



The SLO 4-Wheeler



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Trip Report — Miller Lockwood

Written by Matthew F, Sons of Thunder Treasurer

SLO 4 Wheelers participating: Eric F. and Alison E. (tan XJ) Dave F. and daughter Kim. (red Zuk) aka "Red Dave" Dave (blue Zuk) aka "Blue Dave"

We rolled out of the Flying J promptly at 8:30am as planned. We got to the trail head and aired down by 9am and were rolling by about 9:15am or so. Not as much water in any of the creeks as I expected but enough to make a little splash.

Part way up Lockwood Creek, it was noticed that Red Dave had a broken hub. When he inspected it at lunch time, he noticed the bolts were sheared off so he decided to complete the trail in 3WD which he did successfully. Lockwood was as usual, long and basically uneventful.

As we started up Millers, the fun began. 3-4 of the rigs had cooling issues; none that bad since all the systems were working fine to speak of. Millers is quite taxing since it is all uphill, slow going and the temperature was in the 80's. We stopped for a few minutes a couple of times to let the few rigs cool off. A little further up the trail, Doug needed a strap since he was in a stock Grand

Cherokee and couldn't quite get enough traction in a few places. The dirt was loose and on rocks so traction was minimal. Shortly thereafter, he lost his front drive-shaft so Tim and I tag teamed him and pulled him safely to the top of the trail. On the way to

rig wouldn't start! Al figured out that it had something to do with his MAP sensor or intake or a combination thereof and a little duct tape had him going again.

Once Al was safely at the top of the trail I was called back to help pull Blue Dave (his was the fallen



the top, we heard distress calls on the CB about a t-case that seemed to be faulty. After a few minutes, another call came in that his t-case had fallen out! Yikes! Seems his mounts all broke. While the group with him was trying to figure out the best way to resolve the situation, another distress call came in...Al's

t-case) up the remainder of the trail. By this time, there was a freeway of rigs lined up behind him. After I go back down and turned around we strapped him to me and pulled him as far as I could go it alone. We found a slightly wide spot and used my

(Continued on page 5)

2010 SLO 4-Wheelers Officers

Officers:

President:..... Randy P
 Vice President:..... Mark B
 Secretary:..... Kirk M
 Treasurer: Margaret P

Board of Directors (includes officers):

Ways and Means: Kirk M (temp)
 Membership Director: George W
 Events Director:..... Vacant
 Land Use Liaison:..... John J
 CA4WDC Liaison: Suzy J
 Social Chairperson: Florence S
 Newsletter Editor: George W

Committees:

Safety Chairperson:..... Ken B
 Promotional Chairperson:..... Vacant
 Virtual Club Scrapbook:..... Mark B
 Virtual Committee: Mark B

Adopted Trails and Campgrounds:

Garcia Ridge Trail:..... Vacant
 Pine Mountain Trail:..... Vacant
 La Panza Camp Ground:..... Vacant
 Carrizo Plains Land Use..... Vacant

Newsletter submittals

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

Trip Report — 2010 Jeepers Jamboree

by George W, Editor

Well its that time of year again. The gang and I went on the 58th annual Jeepers Jamboree. This was the same group that went last year: Mike G. and his son Matt, John J. and his friend Mark and myself and my friend Andy. This was my third Jeepers Jamboree.

When I registered on line I called and checked on the trail report because of all of the snow and rain they had received between Georgetown and Tahoe, not to mention that their trail conditions web page seemed really out of date.

The Jamboree office told me that conditions were worse than last year primarily due to the heavy spring rains. Later we found that there were other factors that made some of the trail much worse than last year. Going in was a little worse than last year, coming out was a different story. Cadillac Hill was a mess, more on that latter.

We hit the road Tuesday morning before the event started and made our way to a cabin outside of Georgetown. A pretty uneventful trip, specially for

George W. (photo by Matt G.)



Mike G. (photo by Matt G.)

Mike who followed my gas burner as I pull my big heavy box trailer up the mountains (he talked about the great white dry erase board or the white cow in snow storm movie).

