



# Trail Tales



January 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

December 9 2017

by Bobbie Moore



The meeting / Christmas Party was held at the home of Ilene & Phil Rodacy, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 6:27pm.

**GUESTS:** Marie Crites, George Szymkowski

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cheryle & Tracey Bakewell, Ross Burchard, Javier Fraga, Karen Grohman, Vicki Herst, NaDeen Jackson, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Tammy Kesler, Brian & Michele Leist, Jose Lucero, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bobbie Moore, Bob Norton, Don Owen, Bob & Carol Provance, Ilene & Phil Rodacy, Tracey Rosenberg, Don Roy, Chris Spiak, Chris Sears, Don & Sarah Walker

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –Bobbie Moore.** Meeting minutes from November were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT –Bill Bonahoom.** Not present, no report.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT –Office empty** No report

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Bill Gardner - Absent** Ross and Don gave reports

### PAST EVENTS:

Nov.10-11 **Desert Splash** Lake Havasu,Az

Nov.11 **Riley Ghost town run** Don Roy

Nov.19-23 **Thanksgiving week, Moab** Extreme crawl Bill Bonahoom

Nov.25 **After Thanksgiving Jemez run** Bill Gardner

Dec.2 **Parade Of lights** Bill Bonahoom

Dec.2 **Annual Christmas Tree run** Vincent Reed

Dec.6 **Toy Run for Rio Rancho Police Dept.** Ross Burchard

**Dec.9 Corona Exploratory** Tom Coston

**Dec 9 December meeting and club Christmas Party** Phil and Ilene Rodacy

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Dec.16 Rio Rancho Winterfest** Bill Gardner

**Dec.17 Surprise Jemez run** Bill Gardner

**Jan.1 Gordys Hill New Years run** Bill Gardner

**Jan.11 7pm 2018 NM4W monthly meeting Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Abq. N.M.**

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** Office empty No report

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracey Bakewell. No report.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Frank G. Whiston was absent. No report

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy - No report

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. - No report

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** No report

**OLD BUSINESS:** Will be discussed at Jan.2018 meeting

**NEW BUSINESS:** We voted George Szymkowski to become member. WELCOME !

**Reminder: If you have enough points to be voted on to become a member, you have to be at a meeting for that to happen.**

Thank you to Ilene & Phil Rodacy for hosting the Christmas party meeting. FUN

Next meeting will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in ABQ, on Thursday, Jan 11. at 7 PM.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 6:55 PM.

The meeting was short as we had a party to attend. A Christmas gift exchange was held, with giving and taking. Thank you to our host once again and to Tracey Bakewell for smoking the meats. Thank you also to everyone who brought all the good food.

Great way to end another NM4W year!! See you all next year. Happy 2018 to all.

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**



## **President's Report**

**By Ross Burchard**

New Mexico 4-Wheelers (NM4W) had a very productive and fun-filled year. NM4W hosted 12 monthly club meetings with winter meetings being held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church and summer meetings held at member's homes. The summer picnic/meeting was held at Oak Flat Picnic Area and the winter Holiday Party was hosted by Phil Rodacy

NM4W members participated in 22 local and regional events that supported a wide variety of community activities as listed below. These events supported state and federal agencies with trash clean-up and trail clearing, volunteer trail ambassadors, raising funds for Hurricane Harvey victims and local police officers with housing/transportation needs, purchasing protective vests for working police dogs, holiday parades, and supporting toy drives in conjunction with local police departments.

- 1 2017 Easter Jeep Safari
- 2 Chokecherry Springtime Trash Cleanup and Campout
- 3 USFS Volunteer Trail Ambassador Training
- 4 9th Annual Overland Expo West
- 5 1st Annual 4 Wheel Parts at the Butte Customer Appreciation Weekend
- 6 Grand Mesa Jeep Club's Rock Junction
- 7 New Mexico Backing the Blue Rally
- 8 Jeep Meet at Lithia Jeep in Santa Fe
- 9 Vests for New Mexico K9's Car Show and 4x4 Skills Event
- 10 Pizza and Parts with Nikki & Jennifer Ladies Event
- 11 2017 All-4-Fun
- 12 Mark's Casa Jeep Jam
- 13 The 7th Annual Four Corners 4x4 Show and Swap
- 14 NMCC All Clubs Picnic 2017
- 15 W.E. Rock Grand Nationals 2017 (Farmington)
- 16 Hurricane Harvey Relief, Fund Raising Event
- 17 Santa Fe National Forest Clean-up Day Clean Trail Grant Day
- 18 27th Annual Chile Challenge
- 19 Trail Dust Days, Tucson AZ

- 20 22nd Annual Desert Splash by Parker 4-Wheelers (AZ)
- 21 Toy Drive for Rio Rancho Police Department
- 22 Rio Rancho Winterfest

The NM4W event calendar was full of 4X4 rides during 2017. In total, 49 separate rides were hosted by NM4W trail leaders in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. This is almost one ride per week (94%). We're always looking for new trail leaders; if you're interested in leading a ride, please contact the Trail Chairman, Bill Gardner, or a Club officer.

- 1 Gordy's Hill Survey Run
- 2 Let's Explore Around Cabezon Peak
- 3 West Mesa Run
- 4 Big Game Day Explore Around Cabezon Peak
- 5 Sedona Valentine Weekend (AZ)
- 6 Cedro Peak Snow Run
- 7 Southern NM Winter Melt Down (Elephant Butte)
- 8 Gallena Mesa Exploratory
- 9 Gordy's for the Little Guys
- 10 Sunday Spring Ride -- La Ventana
- 11 West Mesa Run
- 12 Gordy's Extreme
- 13 Eureka Mesa North Jemez
- 14 First Jemez Run of the Year
- 15 Let's Explore Chama
- 16 Spring Manzano Mtn Pre-Run
- 17 Cedro Peak Snow Run
- 18 Annual Moab/Green River (Utah)
- 19 Riley Ghost Town and Area Run
- 20 Back the Blue Rally for our Law Enforcement Officers
- 21 Go Topless Day 2017
- 22 Colorado Extreme (Carnage Canyon and Independence/Patriot) (CO)
- 23 Elk springs
- 24 Cedro Peak Before the Picnic
- 25 Cuba Mesa
- 26 Mount Taylor & Laguna burger run
- 27 Jemez
- 28 North Jemez
- 29 Extreme Night Run
- 30 Fairplay Colorado (CO)
- 31 Mount Taylor & Laguna burger run
- 32 Eureka Mesa North Jemez
- 33 Gilman Tunnels Exploration
- 34 Cedro Peak Night Run After Meeting
- 35 Explore Southwest Jemez
- 36 Fall Colors Run
- 37 Gordy's Extreme
- 38 Tajique-Torreón Loop
- 39 Halloween Ride to Cerro Pelado Peak Fire Tower
- 40 Riley Ghost Town and Area Run
- 41 Thanksgiving Week Moab/Area BFE Extreme Crawl (Utah)



- 42 After Thanksgiving Jemez Run
- 43 Albuquerque Parade of Lights
- 44 Annual Christmas Tree Run
- 45 Corona Exploratory
- 46 Surprise Jemez Run
- 47 Last Jemez Ride before Winter Lockdown
- 48 Manzano Mountains Exploration
- 49 Gordy Hills New Year's Eve Ride

During the past year, NM4W members have been discussing two communication technologies that are being adopted by a number of 4X4 clubs across the US. The first is social media and the second is amateur radio (ham radio). In this report, I'll address social media. Social media websites (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) allow users to create and share electronic content with a nation-wide, or world-wide audience. Social media forums allow members and interested parties to openly discuss rides, events, and governmental land-use policies that affect the Club's 4X4 activities.

Since posting NM4W or personal information on social media is immediate and reaches a large audience, it's important to carefully manage the content. Without proper monitoring, social media can become a magnet for derogatory comments, personal attacks, and cyber-bullying. I believe social media can be an effective communications tool to share NM4W information with the general public and attract new members when appropriate policies and procedures are established to monitor and control posted information.

## **LEAD A RUN - THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



### **Vice President's Soap Box**

**By Ross Burchard**

There is no Vice President report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month. This important position is still open and desperately need to be filled. Although it is a lot of work, perhaps a couple people would be willing to share the workload?



## 2017 NM4W Christmas Party

By Ilene Rodacy

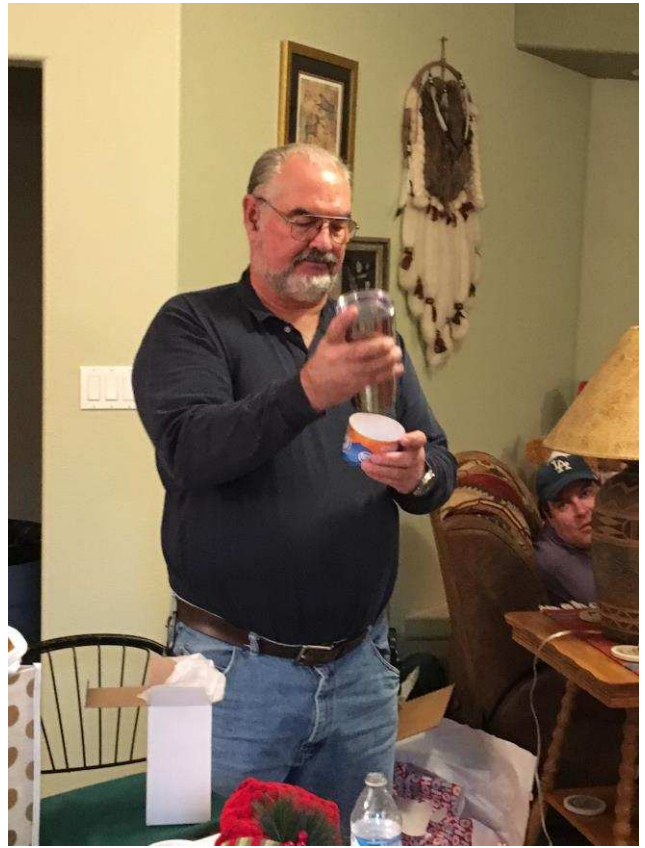
The annual New Mexico 4-Wheelers Christmas party was hosted by Phil and Ilene Rodacy at their home on Saturday, December 9. If you've never attended one of the NM4W Christmas parties you have missed out on a special treat.

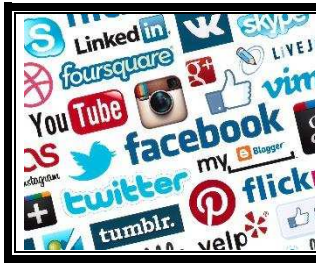


A very special thank you to Tracy for smoking the delicious turkey and brisket that was served that evening. Everyone brought their favorite side dishes or desserts to share. It was a wonderful Holiday spread. YUM !!!

A short business meeting followed the meal, and then onto a very fun Holiday gift exchange that was open to anyone who chose to participate. You're never sure what gift you'll go home with, but all of them were great. By the end of the party, everyone was covered with glitter, compliments of Christmas Carol and her sparkling tree.

If you missed the celebration this year, be sure to mark it on your calendar early for next year. You won't be disappointed!





# Thoughts on Social Media Presence

By Frank Whiston

Clubs and social media have a lot in common: they both have social interaction at the core, seek to connect people with common interests, and strive to create environments where relationships can thrive. Social media, in its various forms, can help clubs engage with their members in new ways, increase club use and expand the member experience beyond the club's physical borders.

At the same time, the prevalence and wide reach of social media can also create a new host of concerns for clubs when improperly monitored and managed. Though social media can help a club reach out to members, reaching too far into the public sphere can endanger a club's image/reputation.

With the right strategy, clubs can take advantage of the broad-based popularity of social media to support their missions and engage members, while avoiding pitfalls that could jeopardize their status and strain member relations.

Developing a strong, engaged social network of club members through social media can strengthen the member community, deepen the member-club connection and drive participation in club activities and events. When members feel they can interact with their fellow members and the club itself anytime and anywhere, it helps the club become less of just a destination and more of an ever-present community.

Creating additional avenues for member interaction catalyzes the integration of new members and makes the club more appealing to young members. Instituting a mechanism for online introductions and member interactions can help club members reach out to new recruits and make them feel welcome.

So, should NM4W fully jump on the social media bandwagon? Not exactly. While social media can provide opportunities for NM4W to connect with their members—and for

members to connect with each other—there are risks associated with managing a social media presence.

Even the most careful clubs with no social media presence of their own can wind up in the midst of a social media scandal. Members, their children and their guests can all comment about the club on Facebook, Twitter or other online forums. They can also post pictures and videos of the club, thanks to digital cameras, cell phones and YouTube.

Once information gets out to the public, through one means or another, it's difficult to delete it. This can happen whether or not a club has a social media presence of its own. Even if a negative comment doesn't appear on club-managed site or page, members and prospective members may still see it, possibly damaging the club's reputation.

Having a social media presence (or awareness) can help clubs monitor social chatter, so they know what's being said and where. In addition, clubs should also have policies and guidelines in place about responding to or participating in any online communication beyond the boundaries of the clubs' private communities. Comments may come back to bite you, but silence can be just as bad.

All interaction with the outside, online world should be measured, standardized and deliberate. Having a clear strategy can help a club control the messages reaching its members and the public at large.

When clubs create members-only Groups or Private Pages on Facebook, they are better able to control the discourse. Time permitting, a club could approve every comment, picture or video before it gets posted. This is a potentially overwhelming task if a club has a very active member network. Other options include reasonably monitoring discussions, removing posts after they've been published, requiring approval for posts from certain users, filtering for offensive language and suspending abusive users.

Just as the club has rules for member conduct on club grounds, it should have a separate set of rules for social media participation on club Facebook Pages or on other online club forums.

Most comprehensive group or forum rules will include:

- Prohibitions on advertising
- Prohibitions on personal attacks and foul language

- Signature requirements
- Cross-posting guidelines
- Administrator powers
- Personal information posting guidelines
- Disciplinary policy

To encourage participation, many groups and forums also have lists of “do’s and don’ts.”

Try to encourage discussions about club activities, create sub-groups or threads about shared interests, post photos from club events and encourage members to do the same. If the club contributes to making meaningful connections through social media, members will too.

Once a club decides whether or not to incorporate social media into its member experience, it needs to create a plan to execute.

According to data from Club Benchmarking, many clubs are already engaging with social media in one form or another: 74 percent use Facebook; 33 percent use Twitter; 22 percent use YouTube; 20 percent use some other platform, such as Instagram, Google+ or internal networking platforms; and one percent use Flickr.

Facebook is the largest social network in the world, with 1.06 billion registered users. Almost all registered users use the platform at least once a month, and, more impressively, 58 percent of them visit Facebook at least once a day. Users spend almost 30 minutes on Facebook per visit—more time than any other social media site. Facebook is also fairly popular with older users: 11 percent of all Facebook users are senior citizens, with 14.8 million senior Facebook users in the U.S.

Facebook is a diverse social networking platform with varied opportunities for engagement, including: content sharing, posting links and pictures, communicating with friends on message boards or through private messages, expanding networks and interactions through interest Groups, Page “likes” (an indication of appreciation), and even managing events.

There are different ways clubs can approach creating a Facebook presence:

### **Facebook Pages**

Many organizations will create a Facebook Page. A “Page” is basically a landing page for an organization or business. Typical activities include encouraging users to “like” the Page or individual posts and making comments on posts.

*Privacy:* Page information and posts are public and generally available to everyone on Facebook. The club cannot control who visits the Page or who sees the information posted there. Pages have very few privacy options, which can endanger a club’s image/reputation.

*Audience:* Anyone can “like” a Page, become connected with it, and get news feed updates. There is no limit to how many people can “like” a Page.

*Communication:* Clubs can still have a Facebook Page, but the information must be very limited and carefully controlled. As a club, anything that can be considered even passive or informational advertising can endanger the club’s image/reputation. The Facebook Page should function just like the front page of a club’s website: It should have very limited information, such as a brief “About

Us” statement and an attractive image; it should not include information about club events, activities, membership or banquet services.

Page administrators (admins) can share posts under the Page’s name, and Page posts appear in the news feeds of people who “like” the Page. Page admins can also create customized apps for their Pages and check Page Insights (metrics) to track growth and activity.

**When considering which settings to use on the club’s Facebook Page, the club should realistically evaluate how much time staff members could devote to moderation. If it’s unlikely that the club will be able to monitor its Page regularly, the club should disable posting by any users other than admins.** If the club does decide to allow posting by non-admin users, it must be sure to monitor the Page. Otherwise, the Page could become a platform for online fights or digital vandalism, and the club might not realize it for days—or until a club member complains.

I believe that having a NM4W Facebook Page can be a very positive thing for the club. Remember, we enjoy having a very comprehensive website that is above and beyond what most clubs have. This should be used to our advantage to draw new members to the club and our website using social media. Many of us who bring up the club to folks we meet are asked if we have a Facebook Page. Also, we have a number of members who don’t do Facebook, so this should not be viewed as a replacement to the website, just an enhancement.

## **Facebook Groups**

Facebook Groups are forums for social groups, organizations or businesses that allow postings and discussions. A Group lets clubs manage who comes together to interact and discuss topics.

*Privacy:* Groups have multiple privacy options, enabling Group admins to select and manage those who can join the group and participate in conversations—functioning in a similar manner to a private club. There are three privacy options for Facebook Groups:

*Open:* Anyone on Facebook can see and join the Group. Open Groups will appear in search results and all content that members post (comments, photos, videos and files) is visible to anyone viewing the Group. Other users may see when an individual joins or is invited to an open Group in news feeds or searches.

*Closed:* Anyone on Facebook can see the Group name, members and people invited to join. Only members can see posts in the Group. A Group member may add or invite new members to the Group, or nonmembers can ask admins for permission to join. Other users may see when a person joins or is invited to a closed Group in news feeds or searches.

*Secret:* Nonmembers can’t find these Groups in searches nor can they see anything about the Group, including its name and member list. The name of the Group will not display on the timelines of Facebook members. To join a secret Group, people must be added by a Group admin.

**Having an open Group is like having a club with no membership requirements.** No private club should have an open Group, as it can significantly endanger the club’s private status. Secret Groups, on the other hand, provide clubs and their members with a forum for safe, private and protected open conversation. Posts by individuals in secret Groups will not appear on timelines, in news feeds or in



searches. No one outside of the Group will be able to find any information on Group discussions or activities—protecting the club, its members and its private status.

*Audience:* With secret Groups, the club admin has complete control of who is in the Group and who may post.

*Communication:* In Groups, members receive notifications when posts are published. Group members can participate in chats, upload photos to shared albums, collaborate on documents and invite members who are “Friends” to Group events. Group admins can also upload and share individual photos, curate photo albums and videos, and invite Group members to events. Group members can also send private messages to others in the Group, regardless of “Friend” status.

Secret Groups are great platforms for internally advertising events and club functions to club members. Clubs can also create sub-Groups for special events, certain activities, special interest groups or “mini-clubs” within the club to encourage socialization and discussion on specific topics.

As Group admins, club staff should strive to keep a forum for member interaction on the Group page through regular posts and discussions. Adding multiple response and “like” options to posts can help keep members engaged and active in the conversation without requiring a lot of time or effort.

As with all social media, Group admins should carefully monitor members’ posts in accordance with the established Group rules. Admins have the ability to remove discussion threads, posts, pictures and files at their discretion.

Social media’s popularity impacts us all. People are connecting with friends, brands and companies in new, often very personalized, ways. If clubs are careful to manage their privacy settings and the discourse on their forums, social media can provide a powerful tool to expand the member experience—encouraging member engagement, driving member attendance at club events, and enriching member relationships.

Please consider this as the club considers how to engage in social media. I expect this to be a topic at the January club meeting.





## Another Plea to Trip Leaders And other NM4W Members

By Phil Rodacy

As most of you know, at our monthly meetings and in a monthly e-mail, I ask that members submit trip reports and other articles for inclusion in our newsletter. Unfortunately, most times, the trip or event is not included in the newsletter because no one turns in a report. For example, since our last newsletter was published, there have been at least 6 runs and events, but not a single submission for the newsletter. This is common. Again, I ask that you **please** send in a short article for each event you organize or host. Although leading a run or organizing an event is great, that's only part of the commitment. We also need to document these club activities for a variety of reasons.

- 1.) They provide a history of what the club has done and where we've gone.
- 2.) They can be used to help prevent road closures as we have proof that certain trails are being used regularly. The photos document the condition of the roads, demonstrating that off road activities do not harm the environment.
- 3.) The reports and the newsletter are really the only way to share information with all club members, especially those who are unable to attend the meetings.
- 4.) They encourage others to join the club and share outdoor activities with their families.
- 5.) They make the newsletter fun to read.
- 6.) They make absentee members wish that they hadn't missed that club function.
- 7.) They make the members want to attend and participate in future club activities.
- 8.) Most of our social media presence refers people to our website. People often look at the newsletter when they get there, but if the newsletter doesn't have anything in it other than the meeting minutes, people won't come back or be encouraged to join our club.

**Please** help me, folks. I can't put together a newsletter if I don't get submissions from the members, so send in those reports on trips, events, modifications you've done or seen, or any other off-road related information.

Thanks  
Phil

*Check the website for new rides and updates!*



## Redneck Engineering

Contributed by Phil Rodacy

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
Remember - Zip Ties are your friend.



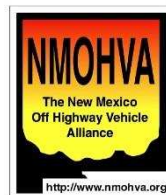
**Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**

# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

<p><b>President</b> Ross Burchard 305-235-6464 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> position open vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Bobbie Moore 505-221-3847 se@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Bill Bonahoom 505-298-6296 tr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Program Chairman</b> Tracey Bakewell 505-250-3876 pc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-280-7922 hi@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Trip Chairman</b> Bill Gardner 505-321-2491 tc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> Position is open de@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>SWFWDA Delegate</b> Bob Norton 281-5315 n5epa@flash.net</p>

Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman





# Trail Tales



February 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

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## Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2018  
by Bobbie Moore



The meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**GUESTS:** Jaime Bengston, Brian Glendenning, Brian James, Tracey Rosenburg, Christopher Spiak, Gloria Statom, Wayne Sullivan, Skyler Whitney, Gary Patrezy, Kurt Forsberg, Roger Forsberg, Flint Jernigan, Antoinette Rubolino, Todd Three, Shauna Vaughn

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracey Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Alison Beam, Richard Brooks, Ross Burchard, Marie Crites, Bruce England, Javier Fraga, Bill Gardner, Fred Hawkins, Robert Hohlfelder, Jose Lucero, Chris McGrath, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Daniel Montano, Bobbie Moore, Bob Provance, Phil Rodacy, Don Roy, Richard Steele, George Szymkowski, Ralph Vigil, Donnie Walker, Matthew Wheeler, Donna Whiston, Frank G. Whiston, Frank R. Whiston

**Presidents Report.** Ross Burchard. Ross brought up an issue about meeting procedures. He asked that the club follow the Roberts Rules. A brief overview of the procedure was presented. If you have issues that need to be brought up, use sidebar discussions before or after meetings. He then asked for cooperation and respect from all members.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –Bobbie Moore.** Meeting minutes from December were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT –Bill Bonahoom.** The club has \$8,421.00 in the account Bill then reported what monies that had been paid out.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Cliff Meier.** Cliff explained the point system and how to receive them. He also explained how to get a fine, then Sheriff Meier started to collect. There was not a lot of tattling, so only a few fines were assessed. Its been quiet in that area for a few months.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Bill Gardner.** Bill explained that there is a need for more trail leaders. If you need help or have never been on a trail, contact Bill and he will help you with whatever you need. Lots of help is available from other club members.

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

## **PAST EVENTS:**

Dec.16 Rio Rancho Winterfest Bill Gardner

Dec.17 Surprise Jemez Ride Bill Gardner

Dec. 23 Last Jemez Ride before Winter Lockdown Bill Gardner

Dec.31 Manzano Mountains Exploration Ross Burchard

Jan. 1 Gordy's Hill New Years Day Ride

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Jan.13** Torreon Tajique Loop Ross Burchard

**Jan. 27** Cabezon Peak Area Jeff Boggs

**Feb.3 9am Cibola National Forest Exploration** Bill Gardner

**Feb.10 9am Cedro Peak Snow Run** Ross Burchard  
Sandia Ranger Station

**Feb.17-18 Southern NM Winter Melt Down** Bill Bonahoom  
Elephant Butte State Park

**March 10 Pecos Area** Leader Needed

**March 10 8:30 am Madness in March Sale 4-Wheel Parts** Ross Burchard

**March 31 9am Rio del Oso Cleanup** Ross Burchard  
Espanole,NM,

## **Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** Vacant position, No report

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracey Bakewell. Tracey reported that he has hats, sweat shirts and T-shirts for sale. He also sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle. \$55 went to the winner of the raffle.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Frank G. Whiston. Frank reminded everyone when you upload your pictures remember to put locations in. If you need an album started, contact an officer and they can start one for you. Also, 2018 is the clubs 60th Anniversary, and if you have ideas on how to celebrate this milestone please let him know.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy - Don reported that he has been cleaning a few things up. He reminded members to sign the electronic waiver so leaders don't have to worry about paper. He also can send this waiver to guest and applicants. He is also keeping track of website statistics, such as how many views the website gets, and how many have signed waivers, number of people who have read the newsletter on-line, etc.

**Newsletter Editor's Report.** Phil Rodacy. Phil asked members to send in your pictures and any other articles you feel would be of interest. He reminded us that these articles document which trails are used. This may encourage more members to go on rides. Also show the Forest Service which trails are being used.

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** Frank G. Whiston 4WD Hardware provides discounts to NM4W members who have signed up on our website. At the end of the year 3% of what club members have spent goes back to the club.

**OLD BUSINESS:** President Ross brought up an issue about past meetings and actions. This is in the Presidents report at beginning of minutes. Much discussion on this subject so hopefully meetings will go faster and respectfully.

The NM4W Charity Committee held their meeting Dec.14. The committee reviewed ideas and suggestions on ways to spend some of the money in club's treasury. Cliff brought up suggestions as to what they had done in the past, and some new ideas. In the club's By-laws, it states that any amount over \$100.00 to be donated or spent has to be voted on by members.

It was voted to donate \$300.00 to the church for clubs meeting room to be reviewed annually, this is already in the budget.

The idea of buying a projector to show slides and pictures for informational programs was brought up. Fred Hawkins offered to donate his projector to the club.

There were a lot of ideas and much discussion followed. Members voted to table the donation business to a later date, so more information may be gathered.

#### **New Business :**

We had several guests who had enough points to be voted in. Welcome to Jaime Bengston, Brian James, and Gloria Statom.

Reminder: If you have enough points to be voted on to become a member, you have to be at a meeting for that to happen.

- Thank you to Jeanne & Cliff Meier for hosting the meeting.

Next meeting will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in ABQ, on Thursday, Feb8 at 7 PM.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:00 PM.



## President's Report

By Ross Burchard

As reported in the January President's report, two electronic technologies are changing the way 4X4 clubs conduct their business on the airways. The first is social media and the second is Ham radio. With the grateful assistance of Tracy Bakewell, we arranged for a Ham radio expert, Bruce Campbel, to give a 15-minute tech-talk during the February NM4W meeting. Bruce will present Ham-101, Everything You Wanted to Know About Ham Radio, But Were Afraid to Ask. Bruce's talk will discuss the pros and cons of Ham radio and help the answer the question, "If I already have a CB, why should I switch to Ham radio?"

This past month has been very active making arrangements for, and coordinating forthcoming special events with local organizations. To date, the following events have been added to the NM4W calendar:

1. Southern NM Winter Meltdown, Feb 17, Sat to Feb 18, Sun, Meet Point: 402 Hwy 195, Elephant Butte, NM 87935
2. NM Adventure Travel Expo, Mar 3, Sat 8:00AM, Meet Point: REI, Mercantile Avenue, Albuquerque, NM
3. Madness in March Sale – 4 Wheel Parts, Mar 10, Sat 8:30AM, Meet Point: 2445 Menaul Blvd NE
4. NMOHVA Annual Meeting, Mar 17, Sat 9:00AM, Meet Point: Albuquerque
5. 7 Trails of Gold Exploration/Pre-run, Apr 20, Fri, Meet Point, Grants, NM
6. Go Topless Day: Gordy's Hill, Meet Point: I-25 Exit 156, Lemitar, NM
7. NMOHVA's 2018 Seven Trails of Gold Event, Jun 8, Fri to Jun 10, Sun, Meet Point: Grants, NM
8. June 2018 NM4W Picnic Meeting, Jun 16, Sat Meet Point: Oak Flats Picnic Area
9. Mile High Jeep Club's All-4-Fun, Jul 28, Sat to Aug 4, Sat Meet Point: Silverton, CO

After voting to accept the NM4W's subcommittee report on Charity Recommendations during the January meeting, we're finally working through the backlog of old business activities. In addition, I've received emails from several new members stating that the club meeting of late have consisted mostly of club business, and very little about 4-wheeling. To help new club members learn more about 4-wheeling and how to set up their vehicle for off-road use, I'm working to host more Tech-Talks during club meeting. To help meet this objective, we're hosting the club's first Ham Radio presentation as described above.

I'm also soliciting ideas and volunteers to host other Tech Talks such as: 4X4-101, How to Set Up an Off-Road Vehicle, Winching and High-Lift Jack classes, Introduction to Differentials and Lockers, etc. If you have any great ideas for a Tech-Talk, or want to host a Tech-Talk, please contact me at [crewzer1957@comcast.net](mailto:crewzer1957@comcast.net). We're also thinking about hosting a spring Meet-N-Greet to attract new club members and discuss 4-wheeling with existing club member in a social setting. We're considering holding a NM4W Meet-N-Greet at a commercial establishment such as a restaurant, bar, or brew pub. If you have any great ideas for a meeting location, or want participate, please contact me.



