



SLO 4-WHEELERS

www.slo4wheelers.org

SLO 4-Wheelers Board of Directors meeting

Our 1st Board of Directors meeting was held on Tuesday, Jan. 23 '07, at Frank & Florence's home.

After spending some time discussing our needs and wants we managed to iron out a budget for '07. Included were operational costs for the various offices, PO box, BBQ Xmas party, newsletter, web, shirts etc and other monies to be spent by the various offices. Projecting our expenses and operational costs, we were able to meet all these needs with funds generated last year!

And still have an excess of Funds!

This is a 1st in a long time. One of the goals of the SLO 4-Wheelers is to support those who support us (4-Wheelers) and work to keep our trails open. We have in the past always donated excess funds to these organizations. This year due mostly to the growth of the club we are able to disperse a decent amount of monies. *(For dollar amounts attend the meeting)*

So to all of you, Its an accomplishment for the club and something to be proud of. Donations went to Blue Ribbon Coalition, California Association of FWD Clubs, United FWD Association & California Off Road Vehicle Association.

Ted Miles Jeep



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2007 Officers of the SLO 4-Wheelers:

Officers:

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

Board of Directors: (Includes officers)

Ways and Means Director: Dennis V/N.
Membership Director: Dave O.
Events Director: Anthony S.
Land Use Liaison: Anthony S.
CA4WDC Club Liaison: Suzy J.
Newsletter Editor: Mark B.

Committees:

Social Chairperson: Robin M.
Safety Chairperson: Frank S. & Dennis V/N.
Virtual committee: Mark B.
Promotion Chairperson: Suzy J.
Scrapbook: Glenda G.
Outside public relations: Jennifer B.

Adopted trails:

Pine Mountain: Anthony S.
Garcia Ridge: Jim T.

Up coming runs

After meeting Club day run: Attend the meeting!

- Next General meeting, 1st Wednesday March 7th in Atascadero 7:00
- Presidents Birthday Run: Eric Feb 16-19 Last Chance Canyon Campover, Redrock/Mohave area *(see flyer)*
- Calico: Jim T Feb 23-25 Campover Yup the Ghost town area
- Terra Del Sol Event: Anthony March 2-4 organized event
- CA4WDC Molina Ghost Run is coming up April 13-15!
- Adopted Trail maintenance & F/S projects
Repair picnic tables as needed
Replace 1 table, Pine Mt.
Patch outhouse La Panza c/g
Brush trimming Garcia Ridge—on going

Watch your emails for other spontaneous runs

- **DESERT TRIP, March 31-April 4, 2006**

As you will gather during this report, it's not the desert trails, history, scenery, mines or trams that interest me, as I've been over these trails many times. It's the people and the events that I enjoy so much.

The plan was to gather in Olancha on Friday with people arriving at different times, then start the trip on Saturday morning. Cindy B. injured her wrist and hand a few days before the trip so Jim/Cindy had to cancel. Attending were Dennis V and his daughter Kendall, sister Dawn and her son Cory, Randy and Kathy P. and myself. I caravanned over with Randy and Kathy. We stopped in Arvin and I introduced them to the Ranch Market, a very interesting Mexican market/restaurant/bakery/tortilleria. That afternoon we arrived at the rendezvous, a campground in Olancha where all but me stayed for the night. It was chosen because it's a good place to leave your tow vehicles. Olancha is a small stop on U.S. 395. There's a restaurant that's not bad, a gas station that works, a campground and a motel. As I drove by the motel, I wondered, "Who on earth would ever stay overnight in such a rundown, ugly, dilapidated junky place?" Well, we unloaded Randy's Jeep and trailer at the campground and headed for the restaurant. After dinner I drove outside of town to bed down in a nice sandy spot. The wind was really blowing hard. I had to tie 2 corners of my tarp to the Jeep and lay boulders around just to go after my sleeping bag. Once I crawled in my bag I knew there was no more getting up, as I would be chasing my stuff barefoot through the briars and cockleburs across the lakebed.

