

Low Range Ramblin'

a publication of:

Inland Empire 4 Wheelrs

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WHO IS IE₄W?

The Inland Empire 4 Wheelers is a family oriented 4x4 club formed for the enjoyment and preservation of 4 wheeling. We consist mainly of short wheelbase vehicles such as Jeeps, Toyotas, Suzuki's although we do get an occasional long wheelbase vehicle. If you have one of these, expect to go some places where you could possibly



sustain body damage. We have monthly club runs that take us from the deserts to the mountains. We could easily end up in the snow, rocks, or sand. As a club, we are dedicated to the preservation of our public lands and our family sport. We welcome new members to join us!

IE4W ROUNDUP

Come meet new friends! Bring your 4X4 ! All Four Wheelers welcome, Old Timers and New. Bring the family for dinner & enjoy it with new friends. Find out where to go Four Wheeling! Learn the newest tricks of Four Wheeling. Check out Radical videos & vehicles. Vehicle Safety advice available.

Come Play On Our RTI Ramp! The articulation ramp is a great tool for checking the effect of modifications you have made to your vehicle. For example, it can be used to check brake line length, if your shocks are the correct length for your lift, etc.

From the North, take the Washington Street exit off the Southbound 215 freeway and turn left at the light. From the South, take the Washington Street exit and make two left turns over the freeway. Graziano's is located on the left between McDonald's and Del Taco.

The IE4W Roundup is held the 2nd Tues. of each month from 6-9 PM, at:

Graziano's Pizza Restaurant

1080 E Washington St.

Colton, CA 92324

(909) 824-2770

Odd Numbered Months are the IE4W Social Event. Locations Change. Please see the club calendar for details.



IE4W WANTS YOU... TO BECOME A MEMBER!!

The Inland Empire Four Wheelers welcome all guests to participate in club functions such as runs, business meetings, Roundups, and social gatherings. However, we would also like to welcome in our guests as full time members. As an IE4W member, you will enjoy certain benefits, just to name a few; you will be allowed to purchase plaques to display on your vehicle, you will be allowed full voting rights for bylaw changes and board of directors elections and look toward some new fun members benefits in the coming months as our membership committee builds new ideas.



The followings are the requirements set forth by the IE4W bylaws for membership requirement: Each prospective member must be 18 years or older, hold a valid driver's license, be the registered owner of a 4x4 vehicle, have the minimum CA insurance coverage, have their vehicle safety inspected, and attend 6 business meeting and drive his or her vehicle in at least 6 official runs (1 being an overnight run and 1 Adopt-A-Trail work trip) within a 12 month period. An official club run consists of 2 or more club members (with the exception of monthly club Runs). Each new member must sign the club's Assumption of Risk Waiver and will pay an annual \$69.00 fee which is used for land use and club events. Each year new land disputes surface and every off-highway recreationalist is beckoned to help support the fight. So, not only will your IE4W membership be a fun, fellowship filled experience, you will also be supporting your right to enjoy off-highway recreational areas for years to come.

IE4W Club Website:

[Http://www.ie4w.com](http://www.ie4w.com) Webmaster

President's Corner



President's Message

What a great group to be affiliated with, *THANK YOU IE4W!* Karen and I had so many offers of help during the Blue Cut Fire this last month. Offers of, anything we can do, we can watch the dog, and you can park a vehicle here at our home and then so many offers of "you can stay at our house". One offer called us from the state of Washington offering their house in Southern California while they were vacationing. Again Karen and I extend a most gracious "Thank You".

I think of how lucky we are to be situated here in the Inland Empire. You can wheel in the deserts, the mountains, sand at the beach and again this summer another group of IE4W adventurers headed to the famous Rubicon trail just hours from home. Most of these trails need some kind of volunteer help to keep them open, this is where IE4W helps with the San Bernardino National Forest Adopt-a-Trail program. I want to say thank you to all the attendees at the last clean up on the 30th of July. Remember not only the prospective members need to attend but we also need the seasoned members to participate too. Thank you Jim Sloan for heading up this endeavor and thank you Loren Campbell for attending the meetings with SBNFS and Adopt-a-Trail Program.

Let's go wheeling have fun and don't sweat the little stuff.

Bill Henry
President, IE4W

IE4W Business Meeting – August 4, 2016

Open Meeting

Called to order by President Bill Henry at CrossWalk.

