



THE MID-GUNNER

News and whatever

A Desert Wranglers Jeep Club
News Publication

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 5

EDITOR: FRED GINSBURG

DECEMBER 2022

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Help Wanted

We are still looking for an individual to serve as our **Industry Liaison**, who would seek out new sponsors for the club; and a **Media Relations** person to handle social media and public relations.

Looking back at our first year (half year?) since re-organizing, the Desert Wranglers have a lot to be proud of.

MEMBERSHIP

We have approximately 250 paid/Active members. Our recent switch over to Meetup Pro streamlines our membership process and even allows a trial period for prospective members; their credit cards won't be charged until after the trial period.

There were some glitches during the changeover, so if you received a strange invoice / renewal statement, or encounter any difficulties logging in — please send a note to membership@desertwranglers.club

TRAIL RUNS

We are averaging several trail runs per month, ranging from Beginners to more advanced — something for everyone.

Eric and Fred have joined our list of Trail Leaders, but we still need more people to volunteer.

Start off as a Mid or Tail Gunner. You don't need much experience; there are other jeepers in the run who can back you up and handle difficult situations.

After you get enough dirt in your treads, then step up to Trail Leader. Not sure of yourself? Someone will be there to mentor you.

Brian is our new Overlanding Chair. In addition to our day runs, expect some multi-day expeditions (camp or motel).

VISIBILITY

Our YouTube channel is up and gaining viewers.

Our club members will be featured on the *At Your Leisure* television series. The producer rode along with Patti during her Mt Potosi run on Dec 10.

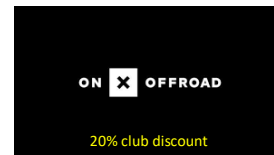
Desert Wranglers participated in the Trunk or Treat, Hump n Bump, and Tacos & Crawlers events. Some of us will be at Winter 4x4.

WELCOME to the LODGE

Our new meeting venue worked out great. Easy to get to, ample parking, privacy, inexpensive drinks & food, tons of room. Thank you Judi and Tori!

NEW SPONSORS

We welcome Handyflag.com as a new sponsor; and welcome back Chapman as a returning sponsor.



Desert Wranglers Trail Notes



How to sign up to join a Trail Run

All of our official Trail Runs are posted on our **Meetup** pages. Although we try to also publish them on our website calendar, those listings may not appear for a few days.

So pay attention to **Meetup!** Email announcements to active members are automatically generated whenever a new event is posted.

We do NOT post private events, such as trail runs, on FaceBook, since that is pretty much open to the public — and our trail runs are for members only.

Trail Runs are limited to up to approximately 20 jeeps; some of the more advanced runs may be much smaller. It is very important to RSVP for a run as early as possible, since those slots fill up quickly. RSVP's are per jeep; not per person. If an event is full, you will be added to a Waitlist. There are always some dropouts, or Trail Leaders may increase their limits — so some on the Waitlist do get added. If you do need to cancel, please edit your RSVP immediately so that someone else can take your spot.

You must be an active member of Desert Wranglers in order to RSVP and join a run. Do not wait until the last minute, and expect to join & RSVP at the same time. Process your membership days in advance, so that you are now eligible to RSVP when a trail run gets posted. Like we said, they fill up quickly.

If there is a special situation, then please reach out to the Trail Leader at least a day or two ahead of time.

On the day of the run, please show up at the designated meeting place on time (that means *early*).

We are always looking for more new Trail Leaders, so that we can expand our number of runs each month. As a Leader, you get to pick the date and the route. We can train you. Contact KeithM@desertwranglers.club

New Site for our 6-8pm Club Meetings

Beginning with our November 30th meeting, we now enjoy the spacious hospitality of a fraternal lodge, **conveniently centered between Summerlin and Henderson**. This facility offers a spacious meeting/banquet hall along with a bar/kitchen, game room, and even an outdoor yard w BBQ kitchen. Ample, fenced in, parking lot. Food and drink are inexpensive. **See Meetup for specific location details.**

Christmas Holiday Party Wednesday Dec 21st

Our December meeting won't be much of a meeting, as it will be our Holiday Party.

