



The Havasu 4 Wheelers

TRAIL TALK



Volume 19, Number 12

YOUR MONTHLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

A FAMILY FOUR-WHEELING CLUB DEDICATED TO THE MOTTO "TREAD LIGHTLY!"

December 2011



Upcoming Club Runs (1-5 rating)

Check the Havasu 4 Wheelers Website for updates on runs and events: www.havasu4wheelers.org

- Crazy Eights (3.0).....Dec. 2nd
9:00am, Love's @ Hwy 95 & I-40, Bob Carson
- Ram's Peak (3.25).....Dec. 5th
9:30am, Home Depot Parking Lot, Tom Bunnell
- Diamondback/Sidewinder (4.0).....Dec. 6th
8:30am, Standard Wash Kiosk, Dave Opperman
- Ridges (3.25).....Dec. 6th
9:00am, Terribles @I-40 & Hwy 95, Sue Guibord
- Warm Springs (3.0).....Dec. 7th
9:00am. Terrible's @ Hwy 95 & I-40, Charles Leipart
- Behind Crossman (3.5).....Dec. 8th
8:30am, End of Challenger, Gary Wiskus
- Mohave Trail (2.0).....Dec. 10th
9:00am, Love's @ Hwy 95 & I-40, Bob Carson
- Tin Barn/Whiskey Basin Loop (3.75).....Dec. 13th
8:30am, Love's @ Hwy 95 & I-40, Andy Lucas
- Turquoise Mine (3.25).....Dec. 17th
9:30am, Scenic Turnout, Andy Lucas

Please Note: Please be at the departure location
20 minutes before the departure time.
Call Trail Boss if you are unable to attend.

Continued on Page 2...

Stacy & Del Albright from Blue Ribbon Coalition



Photo by Cheryl MacLean

Residents Message

PI hope a Happy Thanksgiving was enjoyed by all of you Havasu 4-Wheelers, and everyone took the opportunity to share with family, friends or both.



November was a very busy month with activities and runs. We hosted Del and Stacie Albright from the Blue Ribbon Coalition at a meet and greet and land use seminar. They are two very passionate access advocates, intent on keeping public lands in public hands. Willie Williams took charge of the Veteran's Day Parade this year and thanks to her a record number of jeeps rolled down McCulloch in salute and thank you to our veterans. Thanks Willie! We also had our annual Turkey Roast and Jeep Games, so I would be remiss if I didn't thank Jim and Joanne Malara for organizing the dinner, and Mike MacLean for leading the Jeep games. Yes, we had other vehicles besides Jeeps, but "Jeep Games" just has such a nice ring to it. And on top of all those fun activities we had 14 runs!

Coming up in December Andy Lucas will provide AED instruction to any member needing it. We have two AED's, and it would benefit all to have as many members as possible trained to use them. Remember, the life you save may be mine. We only have 9 runs scheduled for December, and can certainly use some more. And while you're thinking about it, look forward to January as well. Please help Bob Scholl out while he's recovering from knee surgery by scheduling a run this month and next. This is prime 4-wheeling season, so let's get out there. The parties are fun and I love them, but 4-wheeling is our name and our game.

Speaking of parties, January will bring us our annual Holiday Party on January 14th, 5:30 pm at Shugrues. We have worked very hard maintaining and securing our trails, and we should really kick up our heels. The theme this year is "Luau" so break out those Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts! We will recognize all of the trail bosses this year, and award the 4-Wheeler of the Year award. It could be anyone in the club, so you don't want to miss it-it might just be YOU.

In the meantime, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and as always,

Happy Trails, Cheryl

**Libations and Grins
from the Run Leader****Happy Halloween!****Halloween Delights****Wobblin Gobblin Run
After Party Hosted
by Willie and Snake****Man Cave
Party Room**

Oh what a beautiful night for a run....perfect temperature, total darkness with an outhouse moon, bright stars, lights of the city, and lots of dust. We could have done without the dust which can be attested to by the 24 jeeps that went on this Oct 31st run.

