



December 2015

# TOW STRAP TRIBUNE

Copperstate 4 Wheelers Newsletter

"A Family Oriented Off Road Club"

[www.copperstate4wheelers.com](http://www.copperstate4wheelers.com)

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

## CLUB CALENDAR

**December 5, 2015**

**Tumbleweed Parade of Lights**

**Parade Begins at 7:00 PM**

**December 10, 2015**

**Club Meeting at Bass Pro**

**6:30 PM**

**December 11th—13th, 2015**

**Christmas Party**

Hello All,

I would like to thank everyone who was present at and/or participated in the planning committee of the Four Peaks Clean Up. All of your efforts and hard work came together to produce the best clean up yet!

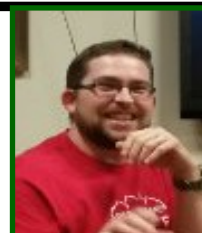
As satisfying as it is to see all the garbage that was collected—it is equally saddening that we need to hold such clean ups. Let's hope that the annual clean ups will bring more awareness to the trash problem so people can enjoy their recreational activities more.

I'm also looking forward to our participation in the Chandler Light Parade and the Christmas Party. Unfortunately, I didn't get to participate in last year's parade, so this year both Joseph and I will be going and we look forward to having a blast. I really hope that everyone can make the Christmas Party. I'm looking forward to a great time with fun trail rides and Santa's visit. Don't forget your gifts for the gift exchange and remember to warm up your Christmas lists so you can share them with Santa when you're sitting on his lap.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who was present at the November election meeting. It is important for your voice to be heard. I'd also like to thank you all for electing me to another term as Club President. I very much enjoy our club and look forward to the opportunity to work together on projects like the clean up as well as running the trails with all of you.

Thank you,

Chad Chaney



## 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,

Mango Mangotich

Dear Fellow Wheelers,

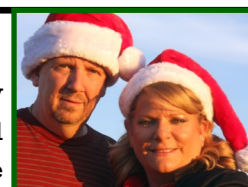
The holidays are in full swing; and Kathy and I wish you and your family a safe and fun filled holiday season. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party. You are welcome to come out for all three days or for Saturday's evening festivities which include a wonderful dinner and engaging gift exchange. You don't want to miss out on all the fun.

I would also like to take this time to thank you for electing me Vice President for 2016. I look forward to working with the club officers and the board of Directors in the upcoming year.

We are looking for more member involvement in the newsletter and would appreciate your pictures and write ups on any runs or trips you take. Hope to see you on a trail soon.

Jim Nossett

Editor



*Don't Miss The*

***Christmas Party***



## FOUR PEAKS CLEANUP REVIEW

*This article was presented in the recent Arizona State Association of 4-WD Club newsletter*

### “The Wheel Dust”

## Copperstate 4 Wheelers Four Peaks Cleanup November 7, 2015

As a participant it is impossible to describe the enormous effort that this incredibly well organized 4x4 club made to ensure that this year's cleanup was an enormous success. CS4W's had porta-potties on site, four 30 yard dumpsters which were filled by the end of the day, a gigantic tent which provided shade and housed the registration table plus other tables laden with wonderful raffle prizes and treats for the volunteers.

There were also more tables for the lunch that the club dished out to the hungry cleanup gang of volunteers (over 300 of us, children and adults of all ages which included hot dogs, buns, potato salad, condiments, potato salad and a variety of cookies. CS4W held two raffles . The first raffle took place right after lunch and the second after the cleanup. The club also provided all of the 30 gallon trash bags as well as the cases of water for the cleanup crews.

There were twenty-two sites in pretty bad shape from shooters leaving all their trash behind which included paper and cardboard targets, old TVs, hot water heaters, propane tanks, chairs, mattresses, car seats, a zillion bottles and cans and all their empty shell casings I couldn't even lift my full bag of shotgun shells. Shame on them! The sad part of Copperstate's efforts is that they've been doing this for six years and the trash only seems to get worse each year.

CS4W provided their own trucks and trailers which went back and forth to each site picking up the huge bags of junk/stuff we collected. What a great group of four wheelers. It was amazing to see the difference after the sites had been cleared of debris. They were very pristine. It was difficult for us to understand why the forest service did not provide the garbage bags and at least the cases of water . It all came from Copperstate 4 Wheelers' own pockets.

The photos were gleaned from Copperstate 4 Wheelers' web-site (very nice website). We thank them all for their outstanding donations to help improve and save our public lands. It was an awesome effort.

The following comments from Phil Strittmatter, ASA4WDC Region II Director: “The forest service didn't chip in even a thin dime for the work we did to improve our land that they manage. But they seemed to have the funds to hire a crew of perhaps 15 or 20 plus materials and equipment to install miles of four-inch iron pipe fencing along the roads to keep us off of our land. “Go figure.”

