



TOW STRAP TRIBUNE

Copperstate 4 Wheelers Newsletter

"A Family Oriented Off Road Club"

www.copperstate4wheelers.com

March

April

2016

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

CLUB CALENDAR

March 10th 2016

March Club Meeting

Saturday, March 19, 2016

TRAL Fundraiser

Sunflower Mine run

March 20th 2016

Willow Springs Run

April 2-4, 2016

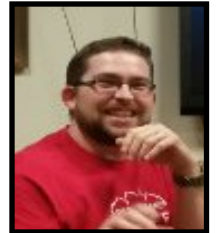
Fish & Game Expo

April 16th 2016

Hackberry Run

Hello all,

I am very pleased with how 2016 has turned out so far. We also have some cool trail runs on the calendar. Thank you to everybody whose stepped up and taken the lead on a run.



For those of you who were unaware, I have resigned my position with the Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs as Safety and Awareness Chairman. This was a personal choice that I had to make but I am still very much excited about teaching. If you think of a topic you'd like to be made into a clinic, let me know. I was thinking about a spotting clinic next.

Chad.

ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU!

Volunteer to be a CS4W trail leader.

Contact Chad or Jim for further details.

ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS

2015 — 2016

President ~ [Chad Chaney](#)

Vice President ~ [Jim Nossett](#)

Secretary ~ [Jen Blum](#)

Treasurer ~ [Paul Yakaitis](#)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[Kenny Blum](#)

[Ryan England](#)

[Tom LaBonte](#)

Hello Fellow Wheelers,

March is upon us and so is the nice weather and the desert is starting to bloom. The Tow Strap is making some changes and will now be coming out every other month on the odd months. We are also asking everyone to please view the Tow Strap via the Website so we will be sending out the link in an email once it's published.



We also created a Facebook page just for club runs so people can interact and get up to date information about club runs. This will also feed onto the Club website so please watch your language as it is viewable by everyone.

As always, pictures of runs and articles are always welcome to make the news letter a living file of what CS4W does.

Thanks,

Jim Nossett , Editor

MEETING INFORMATION

Bass Pro Shop

1133 N.Dobson Road, Mesa, AZ.

Upstairs in the camping section

SECRETARY'S REPORT

February Club Meeting Highlights



- The February meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and every meeting following will begin this way.
- **50/50 raffle winner** – Guests John and Jeanette Bryant
- **Treasurer budget report** - \$3,218.44
- **4 Wheel Parts rebate.**
 The members of the club spent a total of \$3587. We received a \$108 rebate.
 The Club approved to have the funds go into club account.
- **Copperstate swag:** Contact Sharon Holladay if you would like to order a Copperstate t-shirt, sweat shirt or beanie hat.
- **Towstrap Tribune:** Starting with the March edition of the , the newsletter will be distributed every other month.
- **Four Peaks Cleanup:** Want to be a part of the committee? Contact Chad Chaney.
 Sharon Holladay has a donation form for Costco. All you do is turn it in to your local Costco. you will be contacted if your request for donation has been approved.
- **A new Facebook group will be created for club runs.**
 The Facebook page will trend on the Club Events page on the Copperstate4Wheeler's website.
- **Upcoming Runs**
 Colorado August 6/17
 Mike Knowles - Willow Sunday March 20th
 Gary Epp - May run TBD Overnight trip
 Chad Chaney - Mohave Road October TBD
- **Adopt A Trail**
 1343/2738 miles completed.
 Rich to speak at our March club meeting.
 Feb 13th, 20th FR42 repairs
- **“Chewing Some Dirt”**
 This month's topic was drivelines. If you have a topic you would like to present or hear about please email Chad.
- **Arizona Game and Fish Expo**
 our club has been invited to man the rock crawling event. April 2nd, 3rd and 4th Let Allan Conner know if you are interested in attending.
- Club audit needs to be completed.

CLUB EVENTS

Hello Everybody,

I have started planning an epic trip called the Mojave Road. This is a very historical trail that starts approximately 20 miles south of Laughlin and traverses the Mojave Preserve 140 miles (all on dirt) to end near Barstow California.

It will involve:

- 1 day of travel to the trail and 1 day of travel home from the trail.
- Spending 2 nights in Laughlin (on the way to and return from the trail for fun).
- 3 days of camping on the trail.
- Very scenic views.
- Deep sand, crossing a salt flat and a spooky canyon.
- Some easy to moderate 4x4 and lots of cool stuff to see.

This trail has been on my bucket list for a while. The dates are October 15-20th 2016. I would like to hear from you if you're interested in going as there are permits needed depending on group size. I am not limiting this trail to a certain group size I just need a heads up as to whether I need to get a permit or not. If needed, participants will split the \$50 permit fee.

Before you say YES, you should know that this is a very, very remote trail, cellular coverage is, meh, along the trail, our group would need to be prepared for anything including repairs, and bring water, water, water.

So, who's interested?

Chad, President, Copperstate 4 Wheelers, I4WDTA Certified Off-road Instructor #201406, Tread Lightly Master Trainer and Member

ADOPT A TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM



We do not have any Adopt A Trail runs to report this month. We are hopeful more runs will continue in the up coming months. Currently, we only have one active TRAL leader and are urging others to attend the free leader training provided by TRAL.

It is so important for this pilot program to continue on, to keep our beloved trails open, also new and old trails to be opened/re-opened. Being a TRAL leader also provides such great learning opportunities on working with GPS programs and creating waypoints. Our experienced TRAL leaders will do everything we can to help you along the way.