The night was not without it's problems and a little bit of humor. First the humor. We were stopped for a stretch break when a side by side came upon us and was curious as to what such a large group was doing in the desert. After explaining that we were a jeep club on a run the lady admitted to a mistake she made. When she saw the lights from the jeeps in the desert, she told her husband that they must be getting close to Hwy 95 because of all the traffic. Sure glad she wasn't leading the run and also glad that her husband had a better sense of direction. First problem. When we were ready to resume our travels after the stretch break the MacLean jeep wouldn't start until it rested an additional 10 minutes and then decided it wanted to finish the run. Second problem. The trail boss gave a couple of jeepers something to think about by taking a wrong turn and heading up a hill that then turned into a motor cycle trail going down. If it was in the daytime it would have been no big deal to turn around or back down the hill, but the night time adds a whole new element. I am sure Bruce and Kathlyne will remember the night for awhile. On an interesting note we had 24 jeeps on the run so there should have been 48 head lights but we fluctuated between 47 to 48. Charles Leipart's jeep kept winking at the jeep in front of him. Most unusual.

At the conclusion of the run all but 3 jeeps joined us at our house for a social get together. What a feast..... 2 club tables full of a wide variety of delicious food. In my opinion Sherry Hetzer gets the prize for creativeness.....deviled eggs that looked like a spider was on top. Way to go. That was a lot of work.

Thank you for all who came and made it a very enjoyable evening. A special Thank You to Ed Heil for being the tail gunner. At last report we didn't lose anyone in the desert.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss



*Havasu's 2nd Annual
Balloon Festival
January 19 - 22nd, 2012*

If you are interested in
Volunteering, sign up on their
web site
havasuballoonfest.com

Cont. from page 1

Other Club Happen'ns

H4W Board Meeting Dec. 12th
4 pm, Mohave Comm. College, Rm 827, Cheryl MacLean

Date Change

Men's Breakfast Dec. 15th
8:00am, Bad Miguel's, Bruce Speirs

H4W Membership Meeting Dec. 15th
7:00pm, Realtor's Center, Cheryl MacLean

Cherum Peak Hike / Chloride

On Friday, November 4th, 9 vehicles left for Big Wash Road off Route 93 north of Kingman. We had a very nice ride to the top past the campgrounds to the trailhead for Cherum Peak. We had 15 hardy souls start out on the hike on a cool day. Some decided they had gone far enough at various points along the way. Eight people made it to the end enjoying the many beautiful vistas along the way and at the top. We only stayed at the top a couple of minutes to take pictures as the wind was blowing very hard and it was cold. We found a good lunch spot out of the wind just below the top. After our return, we all continued down the road to Chloride. Everyone did a great job with no problems and we arrived at the murals in good order. Most of us finished the day at Yesterdays in Chloride. Thank you to John Strong for being tail gunner and Dave Hawes for carrying the AED.

Steve Riley, Trail Boss



Photo By: Steve Riley

CHANGING ADDRESSES.

If you have a change of home address, (in Havasu for the winter) please let us know so we can correct our records and make sure your newsletter gets to you each month.

Remember, its your job to notify us!

Bob or Wanda 928/505-6579
bw_scholl@frontiernet.net



AND...
The winning number is...

NOVEMBER'S 50/50 WINNER WAS JOANNE MALARA \$79.00

TomCat Pass

Wednesday, Oct 26 five Jeeps climbed to the top of TomCat pass in spite of gale force winds, enjoyed a breezy lunch and savored the spectacular views from Spirit Mountain to the north to the Parker Strip to the south.

Great run with no problems. Thanks to Ladell and Judy for tailgunning.

Andy Lucas, Trail Boss

Moss Wash

On Tuesday, Nov. 1st, five jeeps met at Love's to start the long trip to Moss Wash. There was one breakdown of a Jeep before they reached Home Depot, but they returned to Lake Havasu and changed Jeeps to meet up with us at Exit 66 on the interstate.

After airing down, we proceeded to Moss Wash. We stopped at the Gold King Mansion for everyone to have a look and stopped in the black walnut grove area for lunch. After lunch we proceeded to Flag mine road for a group picture, then heading south to the Escalator Trail and out to I-40 on Walnut Creek Ranch Road.

Thanks to John Strong for Tail gunning.

