

# 4XFORUM



Summer 2010

The Official Newsletter of the Montana 4x4 Association

## Divide Ride 2010

**MEETING MINUTES**

**ONE SICK SONOMA  
PART 2**

**THE LIFE  
OF "STUBBY"**

[www.M4X4A.org](http://www.M4X4A.org)



The 4XForum is published monthly, February through November. The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the entire M4X4A. All information is to be received by the 15th of the previous month, check for possible earlier deadlines. All classified ads submitted by M4X4A Clubs will be run at no charge. Non- M4X4A Club events may have a full page ad for \$10.00 for one issue. Event listings will be listed in the Calendar of Events at no charge. Submitted pictures, artwork, and drawings can be scanned to accompany articles, results, or advertisements. Submitted photos – please identify everyone in the photo. Items need to be mailed or emailed – not faxed. Typewritten copy is preferred, but legible handwritten copy will be accepted. Letters to the editor must be signed, but the author can remain anonymous at their request. Subscriptions \$10.00 per year. Businesses wishing to advertise in the Forum are welcome.

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Ted Riebe, Tom Mandera

### Divide Ride 2010

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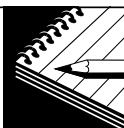
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# CORRESPONDENCE

## M4x4A Needs 4XForum Editor

### From the Editor



As you've all probably already noticed, there has been a shortage of 4XForums in your mailbox this year. This is a direct result of my severe case of "too-much-on-my-plate-itis".

Some major changes to my life over the last 6 months including a new venture in my business and newly acquired acreage for which to care, have dramatically affected my available free time that was previously used for 4XForum production. And the best news of all: Dawn and I are expecting our first baby in March so my already inadequate available time for 4XForum production will completely dry up.

So with all that said, I regret to inform

the membership that I will be respectfully resigning my post as 4XForum editor after this issue. I feel that I have done the organization a disservice this summer by not having time to work on the Forums and getting them out to you in a timely fashion, and I don't foresee any opportunity to regain the free time that I used to spend on this publication.

I have enjoyed working with all of the people who have contributed to the 4XForum over the last nearly three years.

I sincerely hope that somebody in this fine organization can step up and pick up where I left off. I have digital archives of all of the previous issues since I took over.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the communication within the organization.

Mike Hines Jr.,  
Montana 4x4 Association 4XForum Editor



# LAND USE - NATIONAL

## Tellico Lawsuit Filed

POCATELLO, ID (May 18)--The next chapter in the Save Tellico saga began today as suit was filed to stop agency efforts to eliminate long-existing routes at the Upper Tellico OHV System. The suit was filed by Southern Four Wheel Drive Association, United Four Wheel Drive Associations, and BlueRibbon Coalition in U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

"This is a logical and necessary action in our effort to restore some form of meaningful OHV access to the System," said Roger Theurer, President of Southern Four Wheel Drive Association. "The entire premise behind this closure- that water quality is uniquely flawed in the Tellico River- is simply untrue. We hope through this suit for an opportunity to present the full story," Theurer concluded. On April 19, 2010, the Forest Service posted a solicitation for bids, seeking contractors to perform various tasks to re-

habilitate, obliterate, or otherwise decommission the bulk of existing roads on the OHV System. According to the complaint, routes historically used for vehicle travel may be fundamental to other forms of recreation, and possible impacts on non-motorized recreation activities have not been analyzed by the Forest.

"We prefer to work collaboratively with the Forest to provide appropriate vehicle-based recreation opportunities in the area," observed Greg Mumm, BlueRibbon Executive Director. "We remain committed to such prospects, but faced little option short of filing suit to preserve reasonable alternatives involving the System. These roads are literally on the verge of being removed from the landscape," Mumm concluded. A copy of the complaint may be viewed at: [http://www.sharetrails.org/uploads/Complaint\\_FILED\\_05-18-10.pdf](http://www.sharetrails.org/uploads/Complaint_FILED_05-18-10.pdf)



## LAND USE - MONTANA

### Rehberg on Monuments Documents: "The worst-case scenario is no longer hypothetical"

BILLINGS, MT – Montana's Congressman, Denny Rehberg, today released the following statement following the release of 14 additional pages pertaining to the Department of Interior's clandestine plans to declare millions of acres in Montana to be National Monuments. The missing pages may complete the "NOT FOR RELEASE" memo that originally outlined plans to utilize the Antiquities Act for the Presidential designation of National Monuments across the west, including Montana. Pages 15-21 of the memo were leaked earlier this year. The Department of Interior has acknowledged that it continues to withhold more than 2,000 pages of related documents.

"While I'm glad the Department of Interior has finally released these pages, I can certainly understand why they wanted to keep them a secret. A single sentence acknowledging the benefit of public input won't appease Montanans when the rest of the document lays out plans to circumvent that input if it doesn't fall in line with the pre-constructed plans of unelected Washington bureaucrats. The new pages make a disturbing case for bypassing Congress with a unilateral Presidential designation of National Monuments. This was the worst-case scenario, and it's no longer hypothetical."

In March, Rehberg joined his colleagues on the House Western Caucus in sending a letter with

four questions. So far, only the first has been answered. These questions are below:

1. All pages of the "Internal Draft" document of which we obtained only pages 15 to 21.
2. With regard to the "brainstorming" sessions you publicly mentioned, we would like a copy of any documents distributed at or in preparation for the meetings, a list of all participants or invitees, any notes taken at the meeting(s), and any memoranda, work product or follow up documents from the meeting(s). All records, electronic or otherwise, of meetings or discussions with private groups, individuals or other persons or entities that are not employees
3. All documents related to the Secretary's initiative to compile a list of potential National Monument designations since July 1, 2009, including, but not limited to, maps.
4. Any communication with any person or entity outside of the Department of the Interior related to the Secretary's initiative since July 1, 2009.