Once again, we will gather at the fraternal lodge. Food and drink will be served by their restaurant kitchen (just like at Mimi's, we are expected to purchase \$300 or more in return for use of their hall) — but we can pot luck the desserts. We're still working on the details.

Everyone should bring a wrapped gift, which will be exchanged (and maybe re-exchanged) in a spirited party swap.



There will also be door prizes and a 50/50.

We are just beginning the planning stage of this party, so more description will be forthcoming over the next few weeks. But go ahead and mark the date: Dec 21.

As always, details and RSVP on Meetup.

More Meetings... Or Fewer?

One of the topics of discussion at our last General Meeting was whether or not to continue to hold club meetings every month; or to just meet every other month for business, and to meet socially during the alternate months.

There were good arguments for both options, and no decisions have been made.

The Leadership Team would certainly like to hear your thoughts on this matter. Please email us and tell us what you prefer.

Besides the lack of space, one of the complaints about our meeting venue was the pricey menu.

As you can see, our new venue is non-profit priced, and their bar/restaurant menu offers a wide selection of entrees (with sides) for under \$10.

We will no longer have to limit the number of attendees to our meetings; in fact, you are encouraged to invite friends to come and check us out.

The Meetup rsvp will still be up, in order to get a handle on how many people to expect, so we can alert the kitchen crew.

YES, children and minors under 21 are invited. They just cannot be seated in the BAR itself, but are welcome in the banquet/mtg room and the playrooms in the back.

Entrees served with choice of condiments and sides

ITEM	MEMBER PRICE	NONMEMBER PRICE
Hamburger	\$6.00	\$7.00
Double Hamburger	\$7.00	\$8.00
Cheeseburger	\$7.50	\$8.50
Double Cheeseburger	\$9.00	\$10.00
Grilled Cheese Sandwich	\$3.50	\$4.50
Fish Battered Cod (3)	\$8.00	\$9.00
Fish Sandwich	\$5.50	\$6.50
Philly Cheese Steak	\$7.00	\$8.00
Sampler Platter	\$8.50	\$9.50
Crispy Chicken Salad	\$8.00	\$9.00
Hot Dog	\$4.00	\$5.00

Ask about the daily special

Baskets With Condiments

Chicken Finger (3)	\$7.00	\$8.00
Chicken Wings (6)	\$8.00	\$9.00

Sides/Baskets with Condiments

French Fries	\$4.00	\$5.00
Sweet Potato Fries	\$4.00	\$5.00
Tater Tots	\$4.00	\$5.00
Onion Rings	\$4.00	\$5.00
Mozzarella Sticks (6)	\$4.00	\$5.00
Stuffed Jalapeno	\$4.00	\$5.00
Pot Stickers	\$4.50	\$5.50
Fried Spicy Green Beans	\$4.00	\$5.00
Spring Rolls (6)	\$4.00	\$5.00
Fried Mushrooms	\$4.00	\$5.00

Healthy Choices

Garden Burger	\$5.00	\$6.00
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Treasurer's Report

Dues subscription payments are no longer being automatically transferred each day into the checking account. During the mandatory membership trial period at MeetupPro, our new members are not charged until the trial period expires. Thus, the dues payments for November will start flowing into our account beginning in early December 2022. We currently have 241 members as of noon today.

All of our financial accounts except Spring have been entered into Quicken 2022 Deluxe and have been reconciled as of November 30, 2022. Copies of the Quicken account reconciliation reports are available online on our Google Drive under "Treasury Reports->Quicken Reconciliation Reports.

I have been able to verify new sales for the Spring Merchandise store. October 2022 sales were \$38.91 and November sales were \$28.84. Funds transfers to our checking account are invoked manually through a PayPal account and take several weeks to clear. Thus, I cannot balance the Spring account into our Quicken books past September, since they do not make the money available with each item sale as they do in Square.

Net Worth Report - As of 10/30/2022

ASSETS

Checking - Am First	\$4,963.39
Merchant - Spring	\$00.00
Merchant - Square	\$23.97
Savings - Am First	\$29.84
Cash Box	\$53.00
TOTAL Cash & Bank Acct	\$5,070.20
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,070.20

No one in this club receives any salary nor material perk. No reimbursements for gas, meals, or anything of value.