Ladell Olson, Trail Boss



Photo By: Judy Olson

TURKEY TIME!

The annual Havasu 4-Wheelers Turkey Roast was held at Campbell Ranch on Sunday November 13th. Rain was threatening, but the clouds cleared and it turned into a typical beautiful day in Havasu.

The fun started with Jeep games led by Mike MacLean. Helping Mike were Ladell and Judy Olsen, Tom and Lisa Bunnell, Ron Satterfield, Gary Wiskus, and Bruce Speirs at the megaphone. A big thank you to all who helped! Lacking safety cones for the blind driving course, the Jeep Games team improvised with balloons attached to boards. Touching a board incurred a penalty, and popping a balloon incurred an additional penalty. A lot of balloons were popped, which brought cheers from the crowd. The winners of the blind driving course were Penny Leistikko and Cal Bowman.

On to the potato picking, and there were some very unique and entertaining methods for poking those spuds, but Tom and Lisa Bunnell took the prize with Tom's stylish *hang out the window until you almost fall out* method.

Then it was time to eat, after the invocation by Jim Bowen. After good food and full stomachs, the finale of the day was the 50/50 raffle, \$152.00 won by Windy Burchard.

All in all, it was a good time with good friends and good food. Thanks go to Jim and Joanne Malara for organizing the dinner, and to all of the members who helped with set-up, clean-up, and organizing all of the dishes at the tables.



Blind Driving Winners
Cal Bowman & Penny Leistikko



Potato Picking Winners
Tom & Lisa Bunnell



Desert Bar via The Hole In the Wall

November 6, we had 11 jeeps that met at Sara Park. We entered the trailhead at about 10:45 am with 10 Jeeps because one had overheated on the trip to the air down point. We proceeded to the Gray Eagle Mine where we had lunch and some explored the mine. At this point we continued on the trail away from the bar that added about 3.0 miles to the trip for a total of 8 miles overall. We continued to about 1/8 mile from the desert bar road and I gave everyone the option of going to the main road or continuing on with us on a trail that is more like a 3.25 that requires being lifted and some spotting. All but 3 jeeps went the hard way, which was about one mile to the bar. We had no problems and everyone had a really great time going over two water falls on this new route. Some of the guys let their wives drive over the falls and they did a great job. We have called this route the Hole In the Wall.

Thanks to Ron and Sally Satterfield for being our tail gunners.

Tom Bunnell, Trail Boss



Photo By: Tom Bunnell



A decorative illustration for "Trail Boss of the Month". It features a wooden sign at the top with the text "Trail Boss of the Month". Below the sign is a large, stylized letter "L" containing the name "Ladell Olson". Underneath "Ladell Olson" is the word "Congratulations!". To the left of the "L" is a drawing of a vehicle wheel. The entire illustration is framed by a decorative border.

Veterans Day Parade

November 11, 2011

Wow! We had jeeps as far as the eye could see. Maybe that is a little bit of an exaggeration but we did have a great turnout of 25 jeeps. What can I say but Thank You to the club members who were willing to give of their time and show their support of the veterans.

The event started out with donuts and orange juice complements of our club member, Jim Lund who is the store director at Albertsons. A big Thank You to Jim.....yum!

What activity would be complete without the bear. He came waving his flag and singing his song. Maybe he should become an honorary member of the club?

Compared to other years, there was a much better turn out from the community also. It almost brought a lump to your throat to look into the crowd and see the proud individuals with their military insignia on. They gladly served our country, and it makes a person feel a sense of gratitude and honor to be able to let them know how much they are appreciated.