Saturday morning it was still blowing hard with sand in the air. We all met at the restaurant for a quick breakfast. Randy and Kathy headed straight for Saline Valley to camp at Warm Springs. The rest of us headed up the Salt Tram Trail from Swansea. Once into the canyons the wind left us. We worked our way up the trail to the crest of the Inyo Mountains, nearly 10,000 ft., in hopes of running the ridge to Cerro Gordo, but the snow and the drifts were too deep. So we headed back down, took a different route and ended up at a cabin at Lee Flats, just where I hoped to end up anyway. This is a small cabin with a cement floor. It's been adopted by the Nelsons who have done an excellent job of stocking the place with food, water, firewood, and many other conveniences. You could walk in there with nothing and stay 2 weeks. There was a small couch, counterspaces, seats, wood stove for some well-needed warmth, a working radio and a foldup single bed and mattress. I figured I'd get that bed. These people won't sleep in here once the mice start running around. But I was wrong, they loved it in there. Being such a small cabin I decided to sleep outside. Kendall got the little couch, Dennis, the biggest, strongest one, got the single bed. Someone got the piece of cardboard and the other one slept on the concrete. As it turned out, that mattress was a mouse high-volume apartment complex and Dennis got an all-night back massage.

Next morning we headed for Saline Valley and Warm Springs with a side trip to the Devil's Race Track. Randy and Kathy were there waiting for us. Warm Springs is a neat place. Hot, non-sulfur water comes out of the ground and is piped to 2 cement hot tubs and a shower. There are 3 of these springs with various degrees of development. Lizard Lee is the resident caretaker and he sees to it that the bathrooms are clean and the tubs are drained and scrubbed daily. So we all had a shower and a soak in a tub, except Cory who obviously thought he wasn't ripe enough yet. Next morning the Van Ness group headed home.

Randy, Kathy and I headed up the canyon to Eureka Dunes, out Death Valley Road to Big Pine and down 395 to Olancha. Half way up to the dunes the rain started. By the time we got to 395 it was pouring rain with horrendous head winds. As we headed down 395, I realized we wouldn't be cooking out tonight. We'll have to stop at that restaurant in Olancha. Then I thought about camping. Our plan was to pick up Randy's truck and head for Fossil Falls for the night, which made a really long day. At least they could crawl in the back of their truck, but I would have to lay my bag down in some mud puddle in the rain and 50 mph wind. Well, you guessed it, remember that motel we passed on day one? Who would have thought I would be praying for a vacancy at that place?! After dinner we rushed to that motel. I went to the office only to find arrows directing me to another building which turned out to be their residence. I knocked on the door. A young lady with a red dot on her forehead answered. I said we would like 2 rooms. She said come in, I'll call my dad. While we were waiting for Dad, I asked her about the dot. She said, "It's our custom, when we get married the groom peels the dot off the bride to see if he won a gas station, motel, or convenience store. My dad won this motel. Would you like to see what's under my dot?" I said, "No, thanks, I'm already married. I won a sewing machine and a cigar box full of colored thread." Just then her dad came in. I said we would like 2 rooms. He said "How about Number 1 and Number 2?" That tells me something. We went out to see the rooms. Each had 2 double beds and a bathroom. I asked how much? He said \$55.00 each. Randy and I looked at one another and said we'll take one of them.

So the three of us moved our stuff in and scattered it around. A long day finally comes to an end, I thought. I sat down on my bed to relax and I nearly reached the floor. It was more like a hammock. Then I thought about the mud puddle. I like this bed. I noticed the heater was between the beds. I like it cool and they like it warm. We decided to move it to the other side of their bed. It looked like an old cast iron radiator, but it was plastic and was plugged in behind my bed. We carefully tried to pick the bed up and move it out without it falling apart, but it was permanently bonded to the rug. So we just gave the wire a yank and moved the heater.

Then there was the bathroom. It was so small you literally couldn't turn around in there. In fact, you had to walk in forward or back in, depending on what you were going to do in there. You don't steal the soap from this motel, cause there wasn't any. Nor was there a drinking glass. We found 2 bath towels, 12" x 18", in the bedroom, for the 3 of us. The reason they were in the bedroom was because there was no place for them in the bathroom. No shelves, counters, hooks, towel bars, nails, nothing. You had to put your toothbrush and stuff on the floor. I decided to take a shower. The shower floor was a foot lower than the bathroom floor. It was so small in there, I felt like a claustrophobic earth worm. You couldn't bend over far enough to wash your knees. Then, you guessed it, I dropped the soap. A few minutes later, I had devised a retrieval plan. First I yelled, "Nobody look this way for a while!" Then I backed out of the shower, got down on my hands and knees, turned my torso 90 degrees through the doorway and reached down into the sump. I got it!!

The weather was somewhat better the next day. We got gas in Arvin and another trip to the Ranch Market to stock up on Mexican pastries and tortillas. They make them fresh every day and they're hot when you buy them.



• Garcia Ridge Trail Clean Up Report 10/17/06

Members present. Eric F., Ken B., Anthony S., Dave and Kim F.