# LEAD a RUN - THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Ross Burchard

There is no Vice President report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month. This important position is still open and desperately need to be filled. Although it is a lot of work, perhaps a couple people would be willing to share the workload?



## Cabezon Peak Ride

By Jeff Boggs

We met at San Ysidro, NM at 8:00 am. Fourteen 4x4's showed up, ready to spend the day driving around on the many roads that are in the Cabezon Peak area. Most of this area is BLM, ranch, and tribal. There are many rugged roads leading to canyons, mesas, stock ponds, and high power electrical lines. We drove north up Hwy 550 and turned off the Hwy onto a paved road that goes





south to San Luis, and Cabezon Peak, a large volcanic plug. Cabezon Peak is the main feature in this area, visible from nearly everywhere in this part of New Mexico.

Once we got off the main road, we aired down and went to an overlook off a mesa. From the power line poles we had a grand view of Cabezon Peak and the ranching valley that surrounds it. Back on the gas pipeline road we headed west and then onto a BLM road going west. A side road drops into an arroyo, so we followed that until we came to a road going out of the arroyo, west. There were a few nice rock areas to cross.

We had lunch on a road below a mesa. First time driver Dan Smith brought his RC rock crawler car and drove it around for a while. Several dogs got a chance to wander around. The weather was mid 40's, clear, with a light breeze, perfect. Dusty and dry roads kept folks in the back of the pack



covered in a dusty fog.



After lunch we climbed up a mesa and then looped back around, off the mesa and back to a main road. The Bakewell's left us for prior engagement, and headed home. The rest went to a crossing of the Rio Puerco and onto a rugged ranch road that followed the power lines. We got a close view of Cabezon Peak.

We finished up the day returning to San Ysidro via the pipeline road, so we had more time on dirt. This area has so many side roads, that we need to keep making turns off those main dirt roads and explore new areas. So, see you next time.



## **Gordy's Hill**

### **Moderate to Hard Run**

**By Bill Bonahoom**

On New Year's Eve, December 31, 2017 the NM4Wheelers traveled down south near Socorro for some fun on the rocks. The weather was warm and dry, and in fact shorts and a T-shirt for some of us. The group of folks basically consisted of the hard core buggy folks but many of us chose to run our daily driven trail rigs and 37" tires. We started the morning at the Lemitar truck stop and 9 rigs. Thanks to the keen eye of Frank it was discovered that one of the TJ jeeps was sitting on the trailer with both rear upper control arm brackets ripped off the frame. Fortunately, not all was lost as the driver was able to leave his rig on the trailer and ride shotgun with someone else. Word to the wise; don't forget to crawl under your rig from time to time and look at all the suspension brackets and welds both on the frame side and axle side, as this is not really that uncommon. In fact, we had another rig start to break bracket that day as well, after the ride was over and just blocks from his house. Luckily, he was able to limp it home under its own power.

The first trail of the day was Coyote Canyon and is a good solid Moderate, comprised of mostly bolder running up and arroyo which takes careful tire placement to avoid getting hung up. I don't think the club had run this trail in many years, I certainly had never run it, and the GPS files we had for it was not up-to-date prior to this run. We flew thru the trail without much difficulty but one of the rigs did slip off a rock going around a tight spot and messed up the driver door pretty good. Caution: with all trails body damage is a possibility and this shows even a well-prepared rig on a Moderate trail can get the best of you. About half way up several of the more extreme rigs found a fun little bonus section and got to play.



**Gordon on the Bonus Section**

Next trail of the day was Hidden Valley, also rated a Moderate. It has a fun couple waterfalls sections at the start of the trail which are not terribly difficult and then the trail mellows out for the remainder of it. The group stopped for lunch at the optional Causeway obstacle near the end of the trail. Several of the extreme rigs played around giving the rest of us a good show while we basked



in the sun eating lunch. Devin even hopped in Randal's single seat buggy and drove it up forward several times and then went up backwards just to show off.



**Group Photo at the Lunch Spot**

The third trail, Bad Hair Day, turns up the difficulty a notch and is rated a as a Hard trail. Its basically a short bolder field with a couple 2-3ft ledges going up. Nobody had any difficulty and we concord the trail in record time.



**Frank Making the exit to Bad Hair Day look easy**

The final trail of the day was Doug's Dilemma, also rated a hard and certainly the most challenging trail of the day. The group did great and got thru it well with a bit of careful spotting.





### **Jon getting tippy trying an optional line in Doug's Dilemma**

The day was a blast. Getting off the trail well before dusk so that everyone could enjoy festivities back in town. The weather was great, the trails were awesome, and the people were even better. Happy New Year's everyone and see you on the rocks in 2018.



## **The Jeep Life**

**Contributed by Jennifer Chapin**

1. We have the aerodynamics of a shoebox. This creates a lot of interesting challenges. Unexpected lane changes, headwinds, dangerous turbulence from trucks. We don't care.
2. We have to take all our valuables with us, every time our "mall crawler" stops at the mall. We can't leave anything inside. We don't lock, we unzip. We are vulnerable and unsecured. But we don't care.

3. We can never be certain, from one rain shower or self-service car wash to the next if we will have a lake in the back. And that's with a brand-new roof. But, we don't care.
4. Most of us do not vacuum, we hose out our floors. We removed the carpet and our floors are cold steel. But, we don't care.
5. You'll have to speak up, we don't hear well, most workplaces require hearing protection at the levels our vehicles reach on the highway. But we don't care.
6. Doors on/Doors off - we face this decision every day. All year. The coldest I have ever been in my life was the night in shorts and a tee shirt with 61 degrees outside and no doors. But we don't care.
7. "My windows are rolled up." We say this to people on the phone all the time. But we don't care.
8. Text and drive? Ha! No way. We have .6 seconds on flat paved roads to prevent our agricultural vehicles from leaving the lane or hitting a mailbox. We can't ever let go of the wheel. But, we don't care.
9. There's 20 degrees temperature difference between our head and feet in extreme temperatures summer or winter. Heat waves come off the transmission. We have no insulation. But, we don't care.
10. It's not all about off-road ability. We drive strange vehicles. Some of us offend non-Wrangler drivers, that's not nice. But you have to accept that we have made a commitment to endure things luxury SUV drivers would not tolerate, in their climate controlled, carpeted, weather stripped insulated vehicles as a way of life. It's inconvenient. It's a pain sometimes. You don't experience these things in a Cherokee. We are all a bit half crazy — and — that's our "Jeeplife" - it's different. It's radical. It's primitive. But we don't care.



## **Leaking Rear Main Seal on 4-liter Engines**

**By Guy Conway**

Here's a tip that you may want to keep in mind:

According to my mechanic and others, the best seal for stopping leaks in rear main seal is Fel-Pro. This should be installed along with the rubber pan gasket. This has worked well for me on 2 jeeps. However, if the surface on the shaft where the lower seal touches is rough, there is a good chance it will NOT seal. Some engine builders do not grind that part of the shaft.



*Check the website for new rides and updates!*



## Redneck Engineering

Contributed by Jennifer Chapin

**Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....**

Remember – If you want to get somewhere, take a Jeep, even if the tires are gone.....



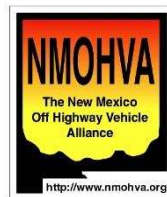
**Thinking about going on a ride, but not  
sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**

**KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC**

**NM4W Officers**

<p><b>President</b> Ross Burchard 305-235-6464 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> position open vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Bobbie Moore 505-221-3847 se@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Bill Bonahoom 505-298-6296 tr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Program Chairman</b> Tracey Bakewell 505-250-3876 pc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-280-7922 hi@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Trip Chairman</b> Bill Gardner 505-321-2491 tc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> Position is open de@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>SWFWDA Delegate</b> Bob Norton 281-5315 n5epa@flash.net</p>

Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman







# Trail Tales



March 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2018  
by Bobbie Moore



The meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico

The meeting was called to order at 7PM

**GUESTS:** Randy Diddel, Tom & Paula Kaye, Maddox England, Jim & Sue Meilahn, Wayne Sullivan, Theodore Threet, Debbie & Eugene Vigil

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracey Bakewell, Bill Bonahoom, Ross Burchard, Guy Conway, Bruce England, Javier Fraga, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Jimmy Lloyd, Chris McGrath, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bobbie Moore, Bob & Carol Provance, Vincent Reed, Phil Rodacy, Don Roy, Chris Sears, George Symkowski, Ralph Vigil, Terrill Wade, Frank G. Whiston, Frank R. Whiston, and Bob Wilbur

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –Bobbie Moore.** Meeting minutes from January were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT –Bill Bonahoom.** Bill reported that there is \$8,512.40 in the account.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Cliff Meier** Cliff explained what it takes to become a member, the point system and how to receive them. He also explained how to get a fine, then Sheriff Meier started to collect. There were a few who paid up, and the year is just getting started. Been quiet in that area for a couple of months.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Bill Gardner Absent Frank Whiston stepped up and went through the trails with us.** Check the website for write ups and photos of past events and the latest info on upcoming events.

### PAST EVENTS:

Jan.13 Torreon-Tajique Loop Ross Burchard  
Sandia Ranger Station

Jan.27 Cabazen Peak Area Jeff Boggs  
San Ysidro

Feb.3 Cibola National Forest Exploration Bill Gardner  
Route 66 Casino

Feb.10 Cedro Peak Run Ross Burchard  
Sandia Ranger Station

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Feb.17&18 Southern NM Meltdown Bill Bonahoom**  
Elephant Butte, NM

**March 3 Sat. 8AM NM Adventure Travel Expo. Bill Gardner**  
REI Abq., NM

**March 8 Thur.7PM Club meeting**  
Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church Abq. NM

**March 10 Sat. 8:30 AM Madness In March Ross Burchard**  
4 Wheel Parts, Abq, NM

**March 17 Sat.9AM NMOHVA Annual Meeting**

**March 31 Sat.9AM Rio del Oso Cleanup Ross Burchard**  
Espanola,NM

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** This office is still vacant. It was discussed that maybe 2 people could do this job. If you can attend any meetings with NMOHVA, please do as our voice needs to be heard. Check for times, dates and locations on our website.

NMOHVA's Annual meeting is March 17, Sat. at 9:00 AM. At this meeting the new congressional candidate will be there, seeking input from our community. Try to attend if you can. There is more information on the website.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracey Bakewell He has T-shirts & Hats for sale. The 50/50 raffle was held with \$40.00 being the bonus. Frank Whiston Sr. was the winner.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Frank G. Whiston Frank reminded members that 2018 is the 60th anniversary of NM4W. If you have any ideas on how to celebrate or mark this milestone, speak up please.

Frank has also started an overview of the badges that the club has used over the years.

Members are doing a good job of putting up their trail pictures. Please remember to put labels stating where the event took place.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy - Don has been working on making the web page better and easier for all to use.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. - If you have any pictures and/or stories you would like to share please post or send them to Phil. He reported that on-line views of the Newsletter have been getting a lot of hits, especially from guest.

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** 4WD Hardware provides club discounts. At the end of the year 3% of what club members have spent goes back to the club. You must sign up on the website to receive this discount.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Frank gave detailed information on the NMOVHA 7 Trails of Gold Event being held in Grants, New Mexico. There is lots to do in Grants along with the trails. History buffs will enjoy the train and mines. Make sure to check into lodging and reservations before going as they will fill up fast. There will be vendors throughout town also. This will be the 2nd year for this event. If you are interested in being a trail leader or gunner for this event please contact Frank. This event will be taking place June 8-10, 2018

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ross reminded members that we need hosts for our summertime meetings.

Randy Diddel was voted in. Congratulations to clubs newest member!

**Reminder: If you have enough points to be a member, you have to be at a meeting to be voted in.**

**Bruce Campbell** was the special guest speaker. He gave the club lots of information on the Ham Radios. Following an "Introduction To The Ham Radio", explained the use and reasons to have one of these radios. He showed us several different models and antennas that is out there to choose from. Lots of useful information. Thanks Bruce.

- Thanks to NaDeen Jackson for once again providing good treats and hosting the meeting.

Our next meeting will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in ABQ, on Thursday, March 8, at 7 PM.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:00 PM.

**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**



## President's Report

By Ross Burchard

During the February 8 club meeting we hosted Bruce Campbell, who gave an introductory Ham radio presentation titled, "Ham-101." Although it was described as an introductory talk, it was very technical in nature and provided a general description of Ham radio equipment and repeaters. After the meeting, several members continued the Ham radio discussion. Mr. Campbell indicated that he would arrange a training class for club members interested in obtaining a technician's license.

Cliff Meier is planning to give a presentation during the March 8 club meeting on basic four-wheeling titled "4X4-101." Although this presentation is primarily intended for new club members, we're hoping that all members will take away some new information from the presentation. I encourage new NM4W members to attend the March meeting to hear the 4X4-101 presentation. We plan to have a follow-on 4X4-102 presentation during a summer club meeting that describes methods for setting up a 4X4 vehicle for off-road use.

NM4W members are setting up a booth at the NM Adventure Travel Expo on Saturday, March 3. This Travel Expo, co-hosted by Overland Emergency Response Network and REI is the first of its kind in New Mexico. The NM Adventure Travel Expo will host 20 vendors and exhibitors that support and promote the off-road and overlanding community in various ways. This event is open to the public with no entry fee or donation required. Please visit the Travel Expo on March 3 to see the custom 4X4 rigs, motorcycles, products, and services.

NM4W members are also setting up a booth at the Madness in March Sale at Four Wheel Parts on Saturday, March 10. Four Wheel Parts is hosting a Ramp Travel Index (RTI) vehicle competition and a Show-and-Shine car show. NM Dog is hosting a canine adopt-a-thon with adoptive dogs and Pop Fizz is providing food during the event. Mark's Casa is also planning to display a new Jeep JL. If you have time, stop by the NM4W booth on March 10 and check out the new Jeep JL.

We're also looking for a club member to host the Saturday, May 12 meeting. Please let Phil or I know if you're interested in hosting the May 12 meeting at your house.

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There are a couple of things I would like to briefly discuss.

The first is the point system that club uses. There are two basic reasons we have this system. The system was set up to encourage participation by members in attending club events; meetings, runs and other activities. Some type of award is given at the end of the year for those members with the most points. The other reason is to provide a way for applicants/guests to get to know club members, the club itself and for club members to get to know the applicant. That is why an applicant must earn 5 points before being considered for membership and voted on. Additionally, an applicant cannot become a member until they have paid their club dues. At the beginning of each meeting the club vice president goes over the way applicants can earn their 5 points. The details of this process can be found in the club's standard operating procedures (SOPs) located in the website under Documents section.

Secondly, I would encourage everyone, members and prospective members, to visit the club website regularly. The website has a tremendous amount of information available including, the Event Calendar, monthly Newsletter, Member List with contact information, the club By-Laws and SOPS, how to instructions on various 4X4 topics, general off-roading articles, and much more. The website is our primary form of communication.

Next, we starting a 4X4 101 class/discussion for those new to 4X4 world and a refresher for members who are interested. The plan is to hold an approximately 1 hour or less session after each meeting and a hands-on session later this spring or summer. Each session will start with a Q&A session for guests at the meeting that may have questions on the club. Some of the areas to be covered are 4X4 Terminology, Run/Trail Etiquette, 4X4 Pre-Run Preparations, 4X4 Safety, 4X4 Navigation, Driving Techniques, Vehicle Modifications, Winching, Jacking and any others that folks want. I'm looking for volunteers to present these topics.

Lastly, with the end of winter coming up it will be time for more trail rides to start. The goal is to have at least one run each month, with a run with a run right after the monthly meeting. The Event calendar has runs listed that have "Leader Needed" shown. This place holder for a run, the leader can change the location, date, etc. If you want to lead one of these runs or have separate run listed in the calendar contact on office who can set one up for you. As always, we are in need to trail leaders. If you have a favorite trail think about leading it. It's not hard and other club members and officers will be glad to offer guidance.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month. This important position is still open and desperately need to be filled. Although it is a lot of work, perhaps a couple people would be willing to share the workload?



### Important Update!

## BLM Seeks Comments On Proposed Trails Near Buena Vista, Colorado

**The Bureau of Land Management's Royal Gorge Field Office is seeking public comments on its proposal to add new motorized and non-motorized trails to the Fourmile Trail System outside Buena Vista, Colorado. The area is in the Arkansas River sub-region of the Royal Gorge Resource Area and is included in the Fourmile Travel Management Plan. The Proposed Action includes adding 3 new trails totaling about 7 miles that would be open to motorized users.**

**Details on the proposed motorized trails are below:**

**1) Currently, the motorized single-track trail opportunities in the Fourmile Travel Management Area are limited to Triad Ridge located on USFS-managed lands east of this proposed trail. This proposed trail (6 miles) would add to the existing motorized single-track network.**

**2) Carnage Canyon is an existing rock crawling trail that is rated as difficult. BLM states that users of the trail frequently need to exit the trail before reaching the end due to a number of factors such as being too difficult for their abilities or mechanical failures. This proposed short trail (0.25 miles) would establish a less difficult bailout option mid-way through the existing trail.**

**3) BLM states that the existing ATV route 6037 (50" or less in width) is a relatively easy ATV route alternative to riding on the 375 4-wheel drive road. BLM further states that by adding a more difficult segment connecting to 6037 and 6038 ATV routes, this loop (1 mile) would provide options for advanced ATV riders as well as extending potential riding time in this already-developed ATV area. Included in this ATV loop proposal would be a short connector to the camping site at the junction of 375 and 376 roads, which would eliminate the need for riders to use 376 road to enter the area.**

**Comments**

**Comments are due by March 2, 2018. It is important for OHV enthusiasts to stay involved in the public lands management process by contacting BLM staff! Submit comments [online](#) or by mail to BLM, Royal Gorge Field Office, Attn: Linda Skinner, 3028 E. Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212.**

**Additional Info**

## BLM Press Release

### Draft Environmental Assessment and Maps

Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition

P.O. Box 741353

Arvada, CO 80006

518



## NM4W's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

As most of you know, 2018 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Mexico Four Wheelers. We 're still asking for suggestions as to how to celebrate this milestone.

To get started, the Newsletter will be including some photos and articles from the past. This month, check out the photos in the Torreon- Tajique Loop Run article. The club has done this run in the past, and the photos show that we used the same break-spot 56 years ago that we do today.

Next month, check out a copy of the first newsletter that the club ever published. There's even a "vehicle modification" listed. We're still modifying our rides, but the mods are definitely different. Stay tuned.





# Cedro Peak Ride

By Ross Buchard

The Cedro Peak ride met at the Sandia Ranger Station at 9:00am on Saturday, February 10 with fifteen NM4W vehicles. Since several club members posted the ride on social media, an additional 10 vehicles joined the 4x4 caravan. After airing-down and obtaining signatures on the liability waiver forms, the vehicles departed the Ranger Station at 9:30am

and headed east on FR-462 then turned south on FR-13. Since there were 25 vehicles in the ride, both a mid-gunner and a tail-gunner were used to coordinate vehicle movement and establish CB communication between all vehicles. The group parked briefly at the Cedro Peak towers to take pictures and make lunch plans. Next, the group headed south on FR-252 and had lunch at the Cedro Peak Group Campground. The concrete picnic tables and warm February sun provided a nice



dining environment. The last segment of the ride was an optional drive to the stair-steps. Since it was a snowless run, and the dry rocks provided good traction, approximately one dozen 4x4 vehicles successfully climbed the steps. The ride concluded by driving to Juan Tomas Road and then airing-up at the Ranger Station. Many non-NM4W members commented on how well the ride was conducted with a pre-planned route, maintaining a well-spaced caravan without large gaps, and good CB communications during the trip. Everyone had a great time!





# Torreon-Tajique Loop

By Ross Buchard

Not all NM4W rides turn out as planned. NM4W planned a ride through the Manzano Mountains, checked with the Ranger District to make sure the trail was open, and even pre-ran the loop. Then an unexpected monkey wrench was thrown into the mix.

To ensure a successful ride through the Manzano Mountains, several club members pre-ran the route on 1/6/18 to determine if the Forest Service roads were accessible. We called the Mountainair Ranger District about road availability on 1/13 and were informed that the roads would be open unless a heavy snowfall was received. With all of this pre-planning completed, we met at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras and 12 vehicles drove toward Red Canyon Campground on FS-253 Southwest of Manzano, NM. Unfortunately, FS-253 was blocked by a steel gate since a 1/2" of snow had fallen prior to the run. (Apparently this is considered to be a heavy snowfall this year.)



To make the most of a beautiful Saturday afternoon, we decided to run the Tajique-Torreon loop in reverse. We headed to Torreon and took FS-55 toward the Fourth of July Campground driving through large pinion and juniper trees. The ride was very scenic and peaceful with approximately 4" of snow at the higher elevations (8,000 ft). We also saw two large turkeys meandering through the forest near the campground. We circled the 4X4 caravan in a large clearing for a leisurely and enjoyable lunch. Afterwards, we drove past the campground (which was closed for winter) and headed to Tajique to air-up around 2:00pm. (The lesson learned from this trip was: always have a backup route identified if the main route is not accessible. Ross).

After Ross completed the Torreon-Tajique loop, Bill Gardner led the 4X4 caravan to Cedro Peak and viewed the radio towers. A few vehicles successfully climbed the stairs. Fun was had by all on Saturday. Thank you, Ross Burchard for a great ride. - Bill



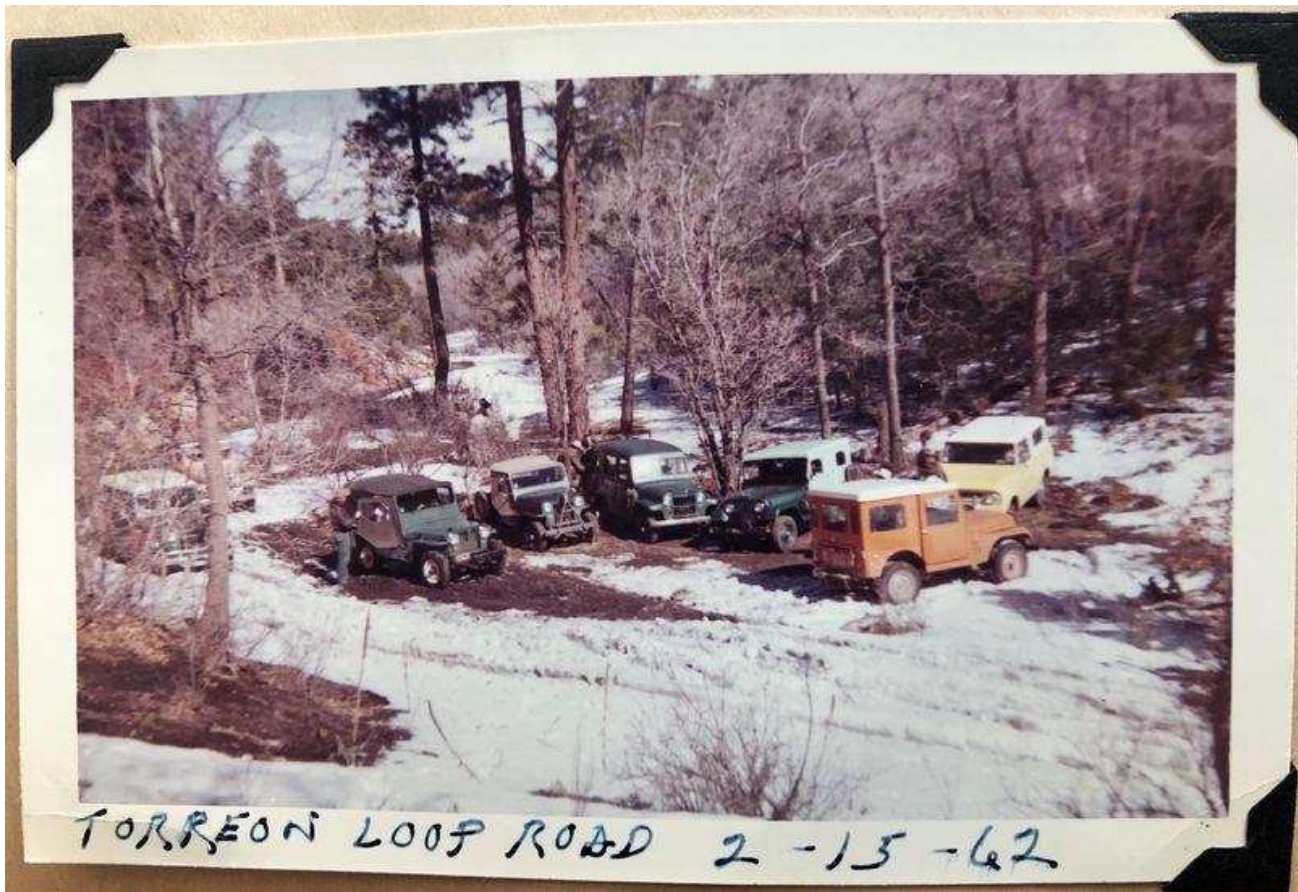


# Torreón-Tajique Loop

## February 15, 1962

Photos contributed by Frank Whiston

The Torreón-Tajique loop is one of those great outdoor areas that the New Mexico Four Wheelers obviously like. Frank Whiston, our historian, was looking through some of the club archives and came across some photos that club members took in 1962. Notice the first 2 photos shown below. The first was taken on January 6, 2018. The second photo was taken 56 years later, on February 15, 1962. Same place, different time. Enjoy the rest of the old photos, too.



TORREÓN LOOP ROAD 2-15-62





TORREON LOOP ROAD 2-15-62





TORREON LOOP ROAD 2-15-62



TORREON LOOP ROAD 2-15-62






CORREON LOOP ROAD 2-15-62



PINE FLATS PICNIC GROUND 2-15-62





## BLM Special Recreation Permitting- the myths, urban legends and interpretation of regulations...

By Vince Reed

***(Editor's note: The New Mexico Four Wheelers have been enjoying trails for many years. As you'll see from the following article, the regulations regarding land use can be quite complex. Decisions made by the New Mexico 4-Wheelers can set precedents for not only our club but also for other organized clubs in the area. As such, the NM4W officers will be asking for volunteers to form a small committee to develop a plan on how to meet BLM requirements.)***

Recently there have been several discussions regarding the attention that NM 4 Wheelers trail rides have been getting and the dangers of posting them on social media. The article on NM 4 wheelers website state” **The problem is that if you don't know the regulations as well or better than the BLM, they can (and often do) tell you things that are simply not true. To really be able to understand what you need to do, you need to be at least familiar with the broader regulation. Knowledge is power**”. What this article intends to do is just that. I called the Rio Puerco Field office and spoke to the District Special Recreation Permit Manager to clarify our club responsibilities. Note that *”There is history between the BLM, NM4W, and other clubs where the BLM has sought out to fine the clubs for not obtaining a permit for rides.”* We want to prevent these issues from recurring. Reading through the regulations below, here is a summary of items that can cause trouble for us:



## **DEFINITIONS** (See §2932.5 highlighted items)

**Organized Group Activity** means a structured, ordered, consolidated, or scheduled event on, or occupation of, public lands for the purpose of recreational use that is not commercial or competitive.

This could be and has been interpreted as any club activity by the Socorro, Farmington, and Monticello UT (think Moab) field offices in the past. As such, the District Special Recreation Permit Manager can and would only speak for the Rio Puerco and Socorro field office so additional inquiries will need to be obtained from any other field office location where the group would want to run trails.

## **When may BLM waive the requirement to obtain a permit?** (See §2932.12 highlighted items)

We may waive the requirement to obtain a permit if: The use is an organized group activity or event that—

1. **Is not commercial**
2. **Is not publicly advertised**

Concerns have been raised that if rides are posted on social media, the event is being publicly advertised. Based on my research, I located the BLM handbook-H-2930-1 Recreation Permit and Fee Administration Handbook (<https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/permits-and-passes/special-recreation-permits> ). Upon researching, it provides the follow definition on page G-8 the following definition is found; "Public Advertising - any written, oral, or graphic statement or representation made by any person or event representative to the general public for the purpose of soliciting participants for a recreational activity or event (e.g., television, radio, Internet/**social media sites available to the general public**, listing on public event calendars, printed brochures, newspapers, billboards, banners, and signs). Looks like we may be doing public advertising, but wait..... Advertising is considered public if it is an inducement for anybody to participate, as opposed to an invitation or communication to members of an identifiable membership such as a church or club. The posting of information on an organization's website would not, on its own, be considered public advertising. If paid public advertising is present, a commercial SRP is required". As you can see it lists social media but specifies **to the general public**. District Special Recreation Permit Manager confirmed that if we are posting our rides on a closed Facebook page and advertising it on another closed Facebook page such as NM Jeep Group or NM Jeeps, which are all closed groups of which you must be a member, then **this does not constitute public advertising**.

*(Editor's note: Email correspondence with the author of this article confirmed that if these private postings are then copied by someone and posted to their personal page, the District Special Recreation Permit Manager could then consider it to be public advertising of an event, and apparently this is this different from posting rides on our publicly viewed NM4W website page?)*

3. **Poses no appreciable risk for damage to public land or related water resource values**
4. **Requires no specific management or monitoring.**



The text highlighted above is one of the specific reasons that NM4W holds some rides as "members only" on the club calendar. Having a run listed on the club website, Facebook, or any other public forum may be considered as being advertised.

Our club should review any trails planned to see which will occupy BLM areas and ensure that we follow the appropriate regulations.

