

The Boondocker



The Official Publication of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association

Volume 36, Issue 3

Visit us on the web at www.glfwda.org

Fall 2004

Fall Trail Maintenance in Atlanta and The Roaming Troll...

by *Kim Fischer-Kinne*

I was in the middle of a lovely four days away from work and riding high on a huge golf coup that Thursday night, I chipped 30 yards out from the hole in the rough and sunk it for a bogey on a par 5. It was very exciting!

Pat and I had originally planned to head up to Wolverine Friday to do some trail riding with the ATVs, but that plan was squashed by circumstances beyond our control. Pat was gung-ho to head up and do some riding in Atlanta instead and then just rustic camp there in our tent. I asked, "Are you kidding me?" Well, he wasn't and our discussion soon became quite heated.

A short time later there was a revelation that someone had to pick up signs for maintenance on Saturday and we had to get them by 4:00 p.m. Friday at the DNR station in Mio. Guess what? We were the only one's that could get the job done in such short notice.

Did I mention that I was a planner and I don't like doing things on short notice? Unfortunately, you can't always have things the way you want. We proceeded to gathering our camping, riding and maintenance equipment. I had no idea where our stupid tent was.

We made it to the DNR station in time. I think it's interesting that you have to call a number that rings into another place to get the number for someone that

is in the building you are standing in front of because they don't have their doors open to the public...weird. We scored the signs we needed and were finally on our way to Atlanta.

Good news, we were worried that all the sites would be full at Jackson Lake rustic campground on a Friday evening, but they weren't. A DNR summer employee was there tending to business and stopped to talk. He remembered GLFWDA members doing maintenance on the trails earlier this spring. Apparently, talking at length with DNR officers makes people curious because as soon as he left the neighbors across the road came over to talk and the Campground Host came down to chat.

Once we told them why we were there, they were all thrilled. They didn't realize that regular people did the trail maintenance. Not sure if they thought it was the tooth fairy or not.

We set up camp and unloaded the ATVs. Our goal was to check signage and clear brush on the 8 mile stretch from the campground to the ORV staging area. The trail was pretty clear and signed. We added a few confidence markers and cleared brush. There was a stop sign pole that would have to wait for the Saturday crew to replace.

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CALENDER OF EVENTS

October 1 - 3, 2004

Gitchee Gumee

Sault Ste. Marie, Canada

October 8-10, 2004

Northwood Auto Show

Midland, Michigan

October 10, 2004

GLFWDA Quarterly Meeting

Midland, Michigan

October 16, 2004

Troll's Color Tour

Indian River, Michigan

November 2, 2004

Election Day

Get Out And Vote!!!

November 25, 2004

Turkey Day Massacre

The Mounds

Mount Morris, Michigan

January 9, 2005

GLFWDA Quarterly Meeting

Midland, Michigan

Send your dates to the Editor!

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Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association

Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association Incorporated is a noncommercial association of four wheel drive enthusiasts organized for the promotion of interest in maintaining closer contacts between four wheel drive clubs and individuals, to promote cooperation, friendship, conservation, ecology, and to preserve access to public lands through wise management policies. It shall also provide a network of communication in the event of disasters or emergencies, and for the advancement of four wheel drive awareness, the representation of four wheel drive interests in legislative affairs, and for maintenance of fraternalism by encouraging a high standard of conduct.

GLFWDA is an incorporated association, without capital stock, chartered under the laws of the State of Michigan, and is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986. Its affairs are governed by the Executive Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every two years by the Directors of each member club. The officers are elected or appointed by the Directors. The Association is noncommercial, and no one who could gain financially from the shaping of its affairs is eligible for membership on the Executive Board.

A bona fide interest in four wheeling is the only essential qualification of membership; ownership of a four wheel drive vehicle is not a prerequisite. Membership is granted to anyone within the United States and Canada.

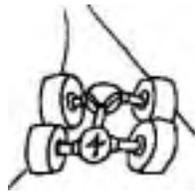
Membership inquires should be directed to the Membership Secretary. Inquires of a general nature should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary or a member of the Executive Board. Articles for publication should be sent to the Boondocker Editor.

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Full Page (1 Side) - \$50.00 per issue
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¼ page - \$25.00 per issue
Business Card Size - \$10.00 per issue
Classified Ad - \$2.00 per issue

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Get Out And Vote!!!
Tuesday, November 2nd

Deadline for the next Boondocker is **November 28th, 2004**. All flyers, advertisements, and articles must be received by this date. Late submissions will be printed in the next issue. If you can get items in earlier it would be greatly appreciated. Only items that are signed are considered for publication, but names will be withheld upon request.

Preferred format for articles is a computer generated document sent via e-mail to johnnyj@msg4x4club.com. Printed flyers are acceptable, but must be no larger than 8 1/2" x 11". Articles may also be submitted on a 3 1/2" PC floppy disk.

Send to: John Jacobs
P.O. Box 1751
Royal Oak, MI 48067

There will be a charge of \$2.00 for placement of want ads, available only to GLFWDA members. For placement of a commercial advertisement, please see the schedule of advertising rates. There are no charges for club or individual member news articles, announcements, or similar submissions.

Editor's Notes

It's the end of another Summer of wheeling. I hope that you got out half as much as you wanted to. Fall means that the Gitchee Gumee ride is quickly approaching; not to mention the Troll's Color Tour a couple of weeks later. Oh, and don't forget that there's the Quarterly in October, too. Looks like GLFWDA is trying to extend the Summer by the Fall full of dates like it were Summer.

And let's not let it die as we transition into Winter. It's the best time to plan what needs to be done over the next year before we get busy in the Spring, thrashing to get our rigs put back together again for another Summer of fun. The GL web site has just recently been moved and is running again thanks to Frank White of the Wolverine Four Wheelers, let's use it to plan our future!

The President and Vice President reports are back in this issue. They both had a busy Summer, and are back to tell you about all the stuff they did. If you get a chance to see them, be sure to ask how the United Convention was. Both Pat and Joe have volumes of information to talk about from the convention, you only have to ask. (*or not, they might just tell you.*)

So as you go over what you did this Summer, and think about what you want to try and get done for next Summer; try and put aside some time to determine what you would like to see GLFWDA achieve, and how you could help. Some things are bigger than one person, but pitching in with ideas and helping hand can help the Association tremendously.

The Fall Quarterly should prove to be an exciting meeting. The ground work for what the Association needs to do in 2005 will start to take shape as the Board of Directors continue on their path to build up GLFWDA into what it can be.

Also, be sure to watch the message boards about a new private park that is planned to open on Drummond Island. The park is looking to GLFWDA for help and guidance in opening the park, and should prove to be an excellent in-state offroading experience. I had the chance to preview a couple of the trails along with some others from M.S.G. and GLFWDA and it looks to be a great location.

And before this Summer is forgotten, I want to thank everyone that attended Mud, Sweat, and Gears 4th Annual Drummond Offroad Adventure. We hope to see you again next year, but two weeks earlier as we try and give the parents a little break before sending the kids back to school.

-- John Jacobs, Boondocker Editor

The Prez Says...

One word to begin my report WOW, what a summer this has been!

It began with a weekend of trail maintenance the end of April in Atlanta and hasn't slowed down since. Next was a 4x4 truck show in Livonia hosted by the Wolverine 4x4 club, they put on a great show with some nice rigs in attendance. Next came a month long stay at Silver Lake State Park as the campground host, this would be the reason that I missed getting a report into the last issue of the Boondocker.

I met a lot of interesting people during my stay at Silver Lake, as well as some former GL members that didn't know we were still around. I assured them we were and that they should come back and take a look at us today, they would be pleasantly surprised. The Mid Michigan Fourwheelers also had their Father's Day weekend dune cleanup while I was there. This was very successful with approximately 40 to 50 people pitching in and most of them receiving a donated gift for their efforts.

