

H4W



Volume 22, Number 5

The Havasu 4 Wheelers **TRAIL TALK**

YOUR MONTHLY CLUB NEWSLETTER



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



Upcoming Club Runs (1-5 rating)

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

- Death Valley (3+)..... Apr. 27th—May 3rd
See Web Site for details, Bob Drew
- Blanding, UT May 2nd & 3rd
See Web Site for details, Jim Bowen
- Moab, UT May 5-9, 2014
See Web Site for details, Mike & Cheryl MacLean

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

Other Club Happen's

- Ladies Luncheon May 15th
12:30pm, Juicy's New Restaurant, 42 Smoketree Ave.
(the old Jasper's), Diana Delk
- Trail Boss Meeting May 19th
9:00am, Genealogy Library, Gary Wiskus
- H4W Board Meeting May 19th
4:00pm, Genealogy Library, John Strong
- Cooks Night Out May 20th
5:00pm, Schlotzsky's 2144 McCulloch Blvd, Diana Delk
- Men's Breakfast May 22nd
8:00am, Bad Miguel's, Gary Wiskus
- H4W Membership Meeting May 22nd
7:00pm, Realtor's Center, John Strong

Future Happen's

- Ouray, CO Aug 18th—22nd
See Web Site for details, Willie Williams
- Green River, UT Sept. 15th—19th
See Web Site for details, Willie Williams
- Turkey Roast Nov. 15th
SARA Park Rodeo Grounds, Jim & Joanne Malara

President's Message

May weather is here and summer is on the way. Be careful when exploring our desert. Desert critters have emerged from their winter dens.

For those members on their annual trek to hibernate for the summer please, drive safely.

The month of May brings us the opportunity to honor some very special people: Our mothers and members of the military forces, both past and present. Without mothers, we would not be here and without our military forces, we would not have our freedom and wonderful privileges that we enjoy today.

We had our first board meeting with your newly elected board. You can be very proud of the fine and dedicated group you have selected this year. A number of our Committee Chairs who are also doing a great job are looking for your help and assistance. Please feel free to contact them.

Listen, Learn and Serve is our education process and we are blessed with many gifted members. Everything the H4W's do is about having fun and being safe. Safety-check vehicles and trauma kits before each run. H4W provides our members with Winching Classes, Driving 101 classes, AED Classes and Trail Boss meetings. We perform mine fencing with BLM, enter into voluntary agreements with BLM, such as being Site Stewards, and Water Catchment inspectors. We also work with Arizona Game and Fish Department in their Adopt a Ranch Project.



Monitoring the desert make the H4W's

"Stewards of the Desert".

*Happy trails to you,
John*



Ranch Work Day



The Voluntary Public Access & Habitat Improvement Program helped gain access onto or across some private property on this ranch.

To support continuation of the grant program and thereby help us increase access in other parts of the state, it is important that you completely fill out the sign-in sheet.

You may also be contacted by e-mail to complete a short survey regarding recreational access.

Thank you,
Arizona Game and Fish Dept.



March 28, 2014

Twenty-two of our members met at Lowe's, teamed up in vehicles and were off for our 4th Annual Ranch Day that's part of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's "Adopt a Ranch Project". Once at the Cane Springs Ranch we met Troy Christensen from AZG&F and divided into three teams. Team one had a very challenging project of cutting the brush away from a pipeline that ran from a well in the ranch headquarters area. With 2 chain saws, plenty of hand loppers, 10 members tied into a real jungle of brush! Team two headed west to the barn in the "rock cabin" area. Team two's goal was to build a door on a barn to keep the cows out, and from getting the hay that was stashed there for the cowboy's houses. Team three headed west even farther to brush out a corral that will be used in this fall's round up. After all three teams accomplished their goals the plan was to meet back at the ranch HQ for ice cream and cookies at 2:30. All three goals were done with typical H4W professional results—but the best part was the absolute precision that everyone assembled for the ice-cream and cookies! (We are real pros at this part!) I received a VERY NICE e-mail from the ranchers (Anita and Sherwood), thanking us profusely for doing the three projects! Thanks again for all the help from our fellow members!

