



The Dirt Devils Digest

July 2015

A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils

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

Presidents Message:

We are half way through the year but don't get discouraged there are still many trail activities available for the rest of the year. If interested in going to the North Rim next year (that would be 2016) let me know we need to begin planning now.

We have many great methods of communicating now, our newsletter, the web site [dirtdevils.org](http://www.dirtdevils.org), face book and course you can still use the telephone. Check out the forum, Chris has been working on. It is a great place to share info, <http://www.dirtdevils.org/phpbb/>

We have a few new members, take time to get to know them better.

See you on the trail.

Ray Kleinhuizen



I'd like a 'Frank and Rubicon' on the rocks, cowbell please.

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Top 10 reasons to be a Dirt Devils trail leader:

- 10 – You pick the trail (hopefully someone will want to run it with you)
- 9 – You pick the run start time and meet spot
- 8 - You write the run announcement
- 7 - You pick the CB channel (duh 4)
- 6 - You conduct the drivers meeting (best if done before you start the trail)
- 5 – You carry the Dirt Devils club first aid kit (hopefully you know how to use it)
- 4 – You pick the bathroom stops (more stops keep you out trouble)
- 3 – You are the spotter when someone needs help (you'll get a lot of exercise)
- 2 – You will get unwavering support from all drivers even when you are hopelessly lost and confused.
- 1 – You get to ride in front of everyone out of the dust (this the only good reason to be a trail lead)

Web site info Chris Slaughter web site manager

Running good. May and June both had over 1,000 unique visitors. One of the guests found this club through a referral from another site. A couple googled the site. A couple got business cards. Have 36 members signed up.

- Added trail tracks for around Bishop and White Mountain.
- New forum section on land use issues (please get involved).
- Will add a forum for HAM radios and thinking about adding one for camping. Let Chris know other ideas for the forum. Suggestion to add reviews.

Ham Radio update Mike Wallace

HAM report - Have a few new HAM operators making the total 15. Will be scheduling another class for sometime in January. There are additional opportunities outside of the club. Planning on using the 2 meter band so when looking for a radio, that's the main band that needs to be considered. Working on putting a topic on the form on HAM radios.

- Thank everyone for not giving him a hard time last month when he had to run the meeting.

Johnson Valley closure

The Marine Corps recently notified BLM of their plans to utilize the Johnson Valley Shared Use Area for military training from August 1-30, 2016, and of the associated temporary closure. BLM is working with the Marines to address issues associated with this military training/closure, and to keep the public informed.

BACKGROUND: On December 26, 2013 the National

Defense Authorization Act of 2014 (NDAA) was signed into law, authorizing the Marine Corps to occupy the Johnson Valley Shared Use Area (SUA) for two 30-day periods annually during which time the area would be closed to the public. See attached Johnson Valley Subregion map.

The Marines have established a project website to obtain additional information. The project website is <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5CommunityPlansPAO/JohnsonValley.aspx>

The Marines have also developed a mobile app for Johnson Valley OHV Recreation Area to alert the user to the SUA temporary closures for military training and when the user approaches/crosses into an area permanently closed to public access. I've attached the instructions for obtaining this free app.

If you have questions regarding the August 1-30, 2016 temporary closure of the Johnson Valley Shared Use Area, contact the Marines at 760-830-3737; smbplmsjohnsonvalley@usmc.mil.

Ocotillo Wells SVRA action

By John Stewart, Cal4Wheel

June closed with the release of the Scoping Summary for the Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan. The scoping summary information provides a large volume of data to review. Next, the OHMVR Division and BLM will prepare the Preliminary Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan. In addition, a Draft EIR/EIS will be prepared that addresses the potential environmental impacts of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan, proposed alternatives, and potential mitigation measures. A public comment period will be held to solicit public comments on the Preliminary Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan and the Draft EIR/EIS, before a Final Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan and Final EIR/ EIS is approved. No dates for those document releases are available.



In other Ocotillo Wells news, the SVRA is continuing implementation of the California Fish and Game Commission acceptance of a petition to list the Flat-tailed

Horned Lizard on the California Endangered Species list. The immediate impact is that no permits for events in Ocotillo Wells SVRA will be issued during the one-year temporary listing period.