Shortly after my return home from the dunes, the Cefali family along with the wife, myself and the dog headed out for the United convention in PA. This trip took us to some great wheeling at Paragon Adventure Park in Hazelton, PA. If you ever get the chance to visit this park don't pass it up because it has some of the best technical trail riding I have ever done. The convention itself was held south of the park in the capitol city of PA in Harrisburg.

This would be my first United convention and Joe's 2nd. I went into it excited but yet somewhat apprehensive about the meetings we were about to attend. I had heard things in the past about these meetings getting a little out of hand and somewhat heated. Instead, what I found was a dedicated group of full-size four wheelers all with the same goals and passions that we have in Great Lakes. We met a lot of great folks from all over the world and it seems that we all face the same issues when it comes to Government and the public's perception of us. This is why it is so important to belong to United and to Great Lakes for that matter, it brings like minded people together for a common goal, to share great ideas and give us all a brighter outlook on the future of our sport. Next years convention will be in Montana and Joe and I are already making plans to attend.

The next trip for Kim and I didn't involve Great Lakes or four wheeling, or so that was the intention. It was a canoe trip on the AuSable River with a stay at the Alcona campground near the town of Glennie with a group of our closest friends. But when you have a

12" diameter GL decal on the side of your truck it draws some attention and you have people asking what you are all about. And if you know me you know that I have no problem telling people what we do and what we are about every chance I get. So, even when we are not taking a "Jeep" vacation we are still working hard at making GL an organization that people with similar interests can be proud to be a part of.

The fun continued a weekend later with a trip to Drummond Island and Canada. Mr. Steve Walker from the Drummond Island Offroad club and the Turtle Ridge ORV Park invited us up to take a look at the new park that he and some others are building on the Island. We were able to take a tour of this endeavor and give Steve some ideas and opinions about what we as users and as Great Lakes members wanted to see in an ORV park. Needless to say we were impressed with what was already on the ground there and what Steve had in store for the future. Mr. Walker also wants to get Great Lakes involved in the park for a couple of reasons, one is to offer a discount to GL members in hopes that this would boost our membership numbers and two it helps the park get some good press by being backed by the premier full-size user group in MI. We were also invited to take part in the actual trail building portion of the parks construction. We are making plans for a GL trail building weekend hopefully to be held sometime in late October. Looks like another weekend of setting aside the honey do list for some offroad fun. Darn, this breaks my heart. Look for this date and a meeting place on the GL forum and website soon.

The day following our tour of Turtle Ridge we headed north to Canada to pre run trails for the Gitchee Gumee event. Mr. Jim Kitson, an individual GL member and Gitchee trail leader wanted to investigate a trail he found last year to see if it came out where the map said it did and see if it offered some challenge to Gitchee Gumee participants. The trail turned out to be everything he wanted and more. So, we now have another fantastic trail offering for GL members attending this Canadian Fourwheeling Adventure. The Trolls, led by Vic Brasseur have also been doing a lot of trail searching all summer in the area surrounding the headquarters of the event. My hat is off to everybody trying to make Gitchee Gumee the great event that everyone has become accustomed to.

Another look at the calendar and it revealed an upcoming late summer trail maintenance run in Atlanta. See Kim's story in this issue, I think it sums up this particular weekend. It was upon our return from Atlanta that we decided our fishing boat would be better off in a fisherman's yard rather than being surrounded

by ominous looking Jeeps laughing at it every time they got to leave the yard and it just sat there high and dry. Well, I guess it's official now, the boat was sold and we purchased a slide in pickup camper for the weekends when we don't want to pull the "white whale." So, at least for now we are dedicated four wheelers. I am sure someday we will pick our fishing poles back up and drown some worms, but right now we are having too much fun participating in Great Lakes events and happenings to be interrupted by a Bluegill.

I am writing this just prior to the Labor Day weekend and our maiden voyage with our new RV. We, along with many other GL folks are headed back up to Canada to do even more pre-running of the fabulous terrain this area has to offer. To take part in some of these trips keep an eye toward the GL forum found on the website. Some of these non-sanctioned trips are short notice but open to anyone wanting to wheel and hang out with the GL family.

Before I let you go to read the rest of this issue I want you to know about another must attend event the Great Lakes is proud to be a part of. The 41st annual Northwood University International Auto Show will be held the same weekend as our October quarterly and we will have the GL booth set up there. Our plan is to hold the general business meeting that morning beginning at 11:00 a.m. and then have all that are

interested in checking out the show to head over to see it since it is only 3 miles from the meeting location. This is the largest outdoor new car auto show in the country with last year's attendance exceeding 60,000 people. The show actually starts on Friday October 8 and runs through Sunday. We will have the booth manned every minute the show is open. I can't think of a better way to put the Great Lakes name out there and to educate the public about organized four wheeling. So, make plans to attend this event either prior to the quarterly or after, admission is free! The PR director for the United Four wheel Drive Association may also be attending with the United booth, he would be flying in from Happy Jack, Arizona.

I am hoping that December has some warm weather so I can get caught up on that honey do list. By the way, where is that list? Last time I remember it was under the seat in that fishing boat. By the time Kim finds out she will have forgotten what's on it anyway.

I still have a lot more I could write about but I will save it for the forum and future issues of the Boondocker.

Life's Short Play Hard,
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Vice President's Report

Summer At Full Throttle

It seems that just when the off-road season finally gets here, you stop to wipe your dust covered eyes for just a second, and it's almost gone. All those nights lying awake at night just thinking about the fun you where going to have when the weekend trip to some great off-road location finally arrives, was just like a child waiting for Christmas morning. Where did the brief summer go? It seems like just yesterday we where frantically packing for The Troll's Spring Opener, making sure to pack the tow straps, sun screen, and the **SNOW BOOTS**, when in reality were looking towards the Fall Color Tour. I really didn't get a chance to get the "Yankee Rose" out that much this year, but when we did, it seemed to always be at full throttle. Rushing here and there, fixing this or that, making sure everything got done that we needed to do. Whether we were driving the seven hours on the turnpike to Paragon (Hazleton, PA) for the United Convention, or giving it the old college try at the Clay Pits at Mud, Sweat & Gears's D.O.A. IV, it was always at full throttle. Trying to get a full summer in, in just a few months, we really had to keep the pedal to the metal.

And just like my full throttle attempt at the clay pits on Drummond Island, my summer has seemed to come to a complete and abrupt stop.....Just like this.....



No matter how fast and hard you attempt to get a complete summer in; Day at the beach, family vacation, trail maintenance, plant the garden, weekend at your new favorite off-road park, the days seem to slip right by you like the mile maker signs on the Ohio Turnpike when your trying to make some time.

Before I knew it, the school bus was shrieking to a halt at our gravel driveway to pick up a couple of well worn out little ones. As they boarded the bright yellow bus, with all the flashers flashing in unison, I stood there in the driveway waving good-bye wondering what kind of memories they will be sharing with their friends about their summer vacation. What everlasting memory keep them up all last night, not being able to fall asleep because of the sheer excitement of telling their friends the next day, what they did on their summer vacation. Will it be the day at the beach, the day we planted the garden? No, I think the first thing they will tell their young friends is the day we, (Daddy, Mommy, Ashley & Anthony) headed up North and took on the meanest, nastiest clay pits northeast of the bridge at, full throttle. It really won't matter to them that we didn't make it or that we got stuck, or that "**Daddy broke the Jeep**", what really will matter to them is that we had a complete summer together, doing what we love to do with the people that we love doing it with.

No matter if your summer was at full throttle or at a nice leisurely coast down hill, all that really matters is the memories that where made on the trip.....

Come out and play,
Joe "Double J" Cefali <doublej@msg4x4club.com>
Vice President, GLFWDA

**Next Quarterly Meeting
October 18th, 2004 at 11:00AM**

**Bullock Creek Elementary School
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Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association, Inc. July 21, 2004 Quarterly Minutes

President Pat Kinne called the general meeting of the Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association to order at 11:20 a.m. Roll call showed seven (7) Club Directors and three (3) Board Members present for voting.

