



The SLO 4-Wheeler



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2014 San Miguel Christmas Parade



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by George W., Editor (all photos are by the author)
 On December 20, 2014 at 4:00 PM members of the SLO 4 Wheelers started gathering in a field north of the San Miguel Fire Station in San Miguel in preparation for the annual San Miguel Christmas Parade. John Jamrog and his wife Buzz were already

on scene with his TJ when I arrived with my TJ and my girlfriend, Amy.
 When we got there, the field also had an M1 Abrams Tank in it as well as a National Guard transport tractor - trailer rig. While we waited for other club members, we watched the guard personnel load the tank onto the

transport carrier. The tank is an amazing vehicle as is its transporter with five sets of steerable axles on the trailer and front and rear axle steering on the tractor. To watch as they spooled the turbine engine on the tank up to load it (it was actually fairly quiet) and then loaded it onto the

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2014 SLO 4-Wheelers Officers

Officers:
 President:..... Mark B.
 Vice President:Randy P.
 Secretary:.....Kirk R.
 Treasurer:.....Devin L.
 Board of Directors (includes officers):
 Ways and Means:
 Membership Director:George W.
 Events Director:Eric F.
 Land Use Liaison:
 CA4WDC Liaison:Suzy J.
 Social Chairperson:Ingrid R.
 Newsletter Editor:.....George W.

Committees:
 Safety Chairperson:Nathan L.
 Promotional Chairperson:.....Dan H.
 Virtual Club Scrapbook: Mark B.
 Archived Scrapbook..... Randy P.
 Virtual Committee:Mark B.

Adopted Trails and Campgrounds:
Garcia Ridge Trail:.....Deque G.
Pine Mountain Trail. John J.
La Panza CampGround:Kirk R./Dave F.

Newsletter submittals
 by two weeks before the
 next issue to

2014 Christmas Party



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by George W., Editor

NOTE: All photos of 's rig are from his photos.

On December 3rd, we held our annual Christmas party at the home of one of our members is Templeton. A very big thanks to Mike and Sharon. The party was well attended by several members with the usual activities. Mark chaired a short meeting with initial nominations for the elections to be held at the January meeting then we had dinner and the gift exchange. This year was a pot luck except for the main dish with members bringing side dishes and desserts.

The Gift exchange ended up being just that this year, I believe only one gift was stolen the entire time. Didn't lead to a lot of excitement, but kept the party to a reasonable time for a week night for those who had to work the following day.

Overall it was an evening of great food, awesome deserts, good company and an enjoyable evening!



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2014 A Year in Review

by George W., Editor

Compared to previous years, this was a relatively quiet year for the SLO 4 Wheelers. A combination of drought, high gas prices (until recently), work and life schedules and other factors led to fewer runs for 2014. What follows are photos from over the year from the runs that were made and the events that the club participated in.



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trailer was quite a site. The rear most of the five trailer axles' tires squatted as the tank started the climb onto the trailer. Once it was fully on the trailer, the engine spooled down and they started chaining it down.

At that point we moved to the north end of the lot and started decorating our rigs as several others arrived. Christmas light strings and wreaths started appearing from everywhere and were getting attached to the rigs with everything from zip ties to tape. I was using LED light strings so I would draw less power through the inverter except for the wreath which had the old style lights on it. One long LED string

and one short one were applied to the front and rear of my Jeep. Others had brought inflatable characters that they attached to their rigs. Different types of lights, different ways of powering them and different ways of attaching them, we were an amazing crew.

Shortly after dark we got our grid number and went in search of our staging area. Our staging area was just north of the 15th Street on Mission Street, pretty close to where we were last time. They didn't give us much street frontage, but we were able to park three deep and one of the entries in front of us actually parked on 15th street because they were too long to park in their assigned spot. Once there, we continued to decorate our vehicles and socialize as more arrived until we had eight rigs ready to roll. The Christmas Parade in San Miguel is interesting in that you start and end in basically the same spot. You drive down Mission to the park at 9th and Mission, you go counter clockwise around the park, get back on Mission and return north to your starting point. Along the way two announcing stands get you coming and going. When you finish the route less than 30 minutes after the parade started you then remove all of your decorations. That's it, simple, sweet and basic small town entertainment.



