



The Dirt Devils Digest

May June 2013

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

President's Message

Dirt Devil and CAL4WD dues is due in June. Please bring your check book to the next meeting. Last year after much discussion we did decide to make CAL4WD voluntary. The new CAL4WD board has made an effort to include Southern California. I would like to strongly encourage you to belong. If not CAL4WD then support CORVA or Blue Ribbon Coalition or all of them. It takes a lot of money and effort to keep California trails open. One of the next big efforts is Johnson Valley, cost is running about \$10,000 a month. To put this in perspective keep in mind that the Sierra Club has 1.4 million dues paying members. Congratulations to CORVA's new president Harry Baker.

Four Wheel parts has agreed to put CAL4WD displays in their stores. If you happen to go in one of their stores and don't see the display then let me know, ask where it is if they need one then let me know and I will get one.

Rick Walter is still looking for fellow offroaders that want to go to Baja Mexico. If your interested then contact Rick directly his email address is rick03tj@gmail.com.

This July Mike Wallace is interested in attending Jeepers Jamboree, (Rubicon Trail). Any interest contact Mike Wallace at proudpop80@gmail.com.

If you are a run leader then remember to plan ahead and put together your run announcement. 2 months is not to early some people want to make plans.

We have moved, starting with the May meeting we are meeting across the street at Marie Callenders. 5711 East La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807, 714-779-0600.

See you on the trail.

Jesse May

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Run Reports

Moab Utah Run Report

April 8-13, 2013

Trail Leader: Ray Kleinhuizen

Attendees:

1. Ray & Karen Kleinhuizen
2. Danny & Linda Ward
3. Brian & Pam McGrath
4. Don Young
5. Romeo Rubalcava & Myrna
6. Pete Johnson
7. Ron & Emi Webber
8. Chuck & Jean Chapman
9. Terry Puckett

The group traveled to Moab over the weekend of April 5 to 7. A number of small problems occurred during our travel to Moab.

Chuck Chapman, on the way out to Moab, got water in his diesel fuel of his motorhome. He was only able to go up hills at about 25mph, but he could coast downhill fast. Any way, it does take a lot of extra time to get to Moab when your top speed is 25mph.

Ray Kleinhuizen had loaded his jeep to far back on the trailer based on ideal tongue weight and it was bouncing and swaying. He had to stop right away and re-position his jeep on the trailer. Unlike Chuck he averaged 110 mph on the hills.

Danny Ward's trailer anti-sway bar bent, he was able to take a sledge and pound the bar back in shape and proceed.

The run plans for the week were a two-day overnight back country run on White Rim Rd. in Canyonlands National Park on April 8 & 9 followed by day runs on April 9, 10, 11 & 12. We used a local guide Bob Micklick (aka: The Grey Fox) on Apr. 10 for Sevenmile Rim and Apr. 12 for Mashed Potatoes. April 11 we ran Gemini Bridges with a side trip to Bull Canyon and Long Canyon. April 13 we ran Willow Flats and Tower Arch in Arches National Park.

April 8 & 9: White Rim Rd. in Canyonlands National Park

We had 8 Vehicles: 7 Jeeps and a Toyota

The White Rim Trail is the best way to see Canyonlands Park. It is a fairly easy dirt road that follows the canyon rims, with a few sections that hug the side of typical Utah walls. At first I was wondering why the trail was named White Rim as the trail was red. Later the layers of white sand stone became more visible under the red dirt. While on the white rim trail the skies were dark most of the time with some rain, snow and wind.

The trail starts with a series of steep switchbacks that slowly took us into Shafer canyon. (Sheldon would have loved this section) Look straight ahead, not down.



The White Rim Trail is very scenic with every turn providing spectacular views. The first stop was Musselman Arch named after Ross Musselman. Several Dirt Devils walked across the arch.

We camped at Murphy Hogback which is located high on a mesa, even with the cold wind and rain we enjoyed the great views from the campsite.

The first day there was very little elevation change, the second day the trail starts out by wrapping around "the soda spring basin": a huge canyon with buttes and the green river off in the distance. After reaching Candlestick Camp, the trail follows the Green river. The Green is a large wide river which eventually flows into the Colorado.