You can also see the article with the pictures at:

[http://www.asa4wdc.org/uploads/3/6/3/8/3638663/wheel\\_dust\\_winter\\_email\\_2015\\_mail.pdf](http://www.asa4wdc.org/uploads/3/6/3/8/3638663/wheel_dust_winter_email_2015_mail.pdf)



## FOUR PEAKS CLEANUP AFTER PARTY RUN

### Rocker Panel Pass

Lead by Allan O'Conner with Chad Chaney riding shotgun.

After the Four Peaks Cleanup a group went out for a celebratory night run through Rocker Panel Pass. This is a great trail, we went through trees, water, sand and rocks. At one point it appeared a low lying branch would have ended the run, but we all squeezed under it and carried on.

We ran across a stranded vehicle that had not one but both front and rear axles broken. Yes they were blocking our path but we moved them out of the way and got our group around them. Then went back to help get them out of a jam and to an area that they could be towed home. They said they had been stranded a while. Could they have gotten themselves out yes but we got them out faster and with less damage then they probably would have done. We were out longer due to this but it's the right thing to do.

It was a great night under the stars.

Attendees: Allan O'Conner, Chad Chaney, HB and Deb Batterman, Kit and Michele Russell, Jennifer Blum, Tony Emick, Jim Nossett, Paul Yakitis, Mike Tomlinson, Chandra L'Hoste, Ryan England and Mike Knowles

Jen Blum

## FOUR PEAKS CLEANUP PHOTOS



## CS\$W Scores Another Clean Up Touchdown

***This year's Sixth Annual Four Peaks Cleanup was a tremendous success.  
The number of volunteers and the amount of trash collected  
beat last year's statistics.***

### 2014

**250 volunteers**

**Collected 18 tons of trash**

**Filled four 40 yard roll off dumpsters.**

**Total: 36,000 pounds of garbage.**

### 2015

**323 volunteers**

**Collected 21 tons of trash**

**Filled four 40 yard roll off dumpsters.**

**Total: 41,200 pounds of garbage.**

Thank you to everybody who volunteered, participated, planned and contributed to this year's clean up efforts. The 323 volunteers who donated their time and energy to give back to their community accounted for approximately 2600 hours of volunteer service work.

In addition, I received numerous comments regarding how impressed the people who attended were with this year's organization as well as the new event tent

I hope to have the same team ready to assemble 2016's cleanup as well as any other club members who would like to volunteer to be on this committee.



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### Winching Clinic Saturday October 31, 2015

A small group of Copperstaters hit the trails on Halloween to learn a bit about winching and recovery, before dressing up in search of candy later that evening. First, we had a brief introduction about winching and the use of equipment to set up anchors. Then, we hit the Upper Woodpecker Trail. All was going well with several stuck scenarios, stuck assessments, and pulling wire until, the leader, Chad, broke a driver side front axle shaft as he was just finishing an optional obstacle. As it turned out, we also a trail repair class on how to make your 4x4 a 4x2 and still be able to drive it out. Such a great day on the trail,.

**Thanks to everyone who attended.**



**COME ONE.....COME ALL... TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY!*****Christmas Party at Bumble Bee Ranch******Friday, December 11, 2015 — Sunday, December 13, 2015***

The club has decided to host this year's Christmas Party at Bumble Bee Ranch. Hopefully, this year's venue will make it enjoyable for everyone, including those who are not fond of camping. The event will start on Friday, December 11, 2015 and end on Sunday, December 13, 2015. Everyone is welcome to come and stay as long or little as they would like.

**Christmas Party**

The Christmas Party will start on Saturday, December 12, at 5:00 pm with a steak dinner prepared by Bumble Bee Ranch followed by a gift exchange.

**Lodging**

Lodging can be as simple as a tent to renting the big house at the ranch. The Ranch has bathrooms and showers for those who are camping.

**Payment**

Payment for lodging and the Christmas dinner is due no later than by the November 12th meeting, unless prior arrangements have been made.

***The club is paying \$15.00 per membership toward your total bill.***

***So, if you are a family of 1 or 10 you still only get credit for 15.00 off your bill.***

**Guests**

This is a club event and everyone is welcome to bring guests. Guests will be required to fill out their own registration form and provide payment to the club no later than November 12, 2015. Each member will be responsible for any guests they bring.

**Alcohol**

Alcohol will be available at the cash bar on Saturday night only. Please remember, this is a family event so drink wisely. No alcohol can be consumed before or during any club run.



## Christmas Party Continued



**Christmas Party at Bumble Bee Ranch**  
**Friday, December 11, 2015 — Sunday, December 13, 2015**



### Two Gift Exchanges

#### Kid Gift Exchange

Anyone bringing a child should bring a wrapped gift for Santa to present to their child. Please include the child's name on the gift and give the gift to Jennifer Blum when you arrive.

#### Adult Gift Exchange

The adult gift exchange rules are as follows.