My truck had a little harder time this year, but then again it was pulling about 8,000 pounds of trailer and Jeep up several steep hills. It heated up a little and the oil in the dip stick tube got a little steamy, but nothing major.

That night we meet some of the Gen-right crew at the Jokers Roadhouse when we went for dinner. Nice guys who enjoyed talking with us about our rigs and theirs.

The next morning, Wednesday, we got up early and headed for Georgetown to register in our rigs. We then killed some time waiting for the office to open. Did some last minute grocery shopping and got some sandwiches at a nearby deli. Ran into Bill and Rena and their crew at the Grocery store. We finally got into the office, registered and with wrist bands and a new sticker for the windshield we headed for Loon lake.

Our goal for the first day (the day before the official start) was to get in and avoid the massive traffic jam of Thursday morning. We arrived at the dam at about 10:30 AM and aired down and then started the trail. We made pretty good time and got to our point we





John J. (photo by Matt G.)

camped at last year by the Little Sluice by early afternoon.

We continued on our way and made it through several of the nasty obstacles including the one that bent my tie rod last year. Lots of bumping and dragging but nothing really bad. The only thing that I noticed is the other guys

John J. (photo by Matt G.)



with 35s were not dropping on the rear bumpers or fuel take skids as much as I was with my 33s.

When we got to the Buck Island repair station, we stopped and chatted with many of the mechanics who passed us on the trail including the big guy who re-bent my tie rod last year. It was a little before 5:00 PM at that point so we decided to press on.

We made it to the top of the Big Sluice with a couple of interesting incidents, including me taking a different line than everyone else and getting high centered and then freeing myself before sliding off sideways. Mike said he was impressed and glad that it worked out the way it did.

The big Sluice was about the same as last year only without the Rock Rollers. We pressed on and made the Rubicon River bridge a little after 6:30 PM. There's a notch that requires hooking your two left tires over the top and I missed the rear tire and started to slide sideways into the notch. Tried to back up and reposition but didn't see the rock behind the tail pipe. The result was a bent down pipe with a light kink to it and a lot of dust flying as the exhaust pressure kicked up a lot of dirt.

A few rocks under the tires gave me the traction I needed to pull out of it and we continued on and made it to camp before 7:00 PM. We then made our way to the northern end of the camp beyond the slab and made camp amongst the trees. That night's dinner and the following day's first two meals were our responsibility as a result of going in early (they hand out breakfast and lunch on Thursday morning at the dam at loon Lake.

After breakfast on Thursday, Mike and I attacked the bent up tail pipe by placing the jeep pointed down hill on a sharply rolling rock so the backend stuck high in the air and as Mike pried up with a pry bar, I pushed and shoved the mount hooks back on the mounts. A few more grunts and "Oh my aching back!"s and the pine seemed to be OK, although we new it was going to drag a little on the way out.

As Mike and I finished, we found everyone else had wandered off, so we headed down to the main camp area and found the bartender in search of his first customers of the Jamboree. I settled part of my bill with my mechanic (Mike) with a couple of rounds of drinks and listened to the bartender talk about bringing the booze in down Cadillac Hill from Tahoe on a trailer with no trailer brakes.

(Continued on page 4)

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That night and the following two full days were filled with good food and drink provided by the all volunteer Jeepers Jamboree chow, bar and ice cream parlor crews.

The last full day, Saturday, was the vendor show. Unfortunately for the vendors, this years Jamboree was attended by about 400 participants (200 rigs), many of whom preferred the swimming holes to the vendor show. As a result, at any one point in time, there were more vendors than participants in the vendor area.

Sunday morning we were all up bright and early to get packed up and head out up Cadillac Hill. We were surprised when we hit the trail to find that we made it down the valley and up to the base of Cadillac without stopping. In past years it could take about two hours to get to the base of Cadillac, this year it was about 20 minutes.

