



# The Dirt Devils Digest

May 2012

A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils  
<http://www.dirtdevils.org/>

## President's Message

I am looking forward to the summer Jeeping season. Check the run calendar for events.

Welcome, new member Cort Phelps.

Ron and Sharon Jackson have sold their Jeep and are going to enjoy other adventures. Sad to see them go.

I took an email poll and it was decided that the Dirt Devils would not participate in HDR. See the run schedule for the replacement camp out.

It's election time again. The Dirt Devil's will vote for new officers at our next meeting on June 5th.

The 2012 candidates are:

- |                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| President       | Secretary  |
| Jesse May       | Cheryl May |
| Ray Kleinhuisen | Treasurer  |
| Vice President  | Emi Webber |
| Mike Ortega     |            |
| Danny Ward      |            |
| Bill Smith      |            |

If you are unable to attend the June meeting, please reply to Pete Johnson at [geepete@verizon.net](mailto:geepete@verizon.net).

On another note. This past month Carroll Shelby famed muscle-car designer recently passed away. He designed and powered dream cars. Although he never designed the ultimate offroad rig, he contributed greatly the automotive industry. He will be missed.

See you on the trail.

Jesse May

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Fine example of a Dirty Dirt Devil Sticker.

## Website news

If you want to unload Jeep parts send me a picture and a brief description and I will post.

Please provide new pictures of yourself along side your rig for the website.

Mike Ortega  
[mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

## Run Report

### Rattle snake Canyon



Mike Maneth joined us for the

**Run Date:** Saturday - May 5, 2012

**Trail Leader:** Ray Kleinhuizen

Dirt Devils that attended: Ray & Karen Kleinhuizen, Danny Ward (with his friend Chuck) , Mike Maneth (with a family member), Jesse & Amanda May, Randy & Donna Huddleston, Joel Card, Mike Ortega (with three guests from the Bear Valley 4 wheel club Scott, Mark & one name I forgot) Plus guests Paul Coursey, Rei Schindelbeck and Brian .

Eight vehicles (mostly Jeeps) met at the TNT Cafe and traveled to Lucerne where we picked up Paul Coursey and gassed up for the trail. At the trail head we met up with Mike Ortega and his three guests for a total of 13 vehicles. (again mostly Jeeps)

Mike Ortega and his three guests were going to split off from the main group at the Motino Wash trail that started near the end of the Rattlesnake Canyon trail.

The whole group headed into Rattlesnake Canyon first going through a stretch of graded dirt road across private property into the actual canyon. The lower part of the canyon is wide with soft sand, its not difficult just fun to play in. As the trail starts to narrow at the top there are some alternate paths that are a little more challenge than the main trail. While wheeling through this section Brian took an alternate line got stuck and needed to be strapped no cow bell because Brian is not a club member. At the junction with the Motino Wash trail Mike Ortega and his guests split with the main group. Some of us walked up to the first obstacle to watch Mike and the others wheel through it. The Motino Wash trail looks like a hard core 4x4 trail I understand 2 of the 4 that tried it had some damage.

The main group of nine vehicles headed out of Rattlesnake Canyon over to a nice lunch spot off route 2N02. After lunch we headed to Heartbreak Ridge the first obstacle is a steep rocky hill climb we all made it through without any problems. We headed into the Heartbreak Ridge loop that has several large rocky sections to deal with and a steep rocky climb to the ridge summit. At the summit there's a memorial for a

fallen soldier and a deep mine shaft. You need to watch your step in this area. Jesse had a little problem starting his Jeep but a little Jesse magic and we were on our way. The way out of Heartbreak Ridge has several good views but the trail is steep and narrow so slow and careful is the best approach.

After airing up we headed down to Redlands on Hwy 38 some of the group headed home and a few of us went for pizza and pasta in Redlands. The whole trip was a lot of fun with a great group of folks.

### Death Valley

Death Valley, Steel Pass, Lippincott pass, Mengel pass trails

Participants: Run Leaders Ray & Karen Kleinhuizen; Ron Webber & Chuck Chapman; Kevin Hull and his son Sterling; Danny Ward; Pete Johnson; Don Young.

We all departed The Outpost Cafe at 8:50am and headed up 395, making our first stop Ranger station in Lone Pine for maps and local updates.