It takes money to start-up and maintain an organization, even though we are a 501c3 non-profit (application fees, filing fees, annual fees). The website entails domain and hosting fees. Meetup charges us. Our UPS street mailbox (required by the state) is an expense. Banking and software fees. Door prizes (when not donated). Monies for the special events, classes, and Holiday Party.

And that is only the top of the list. In today's world, everything comes with a price — no matter how altruistic our intentions.

Off Road 101 Training Classes

One of our mission goals, as a charitable and educational non-profit organization (501c3) is to introduce and train beginners about safe off-roading.

To that end, we have a library of educational articles and videos. We conduct educational discussions at our meetings.

We routinely conduct Beginners 101 Training runs (such as Mt Potosi and Kodachrome) designed to provide a fun and confidence building experience for first timers.

Next year, we are hoping to offer in-person and/or online introductory lectures about off-road basics, so that people new to Jeeping can get an overview of equipment and procedures, especially before they hit the trails for their first time.

These sorts of classes are offered by other clubs all around the country. For instance, Dixie4WD in St. George schedules them monthly; and at Winter 4x4.

In addition to doing these classes a few times per year, we also want to provide some hands-on classes on winching & recovery.



SNORR puts on excellent overview classes, which we strongly recommend, but there is still a need to actually deploy your winch and practice with it.

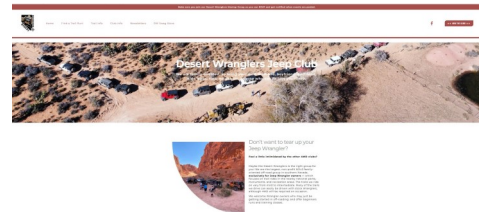
Understand that belonging to our Facebook group is not tied to actual club membership. FB serves as a Forum for discussion threads, announcements, general posts. It is pretty much open to the public — which is why we do not post specific details of club events.

How to Join Desert Wranglers



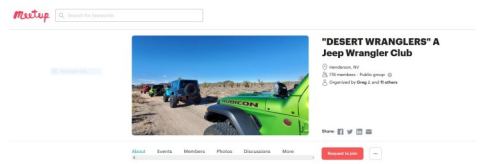
Joining Desert Wranglers is easy. First though, you gotta drive a Jeep Wrangler or JT.

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. You will be taken to our new Meetup Pro site, where you will answer the questionnaire and where you can submit your \$25 annual dues. Note, that is per Jeep — so it includes driver, co-driver, and passengers.

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



Although much of Meetup is accessible to the public, unless you are an approved Member of Desert Wranglers — critical details and meeting information are kept private. Also, you would not be able to RSVP to attend an event, nor be placed on the Wait List.

If you have any questions or problems with any of these steps, please reach out to our Membership Team at:

membership@desertwranglers.club

Off-Roading 101: Trail Etiquette Guidelines

When off-roading, there are a few basic “rules of the trail” that everyone should follow. These rules are designed to keep all of us safe, including other vehicles besides your convoy. Plus, keeping these rules in mind will help you avoid damaging the environment or incurring costly fines. Here are some of the most important off-roading trail etiquette guidelines to follow.

Give vehicles going uphill the right of way

If you encounter another vehicle going uphill while you’re going downhill, you should always yield or pull over — and give the uphill vehicle the right of way. When going uphill, vehicles often need some momentum to climb. By forcing the uphill vehicle to stop and let you pass by, they may lose that momentum and need to roll backward down the hill—a difficult and potentially dangerous task.

Yield to mountain bikers, hikers, and horses

Pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists should get the right of way on the trails. Such groups are no match for your 4,000+ pound Jeep Wrangler. When encountering them on the trails, make sure to slow down to avoid dusting them, and give them plenty of room to pass.

When you encounter saddled horses, you should take extra caution. Pull off onto the side of the road and shut off or idle your engine to avoid spooking them with loud noises or sudden movements.

