



TOW STRAP TRIBUNE

Copperstate 4 Wheelers Newsletter

“A Family Oriented Off Road Club”

www.copperstate4wheelers.com

Editor: Jim Nossett Co-Editors: Sharon Holladay & Jen Blum

CLUB CALENDAR

January 2, 2016
New Years Run
Black Canyon Creek
8AM

Wed. January 13, 2016
Club Meeting at Bass Pro
6:30 PM

Jan. 29, 2016—Jan. 31, 2016
CS4W Camping Games

2016

ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS

President: Chad Chaney

Vice President: Jim Nossett

Secretary: Jennifer Blum

Treasurer: Paul Yakaitis

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kenny Blum

Ryan England

Tom LaBonte

New Years Run

Black Canyon Creek

Rating: moderate to difficult

4 Brothers Chevron

I-17 and Carefree Highway

Hello all,

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year everybody! I hope your all having a wonderful holiday with your families. Thank you everybody for making 2015 such a blast. We've had some awesome adventures and I can't wait to see what's coming up for 2016. As always, if any of you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to shoot me an email or give me a call.



Happy Holidays,
 Chad

Hello Fellow 4 Wheelers,

I hope everyone had a safe and fun New Years. This year gave us many fun and safe adventures for our club and I'm looking forward to even more in 2016. I also look forward to serving as your 2016 VP and hope I can help to make CS4W even more fun and adventurous then it already is. As always please send us anything you would like put in the Tow Strap. Please do not forget the January club meeting will be on Wednesday the 13th.

Thanks to everyone for making CS4W the club it is,

Jim Nossett



ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU IN 2016!

CS4W WINS SECOND PLACE AT THE CHANDLER OF LIGHTS PARADE !!

On Saturday, December 5th, several CS4W Jeeps created quite a holiday stir as they drove their decorated Jeeps to the Chandler Parade of Lights. Upon arrival everybody checked their Jeep decorations in anticipation of the arrival of the judges. With engines running hot and spirits running high Jake Armstrong caught the judges attention with a burst of brilliant light when he switched on his light bar. Once the judges cleared the starbursts from their eyes they cast their vote and wished us well in the parade.



In addition to over 350 colorful holiday lights and Christmas decorations on each jeep the Chaney Family surprised the parade fans with their secret weapon "The Snow Gun". Their son Joseph, had spent the afternoon perfecting his snow ball launching talents which proved to be the big hit as he sent snow balls into the crowd along the parade. route.



We were all surprised and very grateful that Jake Armstrong and his girlfriend, Kelly, were able to dash from work to the parade with their brightly decorated jeep. This was Jake' second year of participation and his brightly decorated jeep was a big hit in the parade.



Rich Kochanski and his family weren't sure they were going to make it to the parade after spending the day at their daughter's gymnastic competitions. Although it was touch and go for quite a while, Rich and his family brought their holiday spirit and beautifully decorated jeep as they pulled into the parade lineup just in the nick of time.



This was Allan Connor's first year in the parade. We all questioned Allan's sanity when we learned that he had spent the day washing his jeep in preparation for the parade. In hindsight maybe that was why his lights twinkled so brightly as he cruised down Arizona Avenue.



This was Tom LaBonte's second year participating in the parade. Along with his wife, grand daughters and Santa looking overhead they wished the parade onlookers "Happy Holidays!" as they waved to them all.



Kent and Sharon decorated their jeep with a Christmas carousel that twirled in circles on the roof of the jeep. They also had two red nosed reindeers from the North Pole lead the club down the parade route.



THE CHRISTMAS PARTY ROCKED AT BUMBLE BEE RANCH



The long awaited CS4W Christmas party began with the arrival of Jim Nossett at Bumble Bee Ranch on Friday afternoon. In anticipation of a great weekend club members continued to arrive until 7:30 pm. After camp was set up we all gathered at the Bumble Bee Pavilion to enjoy a delicious BBQ hamburger dinner with all the fixings. After dinner everybody bundled up and headed out on the night run led by Chad. The night run was full of exciting twists and turns with a couple of challenges along the way that involved Jim's electric fan and Gary Epp getting stuck.

It was an awesome run that ended at about 1:30 am.

At 7:30 am the breakfast bell chimed and everybody gathered to enjoy a hearty meal. After breakfast we all lined up and followed Allan Connor to the mine. The trail showcased beautiful scenery that included a deer sighting as well as a couple of Javelinas. When we arrived at the mine folks broke into smaller groups. Some explored the mine, others went hiking and a few hung out and chatted. By noon everybody returned for lunch. After lunch Allan Connor led half of the group to Crown King. The other half of the group returned to camp to relax and share stories around the campfire. A couple of hours later the Crown King group rolled into camp and joined the rest of the folks around the campfire.