The next stop was "The Country Kitchen Café" in Big Pine, a wonderful community along 395 and the jumping off point for our excursion into Death Valley. We turned right on to hwy 168 and shortly turned right on Death Valley Rd a paved road that winds through typical high desert scenery



Ten miles outside of Big Pine and at about 5500 feet we hit snow flurries eventually climbing to about 7600 feet before the road dropped down and turns to dirt about 15 miles from Eureka Sand dunes. The wind really picked up, by the time we got to the Eureka Dunes it was a full blown sand storm. This was not a good spot to set up camp as was originally planned so we moved on in search of a sand storm free camp site.

The trail takes you through soft sand, which required us to stop and air down.



Then through Dedeckera Canyon a narrow canyon which has a few easy rock ledges that are fun to climb. After Dedeckera the trail climbs up through a wide canyon to Steel Pass the wind was not too bad but at 5,000 foot elevation it would be a cold night.

One particular rock climb Ray's BFG's were not up to the task and went flat. Dan came to the rescue with his plug kit. He showed lots of finesse with the tire tools. 15 minutes later the expedition was on it's way.



The goal was now Palm Springs/ Warm Springs which according to the guide book has 3 hot springs.



We camped at Palm Springs/ Warm Springs (they are 2 camp areas next to each other) it is quite a nice camp ground with all the amenities, including koi fish, grass, palm trees, hot water showers, concrete spas, kitchen sink and croquet. There are just a couple holes where the hot water bubbles out the ground, volunteers have hauled concrete pipe and other building materials out here and built small spa size concrete pools, then ran plumbing from the hot water source to the concrete spas.



After setting up camp the rain started and dampened the night time festivities. In the morning we were all up early and on the trail continuing our journey in Death Valley..



Palm Springs/ Warm Springs is an oasis out in the desert, Lizard Larry the camp host does a nice job of maintaining the area. I would come back here. Although, the spas are clothing optional.

The trail heads west across Saline Valley then south on Saline Valley Road, it is well maintained and easy to travel. Last night's rain kept the dust down. On our right we had a nice view of the snowcapped Inyo Mountain range. At The south end of Saline Valley there is a fairly large lake surrounded by green shrubs. At one time they mined this lake for salt.



We turned left on to Lippincott Pass Trail, which is at the south end of The Last Chance Mountain Range. It was just rocky and steep enough to make it fun but did not require the use of four wheel drive. We took one detour to check out a mine but it had been filled in, the park service was afraid for our lives.



At the top of Lippincott Pass we stopped to enjoy the views, take pictures and eat lunch.

The trail turns into a graded road and heads North through Racetrack Valley our first scenic stopping point was Racetrack Playa a huge dry lake bed except after rain and it did rain last night.



Racetrack Playa is also known for its moving rocks. Apparently, no one has seen the rocks move but they do leave a trail.

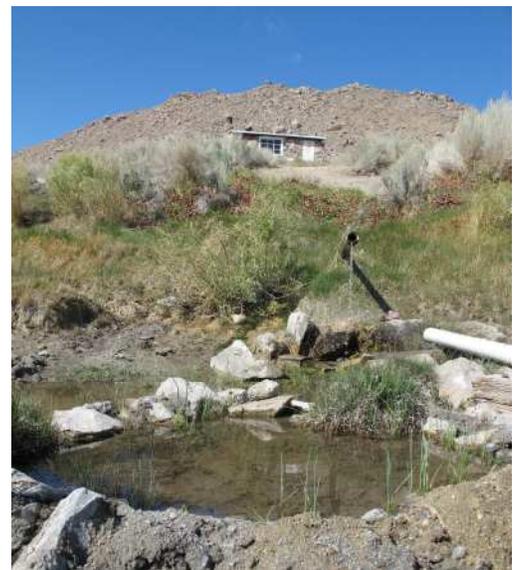


Out in the middle Racetrack Playa is "The Grandstand" an outcropping of dark colored rocks.

At the far north end of Racetrack Valley is the Ubehebe Crater. The Ubehebe Crater is huge hole 500 feet deep. The Ubehebe Crater was formed by superheated water that eventually exploded.

We left Ubehebe Crater and headed south on the main paved road about 60 miles to Furnace Creek and topped off the gas tanks. Kevin knew of a great camping spot in Warm Springs Valley (not to be confused with the warm springs we camped at the night before) about 40 miles south of Furnace Creek. The camp site is a well maintained 2 bedroom concrete block house with a large screened front patio. We fell asleep, inside

listening to the sounds of a flowing creek running next to us. Big difference from the night before, no wind, no rain, pleasant evening, didn't have to set up tents, the 2nd night was perfect, good idea Kevin. The spring next to the house is fed by a natural hot spring about 1,000 feet behind the block house.



