



# The Dirt Devils Digest

April 2012

A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils  
<http://www.dirtdevils.org/>

## President's Message

Thanks for attending the meeting this month, we had a full house which is always great. Those that couldn't make it, you missed a very interesting meeting. A lot of discussion and decisions were made about the issues going on with CA4WDC and HDR.

Join in on the runs that are planned for this month. If you are not able to attend the Adopt-A-Trail run, then come join me at the CA4WDC South District Meeting.

If you would like to view the Dirt Devil's Google calendar it is available at [Dirt.Devils.Org@gmail.com](mailto:Dirt.Devils.Org@gmail.com) or in this newsletter.

Thank you, Pete, for organizing several trips out to Anderson Dry Lake in search of various trails for HDR.

Club elections will be held at the June meeting. Come to the May meeting ready to nominate the best qualified to hold office or feel free to step up and take a position.

As always, feel free to call or contact me - hopefully we see each other on the trail or at least at the meetings.

See you on the trail.

Jesse May

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Dan Ward recommends thoroughly inspecting your rig before leaving home.

## Website news

If you want to unload Jeep parts send me a picture and a brief description and I will post.

Please provide new pictures of yourself along side your rig for the website.

Mike Ortega

[mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

## Run Report

Lytle Creek

Run leader: Oscar Lizarraga

Hello Ron, we took a trip out to Lytle Creek and Cleghorn yesterday (March 24<sup>th</sup>), just a little day trip to stretch out the legs, just wanted to share this image with you from one of the easy trails at Lytle creek. We ran into some nasty fog on our way out there, once we started to wheel up the hills we could appreciate the huge cloud of fog in the middle of the creek underneath us, jeeps in order from left to right Don's LJ, Oscar's CJ, Ron's LJ (not a club member) and Eddie's YJ



Anderson Dry Lake Trail Recon

Run Leader: Pete Johnson

3/10/12



Nine vehicles carrying fourteen trailbreakers showed up at Anderson Dry Lake March 10th for the third attempt to break a "moderate" trail in the Fry Mountains for use during Hi Desert Roundup. Present were Pete Johnson, Ray and Karen Kleinhuizen, Don Young, Terry Puckett and associates, Rick

Walter and Rhonda Graves, Randy and Donna Huddleston, Paul Coursey, Cort Phelps, and Trail Hook Danny Ward. Weather was warm and sunny with little wind.

Plan for the day was to find a new canyon route to the west side of the Fry Mountains to bypass some of the power line road, recon the north loop of the trail opened by Jeff Jernigan in January of last year, and try to link up with the Fry Mountain part of Jesse May's Blue Moon run for passage back to the dry lake.



A new canyon route (not the one intended, but unused except for ATV's) was found to the west side of the Fry's that intersects the powerline road near the summit. At this point Don found he had only 2WHi available, so he headed home down the powerline road. The rest of the gang boogied up the powerline road to the north loop of Jeff's trail. After successfully negotiating the squeeze in the Poison Canyon cutoff that Dan, Don and Pete opened this January, we more or less followed it (with one 0.6 mile U-turn and backtrack up Wrong Turn Canyon) to the 4' dry waterfall on the north end of the loop. Terry earned a cow bell in the rock garden leading up to the drop off and took the by pass rather than going down the drop off. The dropoff was successfully negotiated by most of the rig's but Randy Huddleston earned a cow bell when he got high centered half way down and was strapped back to the top. Randy took a different line and made it down on the second try. We proceeded to the squeeze that we massaged with rock bars and sledgehammers in January 2011. This needed further massaging (seems like the rocks grew back together since last year) for the Cherokee. Shortly after the squeeze, Rick had some difficulty negotiating the dry waterfall climb after the sharp left, so we skipped this obstacle and rambled down the wash to the valley, where we headed south to the west front of the Fry's to link up with the Bluemoon Trail. (Note: At some point Terry questioned the Club's definition of "moderate".) We were not able to backtrack Jesse's trail, however, due to a steep uphill section that exceeds the "moderate" rating (See, Terry, we do know when to quit.) We took ATV trails west through a low pass back to the dry Lake, arriving at about 4 PM.

Thanks to some good luck in finding our way, the participation of a lot of guys who know how to handle a sledge hammer and rock bar, and the presence of good looking women to brighten up the scenery, it looks like we just might be able to put together something for HDR. With a little

refinement, it should make a decent trail. Anybody got a funky name for it?