To review information on the flat-tailed horned lizard, visit the following links: ▪

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Regions/6/Flat-Tailed-Horned-Lizard-Copy>

<http://4x4voice.com/>

While the immediate impact is within state managed public lands, a formal listing will have repercussions on other lands within the defined critical habitat area - basically, Imperial County.

State Parks (OHMVR Division) is working to implement a "take permit" process so that events can be permitted with certain conditions applied. Park officials believe they have sufficient valid data to justify that past activities have not harmed the FTHL.

For Cal4Wheel, that means Operation Desert Fun cannot be held as in past years. Arrangements have been made to relocate event headquarters and staging to the Blu Inn RV Park, which is private property adjacent to the SVRA. Scheduled runs will be directed towards Superstition Mountains OHV area, which is under BLM management.

Online registration is now open! Only \$25 if you register by August 31. [Info](#) | [Registration](#)

Run reports

John Bull (Big Bear)

Trail Master: Joshua Bleijenberg

Tail Gunner: Frank Gilliland

OF RIGS: 10

Members/ Riders/ Rigs:

- Joshua Bleijenberg- 06 TJ
- Danny and Linda Ward- TJ
- Gilbert Vasquez/ Marcus and Angel- XJ
- Frank Gilliland/ Rolland- TJ
- Chris Slaughter- XJ
- Larry Keller/ Julian- TJ

Guests/ Rigs/ Riders:

- John Strege- TJ (former DD member)
- Doug- YJ
- Suhag Patel- 97 Toyota FJ80
- Eric Walberg/ Brett Grunseth- 12 JKU

Meeting Location: Big Bear Discovery Center 8:30 AM

Started: Big Bear Discovery Center @ 9:15AM

Weather: Mostly Sunny, light cloud cover for most of the day and 30 minutes of big rain drops

Trail comments:



What a terrific day of wheeling! Our group did a great job of negotiating a very tough trail. I think everybody learned a little something to take with them forever on this one. Whether it was a new confidence in your abilities, or a new driving technique, or possibly a quirk or tweak on your vehicle, I feel like this trail forces you to take things to whole new level. For me I learned everyone has control of their own vehicle and that things may not go exactly as I have envisioned them. I thank everyone for their patience and assistance in high pressure situations. I know that most importantly everyone was safe and had FUN. Thanks to all of our guest for joining us and giving our club a try. And thanks to all our club members for being so welcoming, friendly and helpful to our guests and to me. It was appreciated!

We gathered at the Big Bear discovery center along with a Forestry service team and another 4X4 club that was going to run the Grizzly-con. There were a ton of Jeeps in the parking lot. When I first arrived and saw the number of Jeeps there I was rather concerned. Thankfully we only had 10 vehicles and everybody seemed built enough to handle the trail. We departed at 9:15 after waiting for the parking lot to clear and a few late bathroom runs. We jumped on 2N09 and aired down. After a 30 minute jog over to 3N32 we went straight to the gate keeper, bypassing the John Bull connector. Going this route doesn't provide much of a warm up but everyone handled the gate keeper like a pro..... Except for Mr. Frank. Frank was our tail gunner and was generally half asleep through most of breakfast and apparently for the trip to the trail as well. He parked himself on a huge rock and proceeded to high center himself doing a full 360 pivot on his belly pan before we really even got on the trail. Ladies and gentlemen... Our first cowbell... He used his own winch (while most laughed and heckled) to pull himself off the rock and then made short work of the gate keeper, saving a bit of face. He said he was conducting a tutorial for our guests on proper winching techniques. I wasn't buying it!! COWBELL!!!!

