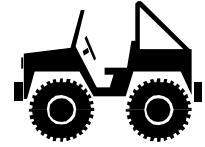


Trail Tales



January 1, 2008 Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From December 8, 2007
by Beth Whiston



Meeting was held at the home of Mark & Joann Werkmeister. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Guests: Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Members Present: Jeff Atchison, Pat Brady, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Jason & Sara Lavy, Jerry & Barbara Marx, Bob Norton, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Jack & Stella Sierra, Justin Simenson, Bob Telepak, Paul & Mary Thompson, Turpin Family, Jan Waugh, Mark & Joann Werkmeister, Frank R. & Donna Whiston, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf.

Secretary's Report – Cliff Meier: Not present.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: Account balance is \$2,846.24. All members were in favor, and the club will donate \$250.00 to the Roadrunner Food Bank.

Vice President's Report – Frank G. Whiston: Nothing – no fines.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh: Check out the club website for more detailed information.

- Rockin' News Year Eve: Saturday Dec. 29 – Tuesday Jan. 1st. There will be a potluck on Monday evening. Group will meet at the trail head at 9AM on Saturday morning. If the weather is ugly, this will be cancelled like last year.
- Chile Challenge: February 20 – 23.
- Summer Quarterly: July 31 – August 2. There are limited spots; don't waste time making a reservation.
- Jack & Stella Sierra attended the Rio Rancho trash pick-up on Saturday, December 8. They said it went well and great prizes were given out.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister:

- SFNF travel management – Rob Pots has been removed from the project. Don't know what happened. He's been replaced by Julie Baines – NEPA expert. It seems like they are not too interested in getting feedback from the public. Continue to contact the people you have been working with. Draft alternatives will be out in January/first part February. There will be two more rounds of formal written comments. We are not even to scoping yet. Mark will keep everybody up to date.
- Cibola NF – Sandia district – draft released first part of January. Because they are only doing an environmental assessment, there is a shorter time frame. Don't get caught with your letters unsent.

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Not present.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: The latest version of the book is playing on the TV. Let him know if you have any comments. It looks great Justin!

Web Master & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Not present.

Old Business:

- 50th Anniversary: There are four events that the committee has come up with for the 50th anniversary celebration. 1.) Run out to Mt. Taylor in March lead by Brady. 2.) Car Show in May. We need volunteers to help with the show. Contact Frank G. Whiston. 3.) Summer picnic in July (Carolino Canyon). 4.) Sue Brady is working with Carrie Tingley Children Hospital for next Christmas community service. Details are still being worked. The committee is still trying to find a way to work in the local 4-wheel drive shops. Any ideas see Wolfie.
- SWFWDA Winter Quarterly (a.k.a., The Chile Challenge) - Paul has raffle tickets with him. You can take the tickets and not pay until you turn in the stubs.
- Summer Quarterly: Chalk Creek campground; make reservation soon! Lauri has a sign up sheet for the trails and descriptions for the trails.
- Club Calendars: Frank passed calendars to everyone present who ordered. Frank G. asked what the club wanted to do with the extra calendars ordered. The calendars will be sold if anybody is interested who did not pre-order. The rest will be saved for next year.

New Business:

- The Mary's (Mary Turpin & Mary Thompson) are having a baby shower brunch for Sara Lavy and Beth Whiston. Both women are due with their second babies in a few months. The Mary's want to get the club women together to celebrate the soon to be new arrivals. Sara will be having another boy and Beth another girl. All women invited! The brunch will take place on Saturday, January 12.
- Jan Waugh had an idea to get more participation in leading trails. At the end of the year the club always gives out an award to the club member who received the most points; well leave that award, but also add a new one! Jan suggested having an award for the person who leads the most trails. This could be something to do for the 50th anniversary activities, but could also be done every year. This could help motivate people to lead trails. Lauri will bring this up again in January. Don't let Lauri forget!
- Frank has a guest with enough points to be voted in. All were in favor to vote in Tahoe – welcome to the club (again)!

Thanks to Mark and Joann for hosting this rambunctious bunch (that gift exchange got a little wild)! ☺ Also thanks to Tom Hurt for picking up that delicious BBQ; Sue Brady for arranging the church for winter meetings; all the people who did work for the forest roads; and the 50th committee.

Lauri called up Mark & Joann Werkmeister and Dr. Bob to present all of them a plaque for all the hard work with the forest issues.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25.



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

Here's wishing that everyone enjoyed their holidays!!! As I write this, Jeff and I are looking forward to the 3rd Annual NM4W Rockin New Years Eve Bash. The 2nd annual one got snowed out and it looks like there is snow in the forecast for this year's bash as well. Maybe, we will get lucky this year though. And, our couch is in dire need of a break!!!

But, it has brought to mind all of the events that the club has lined up so far for 2008!!!! It should be a really fun year for the club – as it should be. We will be 50 years old this summer.

The CHILE CHALLENGE is right around the corner. We usually have a very good turnout for this event and I ask that we have a good turnout again this year. And, don't forget to buy your raffle ticket and support the SWFWDA. Our club, well, really Leon Duggar, is responsible for this raffle each year. Leon gets great donations from the sponsors. It is so great to hear NM4W club members winning prizes at the raffle. You don't need to be present to win. You just need to write your name and NM4W on the ticket and Leon should be able to find you.

We are also getting involved in the New Mexico Council of Car Clubs (NMCCC) with Frank Whiston leading the way. Their big event is in May with a car show that we are helping with volunteer workers and hope to have a good turn out of our members. We anticipate that this will be a good way to advertise our 50th anniversary. Frank and I should have some more information for everyone in the upcoming meetings.

And then, we are also hosting the summer quarterly and the committee this year has gotten it off to a really good start. This is the 1st year that I have helped on the committee. I was hoping to take some of the burden off Mark Wolf's shoulders, but I haven't yet. But, we have a lot of energetic people heading up various committees and they are really doing a good job. I think that this quarterly could be one of the best yet – and I hear that the last one was a really good one too. So, if you are planning on going, please see Cliff Meier about signing up to lead or tail gun a trail or two. This way, you get to go and do pre-runs too – so you get twice the wheelin' action!!!

I truly expect that with all the people in this club that we also get a lot of events in between all of these bigger events. It's these kinds of things that make this club so much fun to be a part of. So, go get that new 2008 calendar out right now and look and see what dates you have open and pick a trail you'd like to run on that free weekend. Just go do it now. And, since you are probably reading this on line, go ahead and send an email out to everyone and announce it – just start it off saying “Glenn, post this to the event schedule” and he will. It's that easy!!!

HERE'S WISHING EVERYONE . . .

A VERY HAPPY,

HEALTHLY,

AND PROPEROUS NEW YEAR!!!!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello NM4W'ers,

As typical during this past two years, there are lots of things to talk about but this month. I will focus on the NEXT BIG THING. This next big thing is the release of the Environmental Assessment (EA) from the Sandia Ranger District for their Travel Management Rule. The following is taken directly from the Forest Service's web page:

We would like to update you on the revised Sandia Ranger District Travel Management Project schedule. The Cibola National Forest's Interdisciplinary Team is currently completing the Environmental Assessment (EA), a document that analyzes the environmental impacts of the alternatives developed for designating motorized routes and trails on the Sandia District. The EA will be released to the public sometime after January 2nd, 2008. Once the EA has been released, a public meeting will be scheduled to discuss the analysis (date, time, and location to be determined). The final decision is expected during March 2008, and the official Motorized Vehicle Use Map is scheduled to be available by late spring.

So just what is an EA and why is it important that we review and comment on the EA? I'm glad you asked. An Environmental Assessment is one of the so-called NEPA documents; so first a brief explanation of NEPA.....

NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act, became law on January 1, 1970 and is the basic national charter for protecting the environment. Ten years in the making, NEPA is the controlling guidance for federal agencies for virtually any activity undertaken, funded, or permitted that affects the environment. All federal agencies are covered by NEPA and share some common procedures; however, each agency has different specific rules defining their NEPA process.

NEPA establishes a process that outlines federal agency responsibilities and guides public involvement. NEPA is the **process** of assessing the impacts of actions on the physical, biological, and human environment. NEPA provides for **notification** by federal agencies that an action will be proposed. It provides for public **involvement** in the decision making process. And, NEPA provides a strict **timeline** for and documentation of the federal decision making process.

The NEPA process starts with a planning process for a proposed agency action, often advertised in the Federal Register. During this step, the agency develops a general description of the proposed action. There are four main objectives in this step: 1) collect information and document the area; 2) determine the objectives of the planning effort; 3) develop a timeline and budget for the plan; and 4) identify stakeholders.

As the federal agency works through the NEPA process, there are different levels of analysis and review that may be required depending on how significant the impact of the proposed action will be. The lowest level, called a categorical exclusion, can be used when actions do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the environment. The next highest level of review is the Environmental Assessment (or EA).

A full-blown Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required if the proposed action has the potential to "...significantly affect the quality of the human environment". If the proposed action does not meet the criteria for Categorical Exclusion or other exemption, it is reviewed to determine if an EIS is required. The Environmental Assessment is used for this purpose. Often, the EA is used to help the agency determine if the impacts of the proposed action will be significant. The EA will document the need for an EIS, or document and justify a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

While this may be the way NEPA is written, the Sandia District seems to have already determined that an EA will be sufficient to designate routes on the District. That may or may not work in our favor depending on which alternative the District settles on and whether or not you agree with the alternative. The key point is that a full-blown EIS requires much more detailed analysis by the Forest Service than an EA.

Okay, so what is happening next?

As the news release on the web sites states, the Sandia Ranger District intends to issue their EA for public review and comment in early January. The EA will consist of several alternatives. You, as a member of the public, can comment on the alternatives. An unofficial draft copy of this document has been on the web site for a few weeks already. The official EA will probably read pretty much the same. When they release the official EA, the public will have a set amount of time, usually thirty days, to make their comments.

I strongly urge you to get on line and visit their website at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_sandia/index.shtml.

Familiarize yourself with the document (it is only twelve pages long), read it carefully, study the accompanying maps, and start thinking about your comments. Once they release it, we will not have very much time (probably only 30 days) to make comments. Once the official document is released, I will provide additional information to help you create your comments.

Your DEA,
Mark

Member Spotlight: Jan Waugh By Joan Wolf



New club member, Jan Waugh, jumps right in. Not long ago, she didn't own a Jeep or know that 4WD clubs existed. Now she owns/supports a '93 Wrangler and is Trip Chair of New Mexico 4-Wheelers. She's learning how and where to drive her Jeep, and how to make repairs. With little training, tools, or work space, she recently replaced the shackles on the YJ. The hardest part was cutting through a Grade 8 bolt to get the old shackle off. The first shackle took all day. But with a hacksaw, angle grinder, and perseverance, Jan got the job done. She opted to cut through the bolt rather than remove the gas tank. "In retrospect, it would've been easier to remove the gas tank, but you learn the hard way," laughs Jan.

The four-wheeling bug bit when she and son, Tim, took Tim's Jeep to

Silverton. The family had taken many camping vacations to the Colorado mountains, but not on the back roads. On their 2006 trip, Tim drove his white '91 Wrangler on as many Silverton trails as time allowed. They had such a blast that Jan decided she needed her own Jeep. And after spotting Mile-Hi Jeep Club stickers, she figured Albuquerque probably had a four-wheeling club. One year later, Jan is happily adjusting to her Jeep and NM4W.

Hailing from Murphysboro, Illinois, Jan left the Midwest in the 1980's to follow the gas boom in Oklahoma and Wyoming. She worked as a monitoring technician at anhydrous ammonia plants until the boom went bust. She returned to Illinois and the insurance business. Then 21 years ago, while on a ski trip to Taos, she fell in love with New Mexico and found a job with Mutual of Omaha in Albuquerque. Since 1990, she's worked in retail—furniture, appliances, and now electronics.



At CompUSA, Jan is a Business Services Sales Representative and handles government, education, and corporate accounts (though this is likely to change due to CompUSA's recent takeover.) Jan is versatile enough to work the sales floor during holidays and big events, but she especially enjoys working with small businesses, disabled vets, and students. This gives her the opportunity to help people find what they need.



Jan is proud of her two sons and two grandchildren. Her older son, John, is stationed in Okinawa as an Air Force Crew Chief on an F-15 fighter jet. Jan was thrilled to travel to Okinawa last May to visit John, daughter-in-law Cassandra, and granddaughter, Cierra. At Christmas, Jan will meet her 3-month old grandson, Brennan, for the first time. Younger son Tim, the Jeep owner, graduated high school in May and will join the Marines in June 2008. Jan's husband, Eddie, is basketball coach at Eisenhower Middle School and a sports fanatic. Their dogs are Rocky, a

Siberian Husky who is Jan's baby, and three-year old Duke.

Jan readily admits to being a lifelong tomboy and gearhead. She's had hot rods and dirt bikes, and loves Mopar muscle cars. Her non-gearhead hobbies are genealogy, nature photography, and video editing. When her sons were young, Jan did it all (baseball team parent, PTA, etc.). Now that "her boys" are grown, she hopes to find time for hiking and a charity.

Though she has an Explorer in the garage, the blue YJ is Jan's "toy" and daily driver. She's added 33" tires, front and rear bumpers, and a tire carrier. She's replacing the dry-rot rubber and plans to install new gears, axles, and a cold air intake system. Always eager to learn, she and Tim researched how to put an 8.8 Ford differential into Tim's YJ. They figured out what would work, how to do it, and where to get the work done.

As Trip Chair, Jan's goal is to develop a comprehensive trail list with GPS coordinates. She recently completed a GPS course and hopes to offer something similar to the club, teaching others how to map a route and extract data. As every Trip Chair knows, it's challenging to motivate people to lead runs. Serving by example, Jan jumped right in and led the Cedro Peak run in October. There were 17 vehicles including her next-door neighbors, Dick and Pat Harris. Proof that the world is small, the Harris' belonged to the Albuquerque Jeep Herders in 1975! As a member of the NM4W 50th Anniversary committee, Jan has contributed good ideas and energy. And she's written letters to the USFS and BLM about road closure issues. Jan feels that the NM4W club members understand and respect the environment. In turn, others need to be educated about multi-use of public lands.

Jan is impressed that NM4W is devoid of club politics and in-fighting. She looks forward to running the many trails she's heard about and make good on her philosophy that "the more involved the better." This computer salesperson's take on Jeeps? "Jeeps are like computers. Every owner has different ideas. The technology changes quickly and there's always something better." Jan may be new to four-wheeling, but she's got the basics down pat.

Toys for Tots, and Roadrunner Food Bank

By Mary Turpin

Thanks to the generous support of all those who attended the Holiday Party and brought food and toy donations, the New Mexico 4 Wheelers donated 36 toys to Toys for Tots and 184 lbs of food to the Roadrunner Food Bank!

It took a group effort to load the back of our van after the party, and it was pretty well filled up. That was my goal going in, and it is wonderful to have met it.

On Sunday, the four of us went to the Wal-Mart on Carlisle and met a group of Marine Reservists who cheerfully took all of the toys.

Then Monday after school, Hannah, Xa, and I went down to the Roadrunner Food Bank and unloaded all of the food, and the general club donation of a \$250 check.

For a small group, I think we should be very proud of our gifts to the community at this time of year. May the joy we bring to others with our gifts also dwell in our own hearts and lift us up now and through the new year.



Happy New Year!

By Glenn Bontly

Happy New Year Everyone! Hope you had a great Christmas and got all the Jeep parts you wanted from Santa. Having missed last year due to the weather, I'm looking forward to kicking off 2008 with my friends at the NM4W Rockin' New Year down at Gordy's Hill. Jan, Brandon, & I spent Christmas with my parents down in Florida. The temps got as high as 80 one day! We spent most of the time in shorts and t-shirts! It's a great place to visit in the winter, but I know from experience that the humidity in the summer is terrible. And there aren't any rocks to crawl; just mud (and we all know how much I hate mud)! When we arrived home the day after Christmas, it was 37 degrees . . . Brrrrr! I'm sure it's gonna be cold in Socorro this weekend, but as of this writing, it's forecasted to be sunny.

With the crummy weather we sometimes have this time of year, my Jeep spends most of the time in the garage. I usually spend this time doing inside activities, like building new model airplanes and helicopters. I also dream about the annual Chile Challenge. This year's event is scheduled for 20 – 23 Feb. And as usual, I'm already looking forward to the possibility of a warm (and hopefully dry) week down in Las Cruces. And of course, our traditional dinner at that Mexican restaurant (for which I purposely forget the name and location every year), but we always manage to find it! I've already registered for the event and made my trail selections. For those who wish to send me their information, I will be posting our trail selections to the club web site in the near future. Also on the web site, the registration form is currently posted on the Schedule Page at www.nm4w.org/schedule.htm. There are also links to the Las Cruces Four Wheel Drive Club web site for addition information, including trail descriptions, camping, and motel information. We picked up a bunch of new members this past year. If you don't know about the Chile Challenge, you are in for quite an experience. This will be my ninth year attending, and I still look forward to it. There are a few changes from past years. One of which is that registration will be limited to 350 vehicles. In the past, you could always register on site (albeit at a higher price). If I were you, I wouldn't take that chance this year. Download the form and get your registration in early.

Speaking of SWFWDA Quarterlies, I'm really looking forward to our Summer Quarterly in Salida, CO! Although I love the Silverton area, the Salida trails are really cool, and it's been a few years since we've been there. I'm looking forward to driving Iron Chest, Chinamen's Gulch, and other favorite trails, as well as feeding the chipmunks at St. Elmo. As you know, we are hosting the event this year. Wolfie is the Chairman for the event and it takes a lot of participation from our members to put on a good show. I plan to lead and/or tail gun trails each day. If you are not familiar with the trails in the area and don't feel confident taking on this responsibility, you can help out in numerous other areas. Just get in touch with Wolfie to see were you can pitch in.



For Sale



Tires: Set of five (5) Pro Comp 33 X 12.5 AT's for sale. Four of them have 80%+ tread and the fifth is practically new. \$600 or best offer. Call Tim at 505-892-5771.

1979 F250 4x4, with D60 Rear & D44 Front, perfect upgrade axels! Will run with some Carb work. Whole Truck \$1,500. Call Derren at 505-892-6310

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

Tires & Stuff: Set of five (5) -- 245/75R16 Goodyear Wrangler MTR's. I bought four of them in January and took them off the beginning of this month. The fifth was from my old set; it still has some good tread as well. I also have stock TJ springs and shocks. Call Justin at 505-299-6982.

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

Jeep YJ Parts: 5 each 33x12.5x15 BFG MTs with aluminum alloy rims, all in great shape, one never been used, \$800 takes all. Dana 35 rear, Dana 30 front, 4.88 gears, \$200 for both. Set of steel half doors, \$400 for the pair. Bucket seats for YJ, good conditions, \$100 for the pair. Call Rance Cochrane at 505-907-0604.

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

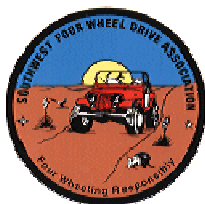
Schedule of Events

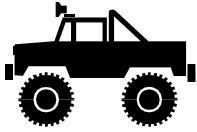
Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jan 10	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Feb 14	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Feb 20 – 23	Chile Challenge, Las Cruces	Las Cruces 4WD Club	n/a
Mar 14	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517

NM4W Officers

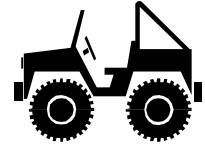
<p>President Lauri Rector 228-6547 President@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 Vice-president@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Cliff Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Program Chairman Jason Lavy 792-8035 Program-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Trip Chairman Jan Waugh 250-6962 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 Rd
Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



February 1, 2008 Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From January 10, 2008
by Cliff Meier



Meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Guests: Robert Gill, Ed Henderson, John Baker, Brandon Roby, Jeff Boggs, Rick Sierra, Steve Lamberson, Jimmy Lloyd, Adam Bruha, and Ed Henderson.

Members Present: Joe & Crystal Abbate, Mark & Maria Berglund, Glenn Bontly & Jan, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Rance & Elizabeth Cochrane, Leon Duggar, Arne Gjerner, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Ed Kuasche, Jason & Sara Lavy, Jerry & Barbara Marx, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Jerry & Mary Moran, Bob Norton, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Chris Sears, Justin & Rebecca Simenson, Carlos Tanner, Bob Telepak, Stuart Tefft, Paul & Mary Thompson, Mary Turpin, Mark Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, and Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report – Cliff Meier: A motion was made and passed to dispense with the reading of the December meeting minutes. The minutes had been published in the January 2008 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: The current balance was \$3,030.47.

Vice President's Report – Frank G. Whiston: Frank reviewed the points system. No fines.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

Rockin' New Year's Eve- All had a good time.

Upcoming Events: See the website for additional events & meetings.

Chile Challenge – February 20-23. The club website has a place for members to show which trails on which days they plan to run. Get and wear the club's 50th Anniversary apparel from website.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Cibola NF Travel Management Plan – waiting for Environmental Assessment (EA) report, it should be out in a week or so. The 30 day official comment period starts then. Mark will put together some comment talking points.

Notice of Intent for the Rio Puerco BLM Management plan rewrite will be out in Feb. This will be the official start of this activity.

New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA) convention will be held in Albuquerque during March. NMOHVA meeting is scheduled for Apr 12.

The Club was contacted by the Santa Fe Forest Service to help fix a washed out road in the Jemez, FR 4A. Dates are May 3 with May 10 as an alternate.

See Marks' environmental report in the newsletter for more details.

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Jason sold 50/50 raffle tickets. Tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins were for sale after the meeting.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin made some excellent posters with important dates throughout the club's 50 year history. He is still looking for photos.

Web Master & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Nothing! Lauri stole Glenn's thunder (what little he had) by inviting prospective new members to complete an on-line membership application.

SW Delegate – No report.

Old Business:

Baby Shower on Saturday. Several e-mails have been sent with the details.

Chile Challenge Raffle tickets now on sale. See Leon Duggar. Make sure you include your area code with the phone number. Pay when you turn in the ticket stubs to Leon. The tickets are \$1 each, in packs of 10. Checks should be written to SWFWDA, not NM4Wheelers. This is the primary fund raising event for SW. The prizes will include a Warn Winch, Detroit locker, tires, and more. This will be Leon's last year running the raffle. He is looking for a replacement.

Harold Ogden is retiring Jan 11 from Warn. Please send an e-mail to Harold thanking him for supporting our raffles, OgdenH@warn.com.