Jim Bowen

Photos By: Judy Olson & Jim Bowen



Highway Clean-Up



"Havasu 4 Wheelers at work" that's our new sign, and that's what our volunteers did. We collected 25 bags of trash. We started out with donuts and water and a brief safety reminder. These people are awesome, they go way beyond what is required, if they see trash anywhere, they get it. Thanks to Ladell Olson for making our sign stand, and to Judy Olson for the great photo. I can't say thank you enough to all our volunteers.

Mike Yahrmarkt, Clean-Up Chairman

"Sunshine"

If you know of anyone in the club who might need some cheering up, please contact Trish Reister at trishreister@gmail.com. She will be happy to send cards on behalf of the entire *Havasu 4 Wheelers* membership. ❖



Kiosk Installation



April 4, 2014

Thirteen members of our club met at the end of the black-top and Paseo de Oro road 9:00am to install the “long awaited Kiosk”. The project, headed by Sue Guibord (retired “Trash Queen”), was started about 1 year ago in an attempt to see if anything could be done to “limit” the amount of dumping and shooting trash that people dump in the area that our club ends up picking up each year! A very nice kiosk sign was purchased by the BLM with posters from Tread Lightly and some others mentioning the dumping. In the bottom right is a nice sign that the board is sponsored and maintained by the Havasu4Wheelers! The most fun was had when the posters were all inserted in the sign and then found to all be sideways because of the way the sign had to attach to the legs. Amid much laughing, and teasing the sign was taken apart and the posters were then oriented the correct way. This time as we were assembling the sign it was discovered that one sign poster was upside down! Then the laughing and teasing really was un-leashed! It was decided that it was the fault of our lone BLM employee present, Amanda Deeds, because she was the only one “working” that day, and all the rest of us were just a bunch of “retired Jeepers” that had probably been on our Jeep sides and upside down one too many times! We finally finished the job when we could stop laughing long enough. The sign looks great—drive out Paseo de Oro and check it out!

Jim Bowen

Automatic External Defibrillator

If you want to carry one of the club’s Automatic External Defibrillators (AED’s) on a run, please contact Brian Springer and make arrangements to check one out before your run.

Thanks, Gary Wiskus, Run Chairman



PALOMA WASH PETE



Well howdy there folks. I'm known around here as Paloma Wash Pete.

Gets pretty lonesome out here so to pass the time I gets my learning book out and reads up some. I used to git a flummoxed something awful about the desert, rocks, critters and plants but now I knows a fair spell so sit back and enjoy some schooling.

This month I want to tell you about the Golden Eagle. Although bald eagles grace the tails side of the American quarter, golden eagles are impressive too. Known as "soaring specialists," these master hunters rarely lose a fight, and they can hit speeds up to 200 mph when they're on the attack.

In the bird world, golden eagles are known as "soaring specialists," and with wingspans up to 7 feet and an average weight around 13 pounds, they're hard to miss as they circle overhead.

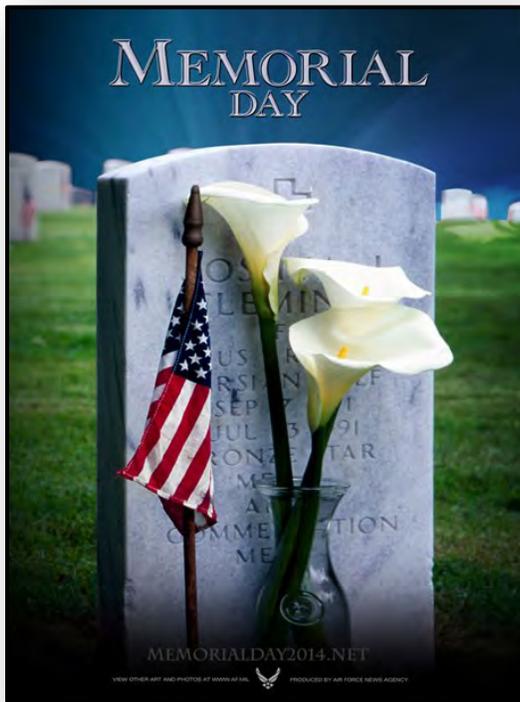
Like other large raptors, golden eagles use their extensive wingspans to catch rising masses of warm air, which allows them to glide for miles with minimal effort in search of prey. Rabbits, marmots and ground squirrels are among the golden eagles' favorite meals, but they've also been known to pick fights with animals twice their size. Perhaps that's why they're also known as "war birds" and the "king of birds."

