In a worse case scenario, we save our trails in Travel Management only to lose them a few years down the road to the SW Jemez Mountains Restoration Strategy and the plans that will flow out of it. But I am getting ahead of myself...

So what do we do? Well, with a distant storm approaching, it pays to watch it so you don't get caught out in the open when the lightning strikes start hitting. The same holds true here. This 'Restoration Strategy' is starting with public collaboration. We are the 'public' and we have been given the opportunity to 'get in' on the ground floor of this effort. We need to ensure that motorized recreation isn't carelessly sacrificed (or purposefully slaughtered) with sloppy science and agency 'green-think' in the name of 'restoration'.

Like always, we need to be involved, stay in the information loop, and keep a very watchful eye on this planning effort. The 'storm' may blow over or it may blow us over. It is too soon to tell, but it certainly bears a very close watch.

You can learn more about the Strategy and how to get involved with the early community collaboration here: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/jemez_mtn_rest/index.html

Your DEA,

Mark

Member Spotlight: Keith & Linda Jurey

By Joan Wolf



Four-wheeling is a Jurey family affair. Ever since their two sons were young, family vacations were four-wheeling and camping. The vehicles changed over the years—Toyota Land Cruisers, Dodge Power Wagon, and Scouts. But the adventure of four-wheeling remains a family constant. Both sons now own Jeeps and the family tradition is to spend a week together four-wheeling in Moab, Colorado, or whatever playground strikes their fancy. They rent a house or cabin so all can be together—and be spoiled by Linda’s fantastic cooking!

Keith and Linda hail from Norcatour, a farming community in northwestern Kansas. They met during high school and have been married “a very long time” according to Linda. After high school, Keith graduated from Denver Automotive School in Denver and Linda completed secretarial school

in Wichita, and were both employed in Phillipsburg, KS. Keith’s 36-year career with NCR (National Cash Register) took the family to Grand Island, Scottsbluff, and Omaha (Nebraska). An AT&T takeover moved them to Dallas, TX, and then to Albuquerque after a spinoff from AT&T, now NCR again. After retiring from NCR, Keith joined Shuffle Master, a gaming equipment supplier. He works mostly in New Mexico and Colorado, but has traveled to casinos throughout the U.S. to service and install equipment. Keith also served six years in the Kansas Army National Guard (1967-1973) and worked stateside as a Motor Sergeant.

Linda has worked in office administration at a gasoline refinery, ammunition factory, city government, and an irrigation company. She started with the University of New Mexico shortly after they moved to Albuquerque 12 years ago. As Administrative Coordinator at the UNM College of Pharmacy, she makes sure that tests are prepared and given, and that grades are received. Her responsibilities make it hard to get away during the academic year, so by summer she’s ready for outdoor fun.



Their son, Richard, is a Civil Engineer with the U.S. Department of Transportation in Edmund, Oklahoma. One of his assignments was helping design the road system for the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Younger son, Jason, and his wife, Kathy, live in Omaha, Nebraska. Jason works for Natureworks, the inventor of compostable plastics that are used for many

food items. Jason & Kathy's two children are Connor (8) and MacKinzey (5). All generations of Jureys are avid Jeepers.



Keith bought his '98 TJ brand new from Westside Jeep. It features many modifications, including 4.88 gears, 4.3 Atlas II, 4" lift, 35" tires, Dana 44 differentials, built-up skid pan, Detroit lockers, onboard air, full cage, new bumpers, 16" American Racing wheels, Borla muffler, and Cat-back Borla exhaust. After listing all these goodies, Linda ponders whether a Rolls Royce might have been cheaper...

As if one black '98 TJ isn't enough, Keith is building another. "But it has a different color interior, so we won't get them mixed up," he deadpans. The new TJ will actually be the "family

spare". Seems that during the decades when he had Scouts, Keith always had two so that one was always available (Scout owners will understand). A spare rig would've come in handy when the annual family wheeling week almost didn't happen. Just before he was to depart for Salida, Richard's TJ ended up on its side. No one was hurt, but the driver side of the Jeep was totally torn up. Keith made a hectic trip to Oklahoma and helped Richard rebuild his Jeep in 2-1/2 days. No one wants to do that again.

While living in Scottsbluff, the Jureys co-founded a 4WD club, the Prairie Schooners. The club was active for many years and wheeled all over Colorado, Wyoming, and western Nebraska. That's when the Jureys got used to Dr. Bob Telepak out-all-day style of trips. It was usually a long drive to the trailhead, so they'd be out from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Keith says, "If we got sorta lost or temporarily misplaced, we just made camp and figured out our location the next morning. This was before GPS." All the kids and gear fit into a Scout, so they were self-contained and flexible. Keith said they've been known to reach the top of Black Bear at 10:30 p.m.—and just sleep there.