2008 Summer Quarterly: The Quarterly is scheduled for July 31 thru Aug 2 in Salida, CO. You need to make your reservations at the Chalk Creek Campground (888-395-8830) as soon as possible. See the Events Schedule portion of the newsletter for contact details. Trail Leader and Tail Gunner sign up was discussed. About half of the 14 trails have leaders and tail gunners; still will need leader and gunner volunteers for the remainder of the trails. Samples of the leader/tail gunner information guides were available for review. Trails run from easy to really difficult, so there is something for everyone. The trail guides and maps will be available at future meetings. Contact Cliff Meier if you want to volunteer.

Club's 50th Anniversary – Steve Stucker was contacted, he said contact him a month in advance of events and he will help to publicize. Spring run, Summer Quarterly, annual picnic, and the Show & Shine car show May 18 will be anniversary events. The club has volunteered to help with logistics for the car show. Contact Frank G. Whiston if you are interested and/or want details.

New Business:

Mark Werkmeister moved that the club help the Jemez Ranger district repair Forest Road 4A. The motion passed. Mark will coordinate the effort.

The Club received requests from Parts & People and Baseline 4X4 Outfitters for club information to be posted on new websites that they developing. The club decided that there was no need to be listed on other sites.

Super Nationals are scheduled for February 1-3 at the Fairgrounds. Contact Frank G. Whiston if you are interested.

Mark Wolf and Jan Waugh have discussed proposed changes in the points system. A new category, the member who leads the most trails would be awarded a \$100 gift certificate for this year. A motion was made and passed to try this for this year and then it would be evaluated if it should be made permanent.

Mark Wolf made a motion to change the SOPs as required to increase the annual most active member award (most points) from \$50 to \$100. The motion was passed.

Frank has 50th Anniversary calendars for sale for \$17.00 each.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Winner of the 50/50 drawing: Ed Kausche - \$47.00.



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

Every month I just can't believe that it is such and such month of such and such year. This month is no different. It seems that it was just a few months ago and I was thinking that we had a lot of time before the CHILE CHALLENGE (yes, I'm really excited about it again this year – and this will be our 8th year to attend). Then, before I knew it, we were sending in our registration and having to schedule the time off of work. It is now only 3 weeks and 2 days away!!!! Wooo Hooo!!! I may be too late for this, if I didn't do it last month, but I hope that our club has a good turn out for this event. And, if you can't attend – BUY RAFFLE TICKETS!!!! Leon Duggar has really got some good prizes from sponsors and it is a good way to support the Southwest Four Wheel Drive Association (SWFWDA). Plan to bring some \$\$\$\$ and a stamp to the meeting and buy some. If you don't have a stamp, Leon only needs your name, NM4W, and a phone number – he'll be able to find you.

Something else about the CHILE CHALLENGE is that we will officially find out if our application to host the 2008 Summer Quarterly is accepted. Then we will be able to roll out and publish all of our ideas and hard work and efforts. I became just more amazed at our members who have volunteered to help out with this event. It is really amazing the work that Cliff Meier has put into information on the trails for trail leaders and tail gunners to use for the actual event and for pre-running the trails. Also, Mary Turpin has put together a really good flyer (and probably registration form too). Also, if you haven't registered for the camping at the awesome RV place that Leon Duggar arranged for us (in his spare time of working on the raffle for the CHILE CHALLENGE), plan to do so really soon (it comes faster than we think it will).

We have some events coming up with the New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA). They are the hosts of the annual meeting of National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) this year – it is scheduled for the end of March. If you didn't attend the seminars last

year, you missed it. This organization has some great people that are very much OHV enthusiasts as well as knowing how to work with forest people. I attended on Saturday and then decided that I couldn't miss attending on Sunday. I don't know what the annual meeting is like, but I'm sure all those that attend will come away with some useful knowledge!!! You'll also meet people from all over the country – that also like to go off road. And the NMOHVA meeting is coming up on April the 12th – you should put this on your calendar.

Don't forget the new points award that we voted in at the January meeting. The member leading the most trails will get a \$100 gift certificate from Desert Rat. This is huge folks!!!! If getting out on the trail with a bunch of other people and not having to eat their dust isn't enough motivation to lead a trail, this should do it. We also increased the "most points" gift certificate to \$100. But, what this means is that if you lead the most trails, you will most likely also have the most points. This could be \$200 for someone – someone that is willing to put their self out there and lead trails. And, chances are there is something you need that Desert Rat sells at almost anytime of the year. With the Jemez and Gordy's Hill so close by (less than a 2 hour driver for the majority of us) – just how hard would it be?

Hope to see our Event Schedule filling up and to see you all real soon out on the trail.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello NM4Wer's,

This is going to be a short report. By the time you read this, the Environmental Assessment for the Travel Management Rule (designating a road and trail system for motorized use) for the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest should be officially out for comment. Since this in an EA, the time period will be short, probably only 30 days. Go to the Cibola National Forest web site:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_sandia/index.shtml

Read the EA carefully and make your comments. After I read the official version, I will be offering some insights into the impact and effect the EA will have on our local four wheeling and some suggested comments. I will post this information at the New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance website (www.nmohva.org). PLEASE READ THE EA AND THE INFORMATION ON THE NMOHVA WEBSITE AND THEN MAKE YOUR COMMENTS!!!! Remember, the interest by the four wheeling public and the final results in the Sandia Ranger District can have a HUGE impact on how the Travel Management Rule is implemented on the rest of the Cibola National Forest.

Remember, you only have 30 days to make your comments!

The Santa Fe National Forest is still in the pre-NEPA (remember the NEPA discussion from last month?) stage. We expect the Notice of Intent, the official start of the NEPA process to occur sometime in late March/early April. They will probably release the Proposed Action at the same time. Hopefully, the proposed action will include all of the roads and trails that we submitted over the last year, but we must be ready to keep the pressure on. The Notice and Proposed Action will have a public comment period associated with it and I will keep you updated.

The Bureau of Land Management is getting into the route designation process also, but is doing it on an office-by-office basis as they renew/revise their Resource Management Plans. The Albuquerque

office is expected to publish the Notice of Intent for the start of the planning process on the Rio Puerco Resource Area in mid-February. This plan revision offers us the opportunity to identify existing and needed motorized recreation trails, roads, and areas across the entire Rio Puerco Resource Management Area. We do lots of stuff in that area now and would like to do more! I will, again, keep you posted as this process moves forward, but it isn't too early to be thinking about what you want for opportunities.

And finally, I encourage each of you to check out the new NMOHVA website (www.nmohva.org). The new web page allows updated news, access issues, and calendar items on a real-time basis. This makes the NMOHVA website your best LOCAL source for up-to-date info on four wheeling items. If you have anything you need posted, just drop a note to web@nmohva.org.

'Til next month, keep your letter writing tools sharp and busy!

Your DEA,
Mark

3rd Annual NM4W Rockin' New Year's at Gordy's Hill By Lauri Rector

If I had my say on this annual event, it would be called the NM4W Polar Bear Run. It would have been great weather for this time of year, if New Years had come 1 day earlier.

The originator of this event is Mark Werkmeister. However, since the 1st year, he has managed to not attend for one reason or another – like too much snow, just completely cancelled the event (good idea) and then something about running a fever and being really sick – he called us after it was too late to cancel the whole event (ok, good idea that he didn't come – at least I have stayed healthy so far this winter).



Some of the frozen attendees for the day on Saturday were Jeff & James Boggs, Joe Wilson and his friend Russ and son Chase, and Russ Kas & Glenn Giboney. Then on Sunday we had a whole new crew come and join us – Glenn Bontly and Jan, Mark Berglund and about 3 people riding with him, Justin Simenson and a out-of-town relative (from Minnesota, complaining that it wasn't cold enough) with his son, and Paul Caskey.



And the people that chose to camp there were Jeff and I, Keith Chapin, and Heath Hislop. We were all there for the whole dang weekend. Mark and Joan Wolf were a little smarter and didn't join us until sometime Sunday afternoon. Paul Caskey's dad drove in Sunday afternoon as well, and they got motel room in town. Clint Cates (RDY2ROK) and Kevin (never got his name, he's a good friend of Clint's) got there first on Saturday morning, but pulled out before the runs on Monday.

When Mark called to say he wasn't going to be able to make it (I don't recall that he really sounded that sick – was he just making it up?), he said that I was in charge – so when in charge, delegate. Heath Hislop seemed more than happy to lead the trails and Keith Chapin tail gunned. Heath also picked the trails that the big tired people would do (Jeff, Clint, and Kevin) and Jeff led that group.

Heath did an awesome job on picking the trails!!!! He took everyone to their limit, including those with the big tires – and consider Heath's rig is a Samari. Even though we weren't on the trail with everyone else, it seems that we all just all had a ton of fun!!! Heath had a good map, but no one had a list of the trail names. So, I'm not positive on the names of some of the trails described below.

Saturday we did Pucker Falls - all 8 vehicles. Some had to stop earlier than others. Jeff made it up with a winch after he broke the left hub. Clint made it up with a winch in his little Jeep, and Kevin made it up beautifully – all by himself. Everyone had fun watching, even if they knew they weren't going to be doing it. Heath led everyone back & then up on the ridge and back down into the valley. Jeff worked on changing hubs as soon as he got up there and then the 3 of us went on and did the great escape and waited on everyone one else. Pucker Falls was dry and only 1 rock was moved. Then we spent the afternoon doing Cat Fight, except for one Jeep. Russ Kaz, with only a limited slip in the rear, and a manual shift in a TJ finished it with us – which was really awesome.



On Sunday we had 9 vehicles. Heath took the big tires guys down to what we think is Edge Canyon – where Coyote Hills comes out. Then Heath went back and took everyone else up Coyote Hills. The big tired guys had a blast that morning. We waited back at the end of Coyote Hills for everyone and then decided to run it backwards and catch up to everyone. Everyone was still in the canyon with about 2 or 3 more ledges to climb. We ate lunch and then went up the last little bit of the canyon –

playing around waiting on everyone else. Then we decided that we should have plenty of time to go back to the end and went to the start of the trail and brought up the rear as the smaller tire people (sorry, I'm not saying that they are wimpy or that they have small tires) as they were going up the last ledge. What a fun trail!!! We had to bypass the 1st ledge (or move rocks or get out winches to make it up). Then Heath took us (those of us who weren't done yet) out to Pucker Falls the hard way (I don't know the name of the trail). The 1st water fall has become really easy. The next one looked much easier than the last time we were on it, but Jeff and Clint couldn't make it up. Kevin came right up. Then we ran Squeeze Canyon. That was fun!!! It looked like so much fun that Keith and Heath decided to follow us on up – but Keith immediately broke an axle. So, we all just headed back to camp.

No one came out for the day on Monday (could they have blown away?)– it was only the people that were camping or in a motel. Wolfie didn't want any ledges at all, so we did Cat Fight (Heath left 2 tow straps there on Saturday, this allowed him to get them) and then we went to the North end of the OHV area and did this trail that went way up and way down over a lot of hills, but I don't think it was the woop-ti-doo trail. I can't tell you how windy and cold it was – it was like you were on the frozen tundra of the Antarctic or something. We ended up where the waterfall is and went and played around in there to get me and Jeff out of the wind for a little while (and all I can think is that full doors on his Jeep would do that too). We had our 3rd break of the weekend at the waterfall, Heath bent a tie rod. While it was being fixed, we decided that we would carry on with the potluck – despite the wind and the cold and my whining.



We had the potluck in Keith's enclosed trailer with 2 tent heaters going in it. We had dinner at about 6:30 – Joan made this delicious Chinese type of meatball & rice dish. I had Carne Adovado with tortillas, and there was a lot of macaroni & cheese, potato salad, coleslaw, and egg salad for side dishes. The food was so good, we were out of the wind and it was very warm in there too. We told a lot of stories and had a lot of laughs after we got done eating. We decided that we would skip on the bonfire, even if the wind had dyed down some – we were doing good just where we were. We didn't make it to the Nova Scotia New Year though, At 10 after 8, Mark asked who was staying up until midnight and everyone went - NOT ME and we all left and went to bed. Jeff and I woke up shortly after 2008 came in to the sound of the CO2 alarm, due to dead batteries again. Then a few hours after that, we emptied out one of the propane tanks and had to change that. Not my idea of getting the new year off to a good start – but boy, did we send the old year out in a very fun way!!!

50th Anniversary Page on the Web Site

By Glenn Bontly

There's a new page on our web site dedicated to our 50th anniversary. I will be populating the page throughout the year as I received input from the anniversary committee. The direct link is http://www.nm4w.org/50th_Anniversary.htm.



For Sale



Tires: Set of five (5) Pro Comp 33 X 12.5 AT's for sale. Four of them have 80%+ tread and the fifth is practically new. \$600 or best offer. Call Tim at 505-892-5771.

TJ Rear Dana 44: 4.56 Gears, ARB Locker, Superior 30-spline alloy axles, Tubular Diff Guard, Spidertrax 1.25" wheel spacers, Nth degree pinon guard/slider, lower shock sliders, heavy duty trac

bar mount with trac bar to diff support, new brakes shoes, new drums, complete setup, excellent condition. \$1,999 OBO. Call Brad at 505-858-0832.

Tires & Stuff: Set of five (5) -- 245/75R16 Goodyear Wrangler MTR's. I bought four of them in January and took them off the beginning of this month. The fifth was from my old set; it still has some good tread as well. I also have stock TJ springs and shocks. Call Justin at 505-299-6982.

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

Jeep YJ Parts: 5 each 33x12.5x15 BFG MTs with aluminum alloy rims, all in great shape, one never been used, \$800 takes all. Dana 35 rear, Dana 30 front, 4.88 gears, \$200 for both. Set of steel half doors, \$400 for the pair. Bucket seats for YJ, good conditions, \$100 for the pair. Call Rance Cochrane at 505-907-0604.

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

Schedule of Events

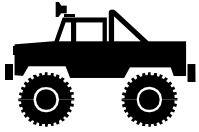
Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Feb 14	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Feb 20 – 23	Chile Challenge, Las Cruces	Las Cruces 4WD Club	n/a
Mar 14	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Apr 12	NMOHVA Meeting	Call Mark Werkmeister	505-891-0296

NM4W Officers

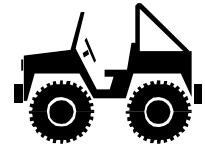
<p>President Lauri Rector 228-6547 President@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 Vice-president@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Cliff Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Program Chairman Jason Lavy 792-8035 Program-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Trip Chairman Jan Waugh 250-6962 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



March 1, 2008 Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From February 14, 2008
by Cliff Meier



Meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Guests Present: Andrew Hurt, Jeff Boggs, Steven Lamberson, Brandon Roby, Jimmy Lloyd, Don Wood, Don Tyler, Mike & Linda Sells, and Cliff Saylor.

Members Present: Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Keith Chapin, Rance & Elizabeth Cochrane, Leon Duggar, Erwin Greven, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Paul Thompson, Craig & Mary Turpin, Jan Waugh, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, and Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report – January 2008 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as published in the Feb 2008 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: The current balance was \$3258.24.

Vice President's Report – Frank G. Whiston: VP went over the points system. Members were asked to please review the points sheet to make sure it is correct. Frank attended the January meeting of NM Car Clubs. A database is being set up for vehicles to be used in movies. See Frank if you have a vehicle that you would included.

Fines – Caja Del Rio fine – Some one in a blue YJ had an open mike fine; she paid a generous \$1 fine.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

Caja Del Rio – Mark Wolf led the Stage Brush Flats Mud Fest. All had a good time, even if megadollars were spent at the car wash later.

Upcoming Events:

Chile Challenge – February 20-23. Get and wear your 50th Anniversary apparel from website.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Environmental assessment out on Sandia Ranger District, comments are due by Apr 12. Waiting for the Santa Fe assessment. Notice of Intent for the Rio Puerco BLM Management Plan rewrite should be out in February. This will be the official start. NOVHCC convention will be held here in Albuquerque during March. New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance meeting is scheduled for April 5. See the Environmental Report in the newsletter for details.

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Selling 50/50 raffle tickets. Jason brought in tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins for sale after the meeting.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin researched some bits of history such as the firsts – Christmas tree Run 1958, Jemez Mountain Run 1958, Mt Taylor Run 1958, Goose Lake (Red River runs 1960 and La Bajada Hill Run 1963.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Input for March Trail Tales is due by Tuesday, February 26. Guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining.

SWFWDA Delegate – Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Chile-Challenge Raffle tickets are on sale. See Leon Duggar. Make sure you include your area code with the phone number. Pay when you turn in the ticket stubs to Leon. The tickets are \$1 each, in packs of 10. Checks should be written to SW not NM4Wheelers. This is the primary fund raising event for SW. This will be Leon's last year. (Leon gets the prizes). SW needs a volunteer to replace Leon. Prizes received so far:

- a. Two sets of Goodyear tires
- b. One set of BFG tires
- c. Warn 9500TI winch
- d. Detroit locker
- e. 2 gift certificates for shocks from Rancho
- f. Lockrite locker
- g. Racket straps
- h. Poison Spider pink shirts
- i. Lots of other stuff

Summer Quarterly – Mark Wolf will present the club's proposal formerly at the SWFWDA meeting at the Chile Challenge. We still need trail leaders and tail gunners for the trails. See Cliff if you want to volunteer.

50th Anniversary information – setting up runs that the club made in its first year.

New Business:

Bob Norton is looking for a 50th Anniversary article for the Drive Lines – Joan Wolf volunteered to write an article. Also an article on the Chile Challenge is needed. Need a volunteer or volunteers to write one or more. Get both articles to Bob by March 9.

Justin will lead a snow run in the Jemez next Friday; meet at the Conoco at 8:00am.

Mark Wolf made a motion for the club to buy \$500 worth of Chile Challenge raffle tickets. The motion passed.

New members voted in – Brandon & Tammy Roby

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

I'm happy our Trail Tales Editor, Glenn Bontly, gave everyone an extra day or two to get articles to him for the March issue. I've needed every second of them – and maybe more (I forgot the due date). I've also been doing a lot of writing and research for draft on the Sandia Ranger District Travel Management. I've put a lot of hours into that and feel that I've barely scratched the surface. Hopefully, all that have been working on this can get some favorable changes to the draft for all of the OHV community. And, I'm sure that all of us will walk away armed with a lot more knowledge for the next drafts that will be coming out eventually.

Besides upcoming events for our Club's 50th anniversary, there are other annual, mundane things that will need to be decided and some of it will require voting.

One of the most important things will be the May, June, August, and September meetings – we need volunteers to host these meetings!!!! These meetings are on a Saturday and involve a pot luck dinner. Pot lucks are one the best things in life.

Another item will be to place ballots for the New Mexico 4-Wheeler of the year. I think that I will do the box and blank paper thing again in June, it allows people to nominate someone (or their selves) privately and we got more nominations than what I've ever seen before – even if it was only 4 or 5. Consider nominating someone within the club that has gone beyond normal activities to promote the 4-wheeling activities within the local community and within the entire state. They deserve, and will appreciate, the pat on the back. We also hope that the Thompson's will get another plaque too (umm, unless they get the most votes...).

And, the very most important is officer nominations – which will also be in June with voting to take place at the July meeting (and the big 50 year celebration bash!!!). I personally know of one office that will be open – this club deserves to have at least one new face to look at the next year. If you are interested in being nominated for an office, please don't be bashful. It could be that no one has realized that you were interested and therefore didn't nominate you. We need bold, brazen (maybe almost rude) people to go ahead and say "I want to nominate myself for _____". We will all appreciate you for your boldness and for your willingness to step up and put forth an effort for the next year. And also, as another small word of encouragement; when I nominated myself for President, I did not think that I would be able to pull it off. But, I've done it for almost 2 years now and haven't been impeached and the club hasn't folded. If I could manage this – anyone one of you can do a very good job at whatever office you would like to try to do for a year (that's just 12 short months).

Stay safe and see you all at the March meeting!!!

Member Spotlight: Tom Hurt

By Joan Wolf

Tom "Snacks" Hurt is an accomplished outdoorsman who partakes of it all—hunting, fishing, camping, and of course, four-wheeling. As the NM4W expert on the Jemez Mountains, Tom says, "I love driving around the Jemez, just exploring." Tom seems to have a photographic memory for trail twists and turns. No matter how overgrown the trail or how long since his last visit, Tom finds

his way, even without a GPS. His favorite trails are in the San Juan's and the Jemez. He likes leisurely, historical runs and is partial to the Jemez trails leading to the logskidder and Indian ruins.



Tom was born in Albuquerque but grew up in Abiquiu and Texas, places where his father's job took the family. Jim Hurt worked for the Corps of Engineers and in the 1960's was promoted to manager of the Abiquiu Lake Dam. A job perk was living in a government-owned house at the Dam headquarters. What a great place to be a kid! Tom remembers being outdoors a lot. The four Hurt siblings and various cousins made their own fun—building forts and tree houses, snow tubing, fishing, and exploring.

Most weekends, the family loaded up the tent and went camping at Resumidero in the Santa Fe National Forest. Though camping with the family was fun, Tom's enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors intensified during two stays at the Philmont Boy Scout Camp when he was 17 and 18. The Scouts did some serious hiking in the backcountry of the Carson National Forest. Tom says, "The first year we backpacked 85 miles in two weeks, the second year it was 115 miles." It was beautiful, wild, isolated country with lots of big game and Tom was in his element.

From Abiquiu, Tom's Dad was transferred to Fort Worth. After Tom graduated from high school there, he took some college courses and worked at an insurance company. His career in the heavy-duty truck parts business started with a warehouse job at a brake and clutch shop. He transferred to the parts counter and has been at it ever since.

Now with U-Joints, Inc. on Edith Blvd, Tom has helped many club members find the right parts for drive shafts, clutches, transmissions, and rear-ends. The company caters to 18-wheelers, but services any rear or four-wheel drive vehicle. The phones and counter are super busy, but Tom gets satisfaction from helping people find what they need.



Tom's first vehicle was a 1942 GPW (Ford Jeep). He bought it during high school and played in the hills and mud of Texas. He got his '76 CJ-5 twenty-six years ago. With over 300,000 miles logged, the CJ has taken him on many trail rides. Tom has done all the work himself and learned automotive repair from his Dad, as well as through trial and error.

His CJ has custom front/rear bumpers, a Warn 8274 winch, 3.73 gears with a Lock-Rite in back and a Detroit E-Z locker up front. It also has a T-18 4-speed transmission, Scout Dana 300 t-case, and an on-board air system. Not long ago, he installed air conditioning. Tom is currently building a 4.0L motor (the fourth engine since he's owned the CJ) that will replace the tired 258. The 31" tires and 3" lift are just fine with Tom and he has no desire to increase either. He's built a sturdy, dependable Jeep that gets him where he wants to go.