## EVENTS & RALLYS

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05/10

### 8th Annual 2010 MOUNTAINEERS TOP TRUCK CHALLENGE ROCK CRAWL • MUD PIT • SKILL EVENT • TOW • OBSTACLE COURSE SUNDAY, SEPT. 26<sup>TH</sup>

*\$5 spectator admission!*

**S P O N S O R S**



**S P O N S O R S**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Sime Construction, Pioneer Mountain Substructures,  
Huttinga Transport and The Gravel Guy.

**Registration: 8:00 am  
RACING STARTS AT 11:00  
Gallatin County Fairgrounds  
Motor Sports Park**

**Entry Fee \$50 (includes T-shirt for driver & spotter)**

**ALL VEHICLES WELCOME!**

**VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS:**

Please bring everything you would bring on a regular trail ride plus helmets.  
35" minimum tire size. Open top vehicles need roll cage.

**FOR INFORMATION CALL:**

**Scott @ 587-2944**







## EVENTS & RALLYS

### Divide Ride 2010 - Boulder Montana - July 12 - 18 2010



**More Photos On Page 5**

### Search engines love our websites And so will you!

Even if your site looks good, search engines may not be able to index the site, leaving you in the dust. We build websites that are professional, easy to navigate, and search-engine friendly!

#### We can help you!

When we build your new website, or rebuild your current site:

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### M4x4A Calendar of Events

Aug 26 - 28 - Bighorn's Jeep Jamboree, Dayton WY

**Sep 4** - Continental FWDA 1st annual Mud Bog, Dillon MT, Exit 56

**Sep 17 & 18** - Wild West 100 Baja - Just north of Columbus, MT

**Oct 2** - M4x4A Delegates Meeting - 10AM  
Western Empire Emporium 3141 King Ave West  
Billings, MT

**Does your club have an event coming up?  
Let us know!**





## EVENTS & RALLYS

### Divide Ride 2010 - Boulder Montana - July 12 - 18 2010



*Photos by Tom Mander and other M4x4A Members*

Plaques - Badges - Awards - Trophies

# DJR Engraving

**Dick & Sue Riebe**

**(406) 549-3842**

[djrengraving@q.com](mailto:djrengraving@q.com)

4026 Sunrose Dr., Missoula MT 59804

**Done  
Just  
Right!**

### A Reminder from the Secretary

Please check your mailing address and get with your club secretary, who will in turn get with the M4X4A secretary for updates and changes. Club secretaries: Please get your updated rosters to Stacy Osborne ASAP







# EVENTS & RALLYS

UPCOMING

## Second Annual Wild West 100 -MONTANA BAJA-

Tailgate Party  
B.Y.O. Budweiser  
BBQs & Chairs

Spectators  
No Dogs, ATVs,  
or Motorcycles



Onsite Camping  
Available  
Git's Motel  
(406) 322-4111  
Super 8  
(406) 322-4101

### Columbus, Montana

Friday, September 17, 2010  
Tech inspection at Sports Hut 3:00-8:00

Saturday, September 18, 2010  
Race on Raplje Rd. Prerun- 10:00 Race-12:00  
Awards following race at Sports Hut

**ENTRY FEES**  
Stock, Modified, & Pro Class  
\$300 (\$100 pre-reg required)  
\$350 at race day  
Spectators gate fee: \$5  
Side X Side Races -  
Hosted by Yellowstone Polaris  
Call Chad for info (406) 259-7777

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S&B Tire	Neapco Driveline Components	Stillwater Excavating
Yellowstone Polaris	Powell Valley 4 Wheelers	





## CLUB REPORTS



### Big Sky 4 Wheelers

1st Monday, Old Pioneer School,  
1 mile east of Glacier Int'l Airport  
Contact: Chad Brutscher 249-9425

Jim and Carole Williams attended Divide Ride in Boulder and share this experience . . .

"The attached pictures are of the Big Major Mine trail near Boulder that we did both Friday and Saturday, July 16 and 17. On Friday, just Brad Bloxham (my friend from Idaho Falls in the camouflaged Toyota) and I did this run. We had so much fun on it, that we got six other vehicles to do it with us again on Saturday. The trail was quite narrow, windy, and rocky with some major mud bogs.

On Friday, Brad and I had to use our winches once each to get through one of the mud

bogs. On Saturday, I had to use my winch three different times on the trail. After doing the trail on Saturday, we asked the participants to rate the trail and it got a solid 4 out of 5. As you will see from some of the mud bog pictures, our winches were put to good use. One of the last pictures is a picture looking out over the hood of a red Jeep -- that's me. You will see that the mud is pushed up in front of my Jeep Wrangler -- all the way up to the headlights! I had to hook my winch onto three different trees at three different angles to get myself through this bog."



### Magic City 4-Wheelers

P.O. Box 21241 Billings, MT 59104  
1st Monday, El Corral, 6:30 PM  
RVP: Tory Roesch, 406-248-3581

We held our annual Rally on June 26 & 27. Although we didn't have much turnout, it was a great event for those who came!







# CLUB REPORTS



## Montana Back Roads 4x4

1011 Grizzly Mountain Rd, Missoula MT 59808  
3rd Thursday, Jakers on Brooks  
RVP: Curtis Evelo, 406-721-3505

The club has finished the travel ramp. If we can find someone to tow it over, it will be at the Divide Ride and will cost \$1.00 to ramp your vehicle.

We received our club logo tire carriers and plan to order more, and are planning on ordering more club t-shirts and perhaps some club flags for antennas.