Ken Ellers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The guests in attendance were as follows: Bill and Lori Rhetts of Redlands, Greg Silver of Eastvale, John Dunlap of Riverside, Larry Hoatson of Yucaipa, John Manatey of Highland and Brian and Faline Eck of Apple Valley, Keith Lafever of Corona, Joel & Carol Edwards of Redlands, Stan Northington of Yucaipa, John & Lynnda Kelly of Twin Peaks, Steve Santa of San Dimas, Craig Wilcutt of Banning, Curtis & Stephanie Holt of Grand Terrace, Marianne DePlain of Twin Peaks and Marco Manzenara of Highland.

The secretary's minutes were approved for the July 2016 meeting as published on-line, on the website and in the Low Range Ramblin.'

Reports

Secretary - Laura Hertel present – Reminder to turn in your trip reports and signed waiver forms. Sign in sheets were passed around.

Treasurer - Mike Moore present - The club started July with \$63,982.06. During the past month income was \$661.00 and expenditures were \$1,876.42. The club ended the month of July with \$62,766.64.

Income included dues of \$445.00. Expenditures included BBFF and normal monthly expenses. New bills were presented.

Vice President - Sue Sloan present – Sue shared that the Forest Service and the Mountains Foundation crews will construct new trails, designate existing, user created trails as authorized trails, as well as restoration of unauthorized trails in the Baldy Mesa Off-Highway Vehicle Area. The staging area will see new picnic tables, bear resistant trash containers and interpretive map panels and the parking area will be reorganized to be more user-friendly.

Merchandise - Peggy Ogaz present – BBFF t-shirts and sweatshirts for sale at a discount.

Board of Directors

President	Bill Henry president@ie4w.com
Past President	Loren Campbell ppresident@ie4w.com
Vice President	Sue Sloan vpresident@ie4w.com
Secretary	Laura Hertel secretary@ie4w.com
Treasurer	Mike Moore treasurer@ie4w.com
Membership Chair	Monica Ortega membership_chair@ie4w.com
Hospitality	Char Hart hospitality@ie4w.com
Newsletter	Char Hart clubnewsletter@ie4w.com
Big Bear Forest Fest Chair	Mike Moore bbff@ie4w.com
Historian	Loren Campbell historian@ie4w.com
Round Up	Jamie Duncanson round-up@ie4w.com
Adopt A Trail	Jim Sloan, Jim Miller adopt-a-trail@ie4w.com
Environmental Affairs	Loren Campbell environmental_affairs@ie4w.com
Safety	Jerry Burgess safety@ie4w.com
Web Site	Kim Duncanson webmaster@ie4w.com
Public Relations	Barbara Bongiorno
Club Merchandise	Peggy Ogaz house_chair@ie4w.com
Sheriff	George Biddlecombe sheriff@ie4w.com
Trail Boss	Jim Sloan bobcatjim@yahoo.com

Membership & Public Relations - Monica Ortega present – She has packets for guests who are interested in becoming members.

Hospitality – Char Hart absent – Craig Hart reported that all is going well with hospitality. Beginning September 2016 Barbara Bongiorno will be taking over as hospitality chairman.

Forest Fest - Mike Moore present – Mike is waiting for all BBFF bills to come in, and a final report will be made as soon as possible.

Round Up - Jamie Duncanson present – August 9 will be the next Round Up. 4 West will be sponsoring prizes for game winners. This month Jamie will be doing an RC Racing competition.

AAT - Jim Sloan present – Jim shared that the AAT run on June 30 gave IE4W credit of 223 hrs with 21 people. Clean-up was done on 3N03A and 2N01.

Newsletter – Char Hart absent – no report.

Website – Kim Duncanson absent – Jamie (spouse) reported that Kim has started to work nights and that her schedule is very busy. Discussion took place regarding having another person take over the website. Jamie felt that she would be relieved. Bill Henry will contact her regarding her stepping down. Teri Patterson stepped up and said she would be interested only if she could change the site over to GoDaddy. They will design site at \$1,400 for 9 pages and 1-time domain fee of \$9.00, and \$180.00 per year. Loren made the motion to move forward with this with \$2,500.00 for implementation, 2nd by Morgan and unanimous to move forward.

Safety - Jerry Burgess present – Jerry talked about staying hydrated and replacing your electrolytes during this extremely hot weather. He shared ways to do this when you are out in the elements.

Historian – Loren present– no report.

Scholarship – Mallory absent – No report.

Break

Ice cream drumsticks were provided by Tom and Sherie Thompson. September meeting refreshments will be provided by the Hertel's.

Past Runs & Events

Tim Glider, Jim Sloan and Mike Ortega talked about their runs during the month of July. See Newsletter for run reports.

Upcoming Club Runs & Events

August 12 – 14 – Pismo – Bob Peterson will put this event together. See Yahoo Groups.

August 20 – Summer Cool Down at Bill & Karen's home.