Introduction of new clubs and/or guests:

Representatives from the Cadillac Jeepers were welcomed. A motion was made by Jeremy Havens for the Cadillac Jeepers to become members of GLFWDA. This motion was seconded by Frank White. Motion carried. Gordy Stafford serves as President and Ken Rogers is Vice President for the club and they currently have 40 members. Their club was recently featured in *Four Wheeler* magazine for their "Blessing of the Jeeps" in Cadillac, MI.

President Report:

Pat informed the membership that Jeremy Vohwinkle resigned as Membership Secretary and all items were sent to his home. Pat said Jeremy has indicated he will only host the GLFWDA Website for another 30 days. Pat read Jeremy's resignation letter to the membership.

The forum on the GL Website needs to be used and information needs to get back to club members from Quarterly meetings.

Vice President Report:

Joe also mentioned that communication is important between the Directors and clubs.

There is a hit list of sites that need to be cleaned up per the DNR and Joe said he will put this information together and post it on the Website.

Tim Treadway commented on these sites and said they are DNR orphan sites and forms can be obtained from the DNR website to "adopt" them and vouchers are available from the DNR to pay for dumpsters.

Pat Kinne commented that GL's Blue Ribbon Coalition dues are lapsed. Also, to all GL members, please let GL and United know what good things you are doing with your clubs.

Corresponding Secretary:

Tina was not present. Minutes were taken and compiled by Kim Fischer-Kinne in Tina's absence.

Membership Secretary:

Jeremy Vohwinkle resigned and was not present. This position will be discussed and filled as an action under New Business.

Treasurer Report:

Rick reported that GL was hit hard recently with United dues and United Convention expenses for our delegates.

The DNR Trail Maintenance monies are due very soon and should be for \$9,400.00.

2005 Grant paperwork will be turned in August 1, 2004.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Tim Treadway and seconded by Frank White. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Director at Large:

Brad Stoeker currently holds this position and has not been present for the past three (3) Quarterly meetings. This is an Executive Board appointed position and will be re-evaluated by the Board. They are currently seeking nominations for the position of Director at Large.

For this meeting, Mike Livingston is representing Individual members totaling in excess of 120.

Some concerns addressed by members include the Manistee National Forest trails. In discussion, it was stated that these battles to keep public land open cannot be fought without doing more and keeping the dues increase to keep GL alive in the fight.

Associate Membership: Crystal Aho

Crystal was not present; however Joe Cefali spoke in her absence. There are 2 new Associate Members advertised in the Boondocker and Joe is soliciting another new member that will be joining soon. The companies name is M3 Customs. Joe said the owner will donate 5% of sales from GL members back to GLFWDA.

Pat discussed all current Associate members and encouraged everyone to use these companies!

There was discussion to look at possible increasing the annual cost for Associate Memberships.

Boondocker Editor: John Jacobs

John was not present so Joe Cefali spoke in his absence. Joe had a copy of the Boondocker from John and said that the club copies were in the mail.

John and his wife are the proud new parents of a beautiful daughter, Kate Elizabeth; she was born on Mother's Day.

Submissions for the Boondocker are needed. This is YOUR newsletter, so make your contribution!

Pat apologized for not having a President's report in the latest Boondocker; he was playing Campground Host at Silver Lake and did not have access to a to

computer as he thought he would.

Pat also mentioned there was a great turnout for trail maintenance.

Patches, Decals & Clothing: Maria & Joe Cefali

Maria has t-shirts, sweatshirts, dress shirts, hats, men's and women's tanks as well as UV resistant flags for vehicles.

Joe is looking at doing winter knit caps, visors for women as well as summer caps.

If there is anything that anyone would like to see added to the clothing list please let Maria and Joe know i.e. license plate frames, can cozies, etc.

Good news, the GL store is paying for itself!

Note: the GL store on the Website is not set up at this time.

Drags & Obstacles, Mud Racing:

No activity at this time.

Charities:

A donation to March of Dimes through UFWDA from GLFWDA was made for "Four Wheelin with Feeling" event. The donation was for \$25.00.

Pat suggested that donations will be made and charities will be determined by the Executive Board at this time. The Board wants to make sure the charity will benefit GL and what it stands for.

United 4WDA: Jim Mazzola

Jim was not present. Pat discussed in his absence.

Pat and Joe attended the 2004 UFWDA Annual Convention and represented GLFWDA. Convention was held in Harrisburg, PA.

Both are impressed with some of the things United is doing.

Information was received from United's attorney, Carla Boucher. Daimler Chrysler's Jeep division presented UFWDA with a check for \$40,000.00. This donation was made for the trail leaders that were donated for Camp Jeep being held the following week after convention.

Pat discussed the Briar Hills use area. The DNR wants to make this a non-motorized use area and they have pretty much closed off the majority of trails, etc.

GL will be utilizing the resources of UFWDA for Cadillac Jeepers to use to make an appeal for the Briar Hills area.

If a club is having an event, have a comment or survey card for participants to list how much they are spending in that area on food, lodging, gas, etc. This information then needs to be turned into the local DNR office with a copy to GL so we have a record of the

"good" things we do for area businesses surrounding use areas.

Pat discussed the "Pay to Play" concept with regards to Federal land access.

Carla Boucher was inducted into the Offroad Motorsports Hall of Fame for 2004. Some of her fellow class members include Walker Evans, Parnelli Jones and others.

GL needs to take advantage of many of the UFWDA resources.

Delegates from all over the world were represented at convention: U.S.A. (MI, CA, GA, IN, CO, etc), Canada, New Zealand, etc.

According to Pat and Joe our \$10.00 annual dues per member are being well spent from what they saw.

A membership plan is being revised by United and will be sent to the delegates in October 2004.

Consideration is being made for GL to possibly host the 2008 UFWDA convention. Possible locations include Canada for Gitchee Gumee or Drummond Island for D.O.A.

Trail Ride, Awareness, Trail Maintenance, Land Use: Victor Brasseur

Vic was not present, but everyone spoke in his absence.

Pat, Joe, Maria, Kim and Tim discussed upcoming various events

D.O.A. is 8/28 and as of the Quarterly there were only 15 slots left. Deadline for entry was 7/20/04.

Gitchee Gumee is 10/1-10/3 and the deadline for entry is 9/11/04.

Awareness Training: United program interest from dealers and other individuals.

Trail Maintenance: We need to make one more run through our trails for 2004. Pat said he will work with Paul Mulder to schedule times and get this work done.

The 4th Annual Silver Lake Father's Day Cleanup, hosted by the Mid-Michigan Four Wheelers was a big success. There were 50 attendees that collected an 8' truck box heaped with trash. There were many great prize donations made by local Silver Lake businesses. Pete Lundborg, Silver Lake Unit Manager for DNR was very happy with the work.

Suggestions for next year to have someone work on getting word and promotion out for this event to local newspaper, TV or radio for coverage.

Land Use: Tim Treadway discussed the Drummond Island Marblehead stair step trail may possibly be shut down per information from a local sheriff. As stated in the DNR regulations this trail is still legal and open. Joe addressed this issue with a letter from Pat Halifrisch from the DNR.



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Marv Farley received a ticket in May by a DNR officer. He fought his ticket and won. The DNR officer was found to have lied under oath. The GPS map from that days trail ride was brought in as evidence and proved those vehicles did not climb the hill in question.

Pat is putting in for rocks to be placed at St. Helen Motorsports area. This is a two square mile area that we can go ANYWHERE, not just roads/trails that have been established. If this rock course happens, GL will need to step up with volunteers to help set up the rocks.

NOTE: if there are trails that have been burmmed illegally, please let the Executive Board know because roads/trails CANNOT be closed without a public comment period.

ORV Advisory Committee: Paul Mulder

Paul was not present so Pat spoke in his absence.

Pat discussed that at the last ORV Advisory Committee meeting they talked about the \$3 million surplus from the sale of ORV stickers, etc. Apparently, the committee members would like to see \$500,000 spent on the Gladwin trail system that is primarily used by ATVs and motorcycles.