Willie Williams, Event Coordinator



Photo By: Willie Williams

Desert Clean Up Party

Well, it was sort of an exercise party, I guess, as 40-some 4-wheelers, a few BLM officials and some youngsters doing community service work through the Mohave County Probation Department got together to clean up our desert in the area of Paseo De Oro and Bison. Let's not forget About Time Portable Toilets and Party Express who were contributors again, making our project more comfortable! Everyone did a marvelous job, coaxing trash of numerous descriptions from nooks and crannies, and off the wide expanses, stretching, bending, lifting, pulling and pushing debris into bags and into the dumpsters donated by Allied Waste. Was it the morning donuts and coffee that fueled their feverish efforts or was it just exercise-starved senior citizens going for it? Whatever was the case, this desert area is now nearer the pristine condition which we like to see! Although this area was not as littered with as much illegally disposed of trash as we have seen in the past, there was plenty of "loot" to keep us all busy for 3 hours. In spite of the feelings most of us harbor toward the idiots who abuse our desert by trashing it, we had another good turn out to clean it up. I personally know it is not easy to coax yourself out of bed early in the morning to participate in grueling exercise, so your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Sue Guibord, Trash Queen



11.09.2011 22:21



11.09.2011 23:04



Let's not lose focus

For the last 5 years we have been working with the local BLM as they have been going thru the federally mandated TMP (Travel Management Plan). While we may be frustrated at times with the "slowness and lack of transparency"—I feel we are getting a "fair shake and are being listened to". While as a club we would like to see as many of all the trails in the area kept open—we realize that is not going to happen.

The biggest challenge we have to keep in mind is that the local BLM is not our enemy! Our enemy is the "green organizations" that want to close as much land as possible to any form of motorized transportation. Our local BLM is caught in the middle between "green organizations" with tons of money that are going to probably sue the BLM

concerning their final decisions saying they did not "close enough" no matter how much they do close. On the other side are the users like we are that want as much left open as possible. Our strategy has to be: In order to maintain our freedom to enjoy our access to trails—how can we help the BLM feel comfortable in defending a decision to keep certain trails open. We should be asking, "How can we help?" We realize the BLM has been "understaffed" and without equipment capable of traversing some of our more difficult trails. We know we cannot exert improper influence on the decision process. Nevertheless, we can help furnish information and help them field verify data they are currently evaluating.

At this point we need to be patient for a bit longer. We also have to be ready to closely evaluate the "final recommended" plan of open and closed trails once we receive them. We will have one more "30 day comment period" after the first of the year. I want to thank our members that wrote letters during the last comment period and thank all of you in advance for any letters we may need to write during the next (final) comment period.

I was asked by a person recently, "Why do you even go out there in your Jeep?" Each of us does not need to ask that question! It is a hobby we enjoy with a passion!

Let's all work to keep it that way!



Photo By: Willie Williams

MWD Tour

November 14th twenty five members met at Sara Park and caravanned to the Gene Pump Plant facility where we were checked in and met our tour guide, Mr. Don Nash the pump plant manager. Don after looking at all of our jeeps, made the comment that, due to the fact that the facility was shut down, he had a little extra time, asked if we would like to also take in the Copper Basin area? To which we all replied a resounding YES. Well right then I knew I was in trouble, as I had told everyone, that they would not get their vehicles dirty as we would be on asphalt the whole time, and Copper Basin is a nice graded, very dusty road. We proceeded to the Basin facility, and the dust was not much of a problem (lucky for me). And then after checking the reservoir head gate and the entrance of the 12 mile tunnel out, Don asked if we would like to take another dirt road further around the reservoir and down to the bottom of the dam? And once again this adventurous group nodded YES. Now this road is not as well maintained as the one we were just on, as it had a lot of ups and downs, blind turns, loose dirt sections, and the further DOWN we went the more brush we ran into. A short distance further and we were now driving on very moist dirt (MUD), with water crossings, and the brush was getting very thick as we entered the most beautiful black and red rock canyon, with lush green ferns, moss, small palm trees, grass, and more MUD. Now at this point Don said we should stop and walk the rest of the way, to which everyone agreed to if they could get out of their vehicles due to the heavy foliage. After 9,000 photos, we now had to back out of this canyon (no turn around space), and on our way back up the 4 wheel drive hills, we had to strap one jeep due to the loose dirt/rock road. This was a real high light that we never expected, Thanks to Don.

We then proceeded back to Gene Plant and toured their museum of history, which is quite nice, and then on to the Ol Swimming Hole for lunch. Now this area is surrounded with palm trees, white sand beach with horse shoe pits, volleyball court, covered cabana's and picnic area with BBQ pit.