At 5:00 pm we returned to the decorated pavilion to enjoy the holiday festivities. As we walked up to the pavilion we were greeted with the aroma of a delicious holiday meal that included steak, salmon, chicken, baked potatoes, green beans, corn, caesar salad and rolls along with apple pie and ice cream for dessert.

When we couldn't eat another bite Jim Nossett kicked off the evening with the presentation of two special awards that he had personally designed. Unbeknownst to anybody, Jim had collected broken jeep parts from both Chad and Gary during the year and designed the awards with these parts. Jim kept it a secret and both Chad and Gary were extremely surprised,

Chad followed up with the presentation of the traditional Certificates of Appreciation which can be viewed on page 5.

If that wasn't enough excitement, the arrival of Santa in a red jeep was quite a thrilling sight. It only got better when Santa handed Joseph Chaney a gift that quickly proved to be a winner as Joseph eagerly ripped off the wrapping paper and shouted with glee. "Thanks Santa! It's just what I wanted."

Without further ado Jim jumped right into the gift exchange and explained the rules. The next three hours were filled with laughter and magic as members chose, stole and hid gifts. Allan Conner was a real trooper as he returned to the Christmas tree several times to reselect a new gift because his last present had been stolen. The most popular traded gift was a light bar which Jeremy had brought for the exchange. At the close of the gift exchange everyone gathered around the glowing campfire to enjoy the rest of the evening.



Our thanks goes out to Jim Nossett for arranging and organizing this year's magical Christmas party and to Jen, our club photographer. This year's holiday party was such a great success that next year's Christmas party for 2016 has already been scheduled at Bumble Bee Ranch. This is a party you don't want to miss!

Check out this year's Christmas party pictures on page 4.



CHRISTMAS PARTY CELEBRATION



Christmas Party Awards

Chad handed out the following **"Certificates of Achievement"** to highlight members special accomplishments throughout 2015!



Jim Nossett presented the following awards
 Chad Chaney received the "Copper Carnage of the Year"
 Gary Epp received "The Pulverized Award"

CLUB EVENTS

Let The Games Begin!

***Friday, January 29, 2016 - Sunday,
January 31, 2016***

CS4W Camping Games Olympics



Weekend Schedule

Fri. Night: Setup camp

Sat. Morning: Meet at campsite for Lower Ajax at 8:00 am

Sat. Midday: Either run Upper Ajax or go back to camp for the Olympic Games.

Directions

- *Meet at the same campsite as last year.*
- *Exit off the 79 onto Cottonwood Canyon Road (staging area with the flagpole).*
- *Take the road 3 1/2 miles in, turnoff for camp on the left. Look for a sign.*

You will need your State Trust Land Permit. Please keep your pups on a leash or dog run.

ADOPT A TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

As of the last travel management map, the route up to the squeeze is open, and the "up and over", the bypass around the squeeze rocks, is open.

Also, 1851 from Sugarloaf to lower Sycamore is open. There are no plans as of right now to close the Sycamore area. The forest is looking at making the Rolls area a permit zone like Bulldog is now. It would be a permit area but with free permits.



BEFORE



On Sat. 12-12 TRAL had a graffiti removal event. the results were very successful.



AFTER

January 29, 2016 TRAL Meet & Greet

Visit the TRAL page on the Copperstate4Wheeler's website for up to date information on the program as well as upcoming and past trips, TRAL volunteer meetings and training sessions.

<http://www.copperstate4wheelers.com/tral.htm>

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS



Jake Armstrong

Larry Blau

Jaslynn Knowles

Matthew Knowles

Lois Epp

Rich Kochanski

Jennifer Chaney

Ryan England

Jim Kane



TRAL HAS A NEW FORUM

Register for the Tonto Recreation Alliance Forum at
<http://www.tontorecreationalliance.org/forum/ucp.php?mode=login>

The confirmation of registration answer is 'VHO'

MEETING INFORMATION

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Camping Department.

Bass Pro Shop
1133 N. Dobson Road, Mesa, AZ.

Guests are always welcome!

Helpful Information for club members.