When they're not hunting, golden eagles can be found in their nests, which are generally built in rocky crags or cliff faces.

Occasionally they'll build in trees or atop telephone poles. Females lay one to four eggs at a time, and both parents, which are monogamous by nature, incubate their offspring during the 40 to 50 day gestational period. On average, only one or two fledglings survive their first three months.

As they mature, golden eagles turn dark brown in color, with lighter golden-brown plumage on their heads, necks and wing tips. It's easy to distinguish golden eagles from immature bald eagles by looking at the birds' legs. The legs of golden eagles are covered with feathers, while bald eagles' legs are bare. These built-in leg warmers allow golden eagles to stay put in the winter, rather than migrating south like so many other birds. This even applies to golden eagles living as far north as Alaska. We have seen them here in Havasu.





*These fallen heroes
represent the character of a nation
who has a long
history of patriotism and
honor – and a nation who has fought
many battles to keep our country free
from threats of terror.” ~
Michael N. Castle*

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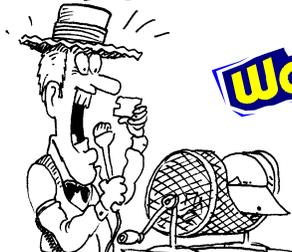
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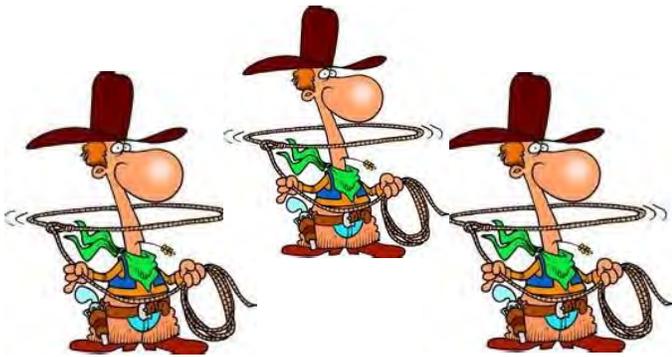
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Aubrey Loop

April 2, 2014

This is a newer run for our club that is going to turn into one of the more popular runs in the future. The run starts out doing the popular Cat-tail Cove run—members got to do the “Wall of Death” with no real problems. On by “Roveys Needle” and then the trail departs and loops north and then back south until it borders the Bill Williams Wildlife Preserve. I had as a passenger, Amanda Deeds from the BLM. The goal was for her to see how the trail does stay on the “right side” of the “preserve boundary”, even though some maps do have some errors in that area. Amanda took lots of pictures and a very detailed GPS track of the very scenic trail in the area by the Bill Williams River. Most of our members wanted to loop back through the “Bowling Alley”—so off we went! We had no problems and were back to the highway at 2:30. Thanks Ladell and Judy Olson for being our dependable tail gunners!

Jim Bowen, Trail Boss

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Gold Canyon

April 14 - 18, 2014

Snake & Willie Williams

Coke Owens & Walnut Canyon

April 14, 2014

The trail starts out with scenery similar to LHC, with scrub brush and of course a dusty road but soon changes to more vegetation and lots and lots of saguaro and a large variety of cholla cactus. To add to the beauty was the fact most of the cactus had started to flower providing an array of colors

On the trail we were treated to a turtle who wanted to cross the road and a collard lizard sunning itself on a rock and for some strange reason they seemed to be attracted to the orange on Mike's jeep....Hmm! The not so nice part was coming across two cows with a big hunk of cholla stuck in their lower lips.....Ouch!