At our monthly meetings, (currently on either the third or fourth Thursday of month at Jaker's Restaurant on Brooks in Missoula; but to be sure, check our web site: [montana-backroads.org](http://montana-backroads.org)), we've had speakers from the Missoula Public Library on what services are available (books, audio books, DVDs, to automotive repair manuals on line) and

from the University of Montana on recognizing noxious weeds and what to do about them in the back country. June's speaker (June 24) will be Pete Lawrenson, Chief Security officer from Montana Rail Link on railroad safety, law enforcement problems associated with the railroad, and humorous encounters. Our July speaker (July 22) will be the Superior District Ranger on terms and acronyms used by the Forest Service.

Members participated in the Missoula Food Bank postal carriers food drive on May 8, and helped transport 21,433 pounds of food from post offices and collection points to the Food Bank.



## Skyliners

P.O. Box 416 Polson, MT 59860  
1st Tuesday, Polson VFW  
RVP: Nancy Hines, 406-883-2851

Other than attending Divide Ride we did not have a trail ride in July. Mark, Patty, Jordan, Nancy, and I went to the Divide Ride early and came back just as the event was picking up speed. Heinz, and Donna attended during the normal week. We were there early enough to attend a Bullorama right there on the Fairgrounds. The mosquitoes were ferocious! Here are some pictures.



Above: Joe's Toyota on Ramp

Left: Our only real snow of the trip



The Blacktail/WildBill committee has completed the artwork for T-shirts, and other articles to promote the trail. The committee will be working on marketing them and distribution. See the Artwork at the top of this page. To purchase shirts, contact Rob.





## CLUB REPORTS



### Frontier 4 Wheelers

P.O. Box 4715 Helena, MT 59604  
1st Wednesday, Ford Dealership, 7 PM  
RVP: TBA

Hi from Frontier

A couple of us headed down to the Pony area in April to meet some of the Bozeman crew for a run. One new possible member also joined the ride. We had a good time and played in the snow. The Helena club is trying to find some land to hold some 4x4 events. We have several possibilities and hopefully they will get figured out in time to hold an event this year. We are also trying to work with the Forest Service to find a trail that we can convert into a challenge route like the Wild Bill Trail. We set our trail ride for May 16th. My Dad

and I spent a couple days in the sand Dunes in St Anthony's and had a good time even when it was snowing. We are planning another trip later this year we will post a date if anyone is interested in going down. The sand dunes are a blast and will find all your weak points in your rig. Divide Ride is still in need of trail bosses and all the trails need to be pre run so if anyone is interested in helping contact Don Apker or Vern Ball.

Hope to see ya on the trails this summer.

Tyler Gordon



### Continental FWDA

P.O. Box 4124 Butte, MT 59702  
Last Monday, Legion Oasis Hall, 7 PM  
RVP: Al Smith

The CFWDA had a great private land run on April 18th in Dillon MT. We cruised the washed out gullies, watched some wildlife, got one stuck and had a great BBQ afterwards. There were 11 rigs on the run from a stock Toyota pick up, Bronco and Blazer and 8 Jeeps ranging from stock to fully locked. The run consisted mostly of slower technical driving around and over rocks, a little off camber tire lifting and an attempt by Al Smith to straddle a large washed out gully that started out with enough room to drive in the bottom to being narrower than his Jeep towards the end which meant he had to drive on the sides of the gully. At the end of the day there was some damage, mostly cosmetic consisting of removed fender

flairs, bent rocker panels, bent nurf bars, bent rear bumper and a bent drag link but all the vehicles made it out under their own power. All 34 people on the run had a great time with the day ending with a pot luck style BBQ and grilled burgers at a club member's house. The kids even had enough energy after the BBQ to try to catch rabbits using a pickle on the end of a stick as bait (without any success). When the feasting was finished we had a quick club meeting with prospective new members involved, and talked about fundraisers for the club. Our next club run will be May 16th where we will be adventuring over the top of McCartney mountain through Chochecherry canyon down by Glen, MT.





## FEATURED RIG

### The Beginning and Life of Tyler Gordon's rig: "Stubby"

Stubby started as a 1978 Ford Bronco that my parents had bought from a club member in Fairfield MT. It had 35 inch BFG's and a 4 inch suspension lift and a 4 inch body lift. I had my driver's license less than 6 months and some buddies and I decided to race down a dirt road. My Bronco came to a stop on it top after sliding around a corner way too fast. No one was hurt. I had already purchased the body mounts to take out the body lift and was planning on it the next weekend. So I was a freshman in high school without wheels. We found a Bronco at a paint shop that had been striped and painted and the owner never returned to pick it up so it sat outside for 7 years in pieces. We picked it up for \$700.00 and we were planning on swapping the body on to my rolled Bronco chassis but instead I spent 7 months building the stripped out one. With help from my parents and all my Christmas and birthdays gifts I was able to build a Bronco. So I had wheels again to get to work and school and go 4x4ing. The rolled frame had sat at my parents for awhile now with nothing happening to it. I decided I should do something with it. So I cut the roof off and built a roll cage out of an old roll cage I got from Mike Kelly's retired Crazy Horse. I took it to Great Falls and raced it one weekend and decided it had more potential.