After lunch we continued on to the Intake Pump Plant for a tour of the Control Room, and the GIANT size pump motors, and then downstairs to the intake area which is below water level and the location of the huge pumps themselves, most interesting.

Snake Williams, Trail Boss



Roulette Mine

On Wednesday, November 16, six jeeps and twelve travelers left the scenic turnout for a trip to the Roulette Mine area. After a stop at Parker Dam for a brief history of the area we proceeded on our way. We stopped at the "money cache" for a few minutes before heading to our lunch area. After lunch we made our way to the canyon area and to the large cave, but no one attempted to drive into it. We encountered no problems on our way out of Whipple Wash and on the way to our original starting point to air up and head home. We did find out that the road in and Whipple Wash are both very rocky as much of the sand has been washed away making some of the run a little more difficult than in the past. All-in-all we had a great day. Thanks goes to Dennis Callaghan for navigating and for spotting. Thanks also goes to Rodger and Renee Melton for tailgunning.

Charles Leipart, Trail Boss



Photo By: Rodger Melton

Change of Address

Do you have a change to your home mailing or e-mail address?

Are you in Havasu for the Winter?

Don't forget to let us know so we can change our records and make sure your newsletter and e-mails get to you.

REMEMBER

It's your responsibility to notify us of the change.

NO NOTICE = NO NEWSLETTER!

**bw_scholl@frontiernet.net
Bob & Wanda 928/505-6579**

Northwest Passage

November 17th. the weather was beautiful, and a turnout of ten vehicles, of which we had three guest ride a long's. Drivers meeting and air downs complete, we were on our way. The first portion of this run is somewhat mundane, and the further you go, the prettier it gets. After several turns up and down the wash's, Snoopy Dog Rock appeared on the horizon, and this is where I made a mistake. I guess I was looking at Snoopy and drove right past my turn into a wash. Oh well, a 180 degree turn, and a back track to the wash, and we were on our way again. After numerous ups and downs crossing many washes, we entered another stream bed that held some small waterfalls and one squeeze with a waterfall. Now this proved to be a nice little challenge, and one jeep after starting up the waterfall, slid the rear end sideways into hole at the base of a rock wall. The driver was of course concerned about scratching his nice shiny jeep, let alone tearing off the fender flairs, however patience and perseverance paid off, NOT ONE SCRATCH. Further up the trail, we stopped at the Bolder Mine for a walk around, then off to a lunch spot. From here on, all remained calm to the end of the run and air up.

Thank you to B.J. for tail gunning, to Willie for letting me drive her jeep.

Snake Williams, Trail Boss



Photo By: B.J. Buckout



The Cow Bell

**The coveted ding-dong
Goes to: "should I have
my lockers on?"**

Keith Schweizer



Photo of Kevin Hoppe (with Drumsticks), by Jim Bowen

The Maze

November 11th, 2011

The Maze never ceases to "Amaze" the participants on the trail that day! We had great weather—the ground was damp from previous rains—no dust! Damp but not wet—no mud! The Maze is pretty much one obstacle after another with brief but not boring stretches in between. We had a group composed of experienced drivers with well set up Jeeps—so we really made good time. Our lunch break was something special (again amazing). Kevin and Connie Hoppe produced ICE CREAM from their ARB 12 volt freezer in the back of their Jeep! Since Kevin knows many of my runs end at the ice cream store—he has been threatening to bring ice cream on a run. Sitting in our chairs, on top of the highest point on our trail, looking out over Lake Havasu towards Parker dam, eating ice cream—it doesn't get any better! We had no problems—we went so quickly that we added some extras towards the end of the trail. Air up was special also—we had another round of ice cream—either Drum Sticks or Klondike Bars—it's rough! Thanks Kevin and Connie for the ice cream—that was "AMAZING"! Thanks Ladell for being "tail gunner"—although everyone stayed upright, and no one broke anything—your job was pretty easy!

