



THE SLO 4-WHEELER



Volume 14, Issue 6

November / December 2008

Inside this issue:

Trip Report — Garcia Ridge at Night	1
2008 SLO4-Wheelers Officers	1
Member Rigs	2
Trip Report — Panamint Valley Days	4
Member Directory	5
Letter from Congresswoman Lois Capps	6
Sponsors	7
Associated Organizations	7
Upcoming Events/ Runs	8

Trip Report: Garcia Ridge

Written by Eric F

Garcia ridge trip report for November 8th 2008. members and guest present. Eric F with Alison E. Bob and Brandon O. Dave F and co driver Wade?

Bob, Brandon, Eric and Alison met up at Santa Margarita park around 9.10.made an uneventful drive to the Pozo ranger station aired down and disconnected and sway bars the needed disconnecting.

We then made our way to the Garcia ridge trail head.

There were a couple of possible condor watchers on there way in front of us that were having some trouble on high mountain road. As they had to go slow and back up a couple of times and make a run at some of the low spots and

ditches that have appeared and the trail over time.

We made the trail head and locked our vehicles into 4wheel low and proceeded up the trail.

It was a nice day. sunny almost no wind just a slight breeze.

We made our way to the bypass mini rock steps. Eric and Alison went up and over the first obstacle with ease. Then proceeded up the stair steps with ease. Alison was unsure and asked if we were going to go over backwards. Eric told her we would be OK.

Bob and Brandon took a try at the rock area. Bob had to take several tries at the rocks. Bobs Toyota was able to climb the rocks part way but would slide to the right or left depending on each attempt. Bob made it up after about the

5th try. Bob made it up the mini stair steps with ease.

From there we continued on the trail. We made a couple of stops for a break or two and just to look. Eric also let Alison drive.

The trail is overgrown as normal and needs attention. now is a great time for our Garcia ridge adopt a trail person to schedule a work day.

We made it to the lower drop point of the trail and Dave F and ride along Wade were coming up the trail. We decided to turn around at that point and talked with Dave and Wade a bit.

We headed back down the trail and ran in the Nor Cal FJ club doing a trail run. They had 10 newer FJ's with them. they pulled off to let us by.

(Continued on page 3)

2008 SLO 4-Wheelers Officers

Officers:

President:..... Eric F
Vice President:..... Jim T
Secretary:.....Chris S
Treasurer:.....Florence S

Board of Directors (includes officers):

Ways and Means:.....Dennis V
Membership Director:..... Dave F
Events Director:.....Anthony S
Land Use Liaison:.....Anthony S
CA4WDC Liaison:..... Suzy J
Social Chairperson:..... Robin M
Newsletter Editor:..... George W

Committees:

Safety Chairperson:..... Paul V
Promotional Chairperson:.....Dennis V
Club Scrapbook:..... George W
Virtual Committee:..... Mark B
Club Outside Promotions:..... Dave F
Adopted Trails and Campgrounds:
Garcia Ridge Trail:..... Jim T
Pine Mountain Trail:.....Anthony S
La Panza Camp Ground:.....Anthony S

Newsletter submittals

by the weekend after the meeting to George at g*****@charter.net

Member Rigs:

by Rich W

In 1988 I purchased a cherry (never been off road) 1981 CJ5 while living in San Jose and then shortly thereafter moved to Utah. It was a pretty stock Jeep and had a 4-cylinder engine which for that altitude (5000ft) made it very marginal. But for all its shortcomings I drove that thing all over Utah. Most notably in the Wasatch Range and Southern Utah around Moab. I really never did any organized 4-wheeling while there mostly hunting and just some exploring.

After two years of owning the CJ5 it soon became obvious to me that it just wasn't going to work given my 6'1" height and the limited leg room in the CJ5 so began looking for CJ7 in 1990 after having moved back from Utah to California.

I looked solid for two months in California, Nevada, and Arizona but just nothing was on the market that was any good. Although I did not want to purchase a Jeep in Utah because of the salt, I found a 1986 CJ7 in Salt Lake City which was priced fairly \$3.5k so I flew out and drove it back to California.