Tom even designed and mounted a bracket to hold his chainsaw. The Jemez trails are notorious for fallen trees and Tom has cleared umpteen of them on club runs. Always handy and practical, Tom

found a way to keep the chainsaw accessible. Some day Tom may spring for a new paint job to cover the original Firecracker Red paint that's taken on an orange-ish tinge.



If not in his CJ, Tom may be spotted in his blue '89 Suburban (affectionately called the "blue Jeep") or on his 2006 Kawasaki KLR 650. Tom's "20-year" project is a 1959 Willys panel delivery wagon that he's slowly refurbishing. The Willys runs and is about 80% complete. Given the non-matching VINs on the frame and body, he hopes that getting a title and registration from MVD won't be a hassle.

As a Boy Scout, Tom learned to **Be Prepared**. This guy sets up an awesome camp. For many years, Tom has led a Red River Fall Colors trip. At the campsite ~one mile outside of Red River, Tom sets up his two-room pitched-roof tent, wood-burning stove, and a complete kitchen. If you're really lucky, he breaks out his Dutch oven and bakes cinnamon rolls! By the way, if you want a relaxing weekend, do this trip. On Saturday, it's up to Goose Lake for free fishing day. Sunday is a drive to Greenie Peak for awesome views and stops at historical mining sites.

Tom joined NM4W in 1994 when he moved back to Albuquerque. He's held many club offices: VP, Treasurer, Program Chair, and Historian. He also cashes in aluminum cans collected by members for the club. His detailed knowledge of the Jemez helped the club document trails for the Santa Fe National Forest Travel Management Plan. Tom enjoys NM4W because "I like to hang out with those of similar interests and it's a good way to meet people." So if you haven't hung out with Tom, consider doing so. He knows the outdoors and is a great asset to NM4W.



Of Boards and Bureaucracies
- And Why So Many Friends Type Groups Are Cropping Up -
By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Ambassador

People are getting tired of slow moving bureaucracies in government. Tolerance for waiting in line, on-hold phone numbers, being told, "I'll get back to you," press one for this or that language, and other such bureaucratic behavior is at an all time low in my experience. This applies as well to our recreational clubs and organizations. We want change. We want something different. And we want it now!

Nowhere is this more prevalent than in starting a new club or organization. I hear often the questions of whether to just be a virtual club, or to incorporate, or to be non-profit, or to just be left alone. And why are all these new “Friends” type groups popping up around the country? Where does one start?

I hope in this short article to give you some high lights of what I’m learning from Boards, clubs, and bureaucracies around the USA. I hope also to help you avoid becoming a bumbling bureaucracy that we all dread – the never-get-anything-done kind -- unless we’re going to form a committee and study the issue for a few years. ☺ And if you’re a part of one, perhaps you can find some help here for getting out from under the bumble and back to business!

First, we need to accept the fact that we need large organizations on our side in motorized recreation. And yes, these large groups need to be somewhat bureaucratic. Folks like the BlueRibbon Coalition have the clout and credibility to be our voice (and legal team) at the national level. They are doing it right. They have policies, procedures, By Laws, and Articles of Incorporation -- rules of the road, shall we say. Ok, so be it. But we need them, and BlueRibbon serves us quite well as a “bureaucracy.” There are other groups/clubs around the country that do not do so well.

Secondly, the world is run by those who show up. I’m talking about being part of the solution; not just someone who articulates the problem. It’s critical that we all become educated on the subject of access. Get in the game. Take a job in a leadership or project role. Be a change agent. Or at least help someone or some group step up and be that change agent in your behalf. But we all must be part of something, maybe even a bureaucracy, if we want to see some change happen.

Third, if you have the chance, try to build a team in your endeavor, rather than a pure bureaucracy. There is a huge difference between a bureaucracy and a team. ***A bureaucracy sometimes sees only obstacles in the way of getting anything done; a team sees successes, and plans a route to get there.*** BlueRibbon Coalition sets the example of how to really do this right, because they are both a bureaucracy and a team.

BlueRibbon leaders combine the team concept with the necessities of bureaucracy – rules, procedures, policies, etc. Not all government agencies follow this idea of being a team while also having to be a bureaucracy. That is where we OHV types get bogged down.

Pure bureaucracies are always planning for something, but usually very slow to accomplish anything. Teams, on the other hand, are about action – getting something done. This is a distinction we sometimes lose track of. We need more teams and less bureaucracy in our recreational sports – even if those teams look like Boards of Directors or Officers or whatever. And if we’re going to be a bureaucracy, let’s be a good one! Let’s get something done for the good of our cause and embody the team spirit.

In my travels around the county, I see that the art and science of team-building is neglected in volunteer organizations for the most part. We build our bureaucracies and work on our clubs, but I don’t see many teams being built. On the other hand, a change is in the wind. It is called Friends type groups. These are many times based on a true team spirit.

A “Friends” group is an informal or formal coalition of like-minded recreationists, usually of mixed-use interests, banded together to save a trail or recreation area. There is no stronger force to reckon with than local interests committed to an area. Big organizations rely on local recreationists to be

the catalyst to change, and then the big orgs can support the locals. “Friends” groups are one way to do this.

Naturally, a club is a great start to getting involved in your local area. If you don’t have one you can start one. There is lots of help to do that (references below). But even stronger is to build a coalition of clubs, groups, and individuals dedicated to one area, one Forest, one trail. Set aside the bylaws and bureaucracies (if only temporarily), build a team, and form a Friends type group bonded in unity to save a recreation or riding area. It works miracles.

Friends groups are many times multiple-use (several different recreational types like four-wheelers, quad folks, and dirt bikers all working together). Friends groups quickly build strength by sharing responsibility and allowing all interested parties to come to the table. And big organizations and national groups can support Friends groups as they develop and grow. Entire National Forests or BLM Districts can be adopted. Private lands can be better managed to suit all visitors. It works!

With this in mind, I’d like to give you some insight based on what I’ve seen around the country, and answer a few bureaucracy questions about forming a new group.

1. **Should you incorporate your group?** Yes, you should (unless you have a parent group like in #3 below). Simple incorporation protects the group from liability and gives you a real checking account in your group name. You do this through your Secretary of State. (See below for more references).
2. **Should you become a non-profit?** Not necessarily, unless you really want to do some big time community benefit (charity) work and go through the paperwork and hassle of IRS stuff. On the other hand, this makes you a tax deduction to donors if you do it right. There are other categories you might fit in better.
3. **Should you have a Board of Directors and Officers?** Yes, if you’re starting a club; not necessarily if you’re starting a Friends group. However, if you don’t have this much bureaucracy for your Friends group, you should have a separate (parent) one that supports you like the Rubicon Trail Foundation that supports the Friends of the Rubicon (see below).
4. **Should you be an IRS c.3 or c.7 or something else?** Yes, if you’re going to incorporate and go non-profit, you need to be one of these. It doesn’t mean you can’t have money; it just means you can’t distribute your money as assets to your corporation. It’s a long story that you can read more on below. But if you’re just going to incorporate and not do any tax stuff or non-profit stuff, this has no meaning to your group.
5. **Should you have bureaucratic stuff like By Laws?** Yes, every organized group needs some sort of rules, especially if you’re going to be a club, have regular meetings, and have a fee-based membership. But running meetings should be based on facilitation or good meeting management, and not necessarily pure bureaucracy if you can avoid it. If you incorporate, you will automatically need Articles of Incorporation as well. On the other hand, if you don’t have meetings and just get work done on your trail, a few rules might be sufficient without a big long list of Bylaws.

No matter which route you choose for your area, the important thing is to choose wisely and get in the game right the first time. Do the homework and make the choices based on keeping your volunteers working with you, for the cause!

Big clubs are more like businesses these days and things like insurance and liability policies, safety issues, delegate voting, all play into how you set up your group. I like to say, less is better. But do enough to avoid problems down the road.

So where do you turn for more help? Here are some links and web sites I have found to be extremely helpful and full of good info to help you. You'll also find links to other great organizations and groups on these sites.

- www.sharetrails.org/recreation_toolkit. (BlueRibbon Coalition). Activists Tool Kit and more.
- www.ufwda.org (United Four Wheel Drive Associations). 4wd specific help.
- www.nohvcc.org (National OHV Conservation Council). Ask for the Club Starter Kit.
- www.muirnet.net (John Stewart, CA4WDC Consultant). Look for Your Club as a Business links.
- www.<yoursecretaryofstate>.gov. (Secretary of State) for more on incorporating.
- www.delalbright.com/Articles/coalitions.htm. (Del Albright's Site) more on Coalition building.
- www.rubicontrail.org. For more about the Rubicon Foundation

Del Albright

www.delalbright.com

Ambassador, BlueRibbon Coalition
Trail Boss, Friends of the Rubicon
State EA Coordinator, CA4WDC

Visit Del's [MySpace Blog](#) and [MyJeepSpace Blog](#)



The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible use of public and private lands, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1,100 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. Call 1-800-258-3742 and visit BRC online at www.sharetrails.org. This article is copyrighted by Del Albright (www.delalbright.com) and may be used by permission only.

Newest NM4-Wheeler

By Frank G. & Beth Whiston



Rebecca Jean Whiston

Born 2/24/08 @ 6:36 AM

7 Pounds, 9 Ounces

20.5" Long

Thanks
By Leon Duggar

Happy March to all the New Mexico Four Wheelers! I just wanted to take a moment of your time, to **thank** every one who helped me with this year's raffle. Sue, Lauri, Pat, Jeff, Glenn, Paul, there is NO WAY, that I could have pulled it off by myself. Every year, you guys come through for me! I can spend weeks getting all the prizes together, but if we cant give them away in some sense of order... well, it is not working right. I am truly grateful for friends like all of the NM4W members (sometimes I wonder about Jeff Rector, though! :-)) Thank every one who bought tickets! Every one of you makes a difference! Leon, Events Chairman, Southwest Four Wheel Drive Assoc.



For Sale



Please visit our web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

Schedule of Events

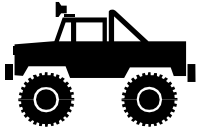
Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Mar 13	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Apr 10	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Apr 12	NMOHVA Meeting	Call Mark Werkmeister	505-891-0296
Jul 31 – Aug 2	Summer Quarterly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539

NM4W Officers

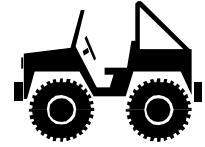
<p>President Lauri Rector 228-6547 President@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 Vice-president@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Cliff Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Program Chairman Jason Lavy 792-8035 Program-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Trip Chairman Jan Waugh 250-6962 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



April 1, 2008 Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From March 13, 2008
by Cliff Meier



Meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Guests: Steve Lamberson, Robert Gill, Andrew Hurt, Jeff Boggs, John Baker, Don Tyler, and Cliff & Donna Saylor.

Members Present: Joe & Crystal Abate, Jeff Atchison, Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Casey, Rance Cochrane, Leon Duggar, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Jason Lavy, Dave Marks, Jerry & Barbara Marx, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Brandon & Tammy Roby, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Justin & Rebecca Simenson, Bob Telepak, Stuart Tefft, Mary Turpin, Jan Waugh, Frank G. Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, and Tahoe Zahn.

Secretary's Report – Cliff Meier: February meeting minutes approved as published in the March 2008 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: The current balance was \$2,530.24 as of March 7.

Vice President's Report – Frank G. Whiston: Frank reviewed the points system for the guests and members with short memories.

Fines: The Chile Challenge resulted in several fines. Pat Brady broke a hub, valve stem, another hub, and steering stabilizer. Mark Wolf was fined for not going out to breakfast with the club members (He claimed he did not have a clean pair of underwear, so to fix this in the future, the club presented Wolfie a package of new underwear.) And lastly, Leon for getting to the trailhead and then breaking down.

Members were asked to review the points sheet to make sure it's accurate.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

Chile Challenge – Great event.

Cablezon area run – Justin led this run weekend of the Chile Challenge.

Upcoming Events:

Apr 12 – New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance Meeting

Apr 26 – Car Show. The Club has more than enough club members who have volunteered vehicles to support the event. Members can still come and work the club's display.

July 30-August 2 – SWFWDA Summer Quarterly.

Cibola Search & Rescue has asked the club to lead a familiarization run in the Rio Puerco. Don Tyler volunteered to lead the run.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report which was presented by Mark Wolf.

The Cibola National Forest has started their Travel Management Rule process for the Mount Taylor Ranger District. This District covers both the Mount Taylor and Zuni Mountain areas. These two areas have over 1000 miles of 4X4 roads. Stuart Tefft has volunteered to coordinate the club's efforts for the Mount Taylor District.

The Santa Fe National Forest is expecting to issue their Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement that they will be preparing. The NOI will officially start the Scoping and NEPA processes.

The Rio Puerco has published their NOI for the Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan. They are still in the pre-planning stage.

See Environmental Report in the newsletter for details.

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Jason sold the 50/50 raffle tickets. He also had tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins available for sale.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin passed around the version of the book that has been completed to date. Members were asked to review it and let him know of errors, etc. The book could use more pictures of the Chile Challenge. Justin should be ready to take orders by the July picnic.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining.

Old Business:

Chile Challenge Raffle. There were about \$8800 worth of tickets sold and \$1600 worth of prizes given away. Leon did a great job! A replacement for Leon is needed for next year.

Information on the Summer Quarterly. If tent camping reservations are needed, please go through Mary Turpin. For reservations for RV sites, please contact the Chalk Creek Campground directly. There is a link on the club website in addition to the event reservation form and trail descriptions. A discussion was held on shirts for trail leaders and tail gunners at \$19 each. Motion was made and passed to buy shirts for all leaders & tail gunners at club expense. A motion made and passed to include the tail gunners in this year's \$100 trail leader competition for the Quarterly only. Rance is in touch with a caterer. The Friday night meal will be chuck wagon style with ribs & chicken. We still need several trail leaders and tail gunners. Please see the member's only portion of the club website for the sign-up list. Let Cliff Meier know if you want to sign-up.

Mark Wolf - Need to update our banner to include 50th anniversary information. Frank Whiston had created a draft design for the banner. He got quotes from Café Press (\$46 for a 3 x 3 ft banner) and

Fast Signs (\$135 for a 6 x 8 ft banner). A motion was made and passed to buy the banner from Fast Signs.

Mark Wolf made the suggestion to buy 50th anniversary stickers for folks who participate on runs this year. Café Press has 96 stickers for \$60. A motion made and passed to purchase the sticker from Café Press. The club's 50th Anniversary committee will be in charge of the stickers.

New Business:

Lauri Rector suggested establishing a separate pot by passing around a hat at each trail ride. (Voluntary donation of a dollar). The club will decide to which land action type organization to donate the money to. Pat Brady had another idea be to hold a raffle at each major event and/or at clubs events/meetings. The proceeds from the raffles would be donated to the land action funds. Club members seemed to be more in favor of Pat's suggestion.

Summer Meeting Hosts – Bontlys - May, Meiers – June, Levys - September and July – the picnic. A host is needed for the August meeting.

New members voted in – Steve Lamberson, Cliff Saylor, John Baker, and Jeff Boggs.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

Winner of the 50/50 drawing: Lauri Rector



President's Report
By Lauri Rector

The sun is shining, the birds are singing, trees are getting leaves, cool mornings and warm afternoons, windows down on a lot of vehicles – all kinds of signs of spring!!!! Let's go out and play!!!!

In Indiana, we would get a tease from Mother Nature around this time of year; we had a special name for it that really should not be published here. And, just when you'd make plans for some type of OHV activity, we'd get another blast of winter. Do you know what it is like to wake up to an inch of snow on May 2nd? Luckily, you can still find sweat shirts for sale. This is only my 6th spring here in New Mexico and Mother Nature doesn't seem to be near as cruel here as in Indiana, except for some ferocious wind!!

I really don't have anything new to "preach" to you this month. I would like to remind everyone to keep checking the event schedule for new events. Also, please let me remind everyone that it is really easy to lead a run. Decide which trail – email all@nm4w.org if you need suggestions on which one to run. Once you decide on the trail, decide on a meeting place and the time that you will need to leave. Send out an email to this same address, your subject can be the name of the trail, the body of your letter will have the info you want Glenn to put on the event schedule. End the email by politely asking Glenn to post the info on the event schedule. The reason that we like Glenn so much is that he is very prompt and just very good at updating the web site for the club. He is very dedicated to the responsibilities of this position and does an excellent job. It really is that easy!!!

That's all for this month. See you all at the April meeting!!!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello fifty-year old NM4W'ers! No, wait, that didn't come out quite right, but I think you know what I meant.....

There continues to be LOTS going on with the various land management agencies. You can get up to date information at www.nmohva.org under Access Issues. I try to keep that web site up to date at ALL times.

Here are quick updates on the various land management activities:

Cibola National Forest –

Sandia Ranger District – We are now waiting for the final Environmental Assessment document. No indication as to when that will be happening.

Mount Taylor District - Whoa! Run-away process here! They just now have the maps posted to the website at http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_mt_taylor/index.shtml. How they expect us to “add” any additional routes to their inventory during the scoping period in the deep snow is beyond me. That may well be the point for their haste. We will continue to challenge them on that...but, in the meantime, compare the maps with what you know is out there and let the FS know if they missed any routes. Interestingly enough, they have removed the electronic comment form from the web site. Still trying to find out what that means....

Santa Fe National Forest –

This will be a Forest wide EIS. We are still waiting for the official start of the NEPA process (a Notice of Intent). They intended to start in March but we haven't seen anything yet. A 30-day Scoping period will probably start with the Notice of Intent.

BLM Socorro Office Resource Management Plan –

We have been told (much earlier) that the long-awaited Final Resource Management Plan for the Socorro Office would be coming out in April. The RMP is supposed to formally establish the Gordy's Hill OHV area. Haven't heard anything lately but April is getting close!

BLM Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan –

A schedule of public meetings is out. See the BLM web page at http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Rio_Puerco_Field_Office/rpfo_rmp_revision.html for details. They will be taking scoping comments until May 31^s.

new mexico



wheelers, INC.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Believe It or Not!

Trails That Keep On Truckin':

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| ○ Christmas Tree Run | Since 1958 |
| ○ Jemez Mountains | Since 1958 |
| ○ Mt. Taylor | Since 1958 |
| ○ Goose Lake, Red River | Since 1960 |
| ○ La Bajada Hill | Since 1963 |

Easier to believe:

In August of 1961 the New Mexico Wildlife magazine ran a full page ad on the back of their magazine that depicted a Jeep destroying rangeland. The Albuquerque Jeep Herders were not impressed and got an attorney to write a letter that described their "feelings."





For Sale



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

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

Tires & Stuff: Set of five (5) -- 245/75R16 Goodyear Wrangler MTR's. I bought four of them in January and took them off the beginning of this month. The fifth was from my old set; it still has some good tread as well. I also have stock TJ springs and shocks. Call Justin at 505-299-6982.

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

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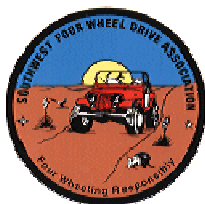
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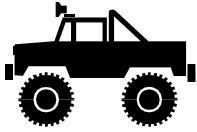
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Apr 26	NM International Car Show	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517

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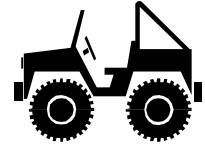
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Trail Tales
31 La Mirada
Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



May 1, 2008 Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From April 10, 2008
by Cliff Meier



Meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Guests: Mike & Linda Sells, Jimmy Lloyd, Jon Sholar, John Nolen, Robert Brady, Rick Sierra, Robert Bill, Glenn Viaipando, and Donald & Melanie Trujillo.

Members Present: Jeff Atchison, John Baker, Jeff Boggs, Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Keith Chaplin, Heath Hislop, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Rus Kaz, Ed Kausche, Steve Lamberson, Jason Lavy, Jerry & Barbra Marx, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Jan Waugh, Jim Werkmeister, Mark Werkmeister, Frank & Donna Whiston, Frank & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, Tahoe Zahn, and Dave Marks.

Secretary's Report- Cliff Meier: The March 2008 meeting minutes were approved as published in the April 2008 newsletter with one correction, the CC raffle resulted in \$16,000 not \$1,600.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Rio Puerco – The Rio Puerco BLM Resource Management Plan scoping meeting was encouraging. The BLM folks have open minds on motorized recreation. Comments can be made through paper or e-mail. Please give Mark copies of your comments. The comment period ends May 31.

No new information on the Cibola Travel Management Plan (TMP). No new information on the Santa Fe TMP. No new information on the Gordy's Hill TMP. See Mark's Environmental report in the newsletter for additional details.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: The current balance was \$2,531.33 as of March 29.

Vice President's Report – Frank G. Whiston: VP went over the points system. Members were asked to please review the points sheet.

Fines: There were no events this month, so there were no fines.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh:

Past Events: There were no events last month.

Upcoming Events:

- Apr 12 - New Mexico Off Highway Alliance Annual Meeting

- Apr 26 - International Car Show There is a link on our website to car show website
- May 3 - Extreme Rock Racing at Sandia Speedway
- May 18 - New Mexico Council of Car Clubs Annual Auto Show. See the website event schedule for details. This is the first of the club's 50th Anniversary events
- May 24 – 25 (Memorial Day weekend) - Jemez Camping trip
- May 31 - Cibola Search & Rescue has asked the club to lead a familiarization/training run in the Rio Puerco. Mark Wolf needs volunteers to help
- July 31 - August 2-Southwest Summer Quarterly
- May 2009 - Wheelers for the Wounded event

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Selling 50/50 raffle tickets. Brought in tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins for sale.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson: Justin was not at the meeting so there was no report.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining the club. If you want something on the schedule part of the website, be sure to give Glenn the details of the event. Glenn announced that he and Jan are engaged.

Old Business:

Chile Challenge raffle. The club needs to decide what to do with the prizes we won. Mark Wolf made a motion to raffle the prizes at the Summer Quarterly. There will be an overall raffle with drawings for each item. The tickets will be sold at \$10 each. Details on what do with the proceeds will follow. The motion passed.