Jim Bowen, Trail Boss

• Roster Changes •

**Bill & Nola Lawson, new address:
3518 Winston Dr.
LHC, AZ 86406
Cell Phone 206-550-7986**

**Jim & Janet Lund, new email address:
janet_lund@yahoo.com**

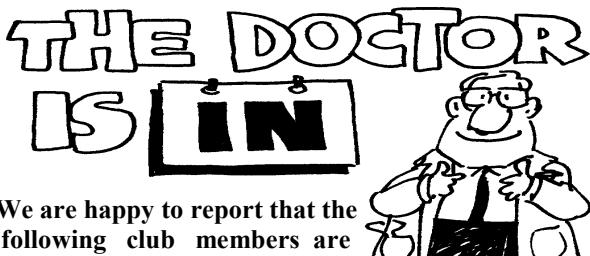
Black Inky

Eight jeeps had beautiful weather on the Black Inky run Friday, November 18th. Leaving Love's, the group traveled to the Griffin Power Plant exit and went 9 miles into the Hualapai's on Walnut Creek road. There they viewed pictographs at the old spring, then started up the mountain. The little used technical trail required constant attention, but caused no problems. Tocks, shale, long climbs and off camber challenged the jeeps. Finishing early the run dropped off at the Franconia exit to locate two cemeteries near the Hobo camp. While studying maps, Andy Lucas' jeep mysteriously started driving forward. Only the quickness of passenger Nancy Lucas, with a dive to the brake pedal, stopped the jeep from going over a cutbank into a stack of rails. Most of the group enjoyed Scottie's Chicken following the run. Thanks to Ladell and Judy Olson for tail gunning and Rodger and Renee Melton for carrying the AED.

Darryld Kautzmann, Trail Boss



Photo By: Darryld Kautzmann



We are happy to report that the following club members are recovering from surgeries and ready to hit the trail.

**Rodger Delk
Bill Farr
Judy Justus
Leroy Larsen**

DIZCLAIMER Spellum errurrrs, mizpelled namez & mizuse of Inglish are the responsibilite of Spell Chuck & the board of directors who push to got thiz thing out on time. The editors 'aint gon'na be held liable. If, in readin this newsletter, you get t he message, be satisfied with what ya got!



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tread lightly!®
LEAVE A GOOD IMPRESSION
I pledge to tread lightly:

- T** TRAVELING ONLY WHERE MOTORIZED VEHICLES ARE PERMITTED.
- R** RESPECTING THE RIGHTS OF HIKERS, SKIERS, CAMPERS AND OTHERS TO ENJOY THEIR ACTIVITIES UNDISTURBED.
- E** EDUCATING MYSELF BY OBTAINING TRAVEL MAPS AND REGULATIONS FROM PUBLIC AGENCIES, COMPLYING WITH SIGNS AND BARRIERS, AND ASKING OWNERS PERMISSION TO CROSS PRIVATE PROPERTY.
- A** AVOIDING STREAMS, LAKESHORES, MEADOWS, MUDDY ROADS AND TRAILS, STEEP HILLSIDES, WILDLIFE, AND LIVESTOCK.
- D** DRIVING RESPONSIBLY TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND PRESERVE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENJOY MY VEHICLE ON WILD LANDS.

Gold Springs Run

November 19th, @ 08:30 Twelve vehicles were ready to go, after a brief drivers meeting. This run starts off as a nice easy ride through the desert, and then the trail starts to follow a wash, which tends to get a little narrow and the walls get a little higher with some tight turns and a few rocks thrown in just to make sure everyone is awake. And then the terrain levels out and one would begin to think, THIS IS TOO EASY. But then all of a sudden we turned into another wash, and looming ahead is a fair size waterfall (7 to 8 ft.) with a V notch near the top and a hole just over the ridge. Everyone looked at it, and those with lockers decided to give it a try, and there is a go around available. Well after several jeeps made it up and over without a problem, the rest, though a little skeptical, also tried it and made it. And this of course created a lot of giggles and comments of accomplishment. GREAT JOB FOLKS! The rest of the run consists of some boulders, ups & downs, steep rutty climbs, off camber turns, etc. We stopped at Gold Spring for those who have not seen it, and to give the drivers arm rest time. Then we were off again and on our way to Hawks Nest Canyon, which is a tight twisty turning canyon with some rocks, some of which are sharp tire getters, and most everyone took on the challenge, the rest of the jeeps were led to the bottom of the canyon via Dutch Flat Rd. by Steve & Kathy Perry, where we had lunch.