Secondly, they are looking at spending the remaining \$2.5 million on new confidence markers at \$28.00 each for many miles. This upsets user groups that attend these ORV Advisory Committee meetings.

Pat provided video and information for Steve Kubsiaik (DNR) educating him on the full-size user with regards to rock crawling and trail riding.

GL needs to keep attending DNR meetings and interact with DNR Officers on a professional level (even if they may be writing you a ticket). You represent GL when you are in the woods and on the road.

Insurance: Pat Kinne

We are covered; our policy has been renewed for another year.

United is still looking for a blanket policy we could use for GL events, but this is still under investigation.

Marketing Director: Kerry Ann Griffith

Kerry has TV and radio connections. She can do work with magazines as needed.

Discussion on determining the demographics of possible new members are going to be users that may not even know what GL is. They may be a little older with families, etc. Hunters may be a good group to educate about what we do and we both benefit from the use of public lands.

GL booth at the Outdoor Expo in Novi. Kerry said she will work on finding out a date and cost to participate.

GL brochures are currently at the printers. Once we get them, we can discuss how they are going to be distributed.

GL will have a booth at the Northwood University International Auto Show, October 8-10, 2004. The cost is estimated at \$300.00 and Pat said he will be working on getting donations from United and GL Associate members to cover this cost. GL needs volunteers to run the booth. We will have stock to stacked vehicles on display along with TV with video, flyers, and more.

Duties for Marketing Director to focus on: Attend shows on behalf of GL – focus on bringing in “new” people to the organization...those that purchase new/used 4x4 vehicles, but NOT those that will not represent GL in a positive way. Check on ads in two major publications.

Per Frank White, MUCC is too expensive to join at \$15-\$20 per person. Blue Ribbon Coalition and Tread Lightly are more reasonable at \$100-\$150 per year for each.

Website:

Jeremy Vohwinkle has resigned and will only host the GLFWDA website for the next 30 days. Frank White volunteered to seek out alternative hosting companies.

Rocks:

Per a request from Aaron Young, he would like to be removed from this committee and Frank White has volunteered for the position.

Per Pat, the GL rocks are still located on the Gladwin County Ice Carnival grounds. Gladwin representatives said we are still able to move them off the grounds if we need.

If anyone knows someone that can donate equipment to move rocks, get a price and bring to a Quarterly meeting.

Calendar of Events:

8/27-8/29 D.O.A.

10/1-10/3 Gitchee Gumee

10/8-10/10 Northwood Auto Show

10/10 GLFWDA Quarterly Meeting

10:00 a.m. Trail Ride Committee meeting

10/16 Trolls Color Tour

11/29 Thanksgiving Day Massacre

@ the Mounds

Property: Jonathan Blystra

Jonathan was not present, so Pat discussed in his absence.

Per Pat, Jonathan compiled the results of the property surveys and there is nothing feasible for GL

consider at this time.

New Business:

Nominations:

President – A nomination was made for Pat Kinne for President. A motion was made by Tim Treadway and seconded by Mike Kelly. Pat accepted the nomination.

Treasurer – A nomination was made for Rick Ingman for Treasurer. A motion was made by Frank White and seconded by Bobby Velasco. Rick accepted the nomination.

Membership Secretary – A nomination was made for Jeremy Havens to assume the now empty Membership Secretary position. A motion was made by Frank White and seconded by Mike Kelly. Jeremy accepted the nomination and the motion was carried.

Pat discussed other organizations that have a paid office professional that handles Membership, Patches/ Decals & Clothing, as well as the toll free number that rings into the “office.” The idea is to have this person sign a contract and be accountable for doing this work. (i.e. \$8-\$10/hour for 5-10 hours per week)

Web Hosting: GL needs to obtain quotes on hosting from various web host companies as well as any administrative fees that may be associated.

Frank White has volunteered to get quotes from various sources and pass those to the Executive Board ASAP. We only have 30 days per Jeremy to find a new web host. So, since this will occur before the next Quarterly meeting, an Executive decision will be made to select a web hosting company.

By-Law Changes: By-Law changes cannot be voted on this Quarterly meeting because the general membership did not receive a copy of the Boondocker before the July Quarterly. So, the By-Law change item will be moved to Old Business for the October Quarterly and will be voted on at that time.

In the Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P.'s), the word “Race” was changed to “Event.”

Jeremy Havens made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m. A second to the motion was made by Tim Treadway and was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Fischer-Kinne for
Tina R. Brasseur
Recording Corresponding Secretary



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Reader's Rides



Member: Pat "Ironman" Kinne
Club: Tri-City Trailriders
Vehicle: 1977 Jeep CJ-7
Modifications: Fuel Inj. 304, MSD Ign/Dist, TH400
Dana 20 T-case / 3:01 Tera Low
D44 front, ARB, disc brakes 4.56
D44 rear, spool, disc brakes 4.56
Premier underhood welder
Ironman Bumpers
TLH / Ironman Full Cage
38" Swamper SX's
Champion Beadlocks
SOA with Rubicon YJ springs
12,000# Warn winch
Fiberglass body, ARB Snorkel



Member: Chris Kosnic
Club: Individual Member
Vehicle: 2000 Jeep Wrangler (TJ)
Modifications: I6 K&N FIPK, Auto Trans
Rubicon SYE
Joint Clutch & Gear Driveshafts
Front Dana 60, ARB Locker, 4.88
Rear Dana 60, Detroit Locker, 4:88
4-wheel disc brakes
17" Trail Ready Beadlocks
40" Goodyear MTR's
ARB front bumper with Warn 9.5Ti
Ironman Rear swingout & bumper
6" Rubicon Express Long-Arm lift
2" coil spacers
Built by Ironman with help from
TLH Offroad and Aaron Young



Member: Kerry Ann Griffith
Club: Individual Member
Vehicle: 1997 Jeep Wrangler "Stumpy"
Modifications: 4.0
4.10 Gears
3.5" Spring Lift
1" Body Lift
35" BFG ATs
4.5" Spring lift (soon!)
Lockrite Locker (soon!)

Submit your ride!

Send in a picture and some info about your 4x4 ride to the Editor to be published in a future Boondocker. Entries will be published on first-come first-served basis. Photos should be well lit and clear.

Do Personalities Rule Your Recreation?

by Del Albright, BlueRibbon Ambassador

Is your club ticked off at a neighboring club? Are you drifting away from your club because of the behavior of a few folks? Do you find yourself attending fewer club/group meetings these days? Do you feel like your opinion does not count? Are you tired of the politics and clicks in your club? In other words, do personalities rule your recreation?

In my travels around the country helping folks to get organized and keep trails open, I have seen too much of the above problems. Don't get me wrong, there are tons of great clubs that are doing just fine. But I've seen my share of personalities driving folks away from organized recreation. There are ways to fix that.

I am convinced that our future lies in folks joining and staying active in organized recreation. The more we band together and stay tuned into what's happening with our trails, the better our chances of having a sport in the future. The more we separate or alienate from each other, the less chance we have of surviving as a recreational pursuit. We must be together at every opportunity.

This means that our local clubs/groups must be viable and effective. I am always reminded of the anti-access (radical environmental groups) slogan of **think globally; act locally.** They've got it figured out. They preach keeping the big picture in mind, while taking baby steps at the local level towards achieving the big picture. It works!

In large business corporations and management, there's a concept called the **Swiss cheese** approach. Swiss cheese has a lot of holes in it to make the cheese what it is. When a manager is faced with a tremendously complex task, the Swiss cheese approach is to make one hole at a time until you have your block of cheese done. In other words, like a long hike in the back country, it's just one step at a time until you reach your destination.

This is where the local level involvement is so important. If we're all taking baby steps, punching holes in the big block of Swiss cheese, eventually we'll achieve the big picture — responsible access for all!

It starts with your local club or group. It starts with a few folks deciding to get past personalities and get something done for the greater good. It starts with a commitment to not let someone else control how you feel about your sport or your club.

