



The SLO 4-Wheeler



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Hot El Camino Nites

Written and photos by John J.

We had a nice turn out for Cruz Nite. We had 6 or seven rigs lined up at Ted Miles Jeep. We also had the local Jeeps from Margarita join us.

It was a impressive site because we had a good mix of Toyota trucks and Jeeps. I was surprised how many people stopped and looked at the rigs.

Now the Cruz Nite just didn't seem to have the turn out as in the passed. They hiked the price to \$26.00 a vehicle and I think a lot of people got there early with there cars and trucks and just parked. I think a twenty dollar bill is enough to cruise. There were 4 or 5 flat fender Jeeps there and they were done up quite nicely. I was just a little

disappointed in the event, it was a lot better in the passed.

One of our members (I wont mention his name) drove by us with his shiny RED Jeep, with polished chrome wheels and a nice set of Rough Shod tube doors. He had a young lady with him , who he claimed he was teaching her how to "Cruz". We gave him a ration ofwhen he stopped and we all had a good laugh.

All in all it was nice to be with the Club and I think we sparked some interest.



whole area for us , it was very nice of him to do this we were right in front. I think Ted like the sight of the front row of his lot full of nice 4 wheel drives.

On a side note our number one news letter editor is heading off to a far off land, we wish him a safe trip and I hope he finds a 4x4 to take a picture of. Best of luck to you George!

Until the next Cruz Nite John J



Its nice to just relax and hang around and just talk 4 wheeling with everyone. Next year maybe we can figure out how to hang the banner better. I would like to thank Ted Miles for letting us park in his lot. He set aside a



2013 SLO 4-Wheelers Officers

Officers:

President:..... Tom B.
 Vice President: Dave F.
 Secretary:..... Loree R. / Kenn B.
 Treasurer:..... Devin L.
 Board of Directors (includes officers):
 Ways and Means: Ken B.
 Membership Director: George W.
 Events Director: Casey R.
 Land Use Liaison:
 CA4WDC Liaison:
 Social Chairperson:
 Newsletter Editor:..... George W

Committees:

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 Promotional Chairperson:..... Loree R.
 Virtual Club Scrapbook: Mark B.
 Archived Scrapbook..... Randy P.
 Virtual Committee: Mark B.
 Adopted Trails and Campgrounds:
 Garcia Ridge Trail:..... David F.
 Pine Mountain Trail:..... Jim B.
 La Panza Camp Ground: Kirk R.
 Carrizo Plains Land Use.....

Newsletter submittals
 by two weeks before the
 next issue to George

2013 Jeep Jamboree

by John J.

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

I waited 10 years to take my grandson on the Jeep Jamboree. The Jeep Jamboree lets kids go if they are 10 years or older. I would say about 60 kids were there at Rubicon Springs, enjoying the Sierras and especially the Rubicon River.

I met a group of local Jeepers on the Thursday before the event. Some of us have done this trip 20 years ago so it was good to talk about old times and how the trail has changed. We made it to Buck Island Lake and decided to camp for the night. We camped just passed the mechanics area, just in case the mechanics decided to drive in a day early.

We got to Buck Island early enough so most of the kids went swimming (Burr) and fishing. Not too much success at fishing but, it was well worth it eating dinner as the sun went down and the evening set in. What a sight in the evening sky when a shooting star streaks across the darkness. I was surprised that it got so cold so fast. It froze that night, I was glad we were prepared with extra blankets. We woke up to the sound of Geese calling to each other across the lake. At first I couldn't figure out what it was, one of the other Jeepers listened too and we decided it might be Canada Honkers.

Our suspicions were confirmed when we saw Honkers swimming on the Rubicon River just outside of camp.

On the way in the day before we were surprised to see a dump truck, excavator, backhoe, off road track trucks at Ellis Creek. It seems funds were set aside to build a bridge at Ellis Creek. I thought if that's what its going to be done to keep the trail open, then build it. A new access road was built to Ellis Creek, it comes in behind the bathroom. That is how the big iron got so far in the trail.

The Little Sluce was worked over because too many rigs were braking down there. The trail passed Buck Island is really rough. We went most of the way in first and second gear. This would drive Randy P crazy but we wanted to make it home with out any breakdowns. We did make it through, it was the driest I have ever seen the Sierras. No wet crossings anywhere, except Ellis Creek. The mud hole by camp was almost dry.

The kids has a



blast, the first night the State Park people put on a talk about what to do if you encounter a bear. It was a kick, they had some one in a Bear out fit, which looked a lot like Yogi Bear. I didn't know but they said stand your ground with a Sierra Bear. Make yourself look big and back out slowly. The talk was funny but they really got there point across. They had plastic bear poo which got a good laugh. The kids loved it.

The food was great, and as always we hit the ice cream shack every night.