Anyone who knows this trail already knows that the gate keeper really just continues on for the first 300 yards of

this trail, so onward and upward we went. We made pretty steady progress until the waterfall. Josh and John went thru the section without trouble and got ready to spot for the group. Next we had Danny who tried the right side line. That proved to be a whole heap of trouble. I got hung up in the same place on the pre-run, but he made it through with a little moab bump action and a few different back up and realignment maneuvers. Then we had the Suhag in his beast of a Toyota. He promptly turned completely sideways on the top of the waterfall and had his own winching seminar. Luckily for him he is not a club member and was spared the cowbell. Most of the rest of our Jeeps negotiated the obstacle without too much trouble. For most I feel like witnessing Danny and Suhag try the harder lines they opted for the far left option. It was a fine display of decision making and driving!

After the waterfall we broke for lunch at 12:30 then enjoyed a nice ride down to the west side rock garden. It was about 2:30 by the time we got to the end of the trail. The group split up at the 3N10, 2N09 intersection. 4 Vehicles: John, Chris, Gilbert and Josh all continued on to Holcomb creek and continued the fun. We moved through without too much issue and stopped to play on a few optional obstacles. We finished the trail around 5:30 and were back on the highway by 6:15. I had a blast!

Cowbells: Frank Gilliland

Damage: None reported

Injuries: None reported

Recommended minimum equipment: 1-locker, 33" tires, Full skid plates including rocker guards, 35's and 2 lockers recommended. Longer wheel base vehicles may have trouble with this trail on minimum requirements.

Run Calendar

Adopt a Trail meeting place

8:30am at Rocky's Roadhouse
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382
next to the 76 gas station

July

24th - 26th Adopta Trail overnight camp

tent peg campground Big Bear
run Leader Roger .

Should be getting a backhoe, a driver and a chain saw with an operator in order to open a new bypass. Most of the work should be moving some dirt and blocking the trail. There is alot of brush that needs to be cleared. To operate a chainsaw, a certification is required, so it is not something that any club member can do. If a backhoe doesn't show, can still do the work, just would be easier with the backhoe and would allow additional things to be completed. The bypass will be able to be used by all

types of vehicle. For any information, look at the website or contact Roger. He will be leaving his place around noon if want to meet up. On Saturday, will be leaving the campsite about 9:00. If anyone wants to meet at Rocky's, meet at 8:00. "Official" dress attire is long pants and long-sleeved shirt, gloves, glasses, boots that cover the ankles. If around the trees and chain saw, need a hard hat.

23rd - 26th Jeepers Jamboree

31st - 2nd Jeep Jamboree

<http://www.jeepersjamboree.com/> Dave Jones will represent the Dirt Devils on the 31st

August

1st Swap meet and pot luck dinner

2pm dinner at 5pm

details to follow

At Ron & Emi Webber's house in beautiful Modjeska Canyon (near Irvine Lake).

Drive a pick up truck with your spare parts, camp gear or just yourself; bumpers, lights, wheels & tires, gas tanks, roof top, alternator, drive shafts, axles, battery box, suspension parts, springs, straps, etc.

2nd all 4 fun <http://www.a4fun.org/>

4th club meeting

6th - 9th Sierra Trek near Truckee CAL4WD event.

<http://www.cal4wheel.com/events/sierra-trek>



15th 4x4 Big Bear Clinic (E/M) - Mike Wallace

Dirt Devils Training Day

This is a great opportunity for those that want to jump start their experience level.

Space is Limited so **PLEASE RSVP** on the Dirt Devil Face book page Training Event

THIS Clinic is FREE for Dirt Devils and Prospective Dirt Devils **ONLY**. To be considered a Prospective Dirt Devil and participant must have attended one or more Monthly club meetings and have a club application.

Date: Aug. 15th, 2015

Meeting Location: Subway, 42124 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear CA

Meeting Time: 0830

Leave: 0900 (9AM) sharp

PACK a LUNCH and WATER

Vehicle Requirements: Short Wheel Based 4x4, with 33in tires, rear locker preferred. All club req. Safety equipment and **CB** radio:CB Ch4

HAM Freq: (OPTIONAL) 146.550 (Club Simplex 2)

Attention: All Dirt Devils, on **Aug 15th 2015**, **Don Alexander** owner operator of **Jeep 4x4 School of Big Bear**, California www.jeep4x4school.com has offered to provide us with a Full day training course on the safe operation of your off road vehicle. This course is being offered **FREE** of Charge to all Members and prospective Members.