If you have personality issues in your club or group, I suggest that before you give up, you confront them head on. Let folks know how you feel and what you expect. Only then can a group or club decide if they want to make changes to accommodate your wishes. But to me, it is such a shame to see someone drop out of a group without letting folks know what's up. It's similar to telling a boss at work what's wrong from your perspective so the problem can be fixed. Many times bosses don't know what the employees know. So by letting someone know there's a problem, at least you give them a chance to fix it.

There's an old saying I use a lot: **A complaint is never legitimate until it's voiced to someone who can fix it.** If personalities are ruling your recreation, then I suggest you speak up and clear the air. Get to the **peace table** and talk it out. Find solutions or compromises that all the parties can live with. But whatever you do, give it a shot before you give up.

When I help folks get past personalities issues, I always remind them that we are not out to change who someone is, only how they behave in our group. If a certain behavior is alienating other club members, then we need to find a way to change that behavior. It can be done, but only through communications that are pretty open and honest.

In the leadership training I give folks, I drive home the point that we must let folks know our expectations — those things that make us smile and enjoy our sport (or our job or anything else). The same holds true for a club. If you have expectations that are not being fulfilled, then let someone know. By doing so you increase your chances of staying in the game and helping us to punch holes in that big block of cheese.

Del Albright has authored volumes about multiple use and public lands access for over 20 years. His articles have appeared in many magazines, newspapers and enthusiast periodicals. Four-wheeler, hunter, fisherman, photographer, philosopher and back country explorer; visit Del's web site at www.delalbright.com/ for more information. Del is sponsored by the BlueRibbon Coalition; ARB 4x4 Accessories; Rubicon4x4.Com, and the Off-Road Business Association (ORBA).

BLUERIBBON COALITION

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Member Clubs of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association

Bay Area 4-Wheelers

Member since January 1998
www.angelfire.com/mi2/bayarea4x4club
Director: Mike Harrington
1205 Frasier Rd., Kawkawlin, MI 48631
989-671-1294
bayarea4x4420@yahoo.com

Cadillac Jeeps

Member since July 2004
Director: Gordy Stafford

Delta Fourwheelers

Member since June 1972
Director: George Motes
10332 W. Dodge, Montrose, MI 48457
810-639-6549
gmotes@centurytel.net

Drummond Island Offroad Club

Member since January 2004
Director: Jody Gibbons
Johnswood Rd.,
Drummond Island, MI 49726

Face Full Of Mud

Member since January 2002
www.facefullofmud.com
Director: Ryan Reynolds
10468 Clark Rd., Davison, MI 48423
810-653-0517
FFOMOffRoad@aol.com

Flintstones

Member since October 1975
Director: Rich Nowak
1339 S. Vasser, Davison, MI 48423
810-743-8894

Gladwin County Ice Carnival

www.albrightshores.com
Director: Jim Knieper
P.O. Box 187, Beaverton, MI 48612
989-435-75333
jknieper@voyager.com

Golden Triangle

Member since January 1978
Director: Darrin Buss
13155 Waters Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118
734-475-9231

Huron Valley

Member since March 1994
Director: T.B.D.

Internet Trailriders

Member since April 1996
www.internet-trail-riders.com
Director: Lucas Gottler
34448 Jerome,
Chesterfield Twp., MI 48047
lgottler@123.net

Jackson Stump Jumpers

Member since February 1972
Director: Brad Perkins
5614 Larch Dr., Jackson, MI 49201
517-764-1262
jacksonstumpjumpers@hotmail.com

Merril Monster Mudders

Member since October 1981
Director: Paul Mulder
113 S. Pine, St. Louis, MI 48880
517-681-2872

Mid Michigan Fourwheelers

Member since October 1990
Director: Ron Roggow
4125 Roosevelt, Hemlock, MI 48626
517-642-5461

Mud, Sweat, and Gears

Member since April 1987
www.msg4x4club.com
Director: Mark Burns
3833 Mildred, Rochester Hills, MI 48309
248-852-2234
mjburnsjr@yahoo.com

Northeastern Rough Riders

Member since April 2004
Director: Nathan Munsey
200 Railroad St., P.O. Box 7
Prescott, MI 48756

Northwoods Wheelers

Member since October 2003
Director: Clark Cole
9980 S. Autumn Dr.,
Traverse City, MI 49684
231-933-6624

R.P.M. Off Road

Member since April 2002
Director: Steve Kitchen
P.O. Box 347, Ewart, MI 49631
231-734-6709

Thunder Bay Offroaders

Member since July 2001
www.thunderbayoffroaders.rockcrawler.com
Director: Aaron L. Young
P.O. Box 0654, Alpena, MI 49707

Tri-City Trail Riders

Member since July 2003
Director: Jeremy Havens
3812 Swede Ave., Midland, MI 48642
989-837-5973

Troll Fourwheelers

Member since January 1993
www.trolls4wdclub.com
Director: Victor Basseur
7200 Bunker Rd., Indian River, MI 49749
231-238-0964
brasseur@localnet.com

Two Track Mind Off Road Club

Member since October 2001
www.2trackmindoffroadclub.rockcrawler.com
Director: Eric Gardner
2305 Ross St., Grand Blanc, MI 48439
810-603-0796

Wolverine Four Wheelers

Member since June 1972
wolverine4wd.org
Director: Frank White
33715 Cadillac,
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
248-478-3992
frank_white_mcsd@yahoo.com

Xtreme Wheelers 4x4 Club

Member since April 2002
Director: Ben Lubbers
88 Waverly Meadows, Lot 80,
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616-994-9818
midnight_mist_10@yahoo.com

Associate Members of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association

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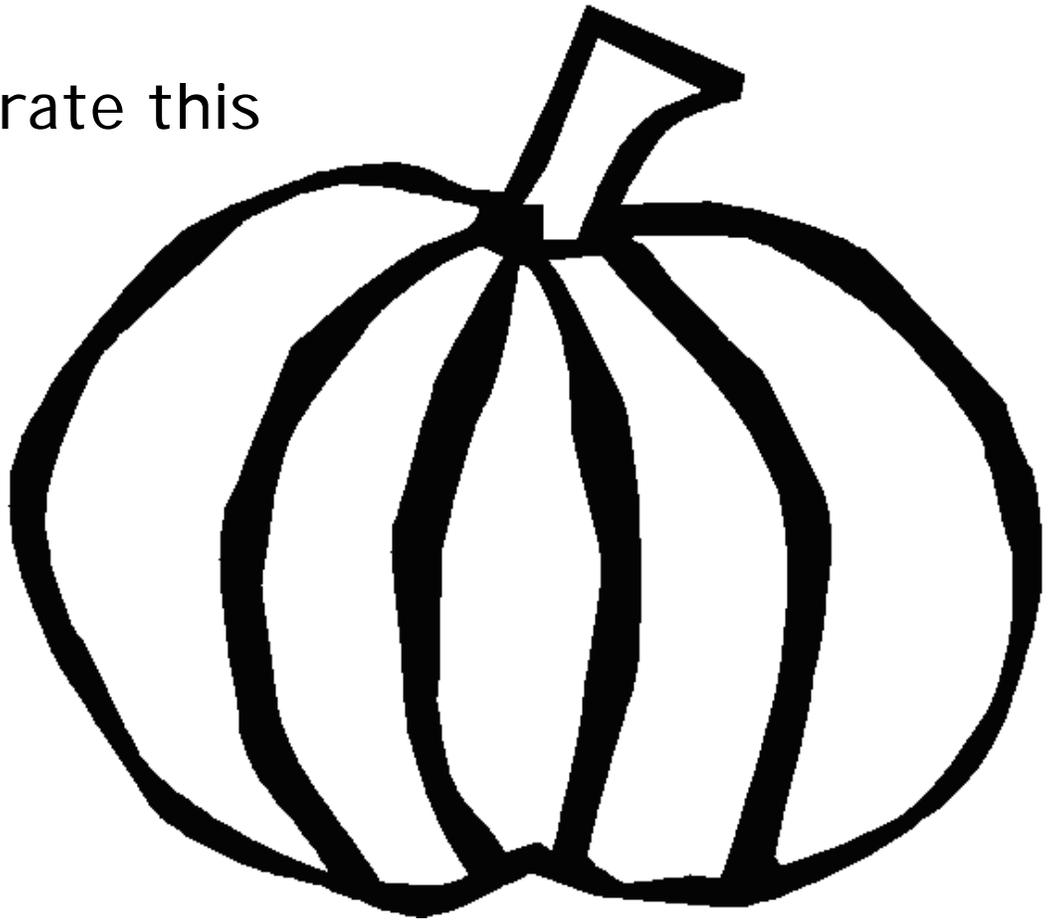
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<continued from cover> It was freezing cold. It was supposed to drop down to 39° that night. In a tent, NICE! We wound up staying pretty warm and there was no frost on anything the next morning.