We spent the days mostly at the river, but the Jeep Jamboree has only about 500 people. That sounds like a lot but the Jeepers Jamboree the weekend





before there were almost 1800. We had plenty of room to camp and we had a lot of room in the swimming holes . Saturday we had a great breakfast and we did a little Jeep shopping, to see some of the very pricy Jeeps. The State Parks had 6 R C Jeeps with a course set up for the kids. There was quite a line so we waited til later and had a great time, I was surprised to find out the State Parks and the USFS really like the Rubicon Trail and all the great work the Rubicon Committee has done to the trail. They said the events and just the regular traffic on the trail brings a lot of money to the area. I also found out the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County really like the Rubicon Trail and they are now sending road crews out to do minor work on the trail. (its a county road).

My grandson entered the ice cream eating contest and got second place he missed it by one spoon full. He got a great Jamboree back pack, a shirt and hat and a flash light, way cool. Now later that evening he spent a little

time in the butt hut, I think all the food and fun caught up with him.

Sunday we left about 9 am with very few Jeeps on the trail. We made it just passed the graves and were stopped at the first hill climb slab.

I guess some guy who had no or very little brakes stalled his Jeep rolled into the Jeep behind him, then laid the Jeep over making a huge mess. So the plan now was one Jeep at a time on the first slab. We made it up Cadillac Hill and had a pulled pork sandwich provided by the Jamboree. We thanked the organizers and wanted to know if my grand son will enter the ice cream

contest next year. He said " heck ya, and was going to practice for it next year." !

As usual Lake Tahoe traffic was really bad. Most of my group stayed in Tahoe that night , I went back to George Town because my trailer was there.

If anyone wants to take kids to the Jeep Jamboree , it is well worth it. We had a great time and the Jamboree gave a lot of prizes to the kids!



Annual Coyote Lake Run

By Tom B., President

We had a great turnout for the Coyote run. Kenn, Jon M. and myself met at Hwy 48 and Golden Hill at around 5:30 P.M. and hit the road. Then there were 3. We had an uneventful trip and stopped at In-&-Out in Clovis for dinner. We met up with Kevin P. as we were leaving and then there were 4.

We stopped in Prather for a little fuel and ice and headed up the 4 lane. We arrived at the parking spot at around 10:00P.M. and **Kevin B.'s truck and trailer was there as well as Derek B.'s.** After jockeying around a little we got everyone parked, unloaded the rigs and set up sleeping bags to hit the sack.

The next A.M. we rose around 6:00, rolled the sleeping bags up and packed up the rigs. We grabbed some lite breakfast and were getting ready to roll when Scott E. drove up. And then there were 5.

We hit the trail and got to Sand Flats. We made sure everyone had aired down, locked hubs and used the can if needed and started for Red Lake. The wheeling was great and we had a lot of fun. **It was John and Scott's first time** on this trail and I think they appreciated the difficulty of the rock gardens and boulders.

We arrived at Red Lake and headed for

The crew (photo by Carrie B.)



the Gate Keeper. Kenn went first and headed right up the middle. He had no problems and was pretty happy with his, **"new to him", rig.** We had Jon and Scott go to the right and around the tree. They did great and had no problems. I came up next and followed **Kenn's route** with Kevin following my path. We all did fine with no problems

As I was heading up Gate Keeper, I heard Kevin on the CB. I told him where I was and he said he was coming out to watch us at Gate Keeper and would be there shortly. As we were starting G.K., Mike and Matt G. walked up. They walked from Coyote to watch and followed us in. They spotted for the newbies and were a great help. About this time Kevin showed up and joined the train. And then there were 6.

We went on with not too much difficulty until we got to the last Rock Garden before Coyote. With some good spotting and driving Jon and Scott made it over



Mike likes rocks! (photo by Matt G.)

and we all arrived at the camp site. Randy P. was there, set up and looking comfortable. And then there were 7. Derek B. was set up with his rig. And then there were 8. Derek had 2 friends with him, Levi and Jeremy in their rigs. And then there were 10.

We set up camp, unloaded Kenn's canoe and settled in. We all had tents, stoves, tables, and the usual so it took a little while. Kenn brought his family which included Kim and his 2 boys Wyatt and Weston. Jon brought his wife Denna and son Deacon. Kevin brought his friend Jason and his son Hunter along **with Kevin's son Cameron. Scott's wife** was sick so he came alone and my wife Karen had a knee injection the day we left so I came alone. Mike, of course, brought Matt and Randy came alone. Derek brought a friend, and Jeremy brought his 2 kids. Kevin had his wife Carrie with him so we had a great group.

