



Trail Tales



October 1, 2024

Official Newsletter
of the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org



Meeting Minutes September 14, 2024 By Shirley Godfrey

The meeting was held at Jennifer and Myron Myers' house, Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

President Jack Dickey called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Jeff Boggs, Paula Boggs, Cathy Dickey, Jack Dickey, Shirley Godfrey, Jeff Grenier, Kay Grenier, David Ham, Rebecca Ham, Kevin Hill, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Cliff Meier, Jeanne Meier, Jennifer Myers, Myron Myers, Jack Nutter, NaDeen Roland, Don Roy, Chris Sears, Beth P. Steele, Richard Steele

GUESTS ATTENDING: Keith D'angelico, Doug Elkins, Jason Haynes, Angel Pena, Danny White

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jeff Boggs - Motions were made and seconded to approve Keith D'Angelico and Jason Haynes as voting (full) members. Both motions were approved by a majority of members present without discussion. Motions were made and seconded to approve Jeff and Joyce Gruger who reside in Santa Fe, NM as associate members.

Jeff explained the 5 points to become a club member and explained the transgression fines. There were no transgression fines levied.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Shirley Godfrey

Meeting minutes - A motion was made and seconded to approve the August minutes as published in the the August newsletter. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Richard Steele

Rich provided current balances for both checking and saving accounts. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurers report. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion.

Rich also reported there are 94 club members - 75 full members and 19 associate or honorary members. Eight members did not renew.

Membership dues bring in 75% of the club revenue and program director sales brings in 25%.

The Club renewed the Club's membership in CORE, Colorado Off Road Enterprise.

A motion was made and seconded to no longer include the monetary amounts regarding the Club's checking and savings accounts in the Club's minutes.

TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Jeff Boggs reporting for Mary Turpin

Past Trips

August 17, Adventure Expo (Overland Alliance), Jeff Boggs

September 4-6, Four Corners 4x4 Week Fall Crawl (Cliffhangers)

September 7, West Jemez, FR17, Jeff Boggs

September 8, Peralta Ridge Trail Clearing Work Day, Mary Turpin

Upcoming Events and Trips

September 21, Peralta Ridge/Ponderosa/East Jemez, Mary Turpin

September 22, Yotas/Jeeps and Coffee

October 4-7, Cooke's Canyon, Massacre Canyon, Overnight Trip, David Ham

October 13, San Ysidro, NM, Cliff Meier

Thursday, October 10, Regular NM4W Meeting, 6:30 PM North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT -

Jack Dickey for Bill Zobel: Bill is working on ideas for the Rugged Ridge/Real Truck tail access program grant for possible funding of the on-line OHV handbook. The Gordy's tail head signs with Treadlightly has a quote of \$16,000.00 for 50 signs. Danny White suggested contacted Salty Dog, for a quote. Talk to Wayne and mention Danny White.

PROGRAM CHAIR'S REPORT – Cathy Dickey – 50/50 tickets available. Cathy turned in T-shirts sales to Rich. Jack, Cathy, Rich and Don now all have sub accounts for the point of sale terminal but are unable to log in. The 50/50 raffle will still stay cash only. If you want a certain item with the club logo on it, you can take it to ASI Custom Apparel off Osuna on Academy Parkway. Cathy is in need of more t-shirts, caps and business cards. A motion was made and seconded to give Cathy \$500.00 for restock of the needed items. The club is still planning to give members stickers.

Jeff Boggs donated additional items for tonight's 50/50 raffle, gas cans and ammo cans. Sorry, no gasoline or ammo included.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT – Frank Whiston unable to attend. After a ride, please submit photo's to Frank to add to the Gallery.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT and NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT - Don Roy. A little trivia, there are more nonmembers reading the newsletter than members. Last month - 83 nonmembers and only 18 members read the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS:

For the Club to obtain grants without going through another organization, the Club needs to be a 501c3 or 501c7 for a tax exempt status. The Club chose to go for a 501c7 status. The application fee is \$600.00, non-refundable if not accepted. A motion was made and seconded to apply and send for the 501c7 status.

Looking for a web graphic designer to create and update the OHV handbook for the Club. A committee was formed. Cathy Dickey will chair the committee and Jason Haynes will look into the having it printed online.

New Mexico Expedition Overland Company was cited by Taos BLM for not having the proper permits for the number of vehicles on a ride.

The NM 4Wheelers does not advertise on social media and is not open to the general public. If someone wants to go on a ride they will now have to contact the ride leader for the location of ride's meeting place. This also provides to the leader of how many are attending the ride. The Forest Service is the most lineate with 75 people on a run. BLM rules change by field office.

Myron Myers has gotten back his Jeep's broken glass (due to a whoops) in the form of a mini chandelier, made by Kay Grenier.

50/50 raffle - \$73 split, winner, Jeanne Meier
Gas can, Angel Pena; Ammo can 1, Jeff Grenier; Ammo can 2, Ed K gave it back for another name to be called. Angel passed. Rich passed. David Ham the final winner; Ammo can 3, Cliff passed and gave the can to Jack Dickey.

Looking of someone to host the Christmas meeting!!!!
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.



