



# The SLO 4-Wheeler



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July / August 2014

## Club BBQ at the Tom & Karens Home

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*Written by George W., Editor*  
On June 14th, Tom and Karen held a BBQ for the club out on their spread. Most of us attending simply enjoyed the companionship while some ramped their

**rigs on the club ramp and other's checked out rigs they hadn't seen before including the one pictured above (thanks for the photo Kenn B. as well as for the great BBQing) belonging to Frank and**

Florence S. complete with a simulated 50 cal. Everyone seemed be having a great time enjoying the pleasant weather and the companionship of fellow club members.

## 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 George

# Member Rigs: More Power

by Eric F.

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

As we all build up our 4x4's (i.e.. More accessories and bigger tires) our power and fuel economy take a hit. We normally re-gear and that helps. A low restriction muffler or cat back exhaust also helps. Replacing a low restriction air filter or adding cold air induction also helps.

But if have a 1991 to 2006 jeep product with a 4.0 L inline 6, the factory was nice enough install a nice restriction in the throttle body just below the throttle blade. Instead of buying a nice expensive throttle body, I decided to take my throttle body off and have it machined. I measured before and after of course. Before it was 2.125 inches (54mm) . I took my throttle body over to my friends at jet boat performance, Josh, who machined my throttle body. We had already done this mod to his Jeep and he was very familiar with how much he can machine.

I dropped off my throttle body and picked it up a week later. I was not in hurry as this was an extra throttle body I had. I picked up my throttle body and took it home and measured how much had been removed. New bore diameter is 2.34 inches (59.4mm); .215 inches larger (5.4mm) increase.

I removed my old throttle body easy removed air cleaner, 1 cable 2 electrical connectors and 4 bolts. I swapped over the sensor and solenoid and installed the larger throttle body. I started up the jeep and let computer learn the new idle and did a road test. Well i am impressed with what I noticed. More low end power from idle to 2000



Before Measurement

RPM and more pulling power from 3000 to red line.

If you notice that there is a blank from 2 to 3000rpm. That's because 4.0's seam to have a flat pulling curve around that rpm range. I have found I can pull hills better while driving in 5th gear now. This modification was well worth my time. My cost was nothing.

After Measurement



# Trip Report — Big Bear Fest XVII

by Jon M.

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

The family (Jonathan, Deena, and Deegan) registered for the 2014 Big Bear Forest Fest XVII which was held on Father's day weekend. Big Bear Forest Fest XVII is an event put on by the IE4W (The Inland Empire 4 Wheelers) at the Snow Valley Ski Resort in Running Springs, CA. IE4W members lead trails on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Saturday features a vendor show and a BBQ tri-tip dinner. The vendors support one of the largest raffles in So Cal. Last year it featured over \$50,000 in prizes. Big Bear Forest Fest is a non-profit event. The funds raised are used to donate to various land use efforts.

We left for Big Bear Forest Fest 17 on Thursday afternoon after Deegan got out of his last day of school for fourth grade. We towed our jeep (2006 Rubicon Unlimited) behind our motorhome as we were going to camp at the Snow Valley Ski Resort where the event was



being held. We had not free towed the jeep before, and everything worked great.

Our Jeep is a 2006 Rubicon Unlimited. We have been modifying the jeep a little each year. We have a

4 inch lift with Currie Antirock on the front. The recent items done to the jeep were a custom skid plate to get some clearance built by Kevin Burke (Kinetic Fab) that covers from the transmission up the front

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)

of the engine and we also put on **our 35" tires and flat fenders. We had won the 35" inch tires a few years ago when we attended the Moab Jeep Jamboree (We won four 35" Goodyear Wrangler MTR Kevlar Tires).** I had been waiting to wear out the old tires on the jeep. After going to Coyote Lake last year, I decided that this year would be the time to upgrade and finally put the tires on the jeep. The combination of the skid plate and tires gave us more clearance and everything worked great when we were out on the trails.

Big Bear Forest Fest XVII had runs available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Friday runs departed at 1:00 and also a night run that departed at 7:00. (All of the Friday runs were full when we registered.) There were a variety of trails that were offered for Big Bear Forest Fest 17 that were run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The trails available to sign up for were: Historical Run, Big Bear **Spooky Night Run, Devil's Hole,** Gold Mountain, Onyx Summit, Horse Thief Flats, Holcomb Creek, John Bull, White Mountain, Dishpan Springs, and Pilot Rock. There were 390 registered vehicles with just over 1,000 people registered for the event.