Everyone did a great job on the obstacles and across the rocky terrain but the run was not without small problems. First it was a flat tire due to an unsecure valve stem, then a broken disconnect bar due to a failure to disconnect at the start of the run, then a questionable problem with the steering problem, and lastly a garage door opener that jumped out of the window someplace along the trail (but later found in the jeep). Can you imagine what would have happened if we had not found the lucky penny at the air down spot.

It was a long run but worth it for us women as we stopped at a Mexican Restaurant in Superior for some excellent food and of course some fruit turnovers for the next day.

A special Thank You to Dave Opperman for being the tail gunner.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss



Photos By: Willie Williams

Box & Telegraph Canyon

April 16, 2014

Today we did Box Canyon going in the opposite direction and once again we were likened to the lichen. Words cannot describe how beautiful the chartreuse lichen is against the reddish colored rocks. Then it was onto the trail that takes you to Telegraph Canyon for more great views and the best part was the crested saguaros. There are 3 close together but each has a different appearance and makes you ponder how they grow that way. I kept hearing the young saguaros (no more than 12 inches tall) saying, "I think I would like Lake Havasu", but I knew they would get home sick so I just ignored them.

Further down the trail we checked out the remains of the Ajax Mine and continued down the rocky trail ending at the cemetery outside of Superior with plenty of time to get back to the park, get cleaned up and enjoy our potluck get together.

A special Thank You to Dave Opperman for being the tail gunner.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss



Montana Mountain & Marble

April 17, 2014

The trail started a short distance from the RV Park with its usual desert vegetation and then we climbed over 5,000ft and it changed into the typical mountain terrain with pine trees and junipers. The trail was a pleasant surprise because it had recently been graded and when I say recently, I mean recently, because farther up the trail we ran into the road grader who was kind enough to pull off so we could pass. Too bad the grader couldn't go faster so we could have continued to follow him on the smooth road.

We continued onto the Marble Mine where we were almost blinded by the sunshine reflecting off the white gravel. Too bad the area was fenced because the settling pond, with its bright blue color, looked very inviting.

A special Thank You to Dave Billick for being the tail gunner.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss

Ridgeline

April 18, 2014

This trail lives up to its name as we traveled from one mountain ridge to another providing panoramic views of the area. Our first stop was at the Rock Corral that was originally built out of rocks but later had concrete added to stabilize the structure. Further down the trail was a rock structure we were told was a holding cell used when they were transporting prisoners from Yuma to the new prison in Florence, but according to the GPS it was called Barnett Camp.

The day was overcast, breezy and a little on the cool side which may explain why we saw a rattle snake on the trail and later on a Gila monster with its beautiful orange color. Of course we all tried hard to get a good picture only to find out we had a resident Gila monster at the RV park. Our lunch spot was on top of a mountain at an elevation of 4300ft and we could relate to the reptile's as we huddled around the jeeps for warmth.

I find the vegetation in this whole area of the desert to be stunning with a cats claw almost totally covered in green leaves resembling a ocotillo, and at times unusual which was evident by a very deformed looking red barrel.

A special Thank You to Earl Hearn (soon to be club member) for being the tail gunner.