September 16 -18 - Randy's Overnighter – Hannah Flats. See Yahoo Groups.

September 23-25 – Installation Picnic – See Yahoo Groups.

October 16 – 20 – - October Fun Event - Cruise to Ensenada. See Yahoo Groups.

Old Business

Loren - Challenge grants are moving ahead.

Loren – One-day Amateur Radio Class – more to follow.

Loren – Holcomb winter closer update – Loren attended forest service meeting and reported that the meeting went very well, and that the service understands and is willing to work with IE4W and others to try to keep the trails in question open.

New Business

Victor Valley 4 Wheelers - Mike Moore shared a letter from the Victor Valley 4 Wheeler Club regarding a yearly donation from IE4W. It was agreed to donate 2 Forest Fest registrations with meals and a \$100.00 gift certificate.

Butler Peak Look-Out - Sue Sloan brought to our attention that there is a couple that keeps Butler Peak look-out tower painted and in good condition along with American flags. This is all purchased out of their

pocket. It was voted to give \$250.00 toward paint and flags to be sent to SBNFA and earmarked "Butler Peak Look-Out."

Board Nominations – new officers were nominated for September board meeting vote.

President - Bill Henry agreed to do the president office again.

Vice President – Jerry Burgess and Teri Patterson were nominated for Vice President.

Secretary – Laura Hertel agreed to do secretary again.

Treasurer – Mike Moore agreed to do treasurer again.

Attendees were urged to be thinking about nominations for Trail Leader and Tail Gunner, voting will be in September.

Sheriff's Report - George Biddlecombe – present.

Late - Greg Silver, Evan and Kim Owen. Night Run - Jim N Sue Sloan Needed a strap.

Butler Peak Fire Lookout run - Mike Ortega checked out a fluid leak coming from the rear of a guest rig, turned out it was just a loose hose clamp that needed to be tightened.

Adopt a trail - Loren Campbell lost rear license plate with fancy LED light. Richard Rodgers got squished.

Rubicon Trail - George Stauber: flat on trailer tire. John Letzkus: transmission was slipping and he didn't feel comfortable taking it on the trail. Ming was very disappointed she wouldn't get to go fishing.

Tim Glider: Late at meet-up point. Neil Stratton: About 1/4 mile into the trail Neil pinched a brake line and fluid was leaking out. Neil Stratton: Neil had a rear passenger blown shock. Tim Glider and Steven Soliz: overheating. Mark Ogaz: We started over the granite slabs only to hear on the cb that Peggy was chasing drinks down the hill. Mark and Peggy's cooler popped open on their pop-up tent trailer and the drinks were making a run for it. Mark Ogaz: Mark's trailer jackknifed and wedged against some rocks.

He had to be winched. Broke winch cable and needed to be winched by Neil. Mark Ogaz: Seamus's party foul in the water. Luckily, we had a doggie bag on hand, so that was a slimy mess we looked to Mark to solve. Morgan Hertel: Morgan actually had banjo washers to fix Neil's brake line, so he gets the boy scout award for that one. But, then he ran over his own cooler not once, but twice. So the boy scout award was revoked. Also dinged up drive shaft lost boot clamp ring.

Tim Glider: profanity in trip report. Tim Glider: Scary animal sounds in camp causing much discontent.

Raffle Prizes provided by Karen and Bill. September prizes will be provided by Matt & Sue Martel.

Two new memberships are up for vote during closed session. Bill and Lori Rhetts and Steve Santa.

Misc. income received tonight – Sheriff \$24.00, Raffle, \$92.00, Merchandise \$35.00.

Present at August 4, 2016 Meeting: 41 memberships represented and 18 guests.

Submitted by Laura Hertel, IE4W Secretary

SEPTEMBER 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Club Meeting	2	3 Amber Lynn Heidi Kemp Larry Peterson Ben & Carol Hoskins	4 Kim Duncanson
5 Labor Day Jamie & Kim Duncanson	6 Round-up Loren Campbell & Joe Martinez	7	8 Cindy Maldonado George Stauber	9	10 Ron LaBusch	11 Jerry & Kathy Burgess
12 Bob & Kris Yaryan	13 Cole Chadwick	14	15	16 Randy's Overnighter	17 Randy's Overnighter	18 Bill & Rachel Bem Randy's Overnighter
19	20	21 AAT Meeting	22	23 Misty Rodriguez Installation Picnic	24 Installation Picnic	25 Installation Picnic
26	27 Wende Owen	28	29 Doug Russell	30 Amber Soliz		

Upcoming Events

Sept 16-18 Randy's Overnighter

Sept 23-25th Installation Picnic

October 16-20 Mexico Cruise

Sept 21 AAT Meeting

****NOTE FROM EDITOR:** Please send any information, trail reports and pictures to the editor @ clubnewsletter@ie4w.com or you can send directly to @ cchart624@yahoo.com . This is the only way to make your Newsletters thrive.

