



The SLO 4-Wheeler



Volume 19, Issue 3

May / June 2013

Trip Report — 2013 Spring Fling

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Submitted by Ritchie W. and Edited by George W.

The Chef (photo by George W.)



The Gang (photo by George W.)

Everyone met at Pozo Saloon at 9 AM and we departed the Saloon around 9:30

AM and drove out Pozo Road in a group of about 12 rigs. We arrived at La Panza campground and determined our "spot" for the BBQ (the turn around large group spot at the back end of the campground).

We 'aired down' our tires, discussed the trail route for the Pine Mountain Trail. 8 rigs went on the trail run with the 1979 F150 (Bluferd) leading the group up the trail. We Ascended

(Continued on page 2)

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:

Safety Chairperson: Dave F.
 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

(Continued from page 1)

the trail with ease, stopping a few times to help spot some steep sections of the trail. Everyone made the climb down to the top of the steps. There is a large rock and a steep drop as we dropped into the parking area at the steps, and the Isuzu Rodeo took some nice rocker damage and ripped off the chrome beauty trim.

We parked at the steps, took a picture of the group and decided to walk down to check out the steps. Some of the Rubicon guys played with the idea of going down the steps, until they saw them. The group gawked at the steps and it's scary cliffs on either side. We watched and assisted a couple of dirt bike riders walk their bikes down the steps.

We headed back to our rigs and regrouped. We decided that Bluford would lead the climb back up, followed by James and his 12,000 pound winch, with the Isuzu next followed by the smallest wrangler in the group, in anticipation of winching up the trail. The Isuzu attempt-

A little climb *(photo by Phil B.)*



ed to romp up the trail where it had taken it's beating earlier without success. James turned his YJ around and we winched the Isuzu up the rocky section. The Isuzu did not have a tow hook! So we had to wrap a tree saver around the lower control arm! (ALL RIGS ON THESE RUNS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO HAVE A FRONT AND REAR TOW POINT!!! We should discuss this at the next meeting.) James inched the Isuzu up the rock section and got him to the top without damage. The little wrangler struggled to climb the section and I was able to talk the owner into allowing us to winch him up to prevent damage. Which we did, and damage was avoided. The rest of the group made it up the trail pretty easily.

Mean while back at the camp ground Tom was working hard over a hot fire doing the Bar-B-Que while his



On the Trail *(photo by Phil B.)*

Approaching the steps *(photo by Phil B.)*





Leading the way (photo by Ritchie W.)



At the Top! (photo by Ritchie W.)



Going up the Steps! (photo by Ritchie W.)

wife and Kurt busied themselves getting the serving table ready and playing with Kurt's dog. George arrived to take pictures of the food prep and feasting to follow. Randy and Margaret arrived at La Panza a little while later followed shortly by Frank and Florence. Several good discussions were had while Tom watched and turned the meat. The group on the trail went back to the top of pine mountain and down to La Panza for lunch. We had a great BBQ (thank you TOM!), socialized, made some new friends, and discussed future runs.

The group departed that afternoon, and James in his Bluford decided to run up to the bottom of the steps to check it out. We met a group of dudes shooting clay pigeons for a bachelor party at the bottom of the steps. After the dudes departed, Bluford and I decided to touch the steps. We climbed halfway until I was scared enough to back back down. Next James decided to attempt it in his YJ. He climbed up most of the way and we determined it was possible to make it all the way. We winched to a large rock, and he slowly climbs the steps! With help of the winch

JAMES MADE THE CLIMB!! Once up the steps, we cheered! We ran the winch in, and James climbed the rest of the way to the top! Once at the top we celebrated now knowing that the steps are passable!!!! James decided to run the trail again and looped back around. We met James and his co pilot back in Santa Margarita for dinner! Great day and lots of fun! Looking forward to the next run! (More photos on page 7)

Trip Report — Hollister Hills

By Tom B.

Our trip to Hollister was set for Saturday and Sunday. I decided if I went early Friday morning I could get a good camp site at Sycamore camp grounds. I was on the road at 8:00 A.M. and arrived between 10:00 and 11:00, I told the guy at the fee booth I wanted a spot at Sycamore and he said no problem. I set on my marry way only to find Sycamore was a parking lot. I had to back out of the campground go back to the fee booth. When I explained my situation, I was told they have no way of knowing who is where and we would have to camp in the day use area. When I got to the day use there were only 2 spots left so I grabbed them both and set up.