Be vigil for motorized ATVs, side by sides, and motorcycles

Too many of these powered vehicles are driven way too fast and way too recklessly, without regard for others on the trail. They may appear suddenly, darting across your path, or trying to race past you.

Increase your visibility to others

Turn on your headlights. Note that the AUTO setting may not activate your lights during daylight, so manually switch them ON. Whip flags are especially helpful on dusty or hilly trails.

Keep your distance

When off-roading, avoid getting too close to the other vehicles around you. If you get too close to the vehicle in front of you, you could end up in a dust cloud, which makes it diffi-

cult to see. As a rule, if you can’t see the rear differential on the vehicle in front of you, you’ve gotten too close.

When tackling tough obstacles or climbing steep hills, give the vehicle in front of you even more room. You don’t want to get caught right behind a vehicle if it loses traction or rolls back.

Stay on marked trails

One of the most important off-roading trail etiquette guidelines to follow is to stay on marked trails. By blazing your own trail, you risk getting lost or harming your vehicle if you encounter dangerous obstacles. Staying on marked trails isn’t just crucial for your own safety; it is also important for preserving the land. Off-roading is all about enjoying nature, not destroying it. Ripping across the land in a huge vehicle can do a lot of damage to vegetation and any animals that get caught under your tires. Driving outside of marked trails could also cause ruts to form in the land, which can deepen and result in erosion.

Still not convinced that you need to stick to marked trails? Maybe the hefty fine from law enforcement will deter you. According to the [National Park Service](#), off-roading outside of designated areas violates the Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which can land you with a maximum fine of \$5,000 and up to six months in prison. If you end up killing or injuring a protected animal in the process, such fines and potential jail time increase exponentially.

Never stop or park on the trail

One of the few times you should leave established trails when off-roading is when you need to stop. If you choose to stop but stay on the trail, another off-roader might overtake your vehicle, which may result in a dangerous collision—especially if you stop on a blind curve.

As such, you should pull completely off the trail whenever you need to stop or park. When looking for a place to pull off, try to find a shoulder or an area that has already been disturbed, and avoid parking on tall, dry grass.

Check to make sure your vehicle is welcome

Not all off-roading trails are suitable for Jeeps. While the trail may be open to ATVs or motorcycles, they could be too narrow for

larger vehicles. To avoid damaging the trail or your vehicle, do your research to make sure that the trail is open to Jeeps as well.

Let people know how many vehicles are behind you

When driving with a group of other vehicles, it is common trail etiquette to let other off-roaders know how many vehicles are behind you. The first person in the procession can easily do so by sticking his or her hand out the window and holding up the number of fingers that corresponds to how many vehicles are driving behind. Such information is especially useful to know when driving on narrow trails or in areas with minimal visibility. If you’re the last vehicle in the group, simply raise your fist to let the other drivers know. Avoid the “jeep wave”, since holding up two or three fingers can be misinterpreted.

Slow down

We don’t mean to spoil your fun, but it’s a good idea to slow down a bit when off-roading. Going too fast can cause a lot of destruction to the trails and increase your risk of getting into a collision with another driver. After all, off-roading isn’t about going as fast as you can. It’s about enjoying the scenery and crawling over obstacles, which are typically slow and deliberate processes.

Pack it in, pack it out

This rule probably goes without saying, but you should *never* litter when off-roading. If you pack something in, you must pack it out. As such, carry a trash bag with you to store any trash you accumulate or find while out on the trail.

While littering of any kind goes against off-roading trail etiquette, you should especially avoid tossing cigarette butts out the window. While they may seem small and insignificant, cigarette butts are one of the leading causes of wildfires and can cause massive amounts of damage.

Be mindful of your biological waste. Be discreet, and bag out your t.p. or wipes.

In the event of vehicle leakage, such as oil, coolant, or other fluids — try to clean up or at least minimize the pollution to the environment.