The group met at the Pozo ranger station around 8am and headed for the trail at 8.15. The area was lightly foggy, which we drove out of on the first hill. Made a great photo op.

First order of repair was to straighten the poles the forest service has placed at the opening of the trail. From there the group made it way in to the trail close to the mini stair steps and started to trim the brush back. Ken and Anthony got the chain saws running and trimming in no time. Eric fiddled with his chain saw and got his running and was able to do some trimming.



Dave and Kim made fast work of brush removal from the trail . The group spent about 1/2 and hour in that location.

From there we made our way further in to the next very over grown location, which the chain saws came out and the cutting continued. Dave and Kim cleared all the cut brush in no time. That took close to

an hour. From there the group made its way to our next over grown area. Ken and Anthony made fast work at cutting, Eric was back to fiddling with his chain saw. He finally got his started was able to cut some brush. Dave and Kim made short work of all the cut brush. We spent about 45 minuets in that area.

Someone called break, so it was break time. From there the group made its way to 2 more over grown areas and cut brush and cleared all trimmings. By then Eric's chain saw jumped the chain so he decided to help Dave and Kim clear all of the cut brush. That took us to a little past noon.

The group drove to the end of the trail and had lunch at the picnic table as our work day was over. The fence at the end of the trail is still standing for now. We all finished our lunch and decided some play time was in order.

We made our way to the mini stair steps and rock pile. Dave climbed the rock pile with ease. Eric climb the rock pile also. Eric decided to try the pile again but take a different line. Well he got stuck. Anthony to the rescue. Anthony pulled Eric off the rock pile with ease. The group all made there way to the steps. Hats off to Dave, he gave us a great wheels up shot. Thanks Dave. Dave was unable to make it up the steps on that try. Eric, Ken and Anthony took turns climbing the steps. Dave gave it another try . He came right to the top- he also most made it. If he had a front locker he would have made it up. Dave backed down and took the outside line and made it with ease.

The group made it to the trails end & to the ranger station where we aired up, reconnected and said our good byes. The group put in about 4 plus hours of trail work . Thank you to Eric, Dave, Kim, Anthony and Ken for all your hard work.

Eric

NEWSLETTER SUBMITTALS:

please send before the meeting date for inclusion in that months newsletter. Planned mailing dates, following weekend after the meeting. Send to contact Mark

Electronic files are much easier but you can mail to me, use the mailing return address

(note the po box on the newsletter header is the general club PO box



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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

Our banner at BBQ on the Beach Sept 7 2006

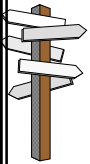
**SLO 4-WHEELERS
PRESIDENTS WEEKEND
BIRTHDAY RUN**

Who: SLO 4-Wheelers & Guests

Where: Last chance Canyon
(Red Rock/ Mojave area)

When: February 16th-19th

Directions from central coast



101 North to 46, East to 99, South to 58,
East to 14, 14 North.
Look for Redrock-Randsberge Road,
count 15 miles from that point

There will be 4 unlighted bill boards, 2 on each side of hiway. Make a right turn between bill boards on the right. The road has a small sign saying EP- Burro Schmidt tunnel trail. Go approx. 1 mile. Will be a large open area for camping on the right. This is a rural area. There will be some porta potties in the area. Ill be leaving from Paso Robles between 12-1:00pm Friday the 16th

We are base camping if your towing.

The California trails guide book rates last chance canyon up to 5 on a scale of 1-10. Most of this area is site seeing, mines, old mining camps etc.

This is also a great area for anyone who has ATV's. There are some other trails out there that I have not done but considering. I don't believe they are any harder than a 5.

CONTACT: Eric

Start planning now!



Reminder Reminder Reminder Reminder

SLO 4-Wheelers 2007 Dues are Due!

Please send your 20 bucks for what promises to be another great year!

We've gained some very active new members and '07 should not only offer more types of 4-wheeling runs, but more of them, plus some of our favorites.

**Wheelin, wheelin & more wheelin -
Trail maintenance, Conservation projects, BBQ's,
campouts, day rides & Of course our continued support and
participation in other clubs activities and Land Use issues**

RENEW your SLO 4-Wheelers membership NOW! mail to:

Contact Dave O./ SLO 4 Wheelers

Make checks out to: SLO 4-Wheelers

Note: members joining on/after Oct.'06 are paid thru '07

Also note! This issue will be your last newsletter for folks who havnt renewed & *there's a few of you who haven't yet*, SEND EM in Now!!!

