

Mammoth Lakes, Eastern Sierra 4X4 Club

Newsletter August 3, 2008

In August of 1978, (thirty years ago...) my family and I moved to Sioux Falls, SD. I accepted a position in the local school district as the School Counselor. I had interviewed for the position with the High School Principal. He asked me, as a final question; "The people of the community were looking for someone to fill the position who was a Lutheran, Norwegian in descent or a Republican." Woops! I was a Roman Catholic, of German descent and a Republican. I was offered the position and took it whole heartedly.

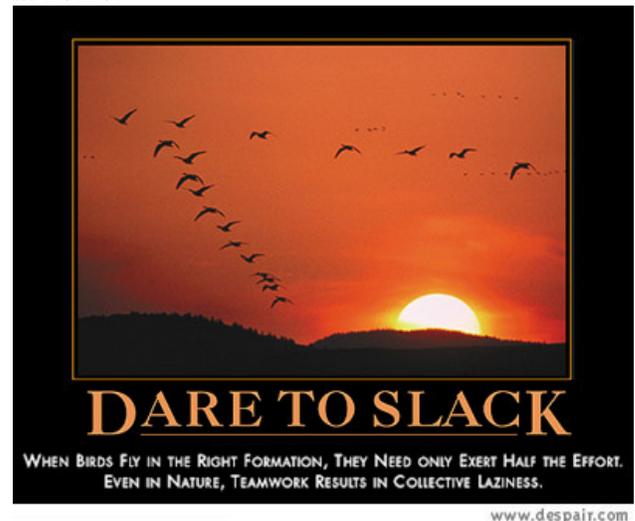
That was two days before we moved there from Aberdeen, SD. Our home was for sale and we had to find a new residence. In the meantime our best friends loaned us their camper truck to live out of until we found a home and could get settled in. We found a great campsite in the local state park and planted ourselves there for two weeks. Newton Hills State Park was our temporary home away from home, with an 8 year old daughter and a 29 year old, very pregnant, spouse. I had to start work the day after we set up camp with Michele's mother Bonnie Jo due in just two short weeks.

The fun was only just beginning for our little family, because we came to see things we hadn't seen before, and meet people that were almost as strange. The park manager had just taken the position and he had some strange staff. They were friendly, but did keep an eye out on Bonnie while Michele and I were at school. Cell phones in those days were non-existent. (I often wish they still were.)

Some of the beauty we saw and otherwise experienced in that short two weeks included, several Raccoons, wild Turkeys, Whitetail Deer, Beavers, Pheasants and a wayward Badger. These folks showed up right outside our door every morning. It was awesome. We came across mucho wild raspberries, rhubarb, great oak trees and the ever present poison ivy.

Michele and Bonnie loved the place and I very distinctly made up my mind that, if it were ever possible, I was going to land a job there someday. Little did I know just how true that would become later?

Our home in Aberdeen sold within a week of our moving, and we put a down payment on a cute two story white home in Canton, SD, just two blocks from the school I was working at. This home was already 55 years old, built originally from a three room single level home. Now it had six rooms downstairs with a bathroom and bedroom, large kitchen living room and dining room, large food pantry, enclosed front porch, back porch and entry to a full basement. The second floor contained two large bedrooms and a full bathroom. We were at home.



Finding new neighbors, one being the local police chief and his family, gave us a contact and family to leave our daughter with should Bonnie pop.

That she did, just two days later. Since Bonnie had only experienced labor for about three hours with Michele, I guessed that the second would slide right out. I shouldn't have guessed, because when she told me it was time and I rushed her 45 miles to the hospital in Sioux Falls, William Vincent (Billy) was born a long 45 minutes later. We got home settling in as a "million dollar family", with life being wonderful. The park took a second place in our lives, but not for long. Bonnie landed a position as a mortgage loan processor in Canton and we were happy. (and the story goes on...)

*For Sale (at a good price) FREE!
Two (2) cloth Jeep doors, tan, Early '70's
Contact: Renn Everhart (760) 914-0688*



Compliments of Mammoth 4 Wheelers from the 4th of July Parade in Mammoth. A popular entry well done. Kathy Watkins Daughter & Son-in-laws entry.