Winter 4x4 Jamboree

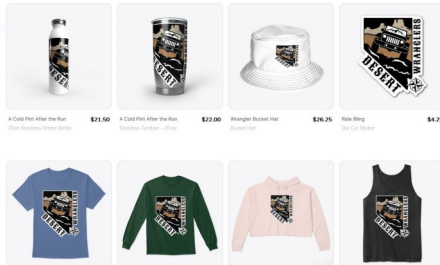
The 2022 Winter 4x4 Jamboree will be held **January 12-15, 2022**. The Event Venue is the Washington County Fairgrounds in Hurricane, UT.

We have attended this event in the past, and it is a lot of fun. Hotels are plentiful in the Hurricane UT area. Many of the events take place in Sand Hollow park, which offers a wide variety of trails. The Jamboree itself features world-class rock crawling or more casual trails combined with gorgeous views of Zion National Park, Pine Valley Mountain and more!

All participants must first **register** on the website and provide information about their vehicles. **Beginning November 7, 2021**, you will go back to the website and pick your trails for each day.

<https://www.winter4x4jamboree.com>

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!

Desert Wranglers Trail Badges

Eric Nix, our esteemed Asst Webmaster, is a person of many talents. He came up with the idea of producing a series of official Desert Wranglers Trail Badges that members could collect to commemorate their first completion of our club runs.



Eric not only proposed these unique badges, but using his high tech garage toys — he is manufacturing them in his spare time for the club, and it is only costing us materials.

At first glance, you might be reminded of other Jeep Badges, but these are distinctly different and are specific to our club.

There are other clubs and events around the country who also award badges, so we are not the only ones who do this.

To qualify for a particular badge, you must have participated on a recent (2022) club run. We have the waivers, remember, so we can verify. Having run the trail in the past before we reorganized, or with other groups, does not count.

Trail Leaders will present badges (or “rain checks”) at the conclusion (air-up) of their runs. We are asking for a five dollar donation to cover costs. Only one badge per first time on that trail, per Jeep.



Going off-road for the first time is a rite of passage. To mark the successful completion of their first, **Beginners 101 Training Run**

(such as Mt Potosi or Kodachrome) — the Trail Leaders will present our new off-roaders with their first badge at no charge.

If you have completed one of our Desert Wrangler trail runs recently, and want to purchase a badge, then you need to contact the Trail Leader of that past run.

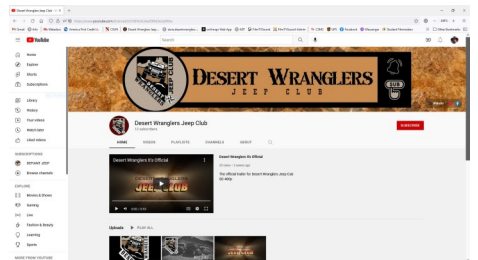
Desert Wranglers YouTube Channel

Not only can you earn a badge, but you get to be an internet video celebrity!

Thanks to the filmmaking skills of (Old Man Jeep’n) Keith Merrill, along with contributions from Steve Z. and fellow club members — Desert Wranglers now boasts its own YouTube Channel

youtube.com/@desertwranglersclub

Or just search for **Desert Wranglers YouTube** on Google.



Our channel will feature videos from some of our recent trail runs, so you can either admire your past Jeep driving, or preview what to expect on the trail that you just signed up for.

You can also view our Educational videos, members’ channels, and links to sponsored materials.

Information is on our main website about how to upload your video materials to Keith. Depending, we might use your finished film, or edit excerpts into a compilation. Unless you have copyright cleared music — Keith may need to delete or edit your audio, per YouTube requirements.

Please go to our channel and hit the SUBSCRIBE button. If enough people do that, our channel will improve its search rankings and eventually might even qualify for some \$\$.



