



# THE SLO 4-WHEELER



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## Exploring Northern Santa Barbara County

*Photos and Story by Florence S.*

SLO 4Wheelers Local SUV run April 12-13  
 Four vehicles participated in this trip....Florence and myself in our new/old truck, Shari and Preston, Tom and Patty G. in their jeeps, and guests Don and Teresa in their SUV.



made it to the last portion of the loop.  
 We didn't even make it out to Tepesquet Road the first day. We spent most of our time getting lost because there were no signs at any of the intersections.



The good news was that there are plenty of roads to explore and some really neat scenery--great

wildflowers! We found a great campground (Barrel Springs) at wine-thirty o'clock, set up camp and agreed it was a great day. The next morning we found our way to blacktop and headed out for the second half of the trip.

We made it to the vista point near Lake Cachuma by lunch time.

It was there that we decided we should have gassed up in Solvang because we would never make the next loop. So we went back through Solvang for gas and up and over Refugio Road to the coast. Then we went on to Lompoc to La Purisima Mission, and dinner at the Olive Garden in Santa Maria, then home.

Florence and I did this trip several years ago, and we tried to duplicate it, as it was a very memorable and interesting local trip. Unfortunately things didn't go quite the same, as we never



## 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 gw?????@charter.net

# Member Rigs: Kevin's Purple Monster

*By George Westlund, Editor*

In 1988 Kevin C. purchased a relatively stock 1978 Toyota Land Cruiser in Chicago for \$1500 with 42,000 miles on it. The tub was fairly rusted out (you could poke your fingers through it), but it was half the price of a rental moving van to move the contents of a two ton trailer back to California.



In 1990 he replaced the tub with one from a 1976 model. In 1991 he took the Land Cruiser on its first trail ride with the Toyota Land Cruiser Association on the Rubicon Trail.



The first trail ride with the family follow shortly after going from Ft. Bragg to Eureka via off road trails along the coast. To keep his four month old from bouncing around too much, they used a little duck tape to head from bouncing around too much (yet another use for duck tape). Kevin said the Land Cruiser got stuck along the way.

Still not quite where he wanted to go he started planning some more changes. In 1993 he replaced the engine with a Chevy Throttle Body Injected V8, a SM465 Transmission and power steering.

In 2004 while on the Rubicon Trail, he

managed to get a spot on Rick Russell's "Jeepers Jamboree On The Rubicon Trail" while resting in the shade of his Land Cruiser at Buck Island Lake waiting for a new Optima Battery after his old one had dropped too low to operate the engine computer.



In 2005 he replaced the transfer case with an Orion. This was a warm up for what was to follow.

In 2007 he replaced the tires with 35" B.F. Goodrich TAs, custom widened stock Land Cruiser wheels with Staun Bead Locks, a six point roll cage, painless wiring throughout, a Tuffy overhead console, Bearcat CB, Stereo and custom built speakers.

In addition to all of the above, Kevin added a myriad of optional equipment to the ole' Land Cruiser. These include an ARB front locker with ARB on-board air, Auburn Gear limited slip in the rear, 4" spring lift, 2" longer cantilever shackles, 2" body lift, 2" body cut with Bull Dog flairs, 4+ rear rack with tire carrier and ice chest case, and a 12,000 pound no name winch (who cares it works).



*Photo by George Westlund*

One of the more embarrassing mo-

ments was when he burned out the fuse for the fuel injection system leaving him stranded. He ended up getting a tow home from a Jeep ("How embarrassing!").



*Photo by Matt Garnett*

Another time while tooling around the dunes, he watched some guys trying to climb a dune and not having much success. He felt that he could do it with a running start and was right. The only problem was that he didn't slow down enough before the top and had once of those Duke's of Hazard moments as he launched the Land Cruiser air born and on landing broke off the front spring hangers.



*Photo by Matt Garnett*

Over the last several years, Kevin's daughters have been his usual copilots on his off-road adventures, accompanying him on many of his wheeling trips.

# 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.

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 PO Box 2271  
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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/>

## Ted Miles Jeep

A GREAT place to buy a new Jeep! Great selection of pre-owned vehicles too! *Ted offers a 15% discount on all parts (& 10% off accessories like hats) to club members!*

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<http://www.tedmilesjeep.com>



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 you're not a member, check it out,

<http://www.cal4wheel.com> or ask Suzy

# SLO 4 Wheelers

PO Box 2271  
Atascadero, CA 93423-2271



We're on the web:

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

## Upcoming Events / Runs

**June 7th** - After Meeting Run/ Trail Maintenance – Garcia. Meeting at the Pozo Ranger Station at 9am, heading to the trail head at 9:20am, We will be installing some wood pillars at the beginning of the trail, install a couple of poles to keep people from driving in the wilderness area farther down the trail and trimming along the trail. Bring Good Gloves, Lot's of Water incase it's HOT, a Lunch, an additional chainsaw or two would also be fine

Please contact Anthony S at A????????@sbcglobal.net or Garcia Ridge Adopt-a-Trail Leader Jim T at j????????@sbcglobal.net for more info.

**June 20th -22nd** – Cal4Wheel Moon Light Madness – Night thing on Bald Mountain in the Sierras by Shaver Lake the weekend of June 20, 21, and 22. Make sure your rig is maintained and know weak points are corrected ahead of time. For more Info contact Jim B at j????@charter.net

[http://www.ingear4x4.com/documents/moonlight\\_mad\\_08.pdf](http://www.ingear4x4.com/documents/moonlight_mad_08.pdf)

**July 2nd** – Club Meeting- Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

**July 4th** – Santa Margarita 4th of July Parade? More info to Come!

**July 19th** – SLO4Wheelers 2nd Annual 4x4 Cruise For Cancer. Come Join us on a Run benefiting the American Cancer Associations Relay for Life. This will be an Easy/SUV Run down to the Coast. More info to Come.

**July 19th**- BBQ for Club Members following the Cruise for Cancer at the Meaney's House in Cayucos. BBQ is open to all club members; you do not need to attend the Cruise for Cancer . This is will be a potluck dinner. More info to come.

**August 6th** – Club Meeting- Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

**August 7th- 9th** – Cal4Wheel Sierra Trek – See Cal4Wheel web site for more info.

**August 9th or 10th** – After Meeting Run- TBD at Meeting

**August 16th-17th** – Relay for Life- SLO4WALKERS- More info to Come!

**August 15th -17th** – This the Annual Club Run to Coyote Lake. Lots of fun and some rock crawling in the Sierras. Frank S trail boss. More Info to Come.

**September 3rd** – Club Meeting – Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

**September 6th or 7th** – After Meeting Run- TBD at Meeting

**September 13th or 14th** – Trail Maintenance TBD at Meeting

**October 1st** – Club Meeting- Players Pizza Atascadero 7pm

**October 4th or 5th** – After Meeting Run – TBD at Meeting

**October 11th – 12th/13th** – Club Run – Iron & Star Lake- Columbus Day Run - Dan G. will be leading this run. He will be leaving from Atascadero Sat 11th at 7am and will be returning sometime Sunday. Difficulty is 3 out of 5 with one 4 section at the end going down to the lake. More Info to Come. What a Better way to Celebrate Columbus Day, than to Explore a New Trail!

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 Sandoval, SLO4-Wheelers Events Director (a????????@sbcglobal.net) or cell/voice mail 805-???-????