Don & Libby

This is an e-mail from Don Bloom about his exciting life. It's a good thing he was in a Jeep Wrangler... and we sometimes think we have it tough. Count your blessings...

From: Don Bloom [mailto:donb707@san.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 7:46 AM
To: Mike Johnston
Subject: Re: Club Meeting

Mike:

We were on the north side of Big Bear on the John Deer? trail. Turned out to be class 3-4 with lots of rocks and turns. More difficult than Rubicon. Right side of jeep too high on rock and left side in low area next to large boulder. Result a slow motion ease over of about 85 degrees. Driver door came to rest on rock. Seat belts really worked. Lots of help from our group, San Diego 4 Wheelers. Club members drove us back to Motel 6 and we called it a day.

MIT located a used door and now installing it. Lots of other routine serving being done including a new CB. Lots of \$\$, the thrill of having fun. We are off to Colorado Friday. If possible, schedule Larry's run after August 9. we will be back after that date. Best to all. Don and Libby

August - Happy Birthdays



*Natalie Bailey
Ali Conley
Dave Flynn
Stephen Jagodowski
Susanne Olson
Jon Patzer
Geri Weirick*

Wilderness

Kathleen Norris (1880-1960) a Columnist and novelist once wrote: "Life is easier than you'd think; all that is necessary is to accept the impossible, do without the indispensable and bear the intolerable."

"Aerodynamically the bumble bee shouldn't be able to fly, but the bumble bee doesn't know it so it goes on flying anyway."

Mary Kay Ash

Changes to Wilderness Bill Include White Mountain Acreage

Written by Tom Woods (FM: Greg)

Tuesday, 29 July 2008

The Boxer-McKeon Wilderness Bill is slowly changing as it is ground through the gears of Washington DC.

The bill had proposed 430,000 acres of new designated wilderness in the Eastern Sierra. That number is now up to 438,000.

As proposed wilderness areas near Mammoth were subtracted from the list, new wilderness areas are now proposed to be added.



According to Congressman Buck McKeon's staff, the proposed McGee Mountain Wilderness near Crowley Lake has been removed from the bill. The Laurel Lakes addition, near Mammoth is no longer on the list either.

Bob Huaeter with McKeon's office has explained that Senator Barbara Boxer's office won't budge on the total acreage of Wilderness in this bill, so other areas are slated to be added as parts are cut out.

4000 acres on Table Mountain, between Aspendell and South Lake is now proposed Wilderness. Other new additions include close to 4000 acres on Mt. Conness near Tioga Pass and 500 acres near Tioga Lake.

The White Mountains, were much of the controversy in this bill lies, will receive an additional 6000 acres on top of the 223,000 acres already in the bill. McKeon's staff reports that the recently added 6000 acres are in Mono County and include an already protected area of Bristlecone Pine Forest.

Other changes to the bill remain as previously reported. 22 miles of Cottonwood Creek in the Whites are slated for Wild and Scenic River designation and Wilderness boundary will fall 75 feet from the center line of roads cherry stemmed into the Wilderness. Every currently legal road will stay legal, staff reports.

Maps of the recent changes to the Wilderness Bill are now available on Congressman McKeon's website.

If you didn't get your fill of that try this.

Gambler Poker Run

On page 23 of the recent Cal 4WD magazine "In Gear" is information on the Gambler Poker Run in Markleeville, Ca on 8/16/2008. You do not need to be a Cal 4WD member and it only cost \$50. I did this run a couple years ago and it was a blast. The Lake Tahoe HI-LO'S 4 WD Club is the host and they do a real nice job. You can get more info at www.laketahochilos.com.

It is not for full size trucks and minimum tires are 31 but 33 is recommended. I did it with 31s but I discolored a lot of rocks and slightly modified a few body parts (I don't have any lift kit either). Yes, I did it in my rice bowl and it was a real challenge.