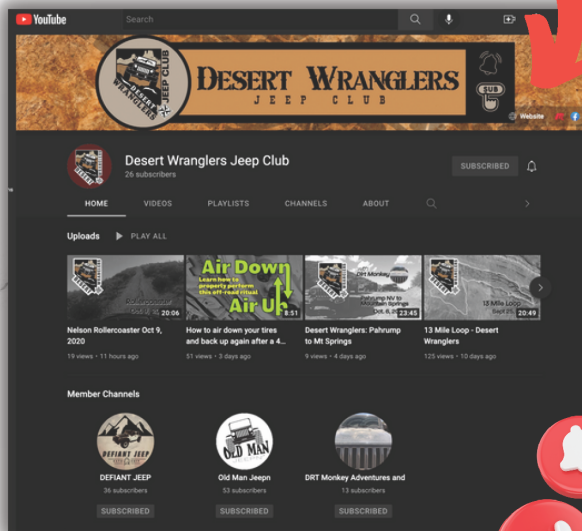
DIGITAL UPDATE

[Home](#) [Club Info](#) [Trail & Jeep Info](#) [Find a Trail Run!](#) [Newsletters](#) [DW Swag Store](#)

Special Announcement!

We Launched Our  CHANNEL!

SUBSCRIBE, LIKE & SHARE!



Launching Soon!



Want your footage in one of our videos? We'll soon launch a page so you can share our pics and vids with us!



www.DesertWranglers.Club

DW Swag!

Pullover and zippered sweatshirts now available!!



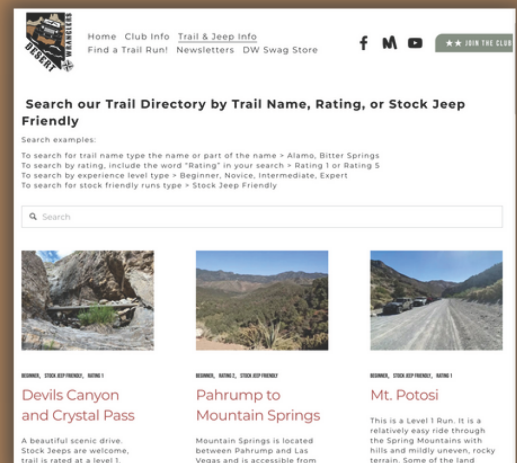
Page Highlight



Trail Directory

Review this page frequently as we work to bring you more trail descriptions and additional details including videos!

Where to find it: To go our website and then click Trail & Jeep Info. Select *Trail Directory* from the drop down menu.



What we're workin' on!



More Resources



Video Upload Page



More Trail Descriptions

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.

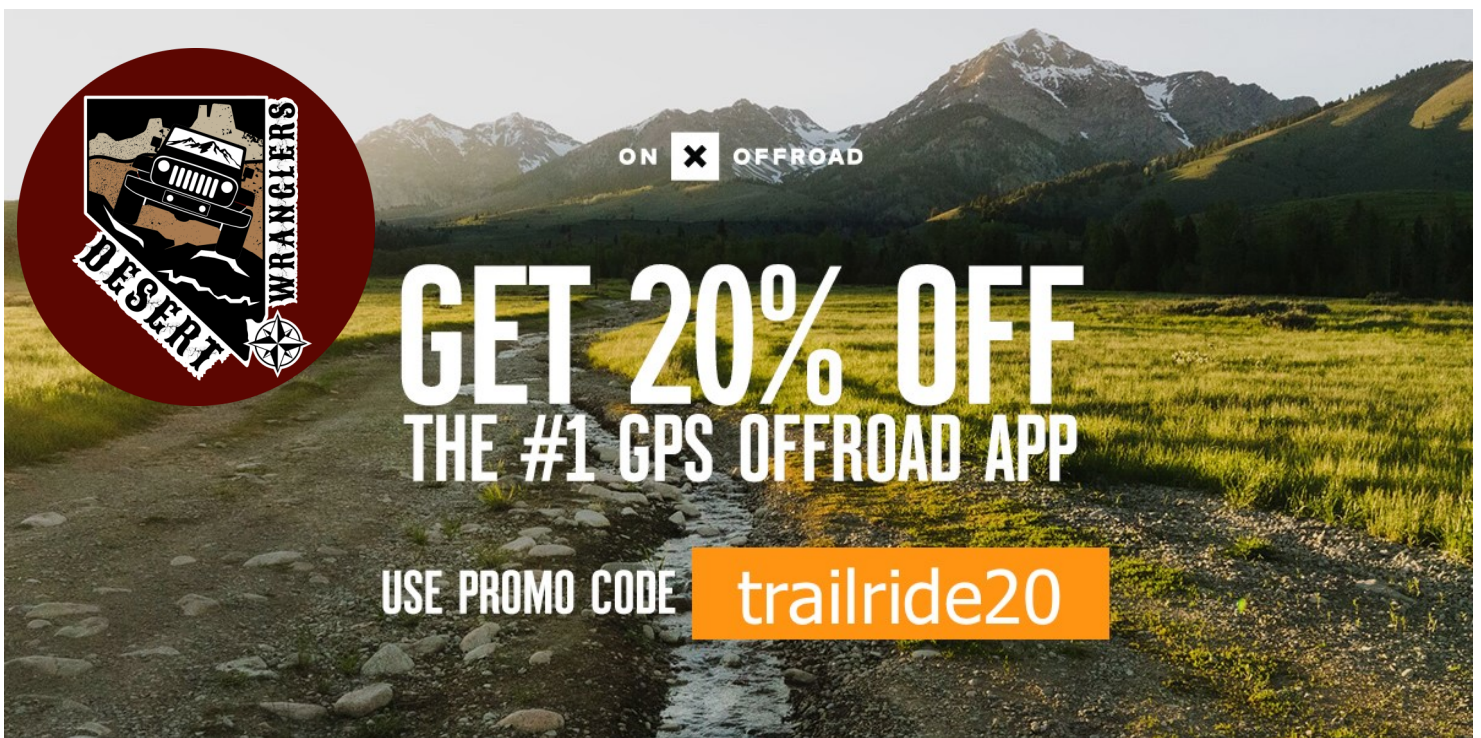
<https://www.onxmaps.com/offroad/r/624g36c>



