



# Tow Strap Tribune

February 2015

Copperstate 4 Wheelers Newsletter

"A Family Oriented Off Road Club"

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

Editor: [Jim Nossett](#)

Co Editor: [Sharon Holladay](#)

## Club Calendar

Jennifer Blum's

Birthday Weekend

02/06/2015-02/07/2015

Chad's Recovery Class

Rescheduled for Sunday 02/22/2015

Club Meeting

02/12/2015

MOAB

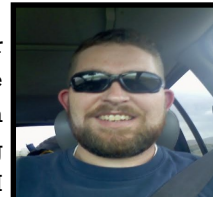
10/12/15-10/18/15

Meetings are held on 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 Everybody:

Last week a co-worker of mine suffered a tragic loss when her college age daughter was tragically killed in an accident while she was enjoying one of her favorite hobbies, rappelling, with a group of friends. This made me think about my fear of falling when I was an avid rock climber in college. So many times I stepped off of a ledge backwards despite double and triple checking my anchor, knots, and harness to rappel off of a rock face. I realized that when I got into off-roading I traded the fear of falling for the fear of getting into an accident in my jeep, especially if my son was with me. I'm not so afraid of breaking my jeep. If you haven't broken your jeep yet, you will. It's all a part of the sport and challenge of what we do. I'm more concerned with everybody returning home safely and in one piece. That's why it's so important to keep the following items in mind when you're on a jeep run.



From The President  
Chad Chaney

## Picture Of The Month!



### Copperstate 4 Wheelers

First ADAT trail leader sign  
and club run sign.

**Let's keep up the great work!**

1. **Never go out alone.**
2. **Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.**
3. **Pay attention to the squeaks, vibrations, groans, and other noises your vehicle makes so you know when something has changed and you can catch it before it becomes a serious problem.**
4. **Inspect your vehicle frequently for damage, worn out parts, or issues that need to be addressed before hitting the trail.**
5. **Pay close attention to your recovery gear, anchor and recovery set up. Check to be sure that people are out of harms way.**
6. **Keep judgment altering substances off the trail.**
7. **Be prepared to spend the night in the back country, if needed.**
8. **Carry a first aid kit.**

During the time that I've been a member of the Copperstate 4 Wheelers, I only know of one roll over with thankfully, no serious injuries. I don't think it's because we've been lucky. Personally, I think it's because we are a great group of people who look out for one another and want to go home safe.

Chad

## Elected Club Officers 2014-2015

President: [Chad Chaney](#)

Vice President: [Ryan England](#)

Secretary: [Jordan Carroll](#)

Treasurer: [Paul Yakobits](#)

### Board of Directors

[Kenny Blum](#)

[Jim Nossett](#)

[Michael "Mango" Mangotich](#)

## News Flash

We had record attendance at our first meeting of 2015; and welcomed seven new members to the club. Congratulations to:

GARETT EPP RICH KOCHANSKI DAVID HORSTMAN

DANNY LEE CROWLEY KENNY BLUM SUNNY SUNDBERG MONTANA DAMBLY

## Adventures on the Trail

### Woodpecker Mine Trail Ride

January 10th - January 11th, 2015

On Saturday, January 10, 2015 a contingent of off roaders from Arizona State Association 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, (ASA) including The Arizona Rough Riders, Mesa 4 Wheelers, and Copperstate 4 Wheelers went out to the Woodpecker Mine to do some service work.

As some of you know, ASA owns the property where the Woodpecker Mine is located. The game plan was to access the mine from the Woodpecker Trail on Saturday for a cleanup, then return on Sunday to install steel posts and fencing around the exposed vertical mine shafts.

Gary Epp, his brother, myself (Chad) and guest, Shane Moore, were in attendance from CS4W. The trail was uneventful. Although it was a fun ride and included a light recovery of a 4 door JK (Shane Moore) from an obstacle.