Information on the Summer Quarterly. Tent camping reservations are to be made through Mary Turpin. For reservations for RV sites, go directly to Chalk Creek Campground. Mary's e-mail and the link to the campground are on the event reservation form on the website. Also, there are trail descriptions on the website (on the Member's Only Page). We still need several trail leaders and tail gunners for trails. See the sign up sheet on the Members Only Page. E-mail Cliff, sarmeier@yahoo.com, to volunteer.

The club has volunteered to repair a road in the Jemez on May 3 or 10 (backup date). Details will be on the website.

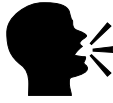
New Business:

Mark Werkmeister proposed that he write a letter to the BLM to open the San Ysidro area to four wheelers. There are all types of four wheeling terrain. The area was closed in the mid 1990s.

Summers Meetings:

- May - Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano
- Jun - Cliff & Jeanne Meier
- Jul – Carolino Canyon Park (in the East Mountains)
- Aug - Have a tentative, but he has to check with his wife
- Sep - Jason & Sara Levy

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

Hi Everyone!!! It finally looks like spring has sprung. Hopefully Mother Nature won't send us anything that resembles winter for many months to come. But, we could use a lot more moisture and a lot less wind!!!! No more fires!!!!

Last year, at the May meeting, I brought a box (a beautiful pink shoe box) along with paper and pen for people to write their votes for New Mexico 4-Wheeler of the Year award and drop it into the box (that beautiful pink shoe box mentioned above). All we got was about 5 votes and that was it. So, some of you may be thinking that I should ditch the idea of doing it again this year. But, as I think about it, I realize we got more nominations than we've had in the last couple of years. And, I think I will take it a step farther and have a 2nd box (ummm...maybe I could reuse the fore mentioned beautiful pink box?) for the officer nominations. Some people are shy and don't want to nominate someone else or themselves in front of everyone. All nominees will be given the opportunity to accept the nominations before any voting takes place. I will be introducing "the box" at the June and July meetings – be looking for it – it will be the pink one.

Also, DUES ARE DUE ON JULY 1. Bring a check (for \$35.00 made payable to NM4W) with you to the May or June meetings and give Paul a break at the July meeting – which is the 50th Anniversary Celebration – he maybe busy doing other things, such as cooking you a burger like he did last year!!!

Also, since I was on the club web site looking up dues, officer election and Outstanding Member award, I decide to peruse the event schedule. We have a grand total of 8 items – 2 of which the date has expired (Glenn, your web site is still very current – this paragraph isn't about that at all!!!!) and another 2 of them are car shows and 1 more is a meeting. We need more off-road events on there!!!! I won a \$500 gift certificate to for Rent-n-Go, they rent wheels and rims. I thought about giving it to my youngest son, but then I also think Glenn had a good idea of getting some 24" rims for his Jeep. I could get a set from them and see how they look before I buy them. So, please, we need to get some trail rides on the event schedule for June!!! Don't make me switch out my rims!!!!

Hope to see you all at the May meeting!!!! Can't wait, 1st pot-luck of the year!!!!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello everyone and happy May! The weather is warming up, the mountains are greening up, and everyone's thoughts are undoubtedly turning to access issues! What? They don't? I understand, but our efforts need to continue year around.

Our club has an opportunity to exercise the important 'third leg' of our access strategy with the Santa Fe National Forest with a work day on May 3rd. "Third leg? What is he talking about now? "



Our strategy for developing and maintaining quality 4WD opportunities in the Santa Fe National Forest is based on three separate but related efforts. All three pieces of our strategy must be in place

for the others to work. Think of it as the 4WD Access Stool. Like a three-legged stool, if any of the 'legs' is missing, the stool isn't of much use.

The first leg is the 'NEPA Leg'. The NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) leg is aggressively and efficiently working the NEPA process. This is the part of our club's efforts that is probably the most familiar to most of us. It is the map-marking, meeting-attending, comment-writing part of what we do. We are learning more and more each day on how to do these things in a more effective manner and we will continue to hone our efforts as we move forward with the Travel Management implementation in the Santa Fe and Cibola National Forests.

The second leg of our 'access stool' is a leg that must be there even if we never have to actually exercise it. This leg is the 'Litigation Leg'. No, we don't want to sue the Forest Service. It costs too much money and wastes everyone's time to sue for the sake of suing. But we need the credible ability to take the Forest Service to court if they ignore the rules of the 'NEPA Leg'. This demonstrated ability and willingness to go to court if necessary helps level the playing field. The people who want to lock us off the land have shown time and time again that they are willing to sue to get what they want. Now think about this for a moment from the Forest Service viewpoint: If there are two parties that disagree on how to handle an issue and one of them sues you every chance they get and the other never sues you, which direction would you go? Yes, the path of least resistance is pretty tempting. Fortunately, we have help here and don't have to take the Forest to court on our own. Larger, 'umbrella' organizations can help furnish the expertise and financial support necessary for court action. The New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA) has started their own Access Defense Fund for the specific purpose of applying court action pressure to preserve access here in New Mexico. Our club might want to think about how we can contribute to this joint effort focused here in New Mexico. Remember, we don't necessarily want to fight the Forest Service in court, but we must have a credible ability to do it if necessary.

That brings us to the third leg and a present opportunity. This last leg I like to call the 'Responsible Citizen Leg'. And this one is actually a lot more fun than the other two. "Fun? Did he say 'fun'? That sounds good!" The Responsible Citizen Leg is where we demonstrate to the Forest Service that NM4W is made up of good, responsible citizens who care deeply about our National Forest. Care so much, in fact, that we are willing to sweat for it. Here is where we put our muscles and time where our mouths are and provide volunteer labor to help the Forest Service be more successful in their land management mission. This can take many forms: Mapping trails, cleaning up trash, maintaining trails, providing trail patrols, etc. The Forest Service isn't being given enough money to execute all of their responsibilities and will have to depend more and more on volunteer labor to get things done. Again, put yourself in the Forest Service's shoes: If you have those same two parties that disagree on how to resolve an issue and one does nothing but complain (and sue) and the other one is out busting their tails to help make the Forest a better place, which one do you think will get a bit more consideration?

That brings us to the upcoming work day with the Jemez Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest. Ron Schubert of the Sierra Riders (a local ATV club) has arranged a work party to fix an erosion-damaged road in the Jemez. He is asking for help from other motorized groups. We voted as a club last fall to help with this project. The date is Saturday, May 3rd. Ron met with the Forest Service last week to get more details (where, when, what needs to be done, tools needed, etc.) and I passed that information on to everyone in an e-mail. I realize that this is the same day as the club's May meeting down in Belen, which will make for a full day, but it would nice if the 4WD community is well represented.

We have been busy telling the Forest Service that if the Travel Management implementation includes a quality network of 4WD trails, we can be counted on to help develop and maintain those trails. This is a great demonstration opportunity to put our efforts where our mouth is. The Forest Service will be watching to see if we have all three legs in place.

Still your DEA,

Mark

International Car Show

By Lauri Rector



Well, it took two years, but Motor Trend finally invited us back to the International Car Show to be, once again, an outside display that patrons can view for free. Jeff and I were able to get in on the last one – where, if you remember, they were asking for “rock crawling genre” vehicles from the club. This year they just wanted club vehicles and didn’t make that specification. So, anyone that didn’t have any thing else to do and were able to check their email fast enough (sorry, but they only gave me a week to commit to 20 vehicles), was able to join in. We had a good turn out from the club, and Frank Whiston got some of his

friends to fill in.

Here are the people that had their vehicle on display: Jeff Rector, Frank Whiston (both the elder and the younger), Jan Waugh, Brandon Roby, Phil Rodacy, Justin Simenson, Tom Hurt, Andy Hurt, Paul Thompson, Rance Cochrane, Jack Sierra, Rick Sierra’s friend – LeRoy (Rick’s Jeep had issues, so his friend filled in at the last minute), Terry Ellis, Nate and Neil Schuit, either Rob Campbell or Jeff Tunell (not sure which one it was at the writing of this article). I think that we were shy by 3 vehicles, but I don’t know that they noticed.

We were able to use our new 50th anniversary club banner for the 2nd time since its purchase about a month ago. We were going to use a computer as the scrap books are getting to be very fragile. However, you couldn’t see the screen. Luckily Justin brought a print out of the book and we had it on a table, along with the posters for the Summer Quarterly event – with info on the trails and some registrations (thanks to Frank for thinking of bringing these items). Another BIG THANKS needs to go out to Glenn Bontly. He does so much as the editor and webmaster, but also, when he can’t sleep, will get up and redesign club’s brochure!!! He got them printed and then got them to Frank. So, we had really cool club brochure to hand out to people that were interested in our club. We didn’t count, but there were many of them.





But, as you can see from some of the pictures, the display looked really good, especially with the way they were parking on other display vehicles tires. One person even commented that our display was a lot better than the ones inside the building. Signage by the car show and our banner identified who we were to those that cared to take notice. Some old friends spotted us and stopped by and said hi (John Urban and I can't remember the name of the other person) and club members (Mark Wolf, the Brady's and the Sell's). All of us really enjoyed the other car show – the one with a Lotus and Porsche and lots of other things that you could sit in.

There were so many cars that you could just get in and sit down and Frank Whiston, the elder's, JK looks so new, that he finally had to lock the driver's door. Everyone that saw it, went up to it and tried to open it. Back to the vehicles inside - there was a Nissan Skyline that does 0-60 in 3.3 seconds – its brakes were bigger than my tires!!! We all enjoyed talking and commenting on the new models and the concept cars and the things we saw inside (such as the guy who walked up to a concept car that said "DON'T TOUCH" and the door handle fell off in his hand and the 6 foot, 350 lb guy getting out of the Lotus). Another conversation we had was somewhat thought provoking and fairly sad...the future of 4-wheeling. We decided that with gas prices the way they were going, the travel management issues with the forests and BLM – that what we are doing today could be what club does in the next 50 years. Go and park on each other tires and spend the day standing around and talking about the olden days when we would go out and find rocks to drive over. Wonder if there will be new model and concept cars for us to check out as well?



Our New Trail Vehicle

By Glenn Bontly

It's four wheel drive, with a selectable locker, diesel engine (lots of torque), aggressive tires, differential braking, and a built in rock stacker! High and low range with really low gears, a roll bar, and it's street legal (headlights and turn signals).

On the other hand,
the suspension sucks!

In fact, there IS no suspension!
Top speed in high range, with the engine screaming at 2600 RPMs, is a teeth-rattling 13 mph. (would take a LONG time to drive to the trail head)

I guess we'll just stick with the Jeep!



Chuck & Ethyl May's 50th Wedding Anniversary Party

By Chuck Peeples

Party at Peeples (actually, next door to north, at Pete & Charlene Argo's house). Grandson Jeffrey Argo is graduating from UNM. Ethel May & I are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary---NO GIFTS. Branch Coffee gang will be cooking for us. Saturday, 17 May starting at 4:30 pm. Address, directions, and RSVP information are on the Member's Only Page on the club web site. If you don't have access to the Member's Page, e-mail webmaster@nm4w.org for the information. Be there . . . or be square!

The "Collaborative Process" for Access Issues

Do we need more group hugs, and will they solve anything?

Or will motorheads be having espresso with the enemy? –

By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Ambassador

Collaboration (the collaborative process) is getting more and more popular with government agencies stuck with tough political decisions involving public lands. Rather than unnecessarily ending up in court, or wading through countless repetitive hours of NEPA meetings, the collaborative process seeks to find cooperation where competition has previously existed. We should be fully prepared when our chance comes to participate in the collaborative process. But here are some things to consider carefully before you invest your time.

These efforts go by many names, depending on the agency and the area – focus groups, collaborative committees/groups, community groups, citizen's committees, etc. It boils down to bringing all interested parties to the table to solve a problem before it becomes a big problem.

First off, I have to admit that investing 10 years of my time in one National Forest's "collaborative process," and watching a partner of mine commit 10 or more years in a different Forest, has made me a bit cynical. However, we need to be there, be at the table, with smiles and hopes, and be part of this process. And yes, we might win some ground. I just caution to not put too much faith (or hope) in a process that cannot solve all the issues.

The basic premise is that all sides must be willing to work together and compromise. So is collaboration just one big group hug? To answer that, let's start by examining the basic definition of collaboration. One description means simply to work together; the other means to cooperate with an enemy invader. Ouch. But by definition, the collaborative process brings all sides of an issue to a common table to find equitable solutions steeped in compromise. Now that's a mouthful. There's a lot to this.

To me, collaboration is a formula that looks like this: **Trust + Faith + Respect = Solutions**

- Trust = confidence in the honesty and integrity of those involved.
- Faith = belief that those involved will carry through and stick to their word.
- Respect = to treat others with dutiful regard, and to treat the process with authenticity.

My experience has shown that this works just fine for solving the easy stuff and making plans and shaking hands when the controversy scale is relatively low. So yes, I hang in there and keep trying. I have just learned to not fall apart and break open the tequila bottle when collaboration finally breaks up and resorts to good old NEPA (and/or court).

When you can solve a problem such as developing a travel management map for a large chunk of land by using the collaborative process, you are likely to get a better solution that has fewer court challenges later on. Heck, you might even build some new relationships out of this process that help other projects down the road -- yea, I'm talking about motorheads having an espresso with radical protectionists. (smile).

If you can find a group with which to collaborate that embodies the trust, faith, and respect formula, you are likely to get a committed solution – one that lasts, makes sense, and avoids a lot of wasted time (and meetings) later on. On the other hand, you may have to be tenacious. In my 10 year example mentioned earlier, the woman who was leading this charge was fighting for her kids to be able to ride their mini-dirt bikes in the Forest adjacent to her home in the mountains. During the collaborative process, her kids out-grew the bikes, grew up, and went on to join the working world. Like I said earlier, you may have to engage this process with the understanding that it might take a while and solve only the easy stuff.

On the other hand, there are some things we can do (or shoot for) to make collaboration work. Try to get the formula in place. Have ground rules and open meeting agreements where folks put their cards on the table. Use a facilitator to help orchestrate a better and more productive meeting. Ensure that everyone affected by the outcomes are at the table. Keep the meeting real – authentic – and transparent. Hide nothing; talk about everything. Agree to disagree; and commit to the process. Then follow through! Abide by the group's collaboration.

BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) has a tool called “Collaboration Checkboxes.”

Brian Hawthorne, BRC Public Lands Director, contends: “A well-conceived collaborative process should include a “check” for each of these key points below. If any are missing, we still advise considering participating, **but with caution.**”

Here are the BRC Collaboration Checkboxes:

- 1. All stakeholders at the table in proper representation.** Every stakeholder group who has an interest in the planning process should be participating.
- 2. Professional facilitator.** A formal process should hire the services of a professional facilitator, such as those selected from the roster of the National Environmental Conflict Resolution Advisory Committee, not “forced” upon the participants.
- 3. The “product” of the process should be clearly identified at the beginning.** Whatever it is the process is going to produce should be clearly identified at the very beginning of the process (e.g. an alternative to be considered by the land management agency during their public NEPA analysis).
- 4. The “decision process” must be identified at the beginning.** Whatever process that will be used for formal decision-making, i.e. majority vote, consensus, majority/minority report, etc should be agreed to at the very beginning of the process and adhered to throughout.
- 5. Agency must clearly state how it will utilize the “product.”** The federal land management agency must clearly state how it intends to use the “product” of any formal Collaborative Planning Process at the very beginning.

BlueRibbon also published some good resources for more on collaboration. Here are links:

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING . . . WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

<http://www.sharetrails.org/magazine.cfm?story=626>

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING IN CYBERSPACE

<http://www.sharetrails.org/magazine.cfm?story=627>

Much like the 20-year-old process the Japanese invented called Quality Circles – where the factory workers develop the best delivery solution for the factory -- we, the users of the land can develop the best solution for managing the land, if only we can work together with something like a collaborative process with all sides of the issues working together in the spirit of true cooperation. Get it right from the start and it's worth your time.

The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible use of public and private lands, 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. Call 1-800-258-3742 and visit BRC online at www.sharetrails.org. This article copyrighted ©2008 by Del Albright, www.delalbright.com, available for use by permission only.

 <div style="text-align: center;">For Sale</div> 
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For stuff for sale, please visit our web site at www.nm4w.org/classifieds.htm

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

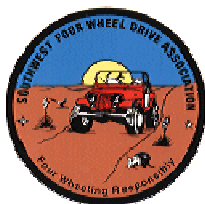
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
May 3	Club Meeting at the Glenn & Jan's	Call Glenn Bontly	505-249-1127
May 18	NM Council of Car Clubs Annual Auto Show	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
May 24 -25	Memorial Day Weekend Campout	Call Paul Caskey	505-463-4939
May 31	4x4 Training for the Cibola Search & Rescue	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Jul 31 – Aug 2	SWFWDA Summer Quarterly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539

NM4W Officers

<p>President Lauri Rector 228-6547 President@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Frank G. Whiston 292-1541 Vice-president@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Cliff Meier 281-3704 Secretary@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Paul Thompson 293-8390 Treasurer@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Program Chairman Jason Lavy 792-8035 Program-chairman@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Historian Justin Simenson 299-6982 Historian@nm4w.org</p>
<p>Trip Chairman Jan Waugh 250-6962 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



June 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From May 3, 2008
by Joan Wolf



The first summer potluck meeting of the season was held at Glenn and Jan's Belen Green Acres spread (complete with tractor and chickens). Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Guests: Glenn Vialpando & family ('77 CJ7), Eric & Anna Martinez ('08 Tacoma), Andrew Hurt ('70 CJ6).

Members Present: Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Paul Caskey, Leon & Marcia Duggar and girls, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Russ Kaz, Chuck & Ethyl May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson & Rebecca Tafoya, Paul & Mary Thompson, Craig & Mary Turpin and girls, Jan Waugh, Frank & Donna Whiston, Frank & Beth Whiston and girls, Mark & Joan Wolf.

Secretary's Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff was absent. It was voted to accept last month's minutes as published.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thompson: \$2,655.18 bank balance.

VP/Sheriff Report – Frank G. Whiston: Frank explained that points are required for member eligibility and also count towards prizes awarded at year's end. Fines: Lauri Rector left her cell phone at home when serving as the point-of-contact for the International Car Show. She was also fined for being late to tonight's meeting. No excuse since she was not working on her Jeep. Final tally: 50¢.

Trip Chair's Report – Jan Waugh

- **Car Shows:** April 26 International Car Show at NM Expo (Fairgrounds) and May 18, NM Council of Car Clubs show at Old Town.
- **May 3, Work Day at Jemez District of Santa Fe National Forest:** Wolfie reported that eight NM4W'ers and several motorcycle and ATV enthusiasts helped repair FR4A. They cleared fallen trees and repaired erosion problems under the watchful eye of a U.S. Forest Service staffer. It took persistence by NMOHVA (New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance) to set up this work day with the USFS. However, these efforts are important in strengthening the relationship between government agencies and the motorized vehicle community.
- **May 24-25:** Paul Caskey is organizing a Memorial Day campout near Porter Landing in the Jemez. Trails will be generally easy but scenic. The Gallup Jeeps West club will be invited as a humble attempt to repay their hospitality for past Zuni Mountain runs.
- **May 31:** 4x4 Training for Cibola Search & Rescue (SAR), Wolfie is organizing this periodic training given to SAR. Need volunteers to present topics (high-lift jack, body protection, etc.) Meet at west end of Southern Blvd. in Rio Rancho at 9:00 a.m.
- **June 21:** Justin will lead the Tank Trap trail.

- **July 31-Aug. 2, SWFWDA Summer Quarterly, Nathrop CO.** As hosts, NM4W is setting up trail runs, camping, Friday evening meal, etc. Cliff Meier is doing a great job of setting up runs of various levels of difficulty. No matter where you go, the scenery will be spectacular. To reserve a tent site, contact Mary Turpin. For RV and camper sites, contact the Chalk Creek Campground (888-395-8830). Frank G. Whiston requested that trail leaders/tailgunners provide him with t-shirt sizes. There will be some extra t-shirts and can be ordered after the June meeting
- **Aug. 15-17:** Jeeps West of Gallup has invited NM4W for another weekend of scenic runs in the Zuni Mountains. There is FREE camping at the Wildlife Building area. Jeeps West are the most gracious hosts imaginable.

Director of Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister was absent. No report.

Historian's Report – Justin Simenson circulated the new NM4W flyers (thanks to Russ Kaz for printing them). Justin will take orders at the June meeting for the 50th anniversary book he's compiled. As always, Justin welcomes photos via email or CD. Lauri gave him six CD's of their Easter Moab trip.

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy was absent, no 50/50 raffle.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly requested that guests complete an online registration to get on the club's email list.

Old Business:

- Chuck volunteered to host the August meeting if Keith Chapin is unable to.
- 50th Anniversary events
 - May 18 NM Council of Car Clubs show, Wolfie explained the logistics. This event will showcase members' vehicles and the club's 50-year history.
 - Picnic, July 12, Carolino Canyon picnic area, south of Tijeras on Hwy 337. Special guests will be Marty & Alan Gilmore, active NM4Wers in the 1980-90's and SWFWDA founding members. The club voted to provide meat, paper products, drinks, and cake. If the forest is open, Justin will lead a run to Capilla Peak, the club's first run in 1958.
 - Summer Quarterly in Nathrop CO (see Trip Chair's Report above).
 - "Aspencade" in the Pecos area, Justin will try to find the same trail that the club ran in 1950-60's and rerun it this Fall.
 - Lauri will take photos of the prizes that the club won at the Chile Challenge and provide to Glenn to post on the club website.
- Jan Waugh reported on "Wishes for the Wounded", a program to give wounded veteran's a camping and outdoor recreation experience. The NM visit is scheduled for May 9-10, 2009. Action was tabled because Lauri hasn't had time to review. She's unsure about fundraising and liability issues and will discuss with Blue, the Las Cruces 4WD club president, about that club's participation and thoughts.

New Business:

- **NMOHVA:** It was motioned, seconded, and approved to renew membership, cost is \$100/yr.
- **Elections:** Officer nominations will be taken at the June and July meetings with voting in July. The SOPs say that nominations are to be made in July, but Lauri will bring a nomination box to the June meeting so that anonymous nominations can be made.

- **Dues:** Annual dues (\$35) are due August 1. Bring dues to the June meeting because Paul Thompson will be cooking at the July meeting.
- **New member:** Andy Hurt was voted in. Welcome, Andy!

Glenn & Jan were thanked for hosting the meeting which adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Next meeting: June 14 at the East Mountains home of Cliff & Jeanne Meier.