This is the point that Stubby was born. I decided putting a pickup cab on the frame would be a lot easier than a whole new Bronco body and cheaper since I had found one with fenders for \$100.00 (Thanks Mike Kelly). So I stripped the rolled body off the frame and towed it to the junk yard where the cab was sitting and a couple of my buddies and I lifted the cab onto the frame. I ratchet strapped it to the frame and took it home. I got the cab and the fenders all mounted and decided that I wanted to race it in a couple weeks in Cascade Mt. So I built a roll bar on the back of the frame installed some 5 point harnesses and took it racing. Shortly after that I decided that I wanted to build a custom flat bed. I took the truck to school and parked it in the middle of the welding class shop. After a couple of months I had built a custom flat bed. I rolled it down to the auto mechanics shop and installed a Detroit Locker that my dad had swapped for a TV. The old motor had always missed in cylinder 7 so I decided I needed to get that fixed. I pulled the motor and found a hole in one of the valves. My buddy tells me "I got a motor you can have for a case of beer". So I swapped in the new motor. I wheeled

Stubby for several years this way while I attended college. Having normal issues along the way like having to change out ball joints, brakes, u-joints, and everything else that wears out including a motor and transmission. For graduation my parents gifted me a new set of 35 inch MTR's so I could quite running different size tires. I rented a place without a garage after moving back to Helena from college so it was hard for me to get much done. In 2006 I purchased a house and garage my family seems to think I bought the garage and did not even look at the house. (I plead the 5th) Shortly after getting my garage set up with my tools and equipment from my dad's shop we decided it was time to go back to Moab Utah. This time I decided I was going to bring my truck. So I pulled my truck in and began the make over that it has needed for several years. Some were along the line I had installed an ARB locker in the front differential.

I had picked up a rolled Bronco that the towing company I worked for had. The Bronco had been rolled and the owner had went to jail for DUI so the Bronco sat in the storage yard for over a year and the storage fees were more than the vehicle was worth so I took it. It had a nice 400m motor and new radiator and some other goodies. After I stripped this Bronco I got on [summitracing.com](http://summitracing.com) and ordered all the rest of the parts that I needed.

Once I had all the parts I began the make over that included:

Extended brake lines front and rear, Line locks, Front custom Bumper, Exo Roll Cage, new seats, new carpet inside, new dash pad, new tilt steering column, new soft ride coil springs, new Rancho front shocks, new motor and mounts, new radiator and hoses, new fuel cell, new drivelines and u-joints, custom diff covers, skid plates, New rear shocks, onboard air compressor, 15 gallon air tank, all new air lines, onboard water system for cool down and showers, 8000lb winch on a receiver mount for front and rear, new windshield, and aluminum 15x8 rims. I also rewired the entire truck. I could not believe some of the high school style wiring I was depending on. This chore took almost three entire days. I finally got the truck where I wanted. We went to Moab and I only busted one front axle u-joint in 5 days of trail riding. Just this last year I purchased Chromalloy axles and CTM joints and have not had any further axle issues. Stubby is complete until the next upgrade.







# One Sick SONOMA

*Continued from  
March/April issue*

Matt Norby had a nicely built 1971 Chevy Blazer. It was sporting 43" Super Swamper SX tires, 1-ton axles, a TBI 454 big block, a Turbo 400 transmission, and an NP203/NP205 doubler.

Follow along here and in the March/April issue as the Blazer body is removed and replaced with a smaller, lighter 1997 GMC Sonoma body, a custom 4-link rear suspension, an exo-cage, and other goodies.

*Right: The Sonoma with the rear tube frame completed, the fuel cell mounted, the springs mounted and the taillights installed and wired.*

*Lower Right: The radiator is mostly in. Its a dual 1.25" row 31"x19" Griffen. It takes up every sq inch of radiator support area. Lower hose goes under the support and I had to move the body mount off to side of frame there. Upper hose goes through the support where I cut a 2.5" hole. Support had to be clearanced for the cap and the overflow hose and hood will need to be be notched in the underlying support for the cap.*



*Left: The Front bumper is mostly completed and getting the lower windshiled bar to fit was a chore. Trying to make it as low as possible but still clear the hood when its up and the wipers. As it is now the hood just touches it on the drivers side when up (hood prop is on drivers side so it kinda twists when open) and the passenger side wiper just barely touches it when operating (can barely hear it click) and the drivers side wiper clears the bar in the parked position by a touch less than 1/8"*



*Right: Stretching her legs and checking for clearance issues*

*Lower Left: The 3rd door in the cage is complete and functional*

*Middle Right & Lower Right: And finally, on the rocks!*





# ANNUAL CONVENTION MINUTES - APR 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Guests were introduced: Bobby and Steve Vaughn from the Magic City Club, Billings.

Minutes of January Delegates Meeting: Nancy Hines took the minutes. Thanks from Shirleen to Nancy for taking the minutes. A motion was made by Roger, seconded by Bud to accept the minutes as were printed in the Feb/Mar Forum. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Mandera. Michelle was absent so Tom went over the report handed out at the meeting. A motion was made by Ted, seconded by Roger to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report - Shirleen Wheeler. Correspondence received was placed on the front of the head table for the membership to read. Membership count at this time 204.

President's Report - Tom Mandera. We lost one of our valued members, Vic Eklund. Vic and Bob Bradley Sr. are 2 of the 4 which formed the "Old Farts Race Team" Vic will be missed by many.

Vice President's Report - Don Apker. Working on the DR and trying to get a jeep ready to run.

Director at Large - Dick Riebe. Went to a Mt Back Roads meeting. Hoping to be the RVP to help the club. Mt Jacks are interested in getting involved with the state association. Larry Demott is the President of the Mt Jacks.

## Regional V.P. Report

A. Region 1 - Torian Roesch. THANKS to Bobbie for all she has done getting the dinner for the convention prepared. There will be a discussion versus a speaker tonight. The discussion will be about recruitment and retention of members in the clubs and the association. He has been working on getting a HAM license. We are in the process of establishing relationships with the local clubs such as the S&R, etc. BLM travel plan is in the works again. Hope to have a play area but want to keep what we have; so we are working closely with them to keep things going.

