



# Tow Strap Tribune

Copperstate 4 Wheelers Newsletter

"A Family Oriented Off Road Club"

www.copperstate4wheelers.com

**January 2015**

Editor: Jim Nossett

Co Editor: Sharon Holladay

## Club Calendar

### Sunflower Run

01/03/15 at 8:00 am

### Woodpecker Mine

01/10 and 01/11/15 at 9:00 am

### Cottonwood Camp

01/16/15 - 01/18/15

### Ostrich Festival

Sat., March 7, 2015 at 10:00 am

Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at Coco's Bakery located at 1862 W. Baseline Rd., Mesa, AZ.

**Guests and new members are always welcome!**

Hello All:

I hope you're all enjoying a wonderful holiday season with your families. Thank you everybody for making 2014 such a blast! We've had some awesome adventures; and I look forward to many more to come in 2015. If any of you have collected cool pictures during your awesome adventures that you'd like to post on our webpage, please send me a copy.

Also, please make sure you let Jordan know if there are any changes to your contact information i.e. address, email, etc. so we can update our club roster for 2015.

Lastly, don't forget our New Year's run to Sunflower Mine on January 3, 2015. Please be prepared for a moderate to difficult trail. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to shoot me an email or give me a call.

Chad



*From The President  
Chad Chaney*

## Picture of the Month



**Gary Epp**

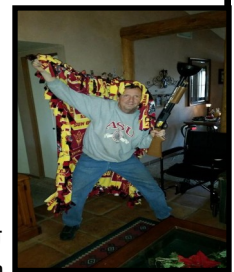
# HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year To All:

I hope everyone had a great 2014! I can't wait to see what new jeep adventures 2015 brings to all of us. I would like to thank Sharon Holladay for all her help with the club's newsletter these past few months. I hope everyone is enjoying The "New" Tow Strap; and is better informed about club trails and events due to the new format. Everyone has done an outstanding job sending in pictures and write ups. Keep up the good work in 2015!

Remember, this is our place to share the 4 wheeling life we all love.

Jim



*From The Editor  
Jim Nossett*

## Elected Club Officers 2014-2015

President: Chad Chaney  
Vice President: Ryan England  
Secretary: Jordan Carroll  
Treasurer: Paul Yakaitis

## Board of Directors

Kenny Blum  
Jim Nossett  
Michael "Mango" Mangotich

**Please Be Sure to Thank Our Club Sponsors!**

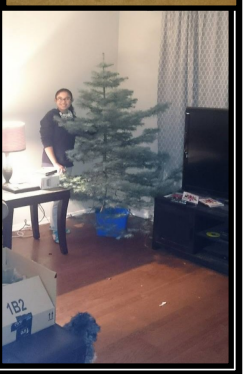
**Desert Rat Off Road Center 4 Wheel Parts Sierra Expeditions Rigid In LED Lighting Hero Off Road**

## Club Members in Motion in 2014

### Christmas Tree Run

The 2014 Christmas Tree Run was a blast this year! We headed out at about 8:00 am for the rim; although we were *slightly delayed by Mr. Knowles*. We had a great day and cut down 4 trees which all looked very nice in our homes. We went back on Rim Road 300 and had the best luck with the selection of trees by the Bear Canyon Lake turn off just before the fire tower. At the end of the day we all stopped off in Payson for pizza and returned home around 7:00 pm.

*Looking forward to next year's Christmas Tree Run!*



The official start of the Adopt a Trail Pilot Program for our club is drawing near. The Club Volunteer Agreements have been signed and submitted. Our Crew Leaders have begun their data collection software training and will be attending a field training trip with a TRAL member this month. <http://www.copperstate4wheelers.com/tral.html>

Visit the TRAL page on the Copperstate website for up to date information on upcoming and past trips, as well as on TRAL volunteer trainings and meetings.

Please help out our Crew Leaders and get your signed Back Country Work/Travel Liability Release form turned in as soon as possible, so they can focus on their additional responsibilities during an event. There is a spreadsheet on our Dropbox site with all the names of folks who have already turned in their forms. Contact Jen Blum if you have any questions.