- Each participating adult needs to bring a wrapped gift with no name on it.
- The gift must be valued at \$25.00 to \$30.00. This is not a gag gift exchange so please bring a gift someone would want.
- Numbers will be drawn to pick the order of selecting a gift. Number 1 will go first and so on.
- When it is your turn, you can pick a gift or steal a gift that has previously been opened.
- No gift can be stolen more than two times.
- Once the last number has chosen a gift, number one gets the opportunity to keep what they selected or steal a gift.

#### Trails runs planned for this weekend.

**Friday:** At 7:00 PM Chad is going to lead a night run through Turkey Creek.

**Saturday:** At 9:00 AM Allan Connor will lead a trip to DeSoto Mine.  
If you plan to go into the mine please bring 2 flashlights and water proof boots.

**Sunday:** We can also do a Sunday morning run if anyone is interested.

#### Trail Runs

If you have a suggested run for Sunday morning please contact Jim Nossett. So far DeSoto Mine <http://azoffroading.com/arizona-trails/desoto-mine/> and Turkey Creek are on the list of suggested runs.

**If you have not already contacted me and received a email to review your order  
please call or text Jim Nossett at 602-705-3475 — [tradcoach@msn.com](mailto:tradcoach@msn.com).**



## CLUB EVENTS

### Club Elections

**Congratulation to the following newly elected officers.**

**They will assume their positions on January 1, 2016.**

<b>President</b>	<b>Chad Chaney</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Jim Nossett</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jennifer Blum</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Paul Yakaitis</b>

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Kenny Blum**  
**Ryan England**  
**Tom LaBonte**

### ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU!

**Volunteer to be a trail leader.**

Benefits include:

- Getting to know your fellow club members.
- Plan the trail ride of your choice.
- Choose the level of excitement.

Contact Chad for further details.



**Merry Christmas**

## ADOPT A TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM



The weather is starting to cool down, so that means TRAL Inspection runs will begin to pick up again. The Forest opened up additional trails for TRAL to inspect locally so our club crew leaders should be starting to gear up to get some trips going for the Adopt A Trail program.

It is not too late to complete TRAL Crew Leader training. If you are interested please refer to the TRAL page on the club website or speak with one of our current crew leaders for all the information.

### **Current Club Crew Leaders**

**Kenny Blum    Mango    Jim Nossett    Danny Crowley**

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 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>

Contact Jen Blum if you have any questions.

## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Eric Brannon    Misty Brannon    Bill Van Gelder**  
**Katy Silva      Jordan Carroll    Collin Campbell**  
**Jacob Kochanski    Courtney Mangotich**



### ***Chandler Christmas Parade*** ***A wonderful holiday event*** ***for the whole family.***



Join the following club members  
in a festive holiday parade.

Jake Armstrong    Chad Chaney    Allan Connor  
 Tom LaBonte    Kent & Sharon Holladay    Rich Kochanski  
 Mike Knowles & Jordan    Jake LaGrandier

**Saturday, December 5, 2015**

**BBQ and Jeep Decoration at 5:00 pm**

**Kent & Sharon Holladay's**

**3361 W Genoa Way**

**Chandler, AZ 85226**

Parade Line Up at 5:00 pm      Parade starts at 7:00 pm  
 Downtown Chandler—Free Admission



Contact Kent & Sharon Holladay if you have questions.

Kent Holladay    480-797-9685

### 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](#)

#### MEETING INFORMATION

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm upstairs in the meeting room in the Camping Department at Bass Pro Shop located at 1133 N. Dobson Road, Mesa, AZ.

**Guests are always welcome!**



## Member Spotlight



**Mike Tomlinson**

My Mistress

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

How and when did you acquire your rig?

**Inherited it from my father 3 years ago.**

Tires

**35 12.50 15 pro comp extreme MT2**

Axles

**Front: Dana 30 with 31 spline chromyl axle shafts  
Rear: Dana 44**

Lockers

**Front: ARB  
Rear: ARB**

Engine/transmission **Stock 4.0 stock trans**

Transfer case

**Stock**

Body armor and skid plates

**Rubicon Express skid plates ARB diff covers.**

Other customizations

**Cat back exhaust  
5.5 inch Rubicon Express long arm  
Tri link suspension lift  
Smitty built bumpers front & rear**

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

**Rampage winch 9000 lbs  
20" LED light bar**

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

**4Wheel Parts complete most of the work.**

What items remain on your wish list for your rig?

**Dana 44 front axle and need to update tie rod and drag link.**

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

**Learn to drive your rig stock before upgrading to truly appreciate what the upgrade does and to better understand what upgrade you need or want.**

What items remain on your wish list for your rig?

**On board air heavy duty tie rod and drag link.**



***Want to see your rig featured in this spotlight?***

***Turn in your questionnaire with photo to Jennifer Blum at [kennifer04@outlook.com](mailto:kennifer04@outlook.com)***