B. Region 4 - Bud Wheeler. Dale Nelson has been selected as the new RVP for our region. Some

of the local people have been trying to get jobs with the FS to repair and maintain trails. The FS asked if they belonged to the local club. Thanks to the FS personnel. Winter Baja went well; we had about 20 racers and lots of mud. We are putting on our Rally the 1st weekend in August.

C. Region 5 - Kory Kerker. Absent. Tom stated that several members had been out 4 wheeling and having a great time together. Several of the club members are getting ready to go to MOAB.

D. Region 6 - Linda Ellison. Absent. Blair stated that the club is gaining in membership. Mostly those who enjoy the hard core wheeling more than just the family outings; however, we are working on keeping both types of outings going. The new members have new ideas and we need to step back and let them run in their direction. Be there for support but let them find their way. The Swap Meet is going on in Bozeman tomorrow at the fairgrounds. Open at 10:00 a.m. and closing at 3:00 p.m. come on over and sell your unneeded or unwanted stuff. This year we invited other motorized clubs to come on in and sell their wares. There will also be a booth for Land Action. MOAB trip is the 2nd weekend in May.

E. Region 7 - Al Smith. Absent - Jim Young reported that Al Smith is now the President. In Jan they made a trip to Whitehall with 16 people. Feb we went to Twin Bridges with about 8 rigs/16 people. Mar was a trip to the Ringing Rocks with about 10 rigs/30 people. In Apr we went wheeling on a private ranch with 11 vehicles/34 people and had a BBQ after. Lots of wheeling going on and getting ready for the DR.

F. Region 8 - Dick Riebe. The 1st Annual Show and Shine will be at Carl Tyler's Dealership on May 15. Jeff Magill from the MT Backroads own a 4X4 business and are trying to get the people involved. Jeremy Hitchcock is the owner of JK Customs is also very involved in the local community. There is much going on in this area; there will be more info to come.

G. Region 9 - Nancy Hines. Memorial Day Weekend will be a play

weekend in the Black Tail/Wild Bill area. Also Big Sky will be in the area on 5-6 Jun and 18-20 Jun, come on out and play. We have Black Tail/Wild Bill T-Shirts for sale; proceeds will go to the upkeep of the trail. Let Nancy know if you want one; they are \$18.00 per shirt. The ink is infused into the shirt versus just heat transferred. Rob is President of our club. Some of our members are getting ready to make the MOAB trip also.

## Committee Reports

### A. Land & Legislation

1. East - Mark Kary. Absent.
2. West - Wayd Walker. Absent.
3. Northwest - Rob St. Clair. Absent. Blair stated that the Gallatin is not finished with their plan yet. They are trying to ensure that you can only be on the trails if you walk. The motorized vehicles to include mountain bikers are being shut out. More info to come.
4. Larry Ellison - Absent

B. 4xForum - Mike Hines: Need content. There is a new layout and format. The Forum will be published bi-monthly versus monthly. New sections are a Tech Section and the Features Rig Section. Send in your photos and info about your rig and get it published in the Forum. The on-line version is in color; however, the printed copies will be in black and white. Each club is encouraged to nominate one member to get input to the forum editor. Send in your club newsletters they can be used for input also. Can't produce a forum if we don't have input; help make this paper good for the association.

C. Historian - Stacey Osborne. Thanks for all those who gave things to be put in the history.

D. Conservation - Ed Melcher. There is a fund raiser for Optimus Battery with the proceeds being used for land lawsuits trying to keep the lands open. The license plate is now available as a permanent plate. Get your plate and help show united for outdoor recreation. THANKS to Chris Worthy, Deputy for Supervisor of the Custer and Gallatin area. He gave a speech, after lunch. This speech was geared around the FS reactions and response to all of the travel plans around the state. He also fielded several questions from the audience about working with the local agencies and how to get more help if needed.

E. Bylaws - Stacey Osborne. No changes have been received.

F. Race Rules - Roger Osborne. Race numbers are due. We have received 3 bids for the lights. There is more information under New Business.

G. Recreational Trail Grant - Ben Palmer. Ben still is not installed on this committee.

H. United Report - Ted Riebe, Ed Melcher, Tom Mandera. The Director of Membership has stated that the dues have been changed from \$25.00 to \$15.00. Changes have taken affect already. The United Convention will be in Traverse City, MI, from 15-20 Jun.

I. Divide Ride, 2010 - Don Apker. Don stated that the fairgrounds are set. Wed there will be a BBQ and Friday will be the Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Famous Dave's will cater the dinner for Sat evening. The fairgrounds are rented for the Sat and Sun before the start on Monday. If you come on Sat or Sun please follow the signs as to where to park. FWP Invoice of \$750.00 for educational purposes is complete. Showers will be at the High School. Extra mailings went to all clubs. Need advertisers and more trail sponsors. We have received TShirts from WARN; also items from Sky Jacker and Super Lift and the Tire Rack. The application was also printed in the Forum and is on the DR site. If you have any other questions please contact Don or Vern.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Tom entertained 3 bids for the state lights. Only the racers with appropriate race numbers could vote to sell the lights. All that were present were in favor of selling the lights to Donald McCabe for \$1625. Discussion then began with the possibility of cutting \$125 due to the needed repairs. Roger made a motion but it was never seconded. Motion died.

## NEW BUSINESS:

A. DR 2011: Don and Vern will check into having the ride at Whitehall. Vern stated that this will be his last year to be on the DR committee.

B. Nominations of officers were opened:

Pres - Tom Mandera by Mike Kelly

Vern Ball by Don Apker

Roger Osborne by Ted Riebe

Don Apker by Gwen Osborne - Don declined

Ted made a motion, seconded by Roger, to close the nominations. Motion carried.