President's Report By Lauri Rector

I hope that everyone enjoyed their Memorial Day weekend. It started off with a lot of rain, but was just beautiful for the rest of the weekend. The wind really picked up in the afternoon, but at least it died down when the sun set.

This month will be short and sweet. Remember to bring a check for your dues to the June meeting. Also be thinking of who you want to nominate for an officer position – or think about which office you want to nominate yourself for. And, we need to nominate someone for the New Mexico 4-Wheeler of the year (that will be announced in August). I will have boxes at the June meeting so that you can nominate anonymously.

Happy Wheeling!!!!

Memorial Day Weekend Campout By Paul Caskey



We had a successful holiday weekend in the Jemez for Memorial Day with 12 vehicles on Saturday, 14 on Sunday, and 6 on Monday. The early bird arrivers on Thursday encountered snow and blistering cold. Those of us who drove up Friday negotiated the snow melt result: a very muddy road up to the camping area. A 10-minute storm with pea-sized hail was a typical interruption to the skies which were otherwise trying to clear in the late afternoon as we set up camp.

Sleep that night was intermittent for any tent camper not lucky enough to be kept warm by, say, a wood burning stove with a tall smokestack reaching up into the trees. After thawing our toes in the morning, we were greeted by several visitors who joined us for the wimp's option of a Saturday's wheelin' with no camping.

I was the rookie trail leader for Saturday. I got off to a “good start” by missing the first turn on the trail, causing half the line to U-turn when I finally confessed defeat. But I reversed my own fine at lunch when it was revealed that I'd taken Tom Hurt somewhere worthwhile in the Jemez he'd never

been before. (This is a modest award considering the near impossibility of such an achievement. I'll accept my trophy later.)



conditioning - but no such luck.

On the way back to camp, a small band of us took a dip in the river. None of the older and wiser members of the group joined us, which should have been a sign. But we young fools held our breath, pinched our noses, and drove on through, the water splashing up to hoods and headlights as we forded the current. This was practice toward a longer run planned for Monday, but sense got the better of us by then, so this was to be the only wet-n-wild portion of the weekend.

We fired up the grill and had a delicious potluck Saturday night, accented by a stack of desserts we couldn't conquer. Full bellies after a long day sent everyone to bed early to enjoy a more restful night dipping down to a balmy 40 degrees instead of 30 the previous night.



turn back. Maybe they didn't have four wheel drive? We proceeded without incident - motivated by

Sunday was a jaw-dropping scenic route through canyons and wilderness far to the north, expertly led by Tom Hurt. The wind was calm and temperatures moderate, begging the question in my mind of why more tops don't disappear on days like this. The cloudless sky formed a brilliant blue cap over the mix of grass, aspens, and tall pines stretching from one horizon to the other - cut down the middle by our red clay road. The smile on my sun-screened face couldn't be wiped off.

At one point, some passing ATV-ers warned of deep mud up ahead which had forced them to

Chuck's reminder that someone might pull out a Barbie-pink tow strap for any manly man needing assistance.



Sunday night found us chuckling around the campfire, trying again in vain to finish off the pile of diet-busting desserts. Many of us were ready for more trail riding on Memorial Day itself, so discussion turned to the plan for that final day. The log skidder goal was resurrected. After my excuse of a busted GPS, eyes turned toward Paul Thompson for leadership. The resulting pregnant pause was so long, I wondered if he'd heard the question. He probably thought he had made it the whole weekend without having to lead a trail. The next morning he was ready and willing, but convinced me to take another stab at it - under the pretense that I'd remember the trails better if I led. Okay, Paul.

We did find the log skidder, and Chuck shared fascinating information about the giant abandoned machine. It was another beautiful day, and by the end of the day, the muddy roads had dried up. Our holiday weekend had been sandwiched perfectly between rain and snow beforehand, dust afterwards, and nothing but clear skies in between. There were no breakdowns, and the only fine goes to Mary Thompson for reading a book while Paul crawled their Jeep up the new and exciting hill Saturday morning.

Did I mention we explored new territory that day?

New Mexico Council of Car Clubs 24th Annual Car Show

By Lauri Rector

Ok, this is not a normal event for an off-road club. However, it was one of things that we did as a part of our club's 50th anniversary.

NM4W had been a member of the Council for several years, but they updated their roster and got no response from us, so we were dropped. We voted early last fall to pay the \$10 and become affiliated with the Council again so that we could be a part of their annual car show. We also now have a link on their web site, so we have another way for people to find us. Frank Whiston and I have been attending their meetings since that time, and both served on the show committee. I have made a lot of new friends. These people are really nice, much like the 4-wheeling people we meet.

We had a decent turn out from our club (considering this is a car show and not a trail ride). Chris Sears and his Bronco II, Frank Whiston (the younger) and his LJ, Jan Waugh and her YJ, Andy Hurt and his CJ6, Mark Wolf and his Commando. We also had prospective members Frank Gonzales and his Jeep, a friend or relation of the Sierra family and their bright green Jeep (yes, I know, there is always someone's name that I don't get or remember or something) and Mike and Linda Sells who didn't "drag" their Jeep in for the display, but did volunteer with the show and then sat with us in the afternoon. We also had someone that had a Toyota Landcruiser on display ask if he could park with our vehicles. Paul and Mary Thompson came out to see the show and stopped and visited for a while (I bet Mary got to do some shopping in Old Town too). The banner looked great and we had a lot of people stop and talk to us and ask questions about the club and take our pamphlets.

The day started early for those of us that signed up to volunteer. They put me in charge of parking cars in the front parking lot (thank goodness I had a good crew) and Jeff was in charge of classifying

vehicles – which he took a lot of instruction from his crew. Frank Whiston helped with the front parking lot too – he did a great job. Mike Sells helped count votes and Linda Sells helped at the registration desk. Mark Wolf was to help in the back parking lot, but I'm not sure how much parking he did. They only had about 20 cars out there.

We had fun trying to vote on a vehicle for each class. After all the walking that morning, finding the energy to go back around and look at the vehicles no less than 2 more times was hard, but a lot of fun at the same time. There were so many really neat cars and it was hard to decide which one to vote for (except for the Jeep class).

For our Jeep class, the guy (whose name just completely escapes me) with the big bright green shiny Jeep won 1st place. Jeff got 2nd place and Wolfie got 3rd place. The award plaques are really nice and match Jeff's color scheme.

I know this is weird, but I can't wait until the next car show!!!!

Recipes of the Month

By Glenn Bontly

This new feature was recommended by some people at the May meeting. This month, I received two excellent recipes from dishes that were shared by everyone at the May meeting.

Donna Whiston's "Broccoli, Mandarin Orange, Pineapple, & Mixed Nut Salad"

(she didn't tell me the name of the recipe, so I just made it up!)

- 1 Pkg. Broccoli Slaw
- 1 8.4 oz can Mandarin Oranges - Drained
- 1 10 oz can Pineapple Tidbits – Drained
- 2 Hand Fulls Premium Nut Mix – Raw & Unsalted
- Ken's Lite Sweet Vidalia Onion Dressing

Mix everything together and refrigerate; serve cold

=====

Joan Wolf's Sweet & Sour Meatballs

- 1 Slow Cooker Liner (this is a messy dish, liner is the only way to go)
- 1 jar (10 oz) sweet and sour sauce
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 3 lbs. frozen meatballs
- 1 medium red bell pepper, cubed
- 1 can (20 oz) pineapple chunks, drained

Place all ingredients in the lined-slow cooker; stir gently. Cover with lid. Cook on Low for 7-8 hours or on High for 4-5 hours until done. Makes 12-15 servings.



For Sale



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

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

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

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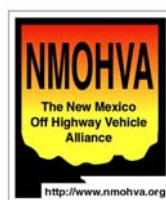
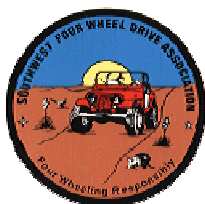
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jun 14	Club Meeting at the Meier's House	Call Cliff & Jeanne	505-281-3704
Jun 21	Tank Trap Trail	Call Justin Simenson	505-299-6982
Jul 12	Club Meeting at Carolino Canyon Park	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539
Jul 31 – Aug 2	SWFWDA Summer Quarterly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Aug 15 – 17	Zuni Mountain Campout w/Jeeps West	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517

NM4W Officers

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

Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



July 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From June 14, 2008

by Cliff Meier



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trip Chairman's Report -- Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

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

Upcoming Events:

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

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

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

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

Old Business:

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

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

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

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

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

New Business:

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

There was an electrical cable left at Cibola SAR training.

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

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

Mike and Linda Sells were voted in as new members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Club Dues

By Glenn Bontly

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



President's Report

By Lauri Rector

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

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

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

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

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

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

Live long and 4-Wheel!!!!

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

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

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

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

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

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

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

Your DEA,

Mark

<p style="text-align: center;">Tank Trap Trail By Justin Simenson</p>
--

A total of thirteen vehicles made it out on Saturday, June 21 to have fun west of Santa Fe. Everyone was in good spirits and glad to be out in their vehicles. The one line that everyone kept saying was, "It has been too long since we have been out."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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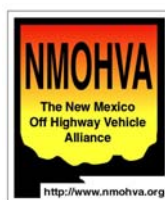
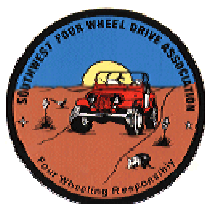
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Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
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Jul 12	Club Meeting at Carolino Canyon Park	Call Joan Wolf	505-856-8539
Jul 31 – Aug 2	SWFWDA Summer Quarterly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
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Trail Tales
 31 La Mirada
 Belen, NM 87002





Trail Tales



August 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From July 12, 2008

by Cliff Meier



The meeting was held in conjunction with the annual picnic at the Carolino Canyon picnic area. Lauri Rector called the meeting to order at about 6:30pm following an excellent presentation by Mark Wolf on the history of the club.

Guests: Rick & Alicia Sierra, Ron Hyman, Glenn & Rebagayle Vialpando, Rick & Jenny Ferguson. Also attending were two special guests from the club's past, Charlie & Susan Wilson.

Members Present: Jeff Atchison, Paul & Eveliina Baca, Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Pat & Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Rance & Elizabeth Cochrane, Leon and Marsha Duggar, Erwin & Jeannie Greven, Andy Hurt, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Steve Lamberson, Jason & Sara Levy, Dave & Melinda Marks, Cliff Meier, Don & Karen Miller, Jerry & Mary Moran, Bob Norton, Dan & Chris Pritchard, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Mike & Linda Sells, Justin Simenson & Rebecca Tafoya, Bob Telepak, Craig & Mary Turpin, Jan Waugh, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Mark & Joan Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

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

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$3,978.20.

VP Report – Frank G. Whiston: Currently the club has 78 family memberships and 4 associates. Frank reviewed the members' earned points. We had 14 members that led trails and 2 with over 40 points. Frank reviewed the points system. There were several fines this month. Most resulted from major and minors infractions during the Tank Trap run and 4th of July campout. They ranged from a "flop", getting lost, leaving the group, etc. The names and amounts will not be listed to protect the guilty.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark was not able to attend the meeting but sent the following report. The Santa Fe National Forest Proposed Action has been released. If possible, please attend the meetings and make comments, or send in written comments. If you do not make any comments, you will not be able to make any future comments or objections.

Trip Chairman's Report – Jan Waugh:

Past Events:

- Jun 21 – Tank Trap Run
- Jul 4th Weekend - Jemez Campout

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Jul 31–Aug 2 – SW4WDA Summer Quarterly
- Aug 8 or 9 – Jan's son will home from Basic Training and a run is being planned.
- Aug 15-17 - Jeeps West Zuni Trip
- Sept 6 & 7 – Mt Blanca Run
- Sep 26-28 – Red River Run

Program Chairman's Report – Jason Lavy: Jason brought tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins for sale. He also sold 50/50 raffle tickets.

Historian's Report Justin Simenson: Justin brought copies of the 50th Anniversary book to handout to those who ordered one. He is continuing to collect CDs with club related pictures.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining.

Old Business:

Wheeler's for the Wounded - A presentation was made by the committee established after the June meeting. Two things are needed for this event; a club endorsement and volunteers to provide seats for the soldiers. The date for the New Mexico event is May 9 & 10, 2009. The committee recommended the club accept as the host club. They also suggested two options for locations. The first is Percha Dam State Park campground below the Caballo Reservoir, 164 miles south of Albuquerque. The run itself would be held on the Caballo Lake/ Palomas Gap Trail. The second was Cibola National Forest and the run would be Monticello Canyon. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the club hosts the event.

Summer Quarterly - Mary Turpin reported that there are currently 44 registrations/45 vehicles with 90 people. There have been a couple of requests for vendor tables. There is still tent space available at the Chalk Creek Campground. If you haven't registered yet, please do so. Trail leader tee shirts have been ordered and will be handed out at the Quarterly. Still have openings for tail gunners. See the sign-up sheet on the club website or contact Cliff Meier.

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

New Business:

Elections were held for 2008-2009 officers. The results were as follows:

- President – Frank G. Whiston
- Vice President – Cliff Meier
- Treasurer – Paul Thompson
- Secretary – Jeanne Meier
- Program Chairman – Paul Caskey
- Trip Chairman – Russ Kaz
- Historian – Jan Waugh
- Director of Environmental Affairs – Mark Werkmeister

Remaining Summers Meetings – Chuck & Ethel May Peebles – Aug 23, and the Levy's- Sept.

Rick & Alicia Sierra and Glenn & Rebagayle Vialpando were voted in as new members. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

WOW! What a time to become President of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers. The Club is celebrating the 50th Anniversary and hosting the SW4WDA Summer Quarterly. On top of that, the Cibola Sandia Ranger District just announced their Travel Management decision and the Santa Fe National Forest released their proposed action for Travel Management. There is a LOT going on and the club is involved in all of this! It is an honor to serve as club president knowing that the members are supporting all of these things. Involvement is what has kept this club going for the past 50 years and is why it will continue to thrive. The club has a lot of challenges ahead in terms of access issues, but I also see that the events schedule is filling up. So, let's all tackle these challenges and have some fun along the way by staying involved!

50th Anniversary Picnic

By Joan Wolf



"It was a great party," exclaimed Lauri Rector, of the NM4W 50th anniversary picnic held July 12, 2008. Eighty people enjoyed the cool weather at the Carolino Canyon Picnic Area, delicious food, and a trip down memory lane. Emcee Mark Wolf noted that the Albuquerque Jeep Herders (later changed to New Mexico 4-Wheelers) first met on August 6, 1958. These outdoor enthusiasts wanted to explore out-of-the-way places in New Mexico and beyond in their 4WD vehicles.

Wolfie described early club trips to the Elk Mountains in the Pecos, Quemado Lake and Snow Lake in the Gila, and San Acacia near Socorro. Incredibly, outings such as the Christmas tree run that started in 1958 continue today. And since inception, the club has been involved in community service and environmental affairs.



A highlight of the picnic was welcoming former member Charlie Wilson and his wife, Susan. In the 1990's, Charlie and his son, Joel, led the club on many adventuresome runs in the Santa Fe National Forest. Charlie and Joel were quite the minimalists. Camping gear consisted of whatever fit into their CJ5. Their tent, even on Mt. Blanca, was a tarp strung between trees. No stove either, just a grille and a fire pit! Then Joel went off to college and Charlie's work required more travel. Charlie and Susan were pleased to receive a complimentary copy of Justin's book, "Trail Riding for Half a Century".

Pat and Sue Brady were recognized as being members the longest (not for being the oldest). They received shirts imprinted with the 50th anniversary logo. Pat recalled the days of small tires and no lockers. Still, members managed to catch air and test the limits of their rigs.



Wolfie also offered club trivia. In 1971, three U.S. astronauts were named Albuquerque Jeep Herders Honorary Members for “moon travel in 4WD vehicles.” The astronauts gamely replied with autographed photos that remain in the club’s albums. The picnic was a celebration of 50 years of fun, food, and friendship.



From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Oh, boy! Where to start this month? After last month’s ‘no activity’ report, things are really jumping this past couple of weeks. Let’s get right to it.

First, the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest released their Decision Notice for the [Environmental Assessment for Travel Management on the Sandia Ranger District](#). Quite frankly, the decision wasn’t as friendly to 4WD as we had hoped. Very few of the roads/trails in the Cedro

Peak area were designated for 4WD vehicles (or even ATV's) and the District chose to close the La Madera area to all motorized use. Bummer, huh? Not quite. On the positive side, almost all of the trails at Cedro remain open to motorized use by the motorcyclists (almost 43 miles), and there is NO seasonal closure. This is quite a change from the proposed action and it came about because of the efforts of the motorized community. The Forest Supervisor even said in the Decision document, "Based on the analysis and comments received, it has become evident that the Cedro area is highly valued for the single track trail experience and is heavily used by motorcycles...." It is extraordinarily unusual for the motorized community to preserve most of their riding mileage in one of these Travel Management activities (just review what has happened in other Forests across the nation so far). We didn't get much 4WD from our effort, but most of the historical use we were trying to save was for the motorcycles. So, chalk one up for the motorized community in their white hats, even if some enjoy our land on two wheels. We can definitely attribute it to the active participation of our club in the Travel Management process and others like us. We came together, worked hard, and it made a BIG difference.

I want to thank each and every one of the NM4W'ers who wrote a scoping comment, attended a meeting, wrote comments on the EA, and everything else you did for the Sandia effort over the past two years. A special thanks to Bob Telepak who very ably represented the club through the long collaboration process and subsequent NEPA process.

People who submitted substantive comments can appeal the District's decision. NMOHVA has offered coaching on the appeal process to all comment writers. If you would like to appeal and desire assistance, contact me and we will help you get the ball rolling. For the rest of us, take a deep breath, then roll up your sleeves, and get ready to get back to work.

That takes us to the next big effort: the scoping period for the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) Travel Management Plan. With the publication of the Notice of Intent, the NEPA process for the SFNF has officially begun. The [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI) was published in the Federal Register on July 17, 2008. Its publication begins the 45-day comment period, which starts on July 18, and ends on September 2. What's it all mean? This is the same sort of process as the Sandia Ranger District but on a MUCH bigger scale. The Sandia Ranger District had around 60 miles of roads and trails to consider, the Santa Fe National Forest has over 4,000 miles!!!!

I am currently completing a detailed comparison of the NM4W Citizen's Proposal versus the SFNF Proposed Action. I should have it done in a few days. In the meantime, read the Proposed Action, it is under 60 pages and each of you should at least familiarize yourself with what it says. We need to have our Scoping comments submitted by September 2nd. I will be providing more coaching, guidance, examples, etc. of scoping comments in the coming weeks.

Here are several things you can do in the meantime:

- **Identify exactly which roads and trails that you want fully analyzed** in the upcoming draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). This is similar to the Environmental Assessment that the Sandia Ranger District did, but more in depth (and it covers a lot more ground). I know you have already 'identified' routes, but it isn't official until it is done within this 45 day period. We will be re-submitting our Citizen's Proposal again during the official scoping comment period.
- **Attend the Scoping meetings** that have been scheduled (see http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/travelmgt/public_involvement.htm for the completed list and details. Yes, going to meetings seems like a waste of time. While it is true that these processes aren't a 'vote', the turning point in the Sandia process came when several hundred

users showed up one night at a public comment meeting. The Forest Service paid A LOT more attention after that! So show up, even if you just stand around and talk to each other.

- Get out and **drive the roads and trails in the Jemez** that we love so much. I was up in the Jemez on Saturday and it reminded me why this effort is so important. It is a beautiful forest, it is OUR forest, too, and we need to work hard if we want to be able to drive where we have been driving for these past 50 years.

Still your DEA,
Mark

PS. Thanks for entrusting me with this important job for another year. I will do my best to return that trust with hard work, dedication, patience, and love for what we do!

“Flopping” in the Jemez
A Pictorial Essay
by Mary Thompson



Club Dues Are PAST DUE!

By Glenn Bontly

Club dues are now PAST DUE! However, thanks to the kind-hearted souls who drafted our Club By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), those of you who have failed to renew your membership on time have been granted a one-month grace period, so it's still not too late! According to the NM4W SOPs, Article I, Paragraph A, "dues shall be delinquent on the first day of September, and all rights and privileges of membership will end." On that day, those who have not renewed their membership will be removed from the Club Roster, and access to the Member's Only Page on the web site will be terminated. **DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!** Please pay your dues to NOW! Paul accepts cash, personal check, money order, cashier's check . . . or Jeep parts!



For Sale



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

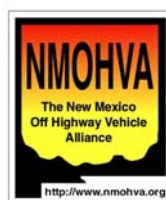
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Jul 31 – Aug 2	SWFWDA Summer Qtrly—Salida, CO	Call Mark Wolf	505-856-8539
Aug 15 – 17	Zuni Mountain Campout w/Jeeps West	Call Lauri Rector	505-891-8517
Aug 23	Club Meeting at the Peoples' House	Call Chuck or Ethyl May	505-866-1185
Sep 6 – 7	Mt. Blanca Trip	Call Brandon Roby	505-293-5430

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



September 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From August 23, 2008

by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at the home of Chuck and Ethel May Peeples in Los Lunas.

Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:26.

Guests: Joseph Webb (Laurye Tanner's son)

Members Present: Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Paul Caskey, Rance Cochrane, Nancy Crowley, Jimmie & Debbie Farrell, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Brandon & Tammy Roby, Chris Sears, Mike & Linda Sells, Jack & Stella Sierra, Carlos and Laurye Tanner, Bob Telepak, Paul & Mary Thompson, Jan Waugh, Mark & Joanne Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, and Mark & Joan Wolf.

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

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$5,077.21. This includes \$1,740.00 in 08/09 dues, \$960.00 from the Summer Quarterly raffle, and \$322.85 surplus from the Summer Quarterly.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff reviewed the points system. In his capacity as Sheriff, Cliff placed a moratorium on fines during the Summer Quarterly greatly reducing the fines, but the trip to Gallop yielded three fines. One member actually trailered his Jeep, but forgot the keys and another member forgot an important piece of apparel and had to borrow some from her significant other. The latter infraction actually yielded two fines. Joan Wolf presented Mark with a new key ring with several keys so he will always have one.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark discussed the hearings on the Santa Fe National Forest Proposed Action and thanked everybody that had attended the recent meetings. He urged everyone to review the plan and to make comments. Several trails the club runs are not in the plan and they must be in the alternatives to be able to make future comments or objections.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- July 31-Aug 2 – SW4WDA Summer Quarterly – Nathrop, CO - There were 53 registrants, about half from NM4W. The meal and weather were great.
- Aug 15-17 – Jeeps West Zuni Trip Gallop, NM

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Sept 6 & 7 – Mt Blanca Trip
- Sep 26 - 28 – Red River Trip

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul brought tee shirts, hats, stickers, & pins for sale. He also sold 50/50 raffle tickets.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Jan asked that people continue to send pictures of club related pictures.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn had nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Wheeler for the Wounded – Jan Waugh reported the first event was scheduled for September 14 (*this event was cancelled as of 28 Aug -ed.*). They are trying to get donations for the event and volunteers for different needs. Anyone who wants to help should contact Jan or Lauri Rector. It will be necessary to get a separate tax ID from NM4W and their own set of by-laws to be able to manage the money raised properly and to avoid having to pay taxes at the end of the year.