The group started wandering in around 2-3 that afternoon. Derrick B. has spent a lot of time at Hollister and I hadn't been there for several years so he led us on a little tour of the place. I was amazed at all the new runs they put in. At the playground they had a couple of new sections with big concrete culverts and rocks and the mud pit was as bad as

The old beast (photo by Kenn B.)



ever. There was a new trail through a tunnel and lots of rocks. Towards the end it was really gnarly with huge sharp rocks and a pit deeper than a person and so steep when running it down the ramp you locked your brakes and skidded to the bottom.

"Did pretty Good Did I" (photo by James L.)

Our group grew bigger as the late afternoon wore on. We ended with about 13 rigs. Saturday morning we headed out on the trail and ran the longer run through the tunnel. Some played in the rocks and some watched. We got to the end by the big pit and then we hit some v notch areas in the trees and headed back towards the playground. There were a number of things to do and we all played on different things from the Mini Rubicon to the Frame Twister.

Mikey likes it! (photo by Kenn B.)





"Now don't go breaking anything." (photo by Kenn B.)

Kenn pulled at least 3 people out of the mud pit, non from our group, and all claimed their friends made them do it.

After lunch we played some more and headed out to the top where there is a fantastic 360 degree view. There were some very steep and deep spots but we had a great time. On the way down I brushed a tree and broke a tail lite but all was well.

Going for it (photo by Kenn B.)



Tilt! (photo by Kenn B.)



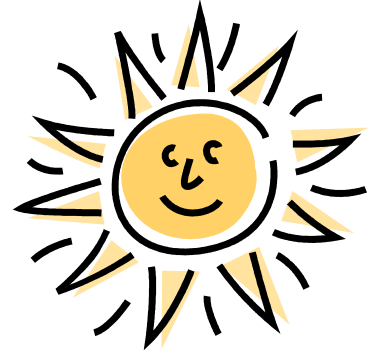
the park is well patrolled by the Park Police (just a warning). We had a great time and headed home Sunday A.M.

Tom B.





Additional photos from Hollister



Between obstacles. (photo by Kenn B.)

Going up! (photo by Kenn B.)

A little twist (photo by Kenn B.)



Hills.



Additional Spring Fling Photos



Trail Scenery (photo by Ritchie W.)



Returning warriors (photo by George W.)

Bat-B-Que chatter (photo by George W.)



Trail Scenery (photo by Ritchie W.)



Trip Report — Big Falls

*Submitted by Loree R. and DeQue G.,
Edited by George W.*

We sure picked the perfect day for this run – beautiful weather, gorgeous green hillsides dotted with wildflowers and no mechanical problems. We even had some creek crossings!! We met up at the Marigold Shopping Center at 9 AM as planned and headed for the falls. In the convoy were DeQue and Melia (XTerra), Tom and Debbie (Wrangler), Eric, Alison and Matt (Cherokee) and Casey, Loree and Lyndsee (Wrangler).

We headed out east on Tank Farm road Orcutt Road towards Lopez Lake where the views were stunning. All the local wineries were lush with wild flowers and green fields about so you can see all the local wildlife scurrying around us. We really do live in a beautiful place. The rolling hills were so nice and green, All the local wineries were lush with wild flowers and green fields about so you can see all the local wildlife scurrying around us, any later in the year and I think we would have missed out on the scenic drive. We saw quite a few turkeys (the feathered kind) and some deer as we were making our way to the falls. There are more homes on that road than remembered.

The first part of the drive had no water in the creek beds and I was beginning to **think we wouldn't see any but we** soon came to our first creek crossing, nothing extreme but at least it was water. We had been seeing some wet

Wildlife on the trail. (photo by Loree M.)



tire tracks leaving the creek beds and knew someone was ahead of us but we never caught up to them until we reached the Trail Head. There sat a Rubicon with a SLO 4 Wheelers sticker on it. The occupants of the Rubicon

Signs on the trail. (photo by DeQue G.)



