



Midwestern 4 Wheeler

Responsible use of Public Lands through Conservation, Education, and Safety

Spring 2008 Issue

Official publication of the Midwest 4 Wheel Drive Association

Meeting Minutes Delegates Meeting April 20, 2008

President Jesse Burma called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Jesse read the MW4WDA Statement.

There were no guests present at the meeting.

__Clubs were present

There was no secretary's report available due to lack of a secretary. Jesse appointed Dawn Krueger, a member of the Twin City Bushwackers and Forum Moderator of the MW4WDA forums as temporary secretary.

Kurt handed out the treasurer's report and budget for 2008. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's reports and was seconded, a vote was taken and the treasurer's report was accepted.

Minnesota- www.mn4wda.com

Rolling Stone off Road Park in Minnesota is dead. Rochester Roughriders were going to develop this land, the owners received a better offer. Minnesota Association lost their delegate to work with Lobbyist. They are in need of finding someone to work with their lobbyist. About 50 volunteers went to Southern Minnesota last fall to help with flood relief. Appleton Off Road Park in Appleton, MN is up and running. MN4WDA meeting there next weekend. Trying to re-designate trails to prevent more closings.

Wisconsin- www.w4wda.org

see Luana's report and Tim's Reports.

Iowa – www.IA4WDA.org

IA4WDA has retained a lobbyist. They are looking for land to wheel in their state. Some of the clubs have access to private land for wheeling but it is not the same as having a place designated to wheel. MIOBI has access to land that they use regularly.

UFWDA – www.ufwda.org

There will be another Wheel In in Texas November 21-23. For more read Luana's Report.

Membership – MW4WDA currently has 476 members that is down from 505 last October. If you are unsure if your club paid the dues please check with your club.

Safety and Insurance – Safety programs are needed. W4WDA will be sponsoring a "4Wheel Drive Awareness" program at McCaslin Mountain near Lakewood, WI August 22, 23, and 24. It will be announced in the next United Voice and there will be a spot on United's website for registering. Gene O is in the process of developing a flyer for the workshop and I will get that out as soon as I get. I will release more information as it becomes available. Tim Krueger has been working with Gene to coordinate this event. It is the only one scheduled in this area, so if you can make it please try. Contact information for McCaslin to make camping arrangements:

**W 15720 County Highway F
Silver Cliff, Wisconsin 54104**

Phone: 715-757-3734 or 715-757-2561

E-Mail: mccaslin@cybrzn.com

The insurance is being used and has had no claims. Since the cost is going up a vote was taken as to if the insurance is worth it. It was determined that it is worth it and the insurance will be paid. When you are holding an event please in the drivers meeting stress "**Don't be Stupid!**"

Website - Tim and Dawn Krueger will be working on updating the site as they receive the necessary information. Watch the size of your pictures when trying to post to the forum, most of the time if you cannot post it, it is too large.
(continued on page 2)

Please try to get your events posted to the calendar section of the website. We are trying to bring traffic to the site and having events and an active site will help. If we can get businesses to advertise on our site, it will pay for the site as well as bring in more revenue to MW4WDA.

Tread Lightly- nothing

New Business-

- 1) Save Midwest Money
 - a) Only one convention a year
 - b) Mileage – pay less per mile
 - c) Board members share rooms. If spouse comes, MW4WDA will pay half of room.
 - d) Central location.

It was decided that none of these ideas would be in the best interest of Midwest because they might cause attendance at the meetings to drop.

- 2) 4 Wheel Parts – see flyer insert.
- 3) Badlands were sold. See article.

Fall 2008 Elections:

President- Jesse Burma was nominated but declined

2nd Vice President – Matt was nominated and accepted.

Secretary- Dawn Krueger was nominated and accepted.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and then seconded.

President Jesse Burma adjourned the meeting at 10:59 am.

Respectfully Submitted by: Dawn Krueger

4WD Awareness Workshop

The 4WD Awareness workshop for the Midwest region is being held at McCaslin Mountain Campground by Lakewood, WI, on August 22, 23, and 24. It will be announced in the next United Voice and there will be a spot on United's website for registering. Gene O is in the process of developing a flyer for the workshop and I will get that out as soon as I get. I will release more information as it becomes available.

