



THE MID-GUNNER

News and whatever

A Desert Wranglers Jeep Club
News Publication

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

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MAY/JUNE 2023

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Join Our Leadership Team

We are still looking for an individual to serve as our **Industry Liaison**, who would seek out new sponsors for the club; and a **Social Media Specialist**.

Multi-Day Scenic Trail Runs

Recently, Desert Wranglers posted some multi-day scenic trips, in addition to our regular single-day trail runs.



Monument Valley

The first of these trips (April 21-24) was a four day excursion to the **Monument Valley** area of Utah. Brian Solomon led 10 jeeps to Mexican Hat UT where we stayed 3 nights at the San Juan Inn.

Friday and Monday were travel days. We spent Saturday & Sunday exploring the magnificent sights: Monument Valley, Gooseneck, Natural Bridges, Mexican Hat, Valley of Gods, and a couple of really fun trails as well.

Capitol Reef Nat'l Park

A couple weeks later, Fred & Gaye Ginsburg led a handful of jeeps out to **Capitol Reef National Park** on a five day trip (May 8-12). Monday and Friday were travel days. The other three days were spent in the park area. We did the Cathedral Valley Loop, a nine hour trail that began with a river crossing.



The second day we did the two gorges in the park, along with the historic sites in Fruita; before heading out to Goblin State Park. And on our final day, we tackled the 9 hour long Loop the Fold trail, including crawling our way through the 4x4 rated Muley Twist spur.

Kanab and Escalante

Coming up later this month (May 25-29), Brian is leading a multi-day overlanding expedition into the Kanab UT and Staircase Escalante area.

Unlike the previous two trips which were hotel based, this is intended for driving and camping.

Death Valley

Sat/Sunday May 27-28, Greg is leading a group to Racetrack Playa, Teakettle Junction, Rhyolite, and Chloride Cliffs (technically a pre-run).

Details about these past or upcoming events can be found on our Meetup pages under EVENTS.

Ladies Run



On April 30th Desert Wrangler trail leaders Patti Zapparolli and Jackie Smiley put together the first ever **DW Ladies Only** event. They led a group of 11 Jeeps along with many other Lady Wrangler passengers, for a total of 23 ladies through Cottonwood Pass.

Patti led the group to a scenic overlook that gives an excellent view of the Las Vegas Valley.



After the trail, they all met up at historic Pioneer Saloon for lunch.

To commemorate the trail run, Jackie handed out Jeep Girl vinyl decals to each attendee.

The trip was a great success and was a great bonding day for all the off-road ladies. They built confidence, built friendships and began building a community of ladies who love to off-road.

Continued on page 2

Desert Wranglers is the most active club in Vegas!

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ Monday, May 22: **Railroad Cyn** Intro to Crawling, w Keith
- ◆ Thursday, May 25: **Kanab** Ut and Escalante trip w Brian
- ◆ Thursday, May 25: DW General **Meeting** at the Lodge. Ice cream by Barb.
- ◆ Sat/Sunday May 27,28: **Death Valley** trip w Greg
- ◆ Sunday, May 28: **Wheeler's Pass** Run, w Keith.
- ◆ Monday, May 29: **Wheeler's Pass** Run, w Eric.
- ◆ Sunday, June 4: **Bird Spring** Pass Run to the Bonfire, w Patti.
- ◆ Sunday, June 4: **Bonfire** & BBQ at the Lake Bed.
- ◆ Saturday, June 10: Texas **BBQ** and Pool Party, hosted/sponsored by Fred & Gaye.
- ◆ Saturday, June 17: **Mt Potosi** 101 Run, w Patti & Steve.

And looking back at some past events...

Desert Wranglers does more in a single month than most clubs do in a year.

We had over 31 events in the past 90 days!

But we can do even more... please volunteer to lead or assist on a run, or to help organize an event.

Please suggest stuff; we are open to ideas.

Activities don't all have to be jeep related; social events are fun also.

- ◆ Saturday, May 20: Bird Springs Pass Run w Patti & Steve
- ◆ Saturday, May 20: Jeeps Go Topless Parade
- ◆ Friday, May 19: Multi-club Meet & Greet
- ◆ Thursday, May 18: Mt Potosi 101 w Jackie

