



THE MID-GUNNER

News and whatever

A Desert Wranglers Jeep Club
News Publication

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

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AUGUST 2022

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*Non-Board positions

200 Strong!

We are proud to report that there are approximately 200 active, paid, members! *Probably more, by the time this gets read.*

Every day, we continue to add new people — making us one of the largest “real” Jeep clubs in Nevada.

Recently, our **Meetup** mailing list was purged of inactive names, some dating back over a decade. The criteria for “inactive” was any name who did not register on our new website (www.desertwranglers.club) nor submit their dues.

If you find that your name was accidentally deleted from Meetup — and you are an Active member — it may have been on account of name duplication, spelling, or other glitch. Don't worry, just reach out to us at membership@desertwranglers.club so we can straighten it out.

Understand that belonging to our Facebook group is not tied to actual club membership. FB serves as a Forum for discussion threads, announcements, general posts. It is pretty much open to the public — which is why we do not post specific details of club events.

How to Join

Joining Desert Wranglers is easy. First though, you gotta drive a Jeep Wrangler or JT.

Unlike some clubs, we welcome newbies and offer mild to intermediate trail runs that are stock friendly.



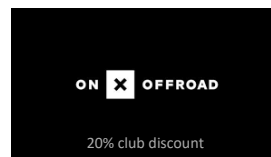
Go to our website www.desertwranglers.club and click on the JOIN button. Answer the questionnaire and then you will be taken to a page where you can submit your \$25 annual dues. Note, that is per Jeep — so it includes driver, co-driver, and passengers.



There is one more important step. After joining Desert Wranglers, you still need to join on our **Meetup** group. *There is a link on the website for this.*

Meetup is where we post the private details about club runs & events, and how active members can RSVP.

Thank You To Our Sponsors



Desert Wranglers welcomes **Bulletpoint Mounting Solutions** as a new sponsor.

We are still looking for an individual to serve as our Industry Liaison, who would seek out new sponsors for the club.

Contact Fred G or Judi T if you are interested.

Trail Runs by Jim Taylor



We had planned a number of trail runs for this month, but were only able to complete three so far, with one more planned later this month.

August is a tough month for off road activities. There are unpredictable weather patterns bringing heavy, isolated rain showers which can transform parts of easy trails into near impassible sections. The high heat is also a factor.

Here is the way we go about planning off-road activities:

1. Never go off-road alone. When you go off-road, you need to plan for all contingencies. If a vehicle experiences a mechanical issue (for example) all the members in the group should stay together and stop to assist. This means that everyone in the group can be exposed to high temperatures, possibly for an extended period of time. As undesirable as this is, it is safer that going it on your own.
2. Always check the weather for adverse predictions like concentrated rain or excessive heat. Also check for traffic predictions for the on-road portion of your route.
3. Third, be prepared to turn around and go back to the highway.



Going off-road can be challenging as well as incredibly satisfying. Keep in mind that as we go off-road we need to limit the real risks that we have to deal with. Going off-road is an optional activity best undertaken

when external conditions are in our favor.

See you out on the trail.



Safety Concerns

by Judi Taylor

Here are a few helpful things to remember before hitting the trails during Monsoon Season here in Southern NV.

- One-foot of standing water equals 500 lbs. of lateral force on your vehicle.
- Know your limitations. It takes only 6 inches of fast-moving flood water to knock over a grown adult. Just 12 inches of rushing water can carry away a small car, while 2 feet can sweep away most vehicles, including trucks and SUVs.
- Make sure your Jeep is in good working order, including wipers, brakes, fluids, headlights, and tires.
- Don't go if Flash Floods are predicted in the area of your trail.
- Pay attention to any barricades. Don't ignore them and drive past.
- Driving through water can damage your vehicle's electronics.
- Bring plenty of water and snacks, required medications, a charged cell phone with car charger, blankets and sturdy shoes in case of emergency.
- Don't blindly follow other Jeeps. Do your best to estimate the depth of the water if you must cross it.
- If you do get stuck in flood water, it's usually best to wait in the car and call for help rather than trying to get out. (Flood water can be contaminated and carry disease).
- Always let someone not on the run know you are going out off-roading and what trail you will run.