### Club Announcements



**Chandler Christmas  
"Parade of Lights"**

**Copperstate rocked the house and won 1st place for "Best Lit Automotive" and \$70.00 in prize money which will be donated to the Copperstate Jeep Club.**



### Club Events

**New Year's Run**

**Sunflower Mine Trail**

Saturday, January 3rd at 8:00 AM

Meeting location: Sugarloaf Mountain Staging Area

**Charity is Child Crisis in Mesa**

Look for an email with more information.

*Copperstate has great trail runs and activities planned for 2015.*

*Check out Facebook and the club website for information on trail runs and club activities.*

**Ostrich Parade and Festival**

**Looking for club volunteers to participate in the Ostrich Festival Parade on March 7, 2015.**

In addition to the parade this great family event offers exciting attractions, food and live music.

**Contact Kent or Sharon to sign up to participate in the parade.**

**Kent Holladay** 480-797-9685 [kentholladay@gmail.com](mailto:kentholladay@gmail.com)  
**Sharon Holladay** 480-797-4889 [sholladay@cox.net](mailto:sholladay@cox.net)

**Cottonwood Camp**

1/16/15-01/18/15

**SAVE THE DATE  
MOAB**

10/12/15-10/18/15

## Club Adventures

**Crown King Trip on December 26, 2014 Organized by Mike Tomlinson and led by Paul Yakaitis.**

We aired down off of Castle Hot Spring Road and headed out for the small town of Crown King. Our first stop was a photo op at the CK rock.



Kim Christmas experienced her first obstacle recovery which she passed with flying colors.



Jennifer Blum experienced an extra-large dose of pucker factor. Go Jen!



We all stopped for a nice little break alongside an empty riverbed.



After a brief shopping trip in Crown King we all headed down to the Rock Springs Café for dinner and pie.

## Winch Straps



### Winch Straps

**4WD World (2014-12-16) <http://www.4wdworld.com.au/Winch-straps.html>**

Winch Straps come in popular lengths of 10 meters, 20 meters, and 30 meters. They are lighter, easier to handle and are an alternative to chains. They are used when the winch cable (steel rope) can not reach the vehicle (in case of a manual winch) or anchor point (in case of an electric winch).

Winch Straps are made of non-stretch ethylene webbing similar to seat belt webbing. They have a reinforced loop at either end and can be used as a single line or doubled up. Winch Straps can be used to anchor the winch to a tree or vehicle by looping it around and back through itself (single line) or simply around the tree or through the rated shackle (doubled up). Winch Straps can be used in conjunction with pulley blocks, rated shackles, drag chains and tree trunk protectors for winching purposes.



## Club Information

### Happy Birthday

Jake Armstrong  
Larry Blau  
Jennifer Chaney  
Ryan England  
Jim Kane

**THE LEADER OF A  
COPPERSTATE APPROVED RUN  
MUST CARRY THE CLUB'S  
FIRST AID KIT  
WITH THEM AT ALL TIMES  
DURING THE RUN.**

*Begin another new chapter  
and remember that you have 365  
days to make every page of the  
chapter worth remembering  
when you finish the year.*

**A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

### Member Name Badges

*Please remember to pick up  
your name badges from the  
basket marked name  
badges at the beginning of  
each meeting.*

*Thank You!*

## Upcoming Jeep

### Woodpecker Mine — Trail Run, Clean-up and Work Project

**When: January 10, 2015 and January 11, 2015**

**Meeting Time: 9:00 AM on both days**

**Meeting Place: Cottonwood Canyon Road Staging Area (Highway 79 approximately 5 miles south of US 60)**

For those who would like to camp, there will be a camp site set up three miles in on Cottonwood Canyon Road on the right side.  
Contact Kurt Loga (Arizona Rough Riders) (logaks@cox.net) for more details on the campsite.