### §2932.5 Definitions.

**Organized group activity means a structured, ordered, consolidated, or scheduled event on, or occupation of, public lands for the purpose of recreational use that is not commercial or competitive.** When the District Special Recreation Permit Manager was asked about groups who are only a group on Facebook and do not take in any membership dues (such as NM Jeeps, ABQ 4x4 or Team NM), he stated being that they are only a group by name, no dues are taken in, so therefore are not considered to be engaging in public advertising in BLM's eyes. These regulations would apply to our group as far as the concern listed in both articles.

The District Special Recreation Permit Manager stated that our club or any jeep club could obtain what is called a 2930.1 exception permit. What this is basically the same process as a single use permit but can be granted to our club/group **for a year**. This would alleviate any worry or concern that NM4Wheelers would be in any violation or would be subject to a fine in the Rio Puerco and possible Socorro Areas (<http://blm-egis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dea6e3c9f3734e55be5a047f834b9c9d>) regardless of area or size of our event. It would require us to provide a projected yearly Operating trip plan which is nothing more than the areas we are planning or going to such as Jemez area or Socorro area. Then after any run which is on BLM land, we must provide a post trip summary detailing what route and the demographics of the run. There would be a small fee for this permit, with details to be worked out.



It is President's Day weekend and we have Friday off. What do you do with a 4-day weekend in February? You head north and go skiing of course. Unfortunately, the winter of 2017-2018 hasn't been kind to the ski areas. After checking the conditions and seeing only 25 runs open at Taos, we decided to this was the ultimate chance to head south to a National Park that has been on our list since we lived in North Texas several years ago. Camping in Texas in mid-summer is out of the question so we figured there would be no better time to pay a visit to **Big Bend National Park** than February.

According to the Natl Park website, there are more than 200 miles of primitive dirt roads and another 36 miles of improved dirt roads in the park. Our hope was to snag one of the ~50 dispersed campsites on the primitive roads and spend a couple of days exploring the park. The website warns visitors to make alternate plans in the event that all campsites are full but we decided to press our luck showing up to request a site at Visitor's Center on Friday afternoon. After being told that all of the sites were taken but that they could find something for us on Saturday, someone came in to return a permit for Friday saying the road was too tough for his vehicle to make the 11 miles trip on the primitive road. I immediately jumped in asking "CAN WE HAVE IT?" With that, we were on our way to the **Old Ore Road** and the Ernst Basin campsite. Camping is allowed only in developed sites which are often spaced out 2-3 miles apart. After setting up the tent in a blowing wind, we jumped back into the Jeep to run another 6-7 miles of the **Old Ore Road** and **Telephone Trail** before sunset. The road is rough and is certainly not for passenger vehicles requiring high clearance in spots, but is not a challenging trail.



Saturday morning, we packed up the tent with a reservation to camp that night on the other side of the park accessible with a ~60 mile drive on primitive roads. After a quick morning visit to the Mexican village of Boquillas, we started on the **River Road**, a 51 mile primitive road that parallels the Rio Grande...although the name is a bit deceiving as there are not really views of the river from the road. We decided to take a detour on **Glen Springs**

**Road** over to **Black Gap Road** adding 10-15 mile to our trip. This is a highly recommended side trip as the roads were more scenic and provided a bit of a challenge in parts, certainly worthy of being labeled as a 4-Wheel Drive Trail. After Black Gap, it was back to the River Road for another 25-30 miles and to our campsite named Buenos Aires. Even with a packed park on a holiday weekend, we saw only 27 vehicles the entire day. Once the tent was set up, we finished the River Road and took a sunset hike into **Santa Elena Canyon**. There are 3 canyons in the park carved by Rio Grande. The short hike into Santa Elena Canyon was worth the visit to the park alone!

On Sunday morning, as we headed out from our campsite with plans for a drive on the **Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive** and up into the **Chisos Basin**, we came across a Chevy Suburban with a young couple that had pulled off into a wash to make an illegal campsite. Their truck deeply buried in the sand and in trouble. Without tow hooks, we put a strap through the hitch and tried pulling them but his driver's side rear wheel ended up against a big rock and wasn't going anywhere without first making some forward progress. I wasn't able to get in of him but fortunately had a snatch block and was able to find a shrub (there



wash  
was  
out  
front  
are

no trees around!) sturdy enough to try and winch him forward. Again, with no tow hooks on the front, we ended up getting the strap onto the passenger side running board and, after quite a bit of digging and stacking stones in front of the tires, we made enough forward progress that we were able

to go back to the strap, pull the truck away from the rock and out of the sand. After an hour and a half of work, they were certainly grateful for the help and we were happy to have helped them, but I was a bit taken aback to see them immediately driving off leaving us to pack the straps and shovel and reel in the winch line.

Overall, it was a great trip. It got up to 96 degrees Sunday afternoon, we can't imagine being there in August! 1485 miles round trip, a bit of a drive for scenery that is very reminiscent of our own back yard in New Mexico but we were glad to have the opportunity to add another National Park stamp to our passport book and see the yucca in bloom!







# Volunteer Opportunities

## Rio del Oso Cleanup

By Jennifer Chapin

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**MARCH 31ST AND APRIL 1ST**  
**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**

**PLEASE COME HELP WITH OUR VOLUNTEER EFFORT  
TO CLEAN UP THE  
RIO DEL OSO ARROYO AND WATERSHED  
VOLUNTEERS WANTED!**

**Meet at the Rio del Oso at 9:00 am**

**Wear appropriate clothes, sturdy shoes, hat,  
and gloves. Bring a lunch.**

**Snacks and water provided.**

**This is a coordinated effort between the  
Española Ranger District, Back Country**

**Horsemen of Santa Fe and 4 Wheelers Jeep  
Club. Bring a truck or other 4 wheel drive ve-  
hicle to the site.**

**Bags and dumpster**

**Will be provided.**

**Please help us!**

**Call Debbie Spickermann**

**505-753-3531 or Jennifer at 753-7331**

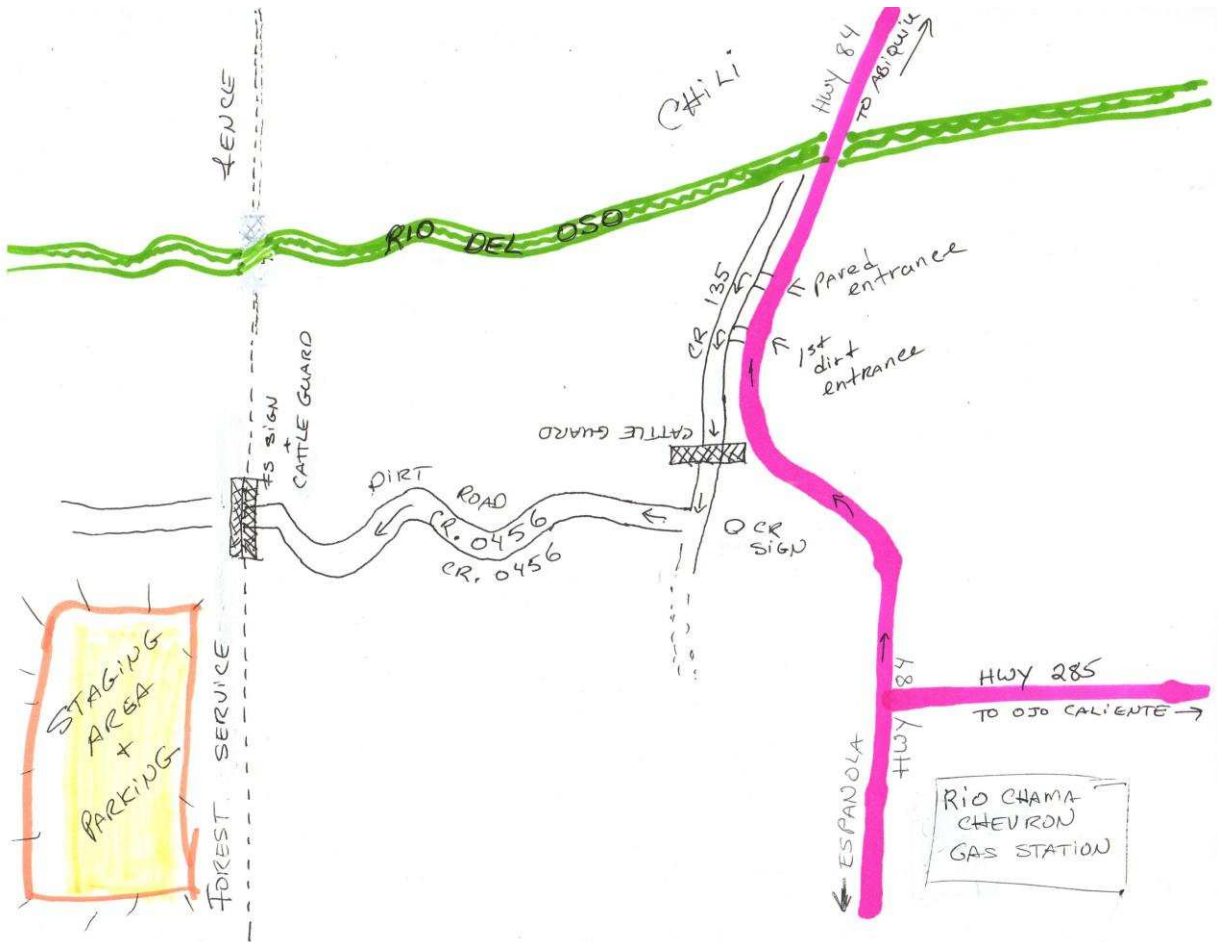
**See map below**

**For directions. Take a  
picture of the map  
with your**

**Phone for convenience**



**What a terrible mess!** 2018/01/26







# Volunteer Opportunities Window Rock Cleanup

By Jennifer Chapin



BI-ANNUAL HIKE TO...  
**WINDOW ROCK!**  
ARE YOU READY FOR  
SOME FUN?!



**SATURDAY, MARCH 24**  
**10:00 TO 4:00**

WINDOW ROCK TRAIL  
LOCATED ALONG HIGHWAY 84



This bi-annual hike to Window Rock is a fun way to explore the area north of Española and to give back to your public lands. During our hike, we'll pick up and haul out trash along the trail. Round-trip mileage is approximately 8 miles.

It will be a beautiful spring day. Join us! Earn service hours!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
JENNIFER SUBLETT → [JASUBLETT@FS.FED.US](mailto:JASUBLETT@FS.FED.US) OR CALL 505-753-7331

**VOLUNTEER**

***Check the website for new rides and updates!***



**Redneck Engineering**

Contributed by Jennifer Chapin

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....



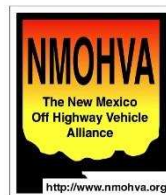
**Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**

# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

<p><b>President</b> Ross Burchard 305-235-6464 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> Cliff Meier 505-507-8188 vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Bobbie Moore 505-221-3847 se@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Bill Bonahoom 505-298-6296 tr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Program Chairman</b> Tracey Bakewell 505-250-3876 pc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-280-7922 hi@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Trip Chairman</b> Don Roy 505-382-7908 tc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> Position is open de@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>SWFWDA Delegate</b> Bob Norton 281-5315 n5epa@flash.net</p>

Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman





April 1, 2018

# Trail Tales

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers



[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

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## Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

by Jeanne Meier, acting secretary



The meeting was held on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Height Presbyterian Church. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GUESTS:** Korey Gossett, Sue and Jim Meilahn, Tracy Rosenberg, Christopher Spiak, Wayne Sullivan, Theodore Threet, Deb Austin, Maddox England.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Jeff Boggs, Bill Bonahoom, Ross Buchard, Ronnie Caton, Bruce England, Brian Glendenning, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Jimmy Lloyd, Cliff and Jeanne Meier, Bob and Carol Provance, Ben Romero, Chris Sears, Donald Tyler, Ralph Vigil, Terrill Wade, Frank R Whiston, Bob Wilbur.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jeanne Meier, acting secretary.** The minutes from the February meeting were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Bill Bonahoom.** Before presenting the treasurer's report, Bill explained that the dues were \$45.00 but anyone that led four or more runs got \$5.00 off for the next year. He then presented Jeff Boggs a \$5.00 refund of the dues he had paid. Bill reported the club had paid \$97.00 for food for the Melt Down in Truth and Consequence, and \$120.00 for the post office box rent, leaving a balance of \$8357.00.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Cliff Meier.** Cliff explained how members and guests can earn points. It was suggested that Randy Diddell should receive 25 cents because his Jeep had saved a driverless Jeep from going over a drop. A guest on one of the Melt Down runs had gotten out of his Jeep without setting the brake and it had started rolling. Randy was not present.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT – Frank G. Whiston.** There was no report.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT – Don Roy.** There was no report.

**EDITOR'S REPORT – Phil Rodacy.** There was no report.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Tracy Bakewell.** Tracy indicated he had club apparel, hats, license plates and other merchandise if anyone was interested to see him after the meeting. He also was selling tickets to the 50/50 raffle.

## **TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Ross Buchard**

Ross announced that Bill Gardner had resigned as trip chairman and Don Roy had agreed to assume the role but was out of town. Ross acted as chairman for the meeting.

### **PAST EVENTS:**

*March 3rd New Mexico Adventure Travel Expo - This event was held at REI to and NM4W had a booth as well as NMOHVA. Ross reported that there were about 30 vehicles on display.*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**March 10 March Madness 4 Wheel Drive Parts.** See website for more details.

**March 11 Cabezon – Cliff Meier.** Cliff indicated this would go to some old buildings, an overlook he had recently found as well as the base of Cabezon peak, the ghost town of Guadalupe and an Indian ruin. If it rains the trip will be rescheduled as the roads are clay and become very slippery when wet. See the website for more details.

**March 17<sup>th</sup> NMOHVA Annual Meeting.** NMOHVA is holding its annual meeting beginning at 9 am Saturday. See the website for more details.

**March 31<sup>st</sup> Rio Del Oso Cleanup.** The Forest Service is providing a large trash trailer. See the website for more details.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

June 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Seven Cities of Gold Event. Planning is going on for this and more details will be available in the next newsletter. The number of participants will be limited and is first come first serve so be sure to register early if interested in attending.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Cliff Meier reported that Tracy Rosenberg, Chris Spiak, Wayne Sullivan, and Theodore Threet have enough points for membership. A motion was made and passed to admit them to the club.

Hosts for the summer meetings are needed. June is the picnic but hosts are needed for May, July, August and September. Please sign-up on the website if you are interested.

Don Tyler won \$47.00 from the 50/50 raffle and Wayne Sullivan won a trail book.

Ross thanked NaDeen Jackson for hosting the meeting.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**



**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**



## **President's Report**

**By Ross Burchard**

There is no President's report this month.

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## **Vice President's Soap Box**

**By Cliff Meier**

I sent out an e-mail in March looking for volunteers to host the clubs summer meetings. We still need hosts for the July and August meetings. Let Ross, Don or myself if you want to host one of these months.

The initial 4X4 101 presentation at the March meeting was very well received. The goal of these presentations is help educate new members and prospective members information on our off road sport. The session was held after the business meeting. The areas covered were Questions About NM4W, What is 4X4 101?, 4X4 Terminology, and Run/Trail Etiquette.

After the Apr meeting we will continue with 4X4 Pre-Run Preparations, Safety, Preparation at the Trailhead and 4X4 Navigation (if time permits). I need some volunteers to 4X4 101 lead discussions, Safety and Navigation so far.

Additional areas to be covered will be Driving Techniques, Demonstrations (jacking, winching, vehicles show and tell, etc.) and a trail ride. The Demonstrations/Show and Tell will be held at a summer meeting. If there are any other areas that need to be included let me know.

## Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun



### Ride Leaders Needed

By Don Roy, Trip Chairman

The main reason many of you join NM4W is to get out and have fun in the bush on club rides. You may not know that the Trip Chair's responsibility, per the SOPs, is not to actually lead many of the rides, but is to see that the ride calendar is reasonably full and that those rides have leaders.

My web guy side was able to help my temp-Trip Chair side by gathering some data from the web site database. Here are some facts I discovered from the past 7 years of data.

- 1) Of the 226 rides in the past 7 years, 65% have been led by 5 people.
- 2) Of those 5 members, the top 3 have led 45% of the rides.
- 3) Those top three have recently become less active, do to normal 'life happens' reasons.

Over the past few years then, we've unknowingly been depending upon very few people to lead most of the rides, especially the easy rides. It would be much better for NM4W to have a larger leader pool to help each year.

There is an Article on the site that describes the procedure for leading a ride. There is a lot of detail there, but it's not as tough as it looks. The most important part is just picking a place to go and showing up. Other experienced ride leaders will be happy to help you through the rest of it.

So, is there a trail or place you like? Are you willing to help carry the load of keeping the ride calendar full? Hopefully yes! Call me, or see me at a meeting, or send me an email! Even if you only lead 1 or 2 rides a year, you will help **your club** be as active as it can be! If it's your first ever ride lead, I can promise to either attend it myself, or get an experienced leader to be there, to give you instant help.

Also, make sure you read the article on what makes a good trip leader elsewhere in this newsletter. It will show that its not hard to lead a run and will allay any fears you may have.



### Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month. This important position is still open and desperately need to be filled. Although it is a lot of work, perhaps a couple people would be willing to share the workload?



# Winter Meltdown Extreme Ride

By Bill Bonahoom

2018 Southern New Mexico Winter Meltdown, Elephant Butte, NM

Over Presidents weekend (February 17-18, 2018) the NM4Wheelers, Hardcore Underground, Turtle Mountain 4x4, and Las Cruces 4x4 clubs all met up at Elephant Butte Lake for the annual Southern New Mexico Winter Meltdown. There were 6 trails ran over the two days with an easy/moderate, hard, and extreme trail each day.

The easy trails were led by Harry and Nancy Trueblood from Elephant Butte. They went out and investigated several old mines and saw some scenic southern New Mexico desert landscaping.

Saturday's Hard trails were led by Steve Andreson and ran Pick and Shovel and Hair Ball and I heard everyone did great, especially considering that both of those trails are as hard as hard gets and could be arguably listed as an easy extreme instead. Sunday's Hard trail, Apache Canyon, tamed it down a few notches and was led by Jack and Cathy Dickey. The trail started down by Caballo Lake and finished back by T or C.

The Extreme trails were led by Jeffery Jacobson with 16 rigs on Mammoth Saturday. Sunday saw the group split into two with 9 running War Path and the remainder playing in Green Canyon and running Chile Challenge trails in the Caballo Lake area. For as large of a group as we had on Saturday everyone did really well. Mammoth is a trail with lots of 3-6 foot boulders scattered all over as you go up a canyon bottom. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up the group saw its only casualty of the day as Daniel's front Dana 60, 1 ton superduty, axle shafts and u-joints decided that they were no match for 42" tires. That did not slow things down too much as a bit of work with the winch and 3 wheel drive found Daniel to the end of the trail relatively easily.

That evening everyone met at Desert Cove within Elephant Butte State Park for dinner. The club provided burgers and dogs and everyone brought a side to share. The food was good and the conversations were great. Special thanks to Andy and Gordon for helping me cook.

Sunday's extreme trail has to be one of my favorites. The only down side is its 14 miles from the trailers so getting to it and back makes for a long day. War Path is as extreme as they come with most rigs choosing to "just survive" on the "easiest" lines (easiest is relative here, as there is nothing easy about any of this trail), but for the daring the optional lines are as big as you want. The super exciting 12 ft waterfall at the start of the trail got washed out in October of 2017 and is now 20+ ft tall and totally un-doable, so a by-pass was constructed for the Chile Challenge last year. Once again, the group did great with the only issue of the day Mathews' fuel pump decided it was done pumping. Thanks to Jim for



having a spare and saving the day as we were back to the trailers by 4, instead of after dark if we had to tow Mathew out, or even coming back the following day with a new pump.



Mammoth Rocks

Surveillance Team



Daniel's Damage



Bill on War Path



Gordon Tipping on Mammoth

The entire weekend was a blast. The BBQ Saturday at the Desert Cove campsite had over 30 people hanging out and telling stories from the day. A big thanks to all the trail leaders, BBQ cooks, and everyone who attended, I cannot wait till next year to do this again.



## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



Since Taxes are due in April ...



## NM4W Newsletters

Contributed By Frank Whiston

**February 11, 1965 – the first Newsletter and an ad in the local paper**

The predecessor club of the New Mexico 4-Wheelers was the Albuquerque Jeep Herders. Here are copies of the first published Newsletter. Some things never change – a bunch of like-minded folks enjoying the outdoors in their favorite vehicles. Social activities and vehicle modifications were also highlighted. Anyone interested in the vehicle modification? A new cigarette lighter and ashtray is hard to beat!



NEWSLETTER OF THE  
ALBUQUERQUE JEEP HERDERS INC.

Feb. 11, 1965

Vol. 1 # 1

NEWSLETTER ?

GOSSIP COLUMN ?

TRIP NOTICE ?

MEETING NOTICE ?

WANT ADS ?

WHO NOES WHAT IT IS I SUR AIN'T NO EDITER\* BUT HEAR IT IS:

Page 1

Glad to be back in print with all the latest news, tips and small talk.

OUR FEB. MEETING

The last meeting was really high lighted by the State Game and Fish Dept's film. We had a good membership attendance and a number of guarts.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Now, there are two new families added to our group and here's a "howdy" to Marie, Bill Anderson and Family, also to Kenneth Cave and Elizabeth; glad to have you rolling with us. The Cave's will be rolling in a Toyota which makes us two in the club, now Doc Musgrave's "Rice Paddy Special" will have a running mate.

Do you think Scott could really catch an elephant that way? I don't.

FEB. TRIP

Speaking of rolling, we'll be doing it Feb. 21st toward Gossett's claim and then cross country toward San Ysidro. Maybe, if Scott isn't leading, we'll go forward instead of around in circles. It should be alot of fun either way, but bring along plenty of grub in case we have a little difficulty in locating that large crossroads. The starting time is 9:00 A. M. at the top of the hill on Route 44 about 4 miles west of Bernalillo.

NEW SY TIDPITS

The Mc Ghee's were missed at the last meeting, especially the new baby, she sure is a darling and really made a hit with all. Hope they'll be with us at the next shindig.

November brought a new addition to the Gossett's --- black and white and Wow what sharp teeth. She will be making her debut on the next trip.



NEW PROJECT

A Search and Rescue Unit is in the discussion stage. Anyone wishing to 'cuss or discuss' this idea get your name on the President's list so a special meeting can be held by the members interested.

MORE TIDPITS

Hope our Treasurer gets back by the next meeting or else we'll have to start checking. Just kidding Vera! but hope you had a nice time.

Scott brought another jeep and boy what a wreck, let's hope the above unit gets formed rather quickly. He says it looks like a CJ7 1/2 and canary yellow so it will be easy to find.

LET'S EAT

For those interested, let's all get together Wed. Nite Feb. 17th at the Village Pancake House - 5505 Central N. E. for dinner and chic chat. Come on out, eat some flapjacks, get all sticky and just have a good time.

MORE MORE TIDPITS

Who's the sly member with the Hudson steering gear hid under the hood?

A vote has been taken to give Wes a second chance at making the coffee, we want to see if it can still be so good minus the pot holder which Ruth promises to leave at home.

An urgent request has been received for anyone having any old bottles (brown or blue) please send them to 3727 Headingly N. E. so Velma can stay out of the city dump or phone 344-6511 and Bert will be glad to pick them up.

Bob Hall put a new ashtray and cigarette light in his CJ 5, next thing he'll be putting in wall to wall carpeting.

MAR. PROGRAM

I hear that the program on Mar. 3rd will be the showing of rocks and minerals by Velma and Bert Gossett. This will be well worth seeing, so let's all attend.

Eucille and Cecil will be serving the refreshments for this night. (May I suggest Apple Pie and Ice Cream)

Enough for now -----maybe more next month (if they don't find out who I am)

DON'T FORGET THESE THREE DATES

Feb. 17th --- Village Pancake House - 5505 Central N. E. 6:30 P. M. or as soon as you can make it.

Feb. 21st --- Trip

Mar. 3rd --- Meeting - 1924 7th St., N. W. 8:00 P. M.

Thanks for your indulgence. See you all around,

Your Raving Editor ???????????



# Jeepherders Drive 1965 Little Traveled Areas

The Albuquerque Jeepherders Club, organized four years ago and incorporated last winter, is headed by Bob Hall, 301 Placitas Road NW, who invites other owners of four-wheel-drive vehicles to join with the club's 46 members.

In addition to organized caravan outings for exploration of untraveled areas in New Mexico, the group is actively concerned with community affairs.

Eleven of the members who hold citizen band radio licenses assist in the jeepherders volunteer work with search and rescue units, civil defense, and soil conservation. The radio operators are of help in communications during caravan trips.

One of the major projects each year is gathering of Christmas trees for hospitals throughout the city and county.

Next outing planned for members is a two-day trip to explore Bear Trap and Limestone Canyons in the Magdalena area. Those wishing to limit the trip to one day will be met at Magdalena to join the caravan on the second day into the canyons.

Officers in addition to Hall are Mrs. J. E. Palmer, 1420 Freeman NW, secretary; Mrs. Vera Burnside, 1023 Forrester Avenue NW, treasurer; and Mrs. Ken Benninghoff, 1006 Aztec Road NW, historian and trip chairman.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group's activities may contact any of the officers, or these Valley residents who are members:

Mr. and Mrs. John Beavers, 2628 Campbell Road NW; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fiorella, Route 1 SW; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Garcia, 3082 San Ignacio Road SW; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Howard, 2512 Commercial NE; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Coppers, 3003 Dover Road SW; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Scott, 2723 San Diego SE; and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Williams, 907 Zearing Place NW.

The club is one in which family participation is welcomed. Meetings are held twice a month at the clubhouse, 2302 Bridge Street SW. At least one trip is scheduled each month. Residents of both the city and county are invited to join the club.

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# Trail Leaders Still Needed

## 10 Qualities of a Great Trail Leader

BY TOM SEVERIN, CONTRIBUTED BY CLIFF MEIER



Pointing out our location on a map.

You've driven the trails numerous times. Have hundreds of hours of 4WD experience under your belt (some of which, of course, is spent outside of the vehicle). You're good with people, and feel your managerial skills are top notch. You'd like to be Trail Leader for an upcoming excursion. What's next?

First, I commend you for wanting to take on a leadership role. As a certified professional 4WD Trainer with more than 40 years of off-road experience, I know the value of a good Trail Leader. Our hobby could use more people willing to step forward and fulfill this role.

Being a Trail Leader is not an easy task. It involves skills, personality and patience. Here are my Top 10 qualities of a great Trail Leader.

- 1.** You must have good 4WD skills. This is a huge category, and includes reading the terrain, picking lines, spotting, recovery, vehicle repair and the Tread Lightly philosophy, to name a few.
- 2.** Know the trail. Drive it at least one time. Get familiar with the terrain and trail. Learn the difficulty level of the obstacles. Know the location of campsites, gas stations, parts store(s) and rest areas. Pick out back up campsites and a safe spot to air up at the end. Contact the responsible agency (BLM, parks department, state DNR) for the latest information. Is there a fire ban? Any trail closures? Does the group need permits? A phone call can minimize the surprises.
- 3.** Keep the gang together, especially at difficult obstacles. Don't let the drivers split up or spread out. A driver can peel off in the wrong direction. Others follow him, and pretty soon several drivers are lost. Have you heard of the accordion concept? Everyone keeps an



eye on the vehicle behind and slows down as needed so as not to lose him. Don't rely on that as it doesn't always work well. Keep an eye on three vehicles behind you. Stop and let the group close up frequently.

Schedule your stops for 10-100 and photo ops. (More on communications later.) Then make sure you don't leave anyone behind. I could be still looking for several vehicles that left the lunch stop going the wrong way! Thanks to a sharp Tail End, who chased them down! Don't split the group unless absolutely necessary. The most common reason is due to a breakdown that can't be repaired on the spot. Make sure everyone knows what they are to do, where and when you'll meet up again. Try to stay in radio or phone contact. Follow the buddy system: No vehicle goes off by itself.

**4.** Start on time and keep the team on time. You can adjust trail time by adding or deleting stops. Don't cajole or push the team, but don't linger at stop more than necessary. Maintain a good pace throughout so you end on time. It's always better to arrive at the campsite earlier than later.

**5.** Develop a good communications plan. This includes written instructions before the trip, as well as briefings and radio gear. Include spotting hand signals too. Your tail gate briefing at the trailhead is an important part of your communications package. Do a radio check before leaving. Know some history of the area and names of geography features you can communicate during the trip.

Your communication responsibility extends outside your own group. Talk to other Leaders you meet on the trail. Ask how many vehicles, where they are going, tell him the trail condition you just came over, ask what's ahead of you, if there are any other groups, etc. If they pulled over, tell him which is your last vehicle. I also like to thank each vehicle (if I can) as I go by for stopping for us. I want my tail end to do the same thing.

**6.** Know how to sequence the vehicles. High difficulty – alternate those with winches. Place ham radio guys in back. They have the power to ask for a repeat of information that was difficult to hear on the less powerful radios. Have any newbies right behind you. They will follow your cues. Lay down an easy line so the newer driver can follow you. Once identified, put the slowest driver behind you to pace yourself.

**7.** Be a people person. Any number of issues can crop up during a ride. Your guests come first; do everything you can to deliver a quality experience. Patience and understanding are a necessity in any Trail Leader. You'll encounter a wide variety of skill sets and personalities while enduring a whole range of circumstances.