We did see 2 canoes floating down the Green river. I would rather float down the Green on a nice warm day.

The trails then goes through Potato Bottom Campground where we stopped for lunch. We then climbed through shale type geography of Hardscrabble Hill a few hundred feet above the green river. If this trail is not maintained well it could be very spooky. Ray K had ordered a tractor to smooth out the trail ahead of our arrival.

Leaving white rim trail is much like Shaffer Trail: a steep narrow cliff hugging trail

The White Rim Rd is an easy trail with a few steep climbs and many places were you're right on the edge of a canyon overlook. The whole group had a great time running this trail.

Wednesday April 10: Sevenmile Rim

We had 9 vehicles: 8 Jeeps and a Toyota

The first part of this trail is rocky with several ledges to climb. Everyone was doing well when all of a sudden I hear a very bad sound from under my Jeep followed by bad shaking. Looking under the Jeep, we found that the bolt on the rear passenger side upper control arm had come out. This caused the rear axle to turn upward breaking the driver side upper control arm mount at the axle and bending both rear shocks. Not a good day for the trail leader.



The whole Dirt Devil team jumped in. First we decided I could drive out with only one control arm. We removed the driver side rear upper control arm. I drove forward and got the pumpkin to rotate back down. Using the bolt out of the driver side control arm, we reinstalled the rear passenger side control arm. The Jeep was winched sideways to align the rear differential and the DD team used 2 small yellow straps to keep the rear end aligned. I drove out with Danny Ward as an escort, stopping a few times to tighten the straps, and straight to Moab 4x4 Outpost for repair. I gladly accept the cow bell and many thanks to the Dirt Devil team for all their help.

The rest of the group continued to Wipe Out Hill, an extremely steep and difficult obstacle. The trail has changed in recent years and Wipe Out Hill is no longer an option you now must go down it to complete the trail. Going back up is optional. Chuck, Don, Brian and Ron all went back up. Brian and Ron had no issues. Chuck and Don were not so lucky.

Chuck Chapman was the first driver to take on Backwards Bill, a series of steps next to Wipe Out Hill. He made it the whole way with some trouble, but in the process broke the CV



joint on his left front axle shaft. He limped out and then tried to replace it himself, but ended up going to Moab 4x4 Outpost.

Don Young successfully made it down Wipe Out Hill, but after spending a bucket full of money at Quinn's shop in Big Bear buying a Dana 60 rear end and a lot of other goodies, decided to test his skill on Backwards Bill. At the top ledge he got stopped, more oomph was needed, so he finally gave it all he had and made it. Then he drove around and went back down wipe out hill. On the way out he started hearing a clicking sound, the faster he went the louder the clicking sound got. Pete Johnson followed Don to Moab 4x4 Outpost. To quote our Pete "the ring and pinion is missing a lot of metal", and that is not good. The drive shaft had a major bend. Wouldn't you think that someone in Moab would have a drive shaft to fit Don's jeep? But no, they were going to order one from Salt Lake City which was going to take a few days. Instead the shop technician was able straighten it enough to so Don could get out of town. Editors comment: do Dana 60's break?



Thursday April 11: Gemini Bridges, Bull Canyon and Long Canyon

The morning weather at Dead Horse Campground was a light dusting of snow. The group met in the morning to decide what to run and who would be on the run. Ray and Don were both in the shop for repairs and Chuck was working on his problem so they were out (later in the day Chuck would be in the shop). Brian and Pam went sight seeing and Ron won't drive his Jeep in bad weather. Danny, Pete, Romeo and Terry decided

to do a loop of Gemini Bridges with a side trip to Bull Canyon and back through Long Canyon. These trails are mostly easy with some moderate sections in Bull Canyon.

Terry Puckett Lost a bolt and nut from one of his shock mounts, broke his 2 rear back-up lights, crushed his tail pipe, and nearly lost his license plate.. Moab 4x4 Outpost to the rescue again.