It had 100k on it and just about everything was broken (or loose). Good news is the rust was minimal and fixable. I stripped the jeep just about down to bare frame and after painting began rebuilding the way I wanted it. The good news is I hadn't sold my CJ5 yet so was able to swap good parts of it since it was in excellent shape. And I sold the CJ5 for \$5k, so things worked out.

For the last 10 years my 1986 CJ7 Jeep was located in our second home in Truckee, Calif. When we move from Scotts Valley to Paso

Photo by Rich Watkins



(Continued from page 2)

Robles in 2006 we sold our place in Truckee and the Jeep was relocated to Paso

Unique runs made:

While in Truckee we did some off roading but because of my work schedule it was limited. Besides covering just about every forest service road within 50miles we did like to do what is called the Bear Creek Campground run. It is a designated FS route with a couple of #5 difficulty locations. It was not a long run .. maybe 4-5 hours tops. Additionally, we did do the Sierra Trek one year without any major harm to the rig. Most fun about that trip was the party at the end. Great margarita's and good company. The Jeep has also gone to Colorado, Idaho, and Nevada hunting over the years. Some of those exploits were some

of most harrowing I have had. All these hunting trips were generally in the late Fall when it was either mud or snow covered. Soon I learned that tall narrow tires were the way to go with deep mud. Did manage to lose the Jeep over the side of 20ft riverbed with slick mud but after ½ day of winching and tying off we finally got it back up onto the road. It was very cold and it wasn't my idea of a good time.

Memorable Breakdowns:

Only two breakdowns that I can recall, one was when I was climbing a rock outcrop in Truckee and I broke a stock front shackle. Although I did not have a spare shackle I was able to tie the end of the shackle to the frame with a chain I had. It got me back. All my shackles were then were replaced with stronger after market ones. Other was a lost muffler...no

mobility issue but made the rest of the trip a little noisy! Oh...almost forgot...before I put the Mopar fuel injection on the Jeep it was always losing vacuum which necessitated stopping and replugging some errant smog related line back in. That got old in a hurry not to speak of the carburetor dying on steep hills. Fuel Injection is a must.

What 4-Wheeling Means to Me:

I have been off roading most all of my life either with my equipment or someone else's. Although the crazy aggressiveness is waning with time the thing that is most enduring is the love of the outdoors and the comradeship of the folks you are doing it with. Also being an engineer by trade I enjoy talking (and learning) the mechanics and science of the task (i.e., getting 6000lb vehicles up parapets).



(Continued from page 1)

I exchanged club info and told them when were up north we would look them up. and they would contact us the next time there down.

We made it to the play rock area. I guided Alison to the stair steps and said go ahead and drive up. She was very nervous and gave it a try and was able to make it up with ease. She was very happy with her self. (idea Lady's day. Lady's Run.)

Bob and Dave by passed the mini stair steps. Dave and Wade decided to take a look at the steps. Dave decided to give it a try. Dave

drove down to the bottom and came up the trail to the steps. he had to made a couple of attempts and made it to the bottom of the steps. Dave made several attempts at the steps with some Spotting from Eric and was able to make it up with some spinning wheels. Dave was very happy about making it up.

We loaded up from there and made it to the trail head. We all got out of our vehicles to take our vehicles out of 4x4. then we loaded up and headed to the Ranger station. While we were on the trail we could see a fire burning off in the distance on one of the ridge line. we reported the fire while on the trail but lost cell phone coverage.

we reported the fire to the ranger station they said it was controlled burn in Nipomo.. we showed them on the map where we were and where we thought the fire was. The fire station made some calls and went on to investigate. As you can not see Nipomo from where we were on the map.

Bob, Brandon, Eric and Alison aired up and Headed home. Dave and Wade continued to Las Chichas for more adventures.

Thanks to everyone who came out. sorry for the time confusion there Dave and Wade.

Eric F

Trip Report: Panamint Valley Days

By Randy P

Margaret & I made it to Panamint Valley Days (PVD) this year.

The weather was great for the event. Warm during the day, not too cold at night. Very little wind (a miracle in the desert).