**8.** Handle pressure well. You cannot relax and follow the vehicle in front. This can be a nerve-wracking position, especially during inclement weather, vehicle breakdowns, very slow drivers, bad behavior and other challenging situations. If the risk is too high, be willing to change plans.

**9.** Be considerate of others you encounter and encourage the same in your group. Slow down when approaching vehicles, pedestrians, campsites and cabins. This will minimize dust. When passing, don't insist on right of way even if it's normally yours. If you have only two or three vehicles, pull over and let the larger group pass. Adjust to the situation and be polite.

Generally speaking, four wheelers are a nice bunch. So are other types of trail users. No need to think or act competitively. Always be friendly and encourage that in your team. Be willing to share gear or a campsite with someone in need outside your group. The good deed will be repaid someday.

**10.** Treat your position as Trail Leader with respect. Since you reach a rest area or campsite first, hold back and let others grab the prime spots.

Being a Trail Leader carries with it much responsibility. You are expected to know the route, coach others through difficult obstacles, deal with bad behavior, have a backup plan for many unknowns, and keep a cheerful attitude throughout. But the rewards are tremendous.

A note to clubs: Everyone needs to start somewhere. Let a willing member be the Trail Leader even if uncertain of his skills and ability (don't stick the new guy just because no one wants it!) Pair him up with an experienced Trail Leader who will not let him fail! The same goes for spotting. Get some new blood out there learning to spot and building the trust of the group. Have your normal go-to-spotting-guy stand behind him coaching but not giving the drive instruction himself.

<https://www.4x4training.com/>



## Be Prepared for an Emergency

Contributed by Phil Rodacy

A four-seasons survival kit for your Jeep should do it all: help you shelter in place or pull off a rescue on your own, whether you bog down in a blizzard or burn up your transmission in a desert wilderness. Even if you don't need many of these items on a regular basis, you'll be glad you had them, whether for yourself or when helping a fellow Jeep. The basic list was taken from an article by Jim Golden in Field and Stream, but its been modified for the off-road crowd. Most of the items you might want are pictured here, but why choose these items? Well, some are for survival and some are for comfort. Total cost of the supplies listed should be under \$100, excluding the sleeping bag. Its likely that you already have a lot of the items just sitting in your garage. Bring them along where they'll do you some good if needed. Seriously, consider carrying most of not all of the listed equipment. We're all willing to spend thousands of dollars to modify our Jeeps – spend a couple hundred to ensure that you'll get back safely and remain comfortable if you're ever stranded. Add or delete items as you see fit for your particular situation.



5. A **7x9-foot tarp** will shed rain while you repair a punctured tire, provide shade in the desert, function as a makeshift sleeping bag, or catch rainwater for emergency drinking supplies. It's the duct tape of a truck kit.
6. You'll need a **fail-proof baseplate compass**, with a lanyard, in case you have to hike out for help. Hiking out should be the last thing you do, though. A rescue crew (if needed), can find a vehicle from the air much more easily than they can find an individual. A signal mirror and the knowledge how to use it should also be carried.
7. Getting unstuck is often job No 1, so make sure you have **recovery tools**. Kitty litter can provide just enough bite in moderate snow cover. Still spinning? Dig out with a **military-grade folding shovel** with a serrated blade and heavy-duty pick. A dedicated **recovery strap** differs from a tow strap—it stretches to help snatch stuck vehicles, and there are no metal hooks that can be a serious injury hazard. If you don't have **a winch, a 2-ton cable puller** can be a last resort. Always think about ways to accomplish what you need to do. For example, if there are no trees close enough to reach with your winch, dig a hole, bury your spare tire to use as an anchor, and it may be enough to pull yourself out. Always make sure you're in a safe location so that if something goes wrong, you won't be hurt. Keep "What if?" in mind at all times.
8. You should also consider some sort of **signaling device** in addition to your cell phone and car horn. You may not have a cell signal, and although fairly loud, horns don't carry very far and are often ignored. Depending on where you're going, maybe you want to take a packable rifle (22LR) which works great for signaling and is much better than a pistol if you need to shoot a squirrel for food (hopefully you won't be stranded that long, but who knows?). A loud rescue whistle could be a non-lethal alternative as it can be heard for up to a mile and you can blow it for a lot longer than you can shout.
9. **Roadside flares** not only alert other drivers to a broken-down vehicle but also serve as signaling devices and emergency fire starters
10. **Power-Up** No sun? No batteries? No problem. Crank your way to communication with the Eton FRX5 hand-cranked and solar-powered AM/FM–NOAA weather radio with integrated smartphone charger (etoncorp.com).
11. Include a few pairs of **non-latex gloves** with your first-aid kit. Useful if you need to staunch bleeding or do any first aid on others. Sterile gloves are recommended and come in individually wrapped packages to maintain sterility. You'll be protected and you will minimize the chance of infections.
12. In addition to the **first-aid basics**, pack the small **Hunter's Trauma Kit** to help stop massive bleeding (tmsoutdoors.com). A course in backwoods first aid or even basic first aid knowledge will be invaluable if you ever need it.
13. It's a culinary multitool: Take a **small pot or stainless-steel bottle** to collect and boil water in. You'll also use it to cook those freeze-dried meals you brought along. Keep in in a plastic bag for cleanliness.



15. Stuck for the night? Bunk down in a nice **down sleeping bag**, which compresses down to bread-loaf size. If this seems too expensive, at least bring **extra clothes** (extra shirt, pants, jacket or coat) even in the summer as nights can be cold any time of the year.

15. Purifying water and cooking requires heat, and a **small backpacking stove** is just the ticket. Small ones such as Camp Chef's Stryker 100 has an integrated 1.3-liter pot, takes up little room, but will boil 1/2 liter of water in two minutes.

16. No one tool does it all, but if you need to build a fire, you may have to split kindling, and a **small axe** is perfect. Trail blocked? Chop it clear, or better yet, take a small **folding saw** (also quicker and safer than an axe). A **sturdy knife** will always come in useful as well. Make sure its kept sharp. You're more likely to get cut with a dull knife than a sharp one.

17. Instead of having to build a fire an boil water to make it safe to drink, take a **water filtration system**. Alternately, take some **water purification tablets** with you. Making water safe by boiling takes at least 30 minutes (longer at high altitudes) and the purification tablets take about 30 minutes as well, but either beats getting a giardia.

18. If you have to stay out overnight, its pretty obvious that you'll need a fire for perhaps boiling water or cooking. You'll want one for comfort at any rate. Double your fire-starting options with a **windproof lighter and waterproof matches**. There are also many types of **fire starters** that will help make it easier to get a fire going, especially if its damp out. Just make sure that you build the fire in a safe manner. Forest fires are always a bad thing.

19. Cram **an old raincoat** into the kit and you'll stay dry while wiring your tailpipe back to the frame with a coat hanger.

20 When it gets dark, you'll welcome a **flashlight or spotlight** and some spare batteries. The new LED lights are very rugged and use very little battery power, so they last a long time. Some also have a signaling function (A flashing mode rather than a steady output – easier to see and batteries last longer). You can also step up to a rechargeable light such as Streamlight's Waypoint Rechargeable spotlight, a 1,000-lumen bright idea. An integrated kickstand turns it into a handy task light, and it's light and small enough to carry when you make a break for civilization.

21. Finally, and this may be the most important thing that you can do, is to make sure you **let someone know where you're going** and when you expect to be back. If you don't show up, at least a rescue crew will know where to start looking.



# **Cabazon Run**

**March 18, 2018**  
**Contributed by Cliff Meier**

After the second try the Day Light Savings run, which became the post Daylight Savings run on the 18<sup>th</sup> instead of the 11<sup>th</sup> was run, kind of! The first attempt on the 11<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to weather; don't want to be out in the Cabazon area in the rain. The run was rescheduled a week later.

The weather was still marginal but 11 hardy souls in 8 vehicles braved it. We had 2 first event folks and 4 guests. We met in San Ysidro and after airing down started out. After leaving San Ysidro and driving South on Hwy 550 we turned west on Cabazon Road. The weather was threatening rain but the clouds were to our north and the forecast said they should stay north.

The run was easy on graded roads except when we proceeded to a mesa overlook near the pumping station on a two track road. The only real challenge was staying away from the many shooters in the area. After leaving the mesa top overlook we continued on a two-track loop trail that bordered a large stock pond with an interesting spillway. This track exited back to the Pipeline Road thru a neat little slot canyon right into a shooting area, but luckily no one was shooting.

We continued to a side road that led to an old two room where there was a BLM sign saying this was an "artifact" area and please do not remove any. The cabin was interesting in that it was fairly substantial with either concrete or stucco sides and one of the two rooms had had bars on the windows. Don't know if the bars were to keep people in or out! This was our lunch spot.

The weather in the north had decided to turn south. We all eat lunch in our vehicles. After lunch and a little discussion, I decided to cut the run short, Again, I do not like being on these clay roads in the rain. We returned the way we came in. All and all, it a short day but good day. Need to return another day to finish out the run.



## New 4x4 Magazine

Contributed by Cliff Meier

### OutdoorX4 to Launch New Magazine in 4th Quarter

Jeepers International Magazine to highlight all-things related to Jeep® vehicles

Houston, TX - 3/26/2018 - OutdoorX4 is proud to announce its plan to add a second magazine title to its portfolio with the launch of Jeepers International, a new print title that will be focused on Jeep® vehicles and the adventure lifestyle.

For years, Jeep® vehicles have been synonymous with 4x4 adventure and are recognized worldwide as the standard by which all off-pavement vehicles are judged. Jeepers International is being created for the Jeep® enthusiast who craves an adventurous lifestyle. The magazine will focus on all things related to Jeeps with stories from all over the world in which Jeep® vehicles are the primary subject, including tech tips, product reviews, vehicle spotlights, and adventure pieces.

Jeepers International will be a quarterly print magazine available by subscription ONLY, with the first issue set to release in October 2018. In addition to print, the magazine will also be available in a digital format viewable on ANY device equipped with a web browser and will boast a website that's content-driven and updated regularly with editorial and photography to keep readers engaged between issues.

"I'm excited to offer what I believe will be a dynamic and engaging magazine any Jeep® enthusiast will enjoy," said Frank Ledwell, Chief Executive and Publisher of OutdoorX4 Magazine. "Jeepers International will compliment our flagship publication, OutdoorX4 Magazine, by offering enthusiasts a real and down-to-earth approach specifically devoted to Jeeps without detracting from what has made OutdoorX4 Magazine so unique in its four years of publication."

Charter subscriptions to Jeepers International will be available starting May 1. In the meantime, track the launch of the new Jeepers International website by visiting [www.jeepersinternational.com](http://www.jeepersinternational.com). Also, be sure to "Like" the Jeepers International social media channels by visiting Facebook at [@jeepersintl](https://www.facebook.com/jeepersintl) and Instagram at [@jeepersinternational](https://www.instagram.com/jeepersinternational) for updates and photos.

#### About OutdoorX4

OutdoorX4 Magazine (pronounced "outdoor by 4") is a fully independent overland adventure lifestyle publication focused not only on the vehicle but also utilizing the

vehicle, whether a 4x4, two wheels, or by foot, as a means to get out and responsibly enjoy all forms of outdoor recreation.

Now in its fifth year of publication, OutdoorX4 is offered six times annually in both a print and digital version. The print book is currently available for purchase at most major book retailers, as well as other outlets including grocers and pharmacies, within the United States and Canada with select distribution internationally. The digital edition, which is included with print subscriptions and also available as a standalone, was developed to be viewable on all mobile devices including smart phones, iPad, tablet, laptop, or desktop by using a web browser with social media integration and other reader-enhanced features.

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**Jeepers**

WELCOME TO  
**Jeepers International Magazine**

Jeepers International was created for the Jeep® enthusiast who craves an adventurous lifestyle with a passion for a vehicle platform that has set the benchmark for all 4x4s worldwide. The magazine will focus on all things related to Jeeps with stories from all over the world where Jeep® vehicles are the primary subject including tech tips, product reviews, vehicle spotlights, adventure pieces and more!

**Jeepers**  
FIRST ISSUE  
OCTOBER 2018

Jeepers International will be a quarterly print magazine available by subscription only.

In addition to print, the magazine will also be available in a digital format viewable on any device equipped with a web browser with a website that customizes content and updated regularly with editorial and photography to keep you engaged between issues.

Charter subscriptions will be available starting May 1st.

In the meantime, "Like" us on social media by visiting us on Facebook and Instagram for updates and photos.

**Jeepers**

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***Check the website for new rides and updates!***



**Redneck Engineering**

**Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
Just in time for the summer BBQ season, too**



**Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail?**

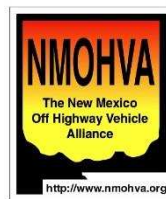
**Call the trip leader to find out.**

# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

<p><b>President</b> Ross Burchard 305-235-6464 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President Membership Chairman</b> Cliff Meier 505-507-8188 vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Bobbie Moore 505-221-3847 se@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Bill Bonahoom 505-298-6296 tr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Program Chairman</b> Tracey Bakewell 505-250-3876 pc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-280-7922 hi@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Trip Chairman</b> Don Roy 505-382-7908 tc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> Position is open de@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>SWFWDA Delegate</b> Bob Norton 281-5315 n5epa@flash.net</p>

Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman





# Trail Tales



May 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

by **Bobbie Hayden , Secretary**



The meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GUESTS:** Deb Austin, Bob Pauli, Jim & Sue Meilahn, Chuck Arrgon, Michael & Kyleen Arndt, Mike Slavik, Korey Zimmereman

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Andreson, Tracy Bakewell, Jeff Boggs, Bill Bonahoom, Ross Burchard, Ronnie Caton, Randy Diddel, Brian Glendenning, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Jimmy Lloyd, Jose Lucero, Cliff & Jeanne Meier, Bobbie Moore, Bob & Carol Provance, Don Roy, Wayne Sullivan, Donald Tyler, Frank G. Whiston, Mark Wolf

**PRESIDENTS REPORT** Ross reminded the club that the position of Environmental Affairs is still vacant. Frank told us that the main job is for this person is to read the MNOVA newsletter and report to the club. Anything beyond that, as in attend meetings etc. would be great. Bob Pauli, a new member to be, volunteered for the position. Thank you, Bob !

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –Bobbie Moore** The minutes from the March 8 ,2018 meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT - Bill Bonahoom.** The treasury operating balance is \$8,330.05

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT –Cliff Meier** Cliff explained how members and guests can earn points. Then Sheriff Cliff launched onto the fines, with only one who confessed. The new item---- 1st Time Trip Leaders Will Be Exempt From Fines.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT –Don Roy** Don reported on the Gordys run. He has been working with the BLM tracking all the trails in that area and naming a few like "washboard ridge".

Cliff reported on the Cabazon run, finding interesting items like an old stone cabin, and a great overlook. Threatening weather shortened that run.

**PAST EVENTS:**

March 18, Cabezon South & West Cliff Meier

March 31, Rio del Oso Cleanup Ross Burchard CANCELED

April 8, Gordy's Hill Don Roy

April 14, Cedro Peak Night Run Cliff Meier

April 21, 7 Trails of Gold Exploration/Pre Run Frank Whiston & Ross Burchard

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

May 1 Trip to Colorado Andy Townes

May 2-12 Moab Guy Conway

May 6 Jemez Mts. Ride Travis Bakewell

May 19 Pioneer Creek-Goose Lake Red River Vincent Reed

May 19 Go Topless Day Donald Tyler

June 8-10 NMOHVA's 2018 Seven Trails of Gold Frank Whiston

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTALS AFFAIRS REPORT – Bob Pauli** no report

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Tracey Bakewell** Tracey reported that he has T-shirts, license plates, etc. for sale. Please contact him if you would like to purchase items.

**HISTORIAN’S REPORT – Frank G. Whiston.** Frank has been working on this site for a while. He has put the first ever newsletter in. Keep checking for more history items. Just a reminder that 2018 is the clubs 60th anniversary, and if you have any ideas to help celebrate, please tell him.

**WEBMASTER’S REPORT – Don Roy** Don has been working on profile changes, and making it easy for us to look up past runs, photos, pictures, and other interesting items. He is putting them together year by year.

**EDITOR’S REPORT – Phil Rodacy.** Phil was absent.

**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**



**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS – Frank G. Whiston.** Frank explained how to opt-in for the 4WD Hardware Club Rewards Program. Also, NMOHVA receives a percentage every time you use Amazon Smile. Please make sure to fill out all your information so all can benefit from these programs. Our members spent \$43,653.00 this year at 4WD Hardware resulting in a rebate check for the club of \$1,310.00. Good job, members !

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Just a reminder about the 7 Trails of Gold Event. Frank and Jeff explained more about this event. It is for motorcycles, ATV's and 4 Wheelers, with a large assortment for trails for all. This is the first year for the 4 wheelers so if there is a big support they will have this again next year. This is for everybody, not just club members.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

It was voted and approved to pay United 4 Wheel Drive Association \$1,000.00, not the usual \$1,600. The dues help protect our trails etc. If you would like to read more about United there is a link on the club's website.

**New Members** Remember new members must be present to be voted in.

- Congratulations to Jim & Sue Meilahn
- Congratulations to new member Fred Hawkins, who recently opened up a new 4 Wheel Drive shop in Abq.

**Pleasant Surprise**

The club had a surprise visit from member Mark Wolf from Arizona. Good to see you Mark!

**Raffle Winners:** The raffle was won by Ross Burchard who donated money back to club, so drawing was held again and Jeannie Meier won.

**Many Thanks to Nadeen Jackson for providing the snacks once again and being Hostess.**

Next month's meeting will be May 10th at the home of Cliff & Jeannie Meier in Abq. This will start the summertime meetings with a pot luck at 5PM.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:00 p.m.



## President's Report

By Ross Burchard

There is no President's report this month.

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

**Thinking about going on a ride, but not  
sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**



# NM4W News from May 1972

Contributed By Frank Whiston

## 'Jeepherders' Can Go Where Others Cannot

By JANET B. BLAIR

The wagonmaster leads them through mountain passes on the most primitive roads — they follow all in a line.

Each vehicle is self-sufficient; filled with rugged individualists, their kids, and often all the family dogs, cats, and what-have-you.

Sounds like something out of the days of the pioneers, but it isn't. It's one of the typical monthly outings sponsored by the Albuquerque Jeep-Herders.

The club, with about 23 active families, is open to the owners of four-wheel drive vehicles. Their speciality is going where everyone else can't. Each month, winter and summer, they take off in a different direction, exploring the nooks and crannies of every corner of New Mexico.

The people in the club, says president Doyle Kimbrough of Albuquerque, are everything from bank presidents to mechanics.

They organized the group way back in 1958, and stand as one of the oldest such clubs in the country.

Originally intended for the owners of Jeep vehicles, the members soon decided to accept persons owning any one of the now popular recreational vehicles.

The requirement for four-wheel drive is still a must, and understandably too — old logging roads, mine roads, and other minimal standard highways are the only way they travel.

Kimbrough is quick to point out, however, that their trips involve very little "clinging to the edge of the cliff" travel.

"There are two types of jeep-herding," he said. One is the competition-hill climbing type, which isn't the case here.

"Ours is a family-oriented club. We just enjoy getting out together."

Getting out together usually means a one-day tour, once a month in the winter months, and a weekend jaunt in the summer. Kimbrough, who is an accounting supervisor by profession, said that the club travels to a base camp selected by the wagonmaster, and then takes off on a journey from there the following morning.

The group members stay in touch with one another by an informal system using citizen band radios when they are on the trail.

They often stop along the way so that the gem and mineral specialists, and the photographers in the entourage, can take advantage of the surroundings, said Kimbrough.

If the members are individuals, so are the vehicles, he added. Many are almost antiques by today's standards of automotive endurance (Kimbrough owns a '48 Universal) or they are do-it-yourself specials.

"You'll have a jeep body, a Hudson steering, and maybe a Chrysler engine."

The self-sufficiency thing carries through here, too — owners are expected to be able to care for their own vehicles.

Club members do have some beliefs in common. Besides being a social group, the Jeep-Herders feel they must do their share to maintain the recreation lands they use, Kimbrough said. As a result, they organize at least one trip a year in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management.

They have staged clean-ups of the Santa Cruz Lake area, and La Cienega Creek in recent years.

"Unlike most vehicles, we can carry out more than we bring in," he said.

The group also organizes a tradition Christmas party to benefit the Toys for Tots program. Admission requirement —? You guessed it — a toy Jeep.

May 11, 1972 NEWS Page 225N

PROGRAM  
Dick Meleski  
Photo Services  
"Snowshoeing a  
Ghost Towns."

The Albuquerque Tribune

### State panel to work on trails

New Mexico residents interested in getting a recreation trails planning bill passed during the next legislative session now have a state committee to work with them. The 12-member advisory committee is now being formed, said Leo Griego, assistant state planning director. "We'll be calling a meeting the group soon, to plot a course of action," Mr. Griego trails representative McDonald, fishing and conservation; Lowell Martin, New Mexico Mountain Horse Council; New Mexico Mountain Bill Loudon, Snowmobile Club; Cycle Trails; Ralph Coen, trails; Doc Campbell and guides; E. University of New Mexico; Frank Cochrane, hunters; Doris clubs.



# Key Skills You Should Know

Contributed By Phil Rodacy

The following information is by Tom Severin, <https://www.4x4training.com>



Four wheeling naturally involves an orderly process. Driving through difficult terrain far from home is demanding on drivers and their vehicles. Just like driving on roads, you need a lot of hours behind the wheel to become adept off road. Many of my articles are dedicated to reviewing various aspects of four wheeling. This column reviews several more important fundamentals that can be helpful if you are just starting four wheeling.

**1. Shift into and out of 4L (4 low) properly.** It's easy to forget this step while maneuvering through rough terrain. It's quite simple, but you can mess up your transfer box pretty good if you don't follow this suggestion.

Bring your vehicle to a stop (or near stop), and shift the transmission into neutral. Then you can safely and easily shift into 4L. Shift the transmission back into drive, and continue on. Repeat when you need to shift out of 4L. Most of the newer vehicles with electronic selection of 4 low will let you turn the knob but it will not be in 4 low unless you start with the transmission in neutral. If you overlook the flashing light on the dash and press on thinking you are in 4L, you will likely get stuck. Those vehicles with levers will grind or be extremely difficult if not impossible to engage into 4L. Unless you have a classic "collectors" vintage 4-wheel drive vehicle with the older all-gear transfer case, I would take it back to the dealer if you cannot shift into 4 low from a dead stop. If you get stuck while driving in 4 high (like sand dunes), many times you can drive out by shifting to 4 low. Then you have enough power to turn the wheels. You are stuck, so moving the vehicle as a requirement to



shift into 4 low is not an option! Electronic shifting transfer cases may need a bit of movement to engage. Hopefully on your vehicle that requires just that slight bump you get to shift from neutral to drive.

One side note: You can shift from 2 wheel drive (2H) to 4 High and back again "on the fly." This means you can shift while driving at any speed. I have done it at 70 MPH with no ill effect. Check your owner's manual for their suggestion on the top speed – most likely 50 MPH. Vehicles are getting more and more complicated and there may be a reason to limit the top speed for shifting on the fly.

**2. Know your vehicle's lowest points of clearance.** As you approach obstacles, paint a mental picture of your vehicle's low points. Use that knowledge to navigate around (or over) the obstacles without getting hung up. We recommend picking the 3 lowest spots on the front axle and the 3 lowest on the rear axle. You can do more but it becomes difficult to process it all in real time. Whether you have solid axles front and rear or independent front suspension makes a difference.

On a solid axle, the lowest point is the bottom of the differential. That's usually only 9 inches off the ground. The front differential also gives you a low point, but it's not in line with the rear differential. Note which side it is on. The other low points (front and back) are the shock mounts or control arms that hold the axle into position.

In an independent front suspension vehicle, the back is the same as with a solid axle. However, up-front the lowest points are just inside each wheel. The center of the vehicle is pretty flat and doesn't present any low points. But don't line up the center in front with a 12" rock. The rear diff will not clear it.

**3. Know where your front wheels are.** Most drivers have a pretty good idea of where the left tire is, but are usually off a foot or two regarding the right. It is critical while off-road that you can place your tires exactly on the obstacle as you planned even when the obstacle disappears into your blind spot.

Have someone place their hand on the front face of the right front tire and lift it straight up until you can see where that point is on the hood. It can be helpful, too, if they locate the center line of the tire and show you the point on the hood that is the intersection of the centerline and front face of the tire. Remember the spots.

If you are really having difficulty remembering the spot, we can put “training wheels” on (so to speak). Get a small telescoping magnet from the auto store and put the magnet on the spot with the handle straight up. Then practice, practice, practice until you can place the front tires exactly where you want – almost every time.

4. **Know your blind spots.** Speaking of blind spots, the most important one is out front. On average, the front blind spot extends about 17 feet from the face of your left front tire. (Add 12 to 18 inches more distance for the right tire.) You can reduce this distance as much as 3 to 5 feet by doing what I call “active” looking. That means leaning forward as much as possible and stretching your neck out.

Three factors influence the size of the blind spot: how tall you are, how your seat is positioned, and the design of your vehicle. You cannot do much about the vehicle design or your height, but you can change the seat. Lift it up and bring the seat back forward. If your seat does not have adjustments for height, have the seat mounts modified to permanently raise it a few inches.

Remember that as you approach a rock, it will eventually enter your blind spot. Now you see (no pun intended) why it’s useful to know where your tires are, as well as your low points.

5. **Throttle control while in 4 low.** The first time in low range, a driver’s instinct is to push the accelerator like you normally do. Low range has a lot of torque and power so this causes the vehicle to leap forward. The driver backs off on the gas. Due to the low gearing, the vehicle slows down immediately – too slow now. The driver hits the gas again, with the result being a jerky motion.

For 4 wheel drive, you need a nice, smooth throttle. Remind yourself that when in 4L, apply lighter pressure to the accelerator. Over time you’ll educate your right leg.

6. **Fuel usage.** Because your mileage drops while off road, especially in 4L, it’s good to calculate your off-road fuel mileage. You’ll find that mileage drops anywhere from 2 to 5 mpg while off-road. Of course, that affects your range based on the fuel in your vehicle’s tank. But remember you also bring along a spare fuel can. (You do, don’t you?!)

Assume you bring a 5 gal gas can. At 10 mpg, that gas will get you 50 miles. At 15 mpg, you'll go for 75 miles, and so forth.

Compute Off-Road Mileage: Fuel up as close to the trail head as possible. Gas up again afterward and calculate your fuel mileage. Your off-road driving involved a combination of 4L and 4H, but at least you'll have a reasonable average to work with later. Sounds to me like a legitimate reason for a day of 4-wheeling. "Dear, I am going 4-wheeling. Tom says I have to compute my off-road mileage. I don't want to risk your and the kids' safety by running out of gas."

**7. Rehearse your contingency steps.** Many obstacles require you to get out of the vehicle and recon (look at / walk) the terrain. That is how you avoid falling off a cliff you can't see from behind the wheel. It gives you more time to plan the line you want to take and asses the risks. Add to that planning what steps you will take if results on the ground do not go as planned. If you plant it in your mind in advance the specific skills you will use on this obstacle, you can react quickly. My favorite contingency is – stop, back out (if you can) and recon again.

Another example: You are looking down a steep, off camber, rutted slope. It appears to have good traction, but you're concerned that your wheels might slide. If so, you'd turn sideways and roll over. If you still feel the risk is not high enough to turn around, your contingency plan might be: If the wheels start to slide, I am going to let up on the foot brake pressure. If the wheels are still sliding, I'll power up enough to gain control and take any lumps from hitting the bottom too fast.

At first glance, these tips may appear daunting. You probably wonder how you'll remember it all, especially the vehicle's low points. Over time these will become second nature. As you drive a trail, your brain will work through the various processes and steps, and you will automatically perform these steps. The result will be a more enjoyable off-road experience.



## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



### Motivating the Unconcerned

Contributed By Frank Whiston

## Are YOU the “Lack” in Lackadaisical?

By Jerry Smith Director of Environmental Affairs for the United Four Wheel Drive Associations

According to Dictionary.com, lackadaisical means: without interest, vigor, or determination; listless; lethargic: a lackadaisical attempt.

Whoa!! A new word for many of you.

If we break it down a bit, “lack” means; “deficiency or absence of something needed, desirable,”

Hypothetically, let’s say you love steak. You eat steak nearly every night for dinner. A perfectly done steak is what makes your day brighten and you sleep a peaceful and restful sleep because you had your favorite meal.

Introducing the Department of Agriculture. Some groups of bureaucrats have determined that steak is not good for human consumption. Therefore, they are **REQUIRING** that all beef be ground for hamburger with a 25% fat content effective immediately. If you ever eat hamburger, you like 90% lean meat.

Are you going to stand for this... or just sit there and let this travesty go on?? Are you lackadaisical??

Then there are more groups of government bureaucrats who have determined that if they simply ration gasoline, the planet will survive and the resource will last much longer. From now on, you will **ONLY** be allowed **ONE** tank of gas per week. How is that going to affect your plans? For some of you, that will get you to work about two or maybe three days per week. That’s okay; you can ride your bicycle to the store for food... food you can’t afford because you can’t get to work five-days a week anymore.

Recreation??? That 4x4 parked in your driveway just turned into a giant paperweight. You can’t use it - no gas. You can’t sell it. Who needs or wants a vehicle that has no fuel to go anywhere? You’ll part it out?? Who’s going to build a vehicle they can’t use?? Those parts aren’t worth two-cents on the dollar you paid for them.

If you think these scenarios are a bit silly you’d be wrong. They are happening all around you every day.