Safety

by Jerry Burgess

What YOU should be Thinking

We participate in a potentially dangerous hobby and yet we call it an adventure or just plain fun. We think nothing much of crawling under running vehicles to stack rocks or to unstuck a stuck 4x4 as a challenge. We tend to gather right beside the most incredible obstacles and get a front row seat to the action and do so while looking through a camera! With regards to a recent trail accident, I wish to remind everyone about your thought process while engaging in all aspects of our risky yet fun activity.

Evaluate the potentials and possibilities while you are in the moment, where ever that might be. You must force your thoughts to consider risks and to ask yourself “WHAT IF” at that moment, and then answer that thought with “I WOULD HAVE TO”. Now, determine whether the risk of continuing along with your activity is worth the potential results that could occur if the “What If” occurred. You might realize that you DON’T have an answer to your question and come to realize that you’re in the wrong place at the wrong time. Mitigate risks by removing a potential problem, changing the conditions, or removing yourself from the situation where it might occur. This is your **Situational Awareness**. Risk management speaker Gordon Graham taught me “If it’s predictable, it’s preventable”, “Identifiable risks are manageable risks”, and “When things go wrong, there’s usually a reason why”.

Broken parts (mechanical failures) can cause a sudden and errant directional change or release of energy. The loss of or sudden grip of traction can cause a sudden change of direction or movement. The dislodging of large rocks uphill, parking brakes not used or not holding on hills, stepping on the gas thinking it was the brake, inattention, or the lack of awareness of a second person trying to help, and inexperience or lack of familiarity with equipment have been my personal observations while on runs. Add some anxiety, fear, or a failure to follow a spotter’s warning and you’re on the edge. All these are the “What If” situations I have as my experiences to add to my evaluation process when I make my decisions.

However, should you find someone else asking you “What were you thinking?” Here is the closest ER in Big Bear Lake:

BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL (909) 866-6501

41870 Garstin Dr

Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Here is a list of the 4 closest Trauma Centers to Big Bear:

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Level I Trauma Center and Level I Pediatric Trauma Center = Emergency - Basic

11234 Anderson St

Loma Linda, CA 92354

ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Level II Trauma Center = Emergency – Basic

400 N. Pepper Avenue

Colton, CA 92324

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Level II Trauma Center = Emergency - Basic