## Run calendar 2012

### Regular Adopt A Trail meeting place

9am at Rock Road House  
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382  
next to the 76 gas station

## April

### 13-15 Steele Pass (Death Valley)

**Trail Leader:** Ray Kleinhuizen

**Meeting Location:** Pilot travel center / Outpost cafe located at the intersection of the 15 Fwy and Hwy 395. Take the 15 Fwy toward Barstow and exit at the Hwy 395 junction. Pilot travel center is on the right at the first traffic light.

**Meeting Time :** 8:30 am on Friday April 13, plan is to leave for the trail at 9:00 am. Come early for breakfast at the Outpost cafe or Wendy's.

**Trail Description:** The Steele Pass trail is considered one of the more difficult back country trails in Death Valley. The trail starts in the northwest part of Death Valley and heads south to Saline Valley Rd. The plan is to leave the meet location and travel north on Hwy 395 to Big Pine. We will stop for lunch before reaching Big Pine. Big Pine is the last chance for gas and supplies before heading into Death Valley. From Big Pine we'll head east on Hwy 168 and turn right on Death Valley Rd. After traveling about 40 miles we will turn right on South Eureka Valley Rd and travel about 9.5 miles to the Eureka Dunes dry camp where we will camp on Friday night. Saturday morning we'll leave camp at 9:00 am for the Steele Pass trail. The rough and narrow trail runs 29 miles to Warm Springs. The most difficult part is Dedeckera Canyon where the trail climbs several dry bedrock falls. 6.8 Miles past the Warm Springs we will intersect Saline Valley Rd.

At this point we'll make a decision to either camp for the night or head southeast to the Lippincott rd. 4x4 trail. This is a steep narrow winding trail that goes into the Racetrack Valley area of Death Valley park. Racetrack Valley is where the mysterious moving rocks are located we'll spend some time exploring this area on Sunday.

**Difficulty:** 2.0 on a scale of 1-5 (1=Easy, 5=Most Difficult)  
Dedeckera Canyon could be a 2.5.

**Run Type:** This run is expedition 4-wheeling (similar to the Mohave trail) in Death Valley. This means we're going to be exploring the backcountry trails during the day and dry camping at night.

**Special Equipment Required:** Stock 4WD with high ground clearance and low range gears. There are several narrow sections that could be difficult for wider vehicles. Tire damage is possible a good condition spare is required. No water or gas will be available after we leave Big Pine until we reach paved roads in Death Valley Sunday so bring extra gas and water.

**Reminder to Bring:** This is a backcountry trail in a remote area. Bring food and water for at least three days. Camping gear: tent, sleeping bag, chairs, firewood, basic tools, shovel, Camera, extra clothing, etc. (a more detailed list will be available to those who plan to attend)

**RSVP:** Yes, to trail leader (Cell 714-300-9656) email: raykleinhuizen@yahoo.com

**Permits Required:** We'll pick up any required permits at the Lone Pine rangers station on Hwy 395.

**Expected Weather:** This area has a wide range of possible weather conditions from very hot to very cold. Trail leader will monitor the weather forecast for Steel Pass and distribute conditions leading up to the day of departure.

## 28 Adopt A Trail

## May

### 5 Rattlesnake Canyon

**Trail Leader:** Ray Kleinhuizen (Cell 714-300-9656)

**RSVP:** Yes, to trail leader (Cell 714-300-9656) email: raykleinhuizen@yahoo.com

**Trail Leader camping :** No, its a day trip

**Permits Required:** No, but its always a good idea to have an Adventure Pass

**Meeting Location:** TNT Cafe, 14767 Bear Valley Rd, Hesperia. From the OC, take the 15 Fwy east toward Barstow/Las Vegas. Exit at Bear Valley Rd. and turn right. The TNT Cafe is about 100 Yards from the 15 Fwy on the right.

**Meeting Time:** 8:00 am on Saturday May 5. leave the trail head at 8:15 am. Come early for breakfast at TNT Cafe.

**Trail Description:** Rattlesnake is more a scenic trail than hard core 4x4 trail. It is a moderate trail that passes through a narrow canyon with soft sandy soil. At the end of Rattlesnake canyon we will be on Burns Canyon Rd and head over to the Heartbreak Ridge trail, a black diamond trail. It is considered difficult but not super difficult. The trail includes narrow canyons, steep shelf roads, large boulders and sharp rocks with the possibility of body damage. A detour is available if you want to skip Heartbreak Ridge.

**Difficulty:** 3 to 3.85 (1=Easy, 5=Most Difficult)

**Special Equipment Required:** High ground clearance with limited slip or lockers, 31 inch tires minimum. Possibility of tire damage is high. A good condition spare is required.