Content will be catered to our requested needs.

The Day will begin promptly at 9am in Big Bear at the Subway located at 42124 Big Bear Blvd, followed by a caravan to Gold Mountain trail. At the trail we will break out the chairs and have a discussion (Class Room Scenario) covering topics of recommended Safety Equipment, Vehicle Capability Familiarization, Drivers Skill Levels, Driving techniques. We will be negotiating the first two difficult obstacles that Gold Mountain has to offer going UP the Trail and then we will turn around and negotiate the obstacles coming down. This will give each driver multiple learning opportunities in varied conditions. Then we will move back up the trail honing our new skills.

The course that has been selected has obstacles that will progressively challenge your newly acquired skills and bring you close to understanding your personal and 4x4's capabilities.

The Day will end around 4:30pm.

RSVP Is required so please join the **EVENT** on our **DD** Facebook page

22nd Adopt A Trail - Roy

September

1st club meeting

4th - 7th High Sierra Poker Run CAL4WD event. near Shaver Lake

11th - 13th Sherman Pass (M) – Danny W.

19th Adopt A Trail - Josh

Last Saturday of September Adopt a Trail BBQ

October

6th club meeting

3th & 4th Off Road Expo Pomona

6th Monthly club meeting

16- 17 Operation Desert Fun



Online registration is now open! Only \$25 if you register by August 31.

www.cal4wheel.com/events/operation-desert-fun

17th Miller Jeep Trail (M) - Pete

24th Adopt A Trail - Lead TBD

November

3rd Monthly club meeting / run planning 2016

6th - Black Canyon (E) - Ray

12th - 14th Panamint Valley Days (PVD), Cal 4 Wheel event

December

1st Monthly club meeting

5th Cleghorn (M) - Joel

New Member

Dave Mauer

Eric Walberg

Guests

Mark & Kaylynn Ambrose 4 door JK

Debbie and Troy Craddock 2012 Rubicon

Cole Jensen

Matthew Vanderhoof F150 4x4

Cole James

Ralph Richardson '99 XJ

Debbie Craddock 2012 Rubicon

Jerry and Dana Horner '06 LJ

David and Susan Hawkinson 2000 red TJ w/ 33's, lockers and a 4" lift

Steve Myers 2000TJ

Andrea Friedenthal

Suhag Patel FJ80 Land Cruiser

Club info

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

Club officers

President: Ray Kleinhuizen

kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com

Immediate past president:

Jesse May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Vice President: Mike Wallace proudpop80@gmail.com

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

Treasurer: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Web Master: Chris Slaughter:

webmaster@dirtdevils.org

Adopt a trail chairmans:

Roy Chance: rchange@aol.com

Roger Mauer: rogermauer@gmail.com

Newsletter: Ron Webber: ronjp@outlook.com

Hospitality: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Safety Committee: Bill Smith:

Run Coordinator: Rick Walter rick03tj@gmail.com

Emergency response team coordinator: Rick Walter
rick03tj@gmail.com

the emergency response team makes themselves
available to help with our adopt a trail Dish Pan.

CAL4 wheel reps: Jesse May and Keith Graham

Club membership

Membership dues:

Dirt Devil annual club dues\$36.00

Spouse.....\$12.00

CAL4WD annual dues\$45.00

CAL4WD permanent member\$675.00

CAL4WD permanent member 12 installments of ...\$56.25

CORVA\$30.00

<http://cal4wheel.com/>

Accessories

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$15.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

DD logo magnets available in various sizes for
\$4.50 to \$13.50 each.

Awards



CAL 4 Wheel Drive, new member award

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.