Event Sponsors for 2008

This year I sent out close to one hundred sponsor letters and only received 14 sponsorships for this year. I will be having Jay put a sponsor page on the website and the sponsors for this year's conventions and 4WD Awareness include:

- [ARB 4x4 Accessories](#)
- [Borla Performance Industries](#)
- [Mile Marker](#)
- [Painless Performance Products](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Suspension Products](#)
- [Pull Pal](#)
- [Premier Power Welder](#)
- [Bushwacker BodyGear](#)
- [Interco Tire Corporation](#)
- [MasterCraft Racing Seats](#)
- [Jegs High Performance](#)
- [Flex-a-lite Performance Cooling Products](#)
- [Flowmaster Inc.](#)
- [Aston Enterprises Truck Nutz](#)
- [Warn Industries](#)

RidderFab Offroad Racing

Owner/driver profile

Jim Ridderbush, owner of RidderFab Off-road Racing and Fabrication, was born in 1971. Growing up in Wisconsin has its privileges; you get to experience all 4 seasons and learn how to drive in them. By the time Jim was 14 years old he had designed, engineered, and fabricated a go-cart with a 250 Enduro engine in it. Jim graduated from Appleton West High School in 1989.

Once Jim realized that he had a love for the off-road, wheeling lifted trucks in the woods, he joined the Twin City Bushwackers 4x4 Off-Road Club. While a member of the off-road club, he has traveled across the USA, to find off-road parks that he could rock crawl in. This year is very special; the Twin City Bushwackers will be working the Oshkosh, WI track for the WSORR race the weekend of July 26, 2008.

Shortly after Jim realized that he was hooked on off-road, he met Terry Friday and helped Terry build a two wheel drive Explorer. In 1988 they decided to build a Pro-Two Ford Extended cab and race in SODA short-course off-road series (the precursor to Championship Off-Road Racing - CORR.) An unfortunate accident in the second race left the driver/owner unable to drive the rest of the year. Jim had been on their pit crew and was asked to drive the remaining 4 races. Jim said yes, and that is where he learned how to race off-road and developed a yearning desire to stay involved in off-road racing.

For 9 years, Jim worked for AC Compressor as a pipe fitter. He started out with an entry-level position and worked his way up to a journey-man pipe fitter. AC Compressor was bought out by GE Corporation and he lost his job along with Ken Fisher (crew chief). Most people would have been devastated with losing their job, but not Jim. This gave him an opportunity to follow his dreams to start his own business, RidderFab Off-Road and Fabrication.



All throughout Jim's adult life he has been building off-road vehicles for friends or friends of friends. He also has done work for Kerstner's Off-Road, Fridays Off-Road, and Brian Swearingen from I8hmud.com. Including his, see picture, he built a total of 6 tube rigs from the ground up.

Currently Jim works for VanWin Corporation as a Journey-man and manager for their shop, along with his own business, RidderFab, and off-road racing. He has a work ethic like no other; he will keep working until all his goals are met. In 2004, Jim decided to build a race truck and put together a race team. This is not only an exceptional opportunity for them but for all who share in Jim's vision of winning the Championship and his vision. Jim has been racing the Sportsman series through World Series Off-Road Racing (WSORR) for the past 2 years. His race career highlights include 4-4th place finishes, 1-3rd place finish, 1-2nd place finish, and 1-1st place finish. Jim is currently building a new truck to race in the Ultimate 4x4 Pro 4 Class for the 2009 race season. Please be patient and visit his website at www.ridderfaboffroad.com which is under construction.





RidderFab

Off Road Racing

#413



2008 Race Dates

May 31-June 1 Wheatland, MO	WSORR Rds. I & II
June 21-22 Crandon, WI	WSORR Rds. III & IV
July 12-13 Bark River, MI	WSORR Rds. V & VI
July 26-27 Oshkosh, WI	WSORR Rds. VII & VIII
August 9-10 Bark River, MI	WSORR Rds. IX & X
August 29-31 Crandon, WI	WSORR Rds. XI & XII



Contact - Jim Ridderbush
3339W.Florida Ave.
Appleton, WI 54914

WWW.RIDDERFABOFFROAD.COM





WISCONSIN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION (W4WDA)
STATE TRAILS COORDINATOR AND STATE DIRECTOR REPORT

April 19, 2008

Submitted by Luana Schneider

Hello Everyone,

As you will note below there are many things happening! So 2008 will be GR8!

NATIONAL FOREST TOPICS

PIPELINE I do not have an update on this.

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT RULE (ROUTE DESIGNATIONS) ON NATIONAL FORESTS www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf

I have sent a request in by the deadline to get a paper copy of the Travel Management Rule Assessment that was supposed to be out by the latter part of March so we could respond to it by the end of April. However, in another part of the letter it left an out and said that after this assessment is released we will have 30 days to respond. I have made inquiries through Helen & Gil and the new AWSC president who will have asked about this at the Lake States meeting that was held April 16.

MAJOR-MAJOR PRIORITY--At an STC meeting Phil Barker of CNNF reported that we need to talk to the District Rangers about route designations. In particular the Laona/Lakewood District where the PIPELINE is. THE FOREST PLAN STATES 25 MILES OF CURRENT PIPELINE TRAIL OF WHICH THERE IS ONLY ABOUT 7 MILES DESIGNATED. WE NEED TO TALK TO THE DISTRICT RANGER TO WORK OUT WHERE WE WANT THE BALANCE OF THOSE TRAILS TO BE!! Has anyone done anything in regard to this?