Take gun control for instance. They haven't yet taken your guns away (yet), but they're limiting the amount of bullets you may purchase and have driven up the cost of them to where you may not enjoy firing one. And they've limited the size of your legal magazines.

In the last 15-years, the Forest Service and BLM have limited the number of trails open for motorized vehicles. In fact, in most ranger districts, the newer travel plans have CLOSED 50% to 75% of the trails that once were open for your pleasure.

Were you "lackadaisical" while they did that?? Be honest... what did YOU DO to stop this from happening??

Did YOU write and submit a comment?

Did YOU support someone who did?

Did YOU attend the meetings to discuss this with the land managers?

Did YOU ask your County Commissioners to submit their recommendations to the land managers to keep YOUR trails open?

Unless YOU did at least one of the above, YOU were and are lackadaisical.

What if I told you that there are more rounds of trail. You can't use closures coming? Would THAT finally get you up off your lackadaisical butt??

Okay, you have a life and time is a premium. We understand. Attending meetings is expensive and time consuming.

Writing a "substantive" comment requires research and thought. Maybe your grammar or your typing abilities are poor. There are innumerable excuses. We understand that too.

But did you make an effort to support people who have the time, the knowledge, and the passion to do what needs to be done? Would it hurt so bad to send a check supporting the organizations that are trying to do what you are unwilling or unable to do?

Some of us do have the time and knowledge to do this work. But why should we, as individuals, pay the expenses to go to meetings, or attend events to talk with locals that have more details than we can know from afar? Some of us would gladly work FOR you if you would only show some support.

You can continue your lackadaisical ways. We are happy to allow that. But please consider becoming a member of the United Four Wheel Drive Associations. The membership dues are not that expensive. In fact, they would be cheap if they were doubled if we can keep just a few of your trails open to motorized use.

United once had paid staff to do the work. The resources and support dried up, and the staff had to go.

United once had an attorney on retainer who produced wonderful support for trail access. The resources and support dried up, and the attorney had to go as well.

Volunteers are difficult to come by. Volunteers who are willing to work for nothing are even more

difficult to find. Volunteers who are willing to spend their own money to travel to meetings and events are even more difficult to find. Why should they??

Ask yourself, is your club or is your state association actually DOING the work necessary to keep your trails safe from closure?

We at United are trying, but without support from the people we represent, there is little that we can accomplish. Please help.



***Check the website for new rides and updates!***



## Redneck Engineering

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
A handy hint just in time for your spring maintenance chores.



**Get out and enjoy the great outdoors.**

**KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC**

**NM4W Officers**

<p><b>President</b> Ross Burchard 305-235-6464 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> Cliff Meier 505-507-8188 vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Bobbie Moore 505-221-3847 se@nm4w.org</p>
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 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman







# Trail Tales



June 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2018

by Jeanne Meier, Acting Secretary



The meeting was held on May 12, 2018 at the home of Cliff and Jeanne Meier. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order.

**GUESTS:** Not available.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Not available.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jeanne Meier, acting secretary.** The minutes from the April meeting were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Bill Bonahoom.** Bill was not present but had provided a report to Russ. The balance is \$9315.93 which includes \$1310.00 from Four Wheel Drive Parts Rewards Program and \$375.00 in shirt sales. \$1000.00 is owed to United. 2018-2019 dues are due by August 1, 2018 and you can pay through PayPal beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. You may also pay with cash, check or credit card. There is a 30-day grace period but if dues are not paid by August 31<sup>st</sup> membership will lapse and to reactivate requires 5 points.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Cliff Meier.** Cliff explained how members and guests can earn points. There was a discussion of fines and on the Cabezon run there were a couple of wrong turns but there is amnesty from fines for first time trail leaders.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT – Frank G. Whiston.** There was no report.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT – Don Roy.** Don Roy reported that you can now search the gallery for specific runs.

**EDITOR'S REPORT – Phil Rodacy.** There was no report.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Tracy Bakewell.** Tracy indicated he had club apparel, hats, license plates and other merchandise if anyone was interested to see him after the meeting. He also was selling tickets to the 50/50 raffle.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Don Roy**

### **PAST EVENTS:**

**Pre-Run Seven Cities of Gold --** A group went to Grants to pre-run trails for the Seven Cities of Gold event. It was broken into three different trails two south of I40 and one to Mt Taylor.

**Cabezon – Travis Bakewell** - This was the first time Travis had led a trail and reports were a good time was had by all. They went in from the south and explored several roads some with gates as well as visiting Guadalupe then went up to the mesa towards Mt Taylor before coming home via San Luis.

**Moab Green River - Guy Conway** - Ed Kausche had just returned from the annual event. He reported that attendances was down from previous years. He and Guy were the only one at Moab with attendance going up at Green River.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**May 18 Route 60 to Hwy 280 Jeff Boggs** - This is an exploratory run starting from Highway 60 between Bernardo and Mountainair traveling south on the east side of the river to Highway 280 east of San Antonio. See website for more details.

**May 26<sup>th</sup> Jemez Jeff Boggs.** See website for more details.

**June 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic – Oak Flats Picnic Area.** See the website for more details.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

June 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Seven Cities of Gold Event. Registration for this event is open and planning is continuing but there is a possibility that the Forest Service could close the area. Everyone should watch the website in case this should happen. (Editor's note: This event has been cancelled. A trip to Silverton / Ouray has been scheduled as a replacement.)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Annual Picnic – The annual picnic will be at Oak Flats Group Picnic area June 16<sup>th</sup>. If there are fire restrictions it may not be possible to cook hamburgers and hot dogs. In the past the club has had sandwiches.

The date for the July meeting will probably be moved to Sunday afternoon. A host for the August and September meeting is needed.

Jeanne Meier won \$29.00 from the 50/50 raffle and Don Roy won a tree saver.

Ross thanked Cliff and Jeanne for hosting the meeting.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**



## **President's Report**

**By Ross Burchard**

There is no President's report this month.

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## **Vice President's Soap Box**

**By Cliff Meier**

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## **Director of Environmental Affairs**

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

**Thinking about going on a ride, but not  
sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**

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### Lunch Stop

Members of Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club make a brief pause to refuel—the people, not the machines—on a recent trip through the Jemez mountains, which is described by our intrepid reporter-photographer in the accompanying article.

## Outdoor Sports

### 'Jeeping': Deliberately Rough

A "mild jeep trip" is highlighted by confronting obstinate cattle, winding through canyon bottoms and creek beds where roads may have been ten years ago, and driving sideways through mud on a road with six-inch-deep ruts.

A recent trip of the Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club twisted through 25 miles of the Jemez Mountains from Ponderosa to the Tent Rocks and Cochiti Pueblo about 50 miles north of Albuquerque.

The trip, described as "mild" by Cecil Koppers, jeep club president, became a "good mud trip" after an hour of steady rain in the morning turned the road into a muddy mess at times.

Ten vehicles and 35 people were on the excursion that was enlivened by two jeeps getting stuck, a rare problem for the jeepsters. The first trouble came when a jeep got water into its engine while splashing through a mud puddle and stopped partway through.

Restarting the vehicle was simple. Koppers attached a cable from his jeep to the stalled jeep and pulled it through the rain and mud until the engine dried enough to start.

The second stuck jeep caused more confusion. While trying to drive through a section of road that had deep ruts and several inches of mud, a jeep mistakenly attempted to drive in the ruts rather than on the hump in the center of the road.

The jeep got stuck, "high center," with the chassis resting on the high part of the road and the wheels unable to gain traction in the deep ruts.

Koppers first tried to pull the stuck jeep through the muddy area, but could not get enough traction to do more than spin his own wheels. A cable was put on the rear bumper and the jeep was pulled backwards from the muddy ruts.

Most of the jeeps are radio-equipped for safety purposes, but the radios also are used for a running conversation between jeeps in the same manner of a group of friends talking during a Sunday afternoon walk.

After a picnic lunch, Koppers, who was "wagonmaster" for the group, found a more civilized road, Forest Service Trail 10266, and headed for Tent Rocks. On the way, most of the jeeps took a three-mile side trip into the bushes to the Peralta Ridge Overlook.

The trail to the overlook was almost overgrown with young aspens and grass. A few cattle grazed along the trail, and one cow, which probably wondered what sort of weird animal was interrupting her lunch, refused to move from the road until nearly run over by Kopper's jeep.

The cow apparently decided she disliked the intruders, because she charged a jeep on the return to the road from the overlook.

To view scenery from the overlook, the jeepsters had to climb a 100-foot hill, which is hard work at 10,000 feet altitude. Rock layers on the hilltop, probably originally deposited on an ocean bottom, had been twisted so the layers pointed to the sky.

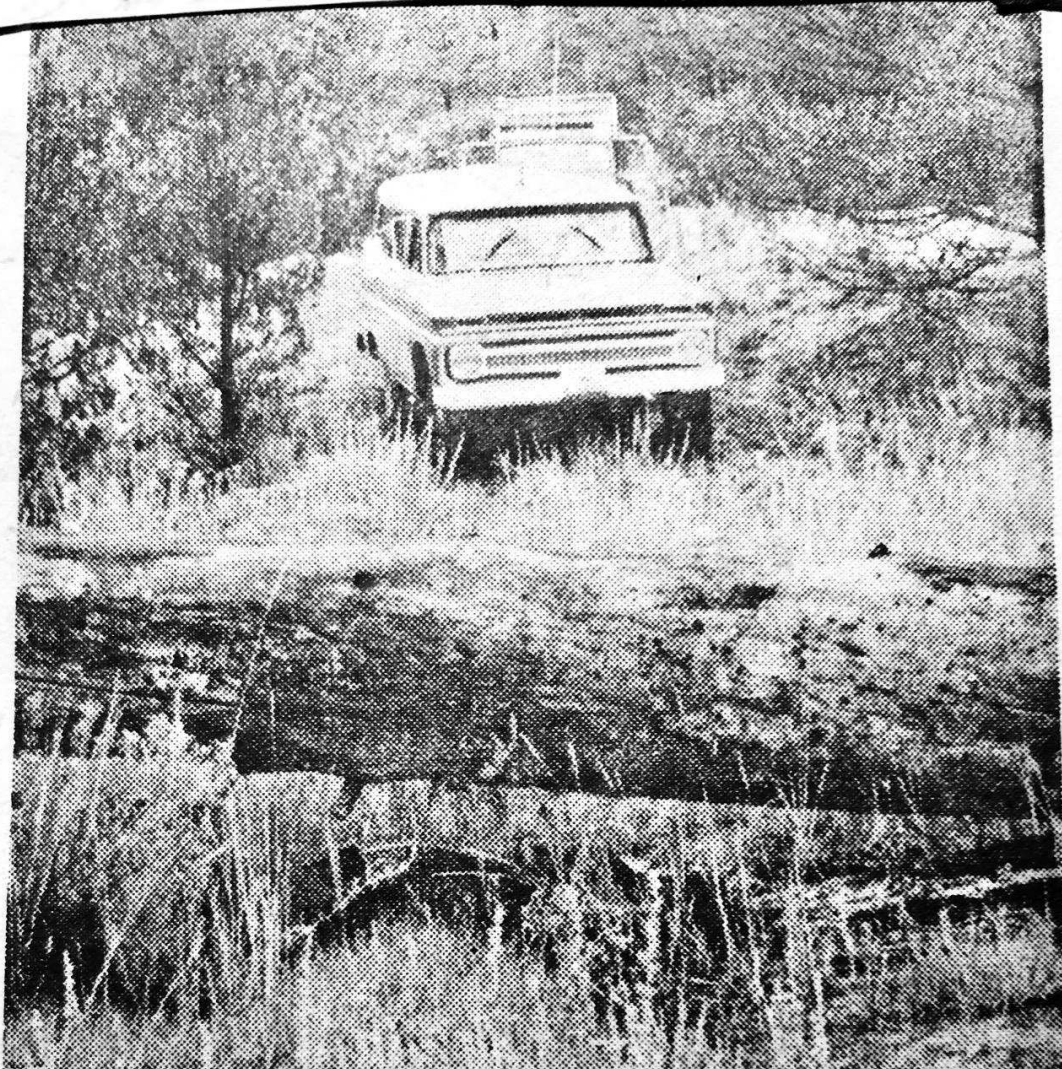
Going to Tent Rocks, which are pumice eroded into steeple-and tent-shaped formations, the jeepsters stopped on a bluff above a canyon west of Tent Rocks, which has walls covered with the tent rock formations, but is inaccessible even by jeep.

At the bluff, the jeeps surrounded a young couple who were already parked there, but quickly drove away when encircled by the 10 vehicles.

Before the trip began, Cecil Koppers said that jeeping was closely related to rodeos, because riding a jeep was like riding a bucking horse.

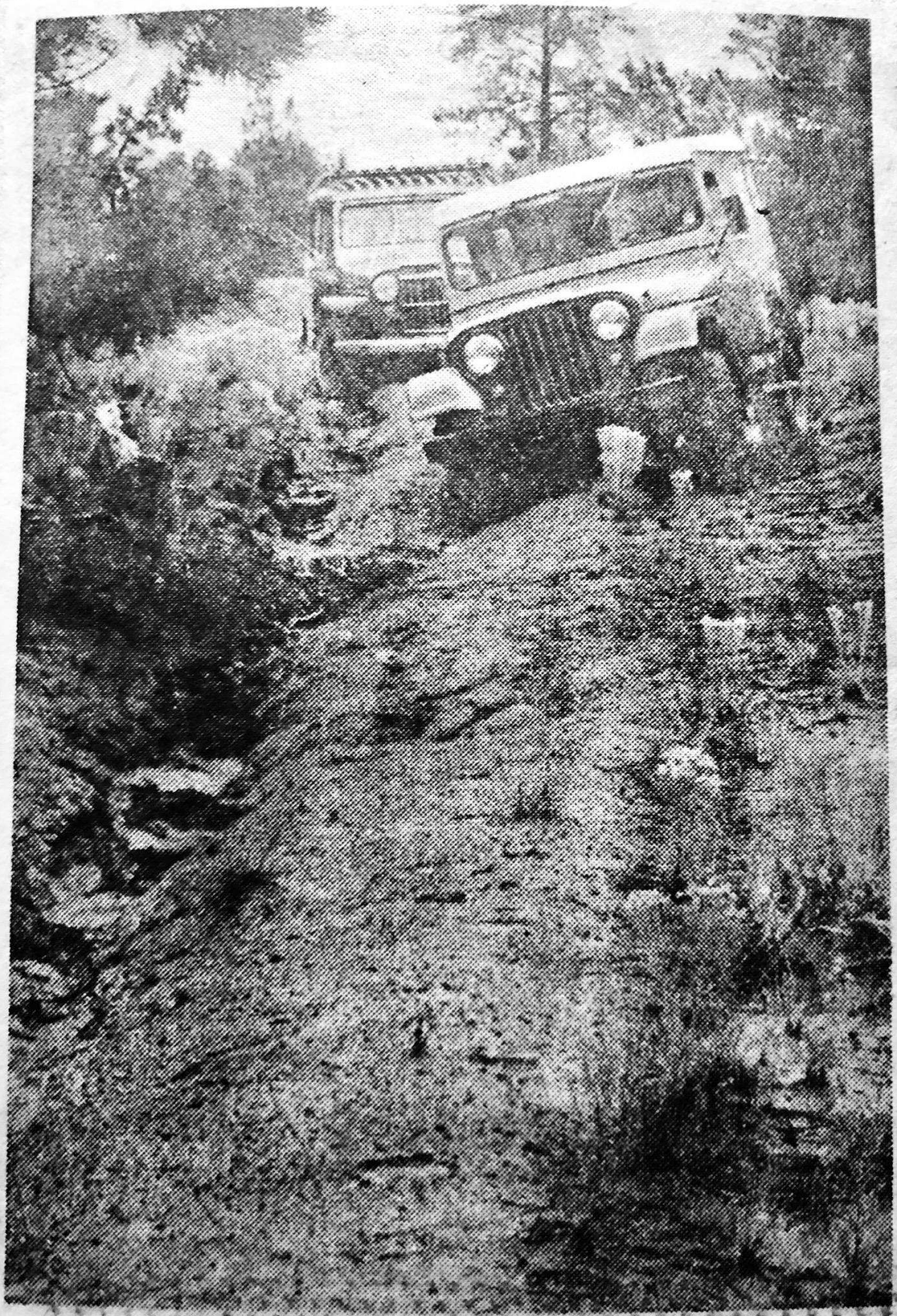
—HAROLD M. MORGAN





## *Obstacles*

**Touring through rough terrain** (and the Jeep Herders would consider no other) these are the sorts of obstacles you meet — a tree down across the “road” and a stretch of country that requires careful manipulation.







## Jemez Ride

May 26, 2018

By Jeff Boggs

Five members of NM4W met up at Walatowa parking area to explore some MVUM forest roads in the Jemez mountains. Dry dusty conditions did not stop Jack Dickey, Don Roy, Richard Steele, Donnie Walker and trail leader, Jeff Boggs from showing up.

We left Walatowa at 9:30 and drove over to state hwy 260, that goes through Ponderosa, NM. We drove up toward Paliza Campground and aired down. We spent the day exploring forest roads south of 266. Several of these roads are in and out the same way. And that is what we did. We found a nice canyon road and had lunch. This was my first time to have my Toyota Land Cruiser in low range off road. So, we celebrated by popping the tops off some fancy Root Beers. I have a bottle opener on the front bumper for just this situation.



Unfortunately for Jack and Don, most roads were dusty and they drive open top 4x4's. They are real troopers. Donnie Walker did great at tail gunning the group. Everybody's CB worked well. We did find sections that needed low range, and good driving skills. We hope we get some rain soon. We were careful not to stop in grassy areas, but we all had our fire extinguishers and extra water. I could

not bring my chainsaw as current stage 2 fire restrictions prohibit their use. Luckily, we did not find any downed trees on the roads we used.

We ended up our day picking up beer bottles in a dirt parking area north of Ponderosa, where we aired up. We enjoyed the mountains and hauled out other people's trash, too. Jack, Richard and Jeff went back to town and had a good dinner at Dion's on Hwy 528.



Nice day, good company and we saw areas that were new to us. Hope you can join in on our next Jemez ride in June.



## Moab Adventures

By Guy Conway

The first day in of the Moab run we woke up to rain. The only people who showed up for the Moab part were Lynn and Ed Kausche. We decided to do the Needles Overlook to stay out of the mud. After that we went to Kamikaze hill and took a side canyon for our lunch stop. We found a two room home built into a rock wall which was very interesting. It was furnished and used on a first come basis. Despite the rain it was an interesting day. On Friday we did 3D trail.

Unfortunately, I had hurt my back earlier in the month and was not able to move very well. So on Saturday, Ed and Lynn went and toured Arches National Park which they enjoyed. It gave me a day to rest my bad back.

On Sunday we were all to meet up with Keith Jury and his guest for Sunday brunch at Red Cliffs lodge. It turned out that I was unable to go because we were also supposed to move to Green River after brunch and I had a satellite problem on my motor home. My satellite would not go down and it took several hours to get it down so I could drive the RV. Sunday was also not a good day for others. Keith had put a can of Bear Repellent Spray between



his roll bar and windshield. In the heat of the afternoon sun while the jeep was parked the canister exploded and blew out his windshield. The repellent can sprayed chemical inside the jeep and made quite a mess. He had to take his jeep down to Moab on Monday and get a new windshield installed.

On Monday we were joined by Mark and Joan Wolf and Robert Meyers. We did Black Dragon wash, Buckhorn Petroglyphs and the dinosaur track. We returned via the Green River cut off road.



On Tuesday with Keith finally able to join us with his new windshield, we did the Eva Conover trail. At lunch we talked about the Devils Racetrack and I had a senior moment as I was driving south coal wash I said let's go ahead and go out the Devils Racetrack. It didn't take long for me to remember why I hated it. It was very rough and slow and we got back late. Plus, my back decided to punish me for the stupid decision I had made. I want to thank Ed Kausche for all the help he gave me. Because of my back injury I have to use a metal milk crate to get into my jeep. He would help me after I got in by putting the crate away in the back of my jeep.

On Wednesday as my wife predicted after my bad decision the day before, I was barely able to walk. Keith stepped up to lead the group on Reds Canyon while my wife took me to the hospital in Moab. I really want to thank Keith and his guest, Arthur Wood, for helping me so I could have a day of rest and be out of the roughness of a jeep. Ed had a bit of bad luck by breaking a hub the day before so he had to stay in also. We were able to find another hub locally and he got the replacement done quickly.



On Thursday I was able to go out again. We were joined by Richard and Beth Steel and Robert Meyers. We did Cane Wash and added the Railroad Complex at the end of our run.

On Friday Keith and his guest left. We did Eagle Canyon looking at pictographs and Dutchman Arch on the way.

On Saturday everyone left but me. We had a great time and it was one of the best groups I had led. I would like to say thank you to everyone for helping me so much!

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



### Green River

By Joan Wolf

The 2018 Green River, Utah, expedition had it all—scenery, history, geology, easy trail rides, a hard-core trail, great camaraderie, and even a rescue effort. About eight years ago, Guy Conway tacked on a Green River component to his annual Moab “event”. The Green River area has tons of huge rock formations, red rock arches, pictographs, wild burros and horses, and no crowds. Guy’s knowledge of the area is unbelievable and he knows where all the good stuff is. All trails were in the San Rafael Swell, a renowned 4WD area.

Guy led the smallish group (four to five vehicles each day) to places including Black Dragon Canyon, Buckhorn Panel, Cane Wash, Temple Mountain, Eagles Canyon, and Swasey’s Cabin. He even indulged Wolfie and ran the Devil’s Racetrack trail which is rated as Most Difficult. There was one off-camber, tippy obstacle but with good spotting everyone got through it. Despite nursing a sore back, Guy made every day a fun day for the group.





Keith Jurey (an associate member who travelled from Kansas) made the “you-wouldn’t-believe-what-happened” list at a repair shop in Moab. Keith was relaxing in his motel room when he heard a loud explosive noise coming from a vehicle in the parking lot. Turns out that a can of bear spray that had been in his Jeep for years “exploded” and shattered the driver’s side windshield. Fortunately, no one was hurt and Keith was able to get the windshield replaced the next day in Moab. The shop owner won’t forget Keith anytime soon.



A rescue effort occurred when NM4W came upon a side-by-side precariously wedged into the downhill side of a steep road drop-off. The occupants, Don and Mary, had been photographing a rock formation and backed up too far. By the time our group arrived, Don and Mary had climbed out of the

vehicle and had set off their emergency beacon. They were shaky but unhurt. Keith took over as the rescue chief and everyone pitched in to extricate the vehicle. After securing a tow strap to Bob Meyers Jeep and a winch cable from Keith’s Jeep, they slowly and carefully winched up the side-by-side. This was another example of NM4W helping when help is needed! Mary sent a thank-you email to Beth Steele which said, in part:

“Everyday I am thankful for you and your group. And, also our good fortune that we didn’t roll all the way down! We were very lucky. If you and your friends had not come by I am sure it would have been very late or even the next day before we got out. We did ride the next day (like getting back on your horse after you fall off) and then we left on Friday as planned. We were on the highway heading toward Green River and on the other side saw a group of jeeps driving the other way. I think it was your group. Again, thank you so much. Please pass on our thanks.”





**Mary after the 4x4 rescue**

***Check the website for new rides and updates!***





## Redneck Engineering

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
Remember, if you're going to modify your ride, do it safely.





## Picking a Good Rendezvous Spot

# A Good Rendezvous isn't a Secret

From an article by TOM SEVERIN



While many four wheelers view the trailhead as the starting point of any trip, in reality all the fun begins at the rendezvous point. That is where all drivers congregate initially. Final supplies are purchased if necessary, and trip plans are reviewed. A lot of thought should go into the selection of a meeting place. If the rendezvous spot isn't chosen properly, the trip may not get off to a good start.

### **A good rendezvous point looks like this:**

- Close to the trailhead, though that's a relative term, as we will see.
- Offers lots of parking.
- Easy to find.
- Near a gas station and convenience store.
- Offers cell coverage

How close you can get to the trailhead varies a lot. A prime location could be 50 miles or more from the trailhead. It all depends on how remote your off-road destination is—and how far away the other drivers are.

Depending on the size of your group, you may need a lot of room. Select a spot that is large enough for everyone to meet—including those with trailers—but that still has enough

room for regular customers of that establishment. (Be a good sport. Don't hog the parking lot.) Big box stores always have large lots, but they aren't very common in rural areas.

I have used parking lots for grocery stores, restaurants and BLM field offices. Truck stops are nice, too. The parking lot for an office building might work on weekends when the business is closed.



The rendezvous spot should be easy to find. This, too, can be relative. A location near a city should be more convenient than one out in the country. Also, the mapping format your guests use plays a big part. Don't assume everyone uses GPS. (And that GPS is always accurate.)

Determine which kind of directions each driver is comfortable with. Some people prefer GPS coordinates. Others like a map (whether official variety or hand-drawn). Still others will ask for the address so they can type that into their GPS units. This last option has a potential downfall: In more rural settings, GPS can be less accurate.

Remember that the more remote your rendezvous point is, the more likely you'll need more than one type of mapping format. Be as clear as possible when you provide directions. You are probably more familiar with the area than your guests are. Don't be shy with details and directions.

A rendezvous point near a gas station and convenience store is a real plus. In fact, I want to say that it's a necessity. Why? Some—maybe all—of your guests will need to stock up on something. It's usually gas, food or firewood—maybe all three. Plus, you can pull a 10-100 visit in the meantime.

In remote, rural areas you don't have a choice. Your rendezvous point is the last location that offers gas and convenience items. Your guests could be 50, 100 or more miles from



home. Of course, they will have to top off their tanks. Therefore, a gas station/convenience store combo is the ideal location.

But here's the rub: Last-minute purchases take time. Those precious minutes come out of your day. Knowing this, it might be a good idea to arrange your rendezvous 15 to 30 minutes earlier than you originally planned. (Remember that you'll have down time at the trailhead, too.)

It's also important for drivers to bring along extra gas. Once off-road, you could be long distances from any gas station. Take Nevada, for example. Esmeralda and Mineral Counties are quite remote. Total surface area is some 7,400 square miles. Esmeralda has one gas station in the entire county and it is not even in the county seat which has no gas station. There are three gas stations in Mineral County, but all are in Hawthorne. Many of the rural gas stations have only 2 options for fuel: 87 octane and diesel. If you need a higher octane, bring more gas with you or add an octane booster.

Gas isn't the only necessity in short supply. Cell coverage can be spotty, even nonexistent when off road. Make sure cell phones operate in and near the rendezvous point. Your guests can contact you while en route.

When selecting a rendezvous point, the location might be obvious. It could be the parking lot, intersection or other noteworthy stop nearest the trailhead. In other cases, you may have a choice. Always recon those locations so you're familiar with them. Provide your guests detailed directions—in whatever format they prefer—and implore on all to arrive on time and ready to go.

Once you leave the rendezvous point, you can focus on the trailhead and four-wheel excursion ahead.

BY [TOM SEVERIN SEPTEMBER 15, 2016](#)  
<https://www.4x4training.com/>

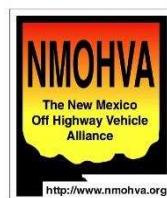
**Get out and enjoy the great outdoors.**

**KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC**

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Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman





# Trail Tales



July 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2018

by Bobbie Moore



The meeting was held at the home of Leon and Marcia Duggar in Sandia Park. President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GUESTS:** Cody Bakewell

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Andreson, Tracy, Cheryle and Travis Bakewell, Jeff Boggs, Ross Burchard, Jennifer Chapin, Jack & Cathy Dickey, Leon & Marcia Duggar, Javier Fraga, Bill Gardner, Tammy Kesler, Jose Lucero, Bobbie Moore, Bob Norton, Bob & Carol Provance, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Jim Werkmeister, Frank G. & Beth Whiston.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –Bobbie Moore** - The minutes from the May 2018 meeting were accepted as written. Thank you, Jeanne Meier

**TREASURER'S REPORT Bill Bonahoom.** Bill was not present and there was not a treasurer's report.

Members are reminded that dues are to be paid before the end of July.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Cliff Meier** Absent Don Roy reported there were no fines to be paid

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT –Don Roy** - All rides have gone well. Please look in the website gallery for pictures. Don also reminded club members about the trails being closed in the forest because of forest fires and fire danger because its so dry.

### PAST EVENTS:

June 23 **West Mesa Ride** Jeff Boggs

June 16 **NM4W picnic was cancelled due to forest closures.** The meeting was held at Leon's home.

June 9 **Tajique-Torreon Loop & Capilla Peak** Ross Burchard

June 10 **Seven Trails Of Gold Grants cancelled** Frank G. Whiston



June 7-10 From Gold To Silver Silverton, Colorado Frank G. Whiston

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

July 7 5pm Club Meeting Tracey Bakewell 304 Aldaba Circle NE Rio Rancho

July 14 Mt. Taylor Ride "The Harder Way" Don Roy  
Meet at the Phillips 66 station, 1600 E Santa Fe Ave Grants

August 11 5pm NM4W meeting TBD

August 31-Sept3 2018 Labor Day Safari Ronnie Caton  
Meet at the Moab Rim Camp Park 1900 South Hwy 191

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTALS AFFAIRS REPORT** – No Report This office will be held by Bob Pauli as soon as he is voted in

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – Tracey reminded members that he has hats, shirts, etc. for sale. He also told club that the sandwiches were donated by Firehouse Subs in Abq.  
Thank you !!!

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT** – **Frank G. Whiston.** Frank told members that he has been setting up more albums for recent runs. He also has been checking old newsletters and putting interesting items from them in the monthly newsletter. Check out the club's interesting history on our website.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT** – **Don Roy** Don told members he has reset the password so it is easier to use. He explained more about the websites, how to download the videos to u-tube etc.