Keith's favorite trails are Black Bear and Poughkeepsie. Linda's favorite is Imogene; she favors scenery over obstacles. They also like Silverton and Leadville, and want to spend a winter (yes, winter) in Ouray. They've attended almost every All-4-Fun event since 1983 and are members of the Mile-Hi Jeep Club, Fugowies Patrol (it has a private meaning). Since joining NM4W three years ago, they've enjoyed runs to the Zunis, Moab's White Rim, Mohave Desert, and Mt. Blanca. Keith liked the Rubicon trail so much in 2009 that he wants to return in 2010. California's Dusy Ershim is on his To-Do list. And if there's any breakage on these tough trails, the spare '98 black TJ will keep him movin'.

NM4W Holiday Food Drive 2009

By Frank G. Whiston



The 2nd Annual NM4W Holiday Food Drive was a great success. Huge thanks to everyone who participated and contributed donations. This year the Food Bank has seen 30-50% increases of individuals seeking help with food. Many of these fellow New Mexicans are seeking help with food for the very first time. Layoffs, reduction of work hours, etc. has left many more in need. This time, we did not show up un-announced like we did last year. Back in September, we made contact with Channel 4 and the Roadrunner Food Bank to coordinate the club's arrival. In doing so, I was asked to do a live interview. We all met up at Winrock Center again, but

this time was a little different. I had to be on location early for the interview, so my wife, Beth received her first assignment as a trip leader. I think that we both were a little nervous! The live broadcast would not begin until after the college football game was over, which went into double overtime. That created about a half hour delay. As I was standing off to the side of the live set, a Channel 4 crewmember came over to inform me that I would be the next to be interviewed. Then, I called Beth on the cell to see if they had told her to start driving over from Winrock. They had not, so I suggested that she proceed. It worked out perfectly.

Tom Joles and Nicole Brady began the live interview just as Beth was pulling up with 10 other 4x4s representing NM4W. Club members were unloading food from their rigs the whole time I was interviewed, and then some! I especially like the way that Tom Joles interrupted his next interview to call attention to Tony Louderbough's Jeep as an example for the kinds of donations that were most needed. Again, he had his roof rack full. Great job Tony! It is hard to describe the good feeling from participating in this. I wanted to share this as best I could with all of the members, so there's a video of the event coverage that I put together on the club web site at <http://www.nm4w.org/videos.htm>.





For Sale



Dana 44 Powertrax No-Slip locker with a carrier. Made for 3.92:1 gears and lower. \$250 Call Mark Wolf at 505-856-8539.

Jeep Soft Doors (Lowers only): For 97 - 06 TJ, black, \$50. For details and pictures, go to craigslist at <http://albuquerque.craigslist.org/pts/1456113713.html>. Call Glenn Bontly at 505-249-1127.

Jeep Rear Seat: From a '97 TJ (should fit 97 - 06 models), gray, \$125. For details and pictures, go to craigslist at <http://albuquerque.craigslist.org/pts/1456111962.html>. Call Glenn Bontly at 505-249-1127.

Rear Bumper for Jeep TJ. Wilderness brand --see part # 34910 at http://www.wildernessracks.com/jeep_wild_bump.html. Good condition, all hardware included, \$150. Also **OE Rubicon Fender Flares** (slightly "pre-scuffed" at no extra charge :), \$60. Call Paul Thomason at 505-293-8390.

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

Submission Due Date: Input for the Trail Tales is *normally* due to the Editor not later than the **25th of each month**, with publication around the 1st of each month. When circumstances dictate that the club meeting be later in the month, the Editor will extend the submission due date via e-mail notification. Submissions can be sent to TrailTales@nm4w.org, or Trail Tales, 31 La Mirada Rd., Belen, NM 87002.

Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Dec 5	Christmas Tree Run	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Dec 20	Christmas Party	Call Glenn Bontly	505-249-1127
Dec 31-Jan 3	Rockin' New Year's at Gordy's Hill	Call Lauri Rector	505-228-6547
Jan 14	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank G. Whiston	505-292-1541

NM4W Officers

President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 President@nm4w.org	Vice-President Cliff Meier 281-3704 Vice-president@nm4w.org	Secretary Jeanne Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org
Treasurer Mike Coe 896-9581 Treasurer@nm4w.org	Program Chairman Paul Caskey 463-4939 Program-chairman@nm4w.org	Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org
Trip Chairman Mark Wolf 856-8539 Trip-chairman@nm4w.org	Environmental Affairs Mark Werkmeister 891-0296 Environmental-affairs@nm4w.org	SWFWDA Delegate “Your Name Here” Please Volunteer!

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002