Beginning of the trail. (photo by Loree M.)

were already on the trail so we were hoping to catch up to them. Casey stayed back to keep an eye on the vehicles while the rest of us headed out to



Country Road. (photo by Loree M.)

see the Falls, even Alison with her twisted ankle braved the trail!

We all started walking down the trail and came across our first creek crossing. There were stones laid out in the creek as to help people get through; however, a few of us came out with wet feet so I would advise next time to **bring a pair of shoes you don't care**

Creek crossing. (photo by DeQue G.)



about. As we're walking, you can see the creek on the right hand side of us and nice rock formations on our left with ferns growing out of them. The creeks were showcasing small fish and salamanders. We walked across two more creeks bringing us to a steep incline. Once up the incline you can see the Big Falls lower area which includes a nice 6-10ft deep pool area, natural rock water slide, and a deeper pool of about 20ft deep. There is a nice

tree to perch from to oversee all of this and is also the cliff diving spot. It was a nice hike to the falls and Matt enjoyed jumping into the cold water from the cliffs. The quiet was soon interrupted as we were joined by about 20 college kids coming to enjoy the falls too. We headed back to the vehicles and had lunch.

We never met up with our fellow SLO 4 Wheeler on the trail but they soon made it back to their rig; Jim and his wife, the rig's owners, had gone past the falls another two miles and found some bigger falls. They said it was an absolutely beautiful hike.

We decided to take High Mountain Road into Pozo instead of heading back to town. Drove back through the creek crossings, hit the road and up onto Upper Lopez Canyon Road where that had a few creek crossing and nice views. Came up to a creek crossing and found a nice sized turtle running across the road. It seems like a motor grader may have been through part of that area very recently possibly in **preparation for the Cal Poly Penguin's** High Mountain Enduro coming up later this month. Saw a few people out enjoying the area, campers, motorcyclists and some hunters. Even saw **two women in a Toyota Camry, don't** know how they made the trip in one piece. Then we came out to where Garcia Ridge meets up with the road which was great because I had no clue as to where we were going. From there we drove down to Pozo Saloon to check it out.

We ended our day of fun at the Pozo Saloon. The outside of it looks like a shack but its inviting once you walk in. They share the history of that area all up on their walls. Some headed home and others stayed and ate. The trip was deemed a success by all!!!

Club Meeting Minutes:

April 3, 2013

Meeting Minutes by Lorre R. Secretary

After Meeting Run

Saturday, April 6 – Big Falls (near **Lopez Lake**) **We have heard it's** about a ¼ to ½ mile hike to the falls from the road. Bring a lunch. If you have any questions, call Casey

Meeting Place: Froggie's Café in San Luis Obispo (Marigold Shopping Center at Broad St. and Tank Farm Road)

Time: Meet at 9:00 a.m., leaving **Froggie's 9:15 a.m.**

New Business

The forum on the web has been closed due to no activity. If you would like to see that up and running again, it can be re-opened but people must participate.

Please take some time between now and our next meeting to look over the different organizations out there that fight to keep our trails open (i.e., Cal 4 Wheel, Blue Ribbon, CORVA, etc.). We will be voting on club donations if we have a surplus of funds at the end of the year.

Cal 4 Wheel Membership – this membership is an individual membership open to each and every person out there. When a minimum of 3 people from one club join then that club is represented by Cal 4 Wheel when it comes to legislative items both in Sacramento and Washington D.C. Membership runs from June to June. The dues are \$45 per year, some of the benefits you receive with that are discounts at all Cal 4 Wheel runs, a bi-monthly color magazine, and representation fighting for your rights and trails. You can join or renew on their website at <http://www.cal4wheel.com/ca4wdc-membership-2> You can also join

through our club at May's meeting, see George.

June meeting will be held at Tom's house with a barbecue and potluck. More information and a sign up sheet at our May meeting.

Old Business

Garcia Ridge work day – Thank you to everyone that came out and **worked on the trail.** If you haven't done so already, please email Tom with your name if you worked that day. A report has to be submitted to the Forest Service listing all volunteers

Newsletter – Take ownership of your club and contribute to the newsletter!! The newsletter is published every 60 days so do what you can to help out, pictures, articles, and stories. If you are not very computer friendly, give George a call and he will help you get it together.