4445 Magnolia Ave

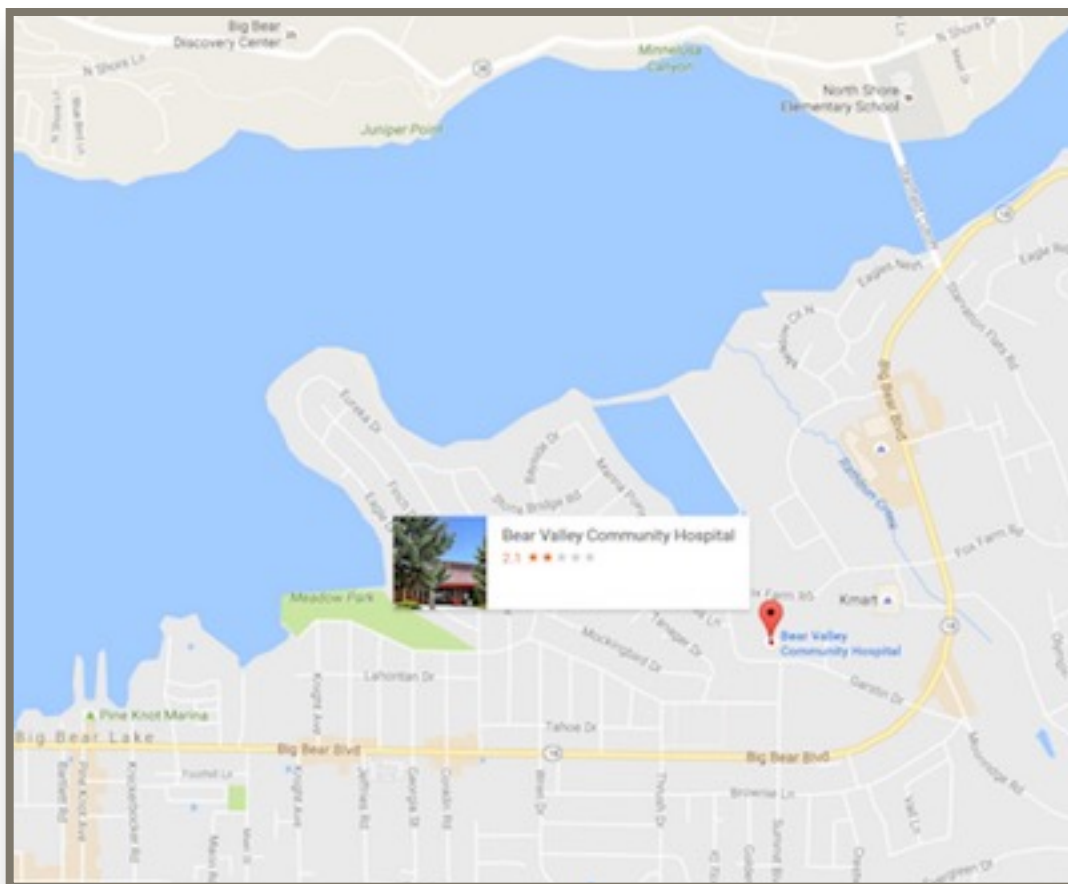
Riverside, CA 92501

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Level II Trauma Center and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center = Emergency - Basic

26520 Cactus Ave

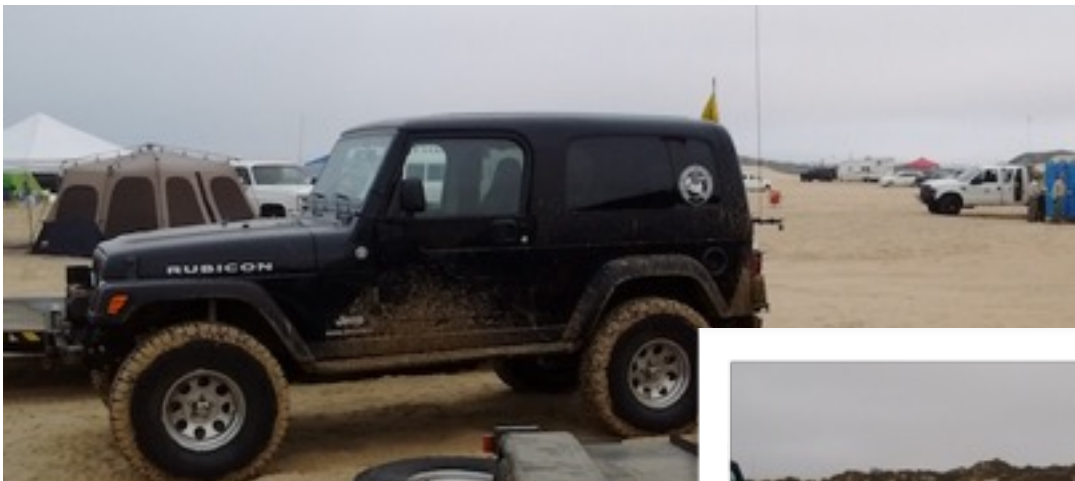
Moreno Valley, CA 92555



Pismo Beach Run, August 12-14

Well we took over the pismo run for George I didn't realize it conflicted with the Rubicon run but we had a great time and great weather. We had Derick Rist.his brother Daniel, Russ's friend Eric and his family. We just kinda free lanced it going out to the dunes when the time was right.We went to Fin's restraunt for better clam chowder and fish dinner on Friday, tried Hoagies on Saturday it was good.Daniel broke his front ring gear and had to remove it to drive out in 2 wheel.I always love pismo looking forward to going up again. Let me know if anyone else would like to go.

Sincerely Bob Peterson



19th Rubicon Jeep Jamboree 2016

August 11 – 15, 2016



Members Present

Randy & Roxann Stockberger (That Guy!)
Jim & Teri Patterson (Anyone have any power steering fluid?)
Loren Campbell (Wait up, I have to change batteries in my GoPro)
Doug Russell (Grandfather extraordinaire)
Rick & Tammy Clay (Does that helicopter have to fly in so early)
Cindy & Debbie Coffin (Ying & Yang)

Guest Present

Mark and Tammy Leara (Alexis Oil)
Jessiah Russell (Doug's Grandson)
Jaimie McDougall (Friend of Loren Campbell)

On a personal note the very first time I went off-road was on the Very First Jeep Jamboree USA Rubicon Jamboree and 19 years later I was there again. I reminisced often as we traveled the trail and I was able to look back on this amazing life changing thing of Jeeping.