First aid kit tracking

FA #1 (red, blue backpack)

Ray Kleinhuizen

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

Ron Webber November 2014

Ray Kleinhuizen July 2014

FA #2 (Orange canvas bag)

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

Pete Johnson

Josh Bleijenberg corral cyn then handing off to Pete

Ray Kleinhuizen

Danny Ward

Josh Bleijenberg April 2014

Roger Mauer Feb 2014

FA #3 (Orange canvas bag)

Roger Mauer

Danny Ward

Ron Webber March 2015 Calico

Rick Walters July 2014

Pete Johnson April 2014

Ron Webber March 2014 Calico

Run report template:

Run name:

Run leader:
 Date:
 Number of rigs:
 Participants:
 Members:
 Guest:
 The story:
 Weather:
 Cow bells earned:

Run announcement 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.

Date/Time and Place for the Run

Description of Run

Difficulty Rating

Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run

Directions to Meeting Place.

EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place

Required Equipment. Open dif ? Lockers?

Is RSVP Required?

CB Channel channel 4, if to much traffic then switch to 5 and so on.

HAMM channel 146.440

Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees.

Access for motor homes?

Contact Information (Run Leader

Phone Number & email address)

Day 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 Tail Gunner Vehicle

After returning home forward to the newsletter editor a Run Report and a few photos. subject line write "Run Report"

DD Trail Ratings

Trail ratings are subjective and weather conditions over the years can change a trail. An easy trail can become more difficult after or during rain. The trail leader needs to be the final judge of trail conditions the day of the run. If any part of a trail is difficult the trail is rated difficult. If

difficult sections have bypasses the trail may be suitable for less capable rigs or less experienced drivers.

E - Easy (Black Canyon, Mohave Trail)

M - Moderate (Devils Loop, Miller Jeep Trail)

D - Difficult (John Bull, Calico)

(E) Easy trails could include these conditions:

- Any dirt, sand or gravel road.
- Gentle to mildly steeper hill climbs, mild rocky sections and/or soft sandy sections.
- Four wheel drive may not be necessary all the time.
- Pot holes or ruts that require high ground clearance.
- Water crossings are up to 15 inches deep.
- Suitable for full size vehicles.
- Low gears may be required on hill climbs.
- Recommend 4 wheel drive vehicle
- Suitable for most tire sizes

(M) Moderate trails could include these conditions::

- Steep rutted and rocky hill climbs that require careful tire placement.
- Two to three foot ledges to climb and/or steep down hill drop offs.
- Rocky sections that can cause body or rim damage.
- Water crossings might have rocks and could be deeper then 12 inches.
- Brush or cactus may touch vehicle.
- These trails will require low range gears, high ground clearance and 4WD.
- Skid plates and body protection are recommended.
- Minimum 33 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend at least one axle locker.

(D) Difficult trails could include these conditions:

- Rocks as big as your tire to as big as your vehicle.
- Hill climbs are steep and may require extended wheel travel.
- These trails can have long sections of large rocks that require careful tire placement. .
- Three + foot ledges to climb and steep drop offs.
- Body damage is possible and brush may scratch vehicle.
- These trails will require vehicle modifications such as suspension lifts, body protection and skid plates.
- Minimum 35 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend front and rear axle lockers.

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 West entrance:

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

The T6 Bridge:

N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

The East entrance:

3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

Meeting place

8:30am at Rock Road House
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382 next to the 76 gas station

Adopt a trail Current hours – 192

Cowbells



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. This starts at the beginning and the end of the trail, not on the highway.



Old logo green bell

Frank Gilliland John Bull parked on a rock.

Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 4/10/15
Josh Bleijenberg Dusy Ersham Sept 2014



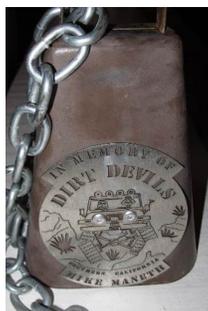
Brown bell

Bill Smith HDR May25 2015
Tim Debolt Rattlesnake Feb 2015
Rick Walter adopt a trail 6/27/2014
Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 5/4/2014



Little Blue bell

Bill Smith HDR May25 2015 winched Bronco on to trailer
Gilbert at Corral Canyon 4/10/15
Chris Slaughter Grizzly
Rick Walter
Mike Wallace



Mike Maneth memorial bell

Mike Wallace Corral Canyon 4/10/15
James Eddinger Claw Hammer 1/10/15.
Castulo Olivas