50th Anniversary – Mark Wolf indicated the run for La Mosca Peak – Mt Taylor is scheduled for October 4th and will be led by Pat Brady. A volunteer for the Christmas event is needed.

NM 4-Wheeler of the Year – Lauri Rector presented the award to Frank G. Whiston. She also gave mention to other people that received votes including Mary Turpin, Mark Wolf, Mark Werkmeister, and Justin Simenson.

United 4 Wheel Drive – Frank Whiston suggested that since the club was no longer a member of United through Southwest that NM4W might want to join directly. It will cost \$100.00. Any club members that want to join may get an individual membership for \$25.00. This will give the member their own vote and the United Voice newsletter. For each individual member we submit, \$3.00 will come back to the club. Mark Wolf made a motion for the club to join and the motion carried. Individual membership will be collected at a subsequent meeting. Additional information will be provided.

Holiday Community Service Project – Frank indicated this project usually makes a donation to some cause. A volunteer is needed to organize this event and members should consider which cause the club should sponsor.

New Business:

Budget – Frank presented a proposed budget for 2008-2009. It included \$500 for the Land Action Fund, \$300 for the NMOHVA Access Defense Fund, and \$200 for Wheelers for the Wounded. A question was asked about the \$700 earmarked for Pan American Services. It was explained this was for a class that taught how to write EIS/EA comments. This may be needed for the Sandia Action plan. Copies of the budget were provided to members and it will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Gift certificate – Mark Wolf made a motion that the club give Justin Simenson a gift certificate as a “thank you” for all the work he did on the 50th Anniversary Book. Motion passed.

SWFWDA vacancies – Frank reported that Southwest does not have a secretary or an Events Chairman. There are 4 meetings a year and mileage is reimbursed. Anyone interested should contact Frank or

Mark Wolf. Mark indicated that the Events Chairman should be from New Mexico because the largest raffle is held in Las Cruces.

New Mexico Council of Clubs Swap Meet – The annual swap meet will be held 26 – 28 Sep in Los Lunas. The club can get a space for free to promote the club, but if someone wants to sell anything we will need to pay \$20.00. Lauri Rector will be there to promote Wheelers for the Wounded, but there is plenty of room for other members to sell stuff. More information will be provided later.

Las Cruces National Monument Fight - Mark Wolf made a motion that the \$500 set aside for the SWFWDA Land Action Fund in the proposed budget be sent now to assist in fighting the designation of National Monument status to some of the area used for 4 wheeling in Las Cruces. Motion Passed.

Remaining Summers Meeting – The Lavy’s- 13 Sep.

The raffle included a 50th anniversary tee shirt, two caps, and two key rings. Winners included Bob Telepak, Glenn Bontly, Angelo Sierra, Carlos Tanner, Jimmy Farrell, and Paul Thompson. The club received \$33.00.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.



President’s Report
By Frank G. Whiston

Where did last month go? August was a blast for the club. We kicked things off in Salida Colorado with the Summer Quarterly, which was a spectacular event! I want to personally thank all of the club members who worked hard to make it such a success. Then, shortly after that, Jeeps West invited us to the Zuni Mountains once again and showed those who went their exceptional hospitality as usual. Three of the five weekends of August were filled with NM4W events! No wonder the month flew by!

September looks to be filling up nicely as well, with Brandon’s Mt. Blanca trip and Tom’s annual Red River trip. Plenty of activities to keep us busy through the end of summer!

I would also like to encourage you all to read our DEA’s report. By the time this hits the Trail Tales, the SFNF scoping comment period will have almost ended, but there are still other things that the club can do to influence the Forest Service as they begin to prepare the draft environmental impact statement. We have a wonderful DEA, but he and Joanne need as many people in the club as we can to get involved and take the forest service people out on the trails that are important to us. The SFNF needs to see some new faces and hear the desires to keep things open from new people. This is our backyard and one of our closest recreational areas. You can make a difference even if you feel you do not have the experience dealing with the FS that our DEA does. At last week’s public scoping meeting, the FS made an interesting observation; they commented that there were a large number of young people in the audience and how nice it is to see that families are enjoying the forest. They notice things like this, which makes an impression on them on how we use the forest. If we can get them out on the forest roads with us, that will make an impression as well. So, read our DEA’s report and e-mails, and think about how you can get involved and fight for the roads that our club has enjoyed for the last 50 years!

Member Spotlight: Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney

By Joan Wolf



Russ and Glenna are one-year members who are quickly becoming diehard four-wheelers. They've gone on many runs: Christmas tree, Memorial Day and 4th of July campouts in the Jemez, Salida, Zuni Mountains, and more. They attend most meetings and Russ is serving as our Trip Chair for the 2008/2009 club year. To top it off, they're acquiring the requisite "stuff". Innocently enough, they came to NM4W with a Jeep and a tent. Recently, Russ bought a Ford F150 for towing the Jeep and after renting a fifth-wheel at the Chalk Creek Campground, they say it'll be hard to

go back to tenting. Here they go—acquiring all the toys of the sport.

In reality, Russ is not a novice; he's been wheeling off and on for 30 years. His first Jeep was a '76 CJ5 that he describes as "a gutless wonder". Russ was in the Navy and a member of the Bremerton, Washington 4WD club. Next he bought a '79 F150 4x4 and belonged to the Kernville Fourplayers. Then he took a 20-year break until one year ago when he got a smoking deal on a '97 Wrangler.

Russ was prepping the '97 Jeep for Canyonlands and looking forward to four-wheeling again when last September a drunk driver hit him. Thankfully, Russ wasn't injured, but the Jeep was totaled. Still wanting to go on Frank Whiston's Canyonlands run, Russ found another good deal. The '98 Wrangler, advertised on Craig's List, was located in Salt Lake City. Russ bought the Jeep "as-is" with three bald tires and 119k miles. They picked up the green Wrangler in SLC and joined the group at Canyonlands. The TJ ran fine.

Glenna is new to four wheeling and having a great time. She's always liked camping, hiking, and fishing, so four wheeling is just one more way to enjoy the outdoors. An avid photographer, she loves getting to out-of-the-way spots in the Jeep and snapping away. She and Russ have already provided many great photos for the Trail Tales.

Glenna was born in Colorado Springs, but her father's Air Force career later took the family to Holloman AFB and Kirtland AFB. When her dad retired, the family moved to Nebraska to be near their extended family. Glenna graduated from Elm Creek (Nebraska) High School with a graduating class of 31. She attended Kearney State College (as we Nebraskans know it), now called the University of NE at Kearney. She lived in Denver for eight years and then Orange County, CA. A job opportunity and fond childhood memories brought her back to Albuquerque in 1994.

For the past 7½ years, Glenna has worked for Z-Coil Footwear. As Sales Coordinator, she provides administrative support for the 160 distributors of the funny-looking shoes that provide pain relief from many medical conditions. Glenna proudly notes that the Albuquerque-based company will be featured on Good Morning America in the upcoming weeks. Even on long work days, Glenna makes time to play with her two dogs, Aberdeen and Zoey, and her cat, Tsunami. The dogs are easing into The Jeep Thing. They liked their recent first Jeep ride—even though it was just to the grocery store.

A California native, Russ has lived in seven other states. He served four years in the Navy as an Aviation Boatswain Mate specializing in catapults. His assignments took him to Japan, Singapore,

Pakistan, and the Philippines. Russ now works for PSI (Professional Service Industries), a consulting engineering and testing firm. As Manager of both the Phoenix and Albuquerque offices, Russ spends three days in Arizona and two days here. Their projects include the new Rio Rancho High School and Cardinal Stadium in Phoenix. Russ says, “Working between Phoenix and Albuquerque isn’t too bad. I try to be home for the weekends so that I can spend time with Glenna so we can do things together and with the club. Getting time off is easy when you’re the boss.”

Some day Russ hopes to find time for a favorite pastime, fishing. He’s done both fresh water and ocean fishing, but not for several years. He’d like to revisit one of his favorite places, the High Sierras near Bishop and Mammoth CA, for trout fishing. Glenna cites her favorite places in the U.S. as Yosemite and the Monterey/Carmel area. She also took a wonderful trip to the British Isles in 1997 and visited France in 1999. Closer to home, she’s completely taken by the mesas, canyons, and mountains of the Southwest.

Russ heard about NM4W from Derren Owen at Desert Rat, a place Russ considers his second home. Derren and company have helped Russ outfit the '98 TJ with a 4" lift, 8.8 rear axle with locker, 35" Cooper SSTs, Warn 9.5 TI winch with synthetic line, 4.56 gears, and an Extreme Outback air compressor with 2½ gal air tank. Russ is pleased with the Jeep’s performance; it crawled right up the Zuni Mountain ledges. Of course, there’s always more. Front lockers are next.



What’s the biggest change in wheeling from 20 years ago? Russ laughs, “We didn’t air down.” He notes that good driving techniques remain the same—use common sense and watch the person in front. Russ and Glenna both enjoyed the SWFWDA Summer Quarterly in Salida. Russ’s favorite trails were Mt. Antero and Grizzly Lake “including the pucker at the beginning”. He’s up for difficult, “but not Jeff Rector extreme” trails. Glenna liked Hancock Pass, where she got great wildflower and marmot photos. On their “To Do” list are the Chile Challenge and Mt. Blanca.

Russ and Glenna like the people, the communal knowledge, and the variety of vehicles at NM4W. They appreciate that the club doesn’t focus on one aspect of four-wheeling. NM4W welcomes Russ and Glenna. There’s always room for more diehards.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

As you read this, the big push is to submit your comments for the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) Proposed Action for Managing Motorized Travel. The deadline is September 2nd. They are taking e-mails right up to midnight on the 2nd. For those of you who prefer the more traditional US mail, the letters must be postmarked by the 2nd.

A VERY IMPORTANT POINT:

ALL previous comments were ‘unofficial’, whether they were verbal, written, e-mail, etc., **IF YOU DON’T PUT IT IN WRITING AND SUBMIT IT DURING THE SCOING PERIOD, IT DOESN’T OFFICIALLY EXIST!**

Comments can be submitted in several forms:

E-mail: If sending a comment electronically, please e-mail it to: comments-southwestern-santafe@fs.fed.us (.doc, .txt, .pdf, or .rtf only) with “Travel Management” in the subject line.

Snail-Mail: Santa Fe Travel Management Planning, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Fax: 505-438-7834. Make sure you put “Santa Fe Travel Management Planning” in the header.

Delivered in person: Comments may be delivered by hand to the Santa Fe National Forest Supervisor’s Office (1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe) between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

Some of you may be wondering, “What is Scoping and what should we be commenting on?”

We need to ensure we ‘identify’ the correct ‘issues’ so that the range of alternatives the FS selects include an appropriate result for us. Put another way: We need to make sure at least one of the alternatives adequately addresses our needs. The way to get that to happen is to make appropriate comments during the Scoping process.

There is no right or wrong way to write Scoping comments. We simply tell FS what we want, what issues and concerns we want analyzed, and what the alternatives should include.

Here are a couple things to think about as you get ready to write your comments.

1. Don’t wait until the last minute to write your comments. You can send in a comment today, another one tomorrow, and five more next week. There is no requirement that your comments all be bundled together on one day.
2. **Write a separate comment for each topic you cover. The agency issues a Scoping Report which deals with comments by topic or issue.** A team will inventory them (by sender) and identify the topic. They’ll pencil “soils”, or “wildlife” or “recreation needs” at the top of your comment, and sort them into stacks. **If you combine a bunch of issues in one letter, you might hurt your chances that your comments will be inventoried accurately and get included in the scoping report.**
3. Your comments can also be about your ‘concerns’. The Sandia District EA scoping report had plenty of ‘concerns’ from homeowners worried about property values, birdwatchers worried about birds, hikers worried about ATV speeds, etc. If the FS includes the worries of the non-motorized folks, they should ours too. We can criticize the Scoping Report if our comments have been not properly included.

In terms of WHAT to write about in your comments, please see any of the many previous emails on this subject for a list of potential topics. However, here are the three most important comments you can make:

1. Identify trails/routes/roads that you want **included in the Scope of the DEIS analysis.** We have re-submitted our Citizen’s Proposal(s) again since submitting during the Scoping comment period is the ONLY way to officially ask the Forest Service to consider the routes contained in them. **So specifically ask them to include your favorite routes/trails/roads by name or number in the full analysis.** It is a great idea to also show the route on a map with your comment.

Don't worry if your comment identifies a route that was already included in the NM4W Citizen's Alternative. The intent is to identify ALL of the trails and roads that we find important.

2. Insist that ALL motorized routes on the Forest be included in the full analysis, including both 'system' (on the FS maps) and 'non-system' (everything else). This is a variation of the theme in #1 above. The FS has already eliminated over half the roads from consideration before doing the EIS analysis. It is called 'pre-analysis decision making' and it is not supposed to happen.

We must insist that ALL existing routes used by motorized vehicles must be considered within the scope of the analysis. This is a reasonable and lawful demand.

Insist that all routes get into this analysis, including those screened out in the TAP, everything the users submitted, and everything else all the motorized users have been using or ARE using. Remember, motorized recreation is just one of the many motorized uses in the Forest!

That is it for now. You only have a few days left. Write comments and preserve our beloved roads and trails in the Jemez!!!

Your DEA,

Mark

2008 SWFWDA Summer Quarterly

By Mark Wolf

The event this year was held near Salida, Colorado (Nathrop to be exact) July 31, August 1 & 2. The event had the usual trips for everyone, and the ones I lead were fun. Jeff Rector was to lead the Carnage Canyon trip on Thursday, but no one signed up so he went out there *by himself* with his wife Lauri in tow. He did great until the final ascent up out of the canyon! Carnage happens sometimes and this time it was Jeff! He managed to limp home with some "farmer" ingenuity as the ole Jeep was in bad shape. The remainder of the time, he rode with others and enjoyed watching them break their machines. He took his home on the trailer for much needed repair!

I never heard any other problems or issues this year from anyone. I think that only two who had pre-registered could not make it for emergency reasons. The turnout was very low this year and I think that the price of fuel was to blame. But, those that did make it had a great time! I'm not sure of the final count, but it was around 60 or so vehicles with half of those from our club.

The food was served up Friday evening and Rance Cochrane did an outstanding job of finding and negotiating a price for "hands-down" the best meal I have ever had at a quarterly! Ribs and Chicken with vegetables, and even cake was served! Wow! Was it good! Afterwards, we had a great raffle from donated prizes from Desert Rat Off-Road, Jeoper's Paradise, Tiny Bits of Silver, Jack ???, and the rest of the prizes were donated by NM4W. The grand prize was the set of Goodyear Tires certificate the club won in Las Cruces this year. Erwin & Jeannie Grevin won that and were they VERY happy!

Special thanks go to all those who helped out this year! I couldn't have done it without you! Mary Turpin did a fabulous job with the registration and she was very organized! No one was disappointed with the registration part. Leon & Marcia Duggar found us one of the best camping facilities we could have asked for (no "cow pies" to dodge this time!) and the showers were wonderful! To all those I

missed, thank for your assistance! I think one of the best compliments you can receive is when someone says they like going to “our” events because they are always organized and everything is as it should be. Two fellows from Kansas were there for what they said was probably their seventh or eighth event and ALL had been one of our events! They were once again impressed. It is good to be associated with such a professional organization like the NM4W’s! I look forward to the next event we hold as I know it will be well organized.

Dave Marks’ Ultimate Camp



3rd Zuni Mountain Campout, 15 – 17 Aug 2008 **A Trip to Gallup, NM With Our Friends From Jeeps West** By Mark Wolf

Jim Todt of the Jeeps West crew e-mailed us once again to ask if we would like to come to Gallup to run some trails with their group. They have grown to 20 members and are starting to get active again. After the past couple of trips, we couldn’t say no! President Whiston sent us all several e-mails telling us about the arrangements, date, etc. and the trip was set. It was to be another campout at McGaffey Lake with the Jeeps West group; once again fixing us breakfast and dinner on Saturday. Their hospitality is humbling to say the least! We were treated with the proverbial “silver spoon” again.

The NM4W club turnout was approximately 10 vehicles, including prospective member, Ricky Junker. Let’s see, the Thompson’s, Peoples’, Meier’s, Wolf’s, Glenn Bontly & Jan Montano, Rance Cochrane, Carlos Tanner, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, and Don & Sara Walker (Associate Members of NM4W, from Farmington) were all in attendance.

Saturday morning started with the smell of good food drifting through the air. Just about all of the NM4W’s arrived at the Quonset hut to get in line for some of the good stuff! They had scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, hash brown potatoes, coffee, juice, and milk. What a feast!

After breakfast we lined up and completed the obligatory “liability release” form and when we turned it in we were handed a dash plaque. Can you believe it?! Then we headed out for the day’s run through the green, cool Zuni Mountain woods. I believe there were 29 vehicles participating. Several of the Jeeps West crew were interspersed with our group to keep us going and to make sure that everyone made it ok. The trip was awesome!

The first thing they drive by this time was the elk ranch and the bulls were in large racks with some velvet hanging off their antlers. They were awesome! After we all gawked at them for a while, they ran off and we headed on to the trails. They took us through some of the most beautiful scenery available in New Mexico! The trail was not difficult, but required 4WD.

When noon came around, we stopped at "Cadillac Lake" once again to have lunch. The lake is named for an abandoned vehicle parked there that everyone thinks is a Cadillac (about a 1916 model?). Even if it's not, no one in this group could argue one way or the other (not even Chuck!). About an hour later, we all loaded back up and headed off for more trail adventures.

We immediately headed to the "ledges" and every one who wanted to, got to try their hand at a ledge. Only a minority didn't try it. We then continued in an easterly direction, making a loop to the south and east over some trails I remember the first year. We finally came back to FS Route 50 and then turned west towards camp and headed back. Most rested for a little while, and then eventually carried our "side dishes" to the Quonset hut for the evening meal. The Jeeps West crew once again made us some really good vittles. I don't think anyone starved. I think more just plain ate too much! I know I did! And it was delicious!

As soon as the dining was over, the Jeeps West crew held a raffle and sold extra tickets for those who wanted to better their chances. Most of the NM4W crew bought extra tickets as much to support Jeeps West as to win prizes. But NW4W'ers did enjoy winning great prizes. I didn't win a thing this year, but some extra keys would have been nice. Oh well, there's always next year!

Since there were plenty of leftover breakfast ingredients (eggs, bacon, etc), Jeeps West offered the use of the Quonset hut stoves and grills if we wanted to make our own breakfast on Sunday. About five NM4W members and guests made the next morning's meal. It was the same menu as the day before, but no one complained. The food was once again excellent and a big thanks goes out to all of those who cooked and served.

Thanks for attending; I believe we made a big impression on Jeeps West with our enthusiasm and gratitude. I know they impressed us, *again*! Check out some of the pictures!



Jeep Ski Rack & Bike Rack: Ski rack mounts on a factory rear tire; bike rack mounts in any 1" or 2" receiver hitch. Best offer. Call Tim Nash at 505-892-5771.

Jeep TJ Full Doors: I haven't used these doors in years! They are just taking up space in my garage. Red with gray interior trim. They are in good condition (just a little bit of "pin striping"). Asking \$750 for the pair. Call Glenn Bontly at 505-249-1127.

'68 Jeepster pickup: For sale or trade. This thing has the original V-6 engine (rebuilt), SM-420 trans, Dana 300 transfer case, Dana 44 rear w/ARB, Dana 30 front w/Tru-Trac and 4.27 gears. On-board air system, CB, 33X10.5X15 BFG muds, 4" spring and 1" body lifts, plus a bunch of other stuff. Am looking for a SWB Gladiator or LWB Comanche (4X4) to trade for. \$6,500 obo. Call Mark Wolf at 505-856-8539. Take a look at: <http://www.jeeptruck.com/sale/ad090/ad090.html>

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

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

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.

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

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

Club Notes

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

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

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

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

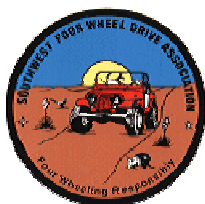
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Sep 6 – 7	Mt. Blanca Trip	Call Brandon Roby	505-293-5430
Sep 13	Club Meeting at the Lavy's House	Call Jason or Sara	505-710-2948
Sep 26 – 28	Red River Trip	Call Tom Hurt	505-994-2515

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



October 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From September 13, 2008
by Jeanne Meier



The meeting was held at the home of Jason & Sara Lavy in Albuquerque. Frank G Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:25 pm.

Guests: Ken Tinker and Diane Chavez-Tinker.

Members Present: Paul & Eveliina Baca, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Paul Caskey, Leon & Marcia Duggar, Eric & Lisa Finch, Glenna Giboney, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz, Steve Lamberson, Tony Lauderbough, Jason & Sara Lavy, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil & Ilene Rodacy, Chris Sears, Mike & Linda Sells, Justin and Rebecca Simenson, Paul & Mary Thompson, Jan Waugh, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Joan Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

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

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$5,106.21. This includes \$2,230 in dues from 65 members. There is one member that will be late. Anyone else that has not paid their dues needs to do so or make arrangements with Paul. The \$500.00 donation to the Land Use fund, approved at the August meeting, has been paid.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: There have not been any events since the August meeting, so there are no fines. The points system was reviewed for visitor and members. The person with the most points and the person that leads the most trails will each receive a \$100.00 gift certificate.