**Reminder to Bring:** Bring lunch and extra water, chairs, basic tools, shovel, camera, extra clothing, etc

**Weather:** If its raining the trip is canceled due to possible flash flooding.

**Trail Head Coordinates:** On Hwy 247, GPS 34 22 12.2 N, 116 38 59.6 W

**19 Adopt A Trail**  
Run Leader Roger Mauer

**25–27 HDR, High Desert Round up**

Cal4WD invites and encourages all our members and those interested in a fun 4X4 outdoor adventure to attend the 41st annual Hi Desert Round-up May 25-27 2012. This fun and historic event will be held at Anderson Dry Lake in the heart of Johnson Valley. Sadly, many rumors have been spread about the cancellation of this event. At the Cal4WD convention the South District leadership assured the BOD and delegates that the event was on track. When it became apparent that the district leadership was unable to secure a permit or chairman for the event, the BOD took the necessary steps to preserve the event in the best interest of Cal4. We look forward to an exciting and challenging weekend in the desert. For more information see the In Gear, <http://cal4wheel.com/events/hi-desert-round-up> or contact the Chairman Steve Egbert [steve@calaccess.net](mailto:steve@calaccess.net)

## June

**2 Adopt A Trail**  
**22–24 Corral Canyon**  
run leader Danny Ward

## July

**13–15 White Mtn, Inyo Forest**  
run leader Ray Kleinhuizen  
**21 Adopt A Trail**

## August

**4 Miller Jeep Trail**  
run leader Ralph Schorbach & John Strege  
**18 Adopt A Trail**

## September

**8 Adopt A Trail**  
**14–16 Kennedy Meadows & Sherman Pass**  
run leader Danny Ward

## October

**13 Adopt A Trail and Holcomb Creek**  
run Leader Mike Ortega  
**27 Gold Mtn & John Bull**  
run leader Ralph Schorbach

## November

**9–11 PVD Panamint Valley Days**  
**22–25 Thanksgiving at Truckhaven or?**

## December

**8 Cleghorn**  
run leader John Strege

## Run template

**Research** and/or Pre-run the trail route.

### **Create and Post a Run Announcement**

Message with the following information: *Please use the words "Run Announcement" in the Subject line of the message, forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted.*

- Date/Time and Place for the Run
- Description of Run
- Difficulty Rating on a scale of 1 to 5
- Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run
- Detailed Directions to Meeting Place.
- EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place
- Required Equipment. Open dif? Lockers?
- Is Special Equipment Required?
- Is RSVP Required?
- Are Permits Required? (Forest Adventure Pass etc.)
- CB Channel start with channel 4, if to much traffic on channel 4 then switch to 5 and so on.
- Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees. Access for motor homes? Very little ground clearance? Deep soft sand?
- Expected Weather Conditions.
- Contact Information (Leader Phone Number & email address)
- Please cover all the needed information in the Run Announcement rather than say "contact me for details".

### **Start of the Run**

- Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.
- Assign vehicle order if there are vehicles with open diffs. Have vehicle with locked diff in front & behind. (If possible disperse vehicles with HAM radios near the front, middle and rear of the line.
- Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.
- Assign "Sweep Vehicle" (Tail Gunner Vehicle)
- Give 5 Minute Warning before start
- Begin Run ON TIME or notify everyone of new time.
- Announce Departure over CB channel 4
- Start moving slowly
- Stop at all turns to confirm vehicle behind sees turn
- Stop occasionally to close up ranks
- Announce comfort stops



- Announce Lunch Stop and Length of Stop  
**After returning home** forward to *the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted* a Run Report and a few photos. In the subject line write "Run Report"

## Advertising

## Guests



Chris McDonald drives a 2012 Unlimited  
Meetings: April



Justin Smith recently purchased a '96 Cherokee with a few scratches. Meetings: April



Jay Jimenez is the proud owner of 3 Jeeps '98, '06 and a '05. Jay also belongs to the Fun in the Sun four wheelers.  
Meetings: April



Rick Schaffer drives a 1992 YJ with lots of mods. Rick also belongs to the Fun in the Sun four wheelers.  
Meetings: April



Larry & Kari Keller drive around in a 2001 TJ with a 4" lift and 33" tires.  
Meetings: April



Michelle & Jeff Haynes drive around in a 1986 CJ7 which is powered by a 350 Chevy.  
Meetings: April



Ron Burdett drives a '99 Wrangler with a few modifications is looking for a winch.  
Meetings: March, April



Gabriel Harrison drives around in a 1997 Grand Cherokee it has a 2" lift and 31" tires  
Meetings: April



Paul and Debbie also belong to the Fun in the Sun four wheelers. Meetings: Nov, Jan, Feb, Mar & Apr.