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One of our members was unable to drive his rig while he was in the parade, he was somehow involved in the transportation of Santa Claus through the parade route. A very important role which we whole heartedly supported him in. Another member was also present, but working in his capacity as a member of the San Miguel Fire Department.



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A Christmas Story

by George W., Editor

NOTE: This story is automotive related only slightly, but goes with the season. All of us probably have a story we really remember about a childhood Christmas, this one is the one I will always remember.

OK, this is the reason I like "A Christmas Story" so much is that I was born in the early 50s (Yes, I'm getting old). Back then, the stores, like Sears, had store Santas. My Dad decided to do something fun for Christmas Eve and hired the Sears Santa to deliver our presents on his way home from work. But my Dad did not know that Christmas Eve was the night of the Sears employee Christmas party that year (1958 I believe).

We were settling in to a quiet evening with us three boys wondering what would be under the tree in the morning when there was a knock at the door. Dad told me to go and answer the door, which was not normal around our house. So I got up from laying on the floor (which is how us kids always watched TV back then) and walked over to the door and reached up and turned the knob and pulled the door open.

Much to my surprise Santa stood in front of me with a crate at his feet. He leaned over and belted out "Hoo Hoo Hoo! How are you Little Boy?" (yes, that's what he said). But from the smell of booze on his breath I almost passed out. He shoved the crate through the front door scratching up our hardwood floor. Then proceeded to

pat each of us on the head and were looking at each other like "Who is the guy? He's drunk as a skunk and his beard is starting to fall off!" After he's made his rounds, my Dad embarrassing slips him a tip and tries to get him headed toward the door.

He finally went out and shouted "Merry Christmas!" before staggering down the steps back to his car (a old late 40's sedan). He then had to back his car up and turn around to get out of our driveway. He managed to bump every tree between our house and the road on his way out. I lost count of how many times we heard a thump and gear grinding. We wanted to watch him leave, but Dad tried to distract us with the contents of the crate.

Needless to say, Dad never tried to hire a Santa to deliver presents again.

It's Membership Renewal Time!

Please complete this coupon and mail it with your check for \$20.

Remember, you can only vote in the January elections if your membership is paid up into the new year!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Please indicate your Newsletter Delivery Preference:

Link to PDF (Color) via email

Hardcopy (black & white)

Send completed coupon along with a check for \$20 made payable to "SLO 4 Wheelers" to:

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



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



Advance Adapters Inc.
 4320 Aerotech Center Way
 Paso Robles, CA 93446
 Phone: 805-238-7000
 (Toll Free: 800-350-2223)

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SLO 4 WHEELERS

PO Box 2271
Atascadero, CA 93423-2271



We're on the web:

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

Upcoming Events / Runs

In addition to this list, keep your eye on the club email list and web site:

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

for last minute events or spur of the moment runs.

February 4th — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

February 7th or 8th — After meeting run TBD at February Meeting.

March 4th — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

March 7th or 8th — After meeting run TBD at March Meeting.

April 1st — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

April 4th or 5th — After meeting run TBD at April Meeting.

May 6th — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

May 9th or 10th — After meeting run TBD at May Meeting. NOTE: **May 10th is Mother's Day**, so another date or weekend may be chosen. This is also our usual Spring Fling.

June 3rd — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

June 6th or 7th — After meeting run TBD at June Meeting.

July 1st — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

July 4th — Templeton Fourth of July Parade. As the 4th is on a

Saturday, this may be the July after meeting run.

August 5th — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

August 8th or 9th — After meeting run TBD at August Meeting.

August 14th - 16th — Annual Coyote Lake Run (Usually the third weekend in August).

September 2nd — General Club Meeting. 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza, Atascadero.

September 5th or 6th — After meeting run TBD at Sept. Meeting.

If you have any questions or events, local runs, not so local runs you would like to do, coordinate and/or participate in, please contact the SLO-4-Wheelers Events Director.