



THE MID-GUNNER

News and whatever

A Desert Wranglers Jeep Club
News Publication

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

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JAN/FEB 2023

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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.



Memorial Run for Tom Garrett Saturday Feb 25th

We are meeting at the Shell across from the M casino. This run is in memoriam of Tom Garrett an avid Jeepster we lost recently.

Tom's Jeep will lead the run driven by **Greg Jaworski**. Several of Tom's family members will be joining the run as passengers in other people's Jeeps to experience the passion he had for off-roading.

This run isn't intended to be long but will likely take around 3 hours. This run will be managed on Facebook and not on Meetup as we are opening it to everyone including other local off-road clubs. Please sign up for the event on Facebook. If you do not have Facebook please notify Greg so he can track who is going.

If you are interested in allowing passengers, please contact Greg for additional details. For those who are willing to take passengers Colleen Garrett will be hosting a lunch in Tom's honor.

President's Report

We closed our first year 2022 with a fun Holiday Party at the Lodge that was well attended. Thank you to Barb for organizing the gift exchange, decorations, and desserts!



Our silent auction raised \$110, which was subsequently donated to the Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Mormon Wells).

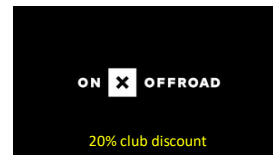
The winter weather slowed us down a bit, but never-the-less trail runs kept getting posted up on Meetup.

I keep hearing from other clubs that they are envious of how many runs we schedule per month!

The **Winter 4x4 Jamboree** took place during mid January up in Hurricane UT. An estimated several hundred vehicles participated over the 4 day event, with over 30 trail runs per day. Desert Wranglers were well represented, and I met up with several of our club members.

Continued on page 2

Thank You To Our Sponsors



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 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*). 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, and Fred 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 jeeppers 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

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.

Membership Report

We have approximately 265 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 change-over, so if you recently received a strange invoice / renewal statement saying that your membership was cancelled — just ignore it. It was auto generated when we switched our billing from Square to Meetup.

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

Prez Report continued from page 1

It was real cold, along with snow and ice that prevented us from completing some of the trails, but overall we had a fantastic time! You should add **Winter 4x4** to next year's calendar along with **Hump n Bump**.

Something that all of the members mentioned to me was that they could now really appreciate how organized and how well executed our Desert Wranglers trail runs are. True, the St George members did a terrific job, what with the sheer enormities of an event that big—so this is not meant to demean them in any way.

But our members did recognize that our way of doing things really stands out. Pre-runs. GPS mapping. Disciplined Leads, Tails, and Mid-Gunners keeping the caravans from spreading out too far. Good comms, with descriptive trail ID so you know the voices are from our group; along with jeep #'s so you know where in the convoy someone is at.

And our policy of excluding non-Wranglers from our runs became very justified when we had to deal with a variety of ill equipped "street vehicles" needing to be assisted or even towed (some did not even have good recovery points).

By keeping our club exclusive, we are better able to assess a vehicle's off-road capabilities, coach or assist new drivers, and to even provide limited mechanical support.

Welcome Blank Label Co



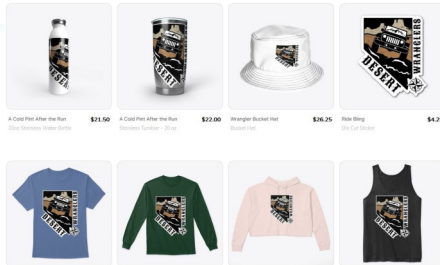
Our latest sponsor is Blank Label Clothing, who are a small company out of Texas that make hats and other good products.

Brian Solomon brought them on board. They are giving us 15% discount, along with several gift certificates and stuff as door prizes.

Here is a link to their site:

<https://blanklabelco.com/>
discount code (DWJC15)

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.

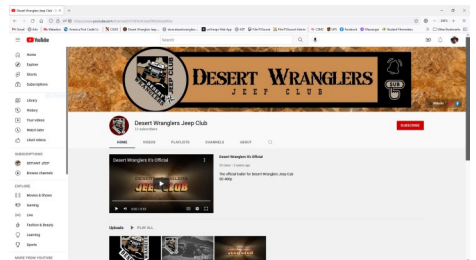
Desert Wranglers YouTube Channel

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 \$\$.

Treasurer's Report

Dues subscription payments from Meetup Pro have begun to be transferred into the checking account. The "Manage Money" summary page on Meetup is very overloaded, it shows many duplicate entries for memberships and a total revenue of \$11,429.83 from membership dues. Meetup dues for only four members have made it into the Club checking account, although Meetup shows charges to 19 members between December 15, 2022 and January 7, 2023.