ON **X** OFFROAD

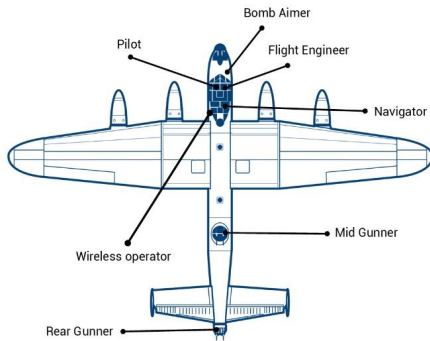
GET 20% OFF
THE #1 GPS OFFROAD APP

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.

Welcome our new Sponsors

**HANDY
FLAG.COM**
FOLDING WHIP FLAGS

Are you tired of:

Your whip flag stuffed in the cab of your rig on your way to the trail.
Broken whip flags poles and glass slivers in your fingers.
Tattered flags.
Getting tools out to take your whip off your rig.

The Handy Flag was created to solve these problems!



Ideal for Jeeps, 4x4s, UTVs and ATVs.
Flexible alloy pole w/ fiberglass core.
Corrosion-resistant quick-connect coupler.

Rip-Stop Nylon flag
Stainless steel mounting stud w/ hardware.
Durable Nylon storage bag.



Discount code: **DESERTWRANGLERS**



DODGE CHRYSLER JEEP RAM

Desert Wranglers is proud to announce that Chapman is back as one of our club sponsors.

As many of you know, Desert Wranglers was originally created and managed by Chapman Jeep for a couple of decades, up until the end of 2021. Although they no longer directly oversee us — obviously they like what we have accomplished with the club and have expressed interest in supporting our endeavors.

Chapman has generously offered to provide a classroom venue and other support for our Off-Road 101 classes that we will be offering next year.

They have also provided door prizes, and offer a **special discount to club members on Parts & Service**.

Chapman is encouraging new Jeep purchasers to join Desert Wranglers, and even pays for their first year's membership!



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 Dec 21 6:00pm to 8:00pm FOE Lodge

Desert Wranglers Holiday Party

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 1601 E Washington Ave. Near Cashman Field. Park in the fenced lot at the right of the building.

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

Children and minors under 21 are welcome. Just don't sit at a table/booth in the BAR itself, but they are welcome in the banquet/mtg room and the playrooms in the back.