VP - Don Apker by Vern Ball  
Roger Osborne by Vern Ball  
Vern Ball by Tyler Gordon  
Torian Roesch by Vern Ball - Torian declined.

Ted made a motion, seconded by Stacey, to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Sec - Stacey Osborne by Vern Ball

Shirleen Wheeler by Ted Riebe. Shirleen declined  
Dick made a motion, seconded by Roger to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Treas - Dawn Hines by Nancy Hines

Ted made a motion, seconded by Mike to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Your board for 2011 is Tom Mandera as President; Don Apker as Vice President; Stacey Osborne as Secretary and Dawn Hines as Treasurer.

C. Blair stated that they are trying to obtain land to open more ORV parks on private land. There is a land owner in Cardwell that they have been conversing with. The question is to whether the state would indorse an ORV park; need to look at use, insurance and liability. More information to be forthcoming.

Roger made a motion, seconded by Ted, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectively Submitted

Shirleen Wheeler





# QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES - JUL 2010

Montana 4x4 Association  
July 18, 2010  
Delegates Meeting  
Boulder, Montana

The July 18th delegates meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Don Apker, Vice President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were 15 members and no guests present.

Minutes from previous meeting - Stacey Osborne had minutes available for any members to read. Those minutes have not been printed in the 4Xforum yet. Roger Osborne made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Gene Anderson seconded, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's report - Dawn Hines began by thanking the Apkers and anyone else who helped with Divide Ride Registration and collecting money. Copies of the financial report were available for members present. Dick Riebe made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Roger Osborne seconded, and the motion carried. Dawn asked permission to change banks. Currently, we bank with First Security Bank, and the only bank in the State is in Bozeman. She would like to change to a bank that is located statewide, such as First Interstate Bank. First Security Bank currently charges us a monthly surcharge ranging from \$2-\$6. Larry Ellison made a motion for Dawn to select a bank that is located statewide, Vern Ball seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Linda Ellison requested that Dawn inquire about any specials since we are a non-profit organization. Dick Riebe reminded Dawn that the Certificates of Deposit would also need to be changed over.

Secretaries report - Stacey Osborne reported that there are currently 199 members, that she had received rosters and dues from all but Magic City 4-Wheelers and Rimrock 4x4. She has also received dues from four members-at-large. She expects the total membership number to drop since there are about 6 members-at-large she hasn't heard from and expects the Magic City and Rimrock numbers to drop.

President's report - Tom Mandera

was absent.

Vice President's report - Don Apker didn't get his jeep ready in time for Divide Ride, some parts arrived during Divide Ride. Don has been very busy working on Divide Ride, his Jeep, and his job.

Director-at-Large report - Dick Riebe began by thanking Don and Mariann Apker, Vern Ball and Nancy Hines for all their hard work. You can't do these events alone. For his Past-Presidents report, he didn't have much. He is still pursuing getting the Mountain Jacks to become members, which may happen at Convention in April 2011. He isn't giving up! While Dick had the floor he continued on with his report for Region 8. The Mountain Jacks are busy putting on races - going great guns! The Montana Backroads club has had several runs, at least one a month. They have gone to a lot of interesting mines. Willy Worthy, the current president, will step down as president next year. They had a Show and Shine with the Mountain Jacks. Both clubs work hard to have a positive showing in the Missoula community. Their Region 8 RVP resigned and they will hopefully have a new one in place by the next delegates meeting.

Region 1 - Vern Ball reported for Torian Roesch. Both clubs have been busy. The Rimrockers participated in the Laurel Fourth of July Parade and are helping with the Jeep Jamboree in the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming. Both clubs are working on bringing in new members and past members, and ways to go about that. The Rimrockers may need more help with the Jeep Jamboree, if you have a Jeep and want to participate call them. Magic City had their rally the end of June - because of the rainy weather there wasn't good participation. It turned into a fun day, but everyone seemed to have fun. They will work on the Benbow Conservation Project in August and are still working to set a date for the Morrison.

Region 4 - absent.

Region 5 - absent.

Region 6 - Larry Ellison. He and Linda have been doing a lot of playing, so have missed some Mountaineer meetings. They

have some new members and several potential new members. Their Mud Bog will be Saturday, July 24th at the fairgrounds in Bozeman, and their Top Truck Challenge will be in September.

Region 7 - Jim Young said a thank you for the winch. Continental has been busy doing runs, with a good showing of participants on the runs. Their July run will be to the Mountaineer Mud Bog. Continental will hold a Mud Bog in Dillon over Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4 off Exit 56. The event is being coordinated with the Dillon Rodeo, so participants can attend both events. They also have several potential new members.

Region 8 - report given earlier in the meeting.

Region 9 - absent.

Land and Legislation. Linda Ellison couldn't think of anything to discuss. We need to keep our eye on the Wilderness Bill. Our Divide Ride guests (in state and out of state) could be valuable assets in our battle by writing to their Congressmen.

4Xforum - Mike Hines said the May/June newsletter is not in the mail yet. He has ran out of time because of starting his own business and move to a new home. Mike would like someone else to take over doing the Forum. He will continue if no one steps up, but publication will be erratic because of his hectic life. Mike said thanks to everyone for sending stuff for the Forum - he's gotten more than ever before.

Linda Ellison asked what could be done with the photos taken at Divide Ride so they could be shared. Mike Hines suggested contacting Tom Mandera and adding them to the M4x4A website. He can put a few in the Forum and on the Divide Ride website, but not as many as could be put on the M4x4A website.

Don Apker would like to send sponsors photos of Divide Ride participants using their products during the event, it could be helpful for future donations. Vern Ball would also like some photos of the event.

Historian - Stacey Osborne reported that she's added some news articles that Roger's Aunt Misty sent them, as well as

Forums.