At the second obstacle we were stopped for a while and I talked with one of the several Rock Rollers. He said that they had diverted a spring off the trail a few weeks ago, but that someone had broken the diversion resulting in a stream running down the trail making a lot of the hard parts even more difficult. The section of the trail would be far worse than last year.

We continued up the trail with minor setbacks (reposition and try again) and

The Gang *(photo by Matt G.)*



a lot of slip and slide in the mud on the lower portion of Cadillac, up to Observation Point. There we took several of the obligatory pictures and then headed over to the grove nearby where the directors had setup a 'Sloppy Joe' Feed station.

We then hit the remainder of the trail which was far easier than everything we had been over before, then about a mile down the trail, experienced the longest delay of all. A Jeep was stopped on a long uphill with several problems. After several failed starts attributed to a bad battery and fuel system, we assisted the winch in getting the Jeep off the trail where the Jamboree mechanics could provide assistance to the driver.

When we reached the eastern trail head, we aired back up and re-attached my sway bar and hit the road to Myers for refueling. At the gas station in Myers we got rid of our garbage and recyclables and hit US 50 to head back to our tow rigs. This time we cut back on Ice House Road to Wentworth Springs Road to the cabin. There we traileed up, cleaned up and went for dinner an a German/Italian/American restaurant with great food.



John J. *(photo by Matt G.)*

The following morning we hit the road for Placerville, breakfast and then home.

Carnage report:

CJ7—Power steering pressure hose weeping heavily, not trail related.

CJ8—ARB air lines came off the air pump. Reconnected and continued seldom using the lockers (John's Scambler did great!)

TJ—Bent tail pipe, several loose and 1 lost skid plate bolts, bent skid plate mount and a loose cinch nut.

(photo by George W.)



Club Meeting Minutes: June & July 2010

Meeting Minutes by Kirk M, Club Secretary

June , 2010:

7:00pm Meeting called to order by President Randy P. Introductions followed.

7:05pm Officers Reports:

- President Randy P gave discussion on his trip to Independence, California. Group discussion followed.
- Vice President Mark B talked about newsletter online and gave the link. i.e.:for members only.
- Secretary Kirk McRoberts. No Report to give.
- Treasurer Margret P Absent. Randy gave report.
- Membership George W report 43 paid members.

- Newsletter Editor discussed Newsletter now available online. Link access is for members only.
- Carrizo Plains Land Use Randy P will be meeting with the BLM to discuss trail maintenance.
- Cal 4 Wheel Liaison Suzy Johnson reported that annual Due are now due.

7:25pm After Meeting Trail Run Meeting Report from May given by Kirk. Club run was to Pine Mountain. Group discussion followed.

7:35pm More runs to come. Run to Independence/Bishop California contact Randy P. Miller Lockwood Jeep trail: day run June 5th contact Eric if interested.

7:40pm Suzy gave details on past few months adventures. Group discussion

followed.

Night run discussed for June 26th with Eric as Trail Boss. Meet at Red Hill Road at 7:00pm.

Night Run July 24th to Garcia Ridge with Eric as Trail Boss.

7:45pm Run after the meeting discussion. Up Hwy 1 to Hunter Liggett and the Burro Trail.

7:50pm Discussion on Blue Ribbon Coalition thank you letter for the vehicle retrievals from earlier this year.

7:55pm More upcoming events:

- Sherman Pass Jeep Trail.
- Piru Creek Trail.
- End of July for the Shaver Lake Trails to be opened from high snow fall.

(Continued from page 1)

winch to pull us out of the way so others could pass. Once the line was all passed, Mike Talbott and I tag teamed and pulled him to safety. By the time we got to the top of the trail, it was about 6pm (remember we started at 9am).

We aired up and headed down the mountain. A few went straight home, Mike Talbott Andrew and I went to get dinner and 3 wheel Red Dave pulled t-caseless Blue Dave

off the mountain. I was so pooped that after dinner, when I was putting Andrew in the Jeep, I set my glucose meter on the rear tire (nothing new), however, I forgot it and promptly smashed it as I back out of the parking space. Lucky for me, I have a few spares.