STATE OF WISCONSIN DNR TOPICS

INVASIVE SPECIES GROUP There is a Wisconsin Council Forestry Committee that has been charged with developing Recreation Best Management Practices for Invasive Species in Wisconsin Forests and Tim Krueger is representing W4WDA as a user group of trails/roads. I know

there are several things happening in regard to this and I am sure Tim will update us at the meeting. One of the things that was stated at the STC meeting was “to get trained on Invasive Species issues”. Tim has Kelly Kearns coming from the DNR that is an expert on Invasive Species to our April meeting.

STATE TRAILS COUNCIL (STC) www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/council At the Bayfield meeting in October, Randy Harden stated to the Council the fact that it is literally impossible for him to represent in addition to ATV's, but OHV motorcycles and Four Wheel Driving also—he believes there should be two more seats on the Council for these. There is a move to do this and it would be helpful if the W4WDA would send a letter in regard to this to the Governor.

The STC meeting on January 7 was a teleconference call with those not on the council being able to sit in at the GEF II in Madison. At this meeting both John Schnorr representing WOHVA and Alex Bub of Wisconsin Off-Highway Motorcycle Association (WOHMA) made presentations in regard to AB600 (see more on heading below). Their presentations were excellent and brought out in the open many points of inadequate representation. The major point being that the STC has no specific listing of whom the 9 members should represent and they should be representing the trail recreation community as a whole. The Council voted to not sanction this bill and to have the chair of the Council represent the Council to legislatures for information purposes only. This did not bode well with many of us, since the Council chair is an Ice Age Trail individual and there is much apprehension that his informational representation will be slanted. More on AB 600 below under its own title.

During the Public Comments I complimented both John Schnorr and Alex Bub on their excellent reports and that we support such a concept and that this is 17 years late in coming!

The STC meeting of April 15 was held at the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capital in Madison. At this meeting it was reported that there should be a Parks and Recreation Director hired shortly. Tom Thorton representing snowmobilers was very emphatic about having legislation passed that made getting a ticket for drunk driving with a snowmobile be attached to your regular driver's license. I discussed this with him further at the break asking why he did not request the STC write up a resolution supporting such and expand it to include all other types of users also. This apparently gets complicated due to licensed versus unlicensed motorcycles etc. There are snowmobile trails in parts of the state that allow UNlicensed and not licensed motorcycles on them which somehow complicates the issue.

Dave Phillips, representing hiking and chair of the STC stated the need of a Legislative Study Committee on Non-motorized Trails that was in front of the Joint Legislative Council. As it tuthis was accepted by the Joint Legislative Council sometime between April 15 & April 17. This was established to review safety issues, conflicts between motorized and non-motorized uses, ways to avoid conflicts, education programs to provide information about how to avoid trail use conflicts, and increased enforcement by DNR wardens, regarding safety, noise, and operational issues.”

Randy Harden reported that he has met with the four wheel drive and off road motorcycle groups in regard to registration and safety programs.

Peter Biermeier reported that they hope to have a meeting of a very small group of key motorized stakeholders on MSRA yet in April or possibly May before going out to the public.

Trails Day will be June 7—do we have any projects for this?

Another initiative the State is doing with the DNR spearheading is “No Child Left Inside”. This is a program to encourage children to be outdoors. This is another thing we can get involved in by doing a program with four wheel driving that would have this theme. This initiative will kick off on June 14.

It got talked about again how great the Youth Expo in Beaver Dam on May 15 & 16 is. This Expo has over 000 kids of fourth, fifth and sixth grade attend and learn about trails and various means of using trails. I gather no one has seen fit to step up and do this?

There was some real issues such with the Northern Highland debate on whether or not ATV's were going to be allowed on the property. They made the trail development so extreme that the cost was ridiculous and resulted in basically roads which even made Randy Harden vote against allowing an ATV trail on the Northern Highland. I talked to Randy Harden and Rob McConnell about my concern on how this strategy gave the opposition what they wanted for an outcome and how this potentially will be used in other areas in the future. This definitely can be something we need to also be concerned about for four wheel drive trails!

There is also an issue on the Amery to Dresser trail that could become a real issue due to statutes interpretation. I have not read up on this one as of yet to fully understand it.

An update on Master Plans was given—see below on Black River Falls.

DNR Secretary Frank was there and he stated his strong commitment for trails. He said they connect families through the outdoors and connect all citizens with the outdoors. He stated how the state trail system should be for EVERYONE whether it be motorized or non-motorized, on land or on water. He said he is in full support of a Sport Recreation Area!