For those who will be there on Saturday, the Mesa 4 Wheelers will be leading a trip to the Wood Pecker Mine using the access trail to the mine. Pack a lunch and bring water. We will spend some time at the mine site cleaning up and bagging debris. Please bring trash bags and gloves. We will also inspect the area for Sunday's projects.

On Sunday, members from several different clubs in the ASA4WDC will gather at the meeting place for a day of work at the mine site to make it safe.

Please bring shovels, gloves, pliers, wire cutters, post hammers and other hand tools that will help us repair fencing and signs to make this area safe. The ASA4WDC will supply any materials that will be needed.

We will be going to the mine via Ajax Mine Trail on Sunday. The ASA4WDC owns this property so we can all use the road to the Woodpecker Mine as one of the good 4x4 trails in the area. We will be crossing State Land on this trip so you should have a State Land permit in your vehicle.

If you plan on camping you will be on State Land.

You can get this permit on line at: <https://land.az.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/RecreationPermit.pdf>

Contact: Ray Jenkins-480-834-0517-Mesa 4 Wheelers

## Jeep Tips

### **DOING THE RIGHT THING**

*Observe all the rules and regulations pertaining to the use of public land.  
Respect private land. Keep to constructed vehicle tracks - never 'bush bash'.  
Avoid areas which are easily damaged, such as snow plains and vegetated sand dunes.  
Carry out all the rubbish you take in. Observe all fire restrictions. Respect wildlife.  
Always ask permission before crossing pastoral land. Leave gates as you find them.*

## Annual Holiday Celebration

*What do you get when you mix rain, hail, fire, food, good friends and fifteen 4-wheel drive vehicles?*

***Lots of fun ..... they call the Copperstate 4 Wheelers Christmas Party!***

In anticipation of a great Christmas Celebration club members began to arrive on Friday night. Jen and Kenny, Paul Yakaitis and Kent and Sharon Holladay were the first on the scene to set up camp. Chad, Gary Epp, and Garrett Epp joined the group later that afternoon. As dusk began to set in everyone was anxious to head out on a night trail run. As Chad, carved a path filled with bumps, puddles, and brush the mesmerizing glow from the line of jeep light bars, head lights, and tail lights filled the desert's darkness and created quite a spectacular light show for Santa to see as he looked down from his sleigh.

The parade of jeeps continued to wander through the desert until we arrived at the "playground" which, according to Chad, was the highlight of the trail ride. As each obstacle was tackled one by one jeep heads lights jumped from pointing up to the sky to straight down to the desert floor. Howls of laughter and celebration pierced the desert night air .

Saturday's trail ride included a repeat of the prior night's challenges. Only this time, club members could see what they had confronted the night before. Everyone made it through with little or no carnage. Chad continued to lead the group to the top of the hills which featured an amazing view of the city and Lake Pleasant below. Lunch was shared in a gully as good times continued. Unfortunately, lunch came to an abrupt halt as everyone noticed the black cloud filled sky. It was time to return to camp.

We all returned to camp smiling smugly because we missed the rain. As everyone disembarked from their jeeps the first drops of rain began to fall, followed by an intense hail storm. In true club fashion, everyone huddled under Jennifer and Kenny's awning and waited for the storm to pass. Next, it was time to prepare for the evening's festivities.

Kenny Blum assumed the role of master chef and was in charge of the ham. With the help of the camp elves Sharon, Mimi and Linda created a holiday wonderland filled with an elaborately decorated table and a festively decorated awning. As Kenny and Chad served up the ham everyone brought their potluck items to the table and the feast began.

After dinner everyone retired to the campfire to let the warmth of the fire ease the day. As stories were shared the faint sound of sleigh bells could be heard in the distance. In anticipation of Santa's arrival Mike Knowles stoked the fire when all of a sudden from out of nowhere, Jolly Old St. Nick bounced from his sleigh and landed right next to the bonfire. With the help of his elves, Santa distributed gifts of joy to young and old. Before we knew it , Santa's visit had come to an end and it was time to bid him good night so he could continue on his night's journey.