Josh Bleijenberg drives around in a 2007 Toyota FJ which is lifted 3" and many other upgrades.  
Meetings: April



Robert and Chad Daub Robert drives a '74 CJ5 and son Chad Drives a k5 Blazer. Meetings: Jan, Feb, Mar & April



Cort Phelps & Josh Vega  
Cort drives a well modified Toyota Forerunner  
Josh drives an '87 Cherokee his mods include a lift and tires.  
DD runs: Hammer trails with Mike Ortega  
Meetings: Feb, Mar & Apr



Brian McGrath drives an '04 Wrangler Rubicon  
Meetings: Jan, Feb, Mar & April



Rick Walter with Rhonda Graves  
Rick drives a TJ Rubicon and a MJ  
meetings: Nov, Dec, Mar

## General news

### CB radio news

Many of us have purchased our CB radios from The Solder Joint in Orange. Well the Orange store has closed. They still have a store in Signal Hills go to [www.thesolderjoint.com](http://www.thesolderjoint.com) for directions.

Another option is Mark Kennedy he operates [www.highdesertcb.com](http://www.highdesertcb.com)  
[mdkennedy1@verizon.net](mailto:mdkennedy1@verizon.net) / 760 949 9917

Ham radios are also very useful and have a much longer range.

## Club info

### Cowbells

Terry Pucket March 2012

Eddie Cesena March 2012

Randy Huddelston March 2012

New brown Jesse May

Old Blue Mike Maneth Calico February 2012

Old Blue Mike Maneth December 2011

Mojave Trail

Ron Jackson October 2011 Calico

Andy Lamar October 2011 Calico

Randy Huddleston August 2011

**The cow bell rules are:** If you get stuck and are unable to move under your own power and need the help of a winch or you get strapped from one of your fellow jeepers then you have earned the privilege of hanging a cow bell from your front bumper. You must leave the cow bell on the front of your rig until another Dirt Devil gets stuck then, you can proudly hand it over.

### Safety Report

Safety administrator Danny Ward

When on the trail keep an eye out for the rig behind you.

For groups larger than 10 there needs to be a 1) leader, 2) tail gunner and a 3) mid rig.

Basic safety equipment should include: first aid kit, fire extinguisher, CB radio, tow strap, extra food and water, basic tool kit, some spare parts, safety glasses, gloves, full size spare, working emergency brake.

Large Velcro straps are handy for keeping your straps together.

When you believe there is a chance of rolling over grab your seat belt and hold on. Do not grab the roll bar or reach out to stop your rig from rolling over.

If your gear is not tied down well then it will get thrown around.



### **Adopt a Trail**

The Dirt Devils Adopt A Trail is Dishpan Springs Trail (3N34)

Dishpan Springs Trail can be found in the San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead. The Dishpan Springs Trail is one of the toughest and most popular trails in the SBNF.

#### **The Western entrance:**

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

**The T6 Bridge:** N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

**The Eastern entrance:** 3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

### **First aid kit tracking**

#### **FA #1 (red, blue backpack)**

Mike Ortega Feb 2012 for Adopt a trail runs

Danny Ward Dec 2011

Bill Smith

#### **FA #2**

John Strege Apr 2011

Sheldon Neal Jan 2012

John Strege Dec 2011

#### **FA #3**

Ray Kleinhuiizen Apr 2012 for Steel Pass run.

Pete Johnson Feb 2012

Jesse May Dec 2011

### **Banner**

John Strege has it.

### **Accessories**

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$14.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

### **Newsletter advertising**

\$25 for ¼ page ad, for 3 issues

\$50 for a ½ page ad, for 3 issues

\$100 for a full page ad, for 3 issues.

A full page ad also gets a Web Link.

### **Club officers**

President: Jesse May [jemay.xj@gmail.com](mailto:jemay.xj@gmail.com)

Vice President: Mike Ortega [mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

Treasurer: Emi Webber [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Secretary: Karen Kleinhuiizen [kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com](mailto:kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com)

Web Master: Mike Ortega [mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

Newsletter: Ron Webber / [webbermail@cox.net](mailto:webbermail@cox.net)

Hospitality: Emi Webber / [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Safety Committee: Dan Ward / [d41ward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d41ward@sbcglobal.net)

Run Coordinator: Needed

### **Meeting Place**

First Tuesday of each month,

6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at

Keno's Restaurant

5750 E. La Palma Anaheim

just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.