There were some other legislators there including Representative Al Ott, Andy Jorgenson, Senator Decker's aid and another one I did not get the name of. The governor did not make it, but Laurie Ostendorf was there for him.

AB600 is dead at this point. However, this did jar the STC to consider the fact that there is definitely some problems in regard to the Council. Randy Harden stated how the Council is broken and presented a proposal asking for a subcommittee to be established to review how the STC operates and how it can be more proactive in establishing better representation for all users. They are seeking nominations for the subcommittee and we can submit nominations for this to Brigit Brown of the DNR.

Ken Carpenter, equestrian on STC stated the need for the STC to be more involved in knowing what occurs with the NRTA funds. I was quite pleased that he stated this since this was something that is a main charge of this committee and yet it has not been done on a regular basis. It was noted that the application deadline is May 1 and the application form can be

accessed on the Internet site. I have left Ken know how glad I was that he made this request since it is quite important that the STC oversee where this money is going.

In public comment Rob McConnell expressed his disgust with the way the Northern Highland issue was handled and how the Amery to Dresser in Polk County court hearing went and the implications this has and also the Black River Forest conduct of what is wanted versus what is being proposed to be done there.

Dave Pederson of Langlade County stated his concern on how recent decisions might harm the protection of the Wolf River.

I stated that in going to the hearing on AB600 how it became obvious the need of users being recognized on the STC for that user to have credibility. I felt the fact that Randy Harden states that he represents motorized is even better than saying OHV which somehow becomes an ambiguous term that still does not make the public realize four wheel drive and offroad motorcycles. I also stated it's partially due to us losing our identity since folks relate to 4-wheeling and even four wheel drive as being ATV's where in the 70's and early 80's that was not an issue. I stated I was glad to see a subcommittee was being established to improve the STC .

To learn more about the Council and read the minutes you can go to the STC website noted above.

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

Remember our various events that are trail type events where the public is welcome we should submit to the Dept. of Tourism and ask the Chamber of Commerce in the area of the event to also submit to Tourism and advertise in the area for you. Keep that in mind when planning your event and looking at advertising angles. I would be interested in what success or problems you have when doing this.

AB600 This legislation is dead at this point in time. I spoke at the public hearing held by the Rural Development Committee at the State Capitol and stated our support and need to be on this Council for establish credibility of our recreation. The Committee voted in favor of this 8-1 but it did not get addressed at this session which was closing in two days. This legislation would have changed the STC from 9 to 11 members and would have assured that four of these would be representing one for ATV's, one for OHV motorcycles, one for snowmobiles and one for OHV Four Wheel Drives. This legislation is needed to balance the representation on the Council that out of the current nine members only two are representing motorized—one for snowmobiles (Tom Thornton) and the other for the rest of the OHV community (Randy Harden). As Randy has said several times this year, it is too difficult to properly represent more of the OHV community than just the ATV's. The argument that several stated was the fact that the current legislation does not list any specific representatives and why should there be legislation listing only specific motorized and if it was to expand and list others where does it stop? The Senate made an amendment to AB600 that listed the non-motorized users that currently are on the Council.

I have a problem with some of the verbiage in this legislation and have discussed with my representative who had their attorneys look this over for possible change if needed. My representative stated his attorneys did not think it was an issue so I left it at that. This is definitely needed legislation!

Harold Hoerneke met with his representative in regard to this and was told it is very important that ALL clubs send a letter on their letterhead to their representative and senator and since then I've been told to also send copy to the Governor and the DNR Secretary. Also, a copy should go to the STC. I also recommend that each individual send a handwritten letter to all of the above—one paragraph just letting them know that you (and your family) enjoy four wheel driving and ask them to pass AB600 to have proper representation on the State Trails Advisory Council. I hope you all did this!!

The following was taken from the WOHVA site that explains this further and also asks for more response directly to the STC.

Alert for all Wisconsin Motorized Recreational Trail Enthusiasts!

The Wisconsin Governor's State Trails Council (STC) is responsible for providing counsel in administering Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds in Wisconsin. These RTP funds come from the Federal Highway Trust Fund, and represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from **non-highway recreational fuel use** in each State. The STC advises the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on matters related to the management of trails in Wisconsin. Over the past few decades, Wisconsin has seen a dramatic increase in the number of motorized vehicles making use of the state trail network. AB 600 will increase the number of representatives on the council to eleven and specify that at least four members of the council represent users of motorized vehicles.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the State Trails Council (council) advises the Department of Natural Resources regarding the planning, acquisition, development, and management of state trails. The council consists of nine members, appointed by the governor for four-year terms, who are knowledgeable in various recreational uses of trails.