As a reminder, it is so important for the forest trail inspections to be completed, or we can run the risk of losing them.

Visit the TRAL page on the Copperstate4Wheelers 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>

Contact Jen Blum if you have any questions.

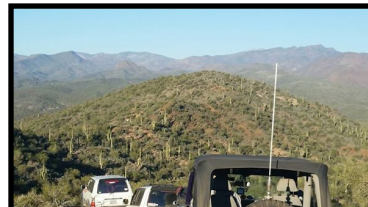
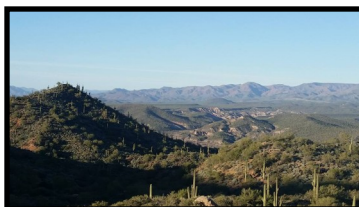
Club Runs

TIP Top Mine Run February 7th 2016



Copperstate 4 Wheelers lead by Jim Nossett ran a trail at the Table Mesa area to Tip Top Mine. We met at the Circle K in Anthem just west of I17 at 7:30AM. Headed up to the Table Mesa Little Pan staging area and aired down. We had a pretty large group, Bruce M, Mike R, Larry, Gary, Chad, Kit, Kent, Pam, Paul, Mike T and Jim. The trail is basically an old mining road which is not technical but very rough for 13 miles, it's an in and out. Once reaching the mine we had lunch and then went out exploring. The only issue we had with vehicles this day was Mike R. had a relay go bad on his cooling fan and had to be replaced. The day ended with just enough time for everyone to go home and enjoy the Super Bowl.

FR 42 Telegraph Line February 20th 2016



Copperstate 4 Wheelers was invited to possibly become part of the reopening of FR 42, which is the old Telegraph Line Trail. We were invited by Tral (Tonto Recreation Alliance) to go out and be shown what they are doing and how we might be involved. Bruce M., Mike R., Danny, Bruce D., Gary and Jim were escorted into the area which is currently closed by Kevin Patterson of Tral. The area was closed due to a fire 11 years ago and was on the chopping block with the travel management plan but Tral was able to change their minds and it's now headed to be possibly reopened. They have been able to travel all but a 1/4 mile stretch of the trail with a lot of hard work and still a lot more to go. The current plan is to make it a free permit area a lot like Bull Dog so the area can hopefully stay clean and well managed. If you are interested in becoming involved please talk to Jim Nossett as we would like someone in the club to step up and head up work days so that Copperstate could become involved.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS



March

Chelsea England , Mango Mangotish, Kathy Yakatis

Kimgey Sundberg

April

Kenny Blum, Tamara Durot, Tom LaBonte

Haylee Knowles



Land agencies and private property boundaries

<http://gis.azland.gov/webapps/parcel/?loc=-111.3388,33.0728,9&layers=3,2,0>



Crash!!!!

**Who would do this
to a vehicle?**

Sharon Holladay?

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'

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](#)

[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](#)

[Land agencies and private property](#)

Member Spotlight



Jake La Grander 2000 TJ
I HATE PAVEMENT



How and when did you acquire your rig?

I was living in St Cloud ,MN and purchased it from a Honda Dealer in Minneapolis in 2002. It was traded in by some snowbirds from AZ who feared the rising gas prices. The jeep had been towed behind their 40 ft. Class A Motor home. I found it amusing that they traded a Jeep for a Honda to be towed behind something that gets 5 mpg on a good day.....

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

Tires 33X12.50X15 Goodyear MTR's
Axles- re-gearred to 4.11 and Lockers

Engine/transmission- 4.0L. AEM intake, High-rise throttle body, Magnaflow Exhaust

Transfer case-Factory 231, with a Skyjacker Trans shifter relocation bracket

Interior gadgets or upgrades- Or-Fab front sport cage, Kilby switch/gauge pod, Cobra cb and overhead mount, Full cargo net (keeps the dog in the Jeep)

Body armor and skid plates- Skid plates are like politicians and underwear...they should be upgraded and changed frequently! Other customizations 3.5 Rubicon Express Lift, Teraflex adjustable control arms, Big Daddy Offroad Tie Rod

Other accessories (ex. winch, air tank, compressor) Or-Fab (high clearance) front bumper, Superwinch Epi-9.0, Warn rear bumper/tire carrier, Custom rock rails, Engine driven On Board Air system and air tank (Thank you Brad Kilby) LED rock lights, Eclipse, Polk Audio and MTX audio system.

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

I am proud to say that every bit of work done to this Jeep has been done by me. A few projects along the way have included the help of friends with expert knowledge. To me that's one of the best parts of owning a Jeep. If I'm not on a trail I like to spend time in a garage learning something new!

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

Nothing, This Jeep was purpose built and has been amazing. It continues to evolve as I have moved around the country to become more efficient in each area and terrain I live in and around. There are constant improvements but that's just owning a Jeep.

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

Don't sit around on the couch saving money for upgrades. Get out and go wheeling...You'll be truly amazed what a factory jeep can accomplish.

What items remain on your wish list for your rig?

Belly up skid plate and long arm conversion, Flat fenders, cut the rear corners, SYE eliminator...and some day a Hemi conversion!

Want to see your rig featured in this spotlight? Turn in your questionnaire with photo of your jeep to Jennifer Blum at kennifer04@outlook.com