**EDITOR'S REPORT** – **Phil Rodacy.** Phil was absent.

**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS** – **Frank G. Whiston.** Frank explained how to opt-in for the 4WD Hardware Club Rewards Program. Also, the NMOHVA receives a percentage every time you use Amazon Smile. Please make sure to fill out all your information so all can benefit from these programs.

Frank has been doing this job for some time and would like someone else to volunteer. He will help whoever would like to do this job.

**OLD BUSINESS : Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3 people are qualified to join and be voted into the club, but were not at the meeting.

**Election of officers will be held in July  
Please step up and be an officer !!**

Raffle Winners: 4 Wheel Parts donated gift certificates towards the drawing, as it was starting to rain I did not get everyone who won. Sorry

Jennifer won \$45 in the 50/50 drawing

Thank you to Leon and Marcia Duggar for hosting the meeting at their home on a rainy afternoon and evening! Mother Nature waited till meeting was almost over.

Thankyou to 4 Wheel Parts and Fire House Subs for certificates and sandwiches!!

Next month's meeting will be at the home of Tracey Bakewell in Rio Rancho. Be sure to bring a food item for the potluck, which starts at 5pm

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:49 p.m.



**President's Report**

**By Ross Burchard**

There is no President's report this month.

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



**Vice President's Soap Box**

**By Cliff Meier**

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

## Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun



Director of Environmental Affairs

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

**Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail? Call the trip leader to find out.**



### West Mesa Ride

June 23, 2018

By Jeff Boggs

We met up at the Home Depot on Hwy 550 at 9:00 and finished about 1:00 pm before the summer heat showed up. Donnie Walker in his Rubicon, Ed and Lyn Kausche in their Wrangler, and Jeff and Paula in their Toyota Land Cruiser were there from the NM4W. I invited the High Desert Cruisers, a Toyota based local club to go along with us. They responded by showing up with 3 nice rigs. Neville Fridge showed in his 1998 Toyota Land Cruiser. He said he saw this ride on the NM4W site and he wanted to get in a 1/2-day ride.



We had Jon's 1969 Toyota 40 land cruiser, Charlie and Lauren in their very unusual Toyota diesel HZJ 77, right side drive that he bought in Japan and had shipped over here. Grant had his 4-runner buggy.

We went straight to an arroyo and did a sandy hill climb. There were many ups and downs, tight areas, and soon we were on some trails that needed low range. We got into an arroyo that had 15 ft sides, and we followed that until it got too narrow and we had to back out of that.



Eventually, we looped back around and dropped into a tight arroyo that brought us back to civilization. It was getting hot, so some went home, some went to lunch and had a good visit. All in all, a good day to wheel, close to town. Hope the forests open up so we can do some rides up there, but the west mesa has some fun areas to drive. Thanks to all who showed up and hope to see you on the trail.



## From Gold to Silver; Silverton, that is June 7 – 10, 2018 By Frank Whiston

This is an odd title to those who have not been active within the club in the past six months or so. Leading up to this date, NM4W was actively preparing to lead 4WD runs for NMOHVA during what was to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 7 Trails of Gold event in Grants New Mexico. Due to the very high fire danger and the all too real possibility that the Mt. Taylor district could close the forest before the event, NMOHVA was left with the tough business decision to cancel the event. With the calendar already cleared for this event, an alternative was found. The entire region had an exceptionally dry winter and reports on Jeep trails in the San Juan mountains showed that things were opening up very early this year (~3% of normal snowpack). Therefore, we decided to head to Silverton Colorado to see some snow before it is all gone.

What seemed to be a great plan to avoid the danger of fire was still confronted with issue. June 1<sup>st</sup>, the 416 fire burned out of control just north of Durango, Colorado. The fire quickly spread to the point that officials closed HWY 550 to be used as a fire





break. The Whiston's had already planned to head up early on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The closure of HWY 550 meant an extra 124 miles of mountain driving and ~3.5 hours added to a trip that is normally ~5 hours from Albuquerque. The detour took us from Aztec, NM to Hesperus CO, then on West to Mancos and Delores. Then North through Rico, Telluride and Ridgway. Once back to HWY 550, south through Ouray and across the Million Dollar Highway back to Silverton. Descending Red Mtn. Pass into Silverton, smoke from the fire was settling into the valleys, but would clear up by morning. The scenery was great, but it sure was a long drive.



We spent our first full day checking out all of the gift shops around Silverton. We felt as if we practically had the whole town to ourselves. The trains were stuck empty in town due to the fire and we could overhear proprietors discussing work schedules with employees. It sure doesn't take long to see the impact from the lack of tourists. That evening, just before sunset, we headed up S. Mineral Creek to the Bardora Mine where we spotted two bull moose grazing across the draw. An amazing sight!

Monday was spent soaking in the newly remodeled Ouray Hot Springs Pool. That evening, we did run up to Eureka and spotted some deer grazing in a field just past Howardsville. Tuesday Morning, we ventured up Minnie Gulch. A left turn lead us on a spur road to the Kitti Mack Mine where we enjoyed taking in the views a marmot. I actually had a bit of cell service and received a call from Jeff Atchison. He was in Bloomfield and contemplating whether or not to try 550 in hopes that it would be open with the pilot car. Continuing up Minnie Gulch, we passed a neat cabin and an awesome waterfall which had a huge ice pillar next to it. The road terminates at the Esmeralda Mine at 11,620 ft. elevation. We returned to town and met up with Jeff as he did make it up from Durango via 550 with no issues. Later that evening, Jeff joined us as we traveled the spur to the Mayflower Mine following the abandoned aerial tramway which still has more cars hanging from it.

Wednesday morning Jeff and the Whistons headed over to north Mineral Creek which is popularly known as the start of Engineer Pass from Ouray. Everyone seemed to stop Jeff to ask about trail

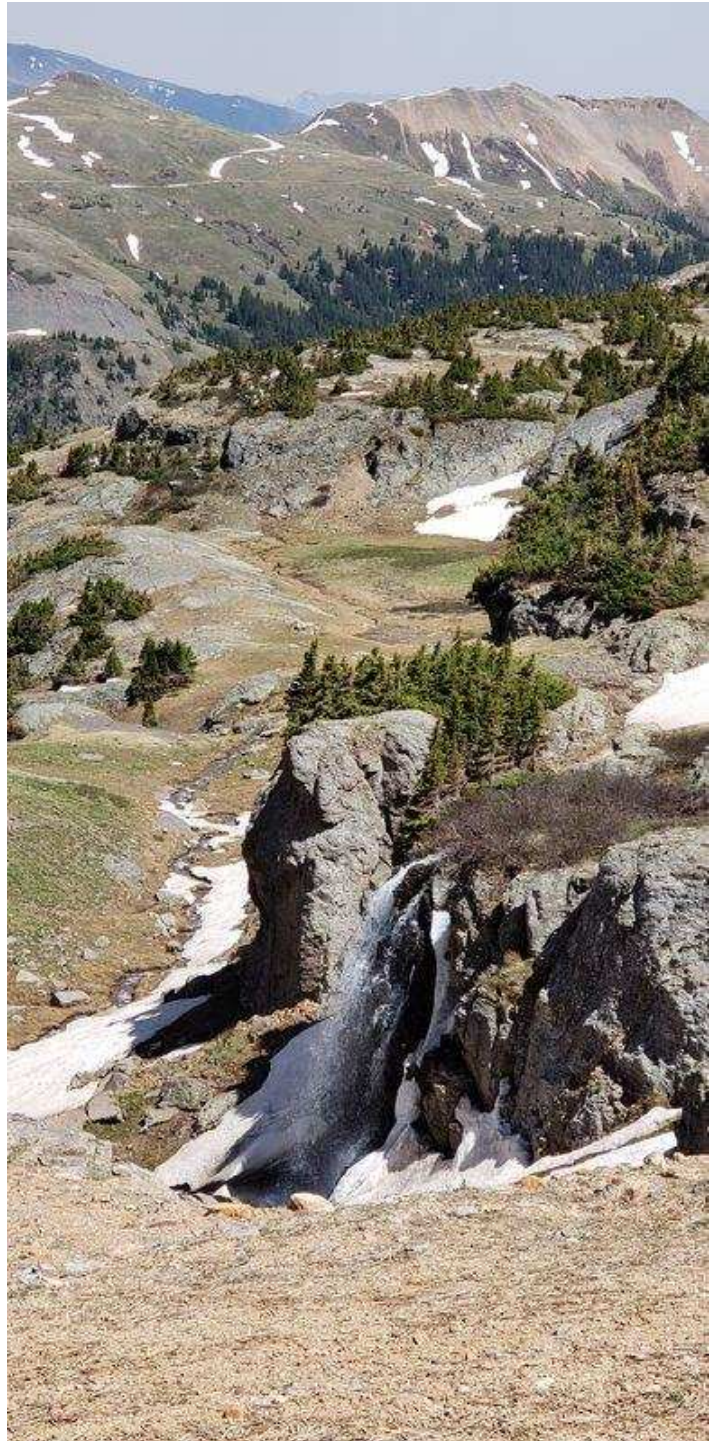


conditions (maybe because he is in a full-size Ramcharger). Jeff would radio ahead and I'd answer. The first inquiry was about a stock jeep and Poughkeepsie Gulch (still snowed in) and the second was from an old full-size van that was converted to 4WD. We made it to the old stamp mill at Mineral Point for lunch, then continued on to Animas Forks and back to Silverton.

Thursday, we took in the Silverton Mining Museum & Jail which is run by the [San Juan County Historical Society](#). This is an amazing museum that is rich with information on the historical sites that we visit in the area on the Jeep roads. Well worth the visit! That afternoon, we took a stroll through the Hillside Cemetery. Wandering through the cemetery, you begin to absorb the human history of the area. The tombstone inscriptions reveal bits and pieces of individual personalities, religious preferences, places of birth, causes of death, and the difficulties of frontier life. Here is evidence of the scourges of pneumonia, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and the devastating flu epidemic of 1918. Childhood diseases carried to an early death an alarming number of babies and young children. The cemetery also bears grim witness to the special hazards of childbirth in a primitive and hostile environment, as well as the extreme and deadly dangers encountered in the early days of hard rock mining in the high country.

By late afternoon, the rest of the crew had arrived. Ed and Lynn Kausche, George Szymkowski and Marie Crites, Jack and Cathy Dickey, Scott Rose and his two sons, as well as guests Mike and Jessica with their two children. Scott was the only one to drive around the long way I believe.

Friday morning, all 7 vehicles convened at the Silverton Visitors center. Everyone who needed to air down, did it right there as after a quick run through town we would be hitting the dirt. We headed north through Gladstone to Corkscrew Pass. It was a beautiful clear day! At the top we saw several "Shake-N-Bake" vehicles. These are the 4WD Tour trucks where they remove the bed from a full-size pickup and install rows of seats that are near to level with the top of the cab, with no sun cover, hence the name "Shake-N-Bake". As we descended the west side of the pass we encountered quite a bit of motorcycle, ATV, and 4WD traffic. The weekend crowd was here! Once back to 550,




we stayed on the shoulder and went up to the old cabins that are left from the community of Ironton for lunch. The early part of the afternoon was spend exploring the Red Mountain Mining District which would keep us off the pavement for the most part to the top of Red Mountain Pass. Then, we crossed 550 and went up Porphry Gulch. We were stopped by a recent mudslide and snow short of making it to Bulton King Lake. Jack and a couple others decided to hike the rest of the way to the lake and said that it was still frozen over, except right at the edges. That evening, most of the group met at Handlebars for dinner.

Ed Kaushe said that he had always wanted to go to the old ghost town of Carson off if Cinnamon Pass, so that is where we went on Saturday. On the way up, there was a 90's era explorer on 35's, well 3 of them. The Right front was completely missing! There was a note saying that they were all okay and on a parts run. We reached the summit and took in the views. As we descended into the Lake City side, you could see a lot of smoke from the fires, and it continually got worse as the day progressed. We continued down to the valley floor and took a spur past Sherman (not much to it) and found a spot for lunch along the creek. From there, we continued to Wagner Gulch where we went about 4.5 miles up to the old ghost town of Carson. This area was hit hard by the bark beetle. I fear that one lightning strike would take out everything as you had to look hard to see any trees that were still living.

Sunday Morning, most of us made it out of Silverton before 550 was completely shut down again due to the fire. Overall, this trip was a huge success and done just in time as the San Juan NF went into a full closure shortly after we returned home. We hope that there is a good monsoon season this summer so that conditions don't get any worse!

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



**Tom Woods Custom Driveshafts  
Experience**

**By Frank Whiston**

I thought that I would share my recent experience with Tom Wood's Custom Drive Shafts. They are replacing all the joints in my CV and rebalancing the shaft for no more than what I could find to pay for the parts alone. The same day that we discussed what all to repair (I could have reused one of the u-joints in the CV but decided to replace it) I received a UPS tracking number for shipping it back to me. Only a \$10 handling fee for return shipping. Hard to beat that!





# NM4W Early Operating Rules

Contributed by Frank Whiston

## OPERATING RULES

ALBUQUERQUE JEEP HERDERS CLUB, INC.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

1. The President shall appoint a Sergeant at Arms for each meeting.
2. That membership shall be limited to 40 families.
3. That prospective members shall attend 3 meetings, and 2 caravan trips before being voted upon for membership.
  - A. New members shall be a club member for 1 year before becoming eligible to hold an elective office.
  - B. A new member shall not be eligible for 'outstanding member award' until he has been a member of the club 1 year.
4. That caravan guide (or wagon-master) be appointed by trip chairman, or presiding officer, familiar with the territory for the trip.
  - A. The wagon-master may also appoint an assistant for any trip, should he deem it necessary.
  - B. The wagon-master should arrange for periodic rest stops for caravan trips.
  - C. The wagon-master should space the communication systems throughout the caravan so that contacts can be made when needed.
5. Each 4-wheel drive vehicle shall be a self-sufficient unit.
6. No fire-arms may be discharged within 300 yards of any group, or encampment, and without advance notice to the wagon-master.
7. All camp fires are to be completely extinguished when leaving camp area at any time. If any member leaves a camp fire unattended, or leaves a smouldering fire unattended, that member will be temporarily suspended from membership for a period of 3 months.
8. Any of these club rules may be changed, deleted, or added to, by vote of majority of club members present at any duly called meeting.
9. No member may receive the 'outstanding member' trophy award more often than at least every 5 years - unless so authorized by the board of directors of the club.
10. KNE 1533 is the club radio license number. There are 40 units. A unit will be assigned to each club member. The unit number which is assigned will be a permanent number as long as a member is in good standing in the club.
11. Any infraction of club rules by a member is to be referred to the board of directors for review and dispensation.

Cecil Koppers, President  
Chairman of Club Rules Committee





## Redneck Engineering

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
Remember, always make sure that all of your lights work.



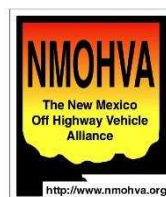
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# Trail Tales



August 1, 2018

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## Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2018

by Bobbie Moore



The meeting was held at the home of Tracey & Cheryle Bakewell in Rio Rancho, NM.

President Ross Burchard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**GUESTS:** Deb Austin, Cody Bakewell, David McCollum, Joseph & Kim Miranda

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Cheryle Bakewell, Ross Burchard, Ronnie Caton, Jennifer Chapin, Bill Gardner, NaDeen Jackson, Linn Jenkins, Roger Kane, Ed & Lyn Kausche, Bobbie Moore, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Wayne Sullivan, Frank G. Whiston

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** –Bobbie Moore. Meeting minutes from June were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** –Bill Bonahoom. Absent, no report

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Cliff Meier. Absent Don Roy explained the point system and how guest and members can receive them. He then explained the fine system to the guests. Trails have not been open so there were no fines.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – Travis Bakewell Check the website for write ups and photos of past events and the latest info on upcoming events.

### PAST EVENTS :

**June 9** Tajique - Torreon Loop Capilla Peak Ross Burchard

**June 23** West Mesa Ride Jeff Boggs

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**July 14** Mt. Taylor Don Roy, trip leader. Meet at the Phillips 66 station, 1600 E Santa Fe Ave, Grants, NM

**July 28-Aug 4** Mile High Jeep Club's All for Fun, Empire, Colorado



**August 2-5** Send It Silverton, Silverton, Colorado

**August 11** NM4W monthly meeting Location will be at the home of Frank G. Whiston. See the website to sign up for the potluck and get directions.

**August 31-Sept. 3 2018** Labor Day Safari , Ronnie Caton, trip leader. Meet at Moab Rim Camp Park 1900 South Hwy 191, Moab, Utah

**August 29 9th** Annual Jeep Jam at Marks Casa Jeep Dealer, 9733 Coors Blvd. NW, Abq., NM

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** No Report This office is currently open.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracey Bakewell Tracey has shirts, hats, license plates, etc. for sale.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Frank G. Whiston Reported that the gallery is still open. Since May, lots of trails have been closed due to fire restrictions, so not many pictures have been submitted. Frank has been going through the archives and putting historic pictures and articles in the newsletter. Keep watching as he has a surprise for next month.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy - Don reported that he has been working on keeping the website cleaned up and reminded members that July 31st is last date for dues to be paid. If not paid by then, you have to start all over with points.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. -Absent If you have any pictures and/or stories you would like to share please post or send them to Phil.

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** 4WD Hardware provides discounts to members who have signed up for this program. At the end of the year, 3% of what club members have spent goes back to the club.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Notice to the trip leaders: Everyone going on a ride must sign a liability waiver. Most members have signed on line, but you still need to take a few printed copies of the form with you for those participants who have not already signed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

An election of officers for next year was held. The officers for 2019 are as follows:

President: Frank G. Whiston

Vice President: Cliff Meier  
Secretary: NaDeen Jackson  
Treasurer: Bob Provance  
Trip Chairperson: Travis Bakewell  
Program Chairperson: Tracey Bakewell  
Historian: Jennifer Chapin  
Director of Environmental Affairs: Vacant

The nominees listed above were accepted by acclamation.

Appointed Positions:

Newsletter Editor: Phil Rodacy  
Promotional Program Chairperson: Frank G Whiston  
Ambassador Program Chairperson: Frank G Whiston  
Web Administrator: Don Roy

After the meeting, a letter of intent was filed by Bobbie Moore regarding the position of Director of Environmental Affairs. A vote to accept her into this position will be called for at the August club meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bobbie Moore

Thank you to Tracy, Cheryle, Travis, and Cody Bakewell for hosting the meeting!

Next meeting will be on August 11, at 5pm. This will be at the home of Frank G. Whiston in Abq. The summer meetings are held at members' homes with a covered dish brought by other members for a potluck dinner.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 6:39 pm

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



### President's Report

By Frank Whiston

First, I'd like to thank all of the club officers who are leaving the board for everything that they have done. It is not my first time as President and as an active board member since 2006, I know that all that the officers do is often taken for granted, so I wanted to make sure that you all know that your contributions are appreciated and hope that you all continue to be active members of the club.

Next, I'd like to welcome the new faces to the board! NaDeen Jackson as Secretary, Bob Provance as Treasurer, and Travis Bakewell as Trip Chair. I am looking at the year ahead as somewhat of a

fresh start having so many first-time board members. Remember, Officer or not, this is YOUR club and we would like to hear from you if you have any ideas or things that you would like to see.

Another way that I am trying to kick off with a fresh start is by signing up for Del Albright's Recreational Leaders Training Course. This is an online course which promises to help generate volunteers, give pointers on how to manage personalities, and a better system for organized events, rides, and meetings. I hope to have more to say about this at the August club meeting.

## **LEAD A RUN - THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



### **Vice President's Soap Box**

**By Cliff Meier**

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

## **Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



### **Director of Environmental Affairs**

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

**Thinking about going on a ride, but not  
sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**





## Historian's Report

By Frank Whiston

On July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1971, the astronauts of the Apollo 15 mission drove the first 4-wheel drive vehicle on the surface of the moon. In recognition of this, our club named the three astronauts honorary members of the club.



Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club, Inc.  
1023 Forrester N.W.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

The Albuquerque Jeep Herders Incorporated an Albuquerque four wheel drive club organized in 1958, have elected Apollo 15 Astronauts David R. Scott, James B. Irwin and Alfred M. Worden Honorary members. This membership is in recognition of the Apollo 15 crews achievement as the first to navigate the moon surface with a four wheel drive vehicle.

*The alby querque Tribune August 19, 1971*

# **Jeep club honors astronauts**

The three Apollo 15 astronauts have been named honorary members of the Albuquerque Jeep Herders, Inc., a four-wheel vehicle club.

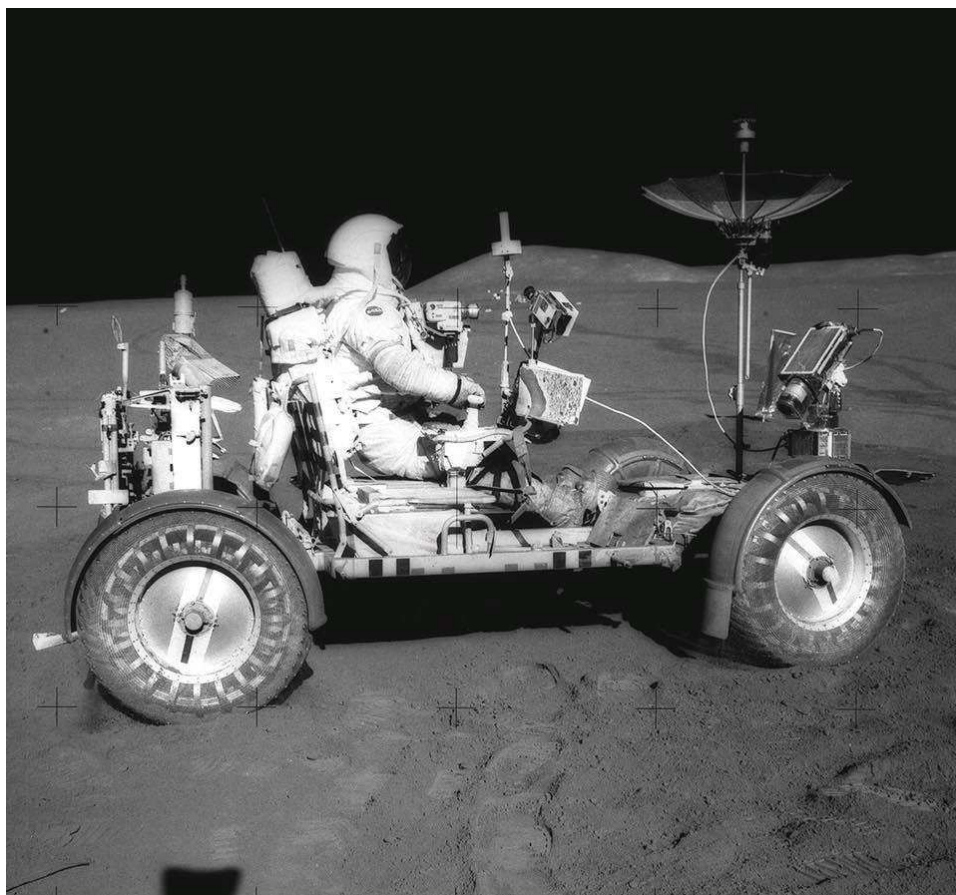
Carol Benninghoff, club secretary, said James B. Irwin, Alfred M. Worden and David R. Scott were chosen for membership in recognition of their recent achievements.

Scott and Irwin were the first to travel on the moon surface in a four-wheel drive vehicle.

## **Jeep Herders Name Astronauts Members**

Apollo 15 astronauts were recently named as honorary members of the Albuquerque Jeep Herders Inc.

Astronauts David R. Scott, James B. Irwin and Alfred M. Worden were named members in light of the crew's achievement as the first to navigate the moon surface with a four-wheel drive vehicle.







# Mt. Taylor: The Harder Way

July 14, 2018

By Don Roy

This ride started by going up to Mt Taylor and the forest the back way, via an access road near I-40 Exit 96. It was more rocky and vertical than other 'Easy' rides, so was called 'Moderate', though stock Jeeps made the trip fine.

After that couple hours travel, the next stop was to be the very top of Mt Taylor, where I'd never been before. A needed lunch break first, then on and up. We did get to the top, but it wasn't much fun. The expected grand



views were blocked by trees. The next stop, to get those views, was to the normal scenic overlook in the northeast of the Mt Taylor trail system. That was nice and we hung out there as long as the wind permitted.

Then it was basically a ride back to Grants. First on bumpy forest road, then bumpy gravel, then smooth gravel, then an air-up spot and pavement. I'll save any other stories and fine reporting for the meeting!

FINES:

- Bob Wilber: T-case shifter broke, stuck in neutral. The rest of the day Cody had to crawl under to shift it when needed. (Cody, you can probably seek legal counsel for burned fingers compensation.)
- Bob Meyers: Locked his keys in his Jeep (would have been no problem if the doors were off, just sayin').
- Chris Sears: Vapor Lock (Chris gets off with a warning, since it didn't really hold up the group).
- Don Roy: Since I'm acting VP/Sheriff, I did everything exactly right! Those two things never happened.



# Silverton

By Pat and Linda Dobson

We are not officially members yet but we hope to be before too long. We (Pat and Linda Dobson) attended a meeting back in June. Since then we moved our household from Maryland to Placitas. So we're officially residents of NM now, and finally getting past some of the chores associated with moving into a new home.

We visited the Silverton CO area a couple weeks ago and thought a trip report might be in order.

With move-in chores easing up a bit, we were looking for a weekend getaway and an escape from the hot, dry weather. We had been to Silverton, Colorado several times before so little planning was required. We found a place to stay, Alma House B&B, for Friday and Saturday night (7/13-7/14). The Alma House was built as a boarding house in the late 1800's and is quite charming.



So Friday after work, we loaded up the LJ and headed for Silverton. This would not be my first-time wheeling in the area, but it would be the first time wheeling my own rig. In the past, we always rented a Jeep from Silver Summit.

The drive up was relatively uneventful but the Jeep did learn a new trick. We drove through a couple heavy rain storms and each time the dash vents would almost stop blowing air. It was hot so the A/C was on. After the rain stopped, the flow would slowly return to normal after turning off the A/C. My theory is that the evaporator is icing up, blocking the air flow. As the ice melts with the A/C off, airflow returns to normal.

Highway 550 between Durango and Silverton was closed a few weeks ago due to the wildfire. You can see places where the fire came right down to the highway but it looks like they were able to keep it from crossing over to the east side of 550. We saw no fire damage on the Jeep roads around Silverton.

We got to Silverton in time to have dinner and walk around town before bed on Friday evening. Saturday, the plan was to get an early start and drive over Black Bear pass (12,800 ft. elev). Rental Jeeps are not allowed on Black Bear and I've wanted to do it for years. This was our chance - IF the





weather looked good. We were not going to do this route if rain was at all likely. It rained a lot Friday night and there were still a lot of clouds lingering on Saturday morning. We decided to drive up to Red Mountain Pass where Black Bear starts, about 30 minutes up the highway, and see how the weather looked at that point. When we got there, it looked pretty good and we could always turn around if it looked iffy before we got to the one-way part of the trail. After that, you are committed! The weather improved as we went and it turned into a beautiful day. Black Bear did not disappoint! It's intimidating but not

technically challenging. There is no room for error in places though and not a good place to be in the rain. Luckily for us, no rain and no errors :-)

With that bucket list item checked off, we drove through Telluride and up over Imogene Pass (13,000 ft. elev.) back to Highway 550 near Ouray. We explored some side trails on the way down from Imogene. The entire area is spectacular scenery. I thought the wildflowers might be diminished by the widespread lack of snow and rain the area has been suffering from. I'm sure the lack of moisture is impacting the area but it was hard to notice at this point in the season.

Wildflowers were plentiful and everything looked quite lush and green.

It rained heavily again Saturday night but Sunday morning was just a bit cloudy. We drove up Picayune Gulch and explored that entire area, California Gulch, Hurricane Pass, and several other spectacular spots in the area and by early afternoon were headed back south to NM.

It was a great weekend of wheeling in the San Juan mountains, one of our favorite places.



**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**





## Redneck Engineering

**Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
This cool idea could be adapted for those on-trail refreshments.**



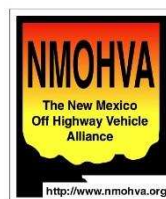
**Get out and enjoy the great outdoors.**

# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

<p><b>President</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-681-0017 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> Cliff Meier 505-507-8188 vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> NaDeen Jackson 505-918-6300 se@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Bob Provance 505-238-8225 tr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Program Chairman</b> Tracey Bakewell 505-250-3876 pc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Jennifer Chapin 305-333-3375 hi@nm4w.org</p>
<p><b>Trip Chairman</b> Travis Bakewell 254-423-8520 tc@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> Position vacant  de@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>SWFWDA Delegate</b> Bob Norton 281-5315 n5epa@flash.net</p>

Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman





# Trail Tales



September 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

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## Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2018  
by NaDeen F. Jackson



The meeting was held at the home of Frank and Beth Whiston in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Frank G. Whiston called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

**GUESTS:** Michael Arndt, Cody Bakewell, Linda Dobson, Patrick Dobson, David McCollum, Joseph Miranda, and Kim Miranda

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Leon Duggar, Karen Grohman, Shayne Halter, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Bobbie Moore, Don Owen, Ilene Rodacy, Phil Rodacy, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Diego Serna, Wayne Sullivan, Beth Whiston, Donna Whiston, Frank G. Whiston

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** - Bobbie Moore. Meeting minutes from July were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Bill Bonahoom and Bob Provance. Absent, no report.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - Cliff Meier. Absent. Don Roy explained the point system and how guests and members can receive them. He then explained the fine system to the guests.