- ◆ Mon-Fri, May 8-12: Capitol Reef trip w Fred & Gaye
- ◆ Sunday, May 7: Strip Poker Run, w Keith
- ◆ Saturday, May 6: Mt Potosi Backwards, w Patti & Steve
- ◆ Sunday, Apr 30: Ladies Run, w Patti
- ◆ Wed, Apr 26: DW General Mtg & BBQ
- ◆ Fri-Mon, Apr 21-24: Monument Valley trip, w Brian
- ◆ Sunday, Apr 16: Carpenter Cyn w Keith
- ◆ Saturday, Apr 15: Multi-club Logandale Trails Cleanup
- ◆ Saturday, Apr 15: Cottonwood & Mt Potosi Double Run, w Patti & Steve
- ◆ Monday, Apr 3: Rollercoaster, w Keith
- ◆ Sunday, Apr 2: Logandale, w Keith
- ◆ Wed, Mar 29: DW General Meeting
- ◆ Mon, Mar 27: Mormon Cyn, w Eric
- ◆ Sunday, Mar 26: 13 Mile Loop, w Keith
- ◆ Saturday, Mar 25: BBQ and Game Night, hosted by Barb & Matt.
- ◆ Saturday, Mar 25: Off Road 101 Seminar, w Fred
- ◆ Monday, Mar 20: Delamar Ghost, w Eric
- ◆ Sunday, Mar 19: Cabin Cyn, w Kirk
- ◆ Saturday, Mar 19: Gold Butte, w Brian
- ◆ Sat/Sun, Mar 19-20: Mojave 2-day overland, w Bill & Greg
- ◆ Sunday, Mar 12: Nelson Lunacy, w Keith
- ◆ Monday, Mar 6: Devil Cyn Mine, w Eric
- ◆ Sunday, Mar 5: Bitter Springs, w Kirk
- ◆ Monday, Feb 27: Mormon Wells, w Fred & Gaye
- ◆ Saturday, Feb 25: Tom Garrett Mem Run w Greg
- ◆ Monday, Feb 20: Bitter Springs pre, w Eric

Moab Utah, anyone?

Next on the DW bucket list might be an expedition out to Moab, which is considered by most jeepers to be the mecca of off roading.

Known around the world for its wide variety of moderate rated scenic trails, along with a plethora of more intense challenges — the Moab region offers something for everyone.

The official club trip is tentatively being planned for Spring or Summer 2024, and is being organized by Patti and her team.

Some of us (lucky enough to be retired or have a flexible work schedule) are also kicking around the idea of doing a multi-day "pre-run" during this summer in advance of the main trip.

No dates nor details yet. We will post more info as things get figured out.

Contact Patti or Keith if Moab interests you.

Ladies Run, continued from page 1

Patti and Jackie plan to make this a reoccurring part of Desert Wranglers and offer Ladies Only events at least once a quarter, switching up the trails and also possibly attending a recovery class put on by SNORR together in the future. We all love our trail rides, but socialization is a great part of the Jeep community and one we strongly encourage within Desert Wranglers.

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- ◆ Sunday, Feb 19: Logandale, w Keith
 - ◆ Sat to Mon, Feb 18-20: Mojave overland trip w Bill & Greg
 - ◆ Wed, Feb 15: DW General Meeting
 - ◆ Mon, Feb 13: Kodachrome and Kodachrome Again at Night, w Eric
 - ◆ Mon, Feb 6: Three Corners, w Eric
 - ◆ Sunday, Feb 5: Logandale, w Keith

Desert Wranglers is all about the trail runs!



How to sign up to join a Trail Run

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

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 club members only. Joining FaceBook is not the same as joining the club!

Trail Runs are limited from 10 up to approximately 25 jeeps; some of the pre-runs may be 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 — thus 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*). You must have a good, full-size spare tire and operable 4wd. We use GMRS radios for comms.

We are always looking for more new Trail Leaders, so that we can expand our number of runs each month. Eric, Greg, Fred, and Jackie have joined our list of Trail Leaders, but we still need more people to volunteer.

As a Leader, you get to pick the date and the route. We can train you.

Start off as a Mid or Tail Gunner. You don't need much experience; there are other jeeps 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.

If you hear of a trail or interesting destination that sounds interesting and would make for a fun day, feel free to suggest it. We are open to fresh ideas; this is YOUR club.

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

To become a Trail Leader or Gunner, or if you have any Trail related questions, please contact KeithM@desertwranglers.club

Bio Privacy



We found this useful item on Amazon. Sometimes in our desert terrain, it can be hard to find a large bush! Pankay makes a privacy tent that you slip on like a hat, to provide cover when the environment does not.

Order one on Amazon, or purchase one on a trail run at our cost for \$25 from the club

Membership Report

We have approximately 325 paid/Active members. Our recent switch over to Meetup Pro streamlines our membership process and even allows a 14 day trial period for prospective members; their credit cards won't be charged until after the trial period.

If you have any questions, or ever encounter any difficulties logging in — please send a note to our Membership Team (Thom or Kirk) at:

membership@desertwranglers.club

6-8pm Club Meetings



Since last November, 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. 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.

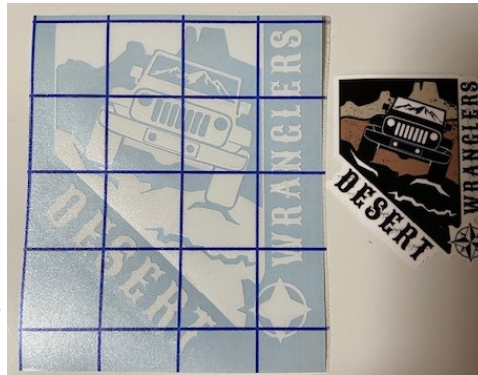
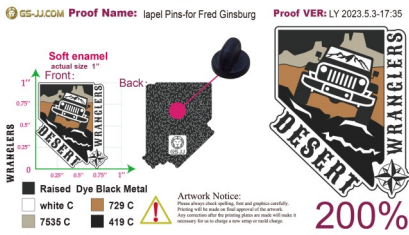
YES, children and minors under 21 are invited. They just cannot be seated in the BAR itself, but are welcome in the banquet/mtg room and the playrooms in the back.