Ray got his Jeep back in the morning and was able to meet up with the others to run Long Canyon. This trail runs directly from Dead Horse State park through a 'Long Canyon' to the Colorado River then follows the river back toward Moab City. This is an easy trail that goes through a narrow section called Pucker Pass and under a large rock that's leaning over the trail.



Friday April 12: Bartlett Wash and Hidden Canyon Wash, Mashed Potato

We had 9 Vehicles: 8 Jeeps (Don had a rent-a-Jeep stock Rubicon) and a Toyota

Mashed Potato was the most difficult trail I did that week. Remember, I limped out broke on Tuesday and missed Wipe Out Hill. First the trail runs through Bartlett Wash and Hidden Canyon wash, a very scenic area with water in the canyon bottom.

Once entering Mashed Potato it is obvious how this area got its name: it is all white sandstone mounds. The trail winds around a few good bumps and ledges. The ledges range from 6 to 10+ feet. If you haven't learned the Moab bump before now, you're going to get a crash course at Mashed Potato. The trail is a ledge climb then down the back and right up the next ledge. Believe me, this trail was a lot of fun but you better keep focus. Getting a little off line would sometimes mean you don't make it and have to go around. Danny and Pete launched off one of these ledges catching air.



We lunched at one of the Gray Fox's favorite areas "The Gravy Bowl" The Gravy Bowl is a small bowl similar to Mickey's Hot Tubs on the Hell's Revenge Trail. What makes this tub scary is that it is right next to a 500' cliff. When you climb out of the bowl, the driver must make a hard right turn and put his passenger tire up on a ledge which causes the vehicle to severely lean towards the 500' cliff. This is obviously safe but it is spooky.

After lunch The Gray Fox showed us how to navigate "The Gravy Bowl", The dirt Devils looked at each other and said no. Then Brian McGrath (Pam opted out, but did take the keys for their truck so she could at least get home) raised his hand, jumped in his Jeep and crept into the The Gravy Bowl. Coming up the other side is easy but at the top is where you can't make a mistake. Brian did it and made us look good.





The trail continues through more white sandstone, bumping over more nice ledges.

The gray Fox always has lots of what I called Bobism's. For example, someone asked Bob "if you drop into one of the deep tubs and can't get out what do you do?" Bob's answer was "it will make it easier for me to go through."

After Brian went through the gravy bowl, Bob said "That was a thrill wasn't it?"

Our Bartlett Wash and Mashed Potato run on Friday was good, the weather was perfect, no repair business for Moab 4x4 Outpost, no wind.

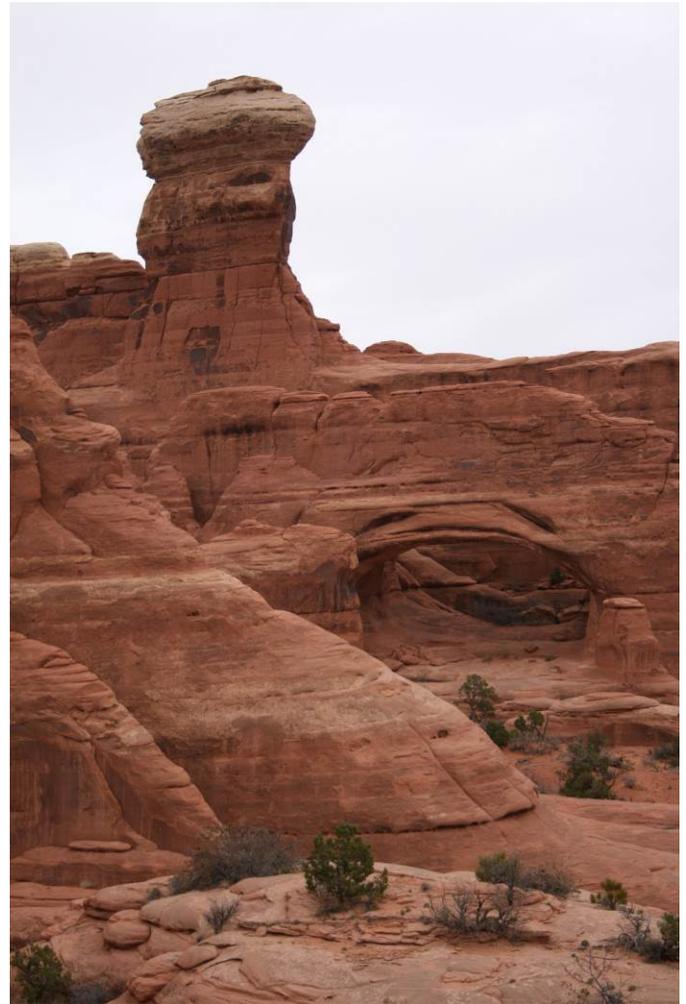
Friday night dinner was at the world famous "Moab Brewery" where the beer tasted great.