In the morning we continued up Warm Springs Valley into the Panamint Mountains. By this point the road is starting get a little rougher. There are many old talc mines in this canyon the few that we stopped at and explored were interesting. The

trail opens up into a large basin, we first pass stripped Butte a large teepee shaped mountain with various colored strips. Further along we made our way to a well maintained rock house, a cabin used by geologist that work the area. A spring appropriately named "The Great View Spring" runs just below the house and what a view it is. We climbed back in our Jeeps and headed over to the next group of cabins, this site included a horseshoe pit. Visitors to these 2 sites obviously respect the back country rules "leave it better than you found it".

We continued on Butte Valley Road to Carl Megal Pass, the trail is getting a little rougher now but still able to get through in 2 wheel drive.



After the summit the trail is mostly downhill to Panamint Valley. On the way we go through Golar a beautiful, narrow steep sided canyon. Lots of mining history here, there are remnants left of old cable cars that ran up the sides of these very steep canyon walls. Barker Ranch is in Golar Canyon, one former famous resident lived at Barker Ranch but now spends his time in prison.

Once reaching the graded road that runs alongside Panamint Lake (usually dry but not today). We ran up to the ghost town Ballart. Along the way we passed one large mining operation that I believe is mining for gold. The clerk at the general store said someone is planning to open up another gold mine nearby that will create a lot job opportunities.



We ate lunch at the Ballart General Store, before heading home. We do have to drive through the booming city of Trona. Trona is a one company town that extracts borax from a dry lake bed.

This trip was a lot of fun, especially if you like geology. Death Valley is big with a lot of different terrain. The views are forever. We experienced all types of weather: snow, wind, cold, dust storms, rain, clear blue skies, dead calm, warm days, pleasant evenings. No breakdowns, no new owners of a cow bells. I believe we would all go back again. I personally want to go back to the rock cabin overlooking the great basin and drink my morning coffee.

Pete's words of wisdom for the day are "you got a lot more with a kind word and a gun than a kind word".

## Run calendar 2012

### Regular Adopt A Trail meeting place

9am at Rock Road House  
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382  
next to the 76 gas station

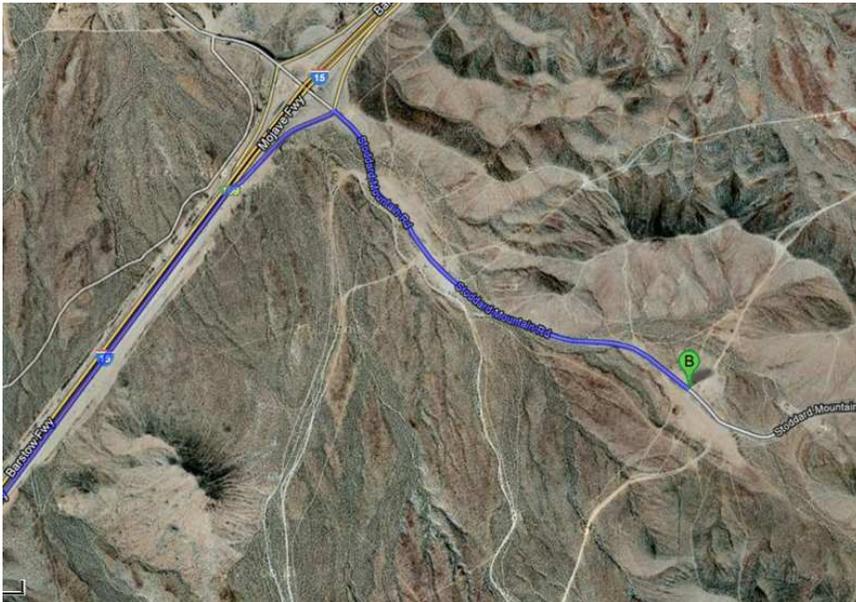
## May

### 25–27 HDR alternative

Take i15 to Stoddard Mtn Road right about one mile.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=I-15+N&daddr=Stoddard+Mountain+Rd&hl=en&sl=34.744222,-117.15713&ssp=0.023415,0.045447&geocode=FdRRCgIdMlwA-Q%3BFTwIEgIdLGcE-Q&t=h&mra=mift&mrsp=1&sz=15&z=15>