### ADAT January 24th 2015 Run

Jim Nossett lead 1848 and 1847 in the rolls area for our Adopt-a-trail program. We had a great turn out as Jen Blum, Kathy Nossett, Gary Epp, Danny Crowley and Bill Van Gelder along with 3 guests showed up to help with a total of 5 vehicles. It was the clubs first official run and everyone worked every well together. We had to do some brushing as the route was over grown in a few places. We surveyed 5 miles of trail

and installed 5 new signs and documented the existing ones.



### ADAT Pictures



### ADOPT-A-TRAIL



### WE'RE READY TO BEGIN SCHEDULING

#### CLUB EVENTS!

Congratulations to our ADAT Crew Leaders for completing their first trails for this program. Thanks to Mango, Kenny and Jim — trails 315 and 2261 have been properly signed and recorded. In addition, sections of the trail that were washed out or have unsafe conditions have been reported.

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

**Please help out our Crew Leaders and turn in your signed Back Country Work/Travel Liability Release form ASAP so they can focus on other 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.

Please contact Jen Blum if you have any questions.

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

## Club Announcements

Here are some sites that club members have found to be useful.

### 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](#)

*A special thanks to Tiffannie and Mango  
for donating the paper to print the Towstrap newsletter.*

### Way To Go CS4W!

### \$800.00 In Donations to Child Crisis

On behalf of Copperstate Four Wheelers Chad Chaney delivered over \$800.00 in donations to Child in Crisis. Our club is so grateful to have such wonderful members, guests, and friends who are willing to contribute to such a great organization.

*Thank you for all your support!*



*Jennifer Blum  
Bruce Dandres  
Lynda Gafka  
Robert Ramsay  
Mike Rubio  
Kit Russell*

### New Members

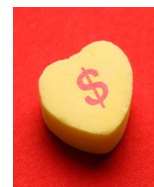
If you haven't received your club sticker or your club email account please contact Chad Chaney.



### All Members

If you do not have a picture of yourself and your vehicle on the Club Website under membership please send a picture to Chad Chaney and he will put it up the club website.

**Club Dues** in the amount of \$50.00 are due no later than the February meeting. If you've already paid your dues, thank you. If not, please pay them to Paul Yakaitis, club treasurer, at the February meeting. Thank you!



## Club Events

**SAVE THE DATE**

**MOAB**

**10/12/15-10/18/15**



Are you looking for an exciting new adventure in 2015? If so, volunteer to lead a trail run!

We'd like to see more trail runs on the calendar for 2015 so bring your ideas to February's meeting. There are many resources available within the club if you would like need help planning a trip. Just ask!



## New Years 2015 Sunflower Mine Pictures



### New Years 2015 Sunflower Mine Trip

SNOW TRIP!!! Yes it snowed New Years Eve so we got to do a snow run!!! Tons of people showed up for this run and I don't think anyone can say they did not have fun. We started back up the trail to the Sun Flower mine and did not make it very far as the road was impassable at least for this many vehicles (25 plus) too give it a try. We turned around and headed up the mountain to Mormon Grove and had lunch there. The kids and a few adults (Not Mango) had a blast playing in the snow making snow men and having snow ball fights. This was maybe one of the easiest trip we have done but boy was it fun. The Sun Flower Mine has to be on the list for runs to do in the near future.

Thanks to everyone who attended and Chad for leading us there.



## JEEP TIPS

### Driving Techniques and Tricks

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

#### IN THE BUSH

- If you're unsure of the ground ahead, especially if there's mud or water, get out and check it.
- Keep thumbs outside the steering wheel.
- Don't change gears in the middle of a tricky section.
- If in doubt, always choose the lower gear.
- Tire pressure plays an important role in off-road driving. A good tire pressure for bush tracks is "20-26 psi".
- Low tire pressure equals lower speed.
- Cross small ridges 'square on'.
- Cross ditches at a slight angle.
- Straddle ruts. However, on slippery downhill sections, it's best to drop into ruts if they're not too deep.
- On uphill sections of a trail, stay out of them, if possible.
- On deep rutted sections you may need to do some road building.
- If you begin to lose traction going uphill, along a rutted track, or in mud, turn the steering wheel from side to side. This may help you keep moving. Take care you don't steer off to the right or left!