Director of Environmental Affairs Report – Frank Whiston: Mark Werkmeister was not present, but sent a report which Frank presented. The Santa Fe National Forest official Scoping Period is over. This means it is important to try to 'INFLUENCE' what will be 'INCLUDED'. Mark cites several trails that the club runs that needs to be added to the plan. He would like members to possibly set up trips with the forest service personnel on some of these trails. Members should review the plan and make comments.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- Sept 6 & 7 Mt Blanco Run – There was only one club member on this trip.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Sep 26-28 Red River Run
- Oct 3 - 5 Jemez, including Virgin Canyon with Forest service on the 3rd

- TBD La Mosca Peak - Oct 4th or 11th or 18th – 50th Anniversary
- TBD Pecos Elk Mtn – Oct 11th or 18th – 50th Anniversary

The La Mosca Peak run will probably be moved to the 11th or 18th to maximize the fall colors. Justin Simenson has identified the trails in the Pecos from the first year of the club and would like to do a trip also for the 11th or the 18th.

Program Chairman’s Report – Paul Caskey: Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are available. There are also club shirts, stickers, and anniversary shirts available for sale.

Historian’s Report - Jan Waugh: Jan asked that people continue to send pictures of club related events. Jan also suggested making the photo album public while keeping the username and password private. Paul Caskey made a motion to move the username and password to the member’s only page, and the motion carried.

Webmaster & Editor’s Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn indicated guests need to sign up on the website if interested in joining the club. **He also announced that he and Jan had gotten married.**

Old Business:

Frank Whiston presented Justin Simenson a \$50.00 gift certificate as a Thank You for all the work he did on the 50th Anniversary book. This had been approved at the August meeting.

United 4 Wheel Drive – Frank G. Whiston explained that the New Mexico 4 Wheelers would be joining the United 4 Wheel Drive Association, as voted on at the August meeting. Any club members that want to join separately may get an individual membership for \$25.00. This will give the member their own vote and The United Voice newsletter. For each individual member the club submits, \$3.00 will come back to the club. Anyone that would like to join should give their check to Paul Thompson in the next week. The check should be made out to the New Mexico 4-Wheelers. We will do a second submission later this year.

Holiday Community Service Project – Frank asked for an idea for a project the club could select for the traditional holiday service project. He would also like a volunteer to organize this. .

Wheelers for the Wounded – Jan Waugh indicated that it had been agreed that NM4W would withdraw from being a sponsor for this cause. They have talked to the Las Cruces club, which is to decide at their next meeting whether they will be a sole source sponsor.

New Business:

Jeepers’ Paradise would like an event schedule. Tahoe Zahn said they told him they often get customers that would like to know of events in the area and would like a list of our events. Glenn Bontly suggested they should be provided the club web site address since it contains the latest schedule.

SW4WDA Fall Quarterly - Bob Norton will be attending the SW4WDA fall quarterly. He was appointed to represent the club.

2009 Calendar for the club – Frank would like do a club calendar for 2009. He requested that members submit possible pictures. We can get a bulk discount on 15 calendars at about \$11.00 a calendar.

Fall Meetings will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church on the corner of Moon and Academy. Frank asked for volunteers to provide refreshments for the meetings.

- October Russ Kaz and Glenna Giboney
- November Frank and Beth Whiston
- Christmas Phil & Ilene Rodacy (will be at the Rodacy's house, NOT at the church)
- January Justin & Rebecca Simenson
- February Keith & Linda Jurey
- March Mark & Joan Wolf
- April Cliff & Jeanne Meier

Frank thanked Jason & Sara for hosting the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm. The 50/50 raffle raised \$60.00, the winner Eric Finch got \$30.00.



President's Report
By Frank G. Whiston

Fall is upon us. It is most evident in the early mornings, which are a bit cooler. Looking at the Sandia Mountains, I notice that the gamble oak is beginning to change color. This is a beautiful time of year. There are plenty of trips scheduled this month as opportunities to get out and enjoy the weather.

As the weather turns colder, we will be looking at the lower elevations for our 4-wheeling excursions. Last month, former NM4W member, Joe Abbate talked me into a day trip at Gordy's Hill. You may wonder why he is a former member. He called me up to inform me that he was re-locating to the Chicago area to work for his father at a machine shop specializing in high-tolerance machining. He had just installed an Atlas 4 transfer case in his early Bronco and had not even driven it with the new upgrade; he needed someone to go to the rocks with one last time before he departed for the Midwest plains. We found that the summer rains had changed the landscape in the canyons at Gordy's Hill, and obstacles that were moderate the last time I was there, were now hard. Goes to show that each trip to Gordy's can be a new adventure! Anyway, best wishes to Joe, Crystal, and baby Joe. Crystal has family here in ABQ, so maybe we will see the beastly red Bronco on the NM trails again when they are back to visit. So Joe, if you happen to read this, let us know if you have plans to bring the Bronco back with you and maybe we can pull together a club run while you are here.

From the Office of the Director of Environmental Affairs

By Mark Werkmeister

Hello everyone

Since the official Scoping Period is over . . . hopefully, most of you are wondering what to do next. As I discussed at the August meeting, we are working on the two BIG I's - INCLUDE and INFLUENCE. Since Scoping is now over, the FS will be deciding what to INCLUDE in the analysis. We want to spend the next couple of months INFLUENCING the Forest Service to include all the routes we identified in our Citizen's Alternative and all of the other comments we submitted.

The best way is to get the FS to visit the disputed routes in the field, have them identify very specifically what they are concerned about, and try to work out sustainable solutions to their concerns.

The first step is to set up a field trip. The FS has repeatedly said they are willing to meet with us, but WE NEED to call the meetings. Weekends will be hard because everyone else is trying to meet with them also. The longer we wait, the harder a date will be to find. If we can't find a suitable 'field' date or it gets late enough that the weather isn't cooperating, set up a meeting to sit down with them with some good maps and have the discussion around a desk.

Work directly with Linda Riddle and Mike Dechter in the Jemez Ranger District, Derek Padilla in the Cuba District, and Sandy Hurlocker and Miles Standish in the Espanola District. There is a good possibility that not all of the District Rangers ever reviewed our route in detail. We need to help them correct this oversight!

I suggest the key routes to visit and/or discuss are:

- Guadalupe Crossing (Jemez District) – We have already talked about it on-site twice, but they need to know that we are NOT giving up. Can we 'harden' the banks of the crossing, can we restrict it during high water (spring) season? Seasonal closure (last resort)?
- The south end of Hill and Dale (Jemez District) – Mike saw it when it was very wet in June of 07. He needs to see it like it normally is (dry), and fall is a good time.
- Caja del Rio (the Blowhole) (Espanola District) – I think they closed this just because they are not familiar with it. We could even volunteer to help fence the Blowhole itself to lower the 'liability factor' that they surely fear. We need to also show them that both La Bajada routes need to be open to make a historic loop.
- Paliza Canyon (Jemez District) – The road is rutted on the north end from water run-off. It could be fixed. The alternative they proposed is crap and not an equal rec experience.
- Virgin Canyon (Jemez District) – They claim that this has never been a FS road. We need to demonstrate that this is a viable route in spite of the Spotted Owl concerns.
- Rita del Indio (Cuba District) – There is one section of our proposed loops that runs in the Rita del Indio for a short way. We need to work with them to create a bypass and we need to get the rest of the routes they eliminated in the area put back in.
- Church/McMillan Canyons (Cuba District) – There doesn't seem to be any good reason for not allowing passage on this route, we need to educate them on why these routes are important and get them back in.

Second, have them identify their concerns. Write down what they say. Make them get as specific as possible. Don't take 'habitat concerns' as an answer. What species? Why? What time of year? Etc. This is the tricky part because they don't always provide a good reason ("we have to do this", "critical habitat", "water quality", "erosion", etc.). Be polite, be insistent, be inquisitive, be inventive, be patient. Don't take 'no' for an answer!

Third, work toward identifying a sustainable solution. Can we reroute around the area of concern? Would a seasonal closure minimize concerns? Can we do some sort of 'construction' to lessen the impact? Make sure they know that we are ready, able, and willing to work hard to keep these routes open. That means labor, helping them write grant applications for money, etc. Be polite but keep working it! Thanks!

Mark – Your DEA

NM 4-Wheeler of the Year

By Joan & Mark Wolf

Frank G. Whiston was chosen by fellow club members as the 2008 New Mexico 4-Wheeler of the Year. During the past year, Frank has led runs, organized overnights, served as VP/Sheriff, and even managed to grow the club (baby Rebecca was born in March). As a member of the NM4W 50th Anniversary Committee, Frank designed the “Trail Riding for Half A Century” logo. He also designed a logo for the NM4W-hosted Rocky Mountain Rendezvous (aka, the 2008 Salida Summer Quarterly) and helped organize the event.

Also very important, Frank attended meetings and submitted written comments pertaining to the federal government’s Travel Management Plans. Frank expressed his concern and suggested alternatives to road closure issues in the Jemez and other areas that could become off-limits to four-wheeling.

Outgoing 2007 NM4W President, Lauri Rector, noted that several other members received multiple votes. This included Justin Simenson for his outstanding contributions to NM4W’s 50th anniversary commemoration, Mark Werkmeister for his tireless efforts on travel management plan issues, and Mark Wolf for all-around participation.

Frank’s enthusiasm and leadership make him an asset to NM4W and the larger four-wheeling community.

Congratulations, Frank, as you join this illustrious group previous New Mexico 4-Wheelers of the Year:

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



Movies, Madness, and My Backyard What to do in this trying economy?

By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Ambassador

Fuel prices are killing us. Everything is costing more than ever before. Event attendance is down. Off-road businesses are going under. Folks are withdrawing into different (new) ways of recreating. What does this mean, and how do we cope with this trying economy and still pursue our recreational activities?

I'd like to offer a few ideas and suggestions to help during these tough times. First of all, we can't lose sight of the fact that we need to recreate or we'll go nuts. Second, we can't let our favorite off-road businesses go under without trying to help them. And third, there are things we can do and still consider it recreating – maybe a bit closer to home.

Recreate or Break:

One definition of “recreate” is to restore, add new life, refresh, and to create anew in body and mind. If you break the word into syllables, you see that it means to re-create something – us! It's easy to see how someone can “break” if they work too much and play too little. We all have a need to do something fun – recreational – in order to keep our head about us.

So I suggest that even during these trying times, we **keep recreation on our list of things to do – daily**. Even just a walk in the park will help. Something fun should be part of your day and your weekend.

OHV Businesses Need Us:

A thriving OHV business helps us keep our sports alive and our rigs running. In many cases, businesses are big contributors to our land use and access fights as well. We need them and they need us. So if they start to fail because we're not buying parts, then we jeopardize our future to some extent. We need to find that middle ground and help folks stay afloat that are helping us keep our recreation alive.

Yes, many Americans are cutting back – on everything. And that's a smart thing to do when you have to have a loan officer to buy a tank of diesel. But I suggest we cutback carefully, and still help those businesses that we can. We still need parts and we still want to make some mods and repairs to our rigs. If businesses lose too much business, then they will drop out of organizations – our organizations that help us keep our trails and riding areas open. We should not let that happen. If our organizations lose too many members and businesses, then they too will have a hard time staying afloat. Then what?

So I suggest you pick your battles carefully and you spend your money judiciously, yet **still help keep our OHV businesses and organizations alive**.

Keep your memberships to your favorite local, state, regional, and national groups. Buy from those that support us and make sense to you.

Visit bulletin boards such as www.pirate4x4.com to find out who is having troubles and who might be going under. Visit the Land Use section of any OHV web site and keep up with the issues. Chime in where you can and buy from those folks who need our help.

Keep Playing – Even if Closer to Home:

If your favorite event is not in your budget, spend your recreating time and money closer to home. Crank up your club to do more in your own backyard. Buy/rent movies that appeal to your OHV side. Visit and buy from websites like www.outbackusa.com that have a nice selection of videos, maps, and guidebooks. Use these to plan your future recreation. Sometimes the planning is as much fun as the doing.

Watch your favorite TV show about motorsports. Invite friends over of a like mind and enjoy outdoor recreation in the comfort of your own home. Have them bring their rigs over. Do a show and shine. Heck, just wash them as a group. Make a fun day of it. Just don't park it and forget it. **Get out there and do something. Be creative.** Have a parade close to home. Go park and cruise like we did back in the American Graffiti days – but include your OHV toys.

In Closing:

Don't slip into a workaholic (all work and no play) attitude when money is tight. Rather consider your options and find new things to do; or new ways to do old things. Get out there. **Do something to help us keep our sport alive, even when the tide is ripping at us.** Tides change; as will this one. Our future is still good. Our sports are critical to our sanity. Keep them alive. Keep yourself healthy.

The BlueRibbon Coalition and several off-road businesses sponsor Del Albright, 4x4 Ambassador. BRC is a national recreation group that champions responsible use of public and private lands, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1200 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. Call 1-800-258-3742 and visit BRC online at www.sharetrails.org. Also visit Del's website at www.delalbright.com.

Glenn & Jan Bontly

<p>Married 10 Sep 08</p>	
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	For Sale	
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Jeep Ski Rack & Bike Rack: Ski rack mounts on a factory rear tire; bike rack mounts in any 1" or 2" receiver hitch. Best offer. Call Tim Nash at 505-892-5771.

Jeep TJ Full Doors: I haven't used these doors in years! They are just taking up space in my garage. Red with gray interior trim. They are in good condition (just a little bit of "pin striping"). Asking \$750 for the pair. Call Glenn Bontly at 505-249-1127.

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.

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

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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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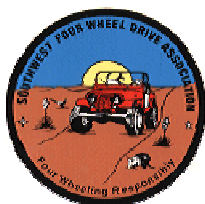
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Oct 3 – 5	Jemez Fall Campout	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Oct 9	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Oct ???	La Mosca Peak Run	Call Pat Brady	505-898-6449
Oct ???	Pecos Elk Mountain Run	Call Justin Simenson	505-299-6982

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



November 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From October 9, 2008

by Jeanne Meier



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

Guests: Gary Kehler, and Art and Betty Peerman.

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Leon Duggar, Erwin Greven, Andy Hurt, Tom Hurt, Keith & Linda Jurey, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Chuck & Ethel May Peeples, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Phil Rodacy, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Paul & Mary Thompson, Jan Waugh, Mark Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Frank R. & Donna Whiston, Mark Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

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

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$5,146.31.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: There were no fines from trips, but a donation fine was paid by Jeff Boggs for leaving an electrical cable at the Search and Rescue training, then not picking it up for several meetings. The points system was reviewed for visitor and members.

Director of Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark indicated that he would like copies of any comments sent to the Forest Service related to the different travel management plans so he can be sure they were all included.

The Forest Service would like to have volunteers to adopt or monitor certain sites and roads. This could help gain or keep access to areas with environmental or cultural considerations. It was also indicated that if a problem with a road is identified, the GPS coordinates should be given to the appropriate Forest Service district so they can get the problem repaired as soon as possible.

Mt Taylor Cibola Ranger District has released their proposed travel management plan with maps and roads. This starts the period for comments which must be done before November 8th. There are two types of comments, specific or administrative.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- Sep 26-28, Red River Run: Tom Hurt reported there were 8 vehicles and the highlight was a 3am serenade from a bull elk

- Oct 3rd - 5th, Jemez Campout: Frank G. arranged to take Mike Dechter and Linda Riddle from the Forest Service on a run to Virgin Canyon on Friday. This road is not on their proposed management plans, and was apparently not added to their maps when it was created. One issue is it goes through a Spotted Owl habitat. They appeared open to considering it with a possible closure during breeding season. The Saturday run went north around Valles Caldera and then into Espanola. There were 5 groups that camped out and about 14 jeeps over the two days.

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Oct 11th, La Mosca Peak - 50th Anniversary: Pat Brady suggested two possible routes and the club members indicated they preferred the longer route through Cuba. The other route did not involve any 4WD roads.
- Oct 18th, Pecos Aspencade – 50th Anniversary: Justin Simenson announced the trip would leave from the Santa Fe Outlet Mall at 9:00 am.
- Nov 1st, Christmas Benefit Breakfast: See information on club website Schedule Page. Chuck Peebles indicated this breakfast is to raise funds for Los Lunas cancer patients. They accept toys for children or cash donations. Frank R. made a motion that the club provide a donation of \$150 from the amount budgeted for community projects. Motion carried. Club members are encouraged to attend and bring a toy.
- December: A leader for the Christmas tree run is needed.

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul was not there, but Jan Bontly sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle. Club shirts, stickers, and anniversary shirts were available for sale.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Jan asked that people continue to send pictures of club related events.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn indicated guests need to sign up on the club website if interested in joining the club.

Old Business:

New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA) - Mark Werkmeister indicated that NMOHVA needs a current club membership roster.

Christmas Meeting – Glenn Bontly suggested that the Christmas party be on Sunday instead of Friday or Saturday night to avoid conflicts with peoples' company parties. This was approved by the membership (and hosts Phil & Ilene Rodacy). It will be on Sunday, Dec 14th at 4:00 pm.

2009 Calendar – Frank G. indicated that a sample calendar was being passed around and he would like any comments from the members. He still needs pictures for March and December, and would like to use a picture of the group for July if anyone had one.

United 4 Wheel Drive – Paul Thompson indicated he was submitting the club membership for 2008 along with 8 individual members. The discount for individual members is only for 2008 and in the future club members that want to join should do so at United's website and just indicate they are members of NM4W.

New Business:

NMOHVA Cookout – Mark Werkmeister indicated that NMOHVA would be having a cookout at Gordy’s Hill. Everybody should be receiving a flyer.

Emergency Response Classes – Phil Rodacy announced, for those that would like to know what to do in an emergency, Albuquerque Emergency Response team will be having their next class Oct 24 - 26 for a total of 20 hours. For more information about education and training opportunities, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 505-833-7248. Ernest Maestas is the contact. You can find information at www.cabq.gov. At the top of the site, select the option ‘A-Z’ which provides a link to Emergency Management.

New Years Rockin’ Eve – Mark Werkmeister proposed a club trip to Gordy’s Hill for New Years. Everybody thought this was a good idea, weather permitting. Stay tuned for more information.

Meeting room availability and meeting date change – Frank G. indicated that the room the club has been using for meetings at the Church will not be available on the second Thursday of the month starting in Jan 2009. The only other viable date would be the fourth Wednesday of each month. Mark Wolf made a motion the club move the meeting day to the fourth Wednesday of each month beginning in January. Motion carried.

Donation to the Church – Paul Thompson made a motion to donate \$200.00 to Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. This is being given in appreciation for the use of the room.

Jeeps West donation – Mark Wolf indicated that Jeeps West must pay \$450 for the use of the facility we use at McGaffey Lake. He suggested that since we have not been able to reciprocate an event, we could make a contribution to defray part of this expense. The club passed a motion that we donate \$300.00 to Jeeps West.

SW4WDA Event Chairman – Leon Duggar announced that Cliff Meier would be taking over as the SW Event Chairman (this is the big raffle at the Chile Challenge). Leon was thanked for all his work.

Future Hosts are:

November	Frank and Beth Whiston
Christmas	Phil & Ilene Rodacy
January	Justin & Rebecca Simenson
February	Keith & Linda Jurey
March	Mark & Joan Wolf
April	Cliff & Jeanne Meier

Frank thanked Russ Kaz and Glenna Giboney for providing the refreshments for the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. The 50/50 raffle raised \$92.00, the winner (Russ Kaz) got \$46.00.



President’s Report By Frank G. Whiston

What a busy October for the club! We had the Jemez Campout, the La Mosca run, The Pecos Aspencades, and a group on the White Rim Trail. Surely with all of this, we ought to have an

interesting report from the Trip Chair and Sheriff at the next meeting. With the Holidays just around the corner, I will expect that things will slow down as we spend time with our families. Hopefully, we can re-gain this momentum next spring and have more club runs. As I was putting together the club calendar for 09, I was researching pictures and attempting to match the picture on the calendar page with the month that it was taken. That actually worked fairly well for the most part, but springtime seemed to be the hardest. Wouldn't it be great to be able to say that the club has a run at least once a month? This is not too far from being true and a goal that is easily within reach.

Fall Jemez Campout

By Frank G. Whiston

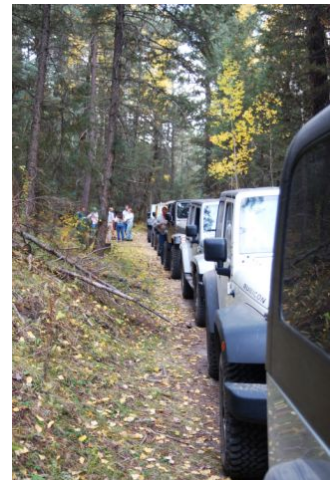
October 3-5, 2008



When our Director of Environmental Affairs (DEA) made a plea for help from the club to help influence the Forest Service (FS) by arranging field trips, I thought that this would tie in well with a camping trip that I was already trying to plan for the month of October. Mark had suggested several trails that should be visited, so I picked Virgin Canyon since I figure that the Whiston family probably knows this road as well as anyone in the club. I also wanted to show my family and the club a route that I do not think that they have taken which skirts the West and

North boundaries of the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

As we slowly negotiated the washboard on the north end of FR376 to reach our campsite on Thursday afternoon, a group of 4 deer crossed the road in front of us and into the beautiful yellow aspen trees. We proceeded on to see several RV's in the meadow just above our planned campsite, which seemed odd so late in the season. When we pulled off of the main road and saw porta-potties set up, we knew something was up. Turns out, the New Mexico Trials Association (motorcyclists) was holding an event there that weekend. So we went ahead and set up camp next to them.



Friday, we met up with Mike Dechter and Linda Riddle from the Jemez Ranger Station to visit Virgin Canyon. Members present included Paul Thompson, Phil Rodacy, Erwin and Jeanne Greven, and the whole Whiston family. We also had guests Ron Ward and Dave Gill with his two children along. It was a gorgeous day and our first stop was to discuss the Brown 938F marker at the beginning of the road down Virgin Canyon. There we talked about the Mexican Spotted Owl,

which is claimed to be the FS reason for closing this road. A seasonal closure was discussed for the mating season of the bird, which the FS seemed to be receptive to as an alternative in the DEIS. Just minutes later, we ran into a closed and locked gate. Mr. Dechter did not know why it was closed, but he opened it and we proceeded on. Minutes later, we paused to watch a rather large group of turkey cross in front of us (advantage of being the leader). Further down the canyon, we came across a downed tree and were able to show the FS a little on-the-spot user maintenance. We drove all the way to the large

deadfall that prevents 4WD vehicles from further progress, and had lunch. As we exited, Mr. Dechter closed and locked the gate behind us. I hope that this was not the last time I drive that road; it is such a beautiful area. On the way out, I took the FS to a couple of areas to consider for dispersed camping near Cibolita Springs.