Wednesday, August 10th

You could cut the excitement and anticipation with a knife on Wednesday morning when we took off for the famous Rubicon Trail. We split up the drive by spending the night in Bishop, CA all except for the Clay's who took this opportunity to visit with friends up in Placerville, CA. We were spread throughout the town but managed to meet at the Bowling alley for dinner. What? Did I say Bowling Alley? Now who in their right mind would choose a Bowling Alley for a nice quiet steak dinner? Next time you're in Bishop try the "Back Alley Bowl and Grill" behind the La Quinta motel. The food was very good and reasonably priced. Couldn't even hear the noise from the bowling alley so we were able to enjoy our dinner without yelling. (Except for our normal loud banter)

Thursday, August 11th

Roxann and I got up early to get on the road so we could help the Jeep Jamboree crew with check-in and registration. Plus, we wanted to make sure we were able to get into the Red Group, which is the first group out on Friday. Red Group is only for the Highly Modified Jeeps, but since we vouched for the Coffin sisters they let them join us! Hehe, just kidding.

This is when we found out our influence with the Jamboree crew had no bearing on who lines up first to go Friday morning. Last year if you arrived at 5:00 am for the 6:30 departure you would be in the very back of the Red group, meaning 40+ jeeps ahead of you to break down and block the trail. See first group out usually ends up in camp between 2:00 and 3:00 while the last group (White) comes in right at dusk. That's when I dropped the bomb, "In order to be in the first group out we all need to be here and lined up by 2:30 am!" Everyone just laughed thinking I was telling one of my usually stupid jokes, but when I didn't crack a smile all I heard was, "Ugh!", "Holy Crap!", "&hit!", "No Frieking way!" and other expletives I can repeat! Once they confirmed with the Jamboree staff how the lineup works they agreed to meet at 3:00 am and take their chances.

After we registered Roxann was still selling shirts and helping so everyone except us headed for Placerville since they had room reservations there. Roxann and I were staying at Glenda's house so we met with a couple Jamboree friends and a couple guys from Ohio and had a fantastic meal and enquiring each other on Jeep adventures.

Friday, August 12th

6-weeks earlier Roxann had a hip replacement and was told by her Doctor not to go off-roading. Not to be deterred Roxann called our club's resident Doctor, Steve Owen and the conversation went something like this, "Hi Steve", said Roxann. "I want to ask you a question and I will do whatever you say." "OK, Roxann what is it?" "You know I just had a hip replacement 6-weeks ago and we've already planned this Rubico....." Steve stopped her right there with an emphatic "NO!!" "Really?" ask a very disappointed Roxann, "But what if I can get a helicopter ride into Rubicon Springs and miss the Jeeping Part?" There was a short pause and Steve relented and said, "Sure, that makes a difference, just as long as Randy holds your hand every time you walk on uneven ground." Roxann looked at me as I was already shaking my head up and down repeatedly. I called Pearse at Jeep Jamboree headquarters and he agreed he would find Roxann a seat in the Helicopter that brings supplies, food and staff into the Springs.

So I woke up at 2:00 am, just 10 minutes before my alarm was to go off and quickly dressed and headed to Jeep Jamboree headquarters to line up. There was already 1 Jeep in line making me at Jeep number 2. 10 minutes later Jeep number 3 showed up and 15 minutes after that the rest of our group lined up behind Jeep #3. True to form by 5:00 am the whole parking lot was full of Jeeps lining up. Those that were cussing me out the night before for the early start time were now thanking me for the heads up on the program.

Jeep #3 had a friend that didn't show up until 4:30 and was about 10 Jeeps behind us so Jeep #3 got out of line and joined with his friend. So now our entire group was together and Second to hit the Trail.

At 6:30 sharp our Red Group Trail Leader led us out of the Parking Lot and the 40-minute ride to Loon Lake and then onto the granite slabs right up to the first obstacle and stopped to let us air down. Just as we hit the granite I heard a very disturbing noise and vibration from my CJ7. Once stopped I popped the hood to see my electric fan was out of balance since several fan blades had fallen off. "What", cried Roxann. "We're done before we even start?" But you all know the amazing abilities we have in this club so we simply cut the wires to the damaged fan blade leaving the other fan to keep the ULTMTCJ cool on the trail. It actually worked better than I thought and the temperature was only 5 degrees hotter than normal all the way to the Springs.

I walked Roxann up to the Helicopter Pad where after a hour or so Pearse personally loaded her into the Helicopter. Ha, it took us 7 hours to drive the trail and only 4 minutes for Roxann to land!! This was her first Helicopter ride and she found it too short, but very exciting.