Permits

[Bull Dog Canyon Permit](#)

[State Land Department: Recreational Permit](#)

Useful Links

[Tonto National Forest](#)

[Tread Lightly](#)

[Tonto Recreation Alliance](#)

[Off-road Passport](#)

[ASA4WDC](#)

[AZOHVC](#)

[Blue Ribbon Coalition](#)

[Rubicon Owners Forum](#)

[A to Z Fabrication](#)

[Arizona Clean and Beautiful](#)

[Arizona 4x4 Off Road Recovery](#)

[Arizona Milepost map](#)

[Arizona NAXJA](#)

[Arizona Virtual Jeep Club](#)

[ARRL Web: amateur radio](#)

[Expeditioneers](#)

[Extreme Terrain](#)

[4x4 Ham](#)

[4 Wheel Parts - Mesa](#)

[Desert Rat Off-road Truck Centers](#)

[East Valley Truck Accessories](#)

[Xoskel](#)

[Hero Off-road](#)

[Jeep forum.com](#)

[Mesa Surf & Ski - T-shirts](#)

[Sierra Expeditions](#)

[Stu Olson's Jeep Site](#)

[The Jeep Wave](#)

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

I hope in this year to come, we all make mistakes.



Because if we are making mistakes, then we are.....

- ***Trying new things*** ***Making new things***
- ***Learning, living, challenging and pushing ourselves.***

So do it! Make mistakes! Next year and forever!

Happy New Year!

MEMBERS SHARE THEIR RESOLUTIONS

Rich: Commit to buying lockers. I've got the winch.
I'm just missing the other important piece.

Jennifer: Finish house projects. I think she really means,
Rich needs to finish house projects.

Tatum: Get her kip in gymnastics this year.

Jacob: Wants to play soccer or football.

The Kochanski Family

To get back into shape and earn my red GUI and blue belt before the end of 2016.



Jen Blum

To be happy, healthy and employed.

To hit more trails with C4W.

Mike Tomlinson

Shoot more pictures on CS4W trips.

Travel more.

Play more.

Enjoy current friends and make new friends.

Kent Holladay

Talk Kent into taking dance lessons.

Sharon Holladay

My New Years Resolution is to be more positive and less sarcastic!

Jim Nossett

To win BIG on the lottery so I can retire! Lol The only thing I can think of is my potty mouth. So that's what I'll be working on. Also, I would like hubs for my jeep and/or a light bar. Realistically, I don't think the hubs will happen as that's a lot of money.

Family always first. Mike Knowles

Continue to keep negative people and things out of my life..

Organization and management is what I really want to focus on this year.

Allan Connor



Live a healthier lifestyle in 2016 which includes losing more weight and being more active in the coming new year!

Danny & Carolyn

This last year has given me some extra burdens that have caused be to withdraw from showing all my friends just how special you are and how much you mean to me. I love you all, and I hereby resolve to be more involved and show you all just how special you are to me.

Peace,

Paul

To Be A Better Person

Gary Epp

Keep shopping with Craig & Linda until we both purchase a motorhome.

Kit Russell

Member Spotlight



**Specify as much as you would like
about how your rig is equipped.**

The name of your rig.

Beastly

How and when did you acquire your rig?

Went to the dealer in 2012. Needed to buy something that could go where a minivan couldn't.

Specify as much as you would like, with what is your rig equipped with?

Tires - 35's BFG KM2
Axles - Dana 44 front and rear
Lockers - Tru-lok elect locking front and rear
Engine/transmission - 285 HP 6 cyl/260 torque 5 speed auto.
Transfer case - 4:1 Rock-Trac

Interior gadgets or upgrades

Stock interior with grab handles all over.
348 watt 7 speaker infinity stereo w/sub. Air, cruise, tilt, bla bla bla.
Body armor and skid plates
Gas tank, Engine, Transmission, Rear diff skid plates

Other customizations

3.5 in AEV lift, AEV Pintler wheels, AEV spare tire carrier, Trucklite LED headlights.

Other accessories (ex. winch, air tank, compressor)

Rubber Jeep cover for receiver hitch.

Did you complete the work or did you take it to a shop or a friend?

Desert Rat did all the work. I don't like to brag but I did install the rubber cover on the receiver hitch.

If you could have done one thing differently with your upgrades what would it have been?

Nothing

Any words of wisdom, specific experience or lessons learned you would like to share from your experience during rig upgrades or repairs?

Rob a bank.

What items remain on your wish list for your rig?

Front and rear bumpers
Winch
Front diff skid plate



Want to see your rig featured in this spotlight?

Turn in your questionnaire with photo to Jennifer Blum at kennifer04@outlook.com