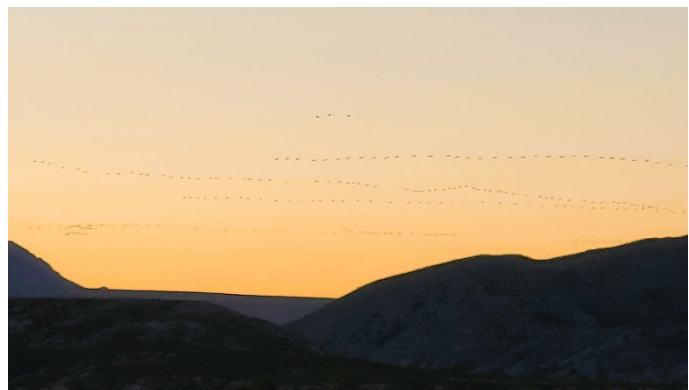
President's Report

By Jack Dickey

CHILE CHALLENGE

This is my favorite time of year. Although the northern hemisphere has passed the autumnal equinox and days are getting shorter, there is a distinctive splendor. Mornings are cool and calm, there is little to no wind, and evening sunlight on wild sunflowers is soul soothing. Chile Challenge is a couple of weeks away and my memories turn to past Chile Challenges.

Chile Challenge is unique to New Mexico. Other events such as Easter Jeep Safari, Rock Junction, and Trail Hero all have great people, exciting trails, and spectacular scenery. But where else can you smell red chile being harvested as you drive past fields and smell fresh roasted chile as you pass processing plants. One year, a week or two before, the desert received a heavy rainfall.



Many trails changed from before as flash floods rearranged rocks and boulders testing all drivers and rigs. It's stunning to see debris caught on rocks and trees many feet above where your 4x4 sits. Equally astonishing is the explosion of wildflowers and cactus blooms as the desert celebrates a respite from the milieu's innate aridness. Also unmatched is the departure of hummingbirds and arrival of Sandhill Cranes. Each morning, shortly after dawn, waves of cranes leave their shallow water havens of Caballo lake and travel south to

numerous fields where corn has been harvested. Then, at dusk they return, in V-formation to again roost in the shallows. Their calls to each other retell the Autum story.

My history at Chile Challenge spans more than 12 years and fostered many friendships. It's heartwarming to meet up with folks who I haven't seen and pick-up where we left off a year ago. It's delightful to see folks that were young adults with toddlers and stock 4x4s when we first met and now their kids are teenagers, they have built-up rock crawlers, and are the event leaders! Eating fresh cooked chicharrónes, serving at the ice cream social, winning a tire gift certificate at the raffle, and sitting at a campfire and talking about the day's events, all make for uplifting memories.

Chille Challenge has also provided some momentous points in my rock crawling hobby. My first rock crawler was a 1984 K5 Blazer with a cage, doubler, and one-tons. It was great machine. But it was still a truck, and my core friends were moving away from built-up jeeps to custom rock buggies. It was at Chile Challenge that an acquaintance had an Ultra 4 rock buggy for sale. It was like Clark Griswald's Christmas tree, light shown down from above and I knew it was the rig for me. But the end of the week, the rig was mine and my wallet significantly lighter!

Chile Challenge also reinforced the chancy character of off-roading and hard/extreme rock crawling. On the crux obstacle of Cabin trail, which I successfully negotiated the day before, I missed the line by a matter of inches and flipped my buggy over backwards. No one got hurt. But the recovery was difficult and necessitated help from many people. Although my ego/pride was battered and the buggy banged and bent, we both drove out under our own power. I had the dubious honor of joining the club of those who had rolled their rigs at the same obstacle. Guess who was the topic of conversation around the campfires that night?

Be sure to get out and smell the chile and see the desert splendor. Make memories so that you can share your Autum story as you wing through our off-road hobby.



Happy Trails,

Jack Dickey



West Jemez, FR17 Ride

Saturday Sept 7, 2024

By Jeff Boggs

We met up at San Ysidro, NM. Had 13 4x4's. After a driver's meeting, we drove up Highway 550, and turned into the Jemez Mts. We aired down and got to the start of FR 17, a beautiful, tight, little used Forest Road. It has a seasonal closure, opening at the first part of September, each year.



We worked our way up the canyon and some water bars had a mud puddle on the upside. This got us muddy, and a few folks had some trouble getting through these areas. But we finally made through the last one, nicknamed, "GODZILLA". This was because this combination of a tall water bar and a large mud puddle, caught some rigs, and we had to bring out the straps and winches.

Lunch was in a nice clearing, at noon. A few downed aspens, needed to be cut of the road. Got that done, and then we had an award ceremony for the folks who had been stuck in the mud or on top of a berm. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to get stuck!! LOL!!!

We drove on, after lunch. We found a very steep section that required spotting and lockers, if you had them. We stopped at an overlook, that had great views of Cabezon and Mt Taylor. There were some memorial plaques on a tree and on the ground, at this spot. Celebrating men who must have spent a lot of their time in these mountains.

We finished up going mostly downhill and this section was very nice and green. We reached Bales canyon forest road and worked our way back toward this finish, but we did check out a forest road. This road ended when we came upon a washed out part, that we could not cross.

Back out and to our air up spot. Everyone had a fun day. We saw no one all day. The Jemez mountains are beautiful. Thanks to Rich for tail gunning duties.

Jeff Boggs, trail Leader.



NM4W Officers

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