This bill expands the membership of the council from nine to eleven members. The bill also requires that the council include one member who represents snowmobile users, one member who represents all terrain vehicle users, one member who represents users of motor vehicles that have four wheels and that are manufactured principally for off-highway use, and one member who represents users of off-highway motorcycles that

MOTORIZED STATE RECREATION AREA (MSRA)

The DNR has developed a Committee of four people within the DNR to come up with a Development Plan and Business Plan for MSRA's. They are looking for ideas. If you have any info from Off road parks that you have been to, they would like to have copies of flyers, fees, info on infrastructure etc. and select photos. They don't want hundreds of photos, but key photos (preferably electronic) of trails, infrastructure etc. and your opinions (pros and cons) of the park/s. THEY WANT YOUR EXPERIENCES!! THEY WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN AN MSRA (OHV PARK). You can send via e-mail to Peter Biermeier at peter.biermeier@dnr.state.wi.us. Whatever you can't send by e-mail can be sent to Wisconsin DNR, c/o Peter Biermeier, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. Remember to emphasize this is NOT to be a replacement for our use of public lands but an addition to or as some call it an enhancement to our recreation!

The MSRA has been on hold due to no Parks & Recreation Director. It was reported at the STC meeting in Bayfield that that person has now been appointed and the Motorized State Recreation Area (MSRA) committee is now going forward and will be putting together an Advisory Group of key folks in regard to users of such a park and were to be meeting last Fall. Since the new person that was appointed as Parks & Recreation Director has already left that meeting was again delayed. However, Peter stated that they are not delaying anymore and intend to meet with the users this first quarter and proceed—so stay tuned. He plans on meeting with a very small select group of motorized stakeholders yet in April or May and then go out to the public for input.

WETLANDS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY Last Fall, Gary Eddy, enforcement officer for ATV's; which he said he also inherits other motorized enforcement to some extent called a conference call of motorized recreationists of ATV's, Four Wheel Drive and Offroad motorcycles. Tim Krueger, Chris Hannis and I were on the call representing W4WDA. The gist of the call was him needing help in getting the word out that OHV's should not be driving in wetlands even on private property. This stemmed from some sort of mud event that was held in a wetland recently. It was also noted at the STC meeting in January there is legislation that will affect not only public but PRIVATE

property in regard to usage which my understanding will include this. *If you know of any activities like this, please let them know this is not acceptable and/or contact one of us three.*

STICKER PROGRAM Legislation to implement a sticker program for Off-Highway Four Wheel Driving and Off-Highway Motorcycles is currently being written, but only in its initial stage. I inquired from John Schnorr who is spearheading this and he said that they want to get AB600 passed before they proceed on this. I asked that we be involved in this.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

FOREST COUNTY OHV PARK PROPOSAL www.wohva.net.

There are preferred sites for this proposal but they won't have actual locations in order of preference until the study is done each is 3,000 to 4,000 acres each. There is committed money for this study, but the balance needed has to be applied for and the next time he could apply for these funds was in January of 2008. Have not heard if there has been any success on this.

NORTHWOODS OVERLAND OHV PARK

This summer in July 2008 Northwoods Overland will open its trails to the OHV public. The OHV Park has trails wandering through 300 acres of pristine hemlock and hardwoods forests. These are technical trails with opportunities to "run mud." The trails are designed for 4x4 trucks and Jeeps... these are not ATV trails. Throughout the summer of 2008 Northwoods Overland plans to construct an obstacle and scramble area in one of the 30 acre interior fields on the property. Long term plans include additional scramble areas, obstacles, a race/competition area and trail development on adjacent acreage.

As of June 7, 2008 we will also have available a 20 site campground with water/electric sites, hot showers, a full general store and repair shop. The entire park overlooks nearby Small Spirit Lake, a 100 acre lake attached to Big Spirit Lake. Our location is 1 hour north of Wausau.

We have had the project and campground under construction for the past three summers and are anxious to see it used and enjoyed. Please visit our web site at www.northwoodsoverland.com for updates and information as things are developed this summer. Feel free to call or e-mail us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeremy VanCamp

Northwoods Overland

Jeremy@northwoodsoverland.com

MOLE LAKE, FOREST COUNTY AREA

Last Fall WOHVA was given charge of motorized events to be held on the Sokaogon Chippewa Indian Tribe land by Mole Lake. They are planning to cut trails this summer and have a first event there in September with limited participation of 100 Four wheel Drives, 100 ATV's and 100 Off Road Motorcycles. There have been two meetings in regard to cutting trails one December 15, on January 19 and March 16. The first trail cutting work weekend is going to be May 10 & 11. Go to the WOHVA site for more info.

4th STEP PROGRAM –The first official event for the Mole Lake, Forest County area will be August 7, 8, 9 & 10. There will be trail rides Friday and Saturday. Go to the WOHVA website for Agenda and registration.