It is free dry camping and a good place to get started if you have never been to a 4x4 event.

Mike Johnston

Taken on the June 2008 Run led by Greg



Thirteen vehicles, four dogs, plenty of peoples, lots of great weather, nice challenges. Made new friends and saw some awesome and spectacular sites. Certainly can't ask for much more!

Safety First & Last

By Mike Johnson

As we modify our vehicles for OHV use, we generally make them less suitable for high speed highway use. Just a couple reminders: make sure you have the proper tire air pressure when on the highway (remember the Explorer roll-over problems- some blamed it on incorrect tire pressure), and reconnect your sway bars if you use the disconnects.

One of the first modifications we usually do is get larger tires and or lift kits. This gives us better clearances but also raises the center of gravity (less stability). Good heavy duty shocks will somewhat help offset this. Remember that all four tires need to be the exact same size, and the spare should be close to the same size (for short term use only). Each tire manufacturer seems to have their own way of measuring and sizing tires. The same numbers on the sidewall does not mean they have the same diameter, and 31 does not always equate to 31 inches. To be safe use the same brand/style for all four tires.

August – Anniversaries



*Libby & Don Bloom
Ginny & Ted Pearce
Geri & Greg Weirick*

Sites for CBGear and Cell accessories:

I looked up the site on E-bay for the electronics I bought; it was called "A better way to buy". Go into E-bay, look up stores, then search for the name as: abetterwaytobuy, all on word, and it will come up as a two radio communications site.

Phil, good for newsletter, a site for C.B. radio stuff. Maybe put in a blerb "all members are strongly encouraged to have a C.B. radio", and here is a site to use. Renn

The Cell Phone Shop

This on-line store is really a great source of Cell Phone accessories for almost every brand and accessory out there. The sales they run are spectacular, shipping is very fair and they are very prompt with deliveries and satisfaction. I have bought two Blue Tooth devices and three cases from them for a third and less, including

shipping, than I could get even in discount houses in the southland or Reno. Check it out... If you need a blue tooth for the new laws, try this source. *Phil*

<http://www.cellphoneshop.net/>

Combined Group Run...

From: Kinsey Day

[\[mailto:kinseyday22@cox.net\]](mailto:kinseyday22@cox.net)

Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2008 4:11 PM

To: Renn Everhart

Subject: October joint 4x4 run with The Mammoth Lakes Eastern

Sierra 4 Wheel Drive Club and Fun in the Sun Four Wheelers (FITS)

Hi

We were wondering if your planning for our joint 4x4 outings has progressed, and if you have selected any trails yet?

Don't forget about the proposed potluck Saturday night if your club is interested.

Thanks, Bob Day & Sally Kinsey

kd22@cox.net

310 544-2130

Below is the info that is in our current newsletter: Bishop Fall Color Weekend October 3-6, 2008

The weekend is planned as a fun run with people arriving and leaving per own schedules. We will have two joint runs with the Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra 4wd Club on Saturday and Sunday plus a pavement run to see Fall Color (bring your camera) on Friday and a scenic run to the Bristlecones (Silver Canyon Trail) on Monday.

This weekend has other events scheduled in Bishop. Please make your reservations as soon as possible.

A potluck has been suggested for Saturday nite jointly with the Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra 4wd Club to be held in the campground.

Coordination of this will occur. Contact Sally with headcount and the type of dish you will bring.

kd22@cox.net or phone

Run Meeting Times and Locations: TBD
FITS Trip Leaders: Bob Day & Sally Kinsey H-310 544-2130 C-310 874-4039 Estimated
Travel time to Bishop: 6 hrs
Ratings: 3-4

Proposed Itinerary:

Thu Oct 2 Arrive Fri Oct 3 Rating 2 run on pavement to see Fall Color Sat Oct 4 Rating 3 joint run with Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra 4wd Club Sun Oct 5 Rating 4
Mon Oct 6 Rating 3 Scenic Rating 9 Silver Canyon Trail to the Bristlecones