It is recommended you carry a small satellite communicator like a **Garmin InReach Mini** which can text to emergency services and other designated entities. It does require a subscription service, but that is a small price to pay for a lifeline should you ever need one!



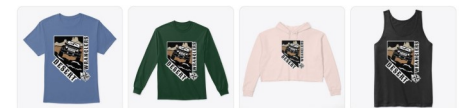
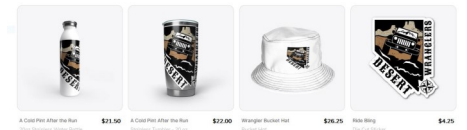
NEVADA OFFROAD SUMMIT
OCTOBER 12-14 2022
MINDEN NEVADA - NVOFFROADSUMMIT.COM

The Nevada Offroad Association will be hosting the 2022 Nevada Offroad Summit in Minden Nevada October 12-14 at the Carson Valley Inn. This is a free event to attend and sign-ups will be through this page starting June 1st.

The Nevada Offroad Summit is a forum where all users of Nevada's vast open space have the opportunity to visit, meet face to face, participate in discussion forums, or just learn about other offroaders, in the silver state.

<https://nevadaoffroad.us/nevada-offroad-summit-venue-lodging/>

DW Logo Merchandise



Show the world that you are a Desert Wrangler.

Mugs, t-shirts, tanks, sweatshirts, stickers — you can buy it all on our new Desert Wranglers website. The good part is that it is not costing our club anything to stock inventory!

No minimum stocking orders, no worries over sizes and colors. It is known as Merchandise on Demand. They have our logo, and when you place an order — the logos are imprinted on whatever item, color, and size you selected.

In order to encourage club members to wear our logo proudly, the Board decided to price the merchandise as low as we could with barely any profit to the club. Our goal is to help instill a team spirit, and at the same time to publicize our club to the community.

But most importantly, it is a proven scientific fact that coffee tastes better when you drink it from a Desert Wranglers cup!

Things I have learned on the trail over 12 months

by Fred Ginsburg



As many of you know, my wife Gaye and I are relatively new to off-roading. We did our first trails last fall, did Winter 4x4 in January, and then sat out our club's hiatus until DW ramped up again in the spring. So

we remember what it is like to be just getting started in off-roading. Here are some tips that we have picked up along the way.

Tires. There is a big difference between what the Jeep factory calls All Terrain and what an off-roader would consider as All Terrain.

Even though the civilian tread bites may appear visually similar — true AT tires are more expensive, weigh more, and differ in the depth of the tread and the thickness of the sidewalls. It takes a lot more effort to puncture them vertically, or to slice them horizontally. Good tires will make a huge improvement when you hit the trails.

Lifts. Lifts do not increase your "clearance" per se, because you are limited by your axle height and your hanging fruit (aka pumpkins, aka differential casings). You can only increase your axle clearance by increasing your tire diameter — but going from 33 to 35 only gets you an inch, if that.

What lifts will do is raise your undercarriage and side frame so that you are less likely to get high centered or to have your side frame crash down on a rock that you have just driven up and over. (That's why we get rock sliders instead of plastic running boards.)

Lifts do not allow you to put a raised obstacle between your tires and straddle straight over it.

Hills. It is very important to be patient and allow the vehicle ahead of you to clear the summit, or to clear the very bottom of a descent (the bottom is where you are most likely to deal with a steep approach angle).

Think about what might happen if an ascending Jeep slipped out of gear and began rolling back down (slipping out of gear happens sometimes). If you are staged at the very start of the hill — you will be right in their path!

Besides, it helps you to stage far enough away so that you can get a running start and build up some momentum.

Some hills are okay to do in 4H, but the steeper ones require 4Low. Usually, our Trail Leaders will announce suggestions over the radio as you approach a hill or obstacle.

I have found that using a lower gear obviously helps in terms of powering up those inclines, but also helps on descents to reduce your speed and saves on the braking.

Many of the Jeep automatic transmissions offer a "manual" mode akin to paddle shifting. Pushing the stick forward lowers the gear; pulling it back takes you up a gear. M1 and M2 are my go-to gears, since they give me the most power going uphill, or reduce my speed on the downhill.