After lunch we continued on doing part of the Maze and more ups & downs etc. to a point where we entered the western most end of Yahoo Run, and we stopped at Black Falls for a look see. From this point there are two ways to exit, one and the easy way is straight ahead up a small rock ledge and then up a steep hill. The other way is to the right, which is made up of several rock ledge stair steps to a waterfall and around an off camber bowl or hole, then up an off camber waterfall. And to my surprise - - - everyone followed me. I guess they all were getting a little more daring by this time, and everyone once again did a great job. Steve & Kathy Perry took a route to the left side of this area, which has a nice very steep tall waterfall, and after a couple of tries getting the right line he was up and over. Nice show for all. From here it was down Standard Wash and out onto Hwy. 95 and home. GREAT GROUP!

Thanks to Louise & Don Flood for trail maintenance and tail gunning, THANK YOU!

Snake Williams, Trail Boss

☹ ☺ “Sunshine” ☺ ☺

If you know of anyone in the club
who might need some cheering up, please call
Lisa Bunnell at 855-1780. She will be happy to send
cards for any occasion on behalf of the entire
Havasu 4 Wheelers membership. ♦



Snake Williams on the Gold Springs Run

Photo By: Willie Williams

“Trail Talk”

Safety Rant of the Month -- “Did Somebody Break Wind or was that Your Valve Stem?”



While doing a routine vehicle check at one of his events, Tom Severin of the Badlands Off-Road Adventures found that all four tires on one 4X4 had valve stems that were severely cracked near the rim hole. After some investigating he found that 198,000 defective Chinese valve stems were installed in US tires from September 2006 through mid 2007. A simple way to see if your valve stems are bad is to bend the stem and look for small cracks near the rim hole. This is not a small problem; you risk a roll over if the valve stem goes at highway speed. If that happens you WILL break wind and maybe more! (Re-printed in part from OffRoad.com).

- CIRCULATION -



Trail Talk is mailed free via USPS to all H4W members, advertisers, organizations and agencies that advocate responsible OHV'n. Non-member subscriptions available at the rate of \$15.00 per year. To ensure delivery, notify editor of any address change. Ed.

High Line

Five vehicles made this run on November 22nd. Disaster almost struck a short ways into the run but the tail gunner saved me from losing a couple jeeps. Been there, done that before.

Everyone did a great job of climbing the hills and off camber areas even though they were intimidating to look at. The high light of the run included spotting 3 big horn sheep grazing on the hill side. We made the usual stops at the mine, wildlife watering hole, and the former house.

On the trail we came upon an old, old trailer full of file cabinets, papers, roadside cones and misc stuff, sitting on a hi-low jack with obvious wheel problems. We talked to a fellow on a quad who said a couple weeks ago that trailer was farther down the trail broken down, so apparently whatever was wrong that time was fixed and then it went a little farther before they broke down again. He also informed us of an area with a "No Trespassing" sign and several other trailers farther up the trail. We had to investigate and sure enough he was right. What he didn't mention was the pile of trash which included several newer looking bicycles. We elected not to approach those trailers and merely took lat and long on the old trailer, no trespassing sign and the trash, so we could report it to the BLM so they could investigate the situation.

The gentleman we spoke to at the BLM office indicated that the lat and long didn't mean anything to him and asked that we show him the area on the map. Of course that map did not have any trails on it, but we were able to give him a rough idea. There is some private property in that area, so maybe they had the right to post the no trespassing sign and do what they want with the trash. However the old trailer was not in that area. Later in the conversation he indicated that the law enforcement officers are familiar with lat and long readings and would know where this area is. Our club does what it can to keep the desert clean and tries to work with the BLM to remove the trash and junk cars. I would hope that this situation is forwarded to the law enforcement officer and investigated.

A special Thank You to Richard Marchus for tail gunning and saving me from the dreaded cow bell.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss

Our sincere condolences from the entire membership go out to Rodger & Diana Delk with the passing of her Mother...



High Line Run, Photo By: Willie Williams



Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

Havasu 4 Wheelers
will once again support the
Marine Toys for Tots Foundation
Also we will be collecting non perishable food
items for the Community Food Bank
If you are able, please bring an unwrapped toy
and food donations to the December Meeting.