Saturday April 13

About half the group headed home. The rest of us ran Willow Flats and Tower Arch trail in Arches National Park

We had 4 Vehicles, all Jeeps (Don had a rent-a-Jeep stock Rubicon)

We ran the trail from north of Moab, entering Arches National Park from Willow Spring Rd.. The trail is rocky in spots with a few steep sections. Once in the park we headed north and passed Eye of the Whale Arch and continued on to Tower Arch. There were several steep section over slick rock as we got close to Tower Arch. A short but challenging walk took us to the base of Tower Arch. From Tower Arch we headed toward Salt Valley Rd. This trail was a steep rocky climb over the ridge (quote from Brian, the tail rig: we "looked like a line of waddling ducks headed up the hill") and than back down the ridge to Salt Valley Rd., a graded road into the center of Arches Park. All agreed this was a fun trail with enough rough sections to keep your attention.



In Summary: This was a great trip to Moab. We did not see it all, everyone had a great time and all of us are thinking of going back to Moab. I want to thank everyone who made the trip. The whole group was a lot of fun to be with. Moab 4x4 Oupost will be glad to see us return.

Run calendar

Regular Adopt a Trail meeting place

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

July

13- Adopt-a-Trail Mike

Roger

26- 27 Coyote Canyon/ Bishop

This is a great all day trip. It's one almost everyone can do. Campground - Browns Town south end of Bishop full RV hook ups to tent sites.

Cost - RV \$28/night Tent \$23/night

showers, bathrooms, and laundry

Rv's 30 amp service, water no sewer hookup,

For hotels, please make your own reservations. There are numerous hotel/motels with a wide variety of costs and amenities. I recommend making your reservations early, this is Bishop's busiest time of year.

I'd like to do a pre run with anyone that's there Friday by noon to inspect the first mile or two of the trail.

Difficulty - Moderate narrow and steep in places. Skid plates recommended. Snow can block the trail well into July. In the Sierras, it's possible to get any weather, please be prepared. I ran this for the first time late June two years ago, there was still 3-4ft of snow on the ground at higher elevation, and we got snowed on. This year the snow should be gone.

The Run - Climb a beautiful high plateau above Bishop. Most of the trail is near 10,000 ft with some above 11,000 ft. Wildflowers may be in bloom at this elevation. Rain and snow are always possible in the High Sierras. The trail is approximately 57 miles and will take all day. I've seen herds of deer, coyotes, and big snowshoe rabbits up here. At the top we will be at tree line. The military back in WWII built a huge runway/landing strip to hide planes in case we were invaded.

Drivers Mtg - Leave camp at 8:30 to insure we get the whole run in daylight hours.

We will leave Bishop and travel south to Big Pine.

Additional fun. There are mineral springs we can soak in after a day on the trail. I recommend bringing your swimming trunks/bathing suits and a towel. You'll feel refreshed & fantastic afterwards.

The Owens River, lakes, and streams are open for trout fishing.

Schats bakery, I used to be a bread baker there, is a great place for a treat, great bread, or a sandwich made on fresh baked bread.

Other - There are frequent art shows, and there is a Galen Rowel studio in Bishop. He is a world renowned photographer with photos in National Geographic frequently.