Please RSVP to Jesse May [jemay.xj@gmail.com](mailto:jemay.xj@gmail.com)



### 25–27 HDR, High Desert Round up

Cal4WD invites and encourages all our members and those interested in a fun 4X4 outdoor adventure to attend the 41st annual Hi Desert Round-up May 25-27 2012. This fun and historic event will be held at Anderson Dry Lake in the heart of Johnson Valley. Sadly, many rumors have been spread about the cancellation of this event. At the Cal4WD convention the South District leadership assured the BOD and delegates that the event was on track. When it became apparent that the district leadership was unable to secure a permit or chairman for the event, the BOD took the necessary steps to preserve the event in the best interest of Cal4. We look forward to an exciting and challenging weekend in the desert. For more information see the In Gear, <http://cal4wheel.com/events/hi-desert-round-up> or contact the Chairman Steve Egbert [steve@calaccess.net](mailto:steve@calaccess.net)

## June

### 2 Adopt A Trail

Run leader: Mike Ortega

### 22–24 Corral Canyon

run leader: Danny Ward

## July

### 13–15 White Mtn, Inyo Forest

run leader Ray Kleinhuizen

### 21 Adopt A Trail

## August

### 4 Miller Jeep Trail

run leader Ralph Schorbach & John Strege

### 18 Adopt A Trail

## September

### 8 Adopt A Trail

### 14–16 Kennedy Meadows & Sherman Pass

run leader Danny Ward

## October

### 13 Adopt A Trail and Holcomb Creek

run Leader Mike Ortega

### 27 Gold Mtn & John Bull

run leader Ralph Schorbach

## November

### 9–11 PVD Panamint Valley Days

### 22–25 Thanksgiving at Truckhaven or?

## December

### 8 Cleghorn

run leader John Strege

## Run template

**Research** and/or Pre-run the trail route.

### **Create and Post a Run Announcement**

Message with the following information: *Please use the words "Run Announcement" in the Subject line of the message, forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted.*

- Date/Time and Place for the Run
- Description of Run
- Difficulty Rating scale 1 to 5
- Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run
- Directions to Meeting Place.
- EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place
- Required Equipment. Open dif? Lockers?
- Is Special Equipment Required?
- Is RSVP Required?

- Are Permits Required? (Forest Adventure Pass etc.)
- CB Channel start with channel 4, if to much traffic on channel 4 then switch to 5 and so on.
- Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees. Access for motor homes? Very little ground clearance? Deep soft sand?
- Expected Weather Conditions.
- Contact Information (Leader Phone Number & email address)
- Please cover all the needed information in the Run Announcement rather than say "contact me for details".

### **Start of the Run**

- Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.
- Assign vehicle order if there are vehicles with open diffs. Have vehicle with locked diff in front & behind. (If possible disperse vehicles with HAM radios near the front, middle and rear of the line.
- Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.
- Assign "Sweep Vehicle" (Tail Gunner Vehicle)
- Give 5 Minute Warning before start
- Begin Run ON TIME or notify everyone of new time.
- Announce Departure over CB channel 4
- Start moving slowly
- Stop at all turns to confirm vehicle behind sees turn
- Stop occasionally to close up ranks
- Announce comfort stops
- Announce Lunch Stop and Length of Stop

**After returning home** forward to *the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted* a Run Report and a few photos. In the subject line write "Run Report"

## **Guests**

Joel Copeland no photo available

Roger Campbell no photo available



Chris McDonald drives a 2012 Unlimited  
Meetings: April



Justin Smith recently purchased a '96 Cherokee with a few scratches. Meetings: April



Jay Jimenez is the proud owner of 3 Jeeps '98, '06 and a '05. Jay also belongs to the Fun in the Sun four wheelers. Meetings: April



Rick Schaffer drives a 1992 YJ with lots of mods.  
Rick also belongs to the Fun in the Sun four wheelers.  
Meetings: April



Gabriel Harrison drives around in a 1997 Grand Cherokee it  
has a 2" lift and 31" tires  
Meetings: April



Larry & Kari Keller drive around in a 2001 TJ with a 4" lift  
and 33" tires.  
Meetings: April



Josh Bleijenberg drives around in a 2007 Toyota FJ which is  
lifted 3" and many other upgrades.  
Meetings: April



Michelle & Jeff Haynes drive around in a 1986 CJ7 which is  
powered by a 350 Chevy.  
Meetings: April



Paul and Debbie also belong to the Fun in the Sun four  
wheelers. Meetings: Nov, Jan, Feb, Mar & Apr.