The trail ride into Rubicon Springs was awesome with temperatures in the mid-80's with no clouds to hide the beautiful blue sky and an easy breeze to keep us cool. Well, kept me cool anyway as all others had air conditioning. The granite slab was no challenge and we made good time to reach Walker Hill where Nena Barlow was escorting a television crew from a Chinese Travel Channel. They asked Loren and I for an interview when I officially became "That Guy"! Holding up the entire Red Group during the 5-minute interview, but passed the baton to Loren for his 5-minutes of fame!

I must say the bagged lunch we were provided was really good. It contained a Sandwich, Chicken tenders with two different dips, chips, fruit, cookies and a brownie. The leader took us through the Little Sluice then on down to Buck Island Lake via a very off-camber trail. Other than frequent stops to let the middle and end of Red Group catch up we were making pretty good time right up until the time we weren't making good time! "Loren is broken!" came the cry over the ham. Loren's track arm broke off and the only way to fix it was to weld it. Fortunately, Loren went to his bag of tricks and pulled out a portable welder that only needed two batteries to work. Doug volunteered to stay back with Loren for the repair so the rest of us could continue on into camp to find us a great spot before the Springs filled up with our fellow adventurers. Of course saving a great spot for Loren and Doug!

Being the Second Jeep to reach camp we had the pick of the places to camp and quickly chose a spot just above and to the right of the Helicopter Landing Pad. I quickly got out and dumped my tent on my spot, then walked off to main camp to find Roxann and make sure she was ok. Well, of course she was and happy to see everyone made it to camp safe. Everyone was busy for the next hour setting up camp, bringing out snacks and making cocktails. Life is good and we were "Living the Dream".

When the dinner bell rang we lined up for dinner which consisted of incredible baby back ribs, bbq chicken, chili beans, corn on the cob, Caesar salad, green beans with blueberry cheese cake and peach pie for dessert. While enjoying our dinner they had started a HUGE bonfire and were serenaded by a pianist at the baby grand that was flown in for this event. The bar was open, but we retired to our camp to reflect on this amazing day. We were pretty tired from our early morning wake up and long trail so we hit the sack.

Saturday, August 13th

The camping spot we chose was perfect, close enough to walk to main camp, far enough away missing all the noise from main camp and at 6:30 am found we were right in the helicopter's flight path as he came in for a landing. Some couldn't go back to sleep and got up for breakfast while others were able to nod off for another hour or so.

Cory was there and gave a very informative talk about suspension and common mistakes to watch out for. Merlin gave a talk about the history of the Springs as well as the Life and Times of our founder, Mark Smith. Other vendors were on-site to show off their products and there was even a geologist that gave a walking tour of the Springs. All were very entertaining, but not as entertaining as the "Beach Party" at the Slabs!!

During the year Glenda asked if I would help with the Beach party at the slabs so I set up signs leading the way. I'd say more than half the camp came out to swim in the cool water, float with their chosen beverages and play on the Rope Swing with each trying to outdo the other. Since there were so many people at the slabs the rest of our group headed a little further down the Rubicon river and found a nice quiet secluded pool to relax in. There were out of the line of sight, but not out of line of Sound.

After watching the kids, teens, adults and even elders take their turn at the rope swing for a while I thought I would give it a try. The rock pile built up as a takeoff point was very shaky and I had to use the rope to balance myself on top of the heap. I know everyone was worried this old man would probably hurt myself, but I took flight and at the apex of the swing I let go with a very descent Back Flip! My head popped out of the water and the crowd was going crazy. I guess this 64-year-old fat guy still has some moves. The next time I made my way to the rock pile I heard a small chant that became so loud our group at the other swimming hole could plainly hear, "Randy, Randy, Randy, Randy!" As I did another Back Flip! That was fun, but was humbled on my next try when all I could muster up was a perfect Belly Flop! Karma has a way to keep us humble!

Dinner on Saturday night was 1" thick, Prime New York Boneless Steak with grilled onions, grilled peppers, mushrooms, Caesar Salad, cheese mashed potatoes, green beans and Strawberry Shortcake for dessert. The bar and campfire were hopping and we shortly returned to our camp to our usual banter, snacks and adult beverages.

Sunday, August 15th

We woke early to break camp and try to get a head start on the rush of the main camp to leave and head up Cadillac Hill. The trail guides head out of camp at 8:00 to take their place on the hill to help all the participants so we wanted to be on the trail by 7:00. The plan worked pretty well as we were out camp 8 minutes late. We wandered along the trail unaided passing by other campers, the swimming holes and right at the first upward turn up Cadillac Hill I made my way up and waited for the rest to follow. Seeing no one behind me I walked down to see what was up. Ok, this is where I officially lost my title of “That Guy” and passed it on to Jim Patterson with a huge gush of power steering fluid all over the boulders. Doug was already under Jim’s, er, I mean Teri’s Jeep with arms and elbows halfway into the engine already covered with dirt and grime only to find a small hole developed on the high pressure hydraulic line from rubbing against the drag link. Bad enough as that was, the Sasquatch was blocking the trail. Without any power steering and turning huge 40” Krawlers Jim manhandled that beast off to the side where, by now the trail guides had caught up to us and helped spot the other travelers around our group.