Saturday morning we packed up everything and headed to the BP to meet the rest of the volunteer crew for the day. Here is a picture of all the hard workers...aren't they cute!



One of the crew teams showed up (they shall remain nameless for this story) and informed the group that one of the regular trail maintenance attendees would not be there. Imagine our shock and subsequent pleasure at the fun we would have the rest of the day. In his absence, we were left with his likeness we will refer to as "The Roaming Troll."

We split up into our groups to tend to the maintenance. We are always safety conscience, so before we left the parking lot we buckled in the Roaming Troll and Razz for their trip to the woods.



I can't speak for anyone else, but we wound up making a premature turn to our trailhead. Two-tracking with a dually and flatbed trailer is always a good time!

We finally arrived at the trail head and unloaded our equipment. We made sure the Roaming Troll hit the bathroom before we hit the trail.



YIPPEE! We were ready to head out. Like the little girl in the Three Bears, the Roaming Troll couldn't decide which ATV he wanted to ride on. The first ATV was too big...



...and the second ATV was just right. Lucky me, I get the Roaming Troll for the rest of the day.



You can see that right off the bat we had some trailhead clearing to do. The Roaming Troll checks out the Mixed Traffic sign.



He was also very helpful in clearing brush.



Throughout the day we ran into a few full-size and ATV users on the trails. Interestingly enough, almost every one of the ATV riders was riding illegally. They were either riding double or traveling on undesignated ORV Trail or Route. There were no DNR officers patrolling the areas we were in.

At one point we came to some select-cutting (aka thinning), that had been done along the trail system. On a serious note, this was really disturbing. We took some pictures of the carnage that was created by the machinery that "clears" the trees and brush from the woods. We are pretty sure that user groups couldn't do that kind of damage in years of riding designated trails.

We got to the end of our trail maintenance duties and started heading back. The gas gauge on my ATV was reading at almost Empty, Pat was low as well and we only had 2 gallons of spare gas. We had to watch

the clock so we would make it back in time to meet the group. The truck was in sight and we loaded up. It was very dusty, so a quick splash in the water was just the ticket. The Roaming Troll, always in touch with the rules took to the sign at the beach.



It reads "Help prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species plants and mammals...I mean animals."

We had to shake that dust off, so while Pat and I took to the water, the Roaming Troll wanted to hang out on the beach.



We had to make a hot dinner date with the rest of the crew, so we headed to JD's Pizza Place for some well-deserved grub. Always a party animal, the Roaming Troll was giddy with excitement at the opportunity to interact with the rest of the group at the restaurant.

We ordered some pizzas and soda and enjoyed a re-cap of the day's events from each crew that was out doing trail maintenance. The pizza was yummy and the company was even better!



After dinner was over some of us were still hungry for some sweet treats. Fortunately, there was ice cream available. Thank you to Bobby V. for treating me to my favorite, a twisty cone. Not to be left out, the Roaming Troll had a cone and didn't even make a mess on himself. He is always clean and tidy.



In closing, I don't think we can thank that anonymous couple enough for the fun they have provided us for a long time. This will not be the last time you will hear about the adventures of the Roaming Troll. He will be caught in the most unexpected places. Please stay tuned...

Patch & Decal Information

GLFWDA	Price	Qty.	Total
6" GLFWDA Decal	\$2.00		
4" GLFWDA Decal	\$1.00		
4" GLFWDA Shoulder Patch	\$2.00		
Swamp Rat Patch	\$2.00		
Sand-O-Rama Patch	\$2.00		
GLFWDA Flag	\$15.00		
UFWDA	Price	Qty.	Total
UFWDA Patch	\$2.00		
6" UFWDA Decal	\$4.00		
Endangered Species Patch	\$3.00		
Endangered Species Sticker	\$1.00		
Tread Lightly Bumper Sticker	\$1.50		
Tread Lightly Sticker	\$1.00		
Subtotal			
Shipping & Handling			\$1.00
Total			

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Send to: GLFWDA, c/o Maria Cefali
80480 McFadden, Armada, MI 48005

Phone: 810-798-2823

E-mail: RockenRia@msg4x4club.com

Make checks/money orders payable to GLFWDA

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV) TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES**

**Holiday Inn Lansing South
6820 South Cedar Street
Lansing, Michigan**

August 11, 2004

Chairman, Dick Ranney called the meeting of the Off-Road Vehicle Trails Advisory Board to order at 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday, August 11, 2004 in Lansing, Michigan.

Members Present:

Dick Ranney, Chair
Glenn Moll, Vice Chair
Marlia Dielman

Jason Dinsmore for John Ford

Members Absent:

Under Sheriff Billy E. Spencer for Sheriff Nelson J. Cannon

Staff Present:

Steve Kubisiak, Forest, Mineral and Fire Management (FMFM), Lansing

Richard Kennedy, FMFM, Lansing

Lieutenant Creig Grey, Law Enforcement Division (LED), Lansing

Sergeant Jean Davis, LED, Roscommon

Pete Lundborg, Silver Lake State Park

USDA Forest Service Staff Present:

Rose Ingram, Huron-Manistee National Forest, Cadillac
Scott Haas, Huron-Manistee National Forest, Baldwin
Chairman Ranney announced there are currently two vacant seats on the Board. One seat represents natural resources, conservation or environmental groups; the other seat represents the general public at-large. The general public at-large seat is a neutral position. He said persons interested in serving on the ORV Board should contact Mr. Kubisiak.

Mr. Kubisiak noted that in addition to the current vacancies, two more seats expire on December 31. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) is considering filling all the vacancies at one time after the first of the year.

Minutes

Acknowledged Minutes of the May 12, 2004 ORV Trails Advisory Board Meeting.

Chairman Ranney apologized for not sending the letter to LED that he read at the last meeting, but noted he met with Lt. Grey regarding the direction of the safety education program.

Mr. Moll made a motion, supported by Mr. Dinsmore, to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2004 Off-Road Vehicle Trails Advisory Board Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORV Plan Update - Mr. Kubisiak reported surveys



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to State Trail Administrators, Law Enforcement Agencies, Road Commissions and Land Managers are complete and have been mailed. A statistical study of incidents at Silver Lake State Park will be included in the plan. Dr. Nelson, Michigan State University (MSU), will be meeting with Forest Managers on August 26. A meeting with Trail Maintenance Grant Sponsors is set for September 21, and a meeting with Restoration Grant Sponsors will be held on September 16. The Department is considering a

series of public input meetings in early October to receive public input prior to writing the plan.

Mr. Ranney referenced the ORV user survey completed by MSU in 2000, and noted increasing use and trend shifts from motorcycles to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). He noted larger ATVs are being produced that may have implications on trail maintenance standards that should be addressed in the ORV plan. He also noted the need for accurate accident data and believes there is a need for new trails. He believes the trails are being damaged due to concentrated use and that the Department should consider establishing new trails, and closing and restoring worn-out trails. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Moll made a motion, supported by Mr. Dinsmore, recommending the Department implement a pilot project whereby the Department would close a worn-out trail segment, restore it and replace it with new trail. The restored trail would be monitored to evaluate the effectiveness of the restoration efforts. Motion unanimously carried.