Willie Williams, Trail Boss

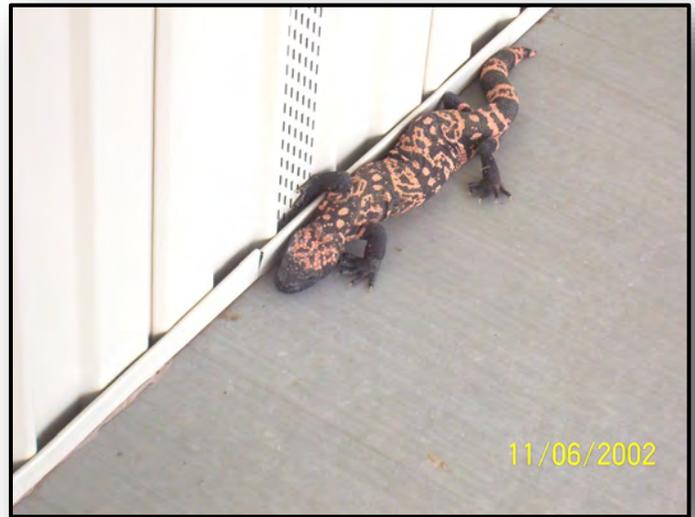


Photo taken at RV Park by Charles Leipart



“President John Strong (right) congratulates Dave Opperman (center) and Dave Billick (left) who were recently honored as the newest Silver Badge members at the April meeting.”

The Havasu 4 Wheelers recently announced two more “Silver Badge” members. This status is reserved for those club members who reach the age of 80 and are still actively leading 4X4 runs. Dave Billick 80, has been a club member since 1994, a US Army veteran, worked for San Diego Gas & Electric for 34 years retiring as an inspector and moved to Havasu in 1994. He joined the club in 1994 and has been married to his wife Pat for 60 years. Dave Opperman 81, is a US Army and US Air Force veteran. He retired as a sales executive from Opperman and Sons Truck Sales after 40 years, moved to Havasu and joined the club in 2002. President John Strong stated “These two guys are some of the most active members in the club. They are not only very skilled 4X4 drivers but they also bring a wealth of driving and vehicle knowledge which benefits our newer members. They are definitely great people and an asset to the club.”

Moss Wash

April 6, 2014

On April 6, 2014 fifteen Jeeps with 20 members and 9 guests met at I-40 to begin the long drive to exit 66 where we topped off with gas and aired down.

We then traveled down Blake Ranch Road to the Moss Wash turnoff. Our next stop was at the Gold King Mansion. After everyone had looked over the mansion, we proceeded to the Black Walnut Tree area and had lunch. After lunch we proceeded to Flag Mine Road and turned south. We then exited onto the Escalator Trail, went down thru the Survivalist Camp, and back to I-40 on Walnut Creek Ranch Road. Thanks to Mike & Carol Yahmarkt for tail gunning.

Ladell Olson, Trail Boss



Jeannie Morgan accepts a donation from Havasu 4 Wheel's President, John Strong on behalf of the Havasu Community Health Trust.

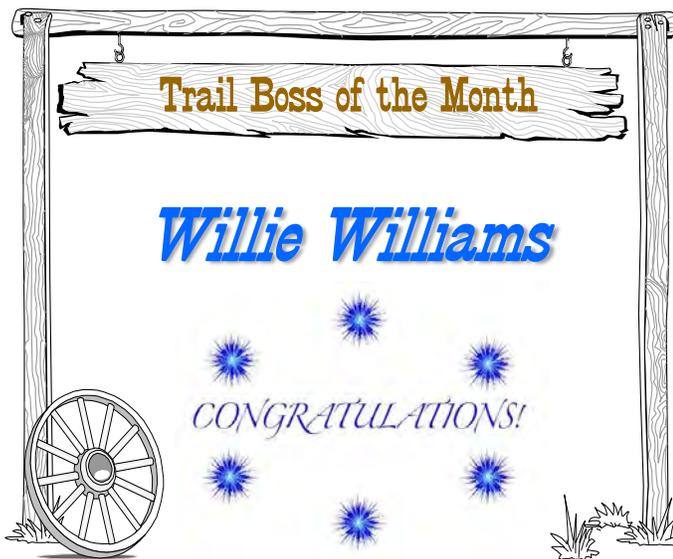


Photo By: Judy Olson

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Red Line

April 12, 2014

On April 12, 2014, eight Jeeps with 12 members met at Standard Wash Kiosk to air down and start the run. Everyone had many opportunities to test their driving skills. Two Jeeps went through The Squeeze for others to watch. All in all, it was a good day in the beautiful Arizona desert. Thanks to Mike Yahrmarkt for tail gunning.