First let me apologize for not remembering names. In time I get them. But I'll have to use descriptions here to get this out. If I had a members list, I could pick out the names, as I have done in the past.

We arrived at Panamint Springs Resort (PSR) at about 3 in the afternoon Friday. PSR is located about 20 minutes North of the PVD main camp site. I like to stay there for the local restaurant, gas, restroom and showers. Good people own and operate this desert resort. We made reservations for a RV spot a month or two before the event. They are on the internet, search Panamint Springs Resort and follow the registration link thru. It was a 300 mile trip the way we drove it on the back roads.

Met the PGE gas man at PSR gas station Friday as we checked in to our rv spot. He had been over to Beaty Nevada and Argus ghost town for the day. He and his son had been going to PVD for a few years now. We setup camp, unloaded the jeep and drove back to the PVD headquarters. Got a Vehicle Safety Check there, registered, bought t-shirts and hats, raffle tickets (more of them) and signed up for the Saturday South Park run (easy, scenic run that I have always enjoyed in the Panamint Mountains. Soon Jim and the red TJ rubi driver pulled in and checked in to registration. We directed them to the Gas mans camp site by description and

headed back to PSR.

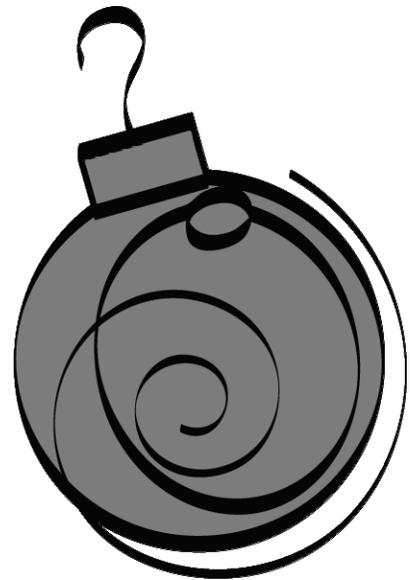
Next morning we enjoyed the Hard Rock Café Breakfast and lined up for the South Park event. There were about 35 vehicles on this run, We were #7 in line. The other SLO 4Wheeler got there a little later and were somewhere near the end of the pack. South Park is a very scenic loop, Up South Park road past the Briggs cabins, across the telephone pole bridge, around chicken corner and on to Middle park and the ranch for lunch. All gathered for lunch and the SLO 4Wheeler there got together and traveled together for the rest of the trip. We drove the ridge, looking down into Death Valley, then back down Pleasant canyon to Ballarat where we aired up. Margaret and I had to drive back to PSR to get our chairs, then to the PVD camp/headquarters for a pit BBQ dinner and the raffle. Weather was still outstanding, but clouds were forming. Margaret & I won two bags of raffle prizes, a nice return for a raffle ticket money donation to CA4WDC.

Margaret & I returned to PSR and bedded down in the camper. That night the winds blew the camper about some, the rain beat on the top and we slept in the next morning. By the time we got up, all was wet from rain, but there was a break in the rain till about 10AM, when we loaded up and headed for home.

The wind really blew as we approached Mojave, side wind. Over the East side of Tehachapi on Hwy 58 it blew strong, head on. On the west side the wind died down, but rain persisted. Valley was clear, trip back thru B-patch to 46 and to Cholam for dinner at the Jack Ranch Café (good food there). Got

home B4 dark.

We made it home one more time, ALIVE, and ready to go back right after t-giving. Anyone want to go along. Call me. 438-5802.



San Luis Obispo County Four Wheel Drive Club Phone List - November 2008

✓=(2009 Members)

If THERES NOT an ✓ by your names, means you haven't renewed yet!

LOIS CAPPS
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1110 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522
(202) 225-3601

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 546-8348
 - 101 WEST ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE C
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 730-1710
 - 2675 NORTH VENTURA ROAD, SUITE 105
PORT HUENEME, CA 93041
(805) 985-6807

September 22, 2008

SLO 4-Wheelers
c/o *Your Dunes*
Kevin Rice
333 Luneta Dr.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Dear Members of SLO 4-Wheelers,

I want to take this opportunity to convey my sincere gratitude for your work during the San Luis Obispo Coastal Cleanup Day. I was so pleased to hear that you and your fellow volunteers collected over 800 pounds of trash from Oceano Beach and Dunes. As you may know, the environment is an issue that is close to my heart and so I deeply appreciate the time and resources you have given to this cause.