Not sure about anyone else but Andrew and I got home about 10:30pm. I must say, for as tired as he was, he was a trooper the whole day...

Doug Roberts: the seat chingadera worked

perfectly and Andrew loved sitting up front. I think we had better conversations and general father son time since it was easier to see and talk to him.

Looking forward to the next time.

Matt

SOhttp://farm5.static.flickr.com/4052/4681207834_7bf98265ea.jpgTreasurer 2010



- July 19th possible run to the High Lakes area near Marysville and Morris Lake Trail.
- Penimant Valley Days coming up.
- Possible club trip to Hollister Hills SVRA.

8:05pm Discussion was held to inform perspective new members present on club outline.

8:10pm Safety Committee Chair Ken B handed out an outline of the safety rules and vehicle checklist for SLO 4 Wheelers to correspond with Cal 4 Wheel drive association. Discussion held on "cold fire extinguishers".

8:20pm Kirk gave an update on the "Gate Keepers" volunteer group working with the Central Coast Motorcycle Association.

8:30pm Meeting Adjourned. Eric volunteer to do 50/50 raffle.

July , 2010:

7:00pm Meeting Called to order by Vice President, Mark B.

Introductions, 11 members present.

7:10pm Officers reports:

- President - Absent
- Vice President- No Report.
- Treasurer - Absent
- Membership - 47 members paid.
- Events - No Report
- Land Use - John J working on September Clean Up day with BLM in Carrizo Plains.
- Cal 4 Wheel - No Report
- Newsletter - George W, Still needs Rig reports and articles for newsletter. Would like members to submits items for newsletter.
- Secretary - No Report

7:20pm Eric offers to lead night run on July 26th details to follow.

7:25pm Group discussion held on trail maintenance.

7:30pm Events discussion. Group talked about Miller Jeep trail. Need adventure pass to park in the area. Group discussion on Green Sticker vs.

Adventure Pass.

7:40pm Dave had a complaint about foreign tourists on trails in rented jeeps, blocking trails and impeding traffic.

7:45pm Discussion held on after meeting run and if anyone wanted to organize run and be trail boss. No takers.

7:50 Meeting adjourned and 50/50 raffle followed.



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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In order to save money with the rising costs of printing and postage, we are looking at ways of trying to cut back on one of our biggest expenses, producing and mailing the club newsletter. We recognize that some people still don't have access to the Internet or they may have a slow connection because of how remote their residence is, others may not have a computer capable to of downloading large PDF files. As a result we are looking t providing multiple options. Please review the options below and either mail this coupon to the club PO Box, bring it to the next meeting, email your preferred Newsletter delivery method to the Newsletter editor or call it in.

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- I'll just go look for the latest Newsletter on the Club Web Site (<http://www.slo4wheelers.org/>).

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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.

August 4th-8th — Sierra Run-dates to be finalized. Base camp off of Mckinley Grove Rd. (tow rigs, campers, motor home etc, yer tent). Plans are doing Bald MT., Swamp lake, and hope over to Coyote or Red lake. Contact/trailboss: Eric F. j?????@yahoo.com

August TBD — Club Run - SLO 4-Wheelers Annual Coyote Lake Run. Generally mid August. Contact/trailboss: OPEN

September 1st — General Club Meeting at Players starting at 7:00 PM.

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

October 6th — General Club Meeting at Players starting at 7:00 PM.

October 9th or 10th — After Meeting run TBD at October meeting.

November 3rd — General Club Meeting at Players starting at 7:00 PM.

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

December 1st TBD — Christmas Party 2010 - at Players Atascadero 7:00. Annual Christmas Party dinner gift exchange. Contact/trailboss: Florence S. fandf????@sbcglobal.net

December 3rd TBD — After Meeting Run-San Luis Obispo Christmas Parade. This Event is a lot of FUN. Decorate your rig and/or slap on a couple strings of lights and come join Us. Contact/trailboss: OPEN

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 new SLO-4-Wheelers Events Director when they have been appointed.