Events – Mark your Calendars

April 13 – Hollister, Tom is going up Friday to save a couple of campsites so if you are headed up there and want to camp let him know ASAP so he saves enough room.

May 4 – Spring Fling (potluck) John J. is looking into a run at Santa Margarita Ranch and Parkfield

June 8 – La Panza Campground inspection/cleanup (after meeting run)

July 4 – Templeton 4th of July parade

August 9, 10, 11 – Coyote Run

September 21 – Pismo Dunes Clean Up Day

December – San Miguel Christmas Parade and Club Christmas Party

Cal 4 Wheel has their Molina Ghost Run **May 10-12 in Hollister, here's** a link for more information

<http://www.cal4wheel.com/events/molina-ghost-run>

Moonlight Madness at Bald Mountain will be June 21-23, **here's a** link for more information <http://cal4wheel.com/events/event-registrations/item/moonlight-madness-2013>

Santa Maria Four Wheelers has an event April 13, Earth Day – Hwy 166 cleanup, after the cleanup they will be doing the Rock Front Run. Contact Eric for more information if interested in joining their fun.

May 1, 2013

Meeting Minutes by Kenn B., Club Co-Secretary

Intros @ 7:05

V.P. – not at the meeting

Secretary – see posted minutes from last month

Treasurer – not at the meeting

Way and Means – nothing in the works for fundraising

Newsletter – George needs reports **for the Hollister run and Randy's** run to the desert

Membership – 46 paid members

Safety – Not at the meeting

Web chair – Not at the meeting

OLD BUSINESS

President Tom talked about an article in the blue ribbon magazine that had to do with choosing the organizations that you wish to support wisely. Do your own research and make sure they are who they say they are and do what they say. (This all ties in with discussion from last meeting)

Cal 4 wheel dues are due – see Suzy

There is a special if you renew by Aug 31st you will receive 10.00 off every Cal 4 Wheel event this year.

FYI – Cal 4 wheel was well represented at the Oceano Dunes meeting last week. They are active and it shows.

Spring Fling:

Club has a problem with the dates – nothing is planned.

Date changed to the may 18th

Location Pozo

AM run up Pine mtn. - Lunch BBQ – Las Chiches afternoon run

Kirk and Tom are heading this up

Please RSVP so the club can order the meat and drinks needed

NEW BUSINESS

Next months meeting will be at Tom and Karen B.'s

Templeton

Meat – Drinks – Dessert will be provided

MUST RSVP unless you are bring your own food and drink

EVENTS

Spring Fling – see Old Business for details

May - Molina Ghost run @ Hollister Hills – see Cal 4 wheel web site for more details

June 5th general meeting

See new business for details

June 21-23 moonlight madness @ bald mtn – shaver lake hosted by Clovis 4 x 4 club

TRIP REPORTS

Big Falls — had a good time – easy for stock vehicle – poison oak is avoidable – good hike but things are getting dry.

Hollister — 7 club rigs were in attendance - we spent Friday and Saturday night – great time – this **should be on everyone's list of places to go** – stock to full off-road only vehicles there is something for everyone – see next news letter for more.

50/50 won by Paul



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.

June 8 or 9 — After Meeting Run **TBD at June 5th Meeting at Tom's** residence.

July 3 — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm

July 4 — Templeton 4th of July parade. The local event in Templeton, celebrates our Independence Day with a parade. Tentative after meeting run. Members of our club will be participating in the parade. Meeting places & times to be added. Contact /trailboss: OPEN

August 7 — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm

August 9-11 — Coyote Lake Run Annual Club run to Coyote Lake in the High Sierras

September 4 — SLO 4-Wheelers General Club Meeting: DENNYS, Atascadero Wednesday 7pm

September 7 or 8 — After Meeting Run TBD at Sept 4 meeting.

September 21 — Pismo Dunes Clean Up Day

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

October 5 or 6 — After Meeting Run TBD at Oct 2 meeting.

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

November 9 or 10 — After Meeting Run TBD at Nov 6 meeting.

December 4 — SLO 4-Wheelers Christmas Party 2013 - NOTE, General meeting will be at party, location TBD.

December — TBD San Miguel Christmas Parade and Club Christmas Party

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.