Conservation - Ed Melcher was absent.

Bylaws - Torian Roesch was absent.

Race Rules - Roger Osborne reported that he received payment of \$1625.00 for the race lights.

United - Dick Riebe reminded everyone that the newsletter was now available online.

Divide Ride 2010 - Vern Ball reported that it was the most financially successful event so far with the least complaints, the no whine zone may have helped! Vern thanked the State Association and members for all the help. Members seem to be stepping up to help more and more. They had tons of compliments and got several suggestions. Putting on Divide Ride is a group effort.

Divide Ride 2011 - The same organizers of 2010 will put on 2011 either back at Whitehall, where everything is in place, or in Polson. The Montana Backroads club and Skyliners are putting together committees to help work on the 2011 event. Some concerns about having the event in Polson are dealing with the tribe and the distance to the trailhead - some vehicles would have to be trailered. Either location, the more volunteers the better, and the fewer problems. Don Apker stated that he's noticed that many of the out-of-state guests also want to help and even lead trails. Vern Ball discussed that having a winch drawing for helpers only was a plus. Vern and Don thanked those who helped fix the bridge, especially the Frontier club. Frontier planned on paying the \$150 for the lumber to repair the bridge that broke down from use on one of the trails, since they use the trail. Vern Ball made a motion for M4x4A to pay for the lumber, Roger Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Vern Ball and Don Apker are thankful for getting the chance over the last years to "learn the curve" in putting on Divide Ride. It's been a great opportunity to meet and get to know people.

Discussion was held about interest from participants in joining the state association. Roger Osborne suggested putting

membership registration forms in the packets like had been done in the past.

Vern Ball explained that he would be looking into insurance that the M4X4A could get that would cover all events held by state association clubs - an umbrella policy for the whole state. It could also be another benefit for being a members of M4x4A. He'll see what he can find out and bring what he learns to a future meeting. Discussion was held on United's try at an umbrella policy and other possible challenges.

Larry Ellison brought up three issues to discuss concerning Divide Ride. First he enjoyed having a Roster included in this year's packet. He'd like to find a way to exchange addresses and emails with participants. He knows that privacy rules prevent directly sharing that information, but maybe a way could be found for those interested to volunteer that information. Mike Hines mentioned putting a sheet of blank business cards in the packets with places for participants to write their contact information to exchange with friends. Jim Young mentioned adding an interactive place on the Divide Ride website for information exchange.

Larry's second issue was that everyone be required to have a CB. They are inexpensive. His third issue was use of Ham Radio operators and having a base unit stationed at camp with at least one Ham Radio operator per ride. Vern discussed how easy the Ham radio tests are and anyone interested should talk to members already licensed. Magic City and Rimrock already have several members with Ham radio licenses. Discussion was held on the benefits of Ham Radios on the trail.

The next M4x4A delegates meeting will be Saturday, October 2 in Billings. Mike and Dawn Hines will find a location and then let everyone know.

Roger Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting at 11 a.m., Mike Hines seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Stacey Osborne, M4x4A Secretary



# FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE HISTORIAN

## May 1977 Four By Forum

The following rallies were listed on the May Calendar – July 2-4 Five Valley 4-Wheelers Rally in Missoula; July 16-17 Big Sky 4-Wheelers Fun Day Program at Columbia Falls; Sept. 3-5 Cascade County 4-Wheelers Rally

May 28-30 Three Rivers Rally Hill

Climb 1st Place Results – Stock F – Gene Azure, Street & Trail B – Ron Fergesson; Street & Trail C – Tom Watts; Street & Trail D – Kent LaFountain; Street & Trail E – Ken Spomer; Street & Trail F – Larry Keithart; Street & Trail G – Jim McKinney. Obstacle Course 1st Place Results – 4

Cyl – Rex Keil; 6 cyl. Bob Bradley; 8 cyl. Dick Elshire.

Region 8 Report – They'll be working with the Polson club to put on the Bid Mud Race at Seeley Lake July 2-3.

## April 1983 Four By Forum

M4x4A Officers:

President - Don Munn

Vice President - Mike Whitman

Secretary - Fran Bradley

Treasurer - Dick Riebe

Frontier 4-Wheelers – President is Don Gordon and RVP is Mike Kelly. They had a club run to Hedge Mountain by York.

Skyliners – President Pappy Drebes, and RVP Cyndy Bradley. They had a club run with lots of snow, ice, and mud. Those who attended were: Don Munn, Jimmy and Jeffery Bradley, Tony and Chris Turpin, Mike Turpin, Pappy and Aubrey Drebes and family, Tom Drebes, Victor Ek-lund, Dick Riebe and family. There were four CJ's, 1 Bronco, 1 Jeep Pickup, and a new CJ.

### Vehicle of the Month – Ol' Buddy, Dick Riebe

Ol' Buddy is a 1947 CJ-2A by the title. It has: 63 Buick 198 V6 225 pistons and intake valves, 68 Buick electrical system, 70 Jeep Truck T15 Transfer, Dana 20 transfer case from a 68 Wagoneer, 67 Wagoneer 27 front end with 3773 and housing shortened to take CJ axles. 65 Ford Mustang rear leaf springs on all four corners with Ford 3/4 ton van shocks. Two each corner represents the suspension. 65 Pontiac steering wheel into a Buick power steering box with a 74 amc power pump resembles means of control. 70 Jeep truck clutch and brake system, 75 Pontiac Fire Bird front bucket seats – homemade 1/4 in. 180 degree scattershield, nylon drive line loops, Smitty built roll bar and front cage bar. 1974 Jeep CJ-5 gas tank, Chevy truck tail lights. 75 CJ-5 spare tire carrier. Diamond plate homemade rear panel. Modified windshield full glass and hand made wiper system using Wagoneer wiper motor. A white CJ-3B top rounds off the equipment. Plus about 50 lbs. Of welding rod and misc. mends and patches gave re-constructed frame with tilt forward hood. Parts to go on this year include intake and more than stock cam. It's been a low budget machine made of better used parts, but has held up in competition far better than I ever expected. Ol' Buddy has served us well and I'm quite proud of it cause it's mine!