## Jen's Birthday Camping trip 2/6 thru 2/8

Camping location Enter Cottonwood Canyon (flagpole) go 4 miles down road and make a right.

Saturday run meet at Flagpole at Cottonwood canyon staging area at 8:00am for 8:30 departure.

State Trust permit needed

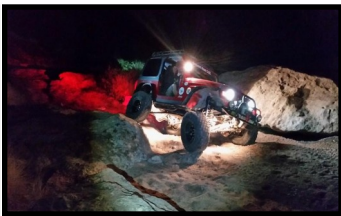
Contact Jennifer Blum for more info or questions.

## Bull Dog Night Run January 17, 2015

A group of night owls seeking adventure headed out on a night run which started at 8:00 pm and ended at 6:00 am. Club members ran 3554 to 10 and then across to 1356. By that time it was 1:00 am and some of the group headed home. However, the real night owls were only getting started and ran up Apache Trail to 12 and ran Willow Springs.



## COPPERSTATE CLUB MEMBERS IN ACTION



**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 NEWS

### ***Hello Fellow Copperstate 4 Wheelers:***

My goal this year is to make the Tow Strap Newsletter your go to place for club news and current events.

In order to do this, I'm asking for your help.

When you go on a wild cat or club run please forward a short overview of the trip which could include who went on the run, where did you go, and what did you see along with some pictures to

[tracoach@msn.com](mailto:tracoach@msn.com)

In addition, if you know of any events you think other members would be interested in please forward those as well and we will also post them in the newsletter

As most of you know we are updating the website so additional information is available with links and downloadable forms.

***See You On The Trail!***



**Message From The Editor**

**Jim Nossett**

### **MOAB 2015**

**Trail days will be Monday, October 12th through Saturday, October 18th, 2015.**

- Allow one full day for travel to Moab from the Phoenix area and vice versa. (500 miles one way.)
- Allow time to sight see along the way. (Allow a half day at Monument Valley.)
- If possible, allow an extra day in Moab to View Arched National Park .
- You can come for several days or one week to enjoy joy lots of trail fun.
- Travel up and back to MOAB will be a non-club event. However, you may wish to form a travel group for company and safety.
- Accommodations should be made individually as members and guests will be staying at various locations.

**There will be two types of runs every day.**

**Hard Rock and Easy to Medium**

#### ***Hard Rock Crawling***

*Led By Tim Wight*

*Require Lockers*

*33" Tires*

*Experience*

#### ***Easy to Medium***

*Led by Roland*

*Stock Vehicles*

*Stock Tires—Normal 4x4*

*Moderate Experience*

### **On Sun Feb 22nd Chad will be leading a class, Navigation 101.**

**Meeting time: 800 am, departing 815 am.**

**Location: Sugar loaf staging area.**

**Requirements:** Orienteering compass, Topographical map of the Tonto national forest, or, Tonto national forest map.

**Bring Lunch and drinks. Alcohol is prohibited.**

**Optional:** Back Country Navigator app on your phone or tablet.

I am also going to be teaching some GPS topics and navigation using back country navigator pro on my tablet. It's what I use in the field for mapping. I recommend it to all, if your looking for mapping software. It can be uploaded to your phone or tablet, the cost is \$11 from the app store. If you choose to purchase it for your phone or tablet, please bring your device to the next club meeting where we will have a short clinic on how to use it for the class on the

22nd.

### ***Copperstate Swag***

The order form for Copperstate Swag has been posted to the club website on the main page.

Black CS4W beanie hats are new this year; and do not appear on the order form.

If you would like to order a beanie please add it to your order.

Please give your order form and money to Jennifer Blum at the February club meeting.