Your work is an extraordinary example of how communities act collaboratively in order to improve both our local and global environments. Thank you for volunteering your time and for your dedication to the improvement of the San Luis Obispo community. The value and willingness to volunteer is an essential component to the strong and healthy communities found all along our Central Coast.

You, like so many members of the 23rd district, continue to inspire me. As your representative, it is my honor to recognize you for outstanding service to the community. Thank you again for your hard work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Capps".

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

LC: cl

It's Time to Renew If you Haven't Already!

Please complete the fields below and mail the coupon and a check for \$20.00 made payable to "SLO 4 Wheelers" to the address shown below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

SLO 4 Wheeler
 PO Box 2271
 Atascadero, CA 93423-2271



Advance Adapters Inc.
 4320 Aerotech Center Way
 Paso Robles, CA 93446
 Phone: 805-238-7000
 (Toll Free: 800-350-2223)
<http://www.advanceadapters.com>

Ted Miles Jeep
Ted offers a 15% discount on all parts (& 10% off accessories like hats) to club members!

Ted Miles Jeep
 7380 El Camino Real
 Atascadero CA Ph466-2411
<http://www.tedmilesjeep.com>



SLO 4-Wheelers contributes to and/or is a member club in these organizations. Visit and support, -they are working for US!
<http://www.sharetrails.org/>



The United Four Wheel Drive Associations also acts as your voice to keep 4x4 roads and trails open so that we can continue enjoying four wheeling in the great outdoors.
<http://www.ufwda.org/>



A varied group of outdoor recreationists who are extremely active in promoting the positive aspects of vehicular access on public lands and protecting that right.
<http://www.corva.org/>



SLO 4-Wheelers is also a member club in the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC). If your not a member, check it out.
<http://www.cal4wheel.com> or ask Suzy

Player's Restaurant
glen covert
 805.466.5664
 8845 El Camino Real Atascadero, CA 93422

RENEAU
 CHRYSLER - DODGE
 PASO ROBLES
 EST. 1963
 2235 SPRING STREET
 PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA 93446
CHRIS KRULL
 Service Manager
 Phone (805) 239-0790
 Fax (805) 239-8356

Cell 226-TAPS
Marlene Lincoln

 1207 13th Street
 Paso Robles, CA 93446
 (805) 226-8277
 Fax (805) 226-8289

SLO 4 Wheelers

PO Box 2271
Atascadero, CA 93423-2271



We're on the web:

<http://www.slo4wheelers.org/>

Upcoming Events / Runs

December 3rd – Club Meeting / Christmas Party- Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm.

Come Join Us for the Christmas Party! For more info see separate flyer. RSVP with Florence S either on the separate yahoo group email, or you can contact her at fansimon@sbcglobal.net or 544-1154

Thanks Florence S and Robin M!

December 5th – After Meeting Run- Christmas Parade- Downtown San Luis Obispo

Parade Line-up starts at 6pm but it will be busy so make sure and get there Early!

This Event gives us a lot of Publicity! Please slap on a couple Strings of lights and come join Us.

Jim T will be leading the Parade this year and will supply the exact meeting spot when he receives it from the city. If you have any questions contact Jim T at j*****@sbcglobal.net

January 7th – Club Meeting – Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

January 10th or 11th – After Meeting Run – TBD at Meeting

February 4th – Club Meeting – Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

February 7th or 8th – After Meeting Run – TBD at Meeting

February 13th – 16th – Other Club Run – Cal4Wheel Convention. Primm Nevada. This is their 50th Anniversary! Make sure and Reserve your Spot Now! See Cal4Wheel Web site for More

Information and Online Registration.

If you have any questions or events/local runs / not so local runs you would like to do and/or participate in, please contact Anthony S, SLO4-Wheelers Events Director (a????????????@sbcglobal.net) or cell/voice mail 805-215-6259