See Meetup for specific location details.

Note that our April meeting was held at Cornerstone Park, due to the temporary unavailability of the lodge. We fired up some camp grills and provided burgers & hot dogs as a treat.

Our May 25 meeting will be back at the Lodge.

Desert Wrangler Hat Pins, Vinyl Decals, & stickers

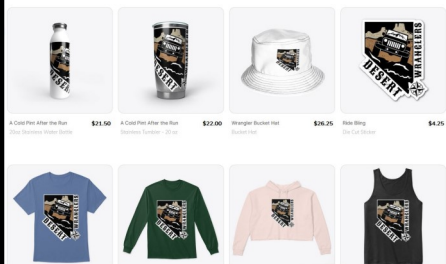


We have ordered 100 metal enamel logo pins, suitable for hat or lapel. They will soon be available to purchase at events for only five dollars each.

Jackie, our club Secretary, has generously started printing single color vinyl transfer decals, suitable for car body, window, mugs, or pretty much anything. Available in black or white, for FREE. *If you want a different color, it would cost a couple dollars to cover supplies** Please contact Jackie at JackieS@desertwranglers.club

She also creates full color, small logo stickers for the club, which she distributes for free at meetings and some trail runs.

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.



**Add a decal to your cup or tumblr!*



**Customize your Jeep with our club logo!*

Note that color requests do incur a nominal charge for special materials.

Desert Wranglers Trail Badges



Eric Nix, our Asst Webmaster, 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.

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

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.



Treasurer's Report

Dues subscription payments from Meetup Pro are being transferred into the Club checking account on a monthly basis. \$316.68 was received from the April payment.

All of our financial accounts have been entered into Quicken 2022 Deluxe. The checking account has been reconciled.

Copies of the Quicken account reconciliation reports are available online on our Google Drive under "Treasury Reports->Quicken Reconciliation Reports.

All Founders Loans have been paid off in full.

Net Worth Report - As of 5/8/2023

TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts \$4,980.39

We have filed the club federal tax return for 2022 and by law made it accessible on our website under "Downloads & Links."

Note that recent expenses have included: UPS mailbox rental, web hosting & domains, federal filing fees.

Recent expenditures included food for the meeting, merch inventory (pins, privy tents).

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.

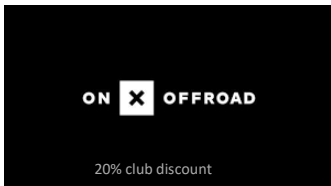
This past March, we presented an in-person introductory lecture class (hosted by Chapman Jeep) about off-road basics, so that people new to off-roading could get an overview of equipment and procedures, especially before they hit the trails for their first time.

Our next class will be scheduled during the summer; and we might even do one at Hump N Bump.

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.



How to Join Desert Wranglers

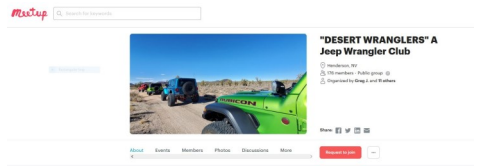


Joining Desert Wranglers is easy. First though, you gotta drive a Jeep Wrangler or JT.

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.

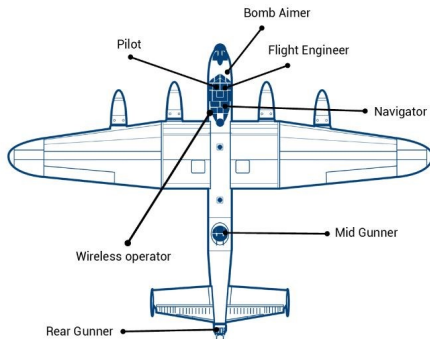
If you have any questions or problems with any of these steps, please reach out to our Membership Team at:

membership@desertwranglers.club

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.

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News and Whatever



THE MID-GUNNER
is the newsletter of the



**Desert
Wranglers
Jeep Club**

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Visit our website at
www.desertwranglers.club

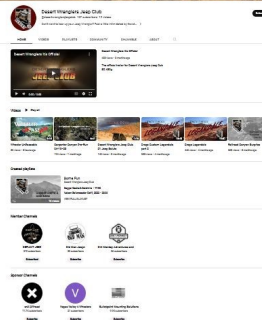
Don't forget. **CLASSIFIED ADS** are free to DW active members & sponsors; and really cheap for commercial businesses.

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.

Visit our YouTube Channel



Not only can you earn a badge from participating in our trail runs, but you might 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 Brian S. — 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 \$\$.

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

Thursday May 25 6:00pm to 8:00pm FOE Lodge

Family, friends, and guests are welcome.

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.