## March 1998 4XForum

The idea of Divide Ride came to light at the October 1997 Delegates meeting and plans were set in motion. The event will take place in Boulder, MT. Kathy Gordon is doing registration, and she and Stacey Schessler and they have designed a logo for Divide Ride 98. They put together registration packets and they went in the mail in February. Don Gordon, Tyler Gordon, Mike Kelly, Brian Lewis and Tom Osborne have selected trails. Joan Lewis and Connie Carson are arranging entertainment. Trudy Nelson is arranging for T-shirts. Much of the event is turning into club projects. The Mountaineers are doing the pig roast dinner, Frontier will do the Ice Cream Social, and Magic City 4-Wheelers will do a pancake breakfast.

Brenda Wilkinson reported that Cascade County 4-Wheelers hosted the Winter Baja and Delegates meeting. Nearly everyone broke something in the Baja and Leonard Nelson got a "Wedgie!" There were 34 people at the delegates meeting.



Heather Jongeling got a mud bath while driving in the baja.



Roger Osborne kicks up some dirt.



Heather Jongeling heads towards the finish line.



Leona Nelson gives her jeep a work out.



Mountaineer Blair Howze finishes his first lap.



"Wedgie!" Mike Jongeling tows Leonard Nelson loose.



Charlie Shaw gets some air.



Gwen Osborne gets some air in Spidy Racer.





# M4x4A TRADING POST

## RVS/CAMPING

9 ft. slide in camper, self-contained  
Rodger Osborn 406-628-8974

## MISC

Octagonal 8 person Army tent with canvas floor. \$300. Glasstite Topper, white, fits full size Chevy or Dodge, 70s-80s, won't fit late models. \$175. Donald McCabe 860-5225

## PARTS

Misc. Jeep Parts - All Parts OBO Wide Track CJ Dana 44 Front End, ARB Locker, 4.10 Gears, Disc Brakes, Warn Premium Lockout Hubs, Axles, Cross over Steering Knuckles Asking \$1500.  
**Phil's Jeep World**  
Parts... New and Used Not a business - just a hobby 6-9 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. weekends  
Phil Harris 373-5237 or Dale Hert 248-8079

Jeep TJ center console, spice colored with bass speaker and glove box door. make offer cheap! Also stock AM/FM/CD for TJ and all speakers; License plate holders for your roller fairlead \$20.00 for steel \$25.00 aluminum this price for M4X4A members only; Chevy 350 motor, 4-bolt main, .030 over, call for details. \$200; Like new engine stand \$20.00; CJ7 tail gate. windshield, couple hoods, and more stuff. Don Apker 406-782-2282 or 406-490-2282 dmmapker@aol.com

Warn 9000# winch works great. Cost new \$1100.00, Sell used \$500.00 782-2282 or 490-2282 - dmmapker@aol.com

## TIRES/WHEELS

(4) 98% 33x13.5x15 Super Swamper LTBs, excellent shape, \$400 Call Mike 406-690-3126, leave message

15x7 Dodge Ramcharger factory turbine style wheels, set 4, \$100. 15x7 Chevy Rally Wheels with tires and center caps, 5 hole, set 4, \$175. 14x6 Oldsmobile Cutlass Rally Wheels with center caps, rings, tires. Painted blue centers, set 4, \$100. Donald McCabe 860-5225

Set of 5 Radial IROK Super Swamper Interco's 37" x 12.5 x 15" One new and the other four with less than 1000 miles on them. Cost new \$2000.00 Sell for \$1000.00 Don 782-2282 or 490-2282 dmmapker@aol.com

5 Toyo Open Country AT 285/70R17 tires. Tread approx 8/32. \$275 for all. Larry 406-587-4505 Bozeman

## VEHICLES

Restorable 1946 Series 62 Cadillac, 95% complete, 348 flathead engine, \$900. 1969 Cadillac Eldorado, runs great, no title, 10.5 to 1 472 cid, \$400. Donald McCabe 860-5225

**Trading Post Policies:** These classified ads are free for M4x4A Members or 4XForum subscribers. Non members must purchase a 1 year subscription to the 4XForum to have an ad. Ads are listed for 3 issues, but can be re-listed after 3 months as long as the member or subscription is in good standing. Deadline for ads is the same as the normal deadline for the next upcoming issue.

## VEHICLES

1989 Ford Bronco. 351 F1 Windsor, AT, C-6. 203 case; good condition. Have put in lots of new parts have not receipts. Call Bud at 406-453-4263 for more details.

47 flat fender race jeep and trailer known as the Warlock and his portable garage. Ready to go racing. Package deal; raced one time on a fresh engine. Call Bud at 406-453-4263 for more details.

## VEHICLES

1975 Chevy K5 Blazer Full factory gauges, tilt wheel, fully removable top, 31x10.50 tires, 205 transfer 3.73 gears. 350 V8, Turbo 350 trans. Excellent condition all around. \$6000. Tom 406-261-1292

## WANTED

Jeep CJ or YJ rear flip and fold seat. Shawn Baker (406) 755-5139 shawnkayak@yahoo.com

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07/09

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Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ 4x4 Vehicle Owned: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership	Subscription
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Member (part of a local club associated with M4x4A)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 - 1 year Starting Month _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Member-at-large	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Associate Club	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Advisory Council	

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