Hill Descent and Selec Speed are designed as low speed "cruise control" when you are in 4L. The Jeep uses engine braking and auto braking to maintain very low speeds, such as steep hill descents. You can increase or decrease the crawl by using the Manual shifter; each "gear" actually just adjusts the speed ever so slightly. Personally, I do not like the jerky crawl/stop/crawl that it imparts to my Jeep, but some people find that mode useful.

TPM and Tire Fill Assist. Newer Jeeps can display the current tire PSI on the control console. If you have a passenger with you, they can monitor the PSI while you air-up or air-down, thus saving you from constantly plugging a gauge onto your valve stem.

Up until the chip shortage, many Jeeps were also equipped with Tire Fill Assist.

To use TFA, your engine must be running (which it would be if you are using an electric air compressor). Go to SETTINGS, and in the Driver Safety tab — you will see an unchecked box for Tire Fill Assist. The factory default (every time the engine restarts) for that setting is unchecked; so you will always need to manually check it when you are airing up.

The computer will now monitor the TPM readings, and the vehicle will honk when the tires achieve 36 psi (or whatever psi your mechanic programmed the computer for). I find it to be convenient and accurate.

Communications

Desert Wranglers, along with the majority of other Jeep clubs, has chosen **GMRS** as our radio communications frequencies of choice.

Up until last year, CB was still popular on the trails. These days, CB is pretty much only used at some of the big annual events, and that is because CB offers 40 channels, compared to only 22 for GMRS (and of those 22, some are reserved for low power FRS and some are dominated by repeaters — so in actual practice, there are a lot less than 22 usable channels).

GMRS works fine on our trail runs. The handheld radios are very affordable (\$30+), and many of us bring a few spares that we can loan out. GMRS does require an FCC license, which is only \$35, lasts 10 years, extends to family, and does not require an exam.

So everyone owns a radio, or borrows one. But you have to use it!

Talk to your Trail Leader. Don't be shy about asking the group to slow down when you can't see the Jeep ahead of you. Likewise, let the group know if the Jeep behind you has fallen too far back.

Ask to STOP if you need a bio break, or need to secure some cargo bouncing around in the cab. Or just want to photograph that magical image.

If the group approaches a hill or an obstacle, please don't feel shy about asking for a spotter or some coaching, or whether to use 4 Low. Some members have done those obstacles dozens of times; but this may be your very first attempt. Ask for assistance; no one will think less of you.

If you do choose to skip an obstacle, don't just drive to a bypass on your own. Inform the Trail Leader, and discuss where you will re-join the group later on the trail.

It is our club policy to make sure that you have an escort to the rendezvous — usually the mid or tail gunner, or at least someone experienced. And one of you should have some sort of GPS navigation, just in case.

Your radio is for more than just answering trivia questions along the trail.

It is for keeping us all informed of everyone's status, so that we all stay safe and have a good time.



VEGAS VALLEY FOUR WHEELERS'
Hump N Bump
POWERED BY **VEGAS 4X4 & OFF-ROAD**

Event Dates • Oct 27 - 30, 2022

www.HumpNBump.Com

Few things in Jeep life are more fun than when hundreds of fellow off-roaders gather for a weekend of trail runs, activities, camping, and parties. The two big annual events out here — not counting the huge Jeep Jamborees and Safaris in Moab — are **Hump & Bump**, and **Winter 4x4**.

Winter 4x4 takes place up in St George/Hurricane UT in January, but Hump & Bump takes place down here in Logandale and is run by our local **Vegas Valley 4Wheelers**. VV4W is kind of our big brother; they do the harder trails, gave us a \$500 grant along with other support, and many of our members belong to that group. They are a 501c3 non-profit; proceeds from the event do not line anyone's pockets.

Desert Wranglers have been asked to participate, not only as registered attendees — but also as Event Volunteers to assist in various staff duties. Here is a link to their sign-up sheet. Donate a few hours.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11nFo3vhIvYSyjb2LUB5tkWLSWSTaRty/edit?fbclid=IwAR3t_4fvZUmGGbZF_OXOIh4eO1aSMpBuGisHck5uRVuEnmb-NbRN6rbzBc

5TH ANNUAL
JEEPS AND TREATS
SATURDAY OCT. 22ND 6:30PM - 9:30PM
LOCATION
SHINKYOKUSHIN KARATE
 7035 W. ANN RD. STE 120 - LAS VEGAS, NV 89130