Robert Meyers locked his keys in his Jeep during a ride and had to break his passenger side window. He was not present to pay his \$0.25 fine. However, he did have to pay \$200 to have the window replaced. A couple of weeks later, Bob locked his keys in his Jeep during his own run, "Bob & Donnie's Excellent Adventure," but this time he had a spare available, so no fine for that one.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - Travis Bakewell Check the website for write ups and photos of past events and the latest info on upcoming events.

### PAST EVENTS:

**July 14** Mt Taylor the Hard(er) Way Don Roy

**July 21** Bob and Donnie's Excellent Adventure Robert Meyers

**August 4** Ten-82 Fundraiser at 4-Wheel Parts Tracy Bakewell



**August 5** Jemez Ride Jeff Boggs

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**August 11 - August 12** New Mexico Council of Car Clubs All Clubs Picnic Coronado Campground Bernalillo, NM

**August 12** "The Morning After" Cedro Peak Ride Don Roy, trip leader. Meet at the Sandia Ranger Station

**August 29** 9th Annual Jeep Jam at Marks Casa Jeep Dealer, 9733 Coors Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM

**August 31 - September 3, 2018** Labor Day Safari Ronnie Caton, trip leader. Meet at Moab Rim Camp Park, 1900 South Hwy, 191, Moab, Utah

**September 5 - September 7** Fall Crawl - 4 Corners 4 X 4 Week Cliffhangers 4 Wheel Drive Club

**September 8 - September 9** W.E. Rock Grand Nationals Farmington, NM

**September 9** Ladies Off-Road Trail Training Jennifer Chapin 2445 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87101

**September 22** Gordy's Hill: YCFM, BIGH #6 Don Roy, trip leader. Road Runner Travel Center I-25 Exit 156, Lemitar, NM

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** No report . This office has been appointed to Bobbie Moore and approved by the members present at the August 2018 meeting. Thanks for volunteering, Bobbie.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracy Bakewell Tracy has shirts, hats, license plates, etc. for sale.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Jennifer Chapin. Absent, no report.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy Nothing new to report.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy The same three people have been submitting most of the articles for t5he Newsletter. It would be appreciated if other people would also submit articles. Phil will edit or revise the article or supply it with pictures if necessary. Write your own biography if you would like to and submit it to the newsletter.

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** 4WD Hardware provides discounts to members who have signed up for this program. At the end of the year, 3% of what club members have spent goes back to the club.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

The Director of Environmental Affairs is now Bobbie Moore.

Tracy Bakewell says through Graphic Connections we get 36 t-shirts and 6 hats for \$589.09. The stock will be replenished, and an order will be place.

The 4-Wheeler of the Year is also the member with the most points this year. That member was not present so hopefully at the next meeting he will be present to receive his award.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

A discussion was held regarding opening an online store for members to order embroidered apparel with several club logo options. This would be through <https://www.qbonlinestores.com/>. It was voted on and agreed that the club would pay the one-time fee of \$150 that is required. Eventually silk screen may be an added option to the embroidered products available. The president wore a shirt to the meeting and stated the QB Online Store does occasionally offer specials. When asked why would the club have the online store in addition to the stock that Tracy will be replenishing, it was replied that it would not be wise to put "all our eggs in one basket" should things not go well with the online store. IN addition, the merchandise through the online store is embroidered rather than silk screened.

Del Albright's Recreational Leadership Training Course: The President was able to sign up for this course for half the registration price, \$75. Currently Frank has completed about four of the ten modules. His hope is that the course will supply good tips that will help the club with land use topics, how to run meetings, and how to lead/manage volunteers. The club expressed their gratitude to Frank for taking this course.

Volunteer Trail Ambassador has future projects with the Sandia Ranger District. Forest Road 12 is deeply rutted and in bad shape. It is already 50 feet wide. Maybe the club can help repair it before it is the size of a football field, and the road is shut down. And maybe we can help get a torched Ford Escort winched out of there and help post more stable Carson National Forest signs.

Diego Serna volunteered to be the host of the October meeting and NaDeen Jackson will be the November host. Both meetings will be held at the Heights Presbyterian Church. Closer to time, discussions will be held for the Christmas Party Potluck meeting.

Michael Arndt and Cody Bakewell were the guests that were present and eligible for membership. A vote to accept them as members was called for and accepted.

We're didn't record who won the 50/50 raffle or the NM4W t-shirt. The drink cozy donated by Frank Whiston was won by another lucky anonymous meeting attendee.

Thank you to Frank, Beth, and Donna Whiston for hosting the meeting!

Next meeting will be on September 8th, at 5 pm. This will be at the hope of Chris and Bill Dressler in Edgewood, NM. The summer meetings are held at members' homes with a covered dish brought by other members for a potluck dinner.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:40 pm.

# Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



## President's Report

By Frank Whiston

Wow, another month has already gone by. We have the new online embroidery store up and running as you will learn in a separate article. Speaking of the club logo and name. Whether it is a piece of clothing, a sticker, or a club license plate on your vehicle; your actions reflect on all of us when you sport that logo. There are multiple groups around town and I often joke that most of those groups are just a different sort on the same group of people for the most part. I ask that if you are sporting the NM4W logo or name, be sure that activities that you participate in are legal and in legitimate places to recreate on. With many forms of social media, you never know who will take your picture and post it online and how it will be perceived.

Be sure to check out the club calendar as there are quite a few fun events coming up! We are running lean on day trips. If you want to go out, why not lead a run. We have many well documented routes to take and other members would be happy to help you out!

## LEAD A RUN - THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

## Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun



## Director of Environmental Affairs

By Bobbie Moore

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.





## The NM4W Online Embroidery Store is Live!

By Frank Whiston

### The NM4W Online Embroidery Store is Live!

That's right, you can now choose custom embroidered NM4W logo merchandise and proudly display your affiliation with the New Mexico 4-Wheelers. Simply log into <https://nm4w.org> with your Login Name and Password, then click on the link to the NM4W Online Store. To stay in the spirit of a non-profit, the club has not applied any pricing markups to keep the cost as low as possible for all our members. Bob can even get his pocket shirt! Check it out! Here are a few examples of the 100's of styles you can purchase.



# Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail? Call the trip leader to find out.



## Jemez Ride

August 5, 2018

By Jeff Boggs

Nine Jeeps and a Toyota showed up at Walatowa Visitor's Center at 8:30 am, Sunday. All were members of NM4W, except Nicky and Ash. They are signed up as guests and got a point for this ride. Steven rode with them.



Since parts of the western side of the Jemez were closed related to the recent fire, we choose to go east thru Ponderosa. There have been recent rains in this area, so dust was less than it has been. Our goal was the top of Cerro Pelado Fire Lookout station. We took the back way, via, Fr 137, FR 266, FR 270B, then FR 270 to the top. Several people had never been to the Lookout Station, so they really enjoyed the views and the clouds

had rolled in.

That made the summer temps, just right. Rain off to the north, great views of the Valle Caldera, Cochiti Lake, Sandias, and most of the Jemez.

The group stopped at a nice meadow for lunch. Everybody had a good day, got some pictures. No mechanical issues at all.



I have to confess to a fine of 25 cents. I suggested going to the newly opened Bosque Brewery that has opened at the bridge over the Rio Grande on Hwy 550 after the ride was over. The recent construction in that area messed me up and I missed the turn, but Tracey, Chris, Jennifer, and Richard all made the turn, even though they had to drive across some dirt. Paula and I had to drive across the bridge and get turned around, but we made it. A nice place to finish off the day. Great views, beer and food.



Thanks to all who made this ride. Great group. Thanks to Bob Meyers for tail gunning. He has a good CB.

Try to lead a ride into the Jemez, we need more rides this summer.

Jeff Boggs



## Ten-82 Fundraiser at 4-Wheel Drive Parts

By Jeff Boggs

On 8/4/18 there was an event at 4 Wheel Drive Parts. It was a fund raiser for ten-82. Ten-82 is a 501 (c )(3) non profit organization dedicated to assisting public servants in need of assistance. Ten-82 was founded in 2008 by Law Enforcement from Rio Rancho Police Department and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office determined to help fellow public servants and currently assist Police, Fire, and Military personnel when they find themselves in times of hardship due to illness or injuries. There were 4 cars to drive over and hot dogs, and booths, one of which was NM4W, manned by Tracy. I dropped by and got some pictures of the car crushing. Got to see car crushing done well and not so well, but fun all around!! See the Gallery section for more photos. Thanks to all who showed up.







# 'The Morning After' Cedro Peak Ride

August 12, 2018

By Don Roy

In the past we've always tried to have an 'after meeting' ride so new guests and first time meeting attendees had something to do right away. This was intended to be that ride for this meeting.

We had about 9 vehicles for the day. The Forest Service said that the usual FR12 was muddy, so decided to take FR13. I had forgotten that it is the tougher of the two, with a couple Moderate obstacles that are avoidable if people wished a stress free day.

The only real issue for the ride was the Cherokee of Don Owen and Karen Grohman started making an awful squeaking racket. The whole group waited while Don removed the front drive shaft to fix it, but no joy. Pulling the front wheel next exposed the pebble that had gotten between the disk brake and the dust shield. We told Don to bring 25 cents cash to the next meeting. I suspect he'll also bring his legal council to fight the charges.



The day went fine other than that, with stops at the usual scenic lookout and the Steps to play. All in all it was about a 4.5 hour day.

**Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!**



# 'Colorado 4x4 Rescue and Recovery

## Iron Chest Trail

### Contributed by Frank Whiston

In a small town, tragedy is rare and strikes close to home. On August 7th, during a family outing in the Rocky Mountains, a member of our off-road community lost her life and a family pet was lost in the mountains. High above the small town of St. Elmo, members of the off-road community came together to do what they could for the family.

A day of wheeling in the Rockies, a favorite activity for this family, turned tragic when a simple mistake became a life shattering event. A Jeep JK went off the side of the shelf road section in the rock slide area of Iron Chest trail. The Jeep traveled over 500 feet before coming to a rest.

On August 8th, [Colorado 4x4 Rescue and Recovery](#) was contacted by the family and planning went into action right away. First came a scouting mission on August 11th with [CORE](#) (Colorado Off-Road Enterprises) and the [U.S. Forest Service](#). The magnitude of the situation was almost overwhelming. Although the setting was beautiful, the scene was inhospitable for recovery. 540 feet down a boulder strewn slope ranging from 30-60 deg, was the battered Jeep. After descending to the scene where the vehicle came to rest, members from CO4x4RnR, [CORE](#) and the [U.S. Forest Service](#) formulated a plan.

While scouting the scene, the area was also surveyed for the family dog, Bentley, who was thrown from the vehicle and disappeared. His condition was unknown but the team brought food and water in hopes of finding him.

As part of the plan, [CORE](#) returned to the scene after a week to install necessary winch points in a slab of granite dominating the uphill side of the shelf road above the recovery site. Meanwhile, CO4x4RnR put its plan in motion and a team was formed. In addition to CO4x4RnR's, [CORE](#) put out a call to its members to help staff the recovery and two of its members from Texas, made the trip to help. The ranger granted permission to close the road for the weekend to complete the recovery and would be on site for the effort.

The weather cooperated and a bright cool morning greeted a total of 25 members, the USFS ranger, as well as a [Chaffee County Search and Rescue North](#) member who returned seeking closure. Limited room on scene and no ability to turn around on the shelf road demanded that all the team members and gear be transported in as few vehicles as possible. Seven loaded rigs ascended the mountain, through a boulder field that is demanding for all but the most capable rigs. The scene at 11,500 affected people immediately. Rigging commenced right away regardless, there was a task to be completed.

There had previously been sporadic sightings of Bentley high on the ridge above the recovery site, so family travelled from Kansas to Colorado to try and coax the dog to return home. A radio from the recovery team was given to the family ascending to the peak, so they could contact the CO4x4RnR team if they needed help or assistance. Our own Safety Officer also tracked the family in their search, well above the recovery site.



1,080 feet of line, for two winches, was run down the slope. The Jeep was secured so repairs could be made and after 2 hours, winching commenced. It was a slow and demanding process, pulling the Jeep up slope, 75 feet at a time, using both winches to make the grade. The weight and slope demanded resting the winches in order to cool them; rest was often needed for everyone.

The process of winch, re-rig, and winch again continued for hours through a rain squall and sporadic lighting. A much needed infusion of energy came at just the right time, as the family appeared on site with Bentley in tow. A call went out over the radio notifying the workers down below, and a somber scene and an exhausted recovery team was reinvigorated as they watched Bentley and his family walk through the recovery scene and around the bend towards home.

Three groups of winchers and riggers brought the Jeep to within 50 feet of the road as darkness set in on the first day's team of exhausted members. They descended through the ¼ mile long boulder field, in the dark of night, towards much needed rest.

Day two welcomed a team of CO4x4RnR and 7 CORE members to bring the vehicle to the road. The vehicle was winched to the road up the steepest slope and rotated. It finally returned to the road, one last time. The Jeep was inspected, repaired for towing and brought down the narrow and rocky trail, to come to a peaceful rest among the changing aspens in St. Elmo.

The greatest challenge ever presented to Colorado 4x4 Rescue and Recovery was met through a first of its kind joint effort by its members and those from CORE. With the help of the U.S. Forest Service, communications assistance from a member of Chaffee County Search and Rescue North, and citizens from Buena Vista, Colorado and St. Elmo, Colorado, that challenge was met. Both CO4x4RnR and CORE were extremely honored to be called upon to assist and we hope in some small way these efforts help the family heal.

Colorado 4x4 Rescue and Recovery

‘We Recover the Rockies’







Photo by Eric  
Ma,  
Co4x4RnR



Photo by Eric  
Ross,  
Co4x4RnR





Photo by  
Marcus Trusty,  
CORE



Photo by  
Thomas and  
Dianne Graf,  
Co4x4RnR









## Redneck Engineering

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....  
Remember, when you're on the trail and have a problem, you may have to be creative.



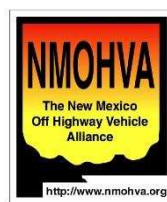
# Get out and enjoy the great outdoors.

## KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
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# Trail Tales



October 1, 2018

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## Meeting Minutes September 8, 2018 by NaDeen F. Jackson



The meeting was held at the home of Chris and Bill Dressler in Edgewood, New Mexico.

Historian Jennifer Chapin called the meeting to order at 5:47 pm.

**GUESTS:** David McCollum, Patricia McCollum, Joseph Miranda, and Kim Miranda

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Michael Arndt, Bill Dressler, Chris Dressler, NaDeen Jackson, Bobbie Moore, Don Roy, and Chris Sears

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** - NaDeen F. Jackson. Meeting minutes from August were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Bob Provance. Absent, no report.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - Cliff Meier. Absent, no report.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - Travis Bakewell. Absent, no report.

### PAST EVENTS:

**August 11 - August 12** New Mexico Council of Car Clubs All Clubs Picnic

**August 12** "The Morning After" Cedro Peak Ride Don Roy

**August 29** 9th Annual Jeep Jam at Marks Casa Jeep Dealer

**August 31 - September 3, 2018** Labor Day Safari Ronnie Caton

**September 5 - September 7** Fall Crawl - 4 Corners 4X4 Week Cliffhangers 4 Wheelers Drive Club

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**September 8 - September 9** W.E. Rock Grand Nationals Farmington, NM

**September 9** Ladies Off-Road Trail Training Jennifer Chapin, 2445 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87101



**September 22** Gordy's Hill: YCFM, BIGH #6 Don Roy, trip leader, Meet at Road Runner Travel Center I-25 Exit 156, Lemitar, NM

**October 10, 2018 - October 13** 2018 Chile Challenge, Caballo Lake State Park

## **Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** Bobbie Moore Bobbie briefly explained and passed around the Share the Trails ~ Blue Ribbon Correlation's Mission/Vision/Values flyer. We are members as a club. Also, the NMOVA August/September newsletter was passed around.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracy Bakewell. Absent, no report. Jennifer announced that the online store is up and running.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Jennifer Chapin. Present, no report.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy. The trail section on the website that is for members only will now be monitored for the logging in and downloading of trail information. Don previously discussed with the president, Frank, that some "big brother" monitoring should be in place.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. Absent, no report. Jennifer reminded people to keep sending Phil their entries for the newsletter so that the newsletter isn't so small.

**PROMOTIONS PROGRAMS:** For the 4WD Hardware discounts you must walk-in or call-in your order. The discounts don't work if you order online. The discounts are usual so good that you are able to purchase stuff at wholesale prices. Discounts are available to members who have signed up for this program. At the end of the year, 3% of what club members have spent at 4WD Hardware goes back to the club.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There are future volunteer opportunities through the Ranger's Station. Carey needs to be contacted regarding the removal of the torched Ford Escort. It needs to be discussed if we are cleared to be there should the Escort be located on private property and what sort of equipment will be needed.

Frank Whiston has completed a few of the modules for the Del Albright's Recreational Leadership Training Course.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None of the guests present were eligible for membership. All the guests present needed one more point to be eligible for membership.

There was no 50/50 raffle.

Thank you to Chris and Bill Dressler for hosting the meeting!

The next meeting will be on October 18th at 7 pm. It will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, NM.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:04 pm.

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



### President's Report

By Frank Whiston

Fall is here! What a great time to get out and enjoy the weather! October brings the [Chile Challenge](#). As of this writing, 9 of the 17 trails being offered are either sold out or nearly full. The Las Cruces 4WD Club has been putting this on for decades and it sounds like the event is being well attended this year. Although online registration closed on 30 September, you can still register on-site October 9-14.

Keep an eye on the [club calendar](#) as new rides can be added at any time. I wish that I could get out every weekend, but working some 50-60 hour weeks and keeping up with family, it has not been possible. I do have a [campout](#) planned this month to get away before having to think about winterizing the RV.

Remember, this is your club. I have been elected to facilitate the desires of the membership. I always welcome input from the members, so feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or questions.

**LEAD A FUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



### Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

By Bobbie Moore

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.



## A Long Hard Day at Gordy's

By Don Roy

It's been a while since I led a Hard level trip to Gordy's Hill near Socorro, NM. This one brought 6 vehicles (actually 8, but that's another story). We had Donnie Walker, Bob Meyers, Jack Dickey, Gregg Radtke, myself, and a Ray Duran from Las Cruces with his extreme YJ on 42" tires. Soon to be member Deb Austin also did a ride-along with me to see what Hard trails were like.

Since all the Hard level action at Gordy's are arroyo trails, weather over a year span can change things a lot. We started with Lower Amado and got surprised by the huge 5'+ rocks that came down since our last trip. We managed to get through, then went to Hidden Valley, Bad Hair Day, Cat Scratch, then last through Doug's Dilemma. Before Doug's, Bob (with broken lockers) and Gregg (pressed for time) wanted to call it a day, so I led them out.

Only Jack, Donnie, and Ray did Doug's. Half way through Doug's, Donnie's new lockers with 37" tires popped an axle shaft on the lowly stock Dana 35(!). (This brings up a whole other issue of ensuring your rig is reliable, but that too is another discussion we really must have.) A Dana 35 is a c-clip axle,

meaning if an axle shaft breaks, the wheel just wanders out the axle. The only way to get out of the bush is to rig a side bar (Hi-Lift shaft and ratchet straps) to hold the wheel on as you are dragged to finish the trail. Here's a photo of Donnie with the side-bar showing what we had to do.





It took Jack and Ray well over an hour to get Donnie and his Jeep to the main road where I was waiting. Jack was then able to get it on his trailer for the ride back to Albuquerque. Jack happens to have a friend in Lemitar who could care for Jacks Blazer until he could go back to get it on Sunday. I got a call from Donnie at 8:15PM that Jack got him and his Jeep home safe, then another call at 9PM from Jack that he and Cathy were home too. I walked in my house just in time to get Donnie's call, and Ray left about 6PM for the two-hour drive to Cruces, so it was a very long day for the last four of the vehicles.



**Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail? Call the trip leader to find out.**



# Let Ride Leaders Know About Guest Vehicles

By Don Roy

Ours is a casual club, rides are all about having fun, the more the merrier, it's all good. On an Easy ride, two or three surprise vehicles just showing up is usually not a problem for the leader or group, since most any 4x4 can do Easy. When the planned day however is Moderate, Hard, or Extreme, an inadequately built vehicle just showing up on ride morning is a big problem. The leader wants to make sure everyone can get through the day. That is much easier if the leader can pre-assess the capabilities of a prospective attendee's vehicle. It's fine for members to invite friends on rides, but please, do it the right way.

An example of a bad day: My Gordy's ride (Sept 22) was designated Hard on the Calendar web page. The ride was marked Members Only and did not show the meet location unless you were a logged in member. As the ride approached, I saw the web site list of member attendees, had ridden with them all before, so was ready for a fun day.

Apparently one member had mentioned the ride to a friend and told him the meet point, not expecting him to show up, but he did. He had a TJ on 33's with no lockers, not a good setup for the planned Hard day. Just as I was figuring out how to tell them they could not go, an older stock Grand Cherokee pulled up, apparently a friend of the already unexpected TJ guy. I had to tell them both they could not go, they were just not built up well enough for the planned terrain. They obviously were not happy, especially after driving all the way to Socorro. It was not good PR for NM4W at all.

Members: Please Follow this attendance procedure to minimize surprise attendees on rides:

- Members should sign themselves up, so leaders see who is coming from within the club.
- Guests and site visitors viewing the rides web page see text telling them to email the leader. This way it's easy for the leader to assess a rig's ability for the day's ride.
- NEVER, tell a buddy to just show up. Tell them to use the email link on the web site ride page to let the leader know ahead of time.
- If your friend is considering joining NM4W, tell them to fill out a membership application. Doing so allows them to be added to the attendance roster where they can be seen in the list by other members, and they can get points credit for the ride.

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!





# Jenifer Chapin in Peterson's 4 Wheel & Off Road magazine

Congratulations to Jennifer for being featured in the November 2018 Issue of Reader's Rides

**TRANSFER CASE REBUILD TIPS**

**PETERSEN'S 4WHEEL & OFF-ROAD**

**BUCKET-LIST 4X4 EXPEDITION**

**ULTIMATE ADVENTURE**

**OUR W... NOR'E...**

**DERANGE ROVER CUMMINS-POWERED CAMEL TROPHY-INS PROJECT UNVEILED**

**FJ CRUIS TIRE TRI...**

**EARLY BRONCO BUILDUP**

**READERS' RIDES** COMPILED BY Tom Morr READERSRIDES@4WOR.COM

**SUBSCRIBER SINCE '02**

**VEHICLE:** 1986 Chevy K10 **OWNER:** Levi Mangiaracina **TIRES & WHEELS:** 35x12.5DR15 Falken Wildpeak A/T on chrome LMC Weld wheels **SUSPENSION:** 4-inch Rough Country EZ Ride Springs, Pro Comp Sport shocks, 1-inch body lift **DRIVETRAIN:** 700R4 transmission, NP200 T-case, rebuilt Chevy 1D-bolt axles with Lock Right Lockers, Warn Premium front hubs **PERFORMANCE:** Chevy 350 V-8, Holley 670-cfm carburetor, Comp Cams cam, wrapped headmain headers **OTHER MODS:** Iron Cross bumpers, winch, bed toolbox, headache rack, stainless brake lines **FUNNIEST WHEELING INCIDENT:** Getting stuck in a drained pond out at the farm, and then getting the tractor stuck trying to get it out. **ANYTHING TO ADD?:** This is my high school truck. My dad, my cousin, and I did a frame-off restoration.

**PINK BLING**

**VEHICLE:** 2017 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon **OWNER:** Jen Chapin, Albuquerque, NM **TIRES & WHEELS:** 35-inch Pro Comp MTR, Pro Comp Flat Black Alloy **SUSPENSION:** Rubicon Express Superflex 3 1/2-inch lift **DRIVETRAIN:** Stock **PERFORMANCE:** Superflex tuner, MBPP cat-back exhaust **OTHER MODS:** Extreme Terrain front bumper, Warn 7-pin 10S winch, Poison Spyder rear bumper, Terreflex spare-tire mount, Tuffy security deck, CB radio, 6-foot LED whip, CO<sub>2</sub> bottle, air compressor, custom Hi-Lift jack with pink powder coating, Crazy Beaver shovel, Bubba Rope and lots of pink and Black Gator Jaws wrapped on the roll bar **DOES IT WORK THE WAY YOU WANT?:** This Jeep performs beyond my expectations, but I still keep finding more modifications that I want to do to it. I have been surprised at how many things I had had to fabricate or modify to get what I want to work. **ANYTHING YOU WOULD CHANGE?:** Fox reservoir shocks, LED light bar, and some pink rock lights (this girl has to have a little bit of bling with dirt) **ANYTHING TO ADD?:** I love to be out on the trails as much as possible so anyone is always welcome to join me.

**SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

**NOVEMBER 2018 4WHEELOFFROAD.COM**

**TEN PAGES**

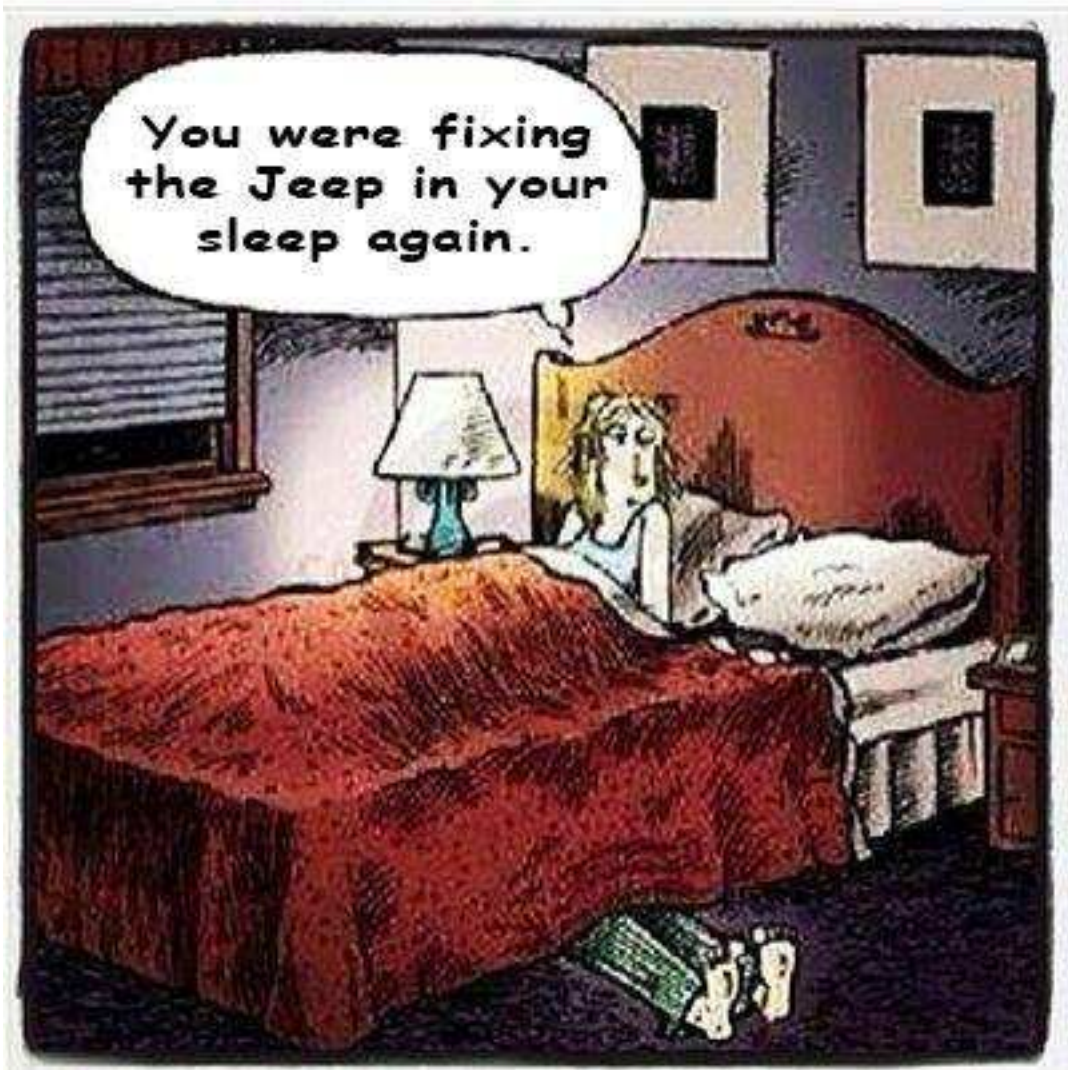




## Redneck Engineering

**Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....**  
Remember, when you switch to bigger tires, make sure you have enough fender clearance when you flex.