If you are going please contact and get a deposit of 1 night, \$28 RV, \$23 Tent May 10th, to me

Brian McGrath 562-547-8333

25 – 28

Jeepers Jamboree Rubicon Trail Nor Cal

www.jeepersjamboree.com

Mike Wallace wants to attend this great event contact Mike if you're interested Mike Wallace proudpop80@gmail.com

August

2- 4 Jeep Jamboree Rubicon Trail Nor Cal

www.jeepersjamboree.com

10- - Adopt-a-Trail –

Mike & Roger

24th - Miller and Lockwood trails Ralph

CA4WDC

Board of Directors Meeting

Sat, 17th and 18th

8120 36th Ave., Sacramento, CA

All active CA4WDC members and delegates are encouraged to attend.

September

7- Adopt-a-Trail

Mike/Roger

13- 15- Sherman Pass/Kennedy Meadows

Danny Ward

21- 22- Tentative- Kids on Public Lands

28 Forest Service BBQ for Adopt a Trail help. Big Bear

Discovery Center more details to follow, (Mike Ortega).

28- Gold Mountain, John Bull

Mike Ortega

October

5- Tentative - ODF

12- Adopt-a-Trail

Mike/Roger

25- 27 TruckHaven

Brian McGrath

November

9- 10th Panamint Valley Days

Near Trona, CA

Runs for all levels, meals, and drawing

<http://cal4wheel.com/panamint-valley-days.html> for info

9- Desert Splash

Jeff

16- Adopt-a-Trail

Mike/ Roger

28-Red Rock Canyon and Last Chance

Pete/Jesse

December

07- Cleghorn

Dustin/Joel

Run template

Research and/or Pre-run the trail route.

Create and Post a Run Announcement

When emailing the run announcement: 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.

1. Date/Time and Place for the Run
2. Description of Run
3. Difficulty Rating scale 1 to 5
4. Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run
5. Directions to Meeting Place.
6. EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place
7. Required Equipment. Open dif? Lockers?
8. Is Special Equipment Required?
9. Is RSVP Required?
10. Are Permits Required? (Forest Adventure Pass etc.)
11. CB Channel start with channel 4, if to much traffic on channel 4 then switch to 5 and so on.
12. Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees. Access for motor homes? Very little ground clearance? Deep soft sand?
13. Expected Weather Conditions.

14. Contact Information (Run Leader Phone Number & email address)
15. Please, cover all the needed information in the Run Announcement rather than say "contact me for details".

Start of the Run:

1. Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.
2. 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.
3. Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.
4. Assign "Sweep Vehicle" (Tail Gunner Vehicle)
5. Give 5 Minute Warning before start
6. Begin Run ON TIME or notify everyone of new time.
7. Announce Departure over CB channel 4
8. Start moving slowly
9. Stop at all turns to confirm vehicle behind sees turn
10. Stop occasionally to close up ranks
11. Announce comfort stops
12. Announce Lunch Stop and Length of Stop
13. 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"

Classified

Kevin Hull's very large smoke is for sale

Member news

Rick Walters trailer



Several of you asked about my off road trailer....here is the link to TVenturing.com/forum if you would like to see more details of my build. The trailer is a work in progress, building it to handle blue square plus trails and I have several more

things to do to it. A water tank will be the next item to tackle. Just finished up the solar panel / battery system, real happy the way it is working.

<http://tventuring.com/trailerforum/thread-36.html>

The TVenturing forum is fairly new and deals with small DIY camping trailers of all types. Lots a great ideas, some a bit on the cheap side and some will never see off road but mostly guys that want to go camping and enjoy the outdoors like us all.

thx for the interest.

Dear Dirt Devils of So Cal,

Thank you so much for supporting me through donating to me for my India trip. You have helped me get to my goal of \$2,500; in fact I have over \$3,000. I am looking forward to going this summer.

A little update for you: Some of the time the team is in India, we will be staying in an orphanage. This orphanage is just outside a "red light district", an area with a lot of prostitution. The kids in the orphanage are from this red light district. We will be doing a Vacation Bible School (VBS) while we are there. The team will also be able to spend time with a leprosy colony. We will be giving them food, medication, and possibly even a little hope.