MARCH OF DIMES RALLY

We had clues and the participation was 85 vehicles. After everything was counted we raised real close to \$20,000 again. Thanks to all landowners, workers, donors and participants!! Patches were sent out in December. If you did not get yours or need an extra one, let me know, we have a few left. I have received an e-mail from Darrel Richards of the National Forest thanking us for the plaque and stating we are welcome to have the rally on forest property in the future. I have been working with some people to find some contacts for a different piece of property in a more populated area with the hopes of more participation. This is becoming quite complicated due to date and site issues. I hope to meet with the various parties in the next couple of weeks with hopes of resolving a site and a date. We have another site in mind, but again it would be in a much less populated area. Also I do not think the Mole Lake OHV area in Forest County will be available soon enough for us to establish a route this year. Have an idea for an area for this or next year? Is anyone interested in working on this? My committee needs help and some new people to take on many of the tasks. Please talk to me SOON!!

I did some major inquiring and have two landowners and a campgrounds ready to talk to us and I still need to talk to a third landowner. After that I need to set up a time to meet with these folks to see if it may work out. One of the landowners is looking at big dollars to use the property and I would have to see how we can negotiate that down to something we could handle—especially with gas prices the way they are that could impede participation even worse than it has the last couple of years.

I have another site to check on also that may be a possibility—I need HELP in getting a site, especially if it is going to be different than last year!

If we can get something together we are targeting the date of the first weekend in October again, but that could still change.

NEED LOSS OF LAND I keep asking for this info and no one seems to have had land lost to them since we do not seem to be getting any info on this. Yes, I would like to have a list of ALL lands/trails that you know of that have been lost—whether it is on public or private land. Would like any info you may have on why also.

UNITED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATIONS (U4WDA) www.ufwd.org

Effective January 1, 2008 the dues structure will be that an organization will pay \$100 dues and then each individual who wishes to be a member of United pays \$25 dues if they join through a member organization. Then each member organization will receive a \$3 kickback for all members who join through a member organization and all other members who indicate that organization is their choice to receive the kickback from United.

Each member, be it an organization, business or individual member would have one vote. Then IN ADDITION for each member organization that has members who join through that organization, that organization will receive more votes on a progressive scale—the first being 1-99 members for two votes. So if W4WDA joined United at \$100, they would receive one vote. If they had at least 1 membership up to 99 memberships join United, they would receive another

two votes and then as of 100 memberships up to another number they would get more and so on.

The W4WDA has joined United for 2008 per its by-laws.

There have been some significant changes in the leadership of United including Carla Boucher being appointed Executive Director in addition to being legal counsel for United.

UNITED CONVENTION IN 2008? The Convention for 2008 will be held July 10, 11 & 12 in Manchester, New Hampshire. There will be trail rides following the convention for those who might be interested. You can go to the United site for further info.

UNITED TRAIL RIDE WHEEL-IN It was held April 10, 11 & 12, 2008 at Oak Ridge Estate in Nelson County, Virginia. There was a discount for United Members. It sounds like a good time was had by all. It is getting raving reviews.

CAMP JEEP The 15th Camp Jeep will NOT be held in 2008 but in 2009—stay tuned.

MS Fundraiser Crawl 4 the Cure

4th Annual Crawl 4 the Cure

A weekend of off road trail riding to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

July 17-22 2008

Iron Range Off Highway Recreation Area

Gilbert, Minnesota Get all the details at <http://www.crawl4cure.org>

LAKE STATES RESOURCE ALLIANCE (LSRA) I receive their newsletter and I know Gil & Helen Wagner have been attending meetings. They have an excellent letter to the Forest Service in regard to the Public Comments, Travel Management Rules that just confirms and justifies our involvement in this organization! Will be very interested to hear what Helen & Gil learned from the new Forest Supervisor for Chiquamegon/Nicolet National Forest that spoke at the LSRA meeting April 16.

25 YEAR PLAN REVIEW OF STATE FORESTS/MASTER PLANS Both of these are occurring. We need to know which areas are being looked at right now and let people know in those areas to keep an eye on these for they and us to respond to what is being done. This is another opportunity for us that is being lost. This is another one of those projects that isn't so large in itself that someone could be doing. Let me know of interest out there and let's see what we can put together. I do know the master plan for the Black River State Forest is in its final stages and should be complete

in late 2008 or early 2009. Apparently it creates much more closure of the property and is of much concern to current users. To my knowledge no one from W4WDA has been involved in this Master Plan so we lose again because we snooze.

COUNTY TEN YEAR PLANS AGAIN I am informing you that the County ten year plans are still being worked on—either for the current 10 years or the next. Counties need to report to the DNR on these plans. Contact your county and find out the status of your county's plan. This is an ongoing plan. You can also check your county website at [www.co.\(name of your county\).wi.us](http://www.co.(name of your county).wi.us) for what is coming up or send them an e-mail through their website. We need YOU to communicate with YOUR county officials IMMEDIATELY to see what type of input they have received from four wheel drive (OHV's) such as Jeeps, Trucks, etc. recreationists and let them know that we are definitely out there and want to be included in their recreational plans for the County Forest!