Ladell Olson, Trail Boss



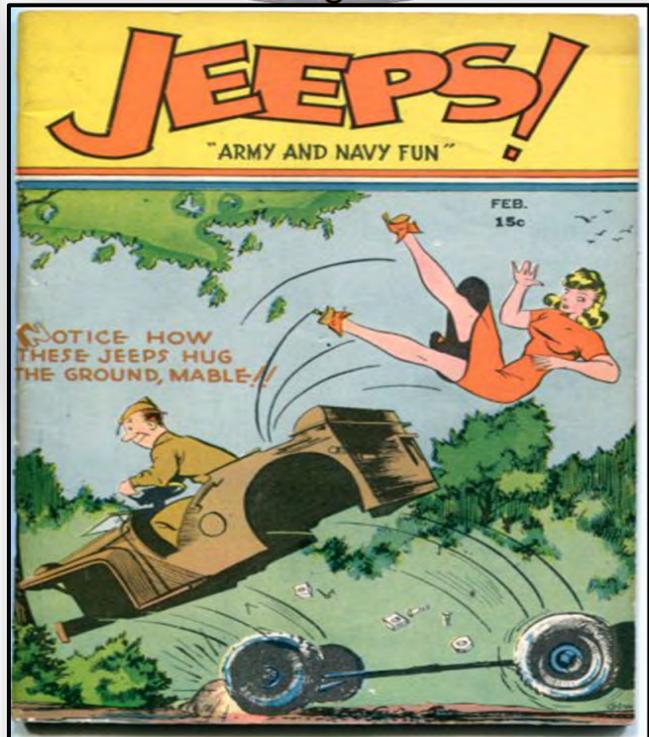
Photo By: Judy Olson

DIZCLAIMER

Spellum errurrrs, mizpelled namez & mizuse of Ingalish 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 the message, be satisfied with what ya got! ❖

Lessons Learned

Dave Lee at Pavement Optional (one of our club advertisers) shared a story of a client, while shifting his jeep into low gear, hit a bump and hit his hand on the CB hook (that holds the microphone). He wound up with eleven stitches. Rodger Delk checked his mic hook and sure enough it was very sharp. You might want to check yours and do a little filing if necessary.



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Havasu 4 Wheelers Club Utilizes Cleanup by Quadratic Grant to Fence Off Abandoned Mines in Buckskin Mountains

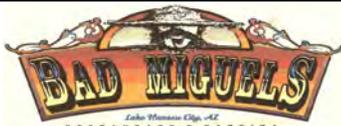
Looking for an opportunity to make a difference in your community in 2014? Tread Lightly! offers Cleanup by Quadratic stewardship grants to those who have a project in mind and need funds to see it achieved.

Our most recent Cleanups by Quadratic grant recipients, Havasu 4 Wheelers, fenced off several abandoned mines in the Buckskin Mountains to secure open vertical mine shafts near popular back country trails. The work involved driving steel posts into the rocky ground, stringing wire and posting warning signs. Following this effort, the organization anticipates regularly inspecting local mine sites that they've fenced. With reports of fencing that had been torn down at one site, the members advise the public of the importance and safety significance of the fencing in that the measure reduces demands on BLM to close or restrict access in response. The group strives to keep the area's desert trails open for all.

If you have an upcoming community project in mind, apply for a stewardship grant from Tread Lightly! to help fund it. Check out our website for deadline and application details!




Thank you Bruce Speirs for handling all the paperwork to get this Tread Lightly Grant for the Havasu 4 Wheelers.



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Men's Breakfast

April 24, 2014 at Bad Miguel's



Photos By: Bruce Speirs

*Mark
Your
Calendar*

Ladies Luncheon
May 15th, 2014
12:30pm
At Juicy's
new location
42 Smoketree Ave.
(the old Jasper's)

Hope to see you there,
Last get together before
summer



Gila Monster



The Gila Monster lizard grows from 18 to 24 inches in length and has black, orange, pink or yellow blotches, bars and spots. It is the only poisonous lizard in the US. Gila Monsters' teeth have two grooves that conduct the venom, a nerve toxin, from glands in the lower jaw. The toxin is not injected like a snake but flows into the wound as the lizard chews on its victim. It is rarely fatal to humans



Cook's Night Out
May 20th, 2014
5:00pm
At Schlotzsky's
2144 McCulloch Blvd.