Again thank you so much for making all this and more possible. Since we've done so well the team has added an additional goal of providing some bikes to Harvest India to help with their work. The deadline for donation is at the end of June, so please continue to spread the word. The more that is donated the more the team will be able to do while we are in India.

Thank you,
Amanda

Guests



Chris Johnson May meeting and owner of Rocktech off road



John Rehagen May 2013 drives a 2012 JK.



Ken Williams and Tanya Black June 2013 1994 jeep, Ken is looking to remodel his '94



Tim Hunt May 2013 1991 YJ



Robert Nuzum June 2013 drives '77 cherokee chief (totally re-built); '89 wrangler; '99 grand Cherokee (his wife's daily driver)



Darren Knudson May 2013 cj7 1981



Larry & Kari Keller may & June 2013 drive around in a 2001 TJ with a 4" lift and 33" tires.



Eric & Wanda Bardy June 2013

Allan Walls (no photo)
May 2013 drives a 1980 cj5 with a V*, 4 spd and dana 60's nicknamed Frankstein

Roger Julia Satorra no photo
June 2013; 2011 Rubicon lifted with upgraded wheels and tires.

New members



Jim Forbes (on the right), Jim invested a lot of money in the Big bear Off Road race team and Mike Ortega gave him his old jeep in exchange. It's win, win, they both look happy. Jim was a Dirt Devil 20 years ago, welcome back. April meeting.



Gilbert Vasquez

CB radios

The Solder Joint is now located in Signal Hills go to www.thesolderjoint.com for directions.

Mark Kennedy operates www.highdesertcb.com
mdkennedy1@verizon.net / 760 949 9917

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

Club info

Cowbells



Brian Pendarvis a nicely modified 2006 TJ Unlimited, February, April



Mike Ortega Big Bear Holcomb Creek high centered and yes

that is the winch controller in his hand.
June 2013

Pete Johnson HDR (rolled) May 2013

Ray Kleinhuizen Moab UT broke shock and track bar mount
and rear differential supports. April 2013

Don Young Moab UT broke a ring and pinion on his new dana
60 but he did limp out April 2013



Dan Delp now owns 3. Can you say Calico.

Cow bells 1, 2 and 3

Dan, hang them with pride.

Cowbell 3 Randy Huddleston October
Gold Mtn, Pioneer Town run.

Cowbell 1 John Strege August 2012 adopt a trail

Cowbell 2 John Strege August 2012 adopt a trail

Cowbell 3 John Strege July 2012 earned while playing in the
4x4 area in Hungary Valley

Josh Bleijenberg Miller Jeep Trail

Roger Mauer June

Bill Smith June (he says he wasn't even playing hard.)

Jesse Strege June got a tug from Mike Ortega

John Strege June broke down on the way to the trail.
(Cowbell award?)

Randy Huddleston June 2012

Jeff Jernigan June 2012

Terry Pucket March 2012

Eddie Cesena March 2012

Randy Huddleston March 2012

New brown Jesse May

Old Blue Mike Maneth Calico February 2012



1 Old green cow bell.



2 old blue cow bell aka
The Mike Maneth memorial cow bell



3 new brown bell

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.



Proudly displaying the Cow Bell.

First aid kit tracking

FA #1 (red, blue backpack)

Mike Ortega August 2012
for Adopt a trail runs

FA #2 (Orange canvas bag)

Pete Johnson February 2012
John Strege October 2012
Danny Ward August 2012
Randy Huddleston June 2012
Sheldon Neal Jan 2012

FA #3 (Orange canvas bag)

Ron Webber Apr 2013 Moab, UT
Roger Mauer
Danny Ward June 2012
Ray Kleinhuizen Apr 2012 for Steel Pass run.

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

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.

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

Vice President: Danny Ward: d4lward@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Cheryl May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Treasurer: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Web Master: Mike Ortega: mike@topwebsiteplacement.com

Newsletter: Ron Webber: webbermail@cox.net

Hospitality: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Safety Committee: Randy Huddleston: hudd1@pacbell.net

Run Coordinator: **Needed**

Meeting Place

First Tuesday of each month,
6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at
just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.

Marie Callenders. 5711 East La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA
92807, 714-779-0600