FOREST CERTIFICATION I have talked to one County Forester and found this is definitely a problem for us in Wisconsin, since certification is in jeopardy if too many trails, ruts, etc. There are companies out there that will not purchase wood from forests (private or government) that do not have this certification. This was a very hot topic a couple of months ago on a U4WDA level in regard to National Forests. Even though it is not called "certification" but "evaluation" the subject line on the e-mails said "forest certification gonna kill us. It would be extremely helpful if someone could proceed and at least find out what is happening on this and report back to us now on the yahoo group listing. <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/program/forestry/smartwood/public-comments.html>.

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE COALITION OF WISCONSIN (OHVCOW) This is the name of the new group of folks that came out of the meetings last spring and summer to get the different Off highway vehicle organizations together. This is an informal group that will not have any officers etc. but formed to communicate various items that would be of interest to users overall and also be able to support various users on their specific issues. I do not know of anything that has been occurring in regard to this.

MEMBERSHIP--Helen Wagner has this position and was at the rally handing out membership packets. This has generated some response and in fact one group wishes to start a club!

VEHICLE PATROL PROGRAM Tim Krueger is now a trainer for this program—talk to him about how you can be part of the vehicle patrol program.

FUNDING FOR OFF ROAD PARKS (FORP) I do not believe much has been done on this recently.

BLUE RIBBON COALITION (BRC) I have nothing to report at this point in time.

LAND USE CHAIR FOR YOUR REGION AND YOUR CLUB We need to have every region appoint a land use chair and also every club. These folks then can follow through with many things found in this report. Also I for one and I am sure there are others in W4WDA who would like to have the name, address and phone number of that person so we have a contact.

NR 135 I am assuming nothing more has been done on this?

TREAD LIGHTLY How are we doing on getting a training session set up for us?

COMMUNICATIONS How are we doing on this? As far as I am concerned I will continue to use the W4WDA Yahoo list as my means of communicating to W4WDA. I highly recommend that

each delegate definitely be on this Yahoo list and in turn encourage interested members to get on this list OR if a delegate does not have internet, have someone in the club that has internet be on the yahoo list to report to the delegate and club. I also highly recommend that each delegate forward info to their membership through their communication avenues. It is so frustrating that in this day and age when communications is so much easier we seem to have more difficulty in communicating because people don't want to be bothered and make more work for those who are doing something to let folks know what is going on!! Forums may be good for discussions, but sure are more difficult to disseminate info on!

If the Yahoo list is not the right form of communication, get someone from each club that can be responsible to receive and disseminate info from the W4WDA to their club and visa versa. Let us start a group listing of these e-mail addresses that can be used for communication—this is absolutely ridiculous that we do not have some sort of e-mail program set up where we can have quick and easy communication!!

GET INVOLVED Everyone, seriously think of taking on one project and then follow it through. We need more people to get involved in order to even keep what we have. There are many of us ready and able to help you out, we just can't be also working on all these projects—right now even following up with helping seems to have become a challenge for me with all that is going on. I know there are now some regional Vice Presidents working in their areas more. However there are many other projects that need to be done. Taking just a small piece can make such a big difference!!

GET TO KNOW YOUR REPRESENTATIVES, FORESTERS, RANGERS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT HEADS IN YOUR AREA!!! Let them know your interest in OHV trails and OHV state parks. Explain to them what we do. Invite them out on a trail or even a work weekend!

BY-LAWS & SOP When will the updated versions be on our website?

Lake States Resource Alliance

April 2008

Rhineland, WI

Jeanne Higgins, Forestry Supervisor was introduced and she explained a little about the National Forest Management Project. There are 1000's of acres of unclassified roads in the Nicolet/Chequamegon National Forest. They plan to map out usage roads the problem is roads are not being surveyed in a vehicle. They are using a helicopter from 1500 feet up. Roads that are somewhat over grown will be overlooked and not mapped. Some roads are also being copied from old maps. She stated that anyone wishing to add roads not found on the map can map them out and submit them to her for consideration when doing the next mapping. Environmental assessment copies will not be available until sometime in May. Maps of Trail Management Project will not be available until January of 2009.

The raffle was successful. \$23,000.00 sold and the door prizes only cost around \$11,000.00.

LSRA President Orv Languor received a letter from Governor Doyle saying he appreciated the letter from the LSRA board of directors requesting the trails council be expanded to 11 members from the current 9 members. He said he would take it into consideration.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Gil Wagner

4Wheelparts welcomes you to our new club program!!