**Next ORV Advisory Meeting
November 10th, 2004 at 6:30PM**

**Lansing Holiday Inn - South
6820 South Cedar Street
Lansing, Michigan**

Hiring Update – **Mr. Kubisiak** reported that offers have been made and accepted for the two vacant Trail Analyst positions. Paige Perry will start on August 16, in Gaylord. The other position is expected to be filled by Katie Campbell, on September 12 in Cadillac.

ORV Safety Education Program Update - **Lieutenant Creig Grey** reported the training curriculum and course materials are complete. Staff conducted eight Safety Instructor Meetings around the state. Two hundred Sheriff Deputies have been certified to provide training. The Department expects to train 2,700 students by the end of the year. Grant applications were

sent out in late May. Nineteen applications were received and eight have been signed. The Department is conducting Instructor background checks to assure safety of the students.

Chairman Ranney questioned if the hands-on portion of the training curriculum has been eliminated. **Lt. Grey** answered that is not necessarily true. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Dielman asked if the Board members could receive a copy of the training manual. **Lt Grey** said he would send the Board a copy.

NEW BUSINESS

Gladwin Trail Update – **Mr. Kubisiak** reported that staff from the Gladwin Management Unit completed a damage assessment on the trail. The north and middle loops north of M-61 are currently closed. The South loop remains open. He distributed a map illustrating 10 sites along the trail that need work before the trail can be reopened, and noted the locations coincide with the improvements recommended in the spending plan presented at the May meeting. Unit staff is working with the Cycle Conservation Club to repair damaged boardwalks. Three projects are currently out to bid and expected to be complete in October. Once these projects are done the middle loop and ORV route will be reopened. Further review of the north loop is needed to determine when it will be reopened.

Chairman Ranney said that the message coming out of the Gladwin Management Unit is that the trail is going to remain closed. **Mr. Kubisiak** stated that may be the opinion of some unit staff and does not necessarily reflect the Department's position. Any decision regarding a permanent closure of a designated ORV trail would have to go through a review by the management team and Director.

Mr. Kubisiak said the Department recognizes the importance of the Gladwin Trail and that is why it was a component of the spending plan presented at the May meeting.

Ms. Dielman asked if the Board members could receive a copy of the cost estimates. **Mr. Kubisiak** said he would send the Board a copy.

Hiawatha National Forest Trail Proposal – **Rose Ingram, Huron-Manistee National Forest** distributed a map and read a statement from the Hiawatha National Forest, requesting the Department to designate the Haywire and Coalwood grades as part of the State Designated ORV Trail System. **Ms. Ingram** noted that Anne Okonek will make a presentation to the Snowmobile Advisory Committee (SAC) at their September meeting, for their input. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Moll said the grades get a lot of ORV use and ATV

riders seem to want point-to-point riding opportunities, but there are a number of philosophical questions that must be addressed. He asked if local Department staff support the proposal. He said it is important for the Forest Service to communicate with local Department staff regarding the proposed designation of the segments located on State Forest lands.

Mr. Dinsmore questioned impacts this proposal would have on the Forest Service's national direction concerning the designation of off-highway vehicle trails on National Forest lands.

Mr. Moll made a motion, supported by Mr. Dinsmore, to table making a recommendation regarding the Forest Service's request for the Department to designate the Haywire and Coalwood grades as part of the State Designated ORV Trail System, until the November meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Bull Gap Trail Grading – **Mr. Ranney** said that the Mio Ranger District received an ORV grant to purchase a tractor and rack to grade the Bull Gap trails. He said he has received complaints that the trail has been straightened in some locations, and that the trails are now too smooth for increasing speeds and have potential for injury.

Ms. Ingram thanked **Mr. Ranney** for the feedback and said she would follow-up with the District Ranger. **Mr. Ranney** offered to help in anyway he can.

STAFF REPORTS

FOREST, MINERAL AND FIRE MANAGEMENT Motorized Trail Sign Standards - **Mr. Kubisiak** reported trail staff met with Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) officials to initiate a critical review of the motorized trail signing standards. The sign standards are being edited to clarify how and when signs should be used, with an eye toward eliminating unnecessary signs. He noted the ultimate goal is to establish one standard for the motorized trail programs. **Mr. Kubisiak** requested the ORV Trails Advisory Board and Trail Maintenance Sponsors provide him with their comments on the existing standards and their thoughts on signs that should be considered for elimination. He said the Department hopes to have draft standards available for review later this fall. In the meantime the existing standards will be used.

Emergency Trail Marking — **Mr. Kubisiak** reported emergency trail marking is a recent topic of interest, supported by County Government resolutions encouraging the Department to sign trails with location signs for faster emergency response. The Department is responsible for over 10,000 miles of motorized trails statewide, and the consistent application of a statewide standard and the obligation to maintain this signage system are challenges that must be carefully considered.

He noted the SAC has a subcommittee reviewing the topic and suggested the ORV Board appoint a representative to work with the subcommittee. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Dielman made a motion, supported by Mr. Moll, to appoint Mr. Dinsmore to represent the ORV Trails Advisory Board and work with the SAC subcommittee on the topic of emergency trail marking.

Law Enforcement – No report. **Mr. Ranney** asked **Lt. Grey** what the definition of visual supervision is. **Lt. Grey** referenced the Michigan Off-Road Vehicle Guide saying visual supervision is defined as “having direct observation with the unaided eye and the ability to come to immediate aid of another ORV operator”. Discussion ensued.

USDA Forest Service – **Rose Ingram** reported the Holton-Horseshoe Motorcycle Trail Proposal has gone through the appeals process with no change. The Holton trail is expected to be opened August 14, 2004. The 56th. Street Snowmobile Trail relocation project is out for public comment. This project would occur in Section 10 and 11 of Lake Township, Lake County, Michigan. She noted the reroute proposal would impact the Michigan Cross-County Cycle Trail and encouraged interested persons to comment. Public comments will be accepted until September 13, 2004.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Thomas Dunn, American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), District 14, Enduro Co-Chairman announced the 79th annual Jack Pine Enduro, Sunday August 22, and the 28th annual Pinecone Enduro on Saturday August 21. He thanked the Department for their cooperation in permitting this event and added there should be a training course held after the Pinecone event on Saturday. He said that he still has some questions regarding the specifics of the training program and said he was ticketed because his son did not have a training certificate. He plans to contest the citation because he believes there is not a sufficient training program currently in place. He said he is looking into becoming a trainer. He believes ORV dealers are not informing customers about the training requirements because it may result in a lost sale. He expressed concerns with health insurance portability loop holes, and said insurance coverage could be denied if someone has an accident on the trail because they are considered a hazardous risk. He thanked the Board. **Mr. Ranney** thanked **Mr. Dunn**.

Bill Gilbert, Michigan ATV Safety Association (MASA), Burton questioned **Lt. Grey** about the number of newly certified trainers and the number of students expected to be trained this year. He questioned the process used to certify the instructors. He asked

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Polo	With Pocket	\$16.00								
Polo	Without Pocket	\$16.00								
Sweatshirt	9oz. 50/50	\$20.00								
Tank-Top	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	\$12.00								
Jacket	Baseball style	\$45.00								

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Item	Style	Price	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	QTY	Total
T-Shirt	With Pocket 100%	\$20.00								
T-Shirt	Without Pocket 100%	\$20.00								
Polo	With Pocket	\$24.00								
Polo	Without Pocket	\$24.00								
Sweatshirt	9oz. 50/50	\$28.00								
Tank-Top	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	\$20.00								
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Lt. Grey if he was aware of the administrative rules and believes the new trainer certification and training curriculum is in violation of those rules. He is critical of the Department's handling of the ORV safety training program.