The camping was great. Some of us hiked to the top of the granite mountain across from the lake. I was ready to quit but Mike coerced me to keep going. We did a lot of fishing and most of what was caught were little 6 inchers. Wyatt caught 2 of the prettiest large rainbow trout we have seen in the lake. One was **about 18". He put them back so we can catch them next year when they will be even bigger.**

The only drawback to camping this year **was that you weren't allowed to have a**



(photos by Kenetic Fab)

campfire. Because of the drought, the **forest is too dry and they don't want** any big forest fires so no campfires. Friday night was pretty funny as a bunch of us were huddled around 2 Coleman lanterns. Jon was the smart one as he brought a propane campfire set that you could even cook on.

Just before dark Saturday night in comes James L. and Ritchie W. I complimented Ritchie on getting a full size pickup into Coyote and they both expressed great pleasure with the trail. And then there were 12. James brought his girlfriend and his dog. Ritchie brought a friend so we added to the group. They were staying until Monday **so didn't mind getting there Saturday.**

Sunday we all packed up and headed out around 10:45. We had no problems getting to Sand Flats. We grabbed a quick lunch. Jon, Scott, Kevin P. and Randy were headed out but Kenn, myself, Derek, Kevin B. and Mike decided to hit the Mirror trail. Mike and Kenn **unloaded some gear onto Mike's trailer** and we headed down to Mirror. On the way in the trail looked pretty knarly from last year and had gotten a lot of use. When we got to the bottom we turned around headed back up. I went first and with a little struggle got past the tree and boulder at the bottom and made it up the rest of the way without too much trouble but it is really challenging and tightens the old sphincter

without too much trouble. I think it is the most difficult trail I have been on and I think the rest will agree. We got back to Sand Flats, grabbed the gear and headed to the trailers. Mike and Derek went on and Kevin B., Kenn and I headed out together. We stopped in Prather for pizza and got home around 9:30 Sunday Night.

We had a great time and got lots of pictures and videos. One of the best parts

of the trip was getting to know other **people that haven't come before. We** had a large group and everyone got along great and got to know each other. Between the wheeling, camaraderie, **the camping and being in the Sierra's,** it was pretty hard to beat.

P. S. My apologies to those whose names I have misspelled. Some days I have been known to struggle with my own!

Kenn with a canoe load (photo by Carrie B.)



September 7th Dessert Run

Written by John J.

We had 6 rigs show up for the desert run. Jim B was the wagon master and we set off to the Las Chiches trail a little after 6:30 on Sept 7th.

Now driving to Pozo is a real wild life adventure, I think we say about 50 turkeys, 20 deer, 10 to 15 elk, cows and some hawks.

I forgot what a nice ride it is going down Pozo Road that time of night. We made to the beginning of Pozo summit and some of us aired down while some just enjoyed the evening. We had a new prospective member come along in a really nice Red Rubicon 4 door. Nice ride. The kids had fun running around and getting ready for a " Jim B " adventure.

We made it to Las Chiches and by that

time it was dark. The moon was just a sliver and it was quickly setting down over the horizon .

It was kinda neat watching the night time sky with the Milky Way looming out in the Southern sky. The kids got a quick lesson on which stars and constellations we were looking at.

The deserts were out standing. We had so much food, Jim B had cold ice cream with 5 different kind of sauces. We had 3 Madonna Inn cakes and some one **brought apple pies from Linn's Pies.** A blender got fired up and we had milk shakes to die for. Then a box of éclairs got opened and they went fast.. All in all everyone had a sugar high the rest of the evening. We had a safe trip over the rest of the trail, and it was short sleeve weather all the way to the bottom.

Turkey flat it cooled off and we aired up some rigs. By that time it was jacket time and the faster rigs took off and Jim B and John J rode drag.

I don't like to travel that road at night too fast, too many deer. We had a great time , and I think the kids in the Black Rubicon did too.

All the kids were great and I think they got to taste all the deserts. It was a nice safe evening. Thank you Jim B for being trail boss and thank you everyone for the great deserts. I still have 2 slices of a Madonna Inn Black Forest cake left for lunch tomorrow!

For those you who missed the run , it was a blast.

Some times I tend to stretch the truth a bit , I will let you decide.

John J

Additional Coyote Lake Run Photos



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!

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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



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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.

October 2nd — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm

October 5th or 6th — After meeting run to be determined at the October meeting.

November 6th — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm

November 9th or 10th — After meeting run to be determined at the November meeting.

December — TBD San Miguel Christmas Parade and Club

Christmas Party

December TBD — SLO 4-Wheelers Christmas Party 2013 - NOTE, General meeting will be at party and will include nominations for club offices.

January 8th — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm. **NOTE that it's a second Wednesday as the first is New Years day.** Officers will be elected at this meeting.

January 11th or 12th — After meeting run to be determined at the January meeting.

February 5th — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm.

February 8th or 9th — After meeting run to be determined at the February meeting.

March 5th — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm.

March 8th or 9th — After meeting run to be determined at the March meeting.

As winter approaches, we will be in need of ideas for runs that match the season. These can vary from a fair weather trail run to back roads and by-ways in the near vicinity.

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.