2007 Dues are Due!

Reminder Reminder Reminder Reminder

Cant Make the Last Chance Canyon Run?
The following weekend Feb 23-25. Jim is going to Calico-Pretty neat area. They will be base camping at the KOA just below Calico.

Contact Jim if your interested & more info



checking the oil "I guess no one wants to Brag about their rig..".

Ehh?, sure sounds like an invite to me. (that and some space to fill J)

So I was thinkin-gosh, I've been working on this jeep for a few years (17), I'm finally gettin 'er dialed in (translate: all the projects I've wanted / needed and have been fortunate enough to finally do; have led to whole new area of modifications I d never dreamt of! (and the 1st stuff is wore out) so must be something I could brag about.

Then while counting up all the mods over the years, compiling my list with the latest, trying not to make it as thick as the stack of receipts archived. (I mean I have a trail rack, but I've rebuilt it 3 times, each time a major project... But I guess I can only list it once) I began writing it down.

Anyway, I started thinking about all the folks who inspired me with there mods & ideas that intrigued me, words of encouragement and those who have lent a hand over the years, Now THERE's something I could brag about! All the folks who by, helping, lending a hand, loaning me parts, have had a hand in this jeep. I've been honored with running spare parts from some very big folks. I've run borrowed fuel from some of the best folks you could meet, I could brag about the variety of tow straps others hooked to our jeep. And not to forget the unselfish act of those who into the wee hours of the morning helped me wrench. Course I have to mention some of my most prize spare parts are the Ones I've given away or loaned out over the years.

Last but not least would be the privilege of having some mighty great people in the passenger seat. Not the least of whom would be Margaret -copilot of this jeep. I've even been honored with giving Gina, one of our local rangers a ride , I got tell you though, I didn't think the bandanna I loaned her would survive all the washings it went through, 'cause Margaret said "That's not MY perfume!".

Or how bout all the great stories I've listened to over the CB. How many late nights driving listening and the hours flew by. Or all the information & stories Kathy P. shared, heck I didn't know most of those plants along the trail had names-let alone Latin! I don't remember em but I certainly remember her telling us. The impressions some folks made on the trails are a treasure. The stack of memories is great-I count each one as a blessing-and the folks who shared them.

Oh yes! The list of parts on our rig is tremendous, not because there trick or cool but because every one has a story and an other person behind it. They've allowed us to travel with some mighty good company on some mighty great trails, yep, that's what I d brag about!

Mark & Margaret's 82 Jeep CJ-7

Visible parts: * Stock 6 cyl 258 engine(blue) *Dodge NV4500 5 spd *Dana 300w/hd shaft 4:1 kit w/dual pressed skid mount *Woods shafts *rear Currie Ford 9" high pinion axle/4:56 & Detroit locker, *front Dana 44 in Terra 50 housing/4:56 w/ARB air locker/Warn hubs,*3 core rad/flex fan, hi flow pump *aux elec fan *dual batteries *air compressor/tank *9000xd winch *trial rack *on board shower *CB *4" suspension/Revolver shackles/ Rancho 9012 shocks 1" body lift *custom bumpers *Nordskog electronic gauges *tow hooks *skids plates galore *full roll cage *35" Goodyear MTR's *Rear storage boxes *parts rack (no back seat) *AGR steering box & pump *Hyd ram steering assist +lots of exotic local hardware(nuts & bolts), scrounged junkyard parts, and of course a Coffee Pot.
Note; this is our 3rd jeep so it only took A gazillion hours and half a billion \$ and many friends, its almost done...



WHY JOIN A CLUB?

See By-Laws Article II Purpose and Aims

Cant think of any more reasons why someone might join a club. Well maybe just hangin out with other folks who are as obsessed with there rig or who just enjoy gettin out there as much as we do. Maybe the social part and the good times that are always had at our events. Heck even the meetings usually bring a chuckle or two. How 'bout the good feeling of being able to help in an activity or a fellow member whos broken or when your on the receiving end and there's someone to lend a hand. Or having folks who will sit all ears and listen to more tall tales. Maybe its wearing the logo of a club that represents each individuals idea of what a 4WD Club should be. Maybe its that this club still seems to have the biggest welcome mat around . Maybe just simply being associated with one of the best group of people around and witnessing at every opportunity genuine interest in each other opinions and respect for each others interests. Or possibly just lots of 4-wheelin! Well I cant seem to nail it Down and I'm running out of room All I know is this club has it. And if your a member your the reason! Get 'em to JOIN!