Early Times & The Rock Garden

On Saturday 11-26 we left the Elks Club Parking lot with a total of 11 jeeps, 3 of which were guests. We proceeded to the beginning of the run at the Eldorado Wash. There were a couple of jeeps that had to be strapped and one jeep with a broken Pitman Arm but because of the excellent array of tools and parts in the various jeeps and people working together the jeep was repaired in no time and the run continued.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and the weather was great. Thanks to Ladell and Judy for being our Tail gunner and for assisting in the strapping..

Don Flood, Trail Boss

Havasu 4 Wheelers

Monthly meetings are held the 4th Thursday of the month starting at 7:00pm at:
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December Birthdays and Events

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2	3
					Crazy Eights		
4	5 Sue Strong Ram Peak	6 Judy DesMarais Tony Planas Diamondback	7 Ridges Warm Spring	8 Dodie Gildea Behind Crossman	9 Chris Myers Howard Wicks Mohave Trail	10	
11 Jane Bowen Carol Yahrmarkt	12 Board Meeting	13 Rick Kiel Mike MacLean Tin Barn	14 David Key Wanda Scholl Mens Breakfast H4W Meeting	15	16	17 Don Flood Pattie Hatch Turquoise Mine	
18 Brenda Longshore	19 Richard Arney	20 Happy Hanukkah	21 Linda Smock	22 Dorothy Hill	23	24	
25 Merry Christmas	26 Denna Ketchum	27 Jim Longshore	28 LeeAnn Keys	29	30	31 Tom Gildea Michael Roach Anne Roberts	

- Anna's H4W "Club Stuff" -



December Anniversaries

Dec. 5th - Mike & Ro Beets
 Dec. 5th - Jim & Anna Hofstetter
 Dec. 8th - Jim & Janet Lund
 Dec. 10th - Ken & Joan Weller
 Dec. 11th - Snake & Willie Williams
 Dec. 12th - Paul & Sherry Hetzer
 Dec. 13th - Charles & Ruth Metcalf
 Dec. 16th - Colin & Jan Thomas
 Dec. 17th - Terry & Marilyn McGrew
 Dec. 21st - Ed & Terri Heil
 Dec. 24th - Rodger & Diana Delk
 Dec. 27th - John & Debra Hughes
 Dec. 31st - John & LouAnn Rawls
 Dec. 31st - Keith & Shirley Faust
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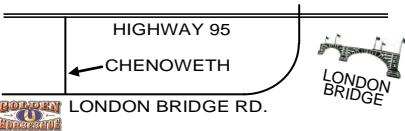
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RATING	DESCRIPTION
1	EASIEST: Passable by stock vehicles. Gentle fairly wide grades.
2	EASY: Use of 2 wheel and some 4-wheel drive. Trail may have some rocks, loose road surface, and ruts but a reasonable line for driving.
3	EASIEST MODERATE: 4-wheel drive with aggressive tire treads. Expect a rough road with rocks and sand that requires lower tire pressure. Substantial sections of single lane.
3½	MODERATE: Some 4 wheel driving experience needed. Same as above with some use of high and low range gearing. These trails have a rough, rutted surface, rocks and deep sand. Sections may be steep enough to cause traction problems, narrow shelf roads with steep drop-offs and tight clearance between rocks.
3½	HARDER MODERATE: For experienced drivers. 33" tires with aggressive tire tread, one locked differential, high and low range gearing. Potentially dangerous, large rocks, ruts, steep slopes, loose surface and narrow clearances that need to be negotiated.
3¾	HARDEST MODERATE: Skilled experienced drivers only. Same as above with both differentials locked, Some strapping/winching. Very challenging sections, extremely steep grades, loose surfaces, large rocks, deep ruts and tight clearances.
4	DIFFICULT: Highly skilled experienced drivers only. Same as above with belly up, 4 to 1 transfer case or equivalent, skid plates, beefed up axles and suspension system. Probable strapping/winching. Vehicle width and wheelbase should be considered. Possible body damage.
5	HARD: All of the above. Probable body damage.

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