Robert and Chad Daub Robert drives a '74 CJ5 and son Chad Drives a k5 Blazer. Meetings: Jan, Feb, Mar & April

## CB radio news

Many of us have purchased our CB radios from The Solder Joint in Orange. Well the Orange store has closed. They still have a store in Signal Hills go to [www.thesolderjoint.com](http://www.thesolderjoint.com) for directions.

Another option is Mark Kennedy he operates

[www.highdesertcb.com](http://www.highdesertcb.com)

[mdkennedy1@verizon.net](mailto:mdkennedy1@verizon.net) / 760 949 9917

Ham radios are also very useful and have a much longer range.



Brian McGrath drives an '04 Wrangler Rubicon Meetings: Jan, Feb, Mar & April

## New members



Cort Phelps; Cort drives a well modified Toyota Forerunner DD runs: Hammer trails with Mike Ortega Meetings: Feb, Mar, Apr and May

## Club info

### Cowbells

Terry Pucket March 2012

Eddie Cesena March 2012

Randy Huddelston March 2012

New brown Jesse May

Old Blue Mike Maneth Calico February 2012

Old Blue Mike Maneth December 2011

Mojave Trail

Ron Jackson October 2011 Calico

Andy Lamar October 2011 Calico

Randy Huddleston August 2011

**The cow bell rules are:** If you get stuck and are unable to move under your own power and need the help of a winch or you get strapped from one of your fellow jeepers then you have earned the privilege of hanging a cow bell from your front bumper. You must leave the cow bell on the front of your rig until another Dirt Devil gets stuck then, you can proudly hand it over.

### Safety Report

Safety administrator Danny Ward

When on the trail keep an eye out for the rig behind you.

For groups larger than 10 there needs to be a 1) leader, 2) tail gunner and a 3) mid rig.

Basic safety equipment should include: first aid kit, fire extinguisher, CB radio, tow strap, extra food and water, basic tool kit, some spare parts, safety glasses, gloves, full size spare, working emergency brake.

Large Velcro straps are handy for keeping your straps together.

When you believe there is a chance of rolling over grab your seat belt and hold on. Do not grab the roll bar or reach out to stop your rig from rolling over.

If your gear is not tied down well then it will get thrown around.

### Adopt a Trail

The Dirt Devils Adopt A Trail is Dishpan Springs Trail (3N34)

Dishpan Springs Trail can be found in the San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead. The Dishpan Springs Trail is one of the toughest and most popular trails in the SBNF.

**The Western entrance:**

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

**The T6 Bridge:** N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

**The Eastern entrance:** 3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

### First aid kit tracking

**FA #1 (red, blue backpack)**

Mike Ortega Feb 2012 for Adopt a trail runs

Danny Ward Dec 2011

Bill Smith

**FA #2**

John Strege Apr 2011

Sheldon Neal Jan 2012

John Strege Dec 2011

**FA #3**

Ray Kleinhuizen Apr 2012 for Steel Pass run.

Pete Johnson Feb 2012

Jesse May Dec 2011

### Banner

John Strege has it.

### Accessories

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$14.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

### Newsletter advertising

\$25 for ¼ page ad, for 3 issues

\$50 for a ½ page ad, for 3 issues

\$100 for a full page ad, for 3 issues.

A full page ad also gets a Web Link.

### Club officers

President: Jesse May [jemay.xj@gmail.com](mailto:jemay.xj@gmail.com)

Vice President: Mike Ortega [mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

Treasurer: Emi Webber [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Secretary: Karen Kleinhuizen [kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com](mailto:kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com)

Web Master: Mike Ortega [mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

Newsletter: Ron Webber / [webbermail@cox.net](mailto:webbermail@cox.net)

Hospitality: Emi Webber / [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Safety Committee: Dan Ward / [d41ward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d41ward@sbcglobal.net)

Run Coordinator: Needed

### Meeting Place

First Tuesday of each month,

6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at

Keno's Restaurant

5750 E. La Palma Anaheim

just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.