Logos: Shinkyokushin Karate Las Vegas, JIC, Wild West Jeep Club Est 2016, Wranglers Desert, Wreckdit (Tad & Offroad)

FREE Candy Outside! "Trunk or Treat Style" out of tricked out Jeeps!
EAT • DRINK • JEEP

Additional logo: Feed Forward Research & Education TEAL PUMPKIN PROJECT

We all know that grown-up kids love Jeeps. You wouldn't be reading this if it were not true. I think that it is safe to say that no youngster ever bragged about dressing up in a jacket & tie or party dress, and driving around in a Prius. But they will always tell their friends about the time they went out off-roading in a Jeep!

Young imaginations love Jeeps. And candy. And dressing up in costume. At least we do. So do the kids.

Come out for a fun evening of Halloween celebration. Hundreds of Jeeps in the parking lot, decked out with lights and creepy décor. Bowls of candy in the trunk ready to fill those loot bags.

And a chance for the adults to hang out together, share some pot luck tailgate grub, and not act their age for a night.

Note the date.... Purposely held a week before the 31st so as NOT to overlap Hump & Bump.

Desert Wranglers special Club Discount from our sponsor



TRY
ON **X** OFFROAD
FOR FREE

2 Month Elite Membership



[Here is the redemption link](https://www.onxmaps.com/offroad/r/624g36c) that will give you access to both a discount and the 2-months free.


<https://www.onxmaps.com/offroad/r/624g36c>



ON **X** OFFROAD

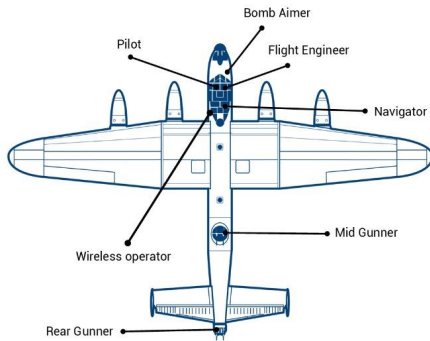
GET 20% OFF
THE #1 GPS OFFROAD APP

USE PROMO CODE **trailride20**



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News and Whatever



THE MID-GUNNER
is the newsletter of the



**Desert
Wranglers
Jeep Club**

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Las Vegas NV 89128

info@desertwranglers.club

Editor: Fred Ginsburg
818-231-1038

FredG@desertwranglers.club

Visit our website at
www.desertwranglers.club

Don't forget. **CLASSIFIED ADS** are free to DW active members, sponsors, and really cheap for commercial businesses.

Got something to sell or trade? Or looking for something to add to your jeep?

Send your info to the Editor!

If you are concerned about putting your name or contact info out in public, we can run a blind ad and forward any responses to you.

August 24 Meeting Agenda

Call to order. Third general meeting of Desert Wranglers, Inc.

Motion to approve the minutes as written and previously posted.

REPORTS

President

Treasurer

Membership

Website guided tour of website

Trail Master August monsoons, heat. Need more trail leaders. Importance of communicating if you need assistance w obstacle.

BLM report

Education & Training (general plans for future)

Merchandise

Media Relations Bulletpoint, Onx sponsorship (club discount, free trial), Heat-beaters Headliners, Google seo

Special Events/Community VV4W (Hump & Bump), Jeepers Kreepers (Trunk or Treat), Trail Cleanups, holiday party December

Old Business need volunteers as trail leaders; Special Events, Media Relations committee chairs, Industry Liaison

New Business

Training Workshop: Tires: choosing, using, fixing

Door Prizes lots of goodies tonight

50/50

Motion to Adjourn

Desert Wrangler general email directory

info@desertwranglers.club	Secretary@desertwranglers.club
President@desertwranglers.club	Webmaster@desertwranglers.club
VP@desertwranglers.club	Membership@desertwranglers.club
Treasurer@desertwranglers.club	Board@desertwranglers.club

Mark Your Calendars for upcoming Desert Wranglers general meetings

Wednesday August 24 6:00pm to 8:00pm Mimi's Café

Wednesday Sept 28 6:00pm to 8:00pm Mimi's Café

Mimi's Café located at 596 N Stephanie St, Henderson, NV 89014

Please order some food or they will charge us for the room.