John Stears, Vicksburg said he is a private citizen not affiliated with any club. He spoke of his experience with the boating safety program and expressed concerns with testing procedures. He believes the instructors pass students too easily, and push them through the system. He does not want this to happen with the ORV training program. He does not believe there is an avenue for average ORV users to be heard.

Ted Del Solar, Westmont, Illinois said that problems brought up over four years ago, and again last September is still not resolved. He said he believes the legislature needs to rebuild the Department and make the Director responsible to the public. He believes employees must be accountable and fired if they do not obey an order. **Mr. Ranney** thanked Mr. Del Solar.

Tom Craig, ATV Off-Road Club of Michigan, Warren said a member of his club contacted the instructor in the Bay City-Saginaw area regarding training and was told the course would be four hours long, and he did not need to bring his ATV. He referred to the administrative rules and said the course should be no less than seven hours long, and should include a riding test. He believes the Department's program violates the administrative rules. **Mr. Ranney** said this topic is on the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) agenda the next day. **Mr. Craig** requested a copy of the training manual.

Steve Gradowski, Freeland thanked the Board for their motion concerning new trails, and believes ATV riders have lost thousands of miles of riding opportunity and are forced to ride just a few trails. He inquired on the status of the sign upgrade project that was part of the spending plan presented at the May meeting. **Mr. Kubisiak** said this proposal was prepared at the request of the budget office and would be phased-in over the next several years, if the request is approved. **Paul Mulder, Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association, Harrison** referenced the sign study that was done a few years ago and noted a law suit that was lost by a club involving trail signing. He referenced the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and said it is based on engineering study and backed by law. He believes the Department should adopt the MUTCD as a standard for signing motorized trails.

Bill Chapin, Cycle Conservation Club of Michigan, Rives Junction asked if the Department is going to follow the MUTCD as the basis for motorized trail sign-

ing. **Mr. Kubisiak** said the existing Department sign manual, and current motorized trail signing standards are based on the principles of the MUTCD. **Mr. Chapin** believes that if the sign program is based on the MUTCD then you can disregard the notion of less signing. He believes the MUTCD is inappropriate for trail signing and that a separate standard based on engineering study should be used. **Mr. Ranney** said he agreed with Mr. Chapin.

Ms. Dielman announced that if the public has information they would like to share with the Board they should provide it in writing so they can begin to establish files on issues for future reference.

Mr. Ranney noted the NRC will be hearing public comment on the ORV Safety Education Program at their next meeting and encouraged interested people to attend. **Mr. Dinsmore** noted the meeting is at the Lansing Center and public appearance begins at 4:30. **Mr. Moll** said he is concerned with what seems to be an adversarial relationship between this Board and the Department. He said he is not fond of that kind of atmosphere and does not believe it is productive. He said he comes from an industry background where a lot of demanding decisions were made, but that there was a common goal and respect for others that he is not seeing here. He said this needs work.

Mr. Kubisiak said that if the public wishes to comment on agenda items in writing they can send it to him, or email kubisias@mi.gov, and he would forward it to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Public Present:

Terry Grost, Rustbelt 4X4 Trailriders Association
Steve Gradowski, Great Lakes 4 Wheel Drive Association (GLFWDA)
Paul Mulder, GLFWDA
Pat Kinne, GLFWDA
Melanie Rice, GLFWDA
Bill Gilbert, Michigan ATV Safety Association
John Stears, Vicksburg
Tom Craig, ATV Off Road Club of Michigan
Hal Folk, Cycle Conservation Club (CCC)
Greg Yager, CCC
Bill Chapin, CCC
Tom Gallagher, Michigan Recreation Vehicle Riders Association
Chris Carr, Independent Jeepster
Bruce Menning, GLFWDA
Ted Del Solar, Penton Owners Group
Thomas Dunn, AMA District 14 Enduro Co-Chairman

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35-1250R-15.....	\$225.00
35-1450R-15.....	\$281.00
37-1250R-15.....	\$235.00
31-1250R-16.....	\$214.00
33-1250R-16.....	\$231.00
35-1250R-16.....	\$266.00
37-1250R-16.....	\$278.00
35-1250R-16.5.....	\$259.00
35-1450R-16.5.....	\$305.00
37-1250R-16.5.....	\$282.00

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Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Interests Sand Racing: _____ Mud Drags: _____ Trail Riding: _____ Road Rallies: _____

Four Wheel Drive Club: _____

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Complete this form for each person making application for membership. Enclose data sheets with the proper check or money order made out to:

Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Assoc., Inc.

Return to: GLFWDA Membership Secretary
c/o Jeremy Havens
3812 Swede Ave.
Midland, MI 48642

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

As an Individual Member of the Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association, you have the same benefits as our club members, with the exception that your right to vote is carried by the GLFWDA Director At Large at the Quarterly meetings.

You will receive a GLFWDA identification card that will be checked at our events that are open to members only.

You will receive each issue of the *The Boondocker*, our quarterly newspaper. The Boondocker carries club events, important land information, and other four wheeling information.

You are invited to our Annual Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association Convention.

Individuals and member clubs have competitive events like sand drags, obstacle course events, and mud drags that follow GLFWDA Competition Rules. These rules are in booklet form for a small fee.

Individual membership dues are \$35.00 annually. As a member, you can purchase GLFWDA patches and decals.

CLUB RENEWAL INFORMATION

Attention Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, GLFWDA Directors, or whoever renews your club membership with GLFWDA, you must submit the following for renewal:

1. One **typed** master membership list required (alphabetical preferred). **It must include Name, Address, Phone #, and GLFWDA number.** Your membership number is forever.
2. Data sheets filled out for new members. For any members with changed information, fill out a new data sheet and **highlight** the changes.
3. Membership will not be processed until payments of \$30.00 per member are received. Send check to the Membership Secretary, not the Treasurer.
4. When adding new members during the year, pay \$7.50 per quarter until your renewal date. Fill out data sheets for them.
5. Please indicate new Officers and GLFWDA Directors.

Thank you for your cooperation. For more information contact:

Jeremy Havens<jb9592@aol.com>
3812 Swede Ave.
Midland, MI 48642
989-837-5973

Sanctioning Guidelines

1. All clubs hosting a non-racing event will be eligible for the benefits provided by the Association. As a sanctioned event, any club hosting a non-racing type event (i.e. rally, parade, car show, etc.) will also have available to them the benefits of a sanctioned event. Compliance with rule #4, along with adherence to the GLFWDA bylaws will be required.
2. All clubs should notify the Trail Riding Committee Chairman at the January quarterly or three months prior to the event of their intention to sanction an event in the forth-coming year.
3. Clubs hosting events should make every attempt to not schedule it on the same weekend as another sanctioned event.
4. Sanctioning fee shall be \$25.00 per event plus \$1.00 per vehicle, regardless of how many people are in the vehicle. Initial fee shall be paid upon confirmation of date. The remaining vehicle fee shall be submitted to the Trail Riding Committee Chairman after the event, and then surrendered to the GLFWDA Treasurer. In the event of a cancellation, the sanctioning fee shall be returned minus a \$5.00 administration fee.
5. All participants over 18 years of age *must* be a GLFWDA member. Current membership lists will be provided to the hosting club upon request. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian whose membership is in good standing.
6. Clubs hosting events will be provided with the required minimum State or Federal mandated liability insurance.
7. All vehicles participating in the event must be licensed and insured.
8. Events shall not be manufacturer or brand specific.
9. All clubs must comply with applicable State and/or Federal policies regarding organized events on public land.
10. All participants must follow GLFWDA trail riding guidelines at all times.
11. The Trail Riding Committee shall have the right to recommend refusal of sanctioning based on non-compliance of the GLFWDA Trail Riding guidelines or conduct detrimental to the reputation and/or image of the Association.

Associate Member Secretary

Attention all GLFWDA members! If you own, operate, or work for a business that might be interested in being a supporting member of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association then we have a deal for you! As an Associate Member of any level you will receive:

- The business name, address, and phone number listed in the Boondocker.
- Up to 10 issues of the newsletter each quarter.
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