4 Wheel Parts invites your members to join our club program with great benefits and savings!

We would like to personally welcome you and your club members to 4wheel Parts brand new 2007 program. This will help build a strong relationship between our company and your club members. 4 Wheel Parts was built on selling off road parts out of a garage and has grown over the years. We would like to help your clubs grow as well. This is an opportunity for us to share our resources with our loyal customers and club members. We are on board with your clubs events! Banners, prizes, t-shirts, Koozie and raffle prizes are just a start to what 4 Wheel Parts can do to help you organization grow and have successful events. As a club member we want to offer you an additional savings! Just send us your club members names, mailing addresses and e-mail addresses and we will provide each member of your club their own club card with their name and your clubs' personal number appearing on it. This club card will entitle the card holder to special club pricing and prizes at all 4 Wheel Parts locations.

As an added bonus quarterly we will add up your clubs combined purchases and send you a check for 2% of your purchases to use for your events, charity or whatever the club needs!

As a bonus, 4 Wheel Parts will add your clubs logo and web link to our website. This will help improve attendance at your events and bring in prospective new members for your club. I would also like to invite your club to have your meeting at any of our retail locations. We will provide the food, drink, tables, chairs and any thing else you would need to host your meeting. This would be a great time to speak with our managers and service department personnel. We would be glad to help on any technical issues that we could help solve. (It would also be a good time to get some free t-shirts and use that additional saving offered on your club card).

All we ask in return is that you set up a link from your website to ours and that you enjoy the extra benefits of the club program. If you need any help organizing an event, feel free to give us a call and we can use our resources and experience to get your events rolling.

Thanks for participating in our exciting new Program!
Regards

Local Store contact information :

Brent Goegebuer 4Wheel Parts / Stockton #206

Retail Marketing, New Products, Outside events Brian Phelps Store Manager

4 Wheel Parts 6622 Sampson Rd.

801 West Artesia Blvd Stockton, Ca. 95212

Compton Ca 90220 (209) 952 - 0443

stk@4wheelparts.com

4Wheel Parts Club Program Approved Discounts

- Club Discount
- 5% off Retail price varies by line
- 2% rebate each quarter on clubs combined purchases.
- Direct support for club events from 4 Wheel Parts
- Use of our advertising dept for flyers.
- Easy access for door prizes and gift certificates to help your events.
- Link from 4WP web site to your clubs site.
- Listing on 4WP website with logo.
- Club price automatically is applied when # is entered.
- Does not apply to buy 3 get 1 free on any product lines.
- Cannot be combined with other discounts or coupons.
- Must have club card or club card number at time of purchase.
- Does not include employees

Club Program

Please fill out the appropriate boxes for each member

Club Information:

Name: _____

Website: ID Number: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State Zip _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Email: _____

Title: _____

Member Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

****4Wheel Parts will not share your personal information****

Please list anything additional you would like to see from 4 Wheel Parts

Office Use Only:

New Off-Road Park in WI

This summer in July 2008 Northwood's Overland will open its trails to the OHV public. The OHV Park has trails wandering through 300 acres of pristine hemlock and hardwoods forests.

These are technical trails with opportunities to "run mud." The trails are designed for 4x4 trucks and Jeeps... these are not ATV trails. Throughout the summer of 2008 Northwood's Overland plans to construct an obstacle and scramble area in one of the 30 acre interior fields on the property. Long term plans include additional scramble areas, obstacles, a race/competition area and trail development on adjacent acreage.

As of June 7, 2008 they will also have available a 20 site campground with water/electric sites, hot showers, a full general store and repair shop. The entire park overlooks nearby Small Spirit Lake, a 100 acre lake attached to Big Spirit Lake. Our location is 1 hour north of Wausau in Rib Lake.

They have had the project and campground under construction for the past three summers and are anxious to see it used and enjoyed. Please visit our web site at www.northwoodsoverland.com for updates and information as things are developed this summer. Feel free to call or e-mail them with any questions.

Jeremy Van Camp

Northwood's Overland

Jeremy@northwoodsoverland.com

715-657-0054

Jeremy Van Camp and Tim Noble presented the plan to the W4WDA at their meeting on Saturday, April 19, 2008. W4WDA invited the others from MW4WDA to come in for the presentation.

Jeremy is working with about 300 acres bordering Small Spirit Lake in Taylor County. The campground is expected to open June 7th, 2008 with 26 sites to start. Cost for camping will be \$14.00 or \$18.00 with electric. They plan to have 10 miles of trail ready by July 1, 2008. By the end of 2008 they plan to have the rock garden and obstacle course ready. Eventually they would like to have a 30 – 40 mile trail system set up for day long runs.

Feel free to contact Jeremy with any questions or suggestions. He is very open to suggestions from the OHV community.