When we returned to camp, we had been surrounded by the Trials group. Cliff and Jeanne Meier had arrived. We all had dinner as we watched more Trials riders pour in. While at the campfire, guests Kevin and Nate Rolfe showed up in their Scout II.

Saturday morning, members Chris Sears, Jeff Atchison and his girlfriend Gina, and Jan Waugh showed up to join us on the drive. At 9:00 am sharp, we pulled out of camp knowing that it was going to be a long day. Just as we left, a silver JK (Thomas and Tommy Sandoval) and a green YJ (Alan Blazek) were coming down the road towards us. They quickly made a U-turn and filed in line to join us for the day. We hit FR144 and saw lots of yellow aspen. Although not all of the trees had turned, some had already lost their leaves, so I think that our timing was pretty good.



As the road turned to the East, we headed to Poacher’s Point, which provides a spectacular view into the Valle Grande and even the Sandia Mountains in the distance. It was very cold and windy, so we headed into the trees for lunch. After lunch, we followed a ridge up to nearly 11,000 ft elevation with views to the North looking down on Abiquiu Lake. Again, the trip leader saw a group of turkey. The road continued on through some of the area that burned in the Cerro Grande fire. We saw a lot of scrub oak and aspen trees growing back, so the area is in rebound. As we dropped into the Espanola Valley, we had a grand view of the southern end of the Sangre De Christos. A jaunt through Los Alamos back to camp via NM4 completed our ~110 mile loop.

Back at camp, it started to rain and it ended up raining all night. Sunday morning, we all cleaned up, broke camp, and headed home. It was a great weekend!

Aspencade Run
By Justin Simenson

October 18, 2008

While putting together the 50th Anniversary book, I learned of a trail that the club ran almost annually.



The club called it their “Aspencade”. The trail was not always the same, but it was always during the time of the year when the aspen’s were changing from summer green to early winter gold. The photo that really stuck with me was of the Aspencade of 1975, when the club went to Elk Mountain.

I found a map with the trail highlighted. The old trail followed Willow Creek for about 10 miles and then there were a series of switchback that lead to the ridge. The road then follows the ridge over to the peak. But when I pulled out my current map, I realized the trail had been rerouted. The new trail was further south and no longer followed the creek, but does reconnect with the old trail at the switch backs. I was glad to see that the trail was rerouted

instead of closed and gone forever. The Tuesday before, the Pecos area got blasted with an early winter storm. The weather cleared up and it was forecasted to be in the high 60's for our trip.

We meet at the Outlet Mall in Santa Fe at 9:00 am. By the time I arrived, there were four vehicles waiting (Mark and Joan Wolf; Phil Rodacy; Tommy Sandoval, his wife, and dad and mom; & Tony Louderbaugh). Tim and Pat Nash showed up to make our group six vehicles. Everyone was in good spirits and ready for the day. I passed around flyers about the trail and let everyone know where we would be headed.

We topped off our tanks in Pecos and headed up to the air down spot at Willow Creek campground. After everyone was ready, we set off up the trail. All along the road, the campsites were full of eager hunters. As we made our way higher, the colors were fantastic and the views just kept getting better with every turn. On the north facing slopes, we would see snow hiding under the trees. The road narrowed as we climbed, and by the time we meet the original alignment of the trail, the road was not much wider than our Jeeps.

By the time we made it to the ridge, we had clear views of Santa Fe Baldy, Pecos Baldy, and Redonda Peak. Along the ridge, we saw a lot more snow, and to our south (down the canyon) we saw the aftermath of a fire. The fire had passed through the area five years ago and had come up to the top of the ridge, but did not cross. As I drove along, all I could think about was how this must have been such a great victory. To stop a fire of that size along such a narrow ridge must have been a great feat.



From the peak we could see the back of the Sandia Mountains to the south, and almost to Colorado to the north. The skies were clear and blue. The wind was cold and we decided not to eat lunch on the exposed peak. I found a little spot just below the peak where there was plenty of trees to protect us. The



trees did their job well and we soaked up the sun as we ate. The wildlife was also on a lunch break, because while we drove back to the ridge road, there was a small group grazing along the road. We stopped and watched them as they cautiously fed on the grass. We also spotted some deer running through the woods as we tried to find an old abandoned mine. As we headed down back to Willow Creek campground, we also came across a rafter of turkey.

This trail had a little bit of everything: colorful aspens, mud, snow, wildlife, grand views, mountain streams, the Pecos River, and an 11,166' peak. Rebecca grew up here, but I have just recently fallen in love with this area and plan to spend as much time as I can with Rebecca and our fly rods and tent. I think Mark Wolf said it best when he said "those who missed out, MISSED OUT!"



On October 12, 1975 the New Mexico 4-Wheelers visited Elk Mountain. Entitled the "Aspencade" because the aspens were in full display. The trail followed Willow Creek from the Pecos River up to the peak.

Since then the lower portion of the trail has been closed and an alternate route just south of the creek has been made. There has also been fires around the peak, leaving huge canyon's still bare.



date

10/18/08

location

**ELK MOUNTAIN,
PECOS WILDERNESS**

Remembering 50 years of off-roading in New Mexico

Trip to La Mosca Peak – 50th Anniversary Recap

By Mark Wolf



On Saturday, October 11, 2008, Pat & Sue Brady led us on a recap run of La Mosca Peak and Lookout near Mt. Taylor. This was a great run! Six vehicles gathered at our usual meeting location in Rio Rancho at Highways 528 & 550 at 8:30 am. Justin Simenson, Keith & Linda Jurey, Jan Waugh, Frank & Beth Whiston, and Joan and I joined them for this spectacular run. Pat wisely decided to make a full day of it and led us in from the north and west sides of the peak. Besides, Interstate 40 was not built when the club originally did this run in 1958! Modern vehicles are capable of a little more speed and ride a whole lot better these days, and therefore this was a good day's run. The weather must have kept more four wheelers out for the day as storms were predicted due to a hurricane breaking up over Mexico and heading our way for the day. However, it did not deter or really even bother

us.

After a short driver's meeting, Pat & Sue headed for San Ysidro and then west about 15 miles to the turn off to Cabezon Peak. We turned south there for about 5 miles and then headed southwest through a valley that looked like something out of a movie. ONE ranch is all we saw, but the views were spectacular! We finally got on top of a mesa and the views didn't stop there! All day the storms seemed to steer around us, except for lunchtime. Just as Pat stopped, the skies let loose with a light rain that lasted for all of about 45 minutes. It really didn't do much more than make a little mud. Our STOCK Grand Cherokee had no trouble whatsoever. Lunch was good and a little conversation made it go quick.



We then headed south towards the turn off for La Mosca Peak and Lookout. By the time we got to the turnoff, the rain had stopped. The air was chilly, but not really freezing. We had been blessed with beautiful views the entire trip, and now were starting to get close to the aspen trees and their bright yellow and orange leaves. The higher we went, the more color we got into. We stopped at an overlook of a canyon (forgot the name!) to take some pictures of the spectacular view. The wind was howling up out of the canyon below as we took our pictures. You surely didn't have to worry about falling over the edge as the wind wouldn't let you! Some of the

people had seen snow just prior to our stop here, but we're not sure they were seeing what they thought they did. I mean, it was cold, but not that cold! After a couple of pictures, we all got back into our vehicles and completed our climb to the top of the ridge that held the lookout.

When we arrived at the top of the Lookout ridge, the wind was blowing strong and the clouds were keeping our sight distance relatively short. Some people refused to get out of their cars (right, Jan?! and Justin?!, who had shorts on!), but some of us did and we took what pictures we could. The lookout had been boarded up for hopefully just the winter, but it was a spectacular site to see. We turned around and headed south towards Grants, NM.



The trip down was uneventful and the weather only got better as we traveled further down the mountain. We stopped for one last break before our air up spot and stretched our legs. Justin's dog Buster and Susie's dog Taylor had to find out how much they could tolerate each other. Taylor didn't want to play, but Buster did! After a short round of conversation, we loaded up again and traveled down to where the road turned to pavement. Just prior, Pat stopped and let us air up our tires (thanks, Pat!).



Within a few minutes we were in Grants and then on the freeway heading to Albuquerque. The most common site of the day was Pinon pickers! Man, those people were out in droves! They outnumbered the hunters by a long shot. Some of our group even got involved to capture a few. They were not as dedicated and only got a few, but they had fun.

It was a great run, but I was a little disappointed to see so few people out for such an important anniversary event. Thanks to those that did show and for those who missed out, you really missed it!



For Sale



Jeep Ski Rack & Bike Rack: Ski rack mounts on a factory rear tire; bike rack mounts in any 1" or 2" receiver hitch. Best offer. Call Tim Nash at 505-892-5771.

Jeep TJ Full Doors: I haven't used these doors in years! They are just taking up space in my garage. Red with gray interior trim. They are in good condition (just a little bit of "pin striping"). Asking \$700 for the pair. Call Glenn Bontly at 505-249-1127.

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.

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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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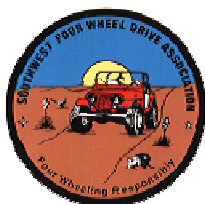
Schedule of Events

Date(s):	Event:	For More Information:	Phone:
Nov 1	Christmas Benefit Breakfast	Call Chuck Peeples	505-866-1185
Nov 13	Club Meeting at the Church	Call Frank Whiston	505-292-1541
Dec 14	Club Christmas Party	Call Phil & Ilene Rodacy	505-293-2668

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



December 1, 2008

Official Newsletter of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org

Meeting Minutes

From November 13, 2008

by Jeanne Meier



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

Guests: Thomas Sandoval, Tommy Sandoval, Dave Gill, Randall Scott, Nick Kestenbaum, Cody Hall, and Heath Hislop.

Members Present: Jeff Boggs, Glenn & Jan Bontly, Pat and Sue Brady, Paul Caskey, Keith Chapin, Rance Cochrane, Leon Duggar, Erwin Greven, Andy Hurt, Tom Hurt, Russ Kaz & Glenna Giboney, Keith & Linda Jurey, Jason Lavy, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bob Norton, Jeff & Lauri Rector, Chris Sears, Justin Simenson, Bob Telepak, Paul & Mary Thompson, Jan Waugh, Frank G. & Beth Whiston, Joe Wilson, Mark and Joan Wolf, and Tahoe & Suzanne Zahn.

Secretary's Report- Jeanne Meier: The October 2008 meeting minutes approved as published in the November newsletter. The latest membership rosters were sent to SW4WDA and NMOHV after the October meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Thompson: The current bank balance was \$4,234.94.

VP Report – Cliff Meier: Cliff indicated he had received a report following the La Mosca Peak run, which generated two fines. Pat Brady's truck emission was 'stinking' and then Justin Simenson went through a water hole that had been used by cattle giving his jeep a 'stock yard' odor. Justin was in the rear, so the odor was only an issue on stops, but since Pat was the leader, there was some trading of spots for the second spot in line. Russ Kaz received two fines, earned during the White Rim Trail run. The first fine was for doing environmental damage with a seal leak, and the second was for trying to hide the evidence. The points system was reviewed for visitors and members.

Director Environmental Affairs Report – Mark Werkmeister: Mark was ill and did not submit a report for the meeting.

Trip Chairman's Report – Russ Kaz:

Past Events:

- Oct 11th La Mosca Peak - 50th Anniversary
- Oct 18th Pecos Elk Mtn – 50th Anniversary
- Nov 1st Valencia Christmas Benefit breakfast

Upcoming Events: Check the website for details.

- Nov 22nd NM4W Holiday Food Drive -- Roadrunner Food Bank
- Dec 7th Christmas Tree Run

- Dec 14th Christmas Party
- Jan 1 Rockin' New Years Eve at Gordy's Hill – Socorro

Program Chairman's Report – Paul Caskey: Paul sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle. Club shirts, stickers, and anniversary shirts were available for sale.

Historian's Report - Jan Waugh: Jan asked that people continue to send pictures of club-related events.

Webmaster & Editor's Report – Glenn Bontly: Glenn indicated guests need to sign up on the club website if interested in joining the club.

Old Business:

- Christmas Party – Carlos and Laurye Tanner offered their home for the Christmas Party December 14th at 4:00 pm. This was originally to be at the Rodacy's, but they are moving for a temporary assignment for Phil's job. There are maps to the Tanner's home on the website (Member's Only Page). Frank Whiston had some maps printed out and they were passed around. The Christmas party is a pot luck and gift exchange. Donations for Toys for Tots will be accepted also. A motion was made that the club provide \$100.00 toward the purchase of meat; motion carried.
- 2009 Calendar – Frank G Whiston indicated that a sample calendar was available. Enough members had signed up so the club could get the \$11.00 per calendar price. There was a sign-up sheet if anyone else wanted to place an order. Calendars can also be purchased directly from Café Press, but the price is \$14.95. Mark Wolf made a motion the club pay for the calendars and then collect the money when the order arrives; motion carried.
- Holiday Community Service – No one has volunteered for this and club members felt it was now too late to make any plans. A donation was made to the Los Lunas breakfast fundraiser, and the remaining budgeted amount can be retained for some future event.

New Business:

- SW4WD Raffle Tickets – Cliff Meier announced that the raffle tickets for Chile Challenge were now available. Cliff has assumed the Event Chairman role from Leon Duggar. Cliff indicated he had 7000 tickets and encouraged members to take some books. The money will be collected when the stubs are returned. Questions were asked about the prizes and Cliff read a list of last year's prizes. However, the 2008 prizes won't be known until closer to Chile Challenge.

Future Meeting Hosts are:

Christmas	Carlos and Laurye Tanner
January	Justin & Rebecca Simenson
February	Keith & Linda Jurey
March	Mark & Joan Wolf
April	Cliff & Jeanne Meier

Frank and Beth Whiston were thanked for providing the refreshments for the meeting. Meeting adjourned. The 50/50 raffle raised \$122.00, the winner Bob Telepak got \$61.00.



President's Report

By Frank G. Whiston

December already! The 2009 Club Calendars are in, so if you have not picked up your pre-ordered calendars yet, get with me. I will have them at the Christmas party. If you missed out on the pre-order, it is not too late. I have added the calendar to the NM4W online store at Café Press. <http://www.cafepress.com/nm4w>.

Have you noticed the prices at the pumps? Beth was looking at our oldest daughter's (Kimberly) baby book and noted that the prices have dropped to the same level that they were when she was born, 4 years ago! So, let's get out on the trail! Right now it costs less than half what it did back in July. Don't be shy, plan a trip. We are all pretty laid back, so if you need a little help from someone who has led trips before, just ask. I am sure that they will be willing to help.

Happy Holidays!

Member Spotlight: Glenn & Jan Bontly

By Joan Wolf

Question: How did you hear about New Mexico Four Wheelers?

Answer: I found you on the Web.



So goes the Q&A when visitors introduce themselves at NM4W meetings. Due to Glenn Bontly's skill and dedication as Webmaster, the New Mexico 4-Wheeler's website draws people in. Glenn designed the website eight years ago and keeps it informative, fresh, and fun. The website communicates that NM4W is a progressive, active, family-friendly organization.

It seems like Glenn has been a club member forever, but it was 1999 when he transferred to Kirtland Air Force Base and joined NM4W. Glenn bought his TJ (his first Jeep) two years prior to that (while stationed in Ohio), and recalls his first off-road trip. "The TJ was bone stock. They drug me through half the trail on the end of a tow strap. It was cold and wet (a typical November in Ohio), and a two-hour drive back to Dayton after the ride. At the end of a long, miserable day, all I could ask was, 'When's the next trip?'" Just a few years ago, Jan experienced her first four-wheeling adventure--at Gordy's Hill. She liked Jeeping right away, especially navigating rock obstacles.

Glenn grew up in New Orleans and was commissioned in the Air Force in 1982. During his 20-year career, he was stationed in Arizona, Alabama, Texas, Ohio, and New Mexico. Glenn flew as a T-38 Instructor Pilot for four years, then moved into Information Management, and finally to Contracts Management after obtaining his MBA at Auburn University. Now retired from active duty, he

currently works for Tecolote Research, managing \$5B worth of defense contracts for the Missile Defense Agency's Airborne Laser Program.

Jan (she became Ms. Bontly in September) is a transplant from Syracuse, New York. She is still amazed that in New Mexico it can snow in the morning and melt by 10 a.m. No shoveling or windshield scraping required! Jan works as a Collections Officer for U.S. New Mexico Federal Credit Union. She is knowledgeable about vehicle, mortgage, personal, and home equity loans. Jan says, "You have to be a creative financial advisor and try to determine what is best for both the credit union and for the member. We don't want to repossess vehicles unless absolutely necessary."

Their blended family includes Stephen (21), and Brandon (17). The other "kids" are cats Howard, Maude, Monkey, and PITA (which stands for "Pain In The Ass").

In May 07, Glenn and Jan moved into a beautiful home at the southern edge of Belen. They've taken on many home improvements themselves, everything from painting the entire interior of the house, running 290 feet of electrical wiring throughout their yard, and building retaining walls. With their nifty John Deere tractor (my husband is soooooo envious), they're working on landscaping their 1 acre property, and recently spread 46 tons of crusher fines! They love the quiet country living and are thrilled to have plenty of level ground to park the camper, trailer, tractor, etc.



For relaxation, they enjoy camping, traveling, motorcycling, ATV-ing, and most anything outdoors. In October, they took a fabulous honeymoon trip to the Riviera Maya, Mexico (south of Cancun). Glenn is also an avid remote control (RC) airplane & helicopter pilot, and also maintains the website for the local RC group, the Belen Area Radio Controllers (www.flybelen.com).



For the Bontlys, four-wheeling is all about Colorado and camping. They especially like the scenery, mines, and history of the Silverton and Salida areas. Iron Chest is one of Glenn's favorite trails because of the technical challenges and the intriguing mining remnants at trail's end. At the 2008 Salida Summer Quarterly, Glenn led Iron Chest and Mt. Antero runs. Jan recalls being overwhelmed the first time she went on her favorite trail, Black Bear Pass. "All I could see over the Jeep's hood was the view of Telluride waaay below, but no road to get there! I was in awe, and when Mary Thompson asked how it was, I let out a few expletives over the radio." Colorado trails can do that to a person.

Having lived in different areas of the U.S., Glenn says, "The Southwest is paradise, especially for four-wheeling." Many Westerners don't understand that wide-open public lands are not universal. In Ohio, for example, there are very few public trails. Beyond that, you must go to privately-owned parks—and pay!"

Their '97 TJ has logged more than 100,000 miles and was Glenn's daily driver for many years. It's built to handle the moderate-to-hard rockcrawling trails that he prefers. He pondered bigger tires, but realized that 35-inchers are just fine for what he enjoys. So other than needing new fenders recently, the red TJ with lotsa cool stickers is pretty much complete. Glenn has detailed all of the many modifications to the Jeep on his personal web site at www.webejeepin.com. This writer can't begin to distill the information...

Though a capable vehicle and challenge trails are important, it's the club camaraderie that completes the four-wheeling experience. Glenn appreciates having others available for help and guidance. He says, "The Jeep club is my family. People will drop whatever they're doing to help out. When I was having a problem with my truck transmission, I called Chuck Peoples just to see if he knew of a reputable transmission shop, and next thing I know Chuck's all over it. And when Jeff & Lauri Rector needed help building their workshop, we had a roof-raising. When Justin Simenson was nervous about leading his first trail, I offered to take second place and help navigate." It may not be verbalized, but it's understood by actions that members are there for each other.

In addition to being Webmaster Extraordinaire, Glenn has faithfully produced the monthly Trail Tails newsletter for six years. He appreciates that members provide input, and gains satisfaction from the feedback he receives about both the website and the newsletter. Lucky for the club, Glenn still enjoys being Webmaster and Editor, and isn't ready to give up the positions anytime soon.



A long-time motorcyclist, Glenn and Jan sometimes ride their Suzuki Boulevard on local road trips with Chuck and Ethyl May. But mostly the motorcycle is Glenn's commuter vehicle. He says, for fuel alone, it cost him approximately five times as much to operate the Big White Truck. After riding a Gold Wing for nearly 10 years, Glenn lost interest in motorcycle road trips, and he wondered if four-wheeling would lose its appeal. To Glenn's delight, he remains passionate about four-wheeling, "It's the socializing, seeing things you wouldn't normally see, the camping aspects, it just doesn't end."

NM4W Holiday Food Drive 2008

By Frank G. Whiston



Last year we collected canned goods at the Christmas Party to donate to Roadrunner Food Bank (<http://rrfb.org/>). The club has also made monetary donations to the food bank in the past. This year I thought that it would be fun to get involved with one of the food drives that the local media was promoting. So I sent an email out, not knowing what kind of support I would get. At the November meeting, we had a couple of members bring food donations since they would not be able to participate in the run. I was also re-assured that I would not be doing this alone as others told me that they would participate. I was a little concerned as there would be no need to shift into 4-LO for this club outing. This run is what I would call "Mall-Rated".

On Saturday, November 22 we joined KOB-TV Channel 4 at the new ABQ Uptown Shopping Center for their live broadcast. The group met up at Winrock Center to caravan over to the ABQ Uptown drop-off location. I am very impressed with the club's support! We ended up with 19 vehicles, one deserving special recognition. Tony Louderbaugh showed up with his roof and tire rack completely full of food to donate. He even had his passenger seat full! This was a true testament to the Club's tradition of giving. I think that we caught Channel 4 a little off guard, but we did get their attention with several mentions of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers on the live program (there's a video of the event coverage at <http://www.nm4w.org/videos.htm>). It was so much fun to be there along with other groups such as Cub Scouts, pre-schools, a cycling club, and various corporate groups to make our donations. It was a very heartwarming experience to be among all of these people giving to Roadrunner who distributes the food through a statewide network of over 600 emergency food pantries, group homes, low-income day care centers, shelters, soup kitchens, and six smaller, regional food banks. In turn, these organizations provide emergency food boxes, group meals, and direct distribution to approximately 240,000 low-income people each year. I personally want to thank all who supported the food drive, including those who could not attend and brought their donations to the last meeting. I think that we may have found a new annual tradition!





For Sale



Jeep Ski Rack & Bike Rack: Ski rack mounts on a factory rear tire; bike rack mounts in any 1" or 2" receiver hitch. Best offer. Call Tim Nash at 505-892-5771.

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:
Dec 7	Christmas Tree Run	Call Justin Simenson	505-299-6982
Dec 14	Club Christmas Party	Call Carlos & Laurye Tanner	505-281-0994
TBD	Rockin' New Years at Gordy's Hill	Call Mark Werkmeister	505-891-0296
Jan 28, 2009	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