“I may not know how to fix the vehicles, but I probably have whatever you need in my Jeep!” Said Loren, and he was right. No matter what tool Jim and Doug needed it was in the back of Loren’s Jeep. They tried rescue tape to mend the hole in the hydraulic line, but it immediately started to form a bubble. Then Jim wrapped bailing wire around it to hold, but the bubble just worked its way down the hose. So Loren went back to his bag of tricks and pulled out threaded plugs for Jim’s hydraulic assist pump. The break and repair took up about 45 minutes so not too bad, but to make things seem worse there was another Jeep that wouldn’t listen to the spotter and came down super hard on his front bumper which drove his fan right into the radiator. Still trying to get off the obstacle, now without water in the radiator the guy was on the edge of blowing his engine when he finally listened to the spotters and got off the rock. It took him a little longer to get fixed, but he too was on his way sometime after we all left.

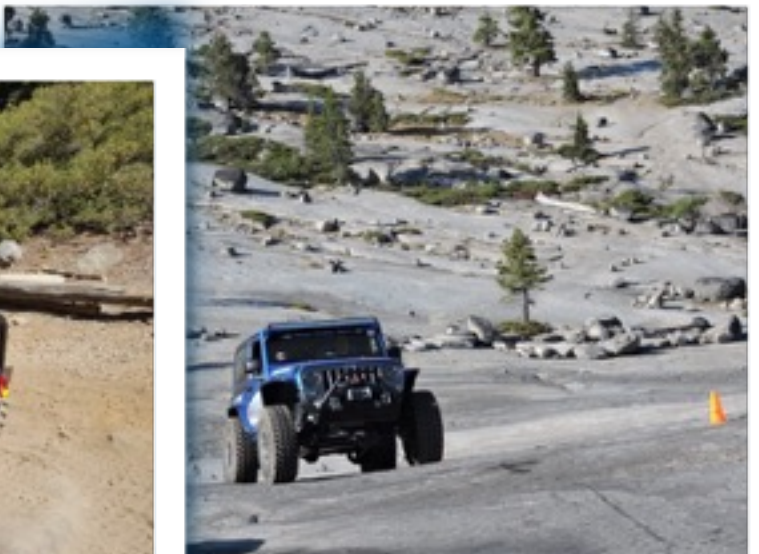
The staging area at trail’s end was full of jeeps and people so we continued on to another area where we could air up and head for South Lake Tahoe. But first things first, before we could go to the Tahoe airport to retrieve our tow rigs and trailers we just had to find a Brewery, which we did and had a really nice beer and some grill food. I kind of felt bad though since after all of us guys washed our hands, arms and faces in the bathroom sink that bathroom was trashed!!

We picked up our tow rigs, loaded the Jeeps and headed to Harrah’s for the night. Roxann checked in while I parked the truck and Roxann sent me a text which room we were in and as I exited the elevator I heard, “Hey Teri!!” Roxann was ecstatic yelling at Teri, “MY ROOM HAS TWO BATHROOMS!!!!” Roxann and Teri were absolutely giddy and Roxann quickly told me which bathroom was hers and I was NOT to go in there! The room really was nice, clean and a very comfortable bed which provided a great night’s sleep.

Monday, August 15

Everyone woke at their own pace and headed back to Southern California and the end of this amazing adventure. The wheeling was amazing, views were majestic, friendship is lifelong and all the Jeep and drivers did an awesome job. Can't wait until next year's Rubicon Jeep Jamboree!

Proud Member of the Inland Empire 4-Wheelers
Randy Stockberger









God, grant me the serenity to accept the
impossible trails I cannot crawl, courage to
crawl the twisted trails I can and the wisdom
to keep the tire side down.

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We Thank You for Your Support!

The Inland Empire Four Wheelers meet the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Crosswalk Church at 10421 Corporate Dr. #B, Redlands, CA.

Located off the 10 freeway in Redlands.

Exit Mountain View Ave and go South to the 1st street and turn left on Business Center Dr, go 2 blocks and turn right on Corporate Dr. It is the 2nd building on the left. Entrance at the back of the building with plenty of parking.