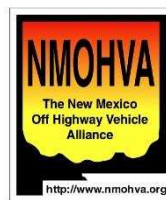
**Get ready to get out and enjoy  
the great outdoors.**

# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

<p><b>President</b> Frank G. Whiston 505-681-0017 pr@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Vice-President</b> <b>Membership Chairman</b> Cliff Meier 505-507-8188 vp@nm4w.org</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> NaDeen Jackson 505-918-6300 se@nm4w.org</p>
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Web Site Administrator Don Roy, wa@nm4w.org  
 Newsletter editor, Phil Rodacy, ed@nm4w.org  
 Club Lawyer, Karen Grohman







# Trail Tales



November 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
of the  
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

[www.nm4w.org](http://www.nm4w.org)

## Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2018  
by NaDeen F. Jackson



The meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Frank Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**GUESTS:** Jack Nutter and Shirley Godfrey

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Jennifer Chapin, Cathy Dickey, Jack Dickey, Leon Duggar, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Jimmy Lloyd, Cliff Meier, Jennifer Meier, Bobbie Moore, Bob Provance, Phil Rodacy, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Diego Serna, Wayne Sullivan, Donna Whiston, Frank G. Whiston, and Frank R. Whiston

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** - NaDeen F. Jackson. Meeting minutes from September were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Bob Provance. \$8,002.85 is in the savings account. \$3,784.13 is in the checking account. \$216.95 is in the PayPal account. The total is \$12,003.93.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - Travis Bakewell.

### PAST EVENTS:

**September 20 - September 23** The Red River Run was cancelled.

**September 22** Gordy's Hill led by Don Roy. It was a fun run. Unfortunately a couple of people showed up with Jeeps that were not capable of doing this hard of trail and had to go home. Another member had mechanical problems on the trail, but everyone made it back home.

**September 30** Jemez Copper Mine and Towers led by Jennifer Chapin. The ride included a nice lunch inside the mine in order to stay cool.

**October 7** Vehicle and Dog Wash Fundraiser. Jennifer Chapin The event was held at the New Mexico Jeep Builders. Jennifer arrived there with the dirtiest Jeep. \$600 was raised for Paws and Stripes.

**October 10 - October 13** Chile Challenge led by the Las Cruces 4 Wheel Drive Club. The event was well represented by the New Mexico 4 Wheelers despite all the rain.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**October 20** Santa Fe Forest Clean-Up Day Jennifer Chapin 1313 N. Paseo De Onate, Espanola, NM

**October 28** Manzano Mountains Run Cliff Meier, trip leader Sandia Ranger Station, Tijeras, NM

**November 10, 2018** Gordy's Hill, the Easy Way Don Roy, trip leader Road Runner Travel Center, I -25 Exit 156, Lemitar, NM

**Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Cliff Meier. Cliff explained the point system and how it applies to becoming a member. Cliff, who is also the Sheriff, explained how the 25-cent fine system works. There were quite a few fines this month:

- There is a pending fine for Donnie Walker not having any tow hooks in front on the Gordy's Hill 9/22 Ride. Another fine for Donnie on the same run is pending for popping an axle shaft on the toughest trail of the day. That, coupled with no front tow hooks, made it difficult to drag him out, but Jack Dickey came to the rescue and retrieved him.
- Travis Bakewell called out by Tracy Bakewell for getting lost on a run. Tracy didn't recall the incident but still paid his quarter.
- Leon Duggar paid a whopping \$5 (he decided on the amount) for getting to Abiquiu Lake with his kids for the Fall Mountain Campout with Marcia's Land Cruiser all loaded on his gooseneck camper, only to discover that he left the Land Cruiser keys in the laundry basket at home. Marcia, who was at home working, kindly drove out 40 miles to bring Leon the keys. We all suspect that he owes her a lot more than the \$5 he paid to the club.
- Don Roy paid 25 cents for not strapping his windshield to the hood on his way back from the Gordy's Hill 9/22 Ride. Despite the windshield flipping up while Don was driving around 70 mph, but the glass didn't break, but the frame was badly bent. \$200 later it is all fixed and looking pretty.
- Frank Whiston shelled out 50 cents in fines. One quarter was for going to the Fall Mountain Campout with a cracked rear shock that broke on a trail. The other quarter was for Leon telling him that his CB antenna had fallen off.

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:** Bobbie Moore. Present, no report.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracy Bakewell. Tracy explained that for the 50/50 Raffle, 50% of the money gathered from selling raffle tickets goes to the club and the other 50% goes to the winner. He also has new t-shirts for sale. Please look on the website for embroidered

shirts and embroidered hats. Tracy is open to suggestions for meeting ideas such as presentations that are 15 to 20 minutes long.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Jennifer Chapin. Present, no report.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy. You can now report people online if you'd like to assess a fine. It will be up to the Sheriff, Cliff, if anything formal will be done.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. Please turn in your trip reports and articles. If you do a presentation at a meeting, you can submit that to the newsletter as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

One volunteer project is to repair the ruts on Forest Road 12. A committee should be started, and Diego Serna volunteered to help. It was recommended by the President that the committee write a proposal on how to fix Forest Road 12 and then present it to the forest service. If we wait for the forest service to do something, they'll likely just close the road.

Another volunteer project is removal of the burned car. Kerry got approval to go on the private property where the car is located. Jennifer Chapin agreed to help with a reconnaissance (recon) list.

The President has the Del Albright Course half completed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A venue or host is still needed for the Christmas party. A vote to allow the club officers make the final decision after Bob Provance gets a price on a venue for 50 people was called for and accepted. Phil Rodacy offered his home as an alternative choice.

Ed Kausche joined the club in the spring of 1987. He gave a brief presentation on the club's history.

Strategic planning for the club was discussed. We talked about a vision statement, values that the club holds, and possible goals for the future. Suggested values included:

(1) Stewards of the land (2) Tread lightly (3) Continuous learning (4) Community involvement (5) Fun, comradery (6) Family inclusion.

Members were encouraged to think about what they would like as a vision and then discuss it at the next meeting. Please submit ideas to the President via email.

We will also talk about both internal and external trends at the November meeting.

David McCollum and Deb Austin were guests that were present and eligible for membership. A vote to accept them as members was called for and accepted.

Jennifer Chapin won \$40 in the 50/50 Raffle.

Diego Serna was thanked for being the host.

The next meeting will be held on November 8th at 7 pm. It will be at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, NM

**MEETING ADJORNED** at 8:38 pm.





## President's Report

By Frank Whiston

Last month, I kicked off a series of Strategic Planning Sessions that will be conducted during the meeting at the church. In October, we looked at the Club's mission statement and came up with a list of values. Values are what we believe in and stand for. Values are usually expressed in one or two words. Like the Boy Scouts who value being Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, etc., the organization needs to have values that can be marketed in simple terms of what you stand for. Here is what we came up with:

- Stewardship
- Tread Lightly
- Continuous Learning
- Community Involvement
- Fun and Comradery
- Fellowship
- Family Inclusion

We also discussed a vision statement for the club. Vision is defined as the future in terms of the present. It is where you want to be, expressed as if you were there. It helps to impress upon the mind of your organization that you are your Vision. This element will need to be kept in mind as we move through the process so that a statement can be crafted.

At the November club meeting, I ask the membership to think about trends that are going on. Trends are the things affecting the group, currently. You might ask yourself, "What is happening to my group, internally and from the outside, that is affecting who we are and what we do?"

Trends are social, economic, mental, physical, political events and happenings that affect the group. An active club member going through a divorce can affect the group. A new President of the United States can have some effect on the group. A new anti-access club cropping up in your area can affect the group. You name it – and you list it. Anything that might have an impact on your club/group is a trend that must be identified and discussed to determine just what the impact might be and how to mitigate it.

Then, time permitting we will discuss opportunities. Opportunities are those things we can do based on where we are and where we're going, keeping the Trends in mind. It asks what kinds of positive things can be accomplished?

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

## Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun



## Director of Environmental Affairs

By Bobbie Moore

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

## LEAD A RUN AND GET A DISCOUNT ON DUES



## Members Eligible for a Discount on Dues for Leading Trails

By Frank Whiston

All,

The following members are eligible for the dues discount for leading trails:

Member	Trails Lead
Bill Bonahoom	10
Ross Burchard	13
Jack Dickey	5
Bill Gardner	4
Don Roy	4
Frank G. Whiston	5

Per the SOPs, these members are entitled to a \$10 refund on their 2018-2019 Club dues. These awards will be given at the November 2018 meeting. If a recipient cannot make it to the meeting, they will have to file a written request (email) to the treasurer to make other arrangements to receive the refund. **Come on, folks. We'd like to see a lot more names on this list next year!**

# Thinking about going on a ride, but not sure if you can handle the trail? Call the trip leader to find out.



## Four Wheeler of the Year

By Frank Whiston

This year's recipient for the Four-Wheeler of the Year Award is Ross Burchard. Ross first showed up at the October 2016 club meeting driving his Hummer H2. In the 2 years Ross has been with the club, he has attended 68 club functions and built a beautiful JKUR! Ross was voted in as a club member at the January 2017 club meeting and made a significant impact right away as recognized by the membership. In July, he accepted the officer position of Vice President and then shortly after, he agreed to become the club President as Jennifer had to move away for her job. Ross also lead the most trails last year leading 13 times. Talk about hitting the ground running! We have had this award since August and Ross has been taking a well-deserved break. After the last club meeting, the board of directors decided that we should not sit on this any longer and the President met up with him to present the award. Ross also was due to receive the \$100 award for leading the most trails. However, Ross told us that he didn't do it for the money and declined the cash award. Ross says "To help benefit the club, I prefer that you use the funds to defray expenses or provide gifts." Next time you see Ross, be sure to thank him in person for the impact that he has had on the club in such a short time.







# Fall Mountain Campout

By Frank Whiston

With school age children, we are limited as to when we can take longer excursions and look to the school calendar to plan trips. Albuquerque Public Schools has one long weekend in October where the kids do not have school on Thursday and Friday, so we knew we wanted to get away and the time would be October 11-14, 2018. This coincides with two other events. 1) Beth and I's 17<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and 2) the Chile Challenge. When Beth and I got married, she was a school teacher and the APS calendar influenced the date for our wedding too! So why not just go to the Chile Challenge? We like to get to the mountains to see the aspens turning color and the timing was right! A few years ago, while in Silverton CO, Beth bought a t-shirt that reads "I Jeep for the flowers and He Jeeps for the mud". The Chile Challenge is known for just that, the Challenge, and does not appeal to her. The lower level desert can be beautiful as well, but we love the mountains.

As I mentioned before, the timing was right! The aspens were beautiful! The campground at Abiquiu Lake served as the base camp for Leon Dugger and daughters and the Whiston's. We both arrived Thursday morning and I got the last first-come-first-serve site with water and electric and Leon was fortunate enough to snag one of the reservation sites due to a cancellation.

Friday, the Whiston's in the LJ and the Dugger's in the cruiser set out of the north Jemez. We ended up making a huge loop stopping at Poachers Point on the north boundary of the Valles Caldera Preserve and returning through Espanola. Espanola was not part of the plan. I had planned to take FR31 back into Abiquiu. Recognize that road number? That would be the same FR number as the infamous High Water Road. I thought that we would be immune to all the washouts given that we were taking the west part of that road. However, the Southern end still drops into the Rio Del Oso drainage and we ran into a washout as well as some downed trees. It ended up being a long day.

Saturday, we took Highway 96 to Coyote and ran south on FR316. At the Coyote Canyon picnic area, we took FR317 following the Coyote Creek drainage. Then we took a sharp left climbing out of the canyon on FR317K which follows the Rito Seco drainage. This ended up being a really neat 4WD road that gave Leon a bit of concern in the stock cruiser, but he navigated it without any trouble at all. The trail even passes a pond that has cat tails growing in it. Past the pond, it traverses a meadow where the road is covered in grass and hard to make out. Having the MVUM GPS data really helped out here. Once at the top, we joined FR100 where we would turn back to the north. At Magogo Tank, we took a left into Valle de la Gurilla where we stopped for lunch. We then continued north to make a loop around Laguno Madrid. Next time we visit, we will have to go check out the Encino Lookout which is nearby. Then we rejoined FR100 and traveled it back to

Highway 96 returning to Abiquiu Lake.



That evening, Rebecca joined the Dugger's for some fishing at the Boat ramp (which is out of the water) and the rest of us explored the lake shore and watched the sun set. Sunday morning we broke camp and returned home. It was a beautiful weekend!

## Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!



### Copper Mine Trip

By Jennifer Chapin

On September 30<sup>th</sup> 2018, we had a group of 9 rigs meet up in Cuba, New Mexico and then headed out to the copper mines. We found out from a local gentleman that we bumped into at the mine that his grandfather actually worked at the mines until they closed in the 1960's when the price of copper dropped. It is a great place to take a break and have lunch.

It was still hot so we sat just inside the mine where it was nice and cool for a lunch break. A few Jeep drove the short loop in the mine and back out.

My favorite part is that we got Batgirl up there and she really enjoyed it and got some great pictures of her Jeep inside the mine. This trail is mostly easy but there are a few challenges and especially going back out the in and out road to the mine.





## Manzano Mountain Run

By Jim Wagner

Only Jennifer would be prepared for this!

It was Cliff's Manzano Mountain run on Oct. 28.

We were several hours into the journey, maybe 20 miles from pavement. And up ahead on the rough road were four or five big black cattle on and next to the road--and a tree, across the road, blocking our passage. Its trunk was at least 12 inches in diameter, and thigh-thick limbs were everywhere.

Now what, some of us wondered.

Well, Jennifer, prepared, ready, and willing, grabbed her battery-powered chain saw. And got right to work.

Two of three of us grabbed branches and flung them into the woods. Three or four slices with her saw, and Jennifer was done. In less than 5 minutes.



Holy cow!

And on we went.

The day began at the Sandia ranger station on what the old-timers still call South 14. A stop in Manzano to collect two women in their white Jeep rounded out the entourage of 11 (???) vehicles. A few minutes later, we were climbing to Capilla Peak. On the way up, we encountered a Dodge diesel pickup carrying a family from Rio Rancho. The driver owns two big cranes and told us that a tower at the peak had fallen, landing partly on the cable to another tower. He was checking out the situation and later said he intended to return at some point with his cranes to begin R&R.

After that, it was down the mountain, retracing our steps, then into Manzano again, then single file behind Cliff.

It had been a year or so since Cliff had driven this route, but he knew virtually every turn. We climbed and climbed. Two mph. Ten mph. Two mph. The views to the west and then to the east and then to the west--spectacular. Mud puddles and gooey slop marked the roadway in many places.

Lunch was taken 30 minute or so in a clearing somewhere not near anything.

We stopped again at the ruins of what must've been a home a hundred years ago. No roof. Walls mostly collapsed. Someone's dream home a long time ago?

By now, the sun was in the western sky, and most of the fall color in the trees was brown. Every now and then a solitary yellow aspen would break the thousands of acres of pinon and juniper and scrub oak. Several times, we spotted deer, Cliff alerting us via CB.

Two or three times, at least, the descent was steep, really steep. Then one time, it was up and up, so steep that one could see only sky over the hood.

Finally, flat roads again. The Abo ruins were the final stop. It was a great run.



## Jeep and Dog Wash

Paws and Stripes Fundraiser 2018

By Jennifer Chapin



A few of the clean Jeeps at the event. The days was filled with lots of volunteers to wash Jeeps, cars, and trucks. Also, some very caring dog washers to clean the K9's. They also grilled up some hot dogs and offered up some homemade treats. This event raised a little over \$600.00 for Paws and Stripes. A special thanks to New Mexico Jeep Builders for hosting this event.



## Redneck Engineering

Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....



**Get ready to get out and enjoy  
the great outdoors.**

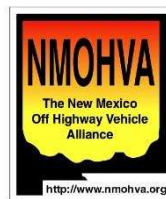


# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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# Trail Tales



December 1, 2018

Official Newsletter  
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## Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2018  
by NaDeen F. Jackson



The meeting was held at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Frank Whiston called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GUESTS:** Mike Caldwell, Paige Caldwell, Kenny Campbell, Shirley Godfrey, Joe and Kim Miranda, Jack Nutter, Jim Wagner, and Corey Zimmerman

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy Bakewell, Travis Bakewell, Jennifer Chapin, Guy Conway, Cathy Dickey, Jack Dickey, Lucille Ellis, Terry Ellis, NaDeen Jackson, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Brian Leist, Cliff Meier, Jeanne Meier, Bobby Moore, Bob Provance, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Richard Steele, Wayne Sullivan, Andy Townes, Donald Tyler, Frank G. Whiston, and Frank R. Whiston

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** - NaDeen F. Jackson. Meeting minutes from October were accepted as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Bob Provance. \$194.31 has been gained through the raffle, memberships, and t-shirt sales. \$8004.55 is in the savings account, \$4157.58 is in the checking account, and \$36.11 is in the PayPal account. A few members are eligible for a refund due to the number of rides they have led.

**TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - Travis Bakewell.

### PAST EVENTS:

October 20 Santa Fe Forest Clean Up Day was cancelled by Jennifer Chapin.

October 28 Manzano Mountains Run led by Cliff Meier. There were 11 vehicles.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 10, 2018 at 8 am Gordy's Hill, the Easy Way Don Roy, trip leader Meet at the Road Runner Travel Center, I-25 Exit 156, Lemitar, NM

December 1, 2018 at 5 pm Twinkle Light Parade, Bill Bonahoom, leader. Meet at 4310 Central Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM, 87108

December 8 at 5 pm NM4W Christmas Party and Meeting, Hosted by Cliff and Jeanne Meier, 5105 Fairmont Street NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87120

December 16 at 1 pm Going to the Dogs Cruise-in at Fastinos. Frank Whiston, leader. Meet at 2600 Juan Tabo Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112

## **Please check the website for new runs or changes in trip times, locations and leaders.**

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Cliff Meier. Cliff explained the point system and how it applies to joining the club. As the Sheriff, he also explained that if someone does something dumb or a leader gets lost, there is a fine of \$0.25 per incident.

Tracy Bakewell paid a quarter for forgetting Jack Dickey's name while giving his Program Chairman's Report.

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT:** Bobbie Moore. The forest service is holding a series of open-house meetings. The Lincoln National Forest is holding a meeting for Timberon and Cloudcroft. The Santa Fe National Forest is holding a meeting for Pecos and Las Vegas. There are three more open houses so please check the forest service page for details.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Tracy Bakewell. A pair of lights have been donated for the 50/50 raffle. For the embroidered shirts that individuals order, expect delivery to take two to three weeks. If members would like to do a presentation during a meeting (like Jack Dickey's presentation on fire extinguishers), please see Tracy.

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT:** Jennifer Chapin. Please put pictures up on the website.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT:** Don Roy. On the trucks' page there are now floating trucks. You can now manage your own gallery.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Phil Rodacy. Unfortunately, Phil did not feel well and had to leave before the meeting began.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

A projector for the club had been discussed in previous meetings. One was purchased at Best Buy by Don Roy with a two-week return policy. It was tested and found to be satisfactory. It was approved by the club in a vote that Bob Provance write Don Roy a check for \$539 for the projector that is now club property.

A discussion was held on how the club should start maintaining club property. A conclusive decision was made that we make an inventory list and have it on the website.



Diego Serna took pictures of the road and trail to document the status of Forest Road 12. Kerry has not returned our messages as far as when we can go on to the property where the burned car is located so we can develop a plan of how to extract it. Therefore, the status of this project is on hold.

Frank Whiston has not done any further modules with the Del Albright Course.

A motion was accepted for the amount of money that will be spent on the Christmas party food. For the December 8th party, the club will provide meat and sides from Rudy's BBQ. Attendees are asked to bring either a dessert, a food or monetary donation for the Road Runner Food Bank, or donations for Toys For Tots.

Cliff Meier will be hosting the February 2019 meeting at the church, and NaDeen Jackson will be hosting the January 2019 meeting. A host for the March meeting will be decided at the January meeting.

Strategic Planning for the club touched on the subject of "trends." Some of the trends affecting the club are social media and the fact that there are 11 different four-wheeler groups in New Mexico. How do we distinguish ourselves from the rest? One idea mentioned was to do like the Cliff Hangers in Farmington and have our own large event.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A vote on a donation to the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church was taken. A motion was accepted to donate \$300 to the church. Frank stated that the church does not charge us for the use of the room, and it is one of the most sought after rooms on the church campus. This is why every year the club donates to the church.

Ross Burchard won \$100 for being the 2017-2018 Four Wheeler of the Year. Ross told Frank to donate his winnings back into the club.

Phil Rodacy researched and asked Frank to present to the club a recommendation that they club donate to East Mountains Food Pantry. Since most of the club's trail runs are in the east mountains, it would be nice to support the area where we frequent. A motion was accepted that the club donate \$200 to the East Mountain Pantry. It was also voted that the \$100-donation from Ross Burchard be given to the Pantry.

Kurt Forsberg and Joseph and Kim Miranda were guests eligible for membership. Joseph and Kim Miranda were present. A vote to accept them as members was called for and accepted. Michael Caldwell and Paige Caldwell are now associates who are sponsored by Don Roy. A vote was not necessary.

Jack Dickey did a highly-informative fire extinguisher presentation that was geared towards 4 X 4s.

David McCollum won \$54 in the 50/50 raffle. Richard Steele won the pair of lights.

NaDeen Jackson was thanked for being the host.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:30 pm.



## President's Report

By Frank Whiston

Wow, this is the last newsletter for 2018, a milestone for the club; our 60th anniversary. There are not many clubs that can say that they have been around for 60 years! That's a pretty cool thing to be a part of if you ask me.

I am looking forward to visiting with members who show up to the Christmas Party/Dec. Club Meeting at the Meiers. The plan as in past years is to be light on business and heavy on camaraderie. There is nothing really pressing for the club and regular business can wait till January. The Meiers are collecting nonperishable food donations and/or toys which will be given to local organizations that can get those items in the hands of people that are in need this holiday season. Hunger and poverty go hand-in-hand in New Mexico. 19.7% of the New Mexico population had incomes below the poverty line (\$24,860 for a family of four) in 2017. New Mexico has the worst rate in the country where 17.9% of households were food insecure on average from 2015 to 2017, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. We are all pretty lucky to be able to be a part of this club and go out and burn gasoline for pure enjoyment, so I hope that each of you will bring a donation and help make a dent in this huge problem we have in our state.

Happy Holidays to all!

**LEAD A RUN -  
THE TRIP LEADER IS IN CONTROL**



## Vice President's Soap Box

By Cliff Meier

There is no Vice-President's report this month.

**Be a Trip Leader! More trail rides = more fun**



## Director of Environmental Affairs

By Bobbie Moore

There is no Environmental Affairs report this month.

## LEAD A RUN AND GET A DISCOUNT ON DUES



From a display at the Las Vegas Motor  
Speedway

Contributed by Frank Whiston



**Thinking about going on a ride, but not  
sure if you can handle the trail?  
Call the trip leader to find out.**





# Gordy's, The Easy Way

November 10th

By Don Roy

This was another easy ride after a meeting, scheduled so new NM4W meeting attendees could do something off-road right away. The last one of these for me was a simple Cedro ride in Sept, this time we went further to Gordy's Hill east of Socorro, NM. We had about 13 vehicles and 18 people for the day, which included a (directionally helpful) local guy from Socorro who knew our club. It was sunny, but a bit cold and windy (my last day of the year for no top or doors).



(Photo by Paige Caldwell)

After airing down at the north parking area (the one with the NM4W sign), we headed east on my favorite Gordy's easy trail, the 5 miles of sand and whoop-de-dos know as Washboard Ridge. After that we headed west in an arroyo, then east again on the main road over to Full View Peak. The Peak was very windy, so minutes later we headed to the lower less windy Play Area for lunch. We kept low in arroyos after that, winding our way back to the start point by 3:30 or so. The only real issue for the ride was me missing a turn once or twice (or more, I wasn't really counting). I'd like to thank Jeff Boggs for tail gunning for me all day!



# Be a Trip Leader and Get a Discount on Dues!

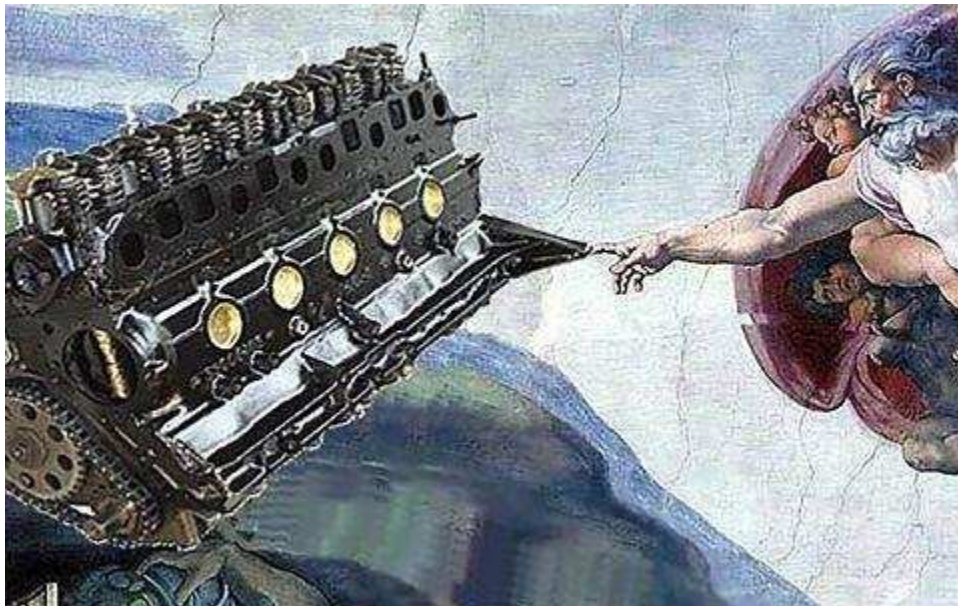


## Fun Article From Road and Track

Contributed by Ronnie Caton

### Jeep XJ 4.0L

**“The earth was without form, void, and God said, let there be torque, and it was good.”**



In 1997, after relocating to the Boston area for my first real paycheck out of graduate school, I decided it was time to reward myself and trade in the Ford Escort I drove through school for the Jeep Cherokee (XJ) I had had my eyes on for years. I didn't know at the time that I was making a decision that would stick with me for decades. In 2014, when I was considering selling after buying a new JK, several club members told me “you can't do that, the 4.0L will run forever.” This summer, ‘Stan’ celebrated his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday with a new water pump, fan belt, and front axle seals courtesy of Shelby's in Tijeras. We're hoping he sticks around for the long term.

I recently came across a fun article in Road & Track about the longevity & high prices of the XJ on the market. Seriously...the Ford Explorer outsold the XJ every year in the 1990s...how many 21-year-old Ford Explorers do you see on the road today? The author recalled a post he made in the Car Lounge Forum in 2005 extolling the virtues of the 4.0L. Long live the Jeep 4.0L!

Read the complete article here:

**Posted By:** Wellington P Funk

**Join Date:** 09-12-2005

*I've said it before, but the Jeep 4.0L engine is the toughest, least maintenance-demanding engine I have ever had personal experience with. Folks on the internet know that the Jeep 4.0L is durable, but they know little of its history.*

*The original Jeep 4.0L inline-six was hewn from a solid block of granite by lightning bolts. Its cylinders were bored by the Imperial Winds and its rotating assembly was balanced by the Scales of Justice. The Ancient Egyptians used Jeep 4.0L engines to move the blocks which built the Pyramids, only switching to slave labor when it was found to be cheaper than the olive oil used to fuel the engines. Scientists have ranked the Jeep 4.0L engine as one of the strongest forces of nature, racking right up there with tectonic plate shifts for its low-end torque, and being surpassed by hurricanes only for its comparatively low redline. Mechanics have found imprints of fossilized dinosaur bones in block castings, and serial numbers in Roman numerals are a common sight. The design of the 4.0L's fuel injection system has been traced to the archives of Leonardo DaVinci, and early manuscripts of Shakespeare plays have been used as head gaskets for this engine (which, incidentally, explains the gaps in Shakespeare's collected works as well as the 4.0L's tendency [sic] to leak oil). The engine's ancient roots also explain its ability to run on some very non-conventional fuels (original translations of the Rosetta Stone include evidence of Jeep 4.0L engines running on ox blood) as well as lubrications (during the Middle Ages, Jeep 4.0L crankcases were often filled with barley, with no detrimental effect on power output). Historians maintain that the fall of the Roman Empire hinged on their inability to design a superior engine, and had the Titanic been powered by a 4.0L Jeep engine, 1912 might have been a much happier year. Yes, had early-20th-century naval engineers had a touch more foresight, the Jeep 4.0L may have saved mankind from ever having to endure Leonardo DiCaprio and Celene [sic] Dion in the same sitting.*

*The only weakness in this otherwise unstoppable force of nature? Emissions. Yes, the engine's design may have come from the hand of Zeus, and its exhaust note at full throttle may have reverberated along the rock formations of Arizona to forge the Grand Canyon, but by the year 2007 its crude emissions control (originally consisting of papyrus strips soaked in the tears of the young Tutankhaman [sic]) had become outmoded, and the legendary, nay Biblical force of the Jeep 4.0L was put to rest.*





# A Guide to Differentials

Contributed by Phil Rodacy



AMC 20



Dana 30



Dana 35



Dana 44



Dana 60



Dana 70



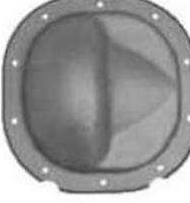
Dana 80



Ford 9.75, 10.25, 10.5



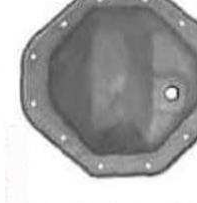
Ford 7.5



Ford 8.8



Chrysler 8.25



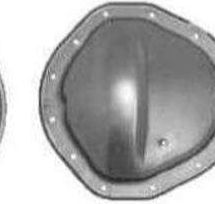
Chrysler 9.25



GM 10-Bolt



GM Car 12-Bolt



GM Truck 12-Bolt



GM 14-Bolt



# Redneck Engineering

**Here's our monthly Redneck Engineering Inspiration.....**

**If your seat is getting worn, you may want to consider a replacement.....**



# KEEP PUBLIC LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## NM4W Officers

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