Desert Clean-up



Bison &
Paseo de Oro

Burned Boat

It has only been a few weeks since the members of the Havasu 4 Wheelers spent a lot of time and hard work cleaning up the desert off of Bison Ave. Guess what folks? Some ingrate has dumped a boat hull in the same area. Not only was the boat dumped, somebody burned it, leaving a real mess. It would be hard enough to remove the boat without burning it. Now it will be costly to the tax payers as it has become a hazardous material which needs special handling.

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505-8030

Havasu 4 Wheelers

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

Realtors Center
2293 Swanson Avenue
Lake Havasu City, Arizona

2014/2015 Executive Officers:

President.....John Strong
Vice President.....Tom Christiansen
Secretary.....Garnett Collins
Treasurer.....Mark Corder

Voting Members:

At Large.....Janet Drew,
Craig Laser & Jim Bowen, Past President

Committees:

Advertising.....Dan Klawitter
Audit.....RoAnne Beets
By-Laws.....Steve Riley
Community Service.....Margie Christiansen
Conservation.....Jim Bowen
Desert Clean-Up.....Mike Yahrmarkt
Events.....Rodger & Diana Delk
50/50.....Mike MacLean
Highway Cleanup.....Mike Yahrmarkt
Historian.....Connie Hoppe
Merchandise.....Joe & Cindy Egilske
Membership.....Janet Drew
Newsletter Editor.....Bob & Wanda Scholl
Public Information.....Bruce Speirs
Runs.....Gary Wiskus
Safety.....Bob Drew
Sunshine.....Trish Reister
Turkey Roast.....Jim & Joanne Malara
Webmaster.....Dennis Kreuzenstein
Yard Sale.....Paul & Joyce Stephens

May Birthday's

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

If we forgot your Birthday/Anniversary, please let us know so we can correct our records.				1 Leroy Larsen Jack Stalma	2	3
4 Karen Dickinson Renee Fleenor	5 Donna Warren	6	7	8 Denis Lein	9 Cal Bowman	10
11 Carole Trumbo Carolyn Jones Rodger Melton	12 Meg Bowman	13	14 Paul Hetzer	15 Rodger Delk Sheila Keller	16	17
18 Cindy Egilske Dick Thomas	19	20	21 Mary Peters Dena West	22 Linda Brink	23	24 Hardy Edmonson
25 Anna Hofstetter	26 Jim Bowen 	27 John Greb	28 Julie Jackson	29 Joan Weller	30	31 Bill Mitschele

Egilske's - H4W "Club Stuff"

"Let them put you on the trail in style!"



Anniversaries

May 1st- Darryld & Jo Dutton
May 4th- Cal & Meg Bowman
May 8th-Steve & Kathy Perry
May 12th-Preston & Dana Gleason
May 13th-Early & Dena West
May 15th-Jim & Jane Bowen
May 16th-Mike & Sandra Shaw
May 18th-Phil & Pattie Hatch
May 22nd-B.J. & Jean Buckhout
May 24th-Chuck & Betsy Behrke
May 26th-Alex & Cinda Ross



Havasu Four Wheelers
 PO Box 1486
 Lake Havasu City, AZ. 86405

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- HAVASU 4 WHEELERS TRAIL RATINGS -

- Mandatory Vehicle Equipment - All vehicles on H4W runs must be 4-wheel drive & equipped with a CB radio, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, tow straps, and front and rear tow hooks or safe hitching point all in working order.

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.
3¼	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. At least a 2" lift and 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/winchng. 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/winchng. Vehicle width and wheelbase should be considered. Possible body damage.
5	HARD: All of the above. Probable body damage.

HAVASU 4 WHEELERS, PROUD MEMBERS