All of our financial accounts except recent Spring sales have been entered into Quicken 2022 Deluxe. The checking account has been reconciled, but not the payments from Meetup and Spring, due to payment processing delays.

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

The Founders Loans to Greg Jaworski and Dave Traver were paid off last month, leaving only the loans from Fred Ginsburg remaining on the books.

Net Worth Report - As of 1/9/2023

Account	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking - Am First	\$4,927.44
Merchant - Spring	\$0.00
Merchant - Square	\$14.87
Savings - Am First	\$29.84
Cash Box	138.81
TOTAL Cash and Bank	\$4,810.96
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,810.96
LIABILITIES	
Founders Loans	\$710.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$710.80
OVERALL TOTAL	\$4,100.16

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 spring, (*tentative date: March 25*) we will offer in-person introductory lecture classes about off-road basics, so that people new to off-roading 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.

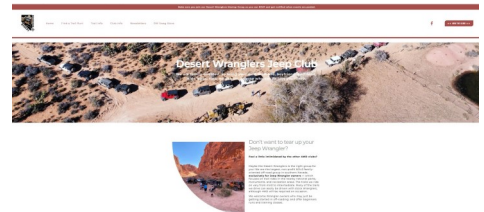
Understand that belonging to our Facebook group is not tied to actual club membership. FB serves as a Forum for discussion threads, announcements, general posts. It is pretty much open to the public — which is why we do not post specific details of club events.

How to Join Desert Wranglers



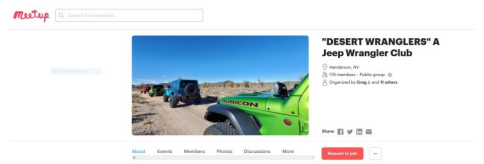
Joining Desert Wranglers is easy. First though, you gotta drive a Jeep Wrangler or JT.

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



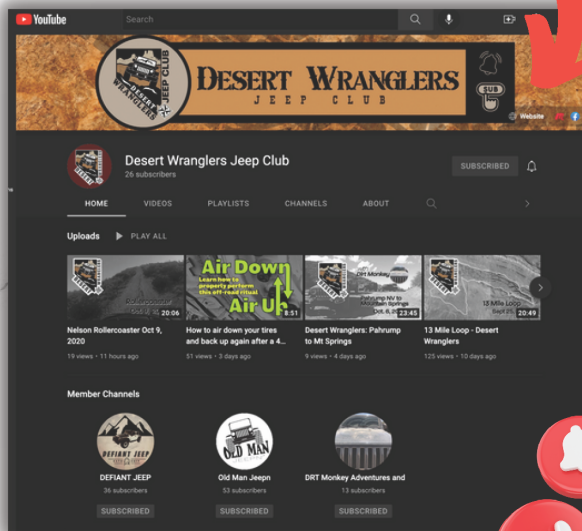
DIGITAL UPDATE

[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!!



Club Branded Cool Stuff!

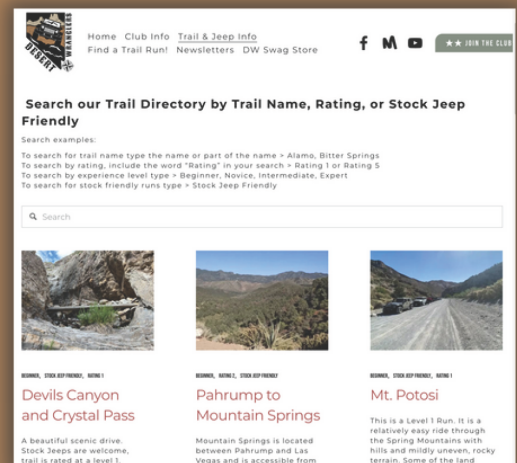
Page Highlight



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

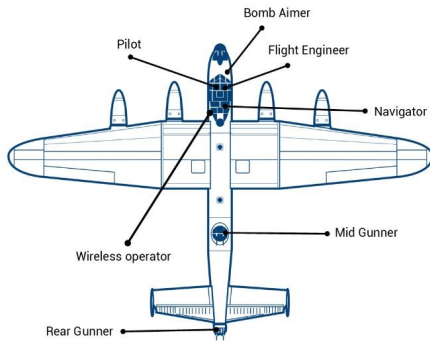
GET 20% OFF
THE #1 GPS OFFROAD APP

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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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.

Support our 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 Feb 15 6:00pm to 8:00pm FOE Lodge

Desert Wranglers First General Meeting of 2023

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.