After we got our jeep unhooked from the motorhome and unpacked a little, we headed to the town of Running Springs to go through some of the shops. We wandered through a few stores looking at various items. We found a wood carved bear and ended up buying him and put him in the back seat with Deegan for the ride back to the camp site.

On Saturday morning we ran the **trail Devil's Hole. We lined up at 8:00 am, had a quick drivers meeting and departed at 8:30 am. We**



arrived at the trail head and everyone let the air out of their tires to ensure appropriate traction on the trail. There were 21 vehicles in our group (which included 3 IE4W trail guides vehicles). The trail was a scenic trail which started after going past Lake Arrowhead **and then winding down to Devil's**

**Hole. Devil's Hole is part of Deep Creek and is also an access point to the Pacific Crest Trail. The trail guides were able to get all of the vehicles parked at the bottom of Devil's Hole – this was quite a feat as there was not a lot of room. We stopped for lunch and a little relaxation before we all headed out.**





The climb out went up a different route that had a few sections that were considered black diamond. It was a fun crawl out. After we made it out to the top, we stopped to inflate our tires and then headed back to Snow Valley Ski Resort.

Saturday afternoon had many things going on at the Snow Valley Ski Resort. There were many vendors set up with various products. There was also a rock climbing wall for the kids. They had a **children's raffle for prizes too**. Dinner was served at 6:00, and the raffle for vendor prizes started at 7:00. They gave away lots and lots of great prizes ranging from lift kits, complete set of tires (5), 2 winches, air intake kits, gift certificates to

various vendors, and lots of other prizes. We did not win anything this year, but look forward to next year and hopefully our luck will be better.

On Sunday morning we ran the trail Horse Thief Flats. We lined up at 7:30 am, had a quick drivers meeting and departed at 8:00 am. We arrived at an OHV staging area and everyone let the air out of their tires for the trail. There were 14 vehicles in our group (which included 3 IE-4W trail guides vehicles). Shortly after descending down the first part of the trail, one of the participants JK jeep had problems. The IE4W trail guide at the rear of the group decided he would pull/winch the JK out back to the top of the trail, and everyone else continued on to Horse Thief Flats. The views on this trail were different than the day before as we were on the outskirts of big bear, almost high de-



sert in a couple areas, and were overlooking Johnson Valley. Horse Thief Flats was an area used in the gold rush days where cattle rustlers would hide out. The climb out was challenging in some spots

and considered a black diamond trail, and lockers were recommended. After we climbed out from Horse Thief Flats, we inflated our tires and went to downtown Big Bear and did a little shopping.



We loaded up the motorhome and attached the jeep and headed home on Sunday afternoon. Everything worked great on the jeep while we were on the trails. The trails were a good warm up for the upcoming trip to Coyote Lake in August. We had a great time at Big Bear Forest Fest 17, and we look forward to attending next year and signing up for other trails to explore.



*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

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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.

July 2nd — General Club Meeting at 7 PM. Location Round Table Pizza.

July 5th or 6th — After meeting club run TBD.

August 6th — General Club Meeting at 7 PM. Location Round Table Pizza.

August 9th or 10th — After meeting club run TBD.

August TBD — August 7th through August 10th. The main group will depart San Luis Obispo County on Thursday evening and

drive up to the corrals. Friday morning they will continue to Sand Flats and start the Red Lake trail on the way to Red Lake, the Coyote Lake trail and Coyote Lake. They will drive back out to Sand Flats on Sunday morning and return to San Luis Obispo County.

September 3 — General Club Meeting at 7 PM. Location Round Table Pizza.

September 6th or 7th — After meeting club run TBD.

October 1st — General Club Meeting at 7 PM. Location Round Table Pizza.

October 4th or 5th — After meeting club run TBD.

November 5th — General Club Meeting at 7 PM. Location Round Table Pizza.

November 8th or 9th — After meeting club run TBD.

December 3rd — General Club Meeting and annual club Christmas Party at 7 PM (?). Location TBD. Includes initial nomination of club officers.

December 6 or 7th — After meeting club run TBD.

January 7th — General Club Meeting with election of club officers for the 2015 year.

January 10th or 11th — After meeting club run TBD.

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.