From Renn: We look forward to seeing you there Yes, we have two runs set up, one Saturday and one on Sunday. Saturdays' is up Queens canyon, an all day run into Nevada. (leave at 8, back around 4 or 5 p.m.) see mines, fantastic views, probably wild horses and antelope as well. There is a ghost town called Candelaria out there, but it may be too much for one day. Sunday is either above Bishop to the Buttermilks, great views, in the pines trees, a water crossing and climb to about 9800 feet. Last year we saw lot's of deer and two huge bucks up there, watching us watch them. Or a run up Baker Creek to Coyote Pleateau. I am cc-ing Greg, our club V.P. as he will be leading the run to the destination he likes, but maybe he'll want to combine the two area for a fun filled day!

Both Saturdays and Sundays runs should feature some nice colors to view as well. Saturday potluck is a definite yes, we will be sending out the info to our club at the meeting on the 13th of August. We are really looking forward to that weekend!!

Renn Everhart
Facilities Director
760/924-4060
everhart@mammothhospital.com

Proposed Minutes for July 9 2008 meet:

Minutes: MAMMOTH LAKES/EASTERN SIERRA FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

July 9, 2008 Bishop Pizza Factory

Submitted by: P. Hartz

Meeting was called to order by President Renn Everhart at 6:31 pm

Greetings to all members, with 13 members present: Graham Cooper, Renn Everhart, Don Fehlman, Dave & Ellie Mae Flynn, Phil Hartz, DeEtte & Mike Johnston, Ken Olson, Jon Patzer, Ginny & Ted Pearce and Greg Weirick.

Treasurers Report: Sherrie Skare (via cell phone) \$1594.10

Correspondence: Message from Don & Libby about their adventures in 4wheeling. 80% rollover at Big Bear on a rock they crushed a door in and got repairs. (See their e-mail in newsletter.) An e-mail from Zone Offroad Products, Dave DeVormer inviting the membership to visit their new website at zoneoffroad.com, to view their Offroad Event Calendar, Offroad Club listing and offering a special discount good through July 18th. All you have to do to get it is to enter the promotion code: 4WDC08 Good for an additional 8% off their already low prices. (Who knows they may still honor it since we got it so late.)

Committee Reports:

- Safety – See newsletter
- Web site – In progress
- Historian – No Rpt.

Land Use – Greg W. presented information that AAPL stuffing materials for Senators/Congressmen and people to use for letters.

- Kyle Cohen meeting 7/10/08 BLM
- Route Designation is next
- write Inyo Board of Supervisors, Senators and Congressmen.
- Inyo board is negative about the Wilderness plan
- Mono is split 3 for/2 on the fence (Hazard & Reed)

Under old business: Discussion of the Logo took place with examples of ideas presented by Renn. A lot of discussion went into the cartoonist effect it presented, but it was acceptable when by a vote of 9/1 with “We Tread Lightly” was included in the outer circle by a vote of 12/1, “CB-14” put on the Road part 8/1 and the Pick & Shovel to stay 5/0, 8 abstained.

“Hard Luck” award being given to the Secretary for the antenna trouble he had on the last run.

Get the DBA set in the Inyo Register and the Mammoth Times to show club as Eastern Sierra 4X4 instead of Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra 4X4.

On the 4th of July- Laurel Mtn. trip the Wilderness seems to run at 10K ft and the road jumps into the 10.1K level. (Illegal) Greens might like to join in adjusting that part of the bill.

New business: Sierra Trek – Insurance coverage?
Numbers for Forest Service 873-2513, BLM 872-5000
call them if you see abusers of the land. Stand up for what we represent.

Future runs:

August 23 Bridgeport Larry Peckham to lead

September 27-28 Coyote Run (overnighter)
Mike Johnston to lead

October 4-5 w/Fun in the Sun 4 Wheelers

Meeting closed 7:46 pm



Compliments of Kurt Wireman from the Coyote run.

Well there we have it... A good start!
Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter. Many of you take pictures on these events and I know they should find a home on these pages as well. So, please send your stories, pictures whatever, no matter how big or small. It all comes out in the wash and is well worth the effort.
Phil